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AFRICA DAY VIRTUAL CELEBRATION

Submitted by: Patiswa Zibani

Africa Day is an annual event celebrated on the 25th of May on the African continent. Formally known as African Freedom Day and African Liberation Day, it is an annual commemoration of the foundation of the Organisation of the African Unity (OAU) that took place on the 26 May 1963.

For the past few years, the Library, in collaboration with the International Education and Partnerships division of DUT, have celebrated Africa with displays, keynote speakers, and various other events to showcase the diversity of Africa.

Despite the odds presented by COVID-19, it was decided to celebrate Africa Day using virtual platforms. In complying with the South African government lockdown regulations, this year's commemoration of Africa Day took place online via MS Teams on 25 May.

In celebrating this day, various activities leading to the guest lecture, which was the main event for this celebration were organised. Using the #DUTCelebratesAfrica2020, the DUT community was encouraged to share



songs, films, documentaries and poetry that best represent cultures, history, adventures and creativity in the African continent. An online exhibition of the African literature from the DUT library's eBook collection was set up for the staff and students leisure. The organising team also used the [#DUTCelebratesAfrica2020](#) to engage with the community via twitter and Facebook.

The organising team had invited two of the most respected speakers in the fields of economics and health in Africa. Dr Twinoburyo, Senior Economist from Sustainable Development Goals Centre for Africa and Dr Njeru Nwagiru of Institute for Futures Research at the Stellenbosch Universi-

ty. Dr Twinoburyo gave valuable insight into the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) for Africa and how the current pandemic is affecting these objectives. Dr Nwagiru shared her health experiences in dealing with the pandemic as well as her vision of the evolved African continent in the near future.

The event was well attended and the interactive question and answer sessions indicated high interest by the participants. Lessons were learned by the organisers in terms of having a virtual event and it is certainly something that will be considered to supplement live events in future.



“Moving towards making the Faculty of Management Sciences a leading Faculty at DUT”

Prof Netswera aims to move his Faculty to new heights

The DUT Library welcomes Prof Netswera, the new Dean of the Faculty of Management Sciences.



Prof Netswera comes to DUT with more than 22 years of experience within the higher education, research and innovation sector. Apart from his office responsibilities, Prof continues to be an active researcher who is passionate about the development of African research and academic leadership.

The subject librarians for the Faculty of Management Sciences, the marketing and

communication librarian and the Library Manager at the BM Patel are excited and confident that he will work towards making the Management Sciences Faculty a leading faculty in the institution. The Library is looking forward to work with Prof Netswera in taking the faculty to new heights.

**Submitted by:
Kogie Naicker**

DUT benefits from PEESA

Submitted by: Mousin Omar Saib & Nhlanhla Nhleko

The Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment does it again.

The Personalised Engineering Education in Southern Africa (PEESA) project that is co-funded by the ERASMUS + Programme of the European Union has done it again at DUT. For the PEESA III Project, DUT were beneficiaries of a grant to the value of 25000,00 EUR which was used towards the purchase of a collection of E-books that are now part of the DUT Library's e-collection. A core team comprising

of representatives from the DUT Library, Faculty of EBE and the Department of International Education and Partnership selected and procured relevant electronic resources that would both supplement the existing Engineering resources as

well as enhance the teaching and learning activities of the Faculty. This collection of e-books from ProQuest and Wiley publishers is accessible from the comfort of your home or office and have the added feature of being able to be read online or downloaded to your computer. Staff and students can now access these resources from the Library Website <https://library.dut.ac.za>



COVID-19 EXPERIENCE: A MOTHER'S STORY

Submitted by: Kogie Naicker

With the number of confirmed Covid-19 cases rising so rapidly, many of us can now say that we know someone or heard of someone who has been affected by the novel coronavirus. This virus has taken many lives and knowing that ourselves, a family member or close friends could test positive for the virus has become our worst nightmare. I can say that I have had it first-hand from seeing my child battle with this virus.

The 14th of July 2020 was day 15 since my daughter tested positive for the coronavirus. It was the most terrifying two weeks for my family. From listening and reading up on what this virus does to people, those infected have different stories to tell about their experiences. Some have a mild dose with little or no symptoms. Some people have only flu-like symptoms. Some have it for a few days and others for a few weeks to a month.

This is my story. The story of a mother whose child lives in another province and was infected with the dreaded coronavirus. My daughter Tillisha is an Optometrist who works very closely with patients. As one can imagine, it is not easy for medical practitioners to maintain social



distancing. Their job entails touching patients' face and eyes at all times. Medical practitioners are using PPEs and adhering to other safety measures implemented by their healthcare institutions to protect themselves from this virus. However, a patient who provided incorrect information at the reception about her health status passed on the virus to Tillisha.

On June 29, Tillisha was tested for the coronavirus at a hospital after experiencing a severe headache, a fever, a slight cough, excruciating body pain and intense tiredness.

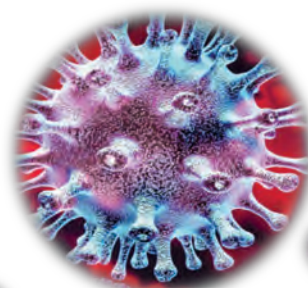
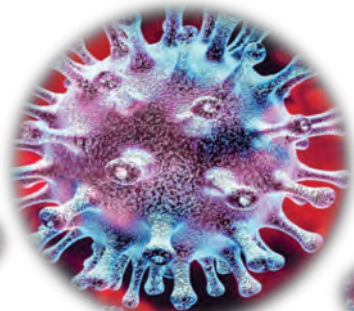
Day 1 - 30 June 2020. Her results came back positive. The doctor said that it was a mild dose of the virus and that she will experience mild flu-like symptoms over the next two weeks. The Doctor also reassured her that she will be fine because she is

young and healthy and her lung test was perfect. We thank God that she was staying with family members who took good care of her. She had to self-quarantine and this meant that my sister had to rearrange her home. A small "quarantine" table was put outside her bedroom. When it was time to eat, her food would be left on the table outside her bedroom. No one was allowed to enter her bedroom. The small table was sanitised at all times. At this stage, Tillisha looked and felt okay except for the tiredness, headache and body pains.

Day 2 - Symptoms remained the same. Her words to us were "Look, mom and dad, I am fine. I am sure they gave me the wrong results".

Day 3 - We were in a state of shock to see our baby drained out. She could not get out of bed. She could not eat. She had nausea and also experienced difficulty in breathing in deeply. She could only take short breaths. The only medication prescribed by the doctor was vitamin C, vitamin D, zinc and Panado. She was also advised by the doctor to drink lemon, ginger, honey and turmeric in hot water.

CONTINUE to page 4



A MOTHER'S STORY CONTINUES...

“She would fall asleep while talking to us”

Day 4 & 5 - She started experiencing more symptoms such as diarrhoea, bad dry cough and very sore throat, lack of appetite and loss of taste and smell. She felt so tired that even brushing her teeth was an effort. Our video calls to her were more than 20 a day while trying to motivate her. At times, she would fall off to sleep while talking to us. She continued to drink the concoction of the lemon drink, vitamin C shots and warm water.

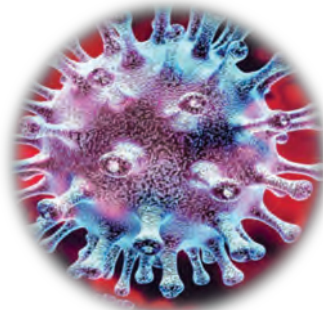
Day 6 - She was looking better and less tired. **Day 7 & 8** - She was back to being sick again. This virus was playing games with her and she could hardly talk to us. **Day 9 to 12** - She was feeling better again. She started eating cooked food. However, other symptoms were still there. Taking deep breaths was still not easy for but better than before. **Day 13 to 14** - Our baby was back. She was smiling and not looking tired.

The 14th of July was day 15. Tillisha went back to work. The doctor told her that the cough will linger on for a while, the breathing will get better and the tiredness will soon be a thing of the past. At this stage, she was still experiencing mild exhaustion, shortness of breath and coughing.

The doctor also confirmed that what she went through was a mild dose of the virus. For us as a family, we thought she was experiencing a heavy dose. I shudder to think what a heavy dose would look or feel like. We felt lucky that she contracted the “mild” version. We continued to encourage her

to practice taking deep breaths, to blow balloons and sleeping on the stomach. According to medical practitioners, these methods assist with opening the airways in the lungs. Being in Durban while our child was sick in Cape Town, it was not easy for us as a family. At some point, we even thought of just driving to Cape Town, regardless of the lockdown rules. It has been a nightmare two weeks and the scariest time of our lives.

The ongoing support from family, friends and work colleagues has been amazing. My message to those who have tested positive or have family and friends who tested positive, it is important to develop a positive energy force and stay calm. It is important to keep a positive mind-set to fight for your life. Boost your immunity, boost your energy and most importantly boost your mind-set. This too shall pass.



“We encouraged her to blow a balloon”

The Library COVID-19 Response Task Team

Submitted by: Dennis Mpumlwana

As recommended by the DUT Management, the Library established a task team as a subgroup of a broader DUT divisional COVID response teams. The purpose of the task team is to assist in managing effectively, the COVID pandemic at DUT.

Assembled by the Director Library Services Ms Lucille Webster, the task team comprises of library managers and staff from various ambits of DUT libraries. The task team, which is now known as the LCRTT, was formalised on 21 July 2020 at a Special Management Meeting.

The Library receives face-shields donation

As South Africa was entering the peak of the pandemic, more infections were projected. In July 2020, the DUT Library received a donation of over 120 face-shields from the DVC: Research Innovation and Engagement. The donation came at good time to serve as an extra layer of protection for the library frontline staff. The Library Management expresses sincere gratitude to the DVC's generous

offer. It is hoped that these face-shield will assist in reducing the level of fear and anxiety amongst the library frontline staff.



MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCE

—

SANITISE

—

WASH YOUR HANDS

—

AVOID TOUCHING :

MOUTH

EYES

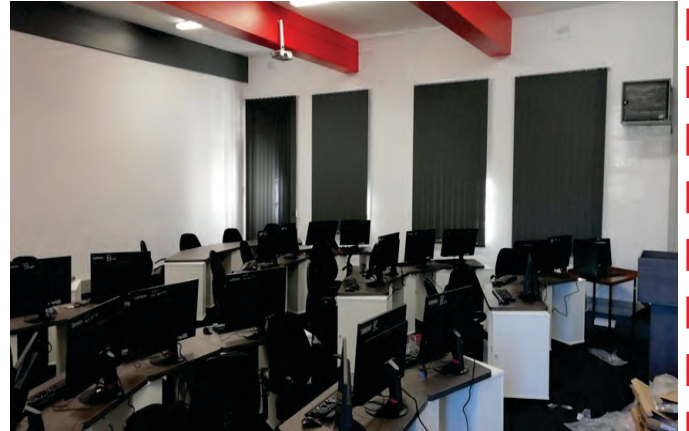
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Submitted by: Patiswa Zibani



The Faculty of Arts and Design collaborate with City and Brickfield Libraries

Pictured: Postgraduate Lab



“Collaboration bringing positive energy”

The Faculty of Arts and Design has contributed to making the City and Brickfield libraries become more visible and more involved in the-teaching, learning, and research at DUT. This well - coordinated collaboration is playing a role in bringing positive energy between the departments and the library.

Integration and student success have been the core focus of this collaboration. The Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Design has demonstrated great interest in developing library spaces. The Dean also encouraged other departmental heads to continue with the culture of using libraries and other creative spaces as centres of collaboration towards students’ success.

Both City Campus and

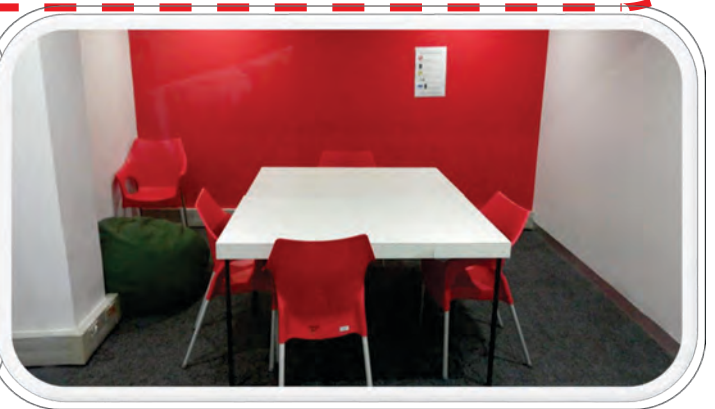
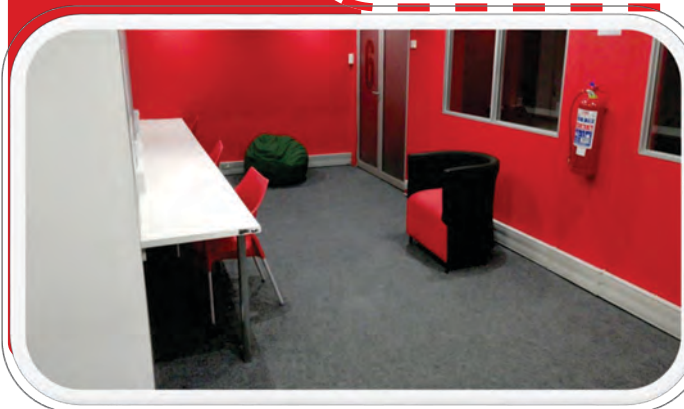
Brickfield libraries now have conducive spaces with study areas for students, group study rooms, relaxation spaces with beanbags, laptop charging tops and Wi-Fi connectivity. The newly renovated City Campus Library Postgraduate Computer Laboratory is now a state of the art facility. Other renovations includes the newly revamped Library computer lab that is used by librarians and academic staff, the Site Art Gal-

lery and a large seminar room.

Through this relationship, the library is recognised as a meaningful partner in achieving students’ success at DUT. This type of collaboration with faculties is becoming a global complementing, rather than competing in the provision of quality spaces for teaching, learning and research support services for users.

“library as a center of collaboration”

Submitted by: Nozipho Majola



Library re-opening amid COVID-19

DUT Library deemed it necessary to open its doors following the phased-in return of staff and students across DUT campuses. With the health and safety of the DUT community remaining the highest priority, library spaces had to be prepared and several measures were implemented. Library designed COVID-19 posters were strategically placed in all DUT site libraries by the Circulation staff teams who had tirelessly re-organised learning spaces and applied social distancing. With the help of the DUT Maintenance department, sanitizing stations were mounted at the entrances to the library floors.

To comply with the university regulations regarding COVID-19, the following protocols were put in place in all the DUT Libraries:

- ▶ Controlled access limited to certain library spaces and e-zones to avoid overcrowding
- ▶ Regular sanitizing at entrance points and throughout the library to ensure that all users sanitize their hands
- ▶ Compulsory use of face masks by all library users to minimize the spread of infection
- ▶ Special dedicated quarantine stations to receive all returned items for a period of two days before items are charged out again.

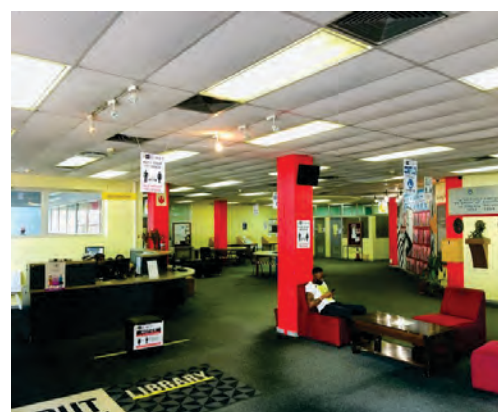
Submitted by:
Nomonde Mgqalelo



Pictured: B.M. Patel Library entrance,

The BM Patel Library circulation team embarked on the project of reorganizing the circulation desk area and short-loan section, as suggested by the current circulation supervisor. This reorganization project has created more space, making it easier to identify and locate items. The process included removing all the overnight items and placing exam papers on the open shelves per the norm across DUT libraries. The location of items that were moved was changed on the library Workflows system and relevant date sheets were pasted into each item. The circulation area now houses only short-loan items. All unnecessary furniture was also removed from the Circulation desk and all asset numbers were recorded. The circulation space is presently looking much better with more space to move

uninhibitedly. The next phase of the project will include the involvement of the subject librarians in weeding the collections of DVDs and law books.



Delivering IL during COVID-19

Submitted by: Romeo Matumba

The current pandemic is forcing businesses and communities around the world to adapt to what is now called the “new normal”. Universities are also cutting down on the number of students and staff who should access the university premises in a bid to fight this pandemic. While the majority of face-to-face classes are cancelled, academics are now starting to move towards the use of blended or multi-modal learning tools more than before. Libraries as central hubs are also hugely affected by this “new normal”, as the majority of face-to-face services are now curtailed due to the fear of staff and students becoming infected by the virus. DUT Librarians are now gearing up to provide more services that can be accessed remotely to allow users the flexibility to access the library services from anywhere, anytime. Librarians are also now taking their information literacy training to digital platforms.

At the beginning of the current lockdown, DUT Librarians conducted several meetings to discuss a way forward under the lockdown conditions. The focus of these meetings was the information literacy service. As a result, information literacy (IL) packages were created to support remote learning. More training resources such as videos, tutorials, presentations and lesson plans were customised to suit the online platforms

“Librarians normalising the new normal”

such as MS Teams and Moodle. The updated videos and presentations were also added to the subject guides accessible via the library webpage. Short videos and tutorials were created for IL lessons such as topic analysis, finding information sources using the DUT library discovery tool (Summon), plagiarism and referencing, evaluating information sources and fake news.

For this mission to take off, librarians collaborated with the academics. Arrangements were made with the lecturers to add librarians onto the MS Teams and Moodle classes created for students. The purpose was to allow subject librarians to share information resources using the lecturer’s online teaching spaces. The subject librarian at the Riverside campus was added to 25 classes on MS Teams. In some instances, librarians were also timetabled to deliver IL lessons via MS Teams using the lecturers’ scheduled periods. With this collaboration, we saw more students starting to

understand the impact of the librarians on their academic success.

This pandemic has indeed made librarians embrace the online blended tools and mobile technology applications to provide services to the DUT community. Librarians are now attending to queries using services such as *LibChat*, *Ask A Librarian* and via WhatsApp more than before. The subject librarian at the Riverside campus is using WhatsApp groups with some of the student class representatives to communicate information services. These services existed before the pandemic. However, the usage and marketing of these services by librarians has increased since the beginning of COVID 19.

The current situation is very painful to endure. However, this has also been a positive learning curve to many librarians as we learn to create new ways of delivering information services to our users. *Siyabonga maqhawe nama qhawekazi ngokusebenza kwenu ngokuzikhandla*. Which means “We thank you brave men and women for your hard work”

Let's connect in the "new normal"

Submitted by: Claire Spershott

On the 26 March 2020, DUT library closed the doors of the six site libraries. However, the doors to information and support never closed completely. Much of the library's resources are online which meant access to the many databases as well as the self-help tools was always available. Some publishers and organisations made additional content freely available to support academics and researchers.

During the lockdown, online support was still available as librarians were

responding to email queries from staff and students as well as responding to the "Live Chat" link from the library website. Live Chat allows users to have a conversation with a librarian in real-time and continues to be a primary source of contact with staff and students. This service runs during office hours from Monday to Friday with limited monitoring of the service over the weekends.

To "Live Chat" with your subject librarian, go to the [Subject/ Research guides](#) on the

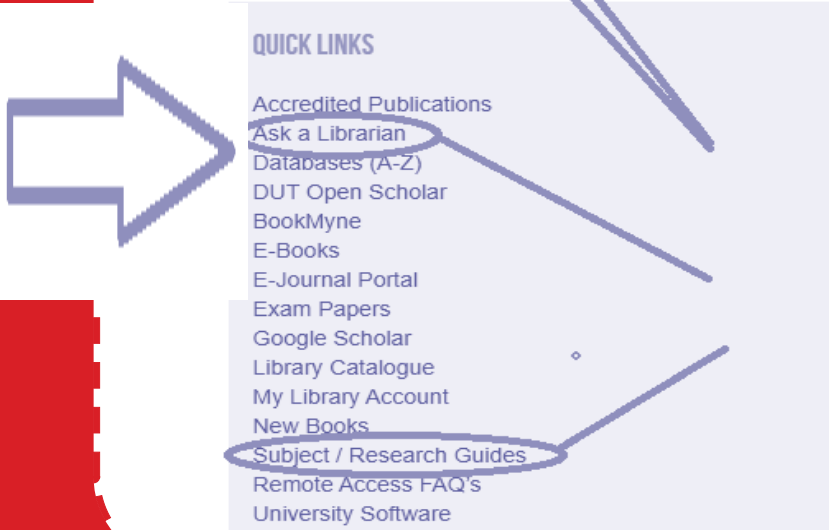
library website. Here, users can also find help according to their programme or subject. For each subject area, a range of support including links to book, databases, tutorials, videos, referencing help etc. is available. Another online self-help tool is "[Ask a Librarian](#)" which provides a list of FAQs as well as an option to send a question to a librarian.

Links to these services are found on the library website under SUBJECT SUPPORT as well as under QUICK LINKS.

Although many of the librarians are working from home, they are available to meet (virtually) with staff and students to assist in their information and research needs.

DUT librarians are updating their current Information Literacy (IL) lessons, PowerPoint slides and videos to be suitable for online classes. The updated IL resources can be accessed via the library website and subject guides. Librarians are also conducting live IL sessions via Ms Teams. These sessions are tailored to meet the needs of academics and students.

To chat live with your subject librarian, use the live chat button below available on the Library home page.



The circled quick links are also available on the library home page.



Staff On the Move..



Phumla retires

We say good-bye to Ms Phumla Luhabe after almost 31 years in the profession. Ms Luhabe has become a familiar face to our students and staff at the ML Sultan campus and her departure will leave a void that is hard to fill. She coordinated the Afterhours services at the BM Patel library for the past eight years. This involved working until late at night as well as Saturdays and Sundays when necessary. In her career, Ms Luhabe has worked at several of the large academic libraries in the region, in particular University of Zululand and University of KwaZulu-Natal and towards the end of her career at the Durban University of Technology.



Submitted by: Bongi Mpungose

ON THE MOVE TO GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES

The DUT library congratulates and welcomes Romeo Matumba to a new portfolio of *Librarian: Marketing and Communication* from 1 July 2020. Romeo joined DUT in 2016 as a Subject Librarian based at the Riverside campus in the Midlands. Before joining DUT, Romeo also managed portfolios of Library Administrative Officer (Inter-Library loans) at UKZN, Campus Librarian and National Librarian at Varsity College and

the Faculty/Evening Librarian portfolio at MUT. Mr "R", as known by his colleagues, has an exciting career of over 10 years working in academic and special libraries. We are certainly excited to see Romeo in this new portfolio and with his high energy and dedication, we can predict that marketing in the library will be entering a new phase under his leadership. The library is pleased to have a staff member of his caliber as part of the team.



Submitted by: Lucille Webster

- ❑ **Sibusiso Gumede** - seconded to the Librarian: Circulation until the end of October 2020
- ❑ **Blessing Dube** - appointed as the Library Assistant: After-hours from August 2020
- ❑ **Zibuyile Jama** - appointed as the Library Assistant: After-hours vice from September 2020
- ❑ **Ntokozo Nxumalo** - seconded as the Subject Librarian until the end of September 2020
- ❑ **Mvelo Zondi** - appointed as the Library Assistant: after-hours from September 2020

The Director's note

There has been much development since the last edition. We have been affected and infected by the pandemic COVID-19 that has changed what and how we do things. Some of us have lost loved ones or friends and colleagues. Many of us struggle with the isolation that this virus has brought about. On a somewhat lighter note, the terms “social distancing, lockdown, sanitise and unmute yourself” have become the norm in our daily vocabulary. But throughout this period, the Library has worked hard to ensure that most of our resources are available and accessible during the lockdown. We are slowly returning to a semblance of normality and we welcome back our students during this term. I trust that you will enjoy the latest edition of our newsletter. In this edition, we introduce Romeo Matumba, our Marketing and Communications Librarian and the editor of the newsletter. There is now also a new editorial team comprising Romeo Matumba, Patiswa Zibani, Reshmee Jadoo and Claire Spershott.



MEET THE EDITORIAL TEAM

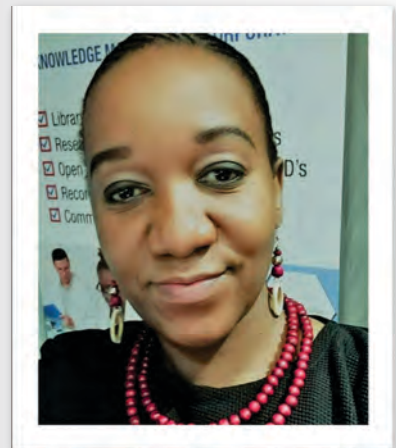
Romeo Matumba (Chief Editor)



Claire Spershott



Reshmee Jadoo



Patiswa Zibani





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