

CONNECT

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION - JULY 2021

SA LIBRARY WEEK PUBLIC LECTURE

Romeo Matumba

The Public Lecture webinar was held on 17 March 2021 via MS Team. The lecture was facilitated by the Manager, Campus Library and Sites, Patiswa Zibani, with the theme of the lecture being: Libraries in the 21st Century.

Professor Gift Mheta: Writing Centre Manager welcomed everyone. Giving a short speech about the history of SALW and why libraries matter, the Library Director, Ms Lucille Webster shared the importance of understanding the role played by libraries in our communities. "Library

Week is the commemoration period that all kinds of libraries use as an opportunity to market their services and to create awareness of the important role that libraries play in democracy.

Acknowledging that access to information is a basic human right. Library Week is also the occasion for us to promote tolerance and respect in society," said Lucille Webster.

This activity was executed in collaboration with the Corporate Affairs Department. The speaker of the public lecture was the Executive Dean of Engineering and



Pictured above: Prof Bhekisipho Twala

Built Environment, Professor Bhekisipho Twala.

Prof Twala gave his presentation on the topic: The rise of the smart library: Are emerging technologies meeting the challenge of transformed libraries?

His presentation also gave some comprehensions on how libraries in the 21st century should be operating to remain relevant to today's users using today's technology.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- STRAT PLAN LAUNCH
- LIBRARY VIDEO PROJECT
- VIRTUAL SERVICES DURING LOCK-DOWN
- LIBRARY WEEK
- COMPETITION
- WINNERS & PRIZES
- PUBLIC LECTURE: SALW
- STAFF FUNCTION
- STAFF MOVEMENTS

SALW 2021 Theme: Libraries Matter

As part of the entertainment, DUT's HR, 3rd year student, Miss Ntobeko Mafu graced the virtual audience with an inspiring letter that detailed how the libraries have been playing a vital role in her life.



EDITOR'S NOTE

I am pleased to present this special edition of the Connect newsletter – a digital edition that focuses on DUT Library activities. This edition focuses on activities and events that took place between October 2020 and March 2021.

Some of the featured activities and news could be beneficial to the DUT community.

Furthermore, this publication presents an awesome opportunity to promote and share our little success stories, news and announcements with the rest of the DUT

and external stakeholders.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the editorial committee, Library Management, and all the library staff members who have contributed to this special issue. I trust that you will enjoy reading the exciting and inspiring contents covered. Should you wish to send any relevant recommendations or suggestions for future issues, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Email Romeo Matumba at:
MuvhulawaM@dut.ac.za

THE LIBRARY LAUNCHES A STRAT PLAN

Patiswa Zibani

The DUT Library has kicked off 2021 on a very high note by launching the new Strategic Plan to the community. The successful virtual event took place on the 26th of February 2021.

Nested in ENVISION2030, the new strategy aligns our mission and values with those of the University while also articulating a unique vision for the future, consequently encouraging our library staff to re-imagine the services in line with the DUT Strategy.

The event which was well

attended was opened by the DVC Teaching and Learning, Prof Sibiyi. She commended the library for developing a strategic plan that provided a clear path and emphasis on collaborations and stakeholder relationships. The event was graced by presentations from two stakeholders who were fundamental from the inception of the Strategy,

Dr. Samuels from International Education & Partnership, and Dr Mtshali, Chief Information Officer. The two speakers in their critique endorsed the strategy and outlined

how it poised the library's future and eagerness to be a player in services and systems interconnectedness.

The new Library Strategic Plan 2030 provides a comprehensive implementation plan for the period 2021-2023 that outlines the library's short to medium plans.

As a living document, it is expected to adapt to continually changing environments and be reflective of the evolving library services to meet the needs of library users in a complex digital world.

**“THE STRAT
PLAN PROVIDES A
COMPREHENSIVE
IMPLEMENTATION
PLAN FOR THE
PERIOD
2021-2023”**

Patiswa Zibani

LIBRARY VIDEO PROJECT

Nsike Badenhorst

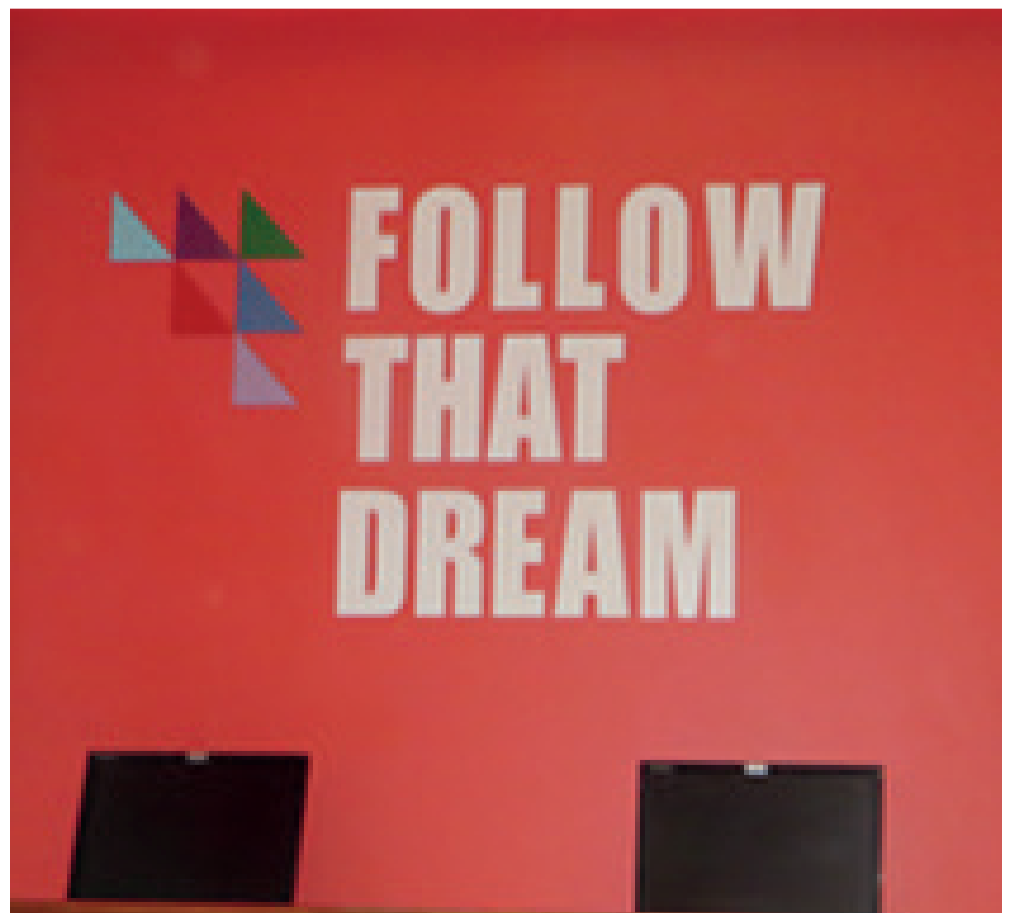
The Library is currently in the process of redesigning and developing new professional videos.

The Marketing Librarian, Romeo Matumba, and the Training Librarian, Patricia Badenhorst are managing the project with the help of the project owner, David Thomas, Manager: Academic Services.

This project is intended to showcase new library spaces, services, and facilities. It is hoped that the videos will also help in promoting and marketing the library spaces to encourage more collaborations between students, staff, researchers, and other university stakeholders.

The team will be developing three videos that will focus on the Research/Postgraduate Library Services, as well as services available at the Durban and Midlands libraries. Together with the supplier, the team visited all the sites as part of the project planning activities.

Pictured: some of the pictures taken during the site visits



USING UV LIGHTS TO FIGHT COVID-19 AT DUT

Library Circulation Staff

Covid-19 is caused by a virus which spreads between people, mainly when an infected person is in close contact with another person. The virus can also spread after infected people sneeze, cough, or touch surfaces.

The Covid-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented disruptions to DUT Library. There is anxiety amongst library users about possible Covid-19 infections in the library spaces. One of the main concerns is whether the library

books and laptops are a source of Covid-19 transmission?

To allay these fears, the Library has adopted preventative measures to mitigate the transmission of the virus at the DUT Library. This has included acquiring a globally adopted technology, UV (Ultra-Violet) light technology. This technology uses high-pressure air circulation to disinfect and remove viruses, and disease causing germs. The boxes are used at the Circulation desks in all DUT libraries.



BENEFITS OF UV LIGHTS

Andrew Naicker

- The UV Light can disinfect up to 99% of bacteria
- The returned library items are quarantined in the UV light box for disinfection before re-shelving
- It provides a dry chemical-free, and residue free method of disinfection effective against bacteria, viruses, fungi and spore, thus creating a clean and safe environment
- Can sanitize up to 30 items at once and this process can be done in 3minutes



“CAN KILL OR INACTIVATE MICROORGANISMS BY DESTROYING NUCLEIC ACIDS AND DISRUPTING THEIR DNA”

STAFF RECOGNITION AWARDS FUNCTION

Romeo Matumba

The 2020 staff function event was successfully hosted online via MS Teams on 26 February 2021. The awards categories for 2020 were changed to ensure fairness and equality in recognising staff members.

The committee also had special posthumous certificates for the departed staff members, Mr Ashely Joseph, Mr Selby Sikhosana and Mr Vincent Mkhize.

The new categories were as follows:

Long Service Awards

For staff members who reached their 5 years, 10 years, 15 years, 20 years, 25 years, 30 years, and 35 years of service in 2020.

Going the extra mile Certificates

This category recognised Library Staff members who have gone beyond their duties to provide services.

Director's Award Certificates

This category recognises staff members who were identified by the Library Director for their immense contribution to the library progress.

Retirement's Award Certificates

This category recognised staff members who retired in 2020 and early 2021.



Above: Template used for Award Certificates

FIRE AT THE BM PATEL LIBRARY

Romeo Matumba

In November 2020, the BM Patel Library at the M. L. Sultan Campus was closed due to a fire outbreak. The fire was contained on the ground floor, but all floors suffered significant smoke damage.

The fire broke out during the day with library staff and users inside the library. Library staff members acted swiftly to help students and other users who were using the library vacate the building. The fire damaged

The ground floor offices, IT equipment, ground floor

ceiling and furniture. As a result, the ground floor is still closed for further investigation and repairs. Library users are encouraged to use the temporary entrance via the H Block building on the first floor.

“The fire caught us by surprise. Luckily, there were no injuries. We managed to evacuate people out of the library before the fire severely damaged the ground floor. I am grateful for my colleagues who acted swiftly in the crisis” Said Ayanda Thwala, one of the many staff members who were

the heroes and heroines of the day.

Bottom: Staff members moving items to temporary venues



LIBRARY VIRTUAL SERVICES: IN THE NEW NORMAL

Claire Spershott

The DUT Library continues to provide services during lockdown restrictions. The Information Services section offers staff and students' virtual information and consultation services as well as physical services.

Tools such as LibChat, Ask a Librarian, MS Teams, and WhatsApp are used to communicate with library users. Online training sessions are provided via MS Teams

while information literacy content is loaded on to Moodle and LibGuides. One of the subject librarians, Mousin Omar Saib was interviewed by Waheeda Peters from DUT Communications about "providing essential services to the DUT community in the time of a pandemic".

Mousin stated that "The library continues to play a vital role in supporting the University's research and curriculum,

regardless of the current disruption. The University community can consult subject librarians and the Library IT services via the LibChat and Ask a Librarian features available on the library website.

Arrangements for online training sessions can be arranged with the respective faculty librarians and the postgraduate librarians". Contact your librarian or visit the library website at [https://](https://library.dut.ac.za/)

library.dut.ac.za/ to find out more.

Pictured: Mousin Omar Saib, Subject Librarian, EBE



"WE ARE ADAPTING TO THE NEW WAYS OF PROVIDING SERVICES USING THE NEW TECHNOLOGY"

DUT COMMEMORATES OPEN ACCESS WEEK 2020 WITH TWO PUBLIC LECTURES

Sean Carte

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) celebrated Open Access Week 2020 by hosting two public lectures on topics that are very relevant to DUT Library's current open access endeavors: research data management (RDM) and open access resources (OERs). The public lectures were hosted on 20 and 21 October 2020 via MS Teams.

The RDM Public Lecture was presented by Dr Johann van Wyk and was entitled 'How to promote an awareness of

Research Data Management (RDM) and RDM tools at an institution.'

Dr Van Wyk is the Assistant Director of Scholarly Communications at the Department of Library Services, University of Pretoria (UP). His lecture detailed the steps that were taken at UP to promote RDM and draw attention to the RDM tools and services that their library offers to researchers. With DUT Library's RDM initiatives currently at an approval stage, Dr Van Wyk's presentation

was well-timed and has provided DUT Library with many useful ideas to consider when it comes to promoting our RDM tools and services. The OER Public Lecture was presented by Fiona MacAlister, who is the Project Manager for Online Learning in the CLM Faculty at the University of the Witwatersrand. Fiona MacAlister's lecture contextualised open education resources within the open science framework and covered several important topics, including: the importance of

choosing the correct license, how to take the library's involvement with OERs forward, what local resources exist, and the value of OERs.

The theme for Open Access Week 2020 was 'open with Purpose: Taking Action to Build Structural Equity and Inclusion'. By facilitating increased participation in research data management and the use and production of high-quality open access resources, DUT Library hopes to contribute to building structural equity and inclusion.

CITY LIBRARY COMPUTER LAUNCH

Romeo Matumba

The Library and the Faculty of Arts & Design (FoAD) launched a new computer lab at the City Campus on 18 November 2020. The event was organised to celebrate yet another successful initiative by the Library and the Faculty. Ms Patiswa Zibani, Manager: Campus Library & Sites at DUT welcomed the participants on behalf of Ms Lucille Webster, Director: Library Services. The launch was held both physically and virtually. Mr. Romeo Matumba, Librarian Marketing and Communication directed the well-coordinated programme.

Dr Chris De Beer, HoD: Fine Arts was the guest speaker who gave an inspiring speech on behalf of the Executive Dean of the FoAD, Dr Rene Smith. He emphasised the importance of collaborating and sharing resources and ideas.

“The FoAD is pleased with the role that the library plays in facilitating the shared spaces that have become central hubs for the learning and engagement of students and staff at DUT” Said Dr De Beer.

Mr. Siza Radebe, DUT Manager: Campus Library & Sites gave a presentation on the library infrastructure and development. As indicated by Mr. Radebe, the idea of collaborating with the FoAD on several activities was inspired by the work of one of the postgraduate students, Ms Megan Parker in 2016 at one of the exhibitions organised by the FoAD. Mr. Radebe also reiterated that the launch was one of many successful initiatives born out of collaborations with both internal and external stakeholders.

Ms Nozipho Majola who is the City and Brickfield Campus Library Sites Coordinator did the vote of thanks. She thanked the Library and the FoAD staff members for their involvement in making the project a success. Special acknowledgements were given to Mr. Ayanda Thwala (Library Computer Technician), Mr. Trevor Peters (City Campus Library Assistant), Mr. Andile Dube (FoAD PR practitioner) and the entire IT team for their dedication towards the project.

The lab is fitted with the latest technologies. Students and staff from the faculty as well as library staff will use the computer lab for teaching and learning purposes.



Pictured Above: Dr Chris. De Beer



Pictured Above: Ms Nozipho Majola



Pictured Above: Mr Siza Radebe



DATA DIALOGUE

One of the first things they drill into you in Library School is the DIKW model, which essentially demonstrates the transformation of data into information, then into knowledge, and finally into wisdom.

Therefore, in preparation for a data event, I decided to write a short story about my imaginary friend, called DATA, to illustrate the transformation of data through various stages. The story personifies DATA, as not only does DATA transform when given a value, but so do we as humans, when we start to become curious about data.

START:

DATA: I am DATA! I am lonely.

I have loads of characters, but I need a deeper meaning in my life. I need to be appreciated, I wish I could be valued. I want to become DATAWISE. Please help me!

None of his DATAFELLOWS wanted to help him, as they could not see why and how. DATA's distant relatives, WHY, WHO, WHAT & WHERE rushed over to DATA and said, hey DATA, let us help you! So, WHY, WHO, WHAT & WHERE assigned value to DATA's characters.

DATA was so happy! He felt transformed, useful and this brought out his character in a meaningful way.

DATA went on his way, and he

was a very happy fellow! On his journey, he met up with HOW, a close friend of WHY. HOW was so happy with the new looking DATA and wanted to help him as well. HOW was a knowledgeable guy who was known for helping people see things differently? So HOW told DATA that he could help him become DATAWISE.

HOW asked DATA several leading questions to extract more information, especially about his goals. He helped DATA stitch them piece by piece to give them more meaning and value, and then left him on his journey to DATAWISE.

DATA was so happy, he felt transformed yet again. Feeling

knowledgeable, he continued on his quest to DATAWISE. In his path, he encountered many obstacles but persevered in his quest.

He drew heavily on his experiences and on knowledge that had been shared with him and knew that he needed to show his DATAFELLOWS that this can be done.

This gave him strength, he could conquer anything! He applied all the knowledge that he had gained and was able to take proactive steps in the final part of his journey to DATAWISE. He called out to his DATAFELLOWS, "I have transformed!!"

Sagren Moodley



WHY LIBRARIES MATTER: SPECIAL LETTER

Dear Library
Growing up I was a peculiar child, I did not fit in. I felt out of place everywhere I went including church, school, family gatherings and sometimes even places as simple as shopping malls. I did not know how to connect or interact with other humans; I was unapproachable and kept to myself from the tender age of 6.

The reason behind the way I acted was the fact that I grew up in a home where Gender based violence was a norm. My parents were married, and my father physically and emotionally abused my mother in front of my siblings and me. I shrunk into my shell from the very first time I witnessed it,

I felt lost and as though I did not have a voice for many years of my life till one day, I surprisingly found my voice again when I was 9.

My classmates and I walked in a straight line towards the

building, my teacher at the time then said, "We've reached our destination, this is the Library" making us all shift our attention to the well painted high wall structure that screamed peace and serenity in front of us.

When we got inside,

I was introduced to a whole new world, the variety of books to choose from all put together with different information gave me a new meaning to life, they made me want to be informed.

The calm energy and quietness of the environment helped me contain and gather my thoughts, it gave me peace. Learning to read with expression, passion as well as understanding helped me find my lost voice as well as imagination.

From the minuet I found the library, my colorless life became colorful, I made friends with the kids who enjoyed Roald Dahl, Enid Blyton, Maurice Sendak, Jacqueline

Woodson and more. I learnt to express myself through reading as well as writing and that is where I built up the courage to face my parents using my newfound knowledge.

I eased into the idea of them getting a divorce because I read a book at the time called "My family is changing" by Pat Thomas. I found a place that I fit into perfectly when I found the library and in turn grew into a more sociable, friendly, and less closed off human being. My interaction with my inner self as well as other people grew and developed gradually after that day, which is also what has influenced me into becoming a writer.

Libraries are important because, they are peaceful, they are safe havens where one could run to in times of distress or sometimes just to distract oneself from the world, its problems and every day's hustle and bustle. Libraries are important because you can

find every bit of information based on absolutely anything in the library from encyclopedias and other research books and basic life books. You find very useful information on the world we live in and sometimes even how to go about life in the library. You find information on possible careers in the library, and you can also find simple enjoyable reads to keep you busy within the library.

Libraries are also places where even the shyest child or adult can feel comfortable and build the courage to make friends. Libraries are environments where you can download knowledge, friends, expression, and better speech ALL absolutely free of charge, no data spent, no money spent just your energy to get there, and attention span is used. Libraries are important because they can easily become homes.

From me to you with love,

Nontobeko Mafu



MILLICENT KHUMALO RETIRES

Romeo Matumba

The DUT Library wishes Mrs Zibuyile Millicent “Millie” Khumalo (pictured) a well-deserved retirement, following a career spanning 32 years at the institution. She began working in 1989 at the former ML Sultan Technikon Library as a Stack Attendant, then going on to occupy a position as Library Assistant at Steve Biko Library [Circulation] and later as an Assistant Librarian at the BM Patel Library [Central Services], responsible for overseeing the Library’s book and media budgets, a position she held up until the time of her retirement in March 2021.



Messages from Staff

Sandra Achary, who worked with Millie for over 31 years.

“We shared many happy and sad moments together. She was no longer a colleague but a big sister to us in the library. Her famous saying to me was “when I retire, you are on your own”. I wish Millie everything of the best in her new adventures. Her retirement has not affected me as yet, since it is recent. So, I just pretend that she is on leave for now, but I will dearly miss her at work”

Kusturie Moodley, Librarian: Acquisition

“Working with Millie has been a great pleasure. Her guidance, support and encouragement helped me and other staff thrive in the workplace. We have always appreciated her thorough, relentless, calm approach to problem solving and we are thankful for her contributions to the department. We were very fortunate to have someone with her expertise to rely on and we have learned a lot from working closely with her. It has been an honour and a privilege to work with Millie. We wish Millie a happy retirement and all the best for the future”

Lucille Webster, Director: Library Services

“It has been an absolute honour and a privilege to have worked with Millicent over the years. I first met her in 1997 and in all my interactions with her, she has always had a smile on her face no matter what the situation was. She has been hardworking and committed to her position as well as possibly one of the most courteous people that I have come across. She has been an inspiration and a role model to younger employees including our students from the work integrated programme and had the patience in the world to explain to them what acquisitions involved. If all employees were as hard working and focused as her, certainly our library would be a better place”

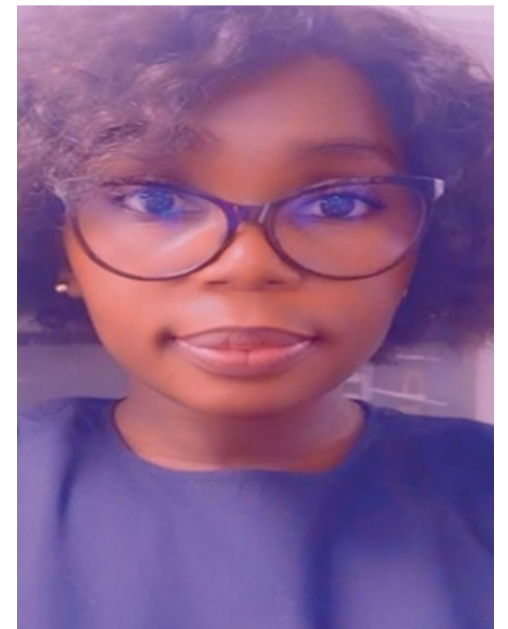
ON THE MOVE...

DUT Library congratulates and welcomes Mr Ntokozo Innocent Nxumalo to the portfolio of Subject Librarian at the Riverside Campus from 1 December 2020. Ntokozo joined DUT Library in 2009 as a Stack Attendant. Before his current appointment, he also worked as an Orientation Student Assistant, Assistant Librarian: After-Hours and Assistant Librarian: Circulation. As an Assistant Librarian: Circulation, over and above his duties of coordinating the circulation section, he also assisted the subject librarians with information literacy and collection development services. Over the years, Ntokozo has consistently displayed high morals and total commitment to his responsibilities at work.



MEET OUR NEW LIBRARIAN: TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT

Nonsikelelo Patricia Badenhorst joined the DUT Library as a Librarian: Training and Development from 1 December 2020. Before joining the DUT Library, she worked for the Mangosuthu University of Technology as an E-Resources Librarian and the University of Zululand as an Information Librarian. Nsike, as known by colleagues at the DUT Library, has over ten years' experience of working in academic libraries. She is a member of LIASA. She is currently studying towards her Masters in Digital curation with UCT. The DUT Library is enchanted to have a staff member of her calibre to the team. We trust that she will enjoy her journey as our new family member.



WELCOME ANDREW NAICKER TO THE EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

The editorial committee is pleased to welcome a new member, Mr. Andrew Naicker. Andrew is a Library Assistant at Riverside Library. The addition of this outstanding member to our team is an honor.

MORE MOVEMENTS....

Durban Libraries

- Nkululeko Mpungose moved from Stack Attendant to Library Assistant: Circulation, at the Brickfield Library as from 1 April 2021



Midlands Libraries

- Nqobizitha Mthokozisi Langa moved from Library Laboratory Technician to Library Assistant: Circulation, at the Riverside Library as from 1 April 2021





WHY LIBRARIES MATTER!

Yolanda Mbelu

It is a common tragedy for people to think the library is boring. When the actual fact is- the library is an adventurous escape full of wonders. You think I'm overrating it? Well, sit back and let me steer you around the endless beautiful corners of the ML Sultan library.

I had always been a reader, but I had never set foot once in the non-fiction section. If you found me reading, it would be from the kid's section.

A picture book about some witch that rides around on her broom at night. Or something more teenage like vampires and supernatural beings. University library? Hectic. Forced me to lie down flat on my belly in the library floor with an Accounting textbook! Big jump I tell you. Big jump.

I remember how my friends never believed I spent time in the library polishing my Financial Accounting. This

one-day Buleh walked up to where I was and picked up the textbook, I had with me. She held it up and scrutinized it. Eyes wide open and with a face full of obvious surprise. "Wena wonke?!" (The whole of you) She exclaimed. I'd clearly leaped out of my comfort zone. And to have surprised her, many others were to be surprised. The rest of my girls, Londeka, Thando and Phumla were all as surprised. Never knowing they had found their new home.

About the corners of the ML Sultan Library. There was one for each and every one of us. All carefully crafted to the highest excellence. Mine was on the long symmetrical aisles where the textbooks resided. Londeka found hers in the quiet rooms where she spent most of her time studying. A beautiful and quiet peace. Thando found hers in the discussion rooms where she mostly told tales about a parallel universe and

the existence of supernatural beings, but I still like to tell myself that she was studying or "Tutoring" as she would say. Buleh, our cyber queen found the computer rooms to be the best of all her friends and they held their bonding sessions every other day! Libraries are essential.

Each one is a catalogue of wonders. An integral part of society. And if you are lucky enough, like us, the library can be a close and educational friend to you. It is a whole adventure. And if at this point you still don't believe it is, then I don't know what to tell you.



Pictured above:
Ms Yolanda Mbelu

**STUDENT, DEPARTMENT
AUDITING AND TAXATION,
ML SULTAN CAMPUS STUDENT**



WHY LIBRARIES MATTER!

Ms. Hlengiwe N. Mabizela

They say KNOWLEDGE IS POWER and without knowledge, the world would be doomed. A major source of knowledge is the LIBRARY. Libraries does not only benefit the user individually, but they are hubs or an oasis where people come together and connect to the world beyond their area of jurisdiction. It offers more than just books to read, access to internet but provides programs and services that supports lifelong learning. As an Emerging Academic, who had recently graduated from Postgraduate Studies at DUT, - Riverside Campus, the Library played a huge role in terms of providing valuable sources of information for my research studies; from searching for information that is relevant to the research topic, proof-reading references, to the final document and publishing it using the DUT repository and other publishing houses (e.g., DUT OPEN SCHOLAR/ JOURNALS). For me, DUT

Library has opened many opportunities for browsing and developing new research interest through its supports and the environment it provided for me to start and finish my research studies in record time. I can attest that the library as an integral part of the University thrives to meet and exceed the needs of students, staff, and other users in the DUT Community by providing information services and excellent learning spaces. DUT Library as a gateway to knowledge has become significant for personal development through shaping up my writing skills, advancing innovation and creative skills, reading and learning. Being part of the LIBRARY BOOKCLUB also strengthened my love of reading and sharing ideas. I made friends with people of different calibre, with different talents including authors, writers, poets etc. being art of the library book club also help me to join the cause to be an

ambassador of encouraging the culture of reading and writing.

This did not only benefit me academically but also in my social life.

In addition, my experience with the DUT Midlands Libraries has been of great in that, with the advancement of technology, one is able to connect with the library on and off campus. In fact, the Library is in our pockets. We are able to access it using our computers and smartphones. The fact that a consultant is always available to assist every time you log onto the DUT Library website is top tier.

Covid19 era or not, the Library remains functional and useful.



Pictured above:

Ms Hlengiwe Mabizela

**LECTURER, DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC MANAGEMENT,
LAW & ECONOMICS,
RIVERSIDE CAMPUS**