

DUT Library Launches a Conference Centre

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library proudly marked a significant milestone with the official launch of its new Library Conference Centre (LCC) at the BM Patel Library, ML Sultan Campus, on Wednesday, 22 October 2025.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony was led by DUT's Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Teaching and Learning, Professor Vusi Gumede, alongside Dr Malefetjane Phaladi, Director of Library Services, who formally inaugurated the state-of-the-art facility.

The LCC provides a modern, purpose-built venue designed to support academic engagement, scholarly dialogue, conferences, seminars, and collaborative initiatives within the University community and beyond. The launch reflects the DUT Library's continued commitment to creating dynamic knowledge spaces that foster innovation, partnership, and intellectual exchange in alignment with the University's strategic vision.

For bookings and enquiries, the DUT community is encouraged to contact Mr Thomas Zwane via email at thomasz@dut.ac.za

By Romeo Matumba



Pictured Above:

From right: - Professor Vusi Gumede, Dr Malefetjane Phaladi and Mr Nhlanhla Nhleko at the LCC Launch



Staff Recognition Awards Function

The DUT Library hosted its annual Staff Recognition Awards Function on Friday, 5 December 2025, at the Edward Hotel. The event honoured and celebrated the outstanding contributions, dedication, and achievements of library staff and key stakeholders throughout the year. The ceremony was facilitated brilliantly by Dr Mzwandile Khumalo from the Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching, whose engaging and professional approach set the tone for a memorable and reflective afternoon. Beyond the celebration, the awards served as a powerful reminder that the library’s success is built on the commitment, innovation, and collaborative spirit of its people. The ceremony reaffirmed the library’s strategic commitment to service excellence, research support, digital transformation, and community impact within the University.

The highlight of the day was the announcement of the prestigious Librarian of the Year Award, which was proudly presented to the Postgraduate Librarian, Patricia Badenhorst. This achievement was particularly significant, as she had also received the LIASA WWIS Research Support Librarian of the Year Award at the LIASA Annual Conference held in 2025 in Gqeberha, Eastern Cape. Her dual recognition reflects not only personal excellence but also the calibre of expertise within the DUT Library.

The event further underscored the importance of cultivating a culture of recognition, mentorship, innovation, and shared values principles that continue to position the DUT Library as a dynamic and forward-looking academic support environment. The ceremony once again reflected the library’s strong culture of excellence, professional growth, and collective achievement.

By Romeo Matumba



Pictured above:
Dr Malefetjane Phaladi and Patricia Badenhorst, Librarian of The Year, 2025

**Smart Libraries,
Smart People.**

AWARD	WINNERS
<i>Librarian of the Year</i>	Nonsikelelo Patricia Badenhorst
<i>Outstanding Operational Support</i>	Nhlakanipho Njilo
<i>Mentor of the Year</i>	Bongi Mpungose
<i>Smart Librarian of the Year</i>	Muvhulawa Romeo Matumba
<i>Inculcating the Culture of Reading</i>	Nqobizitha Langa and Busiso Mpanza
<i>Innovation and Creativity</i>	Tholeka Sidlayi and Prashanth Sivsaran
<i>Lived Values & Principles Champions</i>	Zibuyile Jama, Dr Patrick Mhlongo, Andrew Naicker and Trevor Peters
<i>Green Star</i>	Nondumiso Msomi
<i>Community Engagement</i>	Nokuthula Mdlalose
<i>Social Media Follower of the Year</i>	Dawn Moses



KZN Library Staff Sports Day

By David Thomas and Sagren Moodley

Library staff from Durban University of Technology (DUT), Mangosuthu University of Technology (MUT), the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), and the University of Zululand (UNIZULU) came together at the Fred Crookes Sports Centre on 28 November 2025 for a vibrant and spirited Regional Sports Day. This inaugural event aimed to strengthen relationships among academic libraries in the region by fostering camaraderie, promoting wellness, and laying the foundation for deeper collaboration across the province.

Hosted by the DUT Library, the event was held in an atmosphere of friendly competition, featuring indigenous games, a relay race, dance competitions, team building challenges, and a moderately competitive soccer tournament. Laughter, shared energy, and a strong sense of unity defined the day as colleagues from different institutions stepped outside their usual roles to connect on a personal level.

Library staff from participating universities expressed enthusiasm about connecting informally with colleagues from across the province beyond the usual conference and workshop settings. They noted that the Sports Day helped break down silos, foster mutual understanding and respect, and promote social cohesion.



Above:
DUT Library Director, Dr Phaladi opening the event





The success of the initiative was underpinned by months of careful planning by a joint coordinating committee led by Mr Thomas and Mr Moodley from the Library, in collaboration with DUT's Department of Sport Studies and Sport Administration. Sport Studies students demonstrated a high level of professionalism in coordinating the games, setting a strong benchmark for future events. Additional support was provided by library vendors EBSCO, World Wide Information Services (WWIS), and SABINET who sponsored key elements of the programme.

Looking ahead, the institutions expressed enthusiasm for making the Sports Day an annual fixture, with each university taking turns to host the event. The Sports Day is expected to lead to other spin offs, including structured partnerships that would contribute not only to institutional goals but also to stronger inter institutional collaboration and staff development.



Above: Unizulu Library Director, Ms Zanele Mathe delivering her speech



Indexing,
Cataloguing &
Classifying each
other!

New Library Resources

The following top resources are now available at the library

- ⇒ **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.
- ⇒ **Sage**: interdisciplinary collection of international, peer-reviewed journals, including high-impact titles from Health Sciences, Business, Biomedical Sciences, Engineering, Social Sciences, Humanities, and Technology
- ⇒ **Ebsco Digital Theatre +**: Broad selection of video/performance/literature

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.



WILTRUST Book Donation

By Romeo Matumba

The DUT Library received a donated copy of the book *The Natal Parks Board: A Conservation Adventure* by George Hughes, published in 2024 by the Natal Society Foundation. The book is also fully Open Access and can be accessed via the following link: <https://natsocietyfoundation.co.za/occasional-publications/>

When delivering the book, Mr Siyanda Mfeka noted that DUT was selected as a beneficiary of this special edition in recognition of its ongoing commitment to promoting nature conservation through its ecotourism programme.

“We hope this book finds its place within DUT’s learning spaces, inspiring future pioneers in natural history, environmental studies, and conservation. We trust that this contribution will be well received and meaningful to the DUT community,” said Mr Mfeka.



Pictured: Busiso Mpanza (Library Book Club Chair 2025), Dr Anushie Moonasar (Library Acquisition), Mr Siyanda Mfeka, Ms Noluthando Mbatha (WILDTRUST) and Dr Malefetjane Phaladi (Director: Library Services)

A High Tea to Celebrate Library Women

As a gesture to appreciate the women of the Library, a high tea was arranged on the 18th of August 2025, to celebrate and acknowledge the value of our library women.



Exciting AI Workshop with Dr Mashilo Modiba

By Romeo Matumba

DUT librarians attended an engaging two-day AI workshop facilitated by one of South Africa's leading AI experts, Dr Mashilo Modiba, a senior lecturer at the University of South Africa. The session provided practical insights into how artificial intelligence is transforming the information and library landscape.

The workshop explored a range of AI tools and systems, including machine learning applications for information retrieval, natural language processing for improved search and discovery, and generative AI tools that support research, content creation, and user services. Discussions also covered the ethical use of AI, data privacy, and the importance of maintaining academic integrity in an AI-driven environment.

Librarians were introduced to real-world use cases, such as AI-powered cataloguing, smart recommendation systems, research support tools, and digital preservation technologies. The session further highlighted how librarians can play a critical role in guiding users on responsible AI use and in integrating these tools into academic support services.



Above: Dr Mashilo Modiba, AI Expert

Below: DUT Librarians at the workshop



Scopus AI now live at Durban University of Technology



ELSEVIER



DURBAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
INYUVESI YASETHEKWIINI YEZOBUGGWEPHESIE

Providing a Mentoring Service to UKZN Librarians

By Romeo Matumba

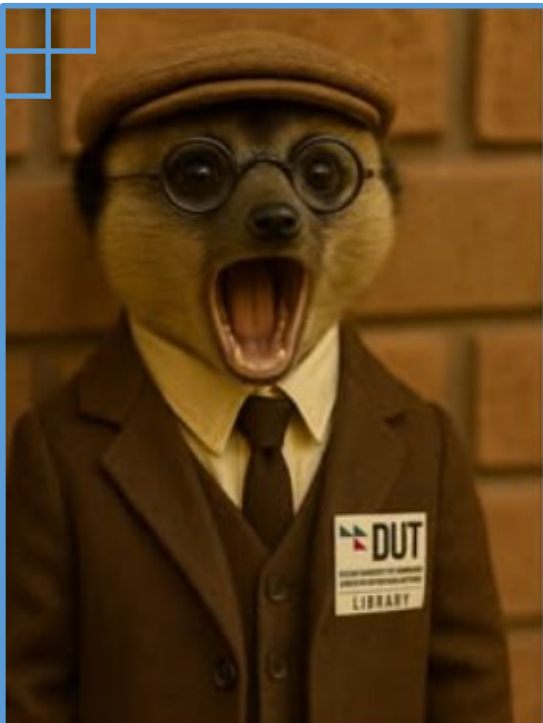
The DUT Marketing and Communication Librarian, Romeo Muvhulawa Matumba, was invited to mentor some of the librarians employed at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), who manage the institution’s repository. His expertise was sought in recognition of his meaningful contributions to the Library and Information Science (LIS) profession, particularly in digital marketing.

Participants included Principal Librarian Ms Nonjabulo Ngcobo and IR Librarian Ms Sthembiso Judith Ngobese. The virtual session, held via Microsoft Teams, focused on developing a targeted marketing and communication strategy to strengthen awareness and usage of the institutional repository within UKZN, while also enhancing its visibility among external stakeholders.

Additional support was provided to improve presentation templates and refine content to better engage UKZN audiences. This collaborative initiative underscores the importance of knowledge sharing and capacity building among academic libraries in advancing research visibility and impact.

The mentorship is expected to support UKZN librarians in developing a comprehensive marketing strategy for the repository, as well as hosting a webinar or seminar by 2026 to showcase the repository’s collections to local and national institutions.

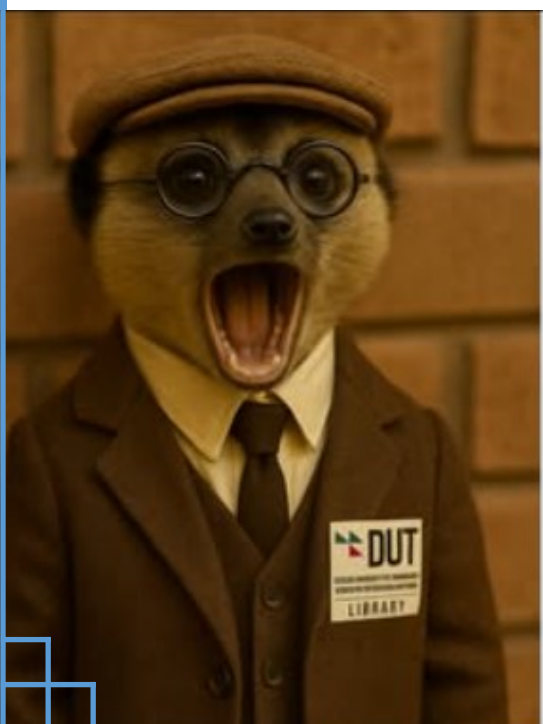




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Bibliometrics

A Practical Guide

Sara Bibi Mitha, Mousin Omarsaib, Anisa Vahed



DUT Librarians Elevate the University's Profile in National and International Research Spaces

By Romeo Matumba

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library continues to strengthen its presence in the global research landscape, with its librarians playing an increasingly visible role in advancing scholarly communication, research support, and knowledge sharing beyond institutional borders. Such exciting contributions by DUT librarians highlight how their expertise is not only shaping local academic practices but also elevating the university's reputation in international research spaces.

A notable example is Patricia Badenhorst, Postgraduate Librarian at the BM Patel Library, who was invited by the University of South Africa (UNISA) to deliver a guest presentation. Her session, which focused on mastering reference management using RefWorks, brought together librarians, academics, and students seeking to enhance their research workflows.

This invitation reflects recognition of DUT's growing expertise in research support services and positions the institution as a key contributor to academic capacity building across South Africa. By sharing practical knowledge on tools that underpin high-quality research outputs, Badenhorst not only empowered participants but also reinforced DUT's standing as a leader in information literacy and scholarly excellence.

In another significant achievement, Dr Mousin Omarsaib and Sara Mitha collaborated on the development of a bibliometric practical guide alongside Anisa Vahed, Associate Professor of Practice in Educational Development at the Xi'an Jiaotong Liverpool University (XJTLU) in Suzhou, China. This collaboration represents a meaningful international partnership, contributing to the growing body of knowledge in research evaluation and impact assessment. Bibliometrics plays a crucial role in understanding research performance, and the development of such a guide positions DUT librarians at the forefront of this critical academic field. These achievements demonstrate how DUT librarians are actively engaging in knowledge production and dissemination on both national and international platforms. By participating in cross-institutional training, contributing to scholarly resources, and collaborating with global partners, they are not only enhancing their professional profiles but also projecting DUT as a hub of research excellence.

Importantly, these initiatives reflect a broader shift in the role of academic librarians from traditional custodians of information to dynamic research partners and thought leaders. Their work supports academics and students in navigating complex research ecosystems, improving research visibility, and ensuring the effective management of scholarly outputs.

Smart Library, Smart People.

The Postgraduate Research Support Programme (PRSP)

invites you to a webinar on

Mastering Reference Management: A Practical Guide to Using RefWorks

Date: Thursday, 28 August 2025
Time: 18:00 – 19:00
Teams: [Join the meeting now.](#)
Enquiries: nkosin1@unisa.ac.za



Ms Patricia Badenhorst
Durban University of
Technology

Patricia Badenhorst is an accomplished and passionate research support librarian at the Durban University of Technology (DUT), with over 14 years of academic library experience. She currently serves as the Postgraduate Librarian, supporting students and staff across three faculties (Accounting and Informatics, Arts and Design, Management Sciences). Patricia holds a Master of Philosophy in Digital Curation (UCT, 2022), a BA Honours in Information Science (UNISA, 2014), a BTech and Diploma in Library and Information Science (DUT) and is pursuing a PhD in Information Science. She has earned multiple awards, including the Rookie of the year, Innovation and Creativity Award and the Publication and Conference Award at DUT Library. Her research support includes training in EndNote, referencing, systematic reviews, publishing strategies, and research visibility. She has published on research data management competencies and presented at LIASA, ICIL, and ECIL conferences. A committed mentor, Patricia has guided junior librarians and interns in digital tools, research support strategies, and professional development.

DUT Library & IEP Host Sports Transformation Panel

The Durban University of Technology's International Education and Partnerships Directorate, in collaboration with the Library Directorate, successfully hosted a hybrid panel discussion titled "South African Sport and Nation Building in a Post-Apartheid Era" on 6 November 2025, at the BM Patel Library Conference Centre, ML Sultan Campus. The event was attended by both in-person and online participants, reflecting DUT's commitment to creating inclusive platforms for critical dialogue and knowledge sharing.

The esteemed panel featured Dr Chantell Gouws, Head of the Sport Studies Department at DUT; Mr Bongani Yengwa, Head of DUT Sport Administration and SABC Sport analyst; Mr Niren Tolsi, award-winning journalist and researcher; Dr Cecil Tafireyi, researcher and consultant in Physical Education and Health Promotion; Dr Gregory Houston, Research Fellow at the University of the Free State; and Mr Robin Peterson, Head Coach of the Warriors cricket team and former Proteas player. Each panellist brought a unique perspective, enriching the discussion with professional expertise, personal experiences, and historical insights, while highlighting the role of sport in shaping identity, reconciliation, and social cohesion in democratic South Africa.

The panel discussion was chaired by Honourable Justice Zak Yacoob, retired Constitutional Court judge and respected advocate for human rights and social justice, whose thoughtful moderation ensured a reflective and balanced engagement with complex national questions.

Events like this underscore the importance of collaboration between academic departments and the Library Directorate, strengthening DUT's intellectual ecosystem by fostering relevant, inclusive, and socially responsive dialogue. They reinforce the library's role not just as a repository of knowledge, but also as an active participant in advancing scholarship, nation-building, and community engagement.

Continued investment in hybrid engagements of this calibre will enhance DUT's visibility, deepen interdisciplinary collaboration, and create meaningful opportunities for students and staff to engage with leading voices on issues shaping the nation. Such initiatives affirm the library's commitment to the university's broader mission of transformation, innovation, and societal impact.



Mr Niren Tolsi



Dr Chantell Gouws



Dr Cecil Tafireyi



Mr Robin Peterson



Mr Bongani Yengwa



Dr Gregory Houston

PANEL: SOUTH AFRICAN SPORTS AND NATION BUILDING IN A POST-APARTHEID ERA

Together, these spaces reflect DUT Library's commitment to creating an innovative and inclusive learning environment that empowers our community to explore, connect and succeed.

Library Spaces

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library continues to provide a range of dynamic and inclusive spaces that support both students and academics in their learning, teaching and research journeys. Our library spaces are thoughtfully designed to encourage creativity, collaboration and innovation, making the DUT Library more than just a place for books.

Library Conference Centre (LCC)

The recently launched Library Conference Centre is a vibrant, multipurpose space that fosters engagement, innovative dialogue, and collaboration within the DUT community. It hosts events, workshops, and book club sessions aimed at promoting a culture of reading, storytelling, and knowledge exchange.

Makerspace

The DUT Library Makerspace offers a creative environment where innovation meets technology. Equipped with 3D printers, virtual reality tools and other design technologies, the Makerspace provides students and staff with hands-on opportunities to explore, experiment and bring ideas to life. It is a hub for innovation, encouraging problem solving, design thinking and practical learning.

Learning Commons

The Learning Commons provides flexible study areas that encourage group work, collaboration and peer learning. With comfortable seating, advanced technology and a supportive environment, it is an ideal space for brainstorming, project work and interactive learning.

24-Hour Study Areas

Understanding the diverse study needs of our students, the DUT Library also offers 24-hour study spaces on selected campuses. These areas are safe, accessible, and conducive to focused study, allowing students to study at their own pace at any time.

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Library Conference Centre

A quiet space on Campus to host

- ❖ Meetings
- ❖ Webinars
- ❖ Workshops
- ❖ Training Sessions

Bookings:

Contact Mr Thomas Zwane

Thomasz@dut.ac.za



Library Book Club Year-End Session: Honouring Excellence & Dedication

By Romeo Matumba

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library Book Club hosted a meaningful year-end session at the Library Conference Centre (LCC), bringing together members, coordinators, and guests to reflect on a year defined by growth, creativity, and active engagement. The event served as both a celebration of achievements and a moment of transition, where Certificates of Appreciation were presented and the 2025 coordinators were formally bid farewell.

The session paid special tribute to the Book Club coordinators, whose dedication and commitment have been central to fostering a strong culture of reading and writing within the DUT community. Through organising activities, mentoring members, and sustaining momentum, they have created an inclusive platform that encourages intellectual exchange, critical thinking, and personal development.

Throughout the year, members contributed to a range of impactful initiatives, including the launch of the Mandeni Community Book Club, extending DUT's reading culture beyond the university. They also participated in the Green Campus Initiative, team-building sessions, and critical reviews of books, scripts, academic journal articles, and films, showcasing their creativity and perspectives.



Pictured: Mr Nhlanhla Nhleko and Mr Romeo Matumba handing over a Certificate of Appreciation to the Book Club Chairperson, Busiso Mpanza.

Their participation in platforms such as DBIF and their role as guest judges in the DUT Inter-Res Debate further demonstrated their growing confidence and engagement beyond the Book Club environment.

Collectively, these initiatives strengthened the culture of reading, writing, and knowledge sharing at DUT and beyond.



Join the Library Book Club & Enjoy Exclusive Benefits

The **DUT Library Book Club** offers a vibrant space for creativity and connection through book launches, keynote talks, talent showcases, debates, author discussions, poetry readings, and fun competitions. To join, simply complete the online form at <https://library.dut.ac.za>, scan the QR code on the right, or sign up at any library circulation desk

For more details, contact:

Romeo Matumba

Librarian: Marketing and Communication

Email:

muvhulawam@dut.ac.za

#ReadersAreLeaders

#WritersAreLeaders





Join the
Smart Book Club Community!

A space to **discover, connect, learn,**
and **make a real impact.** Be part of a
vibrant network that inspires ideas and
transforms communities.

Smart Minds Read Together, Join the Library Book Club!



Be Smart, Join the
Library Book Club Family
today!

Driving Open Research Through Transformational Agreements

By Romeo Matumba

As part of its commitment to advancing open access and sustainable research practices, the Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library, in collaboration with partners, is leveraging Transformational Agreements (TAs) to support its academic community. These agreements, established with publishers, allow DUT researchers to publish open access without incurring high article processing charges (APCs), thereby enhancing the visibility and impact of their work.

TAs are contracts negotiated between institutions, publishers, or consortia, intended to replace the traditional subscription-based model of scholarly journal access with a more open-access framework. The DUT Library, in collaboration with the South African National Library Consortium (SANLIC), has entered into transformative agreements with six publishers, with more anticipated in the future. Agreements have been formalised with Elsevier, Springer Nature, ACM Open, Emerald, Wiley, and Taylor & Francis.

By adopting TAs, DUT and other university libraries are making research freely available, removing financial barriers and increasing the dissemination and impact of scholarly work. Open-access articles are more discoverable, leading to higher citation rates and broader visibility for researchers and institutions.

DUT has witnessed the transformative impact of these agreements in democratising access to knowledge, allowing researchers and readers worldwide to access the latest research without financial or subscription barriers. In essence, DUT Libraries view this as a model for fostering a sustainable research environment, aligning with their mission to support and advance scholarly communication.

To maximise awareness and engagement, the DUT Library has implemented a multi-channel communication strategy that includes disseminating information through the library website, social media, university pinboards, notices, TV screens, and both digital and print posters. Regular updates on Transformational Agreements (TAs), publishing opportunities, and researcher benefits are shared across these platforms to ensure widespread access to key information.

When asked for comment, the DUT Director of Library Services, Dr Malefetjane Phaladi, highlighted that the DUT Library continues to strengthen knowledge production through the implementation of transformational agreements with scholarly publishers, which support open-access publishing while removing financial barriers for researchers. He further noted that the costs saved through these agreements amount to millions of rand, as article processing charges are significantly reduced while the visibility and impact of DUT research outputs continue to grow. "DUT Library is committed to contributing to knowledge production in a manner that is open, inclusive, developmental and sustainable," said Dr Phaladi.



Read & Publish

For more details, contact E-Resource Librarian, Rajen Eswarlal
eswarlalr@dut.ac.za

DUT Library Book Club Inspires Mandeni Community

By Romeo Matumba

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library Book Club was invited to deliver a guest presentation at a book launch hosted by the Mandeni Municipal Libraries on 11 September 2025 at the Sibusisiwe Community Hall in Mandeni.

Mr Lindelani Dhlodhlo, Library District Manager at Mandeni Municipality and host of the event, expressed his excitement in his opening remarks and acknowledged all stakeholders who responded to the invitation. He encouraged participants to foster a spirit of cooperation to promote the reading movement and enhance the culture of reading and writing in Mandeni and the surrounding areas.

The successful event was facilitated by Mr Andile Gwala from the Mandeni Local Municipality and was well attended by community members, students, educators, and various stakeholders. Learners and teachers from local schools, including Impoqabulunga High School, Sundumbili Primary School, Mthengeni High School, Imbewenhle Primary School, Tugela Primary School, Mangethe Primary School, Ikhaya Imfundo Primary School, Hlanganani Primary School, and Inkosi Lokothiswayo Primary School, actively participated in the programme.

As part of the event, learners recited poetry and delivered speech items, showcasing their creativity and talent. Their participation highlighted the important role schools play in fostering literacy, confidence, and creative expression among young people.

The programme also featured distinguished speakers who shared valuable insights and experiences on nurturing a reading culture. The UNISA Library presented lessons from its long-standing experience in organising and managing book clubs and reading programmes. The presentation highlighted how activities such as book discussions, reading circles, and author engagement sessions encourage a culture of reading and writing.

Adding further inspiration, Mr Bheki “Maqhumuza” Ngwenya, a renowned author of 23 books from Stanger and one of KwaZulu-Natal’s most celebrated writers, stressed the power of collaboration. He called on libraries, schools, authors, and communities to build strong partnerships that would not only sustain book club initiatives but also strengthen South Africa’s culture of reading.



Mr T. W. Buthelezi, Chief Education Specialist for General Education and Training in the iLembe District, emphasised reading as the foundation of all learning. He explained that children who develop a reading habit early excel both academically and socially, and called for strong partnerships between schools, parents, and libraries to foster literacy through book clubs. He further noted that these partnerships help build language proficiency, discipline, and focus, while also providing safe spaces where learners can express themselves and broaden their worldview.

“When children develop the habit of reading early, they not only excel academically and socially but also learn to read with true understanding,” said Mr Buthelezi.



The presentation further emphasised that sustainability depends on consistent programming, creativity, and keeping book clubs inclusive, engaging, and relevant in a technology-driven context. Mr Mpanza noted that the book club is “about building confidence, discovering voices, and preparing young people to lead and serve in their communities.”

The event concluded with a call for collaboration among communities, libraries, and educational institutions to strengthen a culture of reading and writing in KwaZulu-Natal. The combined efforts of the Department of Education, UNISA Library, Mr Ngwenya, and the DUT Library Book Club demonstrated the power of collaboration in addressing literacy challenges and shaping a brighter future. Active participation from the Mandeni community reinforced that, with strong partnerships, book clubs can serve as spaces for empowerment, creativity, knowledge sharing, and lifelong learning.

The final presentation by the DUT Library Book Club, represented by Mr Romeo Matumba and Chairperson Mr Busiso Mpanza, outlined strategies for sustaining community book clubs and showcased the DUT Library Book Club as a successful model. It highlighted how the spirit of Ubuntu fosters community, respect, shared learning, and mutual support, while equipping members with skills in leadership, communication, critical thinking, public speaking, and innovation.

These skills support lifelong learning and enable students to contribute meaningfully to their communities.



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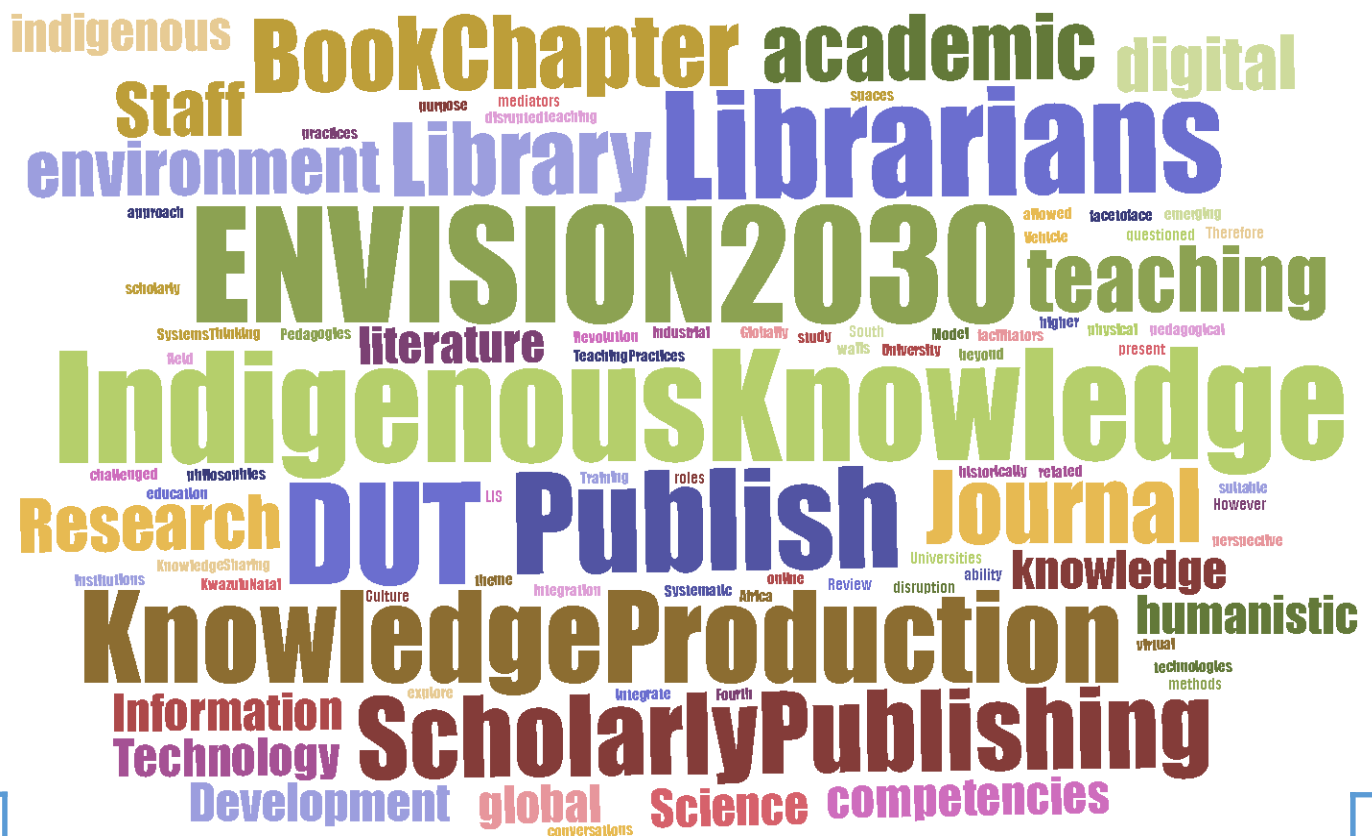
Tel: 031 373 5761 (DBN) - 033 845 8800 (PMB)

Email dutlibrary@dut.ac.za or openscholar@dut.ac.za



DUT Library Staff Contribute to Scientific Knowledge Production

- ⇒ **Omarsaib, M., Matumba, M., Badenhorst, P., & Mohamed, G. M. (2025).** Exploring the integration of indigenous languages into teaching and learning practices at primary schools in South Africa. *South African Journal of African Languages*, 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02572117.2025.2501299> (Q1)
- ⇒ Nweke, M., Oyirinnaya, P., Nwoha, P. **Mitha, S., et al.** Development of a high-performing, cost-effective and inclusive Afrocentric predictive model for stroke: a meta-analysis approach. *BMC Neurol* **25**, 282 (2025). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12883-025-04229-x> (Q2)
- ⇒ Mamorobela, S.P. & **Phaladi, M.P.** A Resource-Based View Framework for Knowledge Risk Management in SMEs. Proceedings of the 26th European Conference on Knowledge Management, ECKM 2025, 4-5 September, Lahti University of Technology, Lahti, Finland, 26(1), 601-608. <https://doi.org/10.34190/eckm.26.1.3649>
- ⇒ **Phaladi, M.P. (2025).** The Role of Human Resource Management in Building Knowledge Management Capacity in South African Public Sector Enterprises. Proceedings of the 26th European Conference on Knowledge Management, ECKM 2025, 4-5 September, Lahti University of Technology, Lahti, Finland, 26(2), 799-806. <https://doi.org/10.34190/eckm.26.2.3754>



Library Tech Week 2025

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) Library continues to raise the bar in enhancing user experience as it endeavours to blend state-of-the-art technologies into its physical and virtual spaces. Library TECH Week is one of the Library's annual flagship programmes, providing staff and students with a hands-on opportunity to engage with various support teams and explore tools and resources that enrich learning, teaching, and research.

This year's Library TECH Week interactive sessions were held across all six DUT campus libraries from 4 to 8 August 2025, with each venue transformed into a vibrant hub of discovery and knowledge sharing. The programme brought together experts from the Writing Centre, Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT), Information and Communication Technology Services (ICTS), and the Library IT Support team, along with library vendors such as EBSCO, McGraw Hill, Worldwide Information Services, and Elsevier.

The organised sessions aimed to equip attendees with practical skills while also providing insights into, and raising awareness of the technological services offered by DUT Libraries and its key stakeholders.

- ⇒ EBSCO guided participants on maximising the benefits of using the library's QuickFinder discovery tool to access reliable and relevant information for research projects.
- ⇒ The Writing Centre showcased its convenient online booking system, which allows students to schedule consultations with writing tutors.
- ⇒ CELT introduced a range of AI tools available to DUT students and lecturers, highlighting their potential to enhance academic work.
- ⇒ The Library IT Support team guided attendees through a selection of gadgets and digital tools in the library, including Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA), connectivity solutions, and EndNote.

By Romeo Matumba

In addition to these sessions, specialised demonstrations for postgraduate students and researchers highlighted advanced library tools, including Scopus AI and the Web of Science Research Assistant, designed to support complex research and scholarly output.

To acknowledge their attendance and participation in the event, library users were treated to a range of corporate-sponsored goodies, including pens, earphones, phone stands, mobile speakers, notepads, and USBs. The Library expressed its gratitude to all DUT stakeholders, external partners, and students who participated in the event. Starting in 2026, Library TECH Week will be held twice a year.

In relation to the event, one of the organisers, Mr Ayanda Thwala, emphasised that TECH Week is more than a showcase; it is a platform for empowering the DUT community to make the most of the digital resources at their fingertips. As the library continues to align with the DUT ENVISION2030 strategy, initiatives such as TECH Week reinforce its commitment to fostering innovation, accessibility, and academic excellence.





Smart Library, Smart People!



ENVISION2030
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fairness • professionalism • commitment • compassion • excellence

Copyright Services

Copyright 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?

To all intent, 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.

By Dr Ramika Bansi



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

Office:

BM Patel Library, Ground Floor, ML Sultan Campus

Office Hours:

Monday to Friday: 07:30– 16:00



The Library Hosted a Knowledge Management Webinar in Collaboration with Mzuzu University, Malawi

By Romeo Matumba

The Durban University of Technology Library hosted a successful Knowledge Management webinar in collaboration with Malawi’s Mzuzu University. The virtual event brought together librarians, academics, and knowledge management practitioners from both institutions to share insights, research, and best practices in the preservation and management of institutional knowledge. DUT Library Services Director, Dr Malefetjane Phaladi, delivered a keynote titled “*Framework for Integrating Strategic HRM Practices into KM to Mitigate Tacit Knowledge Loss Risks in South African SOEs.*” His presentation explored how integrating strategic HRM and knowledge management practices can help capture, retain and transfer tacit knowledge often lost through staff turnover or retirement. He highlighted leadership commitment, employee engagement, succession planning and enabling technologies as key strategies for mitigating knowledge loss.

The webinar also created a platform for librarians from both institutions to exchange experiences and explore collaborative approaches to strengthening knowledge management in libraries and higher education. Discussions emphasised the critical role of African libraries in preserving institutional memory and supporting evidence-based decision-making. Special appreciation was extended to Dr Aubrey Chaputula for his collaboration and expert moderation, which reinforced the partnership between the two universities. The DUT Library continues to promote international collaboration, research-driven dialogue and innovative knowledge management practices in support of higher education and sustainable development.



Learning Commons



2nd Floor Learning Commons



Do you need a space for **Group Work, Assignments/Projects Preparations or Group Presentation Preparations?**

The Learning Commons is now available for you.

To book the space, contact

Mr Zwane at the **Library Student IT Support Office, 2nd Floor.**

Makerspace: Midlands



Create - Collaborate - Inspire



LIBRARY MAKERSPACE

Want to print a **3D** project, scan a **3D** object, learn basic **programming** and **coding** or to check out the **latest technology**?

Visit us

at the Library Makerspace, 2nd floor, Indumiso Library

INQUIRIES:
Thanda Zungu
ThandananiZ@dut.ac.za

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Inter-Library Loan (ILL) Service

Unlock a World of Resources with DUT Library's Inter-Library Loans Service!

Are you looking for a book, article, or resource that's not available at DUT Libraries? Don't worry, we have you covered! Our Inter-Library Loans (ILL) Service allows you to access materials from other libraries across the country and beyond.

What is an Inter-Library Loan?

ILL is a loan arranged with another library in order to assist DUT Library users to obtain a required item that DUT Library does not have. Searches are made on OCLC WorldShare, a co-operative database to check whether the item requested is available for loan from another library nationally or internationally.

Who may use the ILL Service?

All registered staff and students of the Durban University of Technology.

Where should I look before applying for an ILL?

First look in the [Library's catalogue](#) to see if the item you need is available in any of the DUT libraries. If not available, contact your Subject/Faculty librarian or ILL staff. More details are available here: <https://library.dut.ac.za/services/inter-library-loans/>

Durban: Ms Nomkhuleko Mendy Sibisi **Email:** nomkhulekos@dut.ac.za

Midlands: Mr Nqobizitha Langa **Email:** nqobizithal@dut.ac.za

Alternatively, contact Subject or Postgraduate Librarians in your faculty


Service Hours:

Monday to Friday: 08:00– 16:00

Book Club Activities

GREEN CAMPUS INITIATIVE





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BOOK LAUNCH DR THULI




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Book Club Activities

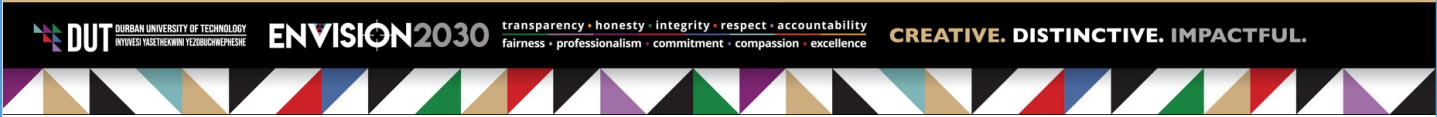


Movie Review

LCC –
03/11/25

Hidden Figures

HIDDEN FIGURES



DURBAN INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR 2025

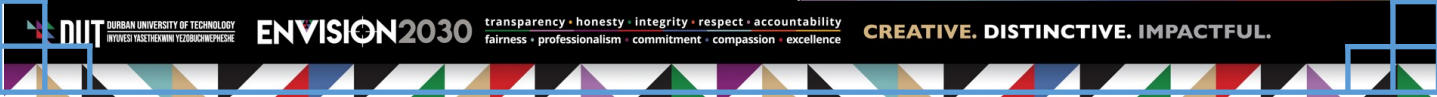
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DURBAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
INVUVESI YASETHEKWINI YEZOBUCHWEPHESHE
LIBRARY

Date: 14 Aug 2025
Venue: Cheryl Roberts Stage
Time: 13h00 - 13h-45

Slam Poetry

PROGRAMME

- Welcome & Purpose
Romeo Matumba
- Writing Poems
Junior Mhlungu
- Poetry
DUT & St Francis College, Marriahill
- Benefits of Book Clubs
Busiso Mpanza
- Closing: Junior Mhlungu





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!

