

## DUT Library Shines Bright at the LIASA Conference

Library staff made a strong impact at the 2024 LIASA Annual Conference, held from 1–4 October at the Durban ICC. Themed "Libraries in an Age of Democracy," the conference celebrated 30 years of democracy in South Africa, with DUT contributing meaningfully throughout the event. A record of twenty-one (21) staff members from DUT Library attended, actively participating as volunteers, presenters, session chairs, and facilitators. A total of six research papers were presented by DUT staff at the conference. Beyond library staff, DUT was also represented by Professor Oludayo Olugbara, Executive Dean of the Faculty of Accounting and Informatics, who delivered a keynote address titled "Advancements in Artificial Intelligence: Challenges and Opportunities for the Library & Information Sector." As part of his presentation, Professor Olugbara introduced Neo, a robot developed at DUT, who delivered his short biography, a live demonstration of the university's innovation in AI technology.

By Romeo Matumba

### Key highlights included:

- ⇒ Romeo Matumba, Marketing and Communication Librarian, led the Gala Dinner proceedings.
- ⇒ Dr Malefetjane Phaladi, Director of Library Services, chaired a high-profile session attended by the KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Sports, Arts and Culture.
- ⇒ David Thomas and Sagren Moodley received the award for "Co-best Conversational Presentation Experience" for their case study presentation.

**Pictured:** Library staff at the LIASA conference, Durban



# Mandela Day Activities

By Sarah Khan

The DUT Library Community Outreach Project Team, led by Sarah Khan, partnered with an external charitable organisation, headed by Franki Hills, to launch a donation drive for the *67 Blankets for Mandela Day* initiative. This drive aims to collect blankets, scarves, beanies, booties, and berets. Since 2014, the charity organisation has been recognised in the *Guinness Book of World Records* on four occasions, for its remarkable achievements. The crocheted items, made by DUT Library staff members, serve as a gesture of care for the most vulnerable, particularly during the winter season.

In alignment with the strategic objectives outlined in the university's ENVISION2030, the Library Community Outreach Project Team has established a collaborative relationship with the DUT Community Engagement Office for mutually beneficial initiatives. The handover event for the crocheted items took place at BM Patel Library, ML Sultan Campus, on 12 June 2024. The event was attended by the Library Management Team, the Library Community Outreach Project Team, Phumzile Xulu from the RIE: Engagement Office, and Franki Hills from the charity organisation. The Library Marketing and Communication Librarian, Romeo Matumba, facilitated the programme.

Sarah Khan delivered the welcome and background message, followed by remarks from the Director of Library Services, Dr Malefetjane Phaladi. Dr Phaladi expressed his deep appreciation and admiration for the team's outstanding work.

"What we see here is a portfolio of evidence showcasing DUT's service to humanity. I cannot think of a better way to describe my feelings as I witness DUT's distinctive, creative, and impactful contributions to the well-deserving members of our communities," he stated.

Highlighting the scale of the project and the way forward, Franki Hills underscored the significance of collaboration in demonstrating love and care for others. She commended everyone who dedicated their time and effort to completing this initiative as the winter season set in. "I know that the orphans and senior citizens who receive these donated items will be truly grateful for this warm gesture from the DUT Library staff," Hills added.

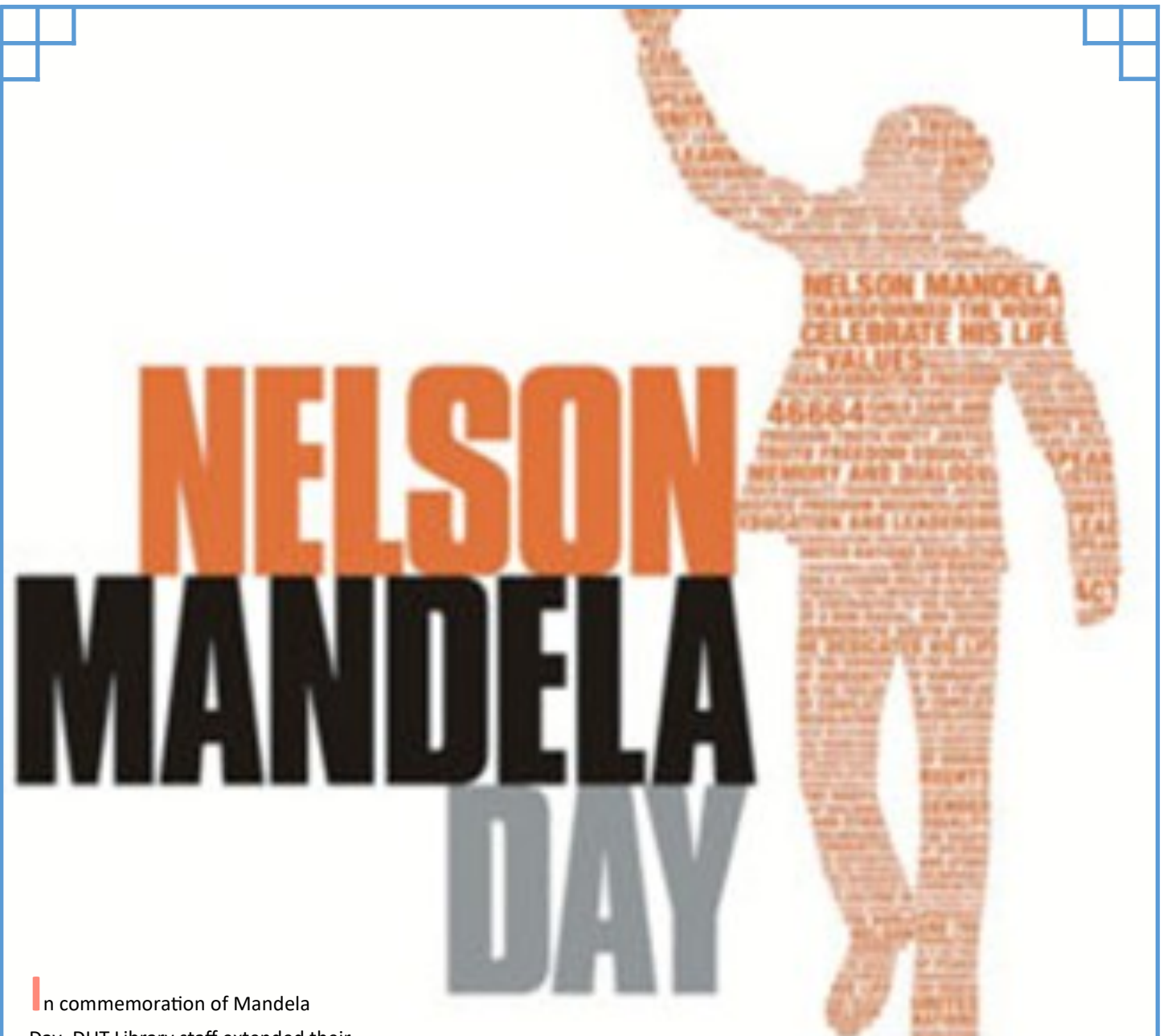
Siza Radebe delivered the vote of thanks, acknowledging the Library Community Outreach Project Team and other key stakeholders, including the *67 Blankets for Mandela Day* organisation, colleagues from the RIE ambit, and library staff who contributed to the success of this initiative.

## Pictured:

Staff from the DUT Library, RIE: Engagement office, and Franki Hills from the *67 Blankets* charity organisation.







In commemoration of Mandela Day, DUT Library staff extended their support to underprivileged communities across Durban by distributing food parcels. This initiative was organised by the Library Community Outreach Working Group, led by Siza Radebe and Sarah Khan.

Work-Integrated Learning students from the Library and Information Science (LIS) programme also joined the effort. On Wednesday, 24 July 2024, the team visited communities in South Beach and Durban Central, embodying the spirit of Ubuntu and service.



**Smart  
Libraries,  
Smart  
People!**

# Open Access Week Public Lecture

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library commemorated International Open Access (OA) Week with a public lecture on 28 October 2024. The lecture, delivered virtually via Microsoft Teams, was presented by Dr Reggie Raju, Director of Research and Learning at the University of Cape Town Libraries.

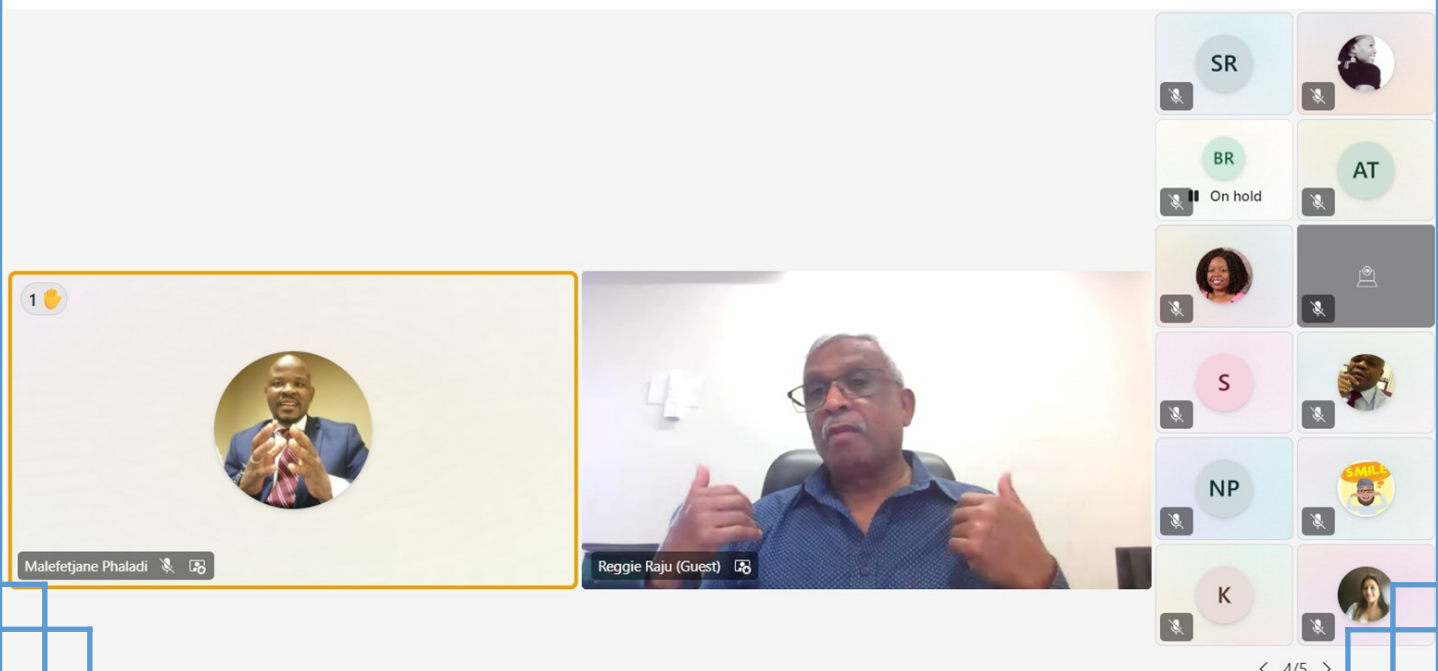
Open Access Week provides the academic and research community with a platform to explore the benefits of Open Access, exchange insights with peers, and promote broader engagement in establishing Open Access as the standard for scholarly publishing and research dissemination. The 2024 theme, *Community over Commercialization*, builds on the previous year's discussions, underscoring the need to prioritise collaborative knowledge-sharing over commercial interests. Dr Raju's lecture, titled *Shift in the Open Access Paradigm: Impact on Dissemination and Access to Information*, examined the evolving landscape of Open Access publishing and its implications for equitable information access.

DUT's Director of Library Services, Dr Malefetjane Phaladi, delivered the opening remarks and formally introduced the guest speaker. The event was facilitated by the Marketing and Communication Librarian, Romeo Matumba, who also moderated the Question-and-Answer session, with the closing remarks delivered by Sagren Moodley, Manager: Information Resources.

By Romeo Matumba

During his lecture, Dr Raju reiterated that it is time for Africa to make Open Access (OA) and Open Scholarship work for the African continent. "We need to look at how we should work together as librarians and researchers to counter monopolistic publishing cartels. Open Access has introduced enormous possibilities, yet we have not adopted open access practices that meets our needs as Africans. The global north has introduced interventions that address their challenges, and we have unwittingly followed those practices which have further stripped our capacity to contribute to the world's knowledge production. In his conclusion, Dr Raju edged participants to work together, to challenge the current narrative that affect the adoption of principles and practices that will benefit Africa. "The current publishing ecosystem is rooted in unfavourable historical constraints, such as geographic and language barriers and it is time that we come together to rethink and re-imagine our efforts and strategies in one voice", concluded Dr Raju.

The lecture attracted a distinguished audience from the Library and Information Services (LIS) sector in South Africa, including executives from the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), library directors from both public and academic institutions, as well as staff and students from DUT. The event provided an essential platform for scholarly discourse on the future of Open Access and its role in promoting inclusive and sustainable knowledge dissemination.





DURBAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY  
INYUVESI YASETHEKWINI YEZOBUCHWEPHESHE

LIBRARY

## DUT SUPPORT OPEN ACCESS!

#Community Over Commercialization

#Umphakathi Ngaphezu Kwezentengiso

#Sechaba Mabapi Le Khoebo

#Tshitshavha Nga Ntsha Ha Vhubindudzi

#Uluntu Phezu Korhwebo

#Vaaki Ehenhla Ka Ku Xavisiwa

#Gemeenskap Oor Kommersialisering

# Copyright Services

By Dr Ramika Bansi

**C**opyright plays a crucial role in the world of publishing, for authors to be incentivized. Publishers are certified to act on behalf of an author through a copyright transfer or exclusive licence to copy, publish and adapt work, whilst defending their integrity.

## Have you considered copyright in an open-access world? Does it make a difference?

For all intent and purposes, open access should not affect usage, however, there is a common misconception that open access articles are not governed by copyright

**FACTS:** Open-access publishing authors have three choices: i) retain copyright, ii) share it, or iii) transfer it.

The essential principle of the Open Access (OA) movement is that knowledge derived from Publicly Funded R&D should be freely accessible.

## Free is Great, Open Access is Even Greater

Open access, in contrast to free access, provides instant and unrestricted availability, distribution, and reuse of information without charge. With advancements in technology and shifts in our learning environment, from Library Management Systems (LMS) to e-reserves, the way information is shared is evolving. It is crucial for us to understand key considerations regarding the utilization of copyrighted content in academic settings. This will ensure that publicly funded research is made available in a manner that is open, inclusive, developmental and sustainable.



## Barriers to Open Access (OA) include:

- ⇒ **Associated costs**
- ⇒ **Lack of awareness**
- ⇒ **Citation-driven system**
- ⇒ **Copyright and plagiarism**

### Contact:

Dr Ramika Bansi, Copyright Specialist

### Email:

[copyright@dut.ac.za](mailto:copyright@dut.ac.za)

### Office:

BM Patel Library, Ground Floor, ML Sultan Campus

### Office Hours:

Monday to Friday: 07:30– 16:00





# New Library Resources

**W**e are pleased to announce that, due to an increased operational budget for 2024, the DUT Library has acquired four new library resources. These valuable additions are part of our ongoing efforts to enrich our collection and support your academic and research needs.

The following outstanding resources are now available and accessible via the library page.

- ⇒ **PERLEGO**: An extensive e-book platform offering over 800,000 books across various disciplines.
- ⇒ **ProQuest Theses and Dissertations Database (PQTD)**: A comprehensive collection of theses and dissertations from institutions around the world.
- ⇒ **JoVE**: A video database tailored for undergraduate students, featuring high-quality educational videos.
- ⇒ **Primal 3D**: An interactive 3D anatomy database specifically designed for undergraduate health sciences students.
- ⇒ **InCites** : Benchmarking & Analytics
- ⇒ **Access Engineering**: An engineering reference and teaching platform that delivers interdisciplinary engineering content
- ⇒ **IOP Science (Read & Publish)**: Read access is provided to over 70 scholarly journals
- ⇒ **Scopus AI** : A dynamic GenAI-powered research companion.

By Sagren Moodley

These new resources are now available to all our library members. We encourage you to explore them and take full advantage of these valuable tools. You can access them through the library link below:

<https://libguides.dut.ac.za/az.php>

Happy researching!

**Smart  
Libraries,  
Smart People!**



# Durban International Book Fair

The EDUVOS Durban International Book Fair (DIBF) recently took place at the EDUVOS Umhlanga Campus. The theme, 'Once Upon a Time', highlighted the festival's commitment to promoting a culture of reading and storytelling, particularly among young children. The five-day literary feast featured book launches by both novice and established authors of novels, poetry, and academic works; workshops on cover layout and design, creative writing, and publishing; as well as a range of competitions, including a hugely popular chess tournament and the *Mind Blown League*. The event was open to the public and attracted more than 3,000 visitors, including local schools, community organisations, and book publishers.

In recognition of its ongoing support and commitment to promoting literacy and reading in the city, DUT was granted the privilege of co-naming one of the three allocated rooms used for book launches and workshops. The DUT Cheryl Roberts Stage hosted over 50 book launches, 22 of which featured academic, fiction, and poetry works authored by current and former DUT staff and students. Among the DUT student authors featured at the fair were Huvanya Naidoo, who presented *One Chance* and *The Legacy Series: Erased by Time*; Dumo Xaba, who showcased *A Dubious Alliance* and *The Legacy*; Dr Thabani Mazibuko, who introduced *Life Beyond the Karman Line: Outerspace*; Sboniso Manqele, who launched *Suicide Note*; and Samukelo Dlamini, who presented *Izimpumpu*.

Additionally, nine Graphic Design students launched children's literature books, which they authored, illustrated, and published as part of a second-year project. These included *Leo and the Sea Turtle* by Taariq Chetty, *Wash Your Hands* by Sinoyolo Tantsi, *Emihle's River Rescue Mission* by Lusanda Mzolo, *Thembi and the Umgungundlovu River* by Reese Pather, *Tony the Whale's Big Problem* by Mpathwenhle Ndaba, *The Adventure of Maya and Hooterman* by Jadene Pillay, *Heart of the River* by Nikhiel Pakkiri, *Mkhulu and the Wooden Guitar* by Siyaphila Mbuyazi, and *Tales of Togetherness* by Tyrese Ramgopaul.

**Pictured Below and Far right:**

Staff and students who launched their books, library staff and book club members who volunteered at the DIBF





By Sagren Moodley

Seven DUT staff members launched their academic works at the book fair, covering topics such as healthcare quality, information services, bioplastics, residential satisfaction, and higher education during COVID-19. Poetry collections by Dr Mari Peté and Lee Scott were also introduced. Book launch sessions were expertly facilitated by DUT colleagues. A key feature of the DIBF was a series of workshops, including Content Layout & Design by Prof Barry Lottering and Creative Writing by Prof Gift Mheta and Dr Jeff Mkhize. An insightful literacy session was led by Phumzile Xulu, with DUT Journalism students sharing their community projects. A notable addition was the participation of volunteers from higher education institutions.

Seven DUT Journalism students and four Library and Information Science students assisted with visitor support, venue coordination, and workshops. Their dedication contributed significantly to the event's success.

DUT Library Book Club members also attended, reinforcing DUT's strong presence at the fair. Overall, the DIBF provided a valuable platform for DUT staff and students to launch books, lead workshops, and engage in discussions, furthering literacy in Durban, a UNESCO City of Literature.





# Welcoming Our WIL Students

By Romeo Matumba

The Library recently hosted Work Integrated Learning (WIL) students from the Library and Information Science (LIS) programme, providing them with valuable hands-on experience across various library sections. This initiative enabled students to gain insight into the planning and delivery of library services from multiple service points.

During their placement, students engaged with subject librarians, postgraduate librarians, the Library IT support team, Circulation, Acquisitions, and the Marketing and Communications Librarian. Hosted from 22 July to 13 September 2024, students had an opportunity to visit both Riverside and Indumiso campuses in the Midlands through special arrangements.

Additionally, they contributed to initiatives which included planning teams, assisting with events such as Mandela Day, Self-Check videos, Library fun videos, and other activities coordinated by library staff. On their final day, the students showcased their learning experiences with presentations to library

management and coordinators. Students shared valuable insights and recommendations on enhancing library operations and service delivery, marking a meaningful conclusion to their WIL placement at DUT Library.

**#WorkIntegratedLearning**

**#GroomingFutureLeaders**

**#DevelopingSmartLibrarians**

**Pictured Below:**

WIL Students with Library Staff at BM Patel Library



# Transformational Agreements

By Romeo Matumba

**T**ransformational agreements (TAs), also known as Read and Publish agreements, are contracts negotiated between institutions, publishers or consortiums, that allow research work to be available on open-access platforms. It allows authors at DUT to publish approved articles in open-access platforms without having to personally fund the cost of article processing charges (APCs).

As part of its commitment to delivering library and information services, along with research support, in a more open, developmental, inclusive, and sustainable manner, the library continues to promote its portfolio of transformational agreements at faculty board meetings and other strategic forums. Moreover, a marketing and communication strategy is in place to further strengthen the dissemination of this service to the DUT community.

## Benefits of OA

- ❖ Increased Accessibility & Visibility
- ❖ Improved Citations & Impact
- ❖ Faster Dissemination
- ❖ Public Benefit
- ❖ Collaborations



For more details on TAs, visit the link below:

<https://libguides.dut.ac.za/openpublishing>

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Publisher	Agreement period	No. of journal titles that are eligible per publisher	2024: No. of articles that can be published free of APCs
ACM Open	2021 - 2024	55 <a href="#">Full journal list</a>	Uncapped
Emerald	2022 - 2024	310 <a href="#">Full journal list</a>	140 (first come, first served basis across all participating institutions)
Wiley	2022 - 2025	1681 <a href="#">Full journal list</a>	Unlimited
Springer Nature	2023 - 2025	2360 <a href="#">Full journal list</a>	995 (first come, first served basis across all participating institutions)
Elsevier (ScienceDirect)	2023 - 2025	1820 <a href="#">Full journal list</a>	2221 (first come, first served basis across all participating institutions)
Taylor and Francis	2024-2026	2153 <a href="#">Full journal list</a>	1276 (first come first served basis across all participating institutions)

**SUPPORT THE OPEN ACCESS MOVEMENT, OPEN ACCESS IS THE FUTURE!!**



# LIASA Launches SA Digital Literacy Day (SADLD)

The Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) launched the South African Digital Literacy Day (SADLD) on 25th October 2024 as part of Global Media and Information Literacy (GMIL) Week, which took place from 21st to 25th October. This initiative was a response to UNESCO's recommendation to promote digital literacy during GMIL Week, aiming to educate and empower communities to engage productively with digital technologies.

GMIL Week is an international movement that encourages media and information literacy stakeholders to organise events and activities related to media and information literacy within their communities, cities, municipalities, or regions. The 2024 theme, "The New Digital Frontiers of Information: Media and Information Literacy for Public Interest Information," addressed the transformative impact of emerging technologies on the production and dissemination of public-interest information, highlighting both opportunities and challenges.

LIASA recognised that digital literacy had become an essential competency for communities to participate in the modern world and acknowledged its role in supporting other literacies.

By Romeo Matumba

In alignment with GMIL Week, the objectives of the South African Digital Literacy Day were:

- To serve as a platform for libraries, institutions, government agencies, and the private sector to collaborate in raising awareness about the critical need for digital skills in the contemporary world, particularly within the context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) and the global digital economy.
- To promote and recognise initiatives that raise awareness of digital literacy for lifelong learning, personal development, employability, and entrepreneurship.

The core theme of Digital Literacy Day, **"Enabling the Sustainable Co-existence of Technology and Humans: Reducing the Digital Divide through Digital Skills,"** highlighted the need to equip communities with digital skills for inclusive participation in the digital economy. An annual sub-theme was introduced to address emerging challenges and trends, ensuring ongoing relevance.

South African Digital Literacy Day became an annual event on the last Friday of Global Media and Information Literacy (GMIL) Week, typically in the third week of October. It supported key Sustainable Development Goals:

- ⇒ **SDG 4: Quality Education:** Expanding digital, technical, and vocational skills by 2030.
- ⇒ **SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure:** Promoting sustainable industrialisation, innovation, and ICT access.

The event, hosted at the National Library of South Africa (NLSA), saw most attendees joining via Zoom. Speakers included the National Library's CEO and National Librarian, Kepi Madumo; CHELSA Chair, Nomawethu Danster; Gauteng Provincial Education representative, Deon Van Vuuren; LIASA President-Elect, Professor Lefose Makgahlela; Department of Sports, Arts and Culture Director, Puleng Kekana; and LIASA President, Charlie Molepo.

## Pictured:

DUT's Marketing & Communication Librarian,  
Romeo Matumba, facilitating the event as programme director





**Above from Left:** Segametsi Mmolawa, former LIASA presidents; Prof Nkondo, the first Chair of the NLSA Board and Chairperson of the Transformation Charter; Ishmael Mbhokodo, Director at the City of Tshwane Library Services; Prof Lorette Jacobs, Chair of the Department of Information Science at Unisa, and Mandla Ntombela, former LIASA and AfLIA President and IFLA Board Member



**Pictured from left:**

Lebo Masalesa, LIASA National Office Manager; Aphelele Ndzimande, LIASA Training & Development Officer, LIASA member from the NLSA and Kepi Madumo, former National Librarian and CEO, NLSA

# South African Digital Literacy Day

## SAVE THE DATE

*Virtual and in person* at National Library of South Africa; Pretoria

**25.10.2024**  
**10:00 - 12:00**

**Launch Of South African Digital Literacy**  
as part of Global Media and Information Literacy Week



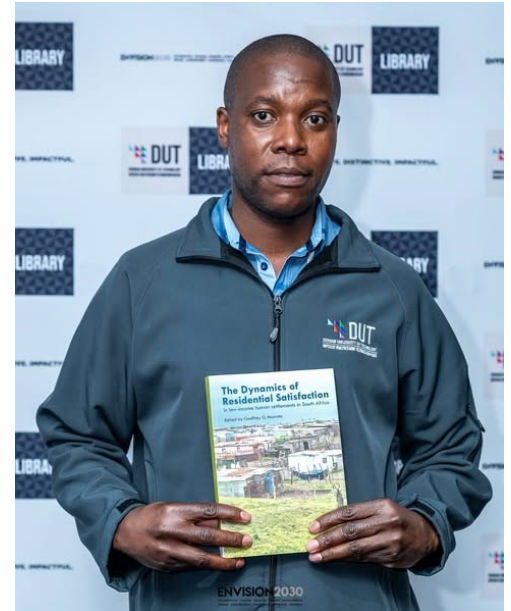
# DUT & UNISA Book Launch

By Romeo Matumba

**Dr Godfrey Gombana Musvoto**, a senior lecturer in Town and Regional Planning at DUT, unveiled his newly edited book 'The Dynamics of Residential Satisfaction in Low-income Human Settlements in South Africa', exploring residential satisfaction, the sense of contentment derived from housing. Speaking at the launch, he highlighted South Africa's complex housing history and the challenges affecting satisfaction, including poor living conditions, inadequate maintenance, limited facilities, and high crime rates.

Unlike developed nations such as the US, UK, and Australia, South Africa has yet to conduct systematic residential satisfaction surveys. Dr Musvoto emphasised the need for both qualitative and quantitative approaches to understand housing issues, particularly the aspirations of low-income youth seeking independent households. Funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF) from 2019 to 2022, the project enabled international research collaboration. Contributors included doctors, professors, and postgraduate students from various South African universities. At the launch, Professor Paulus Zulu (UKZN) provided historical insights, linking South Africa's housing challenges to apartheid-era policies. Dr Meiya Nthoesane (Unisa Press) praised the book's impact, while Dr Gilberte Lincoln addressed the challenges of conducting research during COVID-19, particularly in Mayville, where formal and informal housing coexist.

Delivering the vote of thanks, Dr Malefetjane Phaladi, DUT's Library Services Director, highlighted the book's role in shaping policy development, human settlement theories, and academic empowerment, involving honours and masters students as well as postdoctoral fellows.



**Above:** Dr Godfrey Musvoto

**Below:** DUT, UNISA, NRF & UKZN speakers at the event

**Photos by:** Khulasande Tshayile





# Library TECH Week

By Romeo Matumba

The library is committed to enhancing the user experience by providing smart services and state-of-the-art technologies in both physical and virtual spaces. To uphold this commitment, the library hosts Student Tech Week annually to celebrate, showcase, and promote innovative library technologies available at DUT libraries for staff and students. In 2024, Tech Week took place from 29 July to 2 August.

The week featured demonstrations on various technological services, including ENDNOTE installation, OneDrive usage, mobile device Wi-Fi connectivity, Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) setup for remote login, 3D printing and scanning, drone flying, and accessing PressReader, which enables remote access to newspapers and magazines via mobile devices.

To encourage participation, a fun competition was held, with exciting prizes sponsored by Cobalt and Renricbs. The winners were:

- **1st prize:**

Samkelo Praise-God Duma—Mobile tablet (Durban campus)

- **2nd prize:**

Nokuthula Ntangi—TV box (Durban Campus)

- **3rd prize:**

Hloni Buthelezi—TV Box (Midlands Campus)

The event successfully engaged students, promoting digital literacy and technology adoption within DUT libraries.

**Below:** Library team visiting the Midlands and some of the fun competition winners

**Below from left:** 3rd prize winner Nokuthula Ntangi and 1st prize winner, Samkelo Praise-God Duma



# Book Club Debate On Using Indigenous Languages for Library Services

By Romeo Matumba

The DUT Library Book Club hosted an event featuring book reviews and a debate on integrating indigenous languages into teaching, learning, research, and library services on 1 November 2024 at the BM Patel Library. The guest speakers were Pastor Sihle Yeni, founder of El-Betel Worldwide Ministries International, and Ms Yachal Du Plessis, Lecturer in the Faculty of Management Sciences at DUT. The Programme was directed by Tamara Ntombenhle Sima, a third-year student from the LIS Programme, under the guidance of Romeo Matumba, DUT's Librarian: Marketing and Communication.

Mr Matumba began proceedings with a welcome address, stressing the importance of librarians and other DUT staff in fostering DUT's graduate attributes. He urged staff to mentor and coach students through programmes such as book and poetry clubs.

The Book Club Chairperson, Prince Mchunu, a third-year LIS student, outlined the purpose of the event. His introduction led to a debate entitled 'Integrating Indigenous Languages into Teaching, Learning, Research, and Library Services', which sparked a lively discussion between two student teams and the audience, highlighting the topic's relevance within the DUT community.

The debate session generated critical discourse around the preservation and integration of indigenous languages at higher institutions, leading to the sharing of ideas and practices. Guest speaker, Yachal Duplessis provided an insightful overview of the topic, offering analysis and commentary on points raised by both teams and addressing questions from the audience. "Today's topic addresses key aspects of decolonization, highlighting the importance of extending this discussion beyond the walls of DUT. We must foster this kind of dialogue to reach a common ground and collaborate effectively in bridging the gaps left by colonial powers in South Africa", added Yachal.

As part of the programme, a session was held to review two books by Sihle Yeni: *The Workhorse: The Money Mindset* and *His Majesty: The Holy Spirit*. This segment was moderated by Nokuphiwa Dlamini, another outstanding second-year student from the LIS programme, who engaged participants with thought-provoking questions to stimulate the discussion. Pastor Sihle Yeni, author of the reviewed books, shared valuable insights into his writing style and inspirations. He further expressed gratitude to the panel for their outstanding reviews of his two works.

**Below:** DUT Library book club coordinators at the event





Other interesting activities included a poetry recital by Junior Mhlungu, a third-year student from the Drama department, and a voice-over session by Nokuphiwa Dlamini and Lindokuhle Cele, also from the LIS programme.

The audience, guest speakers and panel discussion teams were all treated to promotional items such as pens, note pads and lanyards, sponsored by WWIS (WorldWide Information Service), LIASA, Clarivate, UKS and McGraw-Hill. WWIS also sponsored the event with two R500 Takealot gift vouchers. The voucher winners were selected from both the panel and the audience. The lucky recipients of the Takealot gift vouchers were Thembelani Mahaye and Amanda Shezi. Another highlight of the event was the provision of a delicious lunch prepared by DUT's Hotel School.

The Library Book Club team extends its sincere gratitude to DUT Corporate Affairs for their generous support in providing refreshments.

The event concluded with Busiso Mpanza, a third-year LIS student and the Book Club's Project Manager, extending an acknowledgement to the book club coordinators, library management and staff, event sponsors, and most importantly, the audience, whose vibrant engagement made the day memorable.



**Above:** Invited guest speaker, Ms Yachal Du Plesis,

This event reflected the library's steadfast commitment to fostering a culture of reading and writing within the DUT community.

**Below:** DUT Library book club debate teams







## Library Staff Team Building



### Staff Team Building: Giba Gorge

On 15 November 2024, the Library hosted a staff team-building exercise at Giba Gorge, Pinetown, to foster collaboration, trust, and a shared sense of responsibility. The initiative reinforced accountability, resource stewardship, and commitment to the university's mission. By promoting open communication, trust, and mutual support, it enhanced team morale, cultivating a motivated and engaged workforce dedicated to excellence and student success.

By Romeo Matumba



# Join the Library Book Club & Enjoy Exclusive Benefits

The DUT Library Book Club hosts engaging events like book launches, keynote speakers, talent shows, debates, author discussions, poetry readings, and fun competitions.

To become a member, complete the online form at <https://library.dut.ac.za> or scan the QR code displayed on the right.

You can also join when you visit our circulation desks at any of our libraries.

**For more details, contact:**

Romeo Matumba

*Librarian: Marketing and Communication*

**Email:**

[muvhulawam@dut.ac.za](mailto:muvhulawam@dut.ac.za)

**#ReadersAreLeaders**

**#WritersAreLeaders**



**Scan & Join**

**Pictured below:**

Book club coordinators and members



# DUT's Open Journals & Open Books

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DUT Journals hosts the Research Office's AJ/MS, which is currently in its fifth volume.

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## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

#SmartServices

#SmartCollabos

#SmartLibrarians

#SmartLeadership

Dr Patrick Mhlomo and Dr Malefetjane Phaladi presented papers at the 25th European Conference on Knowledge Management (ECKM), hosted by the University of Pannonia, Veszprem, Hungary, 05-06 September 2024





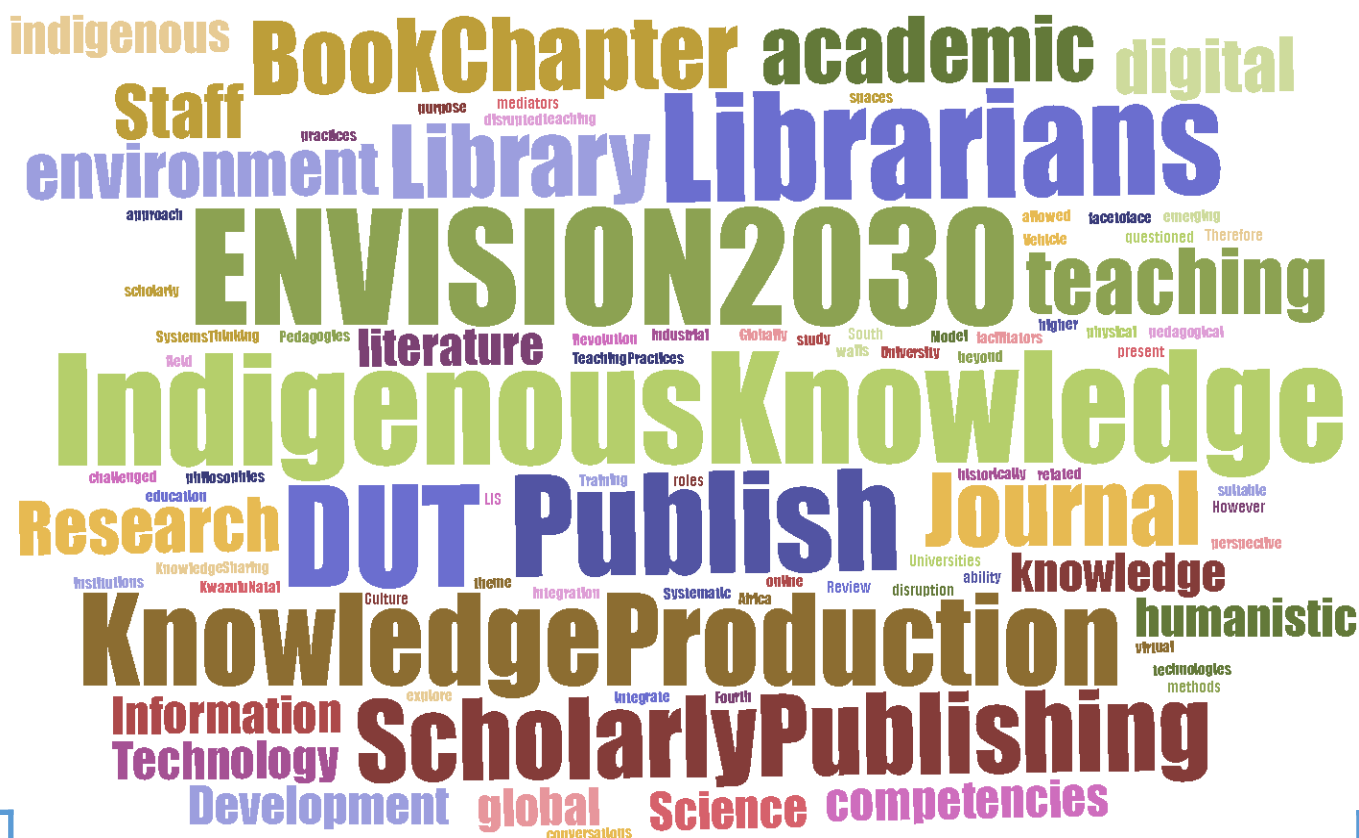


### INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INFORMATION LITERACY (ICIL-EGYPT)

Our smart librarians presented a research paper at the International Conference on Information Literacy (ICIL) in Egypt from 4 -7 August 2024. Congratulations to Nontutuzelo Sogoni and Dr Omar-saib for proudly flying the DUT and South African on this prestigious platform.









# Library and Information Association of South Africa

## Join Your Professional Body Today!

**Professionals in the Library and Information Services Sector: Join your professional association to influence the future development and direction of your field.**

### Who can apply for membership?

Any individual or institution with an interest in the library and/or information services sector may join LIASA.

### What are the membership categories and the fees per category?

There are two main categories of membership: Individual and Institutional membership.

Individual membership is for a person who obtains membership in their personal capacity. Individual membership fees for 2025 is R750.

Individual members who are full-time undergraduate students, interns, unemployed, retired or who volunteer their services at a LIS related institution qualify for a discounted rate, which is R310 for 2025. Proof of status is required.

Institutions, vendors and organisations are eligible for Institutional membership. Benefits for this category are awarded to the institution and not to any individual staff members.

Visit LIASA website for more information about membership and other benefits!

<https://www.liasa.org.za>



### Some of the benefits include:

- ⇒ LIASA is the SAQA accredited Professional Body for the LIS sector in South Africa and therefore, upon application and meeting the requirements, LIASA can confer a designation.
- ⇒ Regular communication via the mailing list LIASA Online.
- ⇒ Four issues of LIASA-in-Touch, our information-filled magazine for the LIS professional; paid-up members have access to the electronic version, even before the printed copy is posted (when possible) to the members and stakeholders.
- ⇒ Discounted rates for meetings, seminars.
- ⇒ Discounted rates for training sessions, courses and workshops.
- ⇒ Subscription to the LIASA Online Career Centre to receive emailed notifications immediately once a vacancy has been added.
- ⇒ Eligibility for the various prestigious LIASA awards.
- ⇒ Eligibility for grants, scholarships or other financial support opportunities when available.
- ⇒ Eligibility to attend the IFLA Conference at the IFLA membership rate.
- ⇒ Membership of your local branch and access to all its activities at discounted rates.
- ⇒ Membership of two Interest Groups of your choice and access to its activities.
- ⇒ Opportunity to develop your leadership and professional skills, learning best practice from others.
- ⇒ Networking, and more networking!