



Committee for Higher Education Librarians of South Africa

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT TO THE BUSINESS MEETING OF
28 SEPTEMBER 2009**

FOR THE PERIOD MAY – SEPTEMBER 2009

1. Executive Committee (Exco)

Ms Vivian Agyei	(Chairperson)
Ms Hannie Sander	(Deputy Chairperson)
Ms Gwenda Thomas	(Secretary)
Mr Tom Larney	(Treasurer)
Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata	(Additional Member)
Mr Juliano Kabamba	(Additional Member)

2. Congratulations to Ms Ellen Tise, the IFLA President

Congratulations are due to Ms Tise on her inauguration as IFLA President for the next two years. We are very proud of her achievement and will give her all the support possible. We wish her the very best in the position.

3. Exco Meetings

The Executive Committee held two (2) teleconferences since the May meeting; in July and August. The second semester of each year is a very busy time for Library Directors for many of them travel to international meetings/conferences during that period.

The Exco noted with regret the passing of Ms Sander's husband and that Mr Kabamba was on sick leave.

4. CHELSA Website and Archives

Ms Thomas reported and was granted permission to engage the services of the company Hetzner which is a server host provider (been used successfully for the IUG-SA website) at a once-off set up fee of R199.00 and R99.00 per month. The documentation to relocate the website is in progress and the CHELSA logo has been given improved resolution for use on the webpage. Ms Thomas is working with ms Allwright of the SEALS Trust to design the

information architecture so that the CHELSA documents can be loaded. A test site should be available within the next few weeks.

5. Funding Formula for libraries operations, salaries and information resources

Dr Mbambo-Thata would present the final report to the September meeting, after-which the matter will be closed. Thereafter, it would be the responsibility of each CHELSA member to submit annual budget allocations to the Sub-Committee for Statistics as was agreed at the May meeting.

6. Information Literacy Training

The Sub-Committee comprising of nominees representing each of the five (5) regions/consortia country-wide, compiled a report on progress with the framework within which training programmes should be designed. The workshop that was planned for September 2009 did not materialise. Instead, the Sub-Committee opted for a webinar which was held on the 10th September. Their report was submitted for discussion by the meeting on the 28th.

7. Strategic Plan

The strategic planning workshop took place on the 27th May 2009 as scheduled and it was well attended. Unfortunately in organising it, the time required was grossly underestimated. There was no time to wrap up the strategies and allocate target dates; etc. However, a lot was achieved and the notes from the workshop were submitted by the facilitator and distributed to all members.

Owing to time demands and constraints, the Exco after attempting to do the compilation resolved to request the facilitator to compile a business plan based on the notes for discussion by the meeting of 28th September.

The facilitator's charge for the exercise was R6, 200.00 plus VAT. It would be covered by the original budget for the workshop.

8. Electronic Theses and Dissertations Project

It seemed that the Exco had mistaken Mr Ubogu for the coordinator of the project. Clarity would be sought from the September 28th meeting. The project was stalling and Ms Thomas offered to coordinate it - liaising with the NRF and all concerned. Ms Sander would represent the Chairperson on the project. Further information would be provided by Ms Thomas.

9. NCLIS' request for a meeting with CHELSA

NCLIS requested a meeting with CHELSA during the 2009 LIASA Conference in Bloemfontein with the purpose to discuss the academic libraries' role in the Library and Information Services (LIS) sector.

The meeting would be attended by the Council's Ex-Officio members, ± 4 members, i.e. Prof Rocky Ralebipi-Simela, Mr Francois Hendrikz, Mr John Tsebe and Mr Haffy Haffajee. We were requested to indicate whether CHELSA would be available any time between the 28 September and 01 October 2009.

A slot was secured with the HELIG Chairperson for 10:30-11:30 on the 30th September. It was hoped that all members would attend.

10. Sponsorship to CHELSA staff training on Institutional Repositories

CHELSA's sponsorship of R25,000 would be paid to the service provider as agreed by the members at the May meeting.

11. Sponsorship for CHELSA

WWIS offered to pay for CHELSA members' dinner on the 28th September. CHELSA was very grateful for the support.

Conclusion

Finalisation of the strategic plan would be the highlight of 2009. 2010 would be the first year of implementation of the objectives and from then on, CHELSA would establish itself as a strategic body in the South African higher education sector. CHELSA is grateful also to library suppliers who continue to sponsor CHELSA activities.

Compiled by: Vivian Agyei
CHELSA Chairperson
May 2008 – May 2010