



Transformers: Research libraries in the 21st century 17-18 November 2011

The Stellenbosch University Library and Information Service takes pleasure in once again presenting the Stellenbosch University Annual Library Symposium in its usual spot on the academic library calendar this year. The Symposium has been an important platform for the deliberation of library and information service trends and issues, and for networking and professional development for the last 12 years. This legacy will continue as we, in 2011, turn our attention to the changing research environment in which we as libraries currently find ourselves. "Today, the research library is at an inflection point". With this statement, Rick Anderson captures a dilemma that has been echoing through the LIS literature in recent years; a dilemma born from various elements characteristic of the contemporary academic research environment.

Emerging new modes of research is one element. Research practice today is increasingly diverse in location, increasingly interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary with great emphasis on collaboration. More diverse and informal modes of communication are used; there is a heavy dependence on information in digital format and researchers have access to vastly improved processing power.

At the same time, scientific and scholarly publishing are evolving along two distinct paths - one in which large multinational commercial publishers are increasing their dominance in such areas as branded journal titles and access to scientific publication, and the other in which a variety of open access initiatives is emerging.

Based on the premise that the production and dissemination of knowledge will lead to economic benefits such as the reduction of poverty and unemployment, building research capacity has become a key strategic activity for most higher education institutions in South Africa. Within this context, academic libraries are increasingly called upon to provide the resources and tools to enable their institutions to successfully reach their targets for student and research output, to measure their research and to identify opportunities for collaboration.

This leaves academic libraries with the question: What are the services required from librarians to meet the emerging needs of a new cadre of researchers? And moreover, what skills should we cultivate and develop in meeting the challenge?

Anderson, R. 2011. The crisis in research librarianship. [Journal of Academic Librarianship, July 2011](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2011.04.001)
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.acalib.2011.04.001>

Houghton, J.W. 2004. Research practices, evaluation and infrastructure in the digital environment. *Australian Academic & Research Libraries*, 35(3):161-176.

[View presentations here](#)

Programme

Thursday, 17 November SESSION 1 : OPENING SESSION

Welcome

Ms Ellen Tise, Senior Director: Library and Information Service, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Opening	Prof Arnold van Zyl, Vice-Rector (Research): Stellenbosch University, South Africa
Keynote address: Forging the partnership between library and researcher in the academy: The mandate for virtuality, virtuosity and virtuousness	Mr James G. Neal, Vice-President for Information Services and University Librarian, Columbia University, USA (Virtual presentation)

**SESSION 2 : RESEARCH LANDSCAPE, RESEARCH AGENDA
AND NEW MODES OF RESEARCH**

An overview of the national research landscape and contribution of the NRF to the knowledge economy	Dr Andrew Kaniki, National Research Foundation, South Africa
QS World University Rankings: An overview and facts	Ms Baerbel Eckelmann, Research Manager, QS Intelligence Unit
Resources and tools for measuring research output	Mr Said Taha, Regional Director MEA & CIS at Elsevier Science
Doctoral and post-doctoral research and training: A comparison of European and African graduate school models	Prof Johan Groenewald, Graduate School project leader, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Stellenbosch University

**SESSION 3 : NEW ROLES FOR LIBRARIES (DATA MANAGEMENT, OPEN ACCESS
PUBLISHING AND PERFORMANCE OF RESEARCH OUTPUT)**

Making information and services available in new and virtual environments: Research support in ODL environments	Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata, Executive Director, Library Services, UNISA, South Africa
Scholarly communication: a changing landscape	Dr Alma Swan, Consultant in scholarly communication and a Director of Key Perspectives Ltd, UK (Virtual presentation)
The role of library schools in shaping the changing patterns of scholarly communication	Prof Ezra Ondari-Okemwa, Senior Lecturer and Head, Department of Library and Information Science, University of Fort Hare, Alice, South Africa
New roles for libraries in data-related areas	Mr Scott Brandt, Associate Dean for Research and Professor of Library Science, Purdue University Libraries, USA (Virtual Presentation)

Friday, 18 November

SESSION 4 : INITIATIVES FOR DEVELOPING RESEARCH AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

Researcher needs and research support services	Mr Robin Green, Deputy Librarian, University of Warwick, UK
Using citation analysis in research evaluation	Mr Philip Purnell, Strategic Business Manager, Thomson Reuters
Strengthening the research agenda at South African Universities: The value of participation	Ms Fiona Still-Drewett, Principal Faculty Librarian, Rhodes University and 2011 RLC USA intern to the University of Arizona

Carnegie's role in developing capacity through investment in the strengthening of the foundation of research production and innovation

Dr Rookaya Bawa, Program Officer, Higher Education and Libraries in Africa and Manager, African Libraries Project, International Program, Carnegie Corporation of New York, USA [\[Video\]](#)

Panel Discussion

Closure and summation
