



Association of Southern African Indexers and Bibliographers ASAIB

NEWSLETTER

“Excellence from A to Z”

NOVEMBER 2010

No. 30

LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR DENISE NICHOLSON



The LIASA National Librarian of the Year 2010 is Denise Rosemary Nicholson, Copyright Services Librarian at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

After matriculating at St Dominic’s Convent in Boksburg and completing a secretarial course, Denise embarked on her tertiary education at Unisa: first the Bachelors of Arts Degree and then the Higher Diploma in Library and Information Science, which she completed in 1983. More recently, she also completed two WIPO/UNISA Copyright modules – “Essential Copyright Law” and “Internet Aspects of Copyright and Trademarks”, both of which she passed with distinction.

Denise started her library career in 1983 as an administrative officer in the personnel section of the Library at the University of the Witwatersrand. Subsequently she moved into positions of Personnel Librarian and part-time Serials Cataloguer. Since November 1996, she has held the post of Copyright Services Librarian, in which capacity she provides a specialist copyright management and advisory service to academics, support staff and students at Wits and also attends to enquiries from institutions, libraries, government departments and individuals from outside Wits. She is also responsible for copyright clearances for teaching material and gives talks on copyright and plagiarism to staff and students. She regularly monitors the international trends and the legislative situation in SA to establish the impact on access to information and to lobby for better copyright laws for education, research, libraries and persons with sensory-disabilities.

In addition to being a member of LIASA and serving on the FAIFE Committee, Denise is currently serving her third term on the IFLA Committee on Copyright and Other Legal Matters (CLM), as well as on the CLM Executive Advisory Board. She is the South African representative for the Electronic Information for Libraries Network (eIFL) IP Project. She is also a member of the Commonwealth of Learning (Canada)’s IP Virtual Group Committee and of the CopySouth “Global South” Project.

Closer to home she spearheaded the African Access to Knowledge Alliance (AAKA) through presentations at SADC Head Office in Gaborone, at SCECSAL, Uganda in 2004 and at the African Copyright Forum in Kampala in 2005, where the Alliance was formally established. She was co-founder of the Alliance together with Dick Kawooya, a Ugandan librarian studying in the United States at the time. Since 2005, she has been a Board member of the Alliance. The Alliance was a key partner in two important African projects, namely: The Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA) Open Access Leadership Summit in Gaborone, 2007, which Denise helped to organize; and the African Copyright and Access to Knowledge (ACA2K) Project. She was the Policy and Dissemination Advisor of the ACA2K Project from 2007 until the end of January 2010.

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Association of South African Indexers and Bibliographers Conference
13 May 2011
Ditsong Military Museum,
Johannesburg
www.asaib.org.za

LIBRARIAN OF THE YEAR
DENISE NICHOLSON continued



Denise Nicholson speaking at the ASAIB conference 2010

At the University of the Witwatersrand, she is an active member of numerous committees, project and workgroups. She has also served on the Ministry of Art and Culture's Legal Deposit Committee; its Digitisation Workgroup and the National Research Foundation's Digitisation Workgroup. She is currently a member of the SA National Council for the Blind's Copyright Workgroup.

There have been many achievements and awards in Denise's illustrious career. She was the LIASA/SABINET Online Academic Librarian of the Year for 2001; was a winner in the WIPOUT International Copyright Essay Competition in 2002, and in 2006, she was the first librarian from a developing country to attend a World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) General Assembly, where she presented a joint statement on behalf of IFLA and eIFL on 'Libraries and the Development Agenda'. She also received the Alumnus of the Year Award for 2009 from the UNISA's Department of Information Science and the LIASA Gauteng South Branch Librarian of the Year for 2010.

Denise has published more than 30 articles in academic and popular journals and has contributed chapters in books. Her articles are widely cited, not only in South Africa but also in foreign journals. She has also contributed to various international and regional research reports, position papers and documents. She has presented papers at more than 40 international conferences and more than 60 local conferences. Denise provides a free online international information service called "Copyright & A2K Issues" to individual, organizations, institutions, etc. on topics such as copyright and other IP matters, plagiarism; open access; open publishing; scholarly communication; traditional knowledge, digitisation and library matters; issues affecting access to knowledge (A2K), particularly with regard to developing countries; conference alerts, useful web-sites, open learning resources, etc.

Denise is married to Clive and has a son, Brendan (20), and a daughter, Lauren (18). Her hobbies include reading, networking with colleagues and friends around the world, watching sport, taking photographs, wood-carving, painting and nature.

ASAIB AWARD

The ASAIB 2011 Award for best index and/or bibliography published during 2009 and 2010 will be made at the 2011 conference. Send your entries to Marlene Burger burgem@unisa.ac.za before 12 April 2011.

ASAIB AGM 12 NOVEMBER 2010 10am



Please join us at

Rutherglen Cottage

18 Wallace Street, Waverley, Johannesburg

Our speaker , Louise Matschke, Curriculum Specialist at the Johannesburg Zoo, will talk on the nature of zoos which will include why zoos are important, how zoos contribute to conservation and provide a habitat to urban wildlife. Louise will also touch on a new and very exciting field of Biomimicry.

We look forward to seeing you at our annual ASAIB AGM. Pack your picnic hamper with all your favourite eats, fill your flask with tea or coffee and bring a friend to enjoy a lovely morning in a beautiful setting. Don't forget a chair or picnic blanket.

There is a lovely covered verandah should the rain come down.

Please RSVP to Amanda Simpson by 10 November 2010

amandaindexing@gmail.com

079 053 0429

BRITISH SOCIETY OF INDEXERS' DISTANCE-LEARNING COURSE

Sanet le Roux recently gave a talk in Cape Town on her experiences of the British Society Indexers' Distance-learning Course. The following is a synopsis of her talk:

General information

The course provides a solid background to the basics of indexing and running an indexing business and is offered to students world-wide.

The course was neither overly difficult, nor overly simplistic. One can progress at one's own speed and there is ample time to finish tests. The markers are anonymous for all tests except the Practical Indexing Assignment (PIA) and they provide detailed feedback and comments on answers.

No marks are awarded; only a 'pass' or 'fail' and plenty of comments and suggestions.

For more specific indexing techniques for specialised formats or subjects, e.g. biographies, cook-books, children's books further study and/or reading is necessary. However, the new edition of the course includes information on website indexing and embedded indexing. The Society however is a very useful source of information and also sells 'Occasional papers' that cover most of these issues.

The Society's passion to improve is evident. In addition there a culture of sharing knowledge and of friendliness and openness.

The student gets a finite number of days to complete a test, which is good practise in the deadline-driven world of indexing.

The course needs to be completed within five years.

Recent changes to the course

The course materials (now called modules rather than units) are now all delivered online and by email.

All course material are fully revised and updated (4th edition)

Payment can be made via Paypal

Tests are now divided into two parts (theory and practice) and if you fail one part only that part needs to be retaken.

Online tutorials are part of the course and compulsory.

Practice exercises, quizzes and texts are available online.

The course modules can be purchased one at a time as one progresses through the course.

Background of the Society of Indexers

The Society of Indexers is the British and Irish professional body for indexing. It was founded in 1957 and is associated with ASAIB. Most of the Society's work is done by volunteers. Ann Hudson is the Training Course Co-ordinator. Paul Machen is the first point of contact for any enquiry. The Society has a well designed and informative website www.indexers.org.uk.

Reasons for doing the course

Sanet started the Society of Indexers 'Training in Indexing distance-learning course' in 1997. Her manager was doing some indexing 'on the side' which sounded very interesting and she was intrigued. Sanet completed the exams for the first two units, but then moved jobs and fell pregnant. She found that five years was not enough time to complete the course. In 2006 as her son was older and less demanding she found that she had more time to finally further her indexing skills and start working as an indexer.

Sanet initially wanted to be certain that she was creating indexes correctly, according to a standard, or common practice. She also wanted a formal education, some indication that proved that she was serious about indexing and felt confident in her skills.

Modules

Module A

Introducing Indexing: indexers, users and documents £214

Module B

Choosing the Words: term selection and the formation and arrangement of headings and sub-headings £275

Module C

Names and Numbers: filing order, proper names and locators £275

Module D

Finishing Touches and Beyond: index presentation, specialized forms and applications £370

Practical indexing assignment

The student is required to compile an index for a book or document of their choice of about 150-200 pages in length, or a website of comparable complexity. The index is then reviewed by one of the Assignment Advisers, who will write detailed comments on it, make suggestions for improvements and give advice. £85

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BRITISH SOCIETY OF INDEXERS' DISTANCE-LEARNING COURSE continued

More information on the modules and prices can be found at <http://www.indexers.org.uk/index.php?id=199>. One needs to be a member of the Society to be able to do the course.

Discussion groups

Email discussion list only for trainees (SI-Trainee).

Email discussion list for all members of the Society of Indexers (Sideline).

Accreditation

Once accredited members are permitted to use an adapted version of the Society's logo on their personal website and stationery for as long as they remain members of the Society.

In addition members may list their names in Indexers Available, the Society's directory of approved indexers at a £20 annual fee.

World's most expensive book to be auctioned

An edition of John James Audubon's *Birds of America*, which fetched a world record \$8.8 million (£5.7m) a decade ago, is to go up for auction alongside Shakespeare's *First Folio* and private letters written by Queen Elizabeth I.

By [Nick Collins](#)

The last copy of the book auctioned fetched over \$8m 10 years ago. The rare and valuable lots are among a collection of books, manuscripts and letters to be sold from the collection of Lord Hesketh, a collector who died 55 years ago.

A well-preserved copy of Audubon's book, which is bound in a huge folio accommodating life-size paintings of American bird life, is valued at between £4 million and £6 million.

Also up for sale are a copy of Shakespeare's *First Folio*, published in 1623 and worth an estimated £1 million to £1.5 million, and a series of letters written by Elizabeth I to Ralph Sadler, who became jailer to her half-sister, Mary Queen of Scots.

David Goldthorpe, of Sotheby's, told *The Guardian*: "To have all these items in one sale is remarkable; it's certainly never happened in my time, 15 years, and people who've been here longer can't recall it."

Frederick Fermor-Hesketh, 2nd Baron Hesketh, was from a family of collectors who liked to buy the rarest and most expensive items available across a variety of fields.

His copy of *Birds of America* is one of only 119 known copies, of which 108 belong to museums, libraries and universities.

Audubon travelled across America to shoot the birds before hanging them with wire so that he could paint them on the enormous folio.

The Shakespeare folio, which includes 36 of his plays, is one of only 219 known to still exist, few of which are privately owned and most of which are in America.

The sale, on December 7, is expected to raise a total of £8 million to £10 million.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/books/booknews/7990831/Worlds-most-expensive-book-to-be-auctioned.html>

NOVEMBER 2010

Association of Southern African Indexers and
Bibliographers
Indexing Workshop 7-9 December 2010

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Unisa Main Campus
Pretoria
Theo van Wijk Building
Room 4-112

7 December

Basic indexing

8 December

Electronic text indexing

9 December

Editing your index

Cost: R600 per day (including handouts, coffee/tea & refreshments; lunch for your own pocket)

Bookings (18 participants only)

Madely du Preez preezm@unisa.ac.za 012-4296792



ALERT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Conference 13 May 2011

Ditsong Military Museum, Saxonwold, Johannesburg

ASAIB has great pleasure in inviting you to take part in the conference on the why's and the wherefores of indexing.

Three panels each made up of three panellists and each with a keynote speaker will discuss the following:

What? This panel will focus on indexing the sciences, arts and geography

Wherefore? This panel will focus on marketing, the business side of indexing and freelance indexing.

This is IT. A comparison will be made between the different types of databases that an indexer could encounter when indexing a database.

Summaries of prospective papers should be submitted in MS Word to Marlene Burger at burgem@unisa.ac.za before 18 March 2011

GENERAL

The programme, registration form, fees, map, etc will be communicated as soon as possible. Information on accommodation in the area will also be provided.

ENQUIRIES

Marlene Burger burgem@unisa.ac.za 012-4296585

Madely du Preez preezm@unisa.ac.za 012-4296792

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