

# InfoMania



September 2008

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR :

In this issue we have more information on the RESEARCH REPORT 2007 of the University of Pretoria.

We feature the latest news from CABI BLOG – Environmental Impact database.

We invite you to see what your librarians are up to besides work. Library staff share their hobbies by way of the “LIFE AFTER 5” exhibition.

We also feature the SA VETERINARY AND PARAVETERINARY CONGRESS 7-11 JULY 2008, THE LIBRARY WAS THERE!

It is with sadness that we greet Erica van der Westhuizen, our colleague and friend, who will retire at the end of September. Read about her exciting 27 years at the Faculty and we introduce our new colleague, Joe Sindane.

We hope you will enjoy this issue of *Infomania*, keeping you up-to-date on the latest happenings in your information world.

**Tertia Coetsee (Editor)**

*This newsletter is also available electronically at*  
<http://www.library.up.ac.za/vet/infomania/infomani.htm>

## **RESEARCH REPORT 2007 of the University of Pretoria**

***Erica van der Westhuizen***

- Total number of peer-reviewed articles in the 2007 Research Report: 1531
- Total number of articles with links (URI) to the full text: 863
- Total of 56%!
- Traced 21 articles/12 units for subsidy equal to R90 000 per item (these had not been submitted by the departments)

**5 of these 21 articles were Veterinary Faculty publications, found by the VET librarians.**

Good show!

*(Extract above From the OpenUP report on 2007 Research Report, by Elsabe Olivier)*

These figures show that 56% of the publications listed in the 2007 research report have links to the full text versions – a first in the Report's history. The Library Services undertook this task this year. This is the first time that full text versions submitted into OpenUP (in DSpace) were linked to the Report. It is hoped to increase this percentage in next year's report. This is done by placing the full text versions in OpenUP, the research article collection within the university's electronic repository.

The uploading of the full versions is undertaken after **copyright permission** has been obtained from the journal publishers. An excellent copyright system is in place, developed and run by Monica Hammes and Elsabe Olivier of the Department of Library Services, Merensky Library. In fact it seems to be almost unique internationally, as Elsabe discovered when she presented a paper on the topic at the Electronic Publishers conference in Canada earlier this year.

The electronic submission of the articles has been done so far mostly by the information specialists of the various faculties, aided in some instances by secretaries or other staff, such as Niesje Tromp of the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

Ultimately it is expected that the authors of the articles will undertake this task themselves.

OpenUP can be found at: <https://www.up.ac.za/dspace/handle/2263/76>

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## VET LIBRARY STAFF MEMBER OBTAINS USA QUALIFICATION

### *Erica van der Westhuizen*

Congratulations to AMELIA BREYTENBACH of the Veterinary Science Library (Technical Services division, Dept of Library Services) on passing the online course on TAXONOMIES AND CONTROLLED VOCABULARIES of Simmons College Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Boston, USA.

This was a five week course and Amelia was the only candidate from Africa.

As Metadata Specialist of the Dept of Library Services Amelia has to keep abreast of the latest developments in the field. This new qualification will enable her to further develop metadata applications to improve accessibility of the digitisation projects of UP, such as the National Veterinary Repository which is steadily developing under Amelia's expert guidance.

In September Amelia will be attending the **International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications** (22 - 26 September 2008) at the [Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin](http://dc2008.de/) in Berlin, Germany. <http://dc2008.de/>

The conference is jointly organized by the [Competence Centre for Interoperable Metadata \(KIM\)](#), the [Max Planck Digital Library \(MPDL\)](#), the [Göttingen State and University Library \(SUB\)](#), the [German National Library \(DNB\)](#), the [Humboldt Universität zu Berlin \(HU Berlin\)](#) and the [Dublin Core Metadata Initiative](#) and supported by [Wikimedia Deutschland](#).



*Amelia Breytenbach*

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## 27 YEARS AS VETERINARY LIBRARIAN OF THE FACULTY

### *Erica van der Westhuizen*

The Faculty has played such an important role in my life for the past 27 years that retirement at the end of September will take some getting used to! However, the joys of water aerobics, tea parties with old girlfriends and frequent Cinema Nouveau visits should compensate somewhat!

These were momentous years, with mostly highs, fortunately. Four Deans (Proff. Le Roux, Coubrough, Kriek and Swan), 3 BVSc degree changes (51/2 years, 6 years, 7 years), the amalgamation (MEDUNSA and UP = new National Faculty), all impacted on my work as the Head of the Veterinary Science Library.

The support of the Deans has been especially important in helping the library to achieve its goals. The success of our 2 international veterinary librarians conferences which we organised and hosted (1995 and 2005) was largely due to Prof Coubrough and Prof Kriek respectively.

As we now increase our focus on electronic storage and accessibility of information, in particular the research output of the faculty, it is the present Dean, Prof Swan who is our main ally and supporter.



I would also like to mention the successful and inspiring cooperation of departmental heads and lecturers through the years. Prof Johnny van der Walt was one of our most enthusiastic users, helping us to build a strong physiology book and CD collection, Prof Abrams, former head of Poultry, always ensured that the library had fresh sweet peas, Prof Anna Verster who donated the unique photo collection of the Theiler daughters to the library for safekeeping, Prof Frank Verstraete (now at the University of California Davis) who invited me to witness the crowning of a tiger's tooth, Prof Herman Groenewald who allowed us to digitise the unique biomedical illustrations of Christine

Seegers, making them electronically available worldwide, Prof Banie Penzhorn, a regular, much appreciated donor of conference proceedings, Prof Koos Coetzer and Prof Roy Tustin who are currently involved with us in placing digitised slides in the electronic SA National Veterinary Repository – these are examples of the type of clients that help a library to develop as a unique and relevant information provider.

Students also play an influential role in library affairs. I must mention the students who are involved in library activities, such as the *Vet Books for Africa* project (started by the library in 1993 with the help of Gerhard Steenkamp, then a final year student, now head of the Dental Clinic). It has been especially rewarding working with the after-hours student library assistants. These have included such well-known vets as Drs Willem Burger, Paddy Morgan and Gary Bauer.

Of course, a successful library and information service needs an enthusiastic, creative, highly intelligent, witty and resourceful team of information specialists and library assistants. I was blessed with such a team – thank you, Amelia, Antoinette, Barbara, Johannes, Joe, Marguerite and Tertia (and the students, Aileen, Kate and Vince).

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## **LATEST NEWS FROM CABI BLOG – Environmental Impact database**

***Erica van der Westhuizen***

'[Climate change - Implications for Food Safety](#).' (Extract from CABI's blog: Handpicked and carefully sorted – 15 August 2008)

The contribution made by today's food production systems to climate change globally will have tremendous impacts on the food it produces in the future. So this week, the FAO released the above report. Click on the title above to read it on the Internet. Anyone who enjoys regular access to [CAB Abstracts](#) and its sister database, [Global Health](#) will be aware that there is nothing that foodborne diseases like better than the climatic conditions heading our way thanks to climate change.

Also, given that the viral and bacterial pathogens that cause us so much concern in the food chain can evolve tolerances at rates far superior to ourselves, they have a distinct advantage over us in the face of climate change. It's only natural to expect the fight against foodborne diseases to become a regular feature of the databases of the future.

And on the subject of the future, lying somewhere between the replication time of Salmonella and the extinction of the polar bear (but mercifully closer to the former than the latter), we at CABI are eagerly anticipating the arrival of a new database subset. **Environmental Impact** will host the world's information on climate change; including the potentially devastating effects on the food chain.

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## VETERINARY LIBRARIANS' HOBBIES ON DISPLAY

### *Erica van der Westhuizen & Barbara Kellermann*

If you think librarians are just books, think again!

The Department of Library Services celebrated the University's centenary on Saturday 21 June this year at the Merensky Library. As part of the programme, library staff were invited to share their hobbies by way of an exhibition on Level 3. The Vet Library staff enthusiastically joined in as usual.

These items were then brought back to the Vet Library and exhibited here for about three weeks, over the winter recess.



Amelia Breytenbach's creative greeting cards, wedding dresses made by Marguerite Nel and Antoinette Lourens, a quilt and embroidered pictures by Barbara Kellermann, and paintings and pottery by Tertia Coetsee are now on show.



These items formed part of the Hobby Display held during the Department of Library Services' Centenary function for present and past staff on 21 June 2008, at the Merensky Library.



### **AND AT THE LIBRARY SERVICES' CENTENARY FUNCTION**

Barbara Kellermann designed and made the display featuring "A DAY IN THE LIFE OF THE VET LIBRARY".

Note the salmon pink colour representing the Faculty.



## TRAINING AT THE VETERINARY SCIENCE LIBRARY

### *Antoinette Lourens*

The Veterinary Science Library is once again offering training sessions on various topics. If you are interested in attending any of the sessions please contact Tertia Coetsee ([tertia.coetsee@up.ac.za](mailto:tertia.coetsee@up.ac.za)) to book your place. The programme is also available on the Internet (<http://www.library.up.ac.za/vet/train.htm>)

<b>September 2008</b>			
Mon 15 Sept	13h00 - 14h00	Refworks	Computer Lab L5
Tues 16 Sept	13h00 - 14h00	CAB Direct	Computer Lab L5
Thurs 18 Sept	13h00 - 14h00	Medline/Pubmed	Computer Lab L5
Mon 22 Sept	13h00 - 14h00	Using Electronic Jnls	Computer Lab L5
Tues 23 Sept	13h00 - 14h00	Enhancing your research output	Computer Lab L5

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## HOW TO CONVERT ARTICLES AND PRESENTATIONS TO PDF

### *Antoinette Lourens*

- Download CutePDF software from <http://www.cutepdf.com/download/CuteWriter.exe> and install it on your computer under "Programs".
- Open the article, pictures or presentation that you wish to convert
- Click on **File** and then on **Print**
- Select **Cutepdf Writer** in the Printer: Name display window
- Click on OK
- Print the article / presentation to a file e.g. presentation.pdf or articlename.pdf
- For a powerpoint "How to convert to PDF" click on <http://www.ais.up.ac.za/vet/documents/howtopdf.pdf>

If you need any help please feel free to contact me at [antoinette.lourens@up.ac.za](mailto:antoinette.lourens@up.ac.za) or tel 529 8008

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## INTERESTING WEBSITES

### *Antoinette Lourens*

List of best reference websites:

<http://websearch.about.com/od/internetresearch/a/newsreference.htm>

BookSpot.com

<http://www.bookspot.com/>

BookSpot.com is a free resource center that simplifies the search for the best book-related content on the Web. Featured sites are hand-selected by BookSpot.com editors and organized into intuitive categories, such as bestseller lists, genres, book reviews, electronic texts, book news and more.

The Center for Food Security & Public Health website

<http://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/> has a fabulous collection of resources.

The University of Pretoria on Wikipedia

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University\\_of\\_Pretoria](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Pretoria)

**Animals** - Facts, Information, Photos, Pictures, Sounds, Habitats of Animals Available on National Geographic **Animals** Home Page.

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/>

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## THAT AMAZING SHIP OF THE DESERT

### *Antoinette Lourens*

Prof Malie Smuts, Emeritus Professor, Dept of Anatomy, Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria was invited to address the HICSA (Health Information Community of South Africa) Gauteng meeting held on 9 May 2008. Her topic: Compiling an anatomical atlas of the camel.

Her paper is available on the HICSA Blog (<http://hicsa-healthlibraries.blogspot.com/2008/08/that-amazing-ship-of-desert.html> )

This paper is really worth reading

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## FIRST SOUTH AFRICAN TO QUALIFY AS A VETERINARIAN

### *Erica van der Westhuizen*

Veterinary training in South Africa started in 1920, under the guidance of Sir Arnold Theiler, the first Dean.

Before that date South Africans who wished to study veterinary science had to do so overseas.

Dr Jotello Festiri SOGA was the first South African to qualify as a vet.

He entered the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, Edinburgh in 1881 and qualified (MRCVS) in 1886.

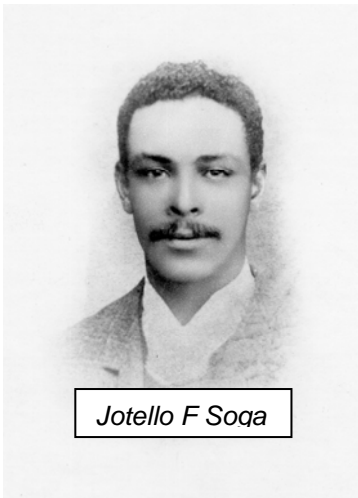
His professional life was quite short, as he died in 1906 on the farm Amalinda, near East London. But he had an eventful life nevertheless, especially if one considers the veterinary or animal health situation at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in South Africa.

It was a time of severe disease outbreaks, such as rinderpest and lamziekte. And it was the time of the Anglo-Boer war.

Agriculture departments of the colonies (this was the time before Union) seemed to have been beset with problems, with each province or colony running its own system. Veterinary expertise was limited. Arnold Theiler was busy fighting bureaucracy to set up facilities in the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek to investigate these diseases and develop vaccines.

Jotello Soga was employed by the Cape colonial government, mainly to stamp out rinderpest. When one reads reports of this work, one is left with the impression of a man working almost alone to combat the disease, having to convince farmers to have their cattle slaughtered. No easy task even today, so what it was like for a man of mixed descent, cannot be imagined. Jotello's father was a Xhosa who qualified as a Presbyterian minister in Scotland. His mother was Janet Burnside, of Edinburgh. It is thought that the hard work he undertook in fighting rinderpest had a negative impact on his health.

Jotello Soga is also known for his research on the medicinal uses of plants. The Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute created a special Ethnoveterinary plant garden and named it after him. The Agricultural Research Council have commissioned a bust to be made of Soga and it will be unveiled during the opening ceremony of the Pan-African Veterinary Conference by the Minister of Agriculture on 6 October this year.



*Jotello F Soga*

## **SA VETERINARY AND PARAVETERINARY CONGRESS 7-11 JULY 2008** **THE LIBRARY WAS THERE!**

### ***Erica van der Westhuizen***

The Veterinary Science Library once again participated in this biannual event by sharing the Faculty's exhibition stand. This important occasion in the veterinary calendar is an opportunity for marketing the library's services and products to veterinary practitioners. With CPD now compulsory for practitioners the library plays a role in helping with the earning of points. We run an electronic monitoring system, keeping a record of the articles requested by veterinarians who have enrolled for our contents pages service.

Antoinette Lourens and Erica van der Westhuizen promoted the Library Services the first 2 days of the conference, and were followed by Tertia Coetsee and Marguerite Nel for the next 2 days.

We were kept very busy as most of the attendees visited the exhibits. There was no time for us to attend any of the lectures unfortunately, as we had been able to do at past conferences.

We hope that all the contacts made and information communicated about how the library can help practitioners to keep up-to-date will result in an expansion of our "external" market, for the benefit of animal health in South Africa.



*The librarians (Tertia Coetsee, Antoinette Lourens, Erica van der Westhuizen and Marguerite Nel) at the exhibition stand*

## A NEW STAFF MEMBER IN THE LIBRARY

### ***Antoinette Lourens***

I am sure most of you noticed a new friendly face in the library. He is Joe Sindane who started with us at the beginning of August. He started his working career at UNISA in 1996 in the photocopy section but moved to Inter Library Loans in 1999 where he stayed till he joined us. He is studying towards a Diploma in Information Science with UNISA and is currently in his 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

He likes listening to the radio and would like to work for Tuks Radio on a temporary basis (Tuks Radio do you take note of this?) Apart from the radio he is also interested in soccer, cycling and boxing.

His wife's name is Phikisile and they stay in Soshanguve. Now you also know why he wanted to move to us - Onderstepoort is so much closer to home than UNISA

UNISA's loss is our gain! We want to welcome Joe and hope that he'll be very happy with us! Johannes especially is pleased to have another male join the team!

