EDITORIAL

As a journal belonging to a professional body (the Library and Information Association of South Africa), an important role fulfilled by SAJLIS is contributing to the mentoring and development of the next generation of authors and researchers in the Library and Information Services (LIS) profession. Hence, the journal encourages submissions co-authored by students and their research supervisors. In the spirit of supporting and mentoring, the teacher and mentor in this co-publication partnership should encourage the mentee to embrace rigorous comments from reviewers for improvement of the manuscript and to learn and grow from this experience in research and publication. University research supervisors should view the peer-review process resulting in a 'revise and re-submit for review' outcome as contributing to the learning experience of emerging authors and researchers. An equally rigorous journal is likely to produce a similar result. Hence, withdrawal for publication elsewhere, without any improvement to the manuscript, is not only sadly unfortunate, but also a missed opportunity for growing quality in research and publication, especially among aspirant authors. On this note, SAJLIS is proud to observe that among the six papers published in this issue (out of a total of forty submissions made to the journal in the second half of 2017), the average time between first accepting the manuscript for review and the time of accepting for publication was four to five months. Further, more than 50% of these published papers are co-publications between research supervisors and their students and almost all of these manuscripts endured a process of 'revise and re-submit' for review. SAJLIS wishes to congratulate the authors in this issue on the publication of their papers and to thank them for their patience and commitment to quality in research and publication.

Public service delivery is of topical interest in South Africa. This issue opens with Lungile Luthuli and Trywell Kalusopa reporting on an investigation into the implementation of good records management services in the health services sector.

At a time when world indexing platforms tend to marginalise publications from the developing world, Nelius Boshoff and Moses Akanmu, in a bibliometric study involving Scopus and Web of Science, report on a study that looked into the profile of pharmacy research output in an African university.

Promoting research and scholarly publishing is a critical driver in the strategic management of universities all over the world. Africa is no exception. In this context, Florence Weng'ua, Daniel Chebutuk Rotich and Emily Kogos look at the role of Kenyan universities in promoting research and scholarly publishing; and in doing so, they outline challenges faced by faculty members in their research and publication efforts, and they make recommendations for improvement of the situation.

"Research e-visibility embodies online presence on the Web, discoverability via research e-profiles and accessibility of research output available online". In an issue dominated by matters relating to research, Leslie Adriaanse and Chris Rensleigh report on research investigating online presence, researcher discoverability and accessibility of research output of environmental science researchers at a South African university.

In yet another paper involving research and publication, Takawira Machimbidza and Stephen Mutula report on barriers that affect academics' use of peer-reviewed electronic journals in Zimbabwean universities, and make recommendations to overcome these militating factors.

The issue closes with Brenda van Wyk and Irvine Kadzenga reporting on observations and outcomes of LIS services embedded into the "first phase of a digital learning commons implementation" of a "digitally-enabled campus" of a private higher education institution in South Africa. Based on these observations and outcomes, they offer suggestions for improvement of the LIS service in the second phase of the project.

Enjoy the read!

Associate Professor Jaya Raju Editor-in-Chief