

# InfoMania



May 2019

## FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR:

Welcome to the first edition of *Infomania* for 2019. We hope you'll find the newsletter informative.

The Jotello F. Soga Library enters the world of artificial intelligence. Read about our new Self-Check machine.

Find out how you can benefit from using SciVal, an Elsevier product which gives access to the research performance of research institutions and researchers worldwide.

The latest QS World University Rankings by Subject report is available, and for the first time the Veterinary Science course is ranked by QS. Read more about it in this edition.

We supply information on the donation of valuable resources to the Jotello F. Soga Library and the safekeeping thereof.

Lastly we give information on the research commons facility, and some snippets on Valentine's Day and Open Day 2019.

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)**

## Borrow easily – Self-Check machine in the library

In February the Jotello F. Soga Library received a Self-Check machine. As we move into the artificial intelligence era, this machine is a wonderful addition to our library.

The self-check-out machine conveniently allows library users to check out library material on their own while the library is open, provides the customer with a slip and provides library staff more time for assisting customers with other enquiries. Library users can check out items and view the status of their library accounts.



To avoid queuing up at our circulation counter for borrowing books, try our **Self Check Machine** located at the entrance of library!

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Since mid-2018 the library has subscribed to SciVal, an Elsevier product which gives access to the research performance of 13,200 research institutions and their associated researchers from 230 nations worldwide.

With this product researchers can find current and potential collaborators, benchmark with peers, demonstrate research impact for promotion or funding and discover relevant cross-disciplinary areas of research. Data visualizations can be processed in seconds. Data is based on the Scopus database which contains 1,4 billion cited references dating back to 1970. SciVal is a data partner for QS rankings.

A research overview for the University of Pretoria, Veterinary subject field in SciVal for the period 2013-2018 looks like this:

**University of Pretoria**  
 561-570 (QS) · 601-800 (THE) · 401-500 (ARWU) | South Africa | More details on this Institution

2013 to >2018 | Veterinary | ASJC | Data sources

Summary | Topics & Topic Clusters | Collaboration | Published | Viewed | Cited | Authors | More... ▾

**Overall research performance**

Scholarly Output	Authors	Field-Weighted Citation Impact
781 ▼	577 ▼	1.28
Citation Count	Citations per Publication	h5-index
3,672	4.7	16

Top collaborating institutions are:

Top collaborating Institutions

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by number of publications co-authored with the University of Pretoria

Institution	Co-authored publications ↓	Citations received for co-authored publications	Co-authors	Field-Weighted Citat... ▾
1. Agricultural Research Council	79	377	99	1.39
2. Utrecht University	56 ▼	349	81 ▼	1.77
3. James Cook University Queensland	28 ▲	79	27 ▲	0.86
4. University of Stellenbosch	27 ▼	172	34 ▲	1.66
5. CIRAD	23 ▲	170	18 ▼	2.79
6. Texas A and M University	22 ▼	134	44 ▼	1.66
7. University of Edinburgh	18 ▼	148	24 ▼	3.65
8. University of the Witwatersrand	17 ▲	111	19 ▲	2.14
9. University of Copenhagen	16 ▼	135	21 ▼	2.68
10. DeVry University	16 ▲	52	12 ▲	0.97

SciVal is available for use and appears on the list of databases (<https://up-za.libguides.com/az.php>) on the library website. Users need to register for their own login detail to gain access.

## QS World University Rankings by Subject

By Tertia Coetsee

The QS World University Rankings by Subject 2019 cover a total of 48 disciplines, grouped into broad subject areas. It is compiled annually to help prospective students identify the leading universities in a particular subject. Research citations, along with the results of major global surveys of employers and academics are used to rank universities.

UP is one of the world's top universities and occupies a space in the top 1,9% of universities in the world. We rank highly for Africa across several ranking measurement systems which take into consideration a range of factors.

The Veterinary Science course has also been ranked 43rd globally in the QS World University Rankings for 2019, the first time its course offering has been ranked by QS. In the same category the Faculty is ranked 5th overall in the Southern Hemisphere.

The following 3 UP fields are on the list for the first time:

- Veterinary Science
- Environmental sciences
- Development Studies (part of Social Sciences & Management)

Rank	University	Country	Rating
	The University of Tokyo	Japan	
43	University of Pretoria	South Africa	
46	Université de Montréal	Canada	5★
47	University of Calgary	Canada	
48	University of Milan	Italy	
49	University of Helsinki	Finland	
50	Université de Liège	Belgium	

University Rankings : Veterinary Science

## Donation of valuable resources to the Jotello F. Soga library

By Amelia Breytenbach & Susan Marsh

On January 23, 2019 the Jotello F. Soga library received a valuable donation of scientific tick sketches and signed copies of books about the current state of the biology of ticks of Southern Africa and the world.

The donors are:

- Prof Ivan Horak, a dedicated researcher and world expert in ticks and parasites. He is an Emeritus Professor in the Dept of Veterinary Tropical Diseases, Faculty of Veterinary Science and has contributed to more than 300 scientific publications. He was the receiver of several national and international prizes during his research.
- Ms Heloise Heyne, a well-known tick and parasitic mite taxonomist of the ARC, Onderstepoort Veterinary Research. She is the author and co-author of numerous publications and was the first Curator of the Gertrud Theiler Tick Museum at the ARC, Onderstepoort Veterinary Research.

The donation consists of original coloured and black and white sketches of ticks as published in several books and articles authored by them. The original detailed sketches were created by the artist and scientific illustrator, Andre Olwage. All black and white and coloured sketches were financed by Prof Ivan Horak, except for the black and white *Rhipicephalus* sketches financed by the late Dr Jane B. Walker of Onderstepoort Veterinary Research. Dr Jane B. Walker (1925-2009) was an internationally renowned expert on the *Rhipicephalus* tick species of the world. In her testament, the sketches, used for the book "*The genus Rhipicephalus (Acari, Ixodidae) : A guide to the brown ticks of the world*", were bequeathed to Prof Horak and Ms Heyne. Photocopies of the original sketches contain handwritten notes about the research Jane Walker did and add enormous value to the donation. The physical sketches will be stored in acid-free paper and containers to prevent future deterioration of the original paper sketches. CD's with the digitised images of the sketches, owned by Mr Andre Olwage, will at a later stage be donated to the library for addition to UPSpace. By uploading the collection of sketches to our repository, the preservation of this scarce and unique resource will be ensured for future use.

Prof Horak donated signed copies of the following two books to the library:

- Horak, I. G., Heyne, H., Williams, R., Gallivan, G.J., Spickett, A.M., Bezuidenhout, J.D. & Estrada-Peña, a. (2018) *The Ixodid ticks (Acari: Ixodidae) of Southern Africa*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer. doi: 10.1007/978-3-319-70642-9.
- Guglielmo, A. A., Robbins, R. G., Apanaskevich, D. A., Petney, T., Estrada-Peña Agustín and Horak, I. (2014) *The hard ticks of the world : Acari, Ixodida, Ixodidae*. Dordrecht: Springer.

The library greatly values the donation that will definitely assist in providing a better service to the research community.

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## The new Research Commons facility at the Faculty. By Susan Marsh

Since our last newsletter in the second semester of 2018, we had the pleasure of appointing two post-graduate students to deliver first line support in the Faculty's Research Commons that came in use since July 2018. We believe that they will enjoy their time in the Research Commons and contribute positively to our PG students' success and throughput.

Anél Naude (left) is currently a final year Masters student at the Dept of Anatomy & Physiology and Channen Long (right) is a 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD student in the Dept of Paraclinical Sciences.



The research commons is a facility for the use of Masters and Doctoral students, with a view to strengthening the university's capacity for research and postgraduate success and is situated on the 5th level of the Sir Arnold Theiler building. Apart from Masters and Doctoral students, study leaders or promoters of the Faculty of Veterinary Science will have access. Access is activated with a valid staff or student card. As the library was requested by Faculty to manage the area, all access problems should be reported to the library.

The facility is equipped with a study and work area, seminar room and relaxation area. The use of the facilities will be available all hours. Study facilities are available on a first-come first-serve basis and no advanced bookings can be done. The seminar room can be booked via a print diary, available in the Research Commons.

The OP Research Commons is a facility where silence is a prerequisite. Conversations are to be limited to the lounge area and activities initiated by academic staff and/or Masters and Doctoral students should be of a research or academic nature.

The support given by the two appointed post-graduate students will range from monitoring the tidiness and discipline of the area, to general IT support, MS Office support (MS Advance Word editing and support with Excel spreadsheets), Support in using statistical programs (R, SPSS and Stata) and EndNote support. The students are available from Monday to Thursday from 08:00 – 18:00 and Friday from 08:00 – 16:00.

We trust that this new facility on campus will contribute positively to the success of our Faculty.

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## Open Day 8 March 2019

An information day for Gr 11 - 12 learners was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Exhibitions of all departments, the library, Client Services and Student Services were held. Four similar information sessions were presented at different times to accommodate all the learners and their parents. They were informed on selection criteria for prospective BVSc and BVN students, and career opportunities in the Veterinary profession. "Junior Tukkie" membership was also promoted. Learners and their parents were also taken on optional campus tours.

Part of the library exhibition was a library fun frame for taking selfies.



## Valentine's day – 14 February



As always, the Jotello F. Soga library treated the students with something sweet on Valentine's Day. This year we promoted the following slogan: "Libraries, a positive impact on your academic work!"

The Library Services at Hatfield Campus again launched the #LibraryLoversMonth competition and invited students to tell *them* about a time that the library had a positive impact on their academic work! As always there were wonderful prizes to be won.

