

Dear SAJLIS Readers,

In this first issue of SAJLIS, Vol.72(1) 2006, the first of three scheduled for publication this year, seven research articles and six reviews, focusing mainly on scholarly publishing, adult education, information retrieval, informetrics and information seeking, are presented.

The first paper in this issue on scholarly LIS journals publishing, entitled “Beyond reason and vanity?: some issues in academic journal publication in Library and Information Studies”, is by Christine Stilwell from the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She has reviewed select journal and monograph literature on scholarly publishing and discusses issues in the research and publishing landscape. A further topic of general interest is presented in the second paper, entitled “Adult education in South African public libraries: a profile of activities” jointly written by Mary Nassimbeni of the University of Cape Town and Bev May of Cape Town City Libraries. The authors report on the findings of a research investigation into the role of South African public libraries in adult education, and speculate on the reasons adult education in public libraries is failing.

The five papers highlighted below focus on more specialized topics. First, there is an article jointly written by Erica Cosijn and Theo Bothma from the University of Pretoria on “Contexts of Relevance for Information Retrieval Systems Design”. The two authors discuss current studies on Information Retrieval and Seeking from a relevance perspective to show how systems might be designed to assist users in making ‘multi-dimensional relevance judgments’. Then there is an article by Stephen Migiro from the University of Zululand, entitled “Diffusion of ICTs and E-commerce adoption in manufacturing SMEs in Kenya”. Stephen has recognized the importance of the Internet's World Wide Web together with other ICTs in E-commerce by mapping ICT diffusion and the adoption of e-commerce by manufacturing SMEs in Kenya, and identifying specific barriers to the use of the technology. The fifth article, by S.S. Popoola from the University of Ibadan, focuses on information seeking. He writes on the “Influence of Information Availability and Utilization on Decision-making of Managers in Large-scale Manufacturing Industries in Nigeria” and recommends that the boards of management in these industries make a wide range of relevant information resources available for the use of managers in their decision-making processes, and notes that Internet use among the managers is insignificant. Following this are two articles on the theme of informetrics. The first informetric article originates from the leading student paper at the LIASA–RETIG – SIG Symposium held in September 2005 in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga, South Africa. Bosire Onyancha from the University of Zululand presents the article entitled “Empowering the South African community’s AIDs intervention workforce: An informetric study of HIV/AIDs research projects, with special reference to masters and doctoral dissertations and theses”, which tackles a very crucial theme by recognizing that the prevalence rate of HIV in South Africa has remained alarmingly high and has become of great concern to stakeholders. He therefore assesses the role that is being played by various institutions of higher learning in South Africa in graduate preparedness as a means of empowering the country’s HIV/AIDS intervention workforce. This article is followed by one by Daisy Jacobs, from the University of Pretoria, entitled “Research Evaluation of Research-Oriented Universities in South Africa”. Daisy reports on the preliminary findings on South Africa’s most productive authors, journals and research universities and observes that there has been a significant correlation between journal productivity and citation frequency, as well as between citation frequency and the immediacy index.

This issue also contains six reviews written by Yvonne Blomkamp and Caroline Dean from UCT, and Janneke Mostert from the University of Zululand. We are once again grateful to NLDTF and SALI Trust for pledging to finance a large part of the publication costs of SAJLIS 72

I wish all our readers enjoyable and fruitful reading and a most rewarding year

Best regards

Dennis Ocholla

Editor-in-Chief, SAJLIS

## **ERRATUM:**

Author’s details reflected incorrectly in the Editorial of Vol. 71(1), 2005 should read:

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National University Library of Lesotho, Lesotho.