

Yet again, *SAJLIS* has been timeous in releasing its twice-yearly issue of the journal – this was despite the intervening festive period. Thank you to the Journal Management Team, reviewers and authors for working through this period to ensure the timeous release of issue 79(2) of the journal. In the second half of 2013, *SAJLIS* received fifteen manuscripts for consideration for publication. The online management of the journal, via the Online Journal System (OJS), ensured a relatively quick turnaround time in terms of the review process making it possible for all fifteen manuscripts to be processed by December 2013 so that the issue could be released by the target date of January 2014. Due to stringent application of the journal's editorial policy and peer review process, only a third (33%) of the fifteen manuscripts made it to the publication stage, ensuring that the quality of the journal is maintained. It is indeed pleasing to observe that there is practitioner input in this issue.

This closing issue for 2013 includes contributions on citation analysis of online legal information sources, the adoption of e-books in academic libraries, public library usage during times of economic recession, research support and academic libraries, and academic library services provision for individuals with visual impairment and in wheelchairs.

In a context of increased availability of legal information sources via the Internet, Solomon Bopape reports on an investigation, using citation analysis, of the usage of these online sources in legal scholarly communication in South Africa.

The adoption of e-books is indeed a topic of current interest globally. Michelle Kahn discusses challenges to e-book adoption in academic libraries via a comprehensive review of literature published over the period 2007 and 2013. Among other issues, she covers those of complex e-book purchase models, questions of copyright, and licensing and digital rights management.

In an issue dominated by academic library matters, Lara Skelly's piece on public library usage is a welcome inclusion. Using ten libraries from the Saldanha Bay Municipal Area of the Western Cape in South Africa, she employs multiple regression statistics to test the hypothesis that public library usage increases during times of economic recession.

"Changing higher education pedagogy, digitisation of scholarly content and the increasing influence of relevant technologies have impacted on the transformation of academic library services", state Reggie Raju and Lucia Schoombee. These authors use the Stellenbosch University Library and Information Service as a case study to demonstrate the research support role that librarians in a transformed academic library environment can play in their quest for "deeper meaning" in their support of the researcher and the research process.

An often neglected area in service provision generally is that relating to the physically challenged. Rebecca Majinge and Christine Stilwell, in their paper, use the pragmatism paradigm and the social model of disability to address the issue of library services provision for individuals with visual impairments and in wheelchairs in academic libraries in Tanzania.

The year 2013 saw two book publications in the LIS discipline by South Africans. The previous issue, 79(1), carried a review of the first of these. *SAJLIS*, again in its efforts to bring attention to LIS scholarly endeavour, commissioned LIS scholar Emeritus Associate Professor Mary Nassimbeni to review *The hidden history of South Africa's books and reading cultures* by Professor Archie Dick (published by University of KwaZulu-Natal Press). Mary Nassimbeni offers a penetrating review of this historical analysis of the print and book culture in South Africa.

Enjoy the read!

Associate Professor Jaya Raju
Editor-in-Chief