Newsletter of the Jotello F Soga Library Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria





Junie 2021

# FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR:

Welcome to the first edition of *Infomania* for 2021. We hope you'll find the newsletter informative.

In this edition interesting news about Impact factor abandoned by Utrecht University in hiring and promotion decisions, the Veterinary History Society and how to join them, Mandela Day 2021.

We share information on how to stay current in your field of interest. Also an interesting contribution of a unique booklet donated to our library.

There are also the latest statistics about UP's Research Data Repository, called Figshare.

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)** 

# Join the Veterinary History Society of South Africa by Susan Marsh

# http://www.sava.co.za/2019/11/18/veterinary-history-society-of-south-africa/

No-one needs to be convinced of the importance of history in our lives. A great opportunity for veterinarians to learn more about veterinary history in South Africa, is to join the Veterinary History Society of South Africa.

In 1995 the Veterinary History Committee (VHC) of the South African Veterinary Association (SAVA) was established with Dr Basil Pappin as Chair. Dr Basil Pappin was part of the class of 1946 BVSc graduandi at UP. Visit the UP repository UPSpace for a class photo of the 1946 BVSc graduandi. https://repository.up.ac.za/handle/2263/79543

He was succeeded as Chair by Dr Rudolph Bigalke (1996-2008) who also obtained his degree in 1946 and then Dr Daan Verwoerd (2008-2018), part of the class of 1958.

In August 2019 it was decided to replace the VHC with a Not-for-Profit Company, the Veterinary History Society of South Africa (VHS) to include full membership to non-veterinarians. Although the VHS is not a body of the SAVA, it is still working with close links with the SAVA.

During the existence of the VHC, valued contributions were made to the history of veterinary science in South Africa and in 2013 the VHC received a SAVA citation for this.

The creation of the South African National Veterinary Museum at Onderstepoort is part of the VHC legacy.

As part of the Centenary Celebrations for the Veterinary Research Institute (VRI) at Onderstepoort and the University of Pretoria in 2008, a book "Onderstepoort, 1908-2008" on the history of the VRI and the Veterinary Faculty at Onderstepoort has been published.

In 2008 a Pan-African Veterinary Congress was held at Onderstepoort and in 2011 a Veterinary History Session was organised as part of the 2011 World Veterinary Association Congress in Cape Town.

With the assistance of the Jotello F Soga library, veterinary history material is continuously collected and made available through the UP's Institutional Repository, UPSpace. A specific collection of interest, is the collection of brief biographies of deceased South African veterinarians or researchers.

We would like to invite students and staff of the Faculty to consider becoming members of the VHS as this is the only way to secure the preservation of veterinary history in South Africa.

Chair: Prof Gareth Bath – gfbath@gmail.com

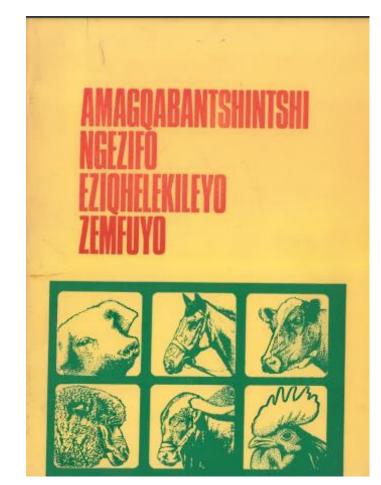
Secretary: Mrs Susan Marsh – susan.marsh@up.ac.za

### A Unique booklet donated to our library

**By Amelia Breytenbach** 

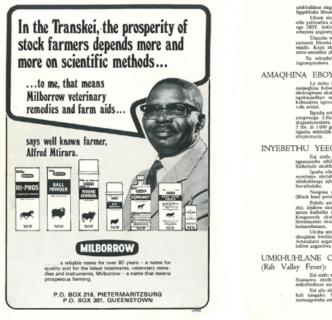
The library regularly receives donations of books or journals from retired staff or members in the veterinary profession. One of these donations, the H.P.A de Boom donation, included an interesting publication on common veterinary diseases written in isiXhosa.

Mr D.B. Menye wrote the book, Amagqabantshintshi ngezifo eziqhelekileyo zemfuyo, with assistance by the veterinarian Charles Willem Albert Belonje. From written notes on the verso of the title page of the book, Charles Belonje donated this copy to Prof H.P.A de Boom on April 13, 1978. As there is no formal publication date in the book, we estimate the publication date as 1978 according to the notes. Mr Menye holds Diplomas in Business and Animal Health from the Fort Cox Agricultural School in Middledrift. Belonje was the Regional Director of Veterinary Field Services, Eastern Cape in South Africa and a lecturer in veterinary health at agricultural schools in Grootfontein and Fort Cox at the time of publication. Several well-known firms like Milborrow, Bayer Agro-Chem, Shell Chemicals, Coopers (South Africa), Ciba-Geigy, Kynoch Feeds, Mobil and Pfizer sponsored the book. The cover page:



Short descriptions of common veterinary diseases, with the English veterinary name in parenthesis next to the Xhosa, as well as veterinary terms and procedures like dehorning are given. An index of the diseases described with the page references is available at the back of the book. Useful tables like conversion tables, pulse rate, normal temperatures and age of puberty of different animals are also part of the contents. The book consists of 72 pages.

#### An extract from the book:



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According to the WorldCat Library system, we could only trace one other copy of the book in the library of the University of Fort Hare. We decided that the value of the book justified its preservation in our UPSpace repository. A scanned copy of the book can be found in the Veterinary Science Old Books collection at the following link <u>https://repository.up.ac.za/handle/2263/80404</u>

A hard copy of the book will be kept in the library in one of our display cabinets.

# Impact factor abandoned by Utrecht University in hiring and promotion decisions by Tertia Coetsee

Utrecht University says it is formally abandoning the impact factor, a standard measure of scientific success, in all hiring and promotion decisions. By early 2022, every department at Utrecht University in the Netherlands will judge its scholars by other standards, including their commitment to teamwork and their efforts to promote open science, according to the university's new Recognition and Rewards scheme. The university decided that impact factors don't really reflect the quality of an individual researcher or academic. Faculty and staff members at Utrecht University will be evaluated by their commitment to open science.

A scientist's impact factor is a score that takes into account the number of publications and the citation rate of the journals where those papers are published. In this system, articles in highly cited journals such as Science, Nature or Cell count for more than articles in journals whose content is cited less frequently. The university says that impact factors, as well as a related measure called the h-index, contribute to a 'product-ification' of science that values sheer output over good research.

The new scheme is part of Utrecht's Open Science programme, a multi-track effort to make research more transparent and cooperative. Open-science fellows embedded within each department will assess progress towards open-access publishing, public engagement and data sharing.

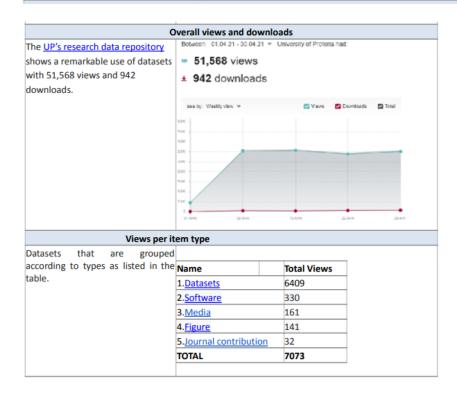
Utrecht will not be standing alone in its efforts to change the way researchers are evaluated, as open science becomes more and more important in policy and decisionmaking surrounding research funding and strategies, it will almost be a necessity for institutions to follow suit. Still, doing away with standard metrics could be a risky move for the university and its faculty and staff members. As long as other universities continue to rely on impact factors and other productivity metrics for hiring and promotion, researchers who come up through the Utrecht system might be at a competitive disadvantage if they eventually try to find a job at a different institution.

To read the original article: <u>https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-021-01759-5</u>

# UP's Research Data Repository (Figshare) - 1st Quarter 2021

The UP's Research Data Repository enables researchers to store, share, discover research data. It makes research output available, citable, shareable, and discoverable and provides usage statistics. Researchers can create research profile accounts and share data openly.

projects	Format	Number of items	
l'ojecto	Registered Users	1558	
	Projects	21	
	TOTAL	1579	
umber of items that			
umber of items that re openly available	Format	Number of items	
	Format Open Access	Number of items	
re openly available			

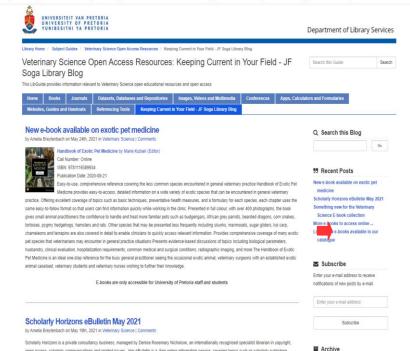


#### Keeping Current in Your Field: JF. Soga Library Blog Amelia Breytenbach

URL to subscribe: https://up-za.libguides.com/c.php?g=1085098&p=8205733

We are excited to share our new blog "Keeping Current in Your Field" with our users. This blog replaces the Jotello F. Soga Library Facebook page that we closed down in December 2020. This communication tool will help us to communicate important information to our users amid the numerous changes and challenges brought to us by the COVID-19 pandemic

We kindly ask our library users to **subscribe to the blog to keep up to date with the** latest news and information from the Library. Just enter your e-mail address in the subscription box, confirm your subscription and then you will receive notifications of new posts by e-mail. A comment when you read our posts will also be welcome from time to time.



May 2021

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The JF Soga Library blog will be updated on a regular basis about the following:

- Marketing (New books, databases, services, etc.)
- Sharing events
- Showing photos (Campus life, etc.)
- Communicating important information (Workshops etc.)
- General announcements (Downtime of services, Holiday hours, etc.)
- Sharing interesting veterinary news from our Faculty and veterinary partners
- Introducing new Library staff and their roles
- Offering added value by sharing and linking to content and recommended resources from other content creators (Anipedia platform announcements, IVIS, etc.).
- Competitions (USR Photo Competition, OIE Photo Competition, etc.)

The Jotello F. Soga Library wants to present itself as a modern library that is not only a book rental point, but also a location with a full range of digital services. **Please subscribe to see what we do to keep you current about information in your field.** 

Tota	Total views and downloads per faculty				
Name	Views	Downloads			
University of Pretoria - general	51568	948			
GIBS	29312	2			
Engineering, Built Environment and IT	5887	412			
Natural and Agricultural Sciences	5714	173			
Economics & Management Sciences	4252	239			
Veterinary Science	2836	60			
Humanities	1776	44			

Top 5 viewed, downloaded, cited and tweeted items						
Title	Faculty	Downloads	Views	Citation	Twitter	
1. <u>UP Cochlea V1.9</u>	EBIT	1795	3 429			
2. <u>Reproductive behaviour of the roan</u> antelope (Hippotragus equinus)	NAS	433	3055		3	
3. <u>CODATA-RDA Summer School: Pretoria</u> 2020	EBIT	227	3020			
4. <u>Lessac Kinesensics' five levels of</u> communicative behaviour to facilitate shifts between theatre acting and film acting	HUM	2	2830			
5. <u>Non-invasive monitoring of</u> adrenocortical function in female domestic pigs using saliva and faeces as hormone sample matrices	VET	39	2752	1		

Nelson Mandela International Day is an annual international day in honour of former South African state president Nelson Mandela, and is celebrated on 18 July, his birthday.

The day was officially declared by the United Nations in November 2009, with the first UN Mandela Day held on 18 July 2010. Each year on this day we honour Mandela's legacy by committing to periods of service for the greater good of our communities.

The Department of library Service annually celebrates Nelson Mandela International Day by giving back to the community. The community forum's team members, decided this year, to embark on a "collect canned food" and "soup in a jar" project. All personnel of the library are invited to contribute to this worthy course. The beneficiaries of the project will be homeless people and the unemployed who stand by the road looking for part-time jobs, due to Covid-19 restrictions. The distribution of food will take place as soon as Covid-19 regulations permits.

Nelson Mandela said: "There is nothing more important in life than giving"



