Making information and services available in new and virtual environments: research support in ODL environments

Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata

Executive Director, UNISA Library

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Content

- Introduction
- Context
- Response of the academy
- UNISA experiences
- Conclusion

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CONTEXT

“The library is the heart of the university”
C.W. Eliot president of Harvard University,1869

“ In a digital age what is the value of investing in a library infrastructure?” 2006 an 2011

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Evolution (revolution) of libraries

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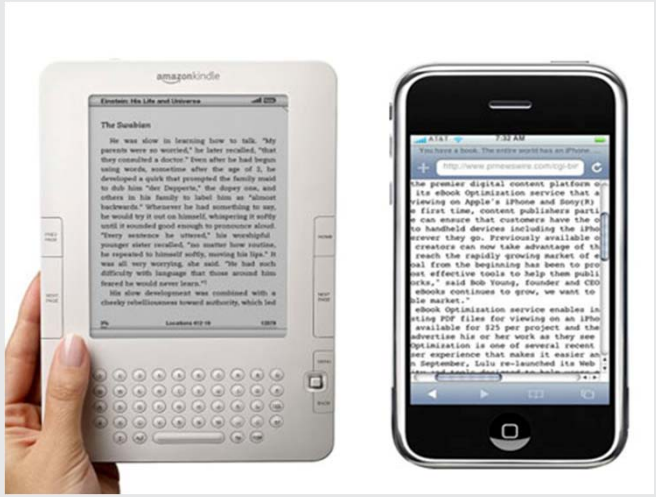
Scholarship environments



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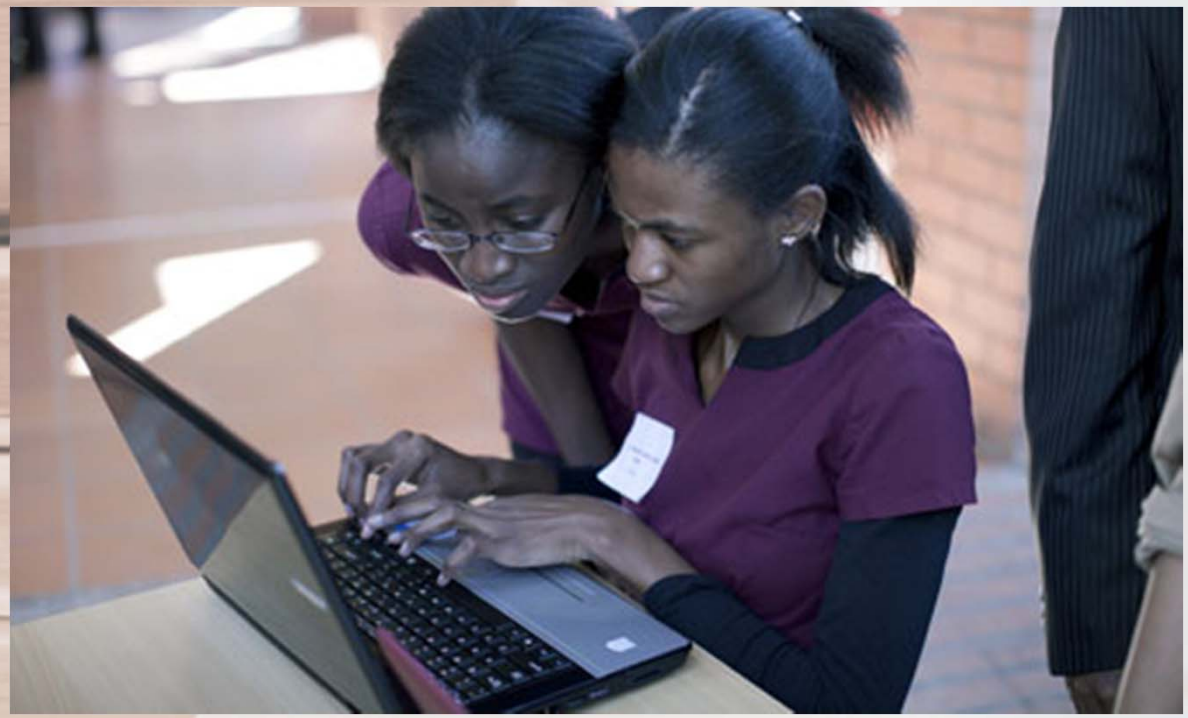
MIT Research

- Collaboration



Two students work on a laptop at the African Leadership Academy in Honeydew, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Photograph: Per-Anders Pettersson/Getty Images

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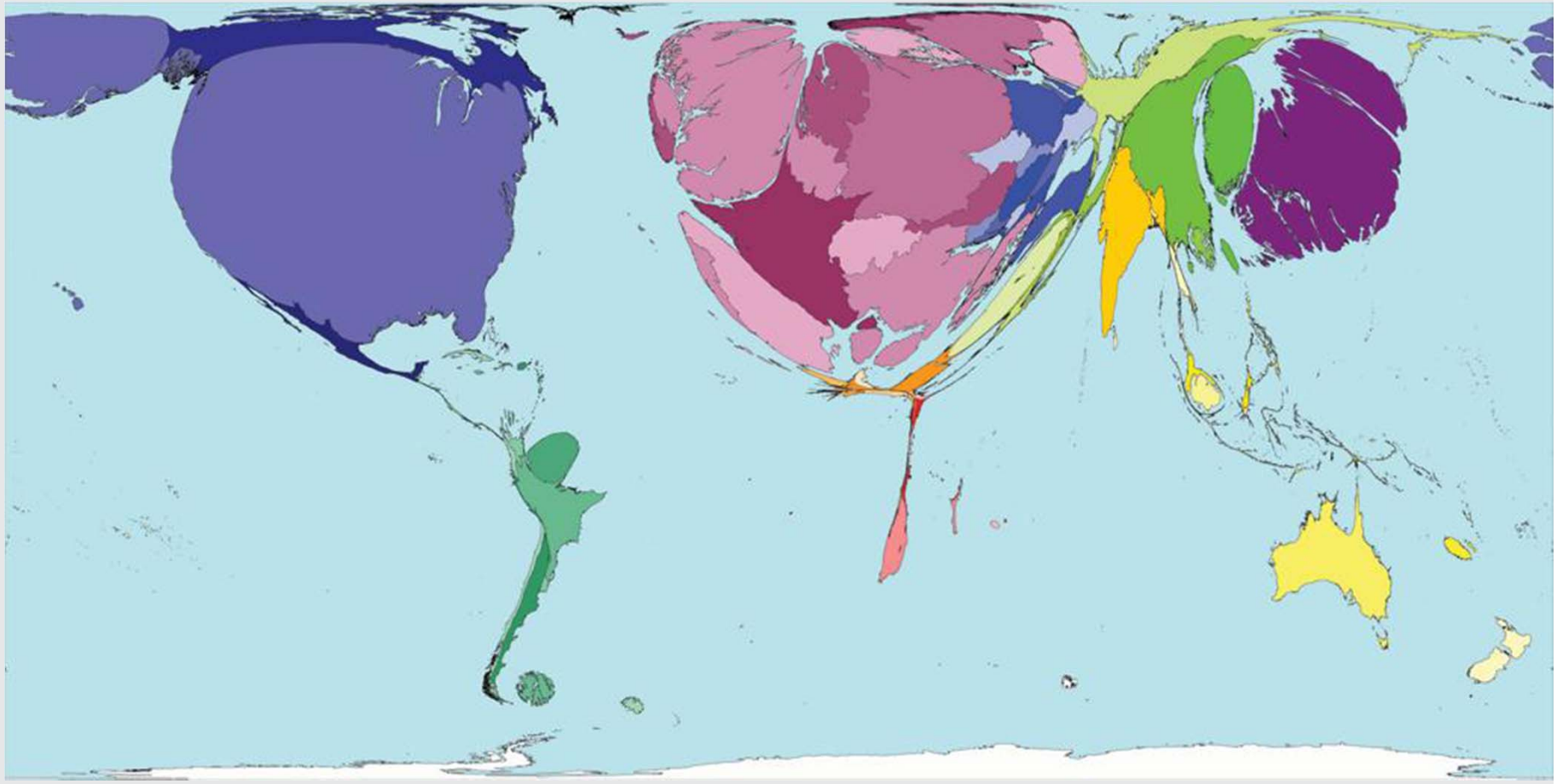
Worldmapper: Science Research



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RESPONSE OF THE ACADEMY

Research Strategy

- Establishing RS
- Alignment with
  - International Research agenda
  - National research strategy
- Resources and investment
- Restructuring institutions

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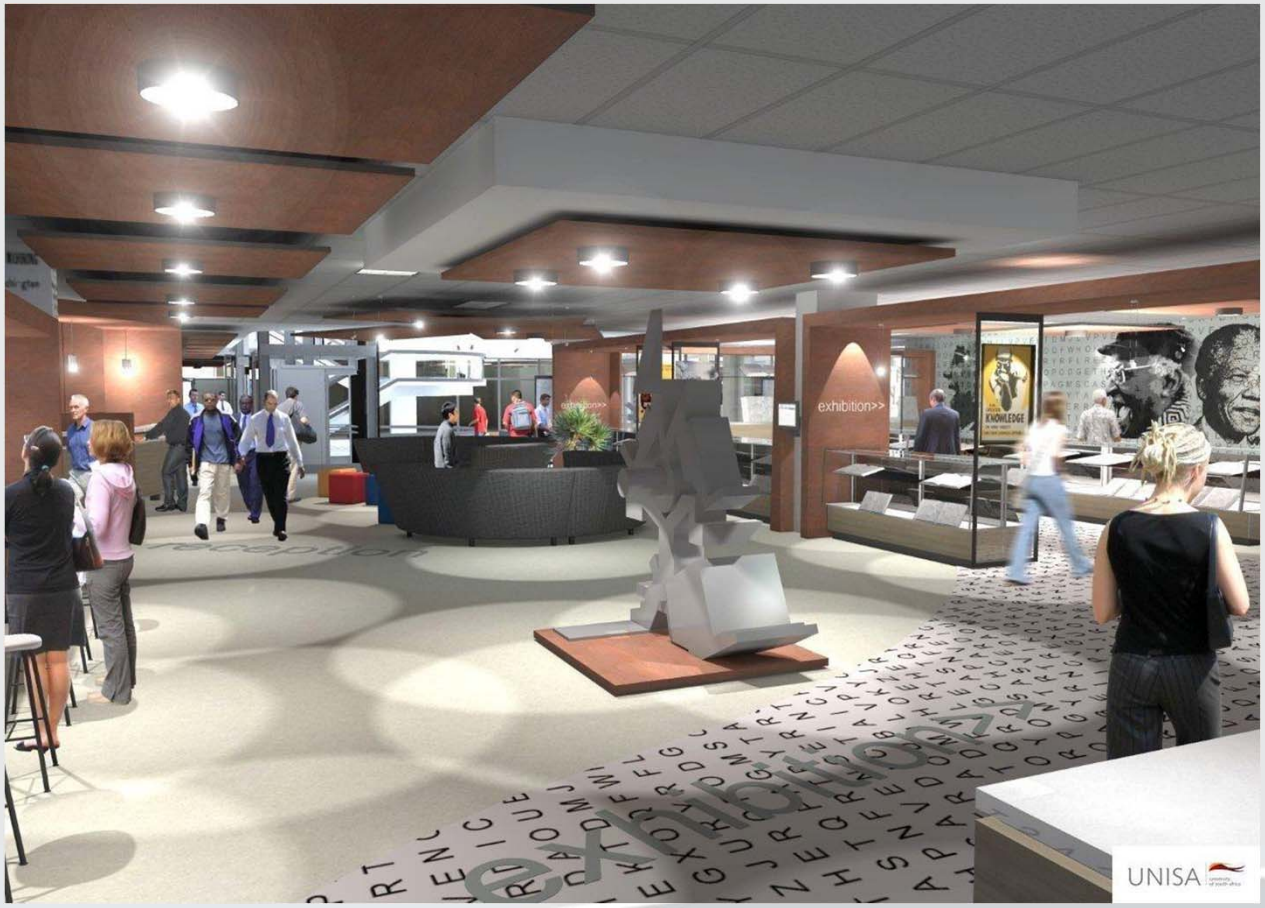
Infrastructure

- VLE
  - Teaching and learning
  - Resources
  - Social media tools
- VRE
  - Research
  - Supporting research cycle :
    - Research administration
    - Discovery, collection and analysis
    - Communication
    - Scholarly publishing

How will libraries respond?



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UNISA EXPERIENCES

Strategic alignment

- UNISA 2015 Revisited
- Located in IOP 2010-2012
- LOP expression institutional goals
- Services informed by LOP
- Services standards set

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Online support

- **myUnisa**
  - Departmental websites (academic staff & researchers)
  - College websites (M and D students)
- **Unisa Library**

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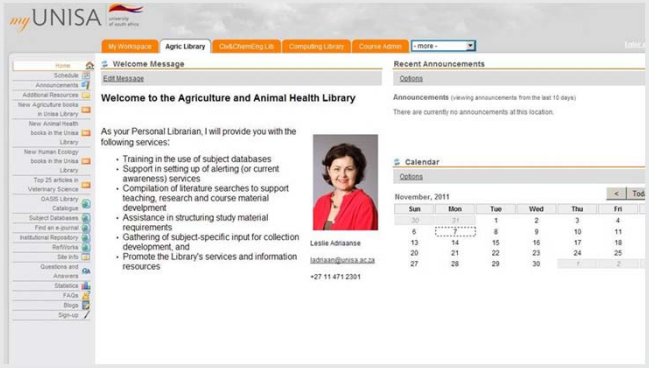
myUnisa Departmental websites

- Announcements regarding training, library events, etc.
- Budget allocations, IR information, Alerting and SDI services, etc.
- RSS Feeds from various tools
- Additional features such as blogs, scientific websites, etc.



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myUnisa College websites

- M and D support
  - Content includes: information bibliographic referencing tools, how to use the library as a M and D student, using ILL, how to set up alerts, plagiarism, research skills presentation, etc.

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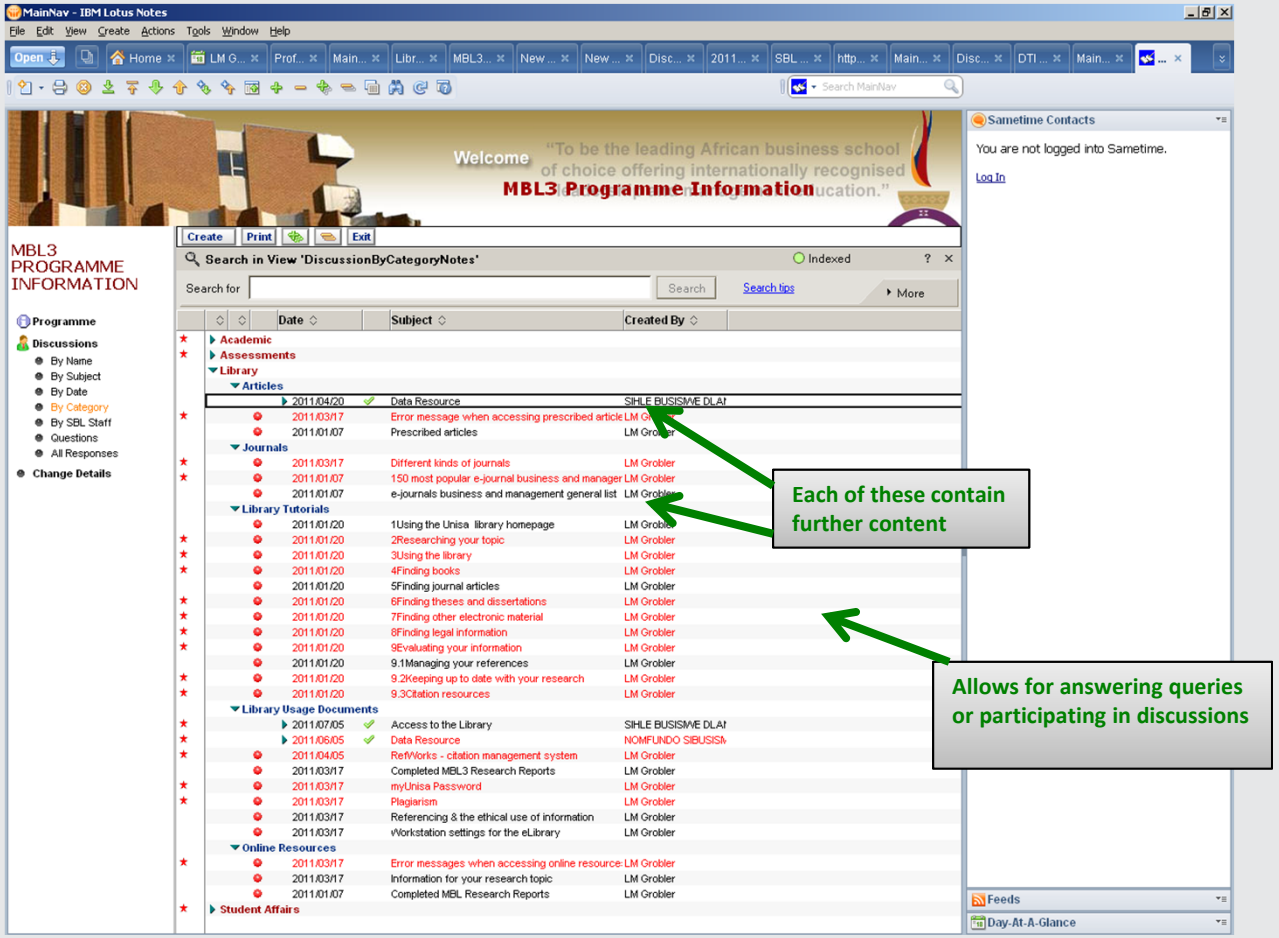
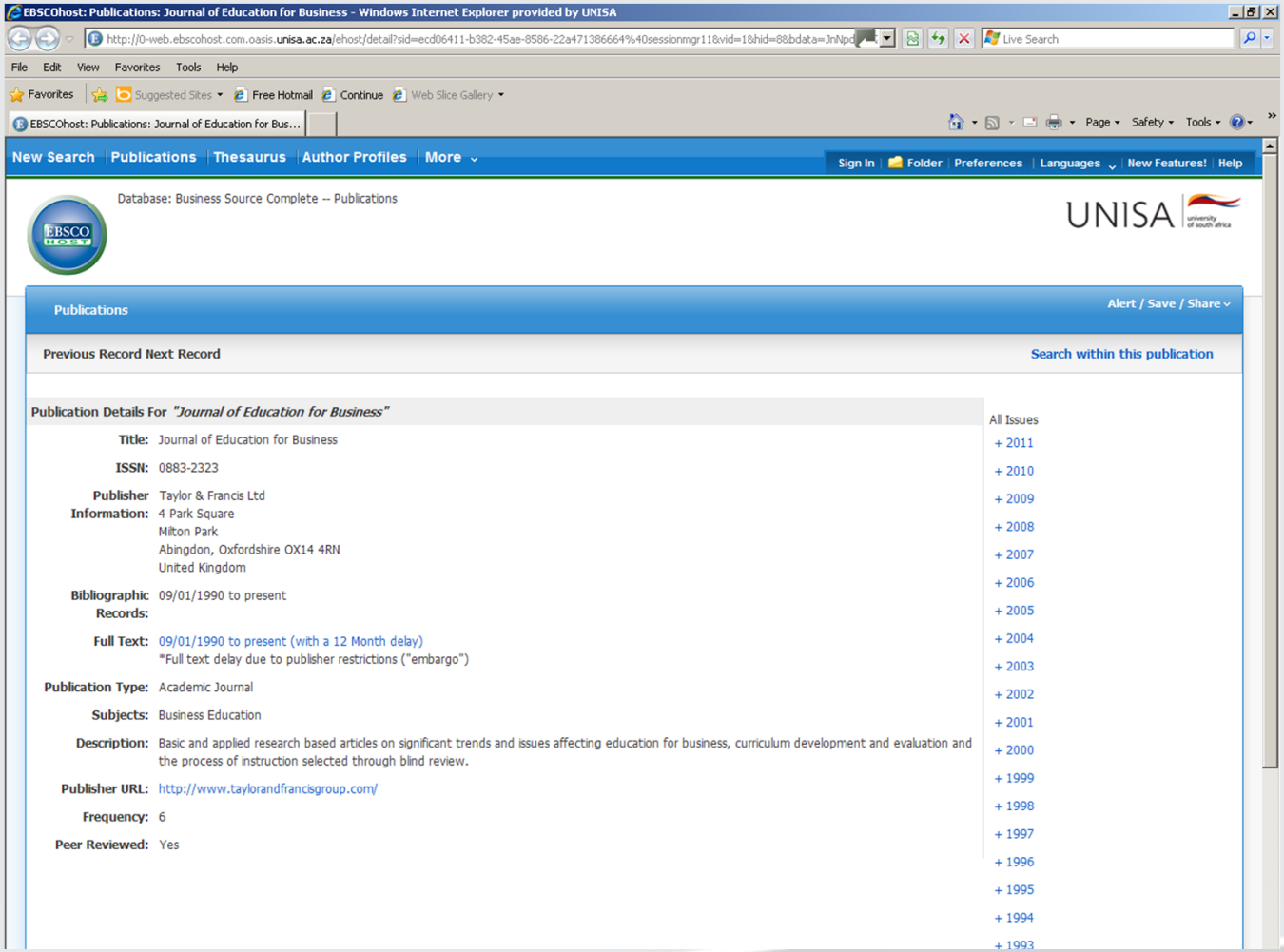
SBL eds – links to relevant library information, guidelines and tutorials relevant to the SBL's MBL / MBA Programme



One click within myUnisa takes the academic straight to the journal selected



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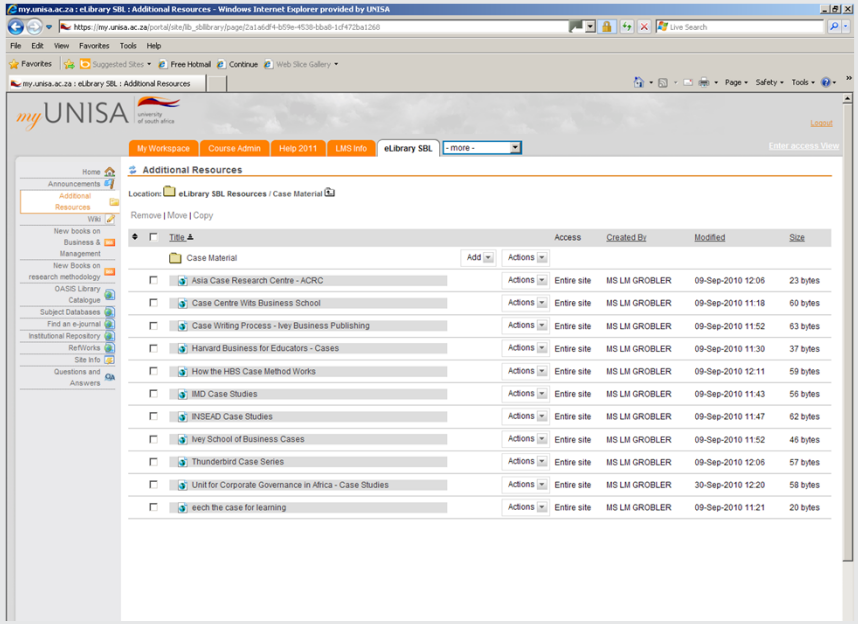
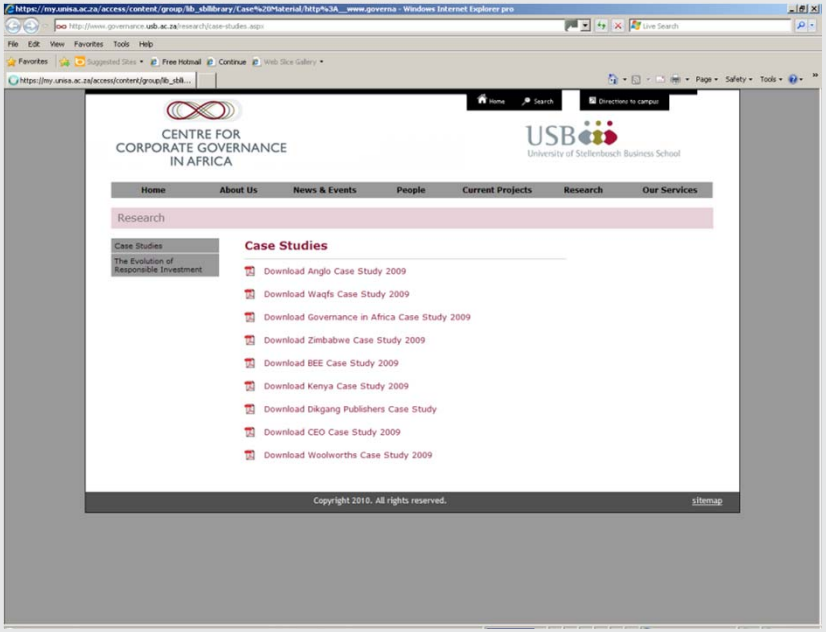
The “one click” principle also applies to the other resources listed, for example subject specific case studies





CONTENT:

E-content

- Over **65,000** e-book titles, including e-reference sources, now a permanent collection assets for the Library.
- Total of **69,867** unique e-journal titles

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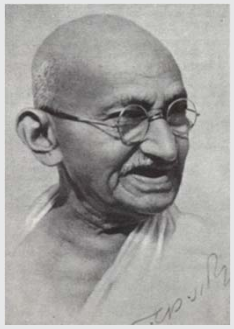
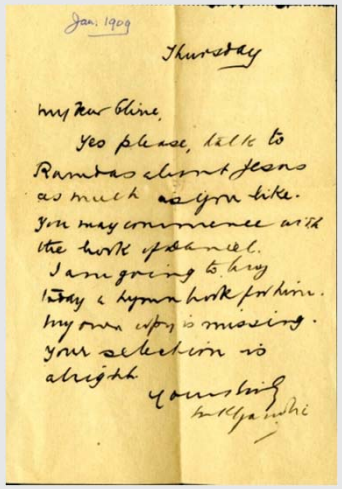
Archival Material & Special Collections on IR

- Inventories available online
- Digitisation project
  - Correspondence
  - Art work
  - Posters





Letter by MK Gandhi (January 1909)

The work of Jeanne Kotze Louw

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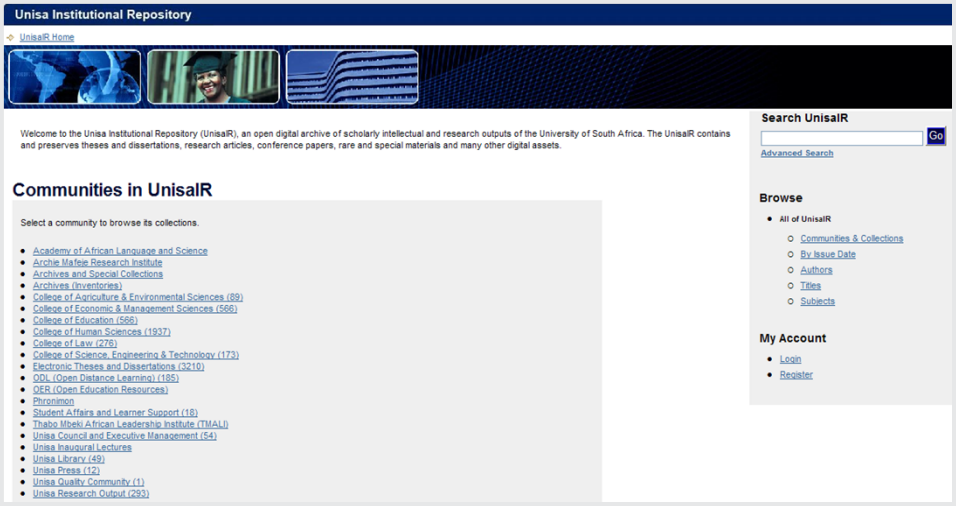
OPEN ACCESS: INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORY

Unisa Institutional Repository

- An open digital archive of scholarly intellectual and research outputs of Unisa



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Videos, papers, records, inaugural lectures, photos, etc.

Reverend Allan Boesak Papers

Search within this community and its collections:

Go

Advanced Search

Browse by

- By Issue Date
- Authors
- Titles
- Subjects

Collections in this community

- Inventories (Reverend Alan Boesak)

Recent Submissions

Reverend Allan Boesak Collection, Videos (AB 001-04)
Van der Westhuizen, Anri; le Roux, Annette (*2010-06-25*)

Reverend Allan Boesak Collection, Papers (AB-001-03)
Van der Westhuizen, Anri; le Roux, Annette (*2010-06-25*)

Allan Boesak Collection, Audio Records (AB 001-02)
Van der Westhuizen, Anri; le Roux, Annette (*2010-06-25*)

Reverend Allan Boesak Collection, Papers (AB 000-01)
Van der Westhuizen, Anri; le Roux, Annette (*2010-06-25*)

Reverend Allan Boesak Collection, Audio Records (AB 001-01)
Van der Westhuizen, Anri; le Roux, Annette (*2010-06-25*)

Unisa Institutional Repository

UnisaIR Home › Archives and Special Collections › Unisa Music Instrument Collection

Unisa Music Instrument Collection

Search within this community and its collections:

Go

Advanced Search

Browse by

- By Issue Date
- Authors
- Titles
- Subjects

Recent Submissions

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Data Management

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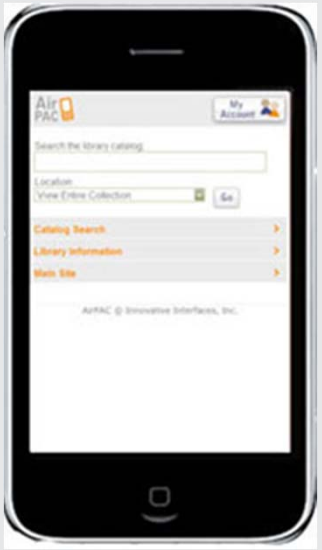
RESEARCH SUPPORT VIA MOBILE TECHNOLOGY

AirPAC

- Students can request, view, renew, etc, books & articles via AirPAC
- The smartphone version of AirPAC was launched in 2011

classic version

smartphone version



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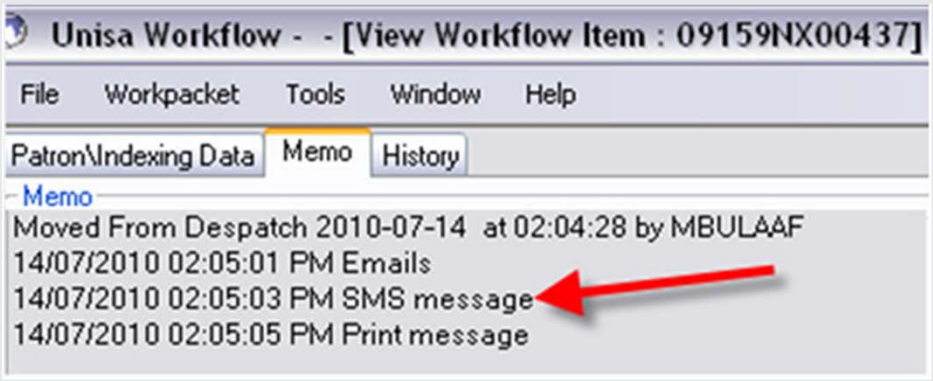
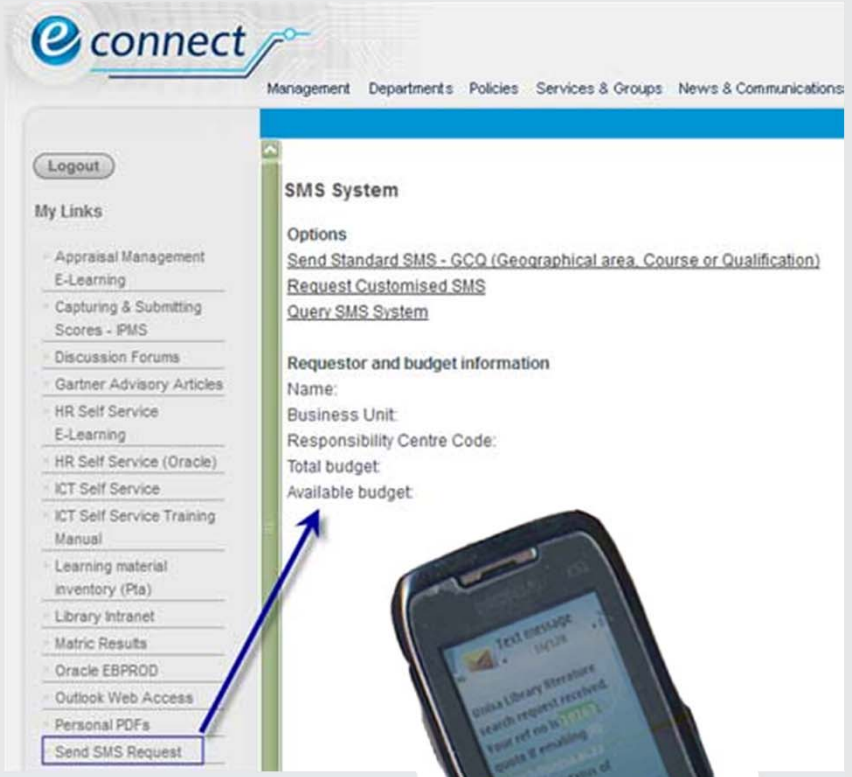
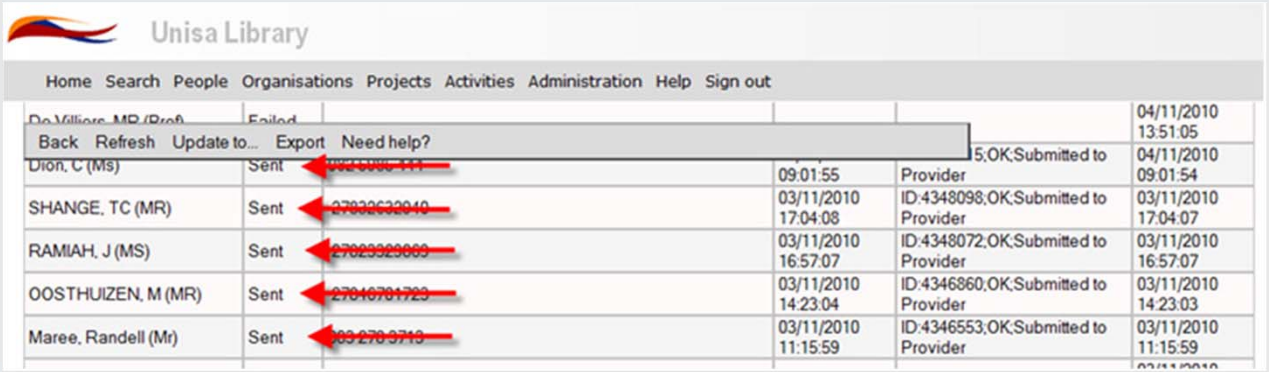
sms notifications to acknowledge requests & progress







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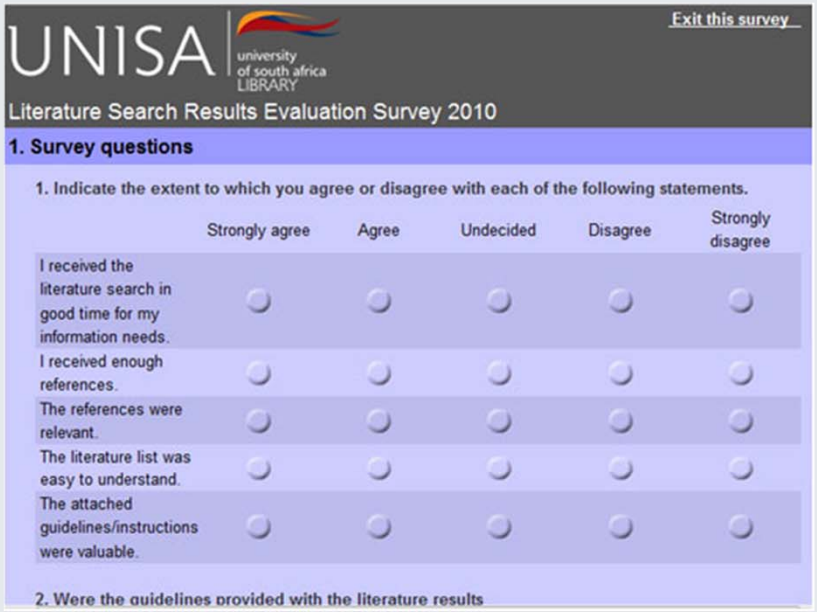
Satisfaction surveys & Needs studies

- Via SurveyMonkey and mobile phone



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Exit this survey

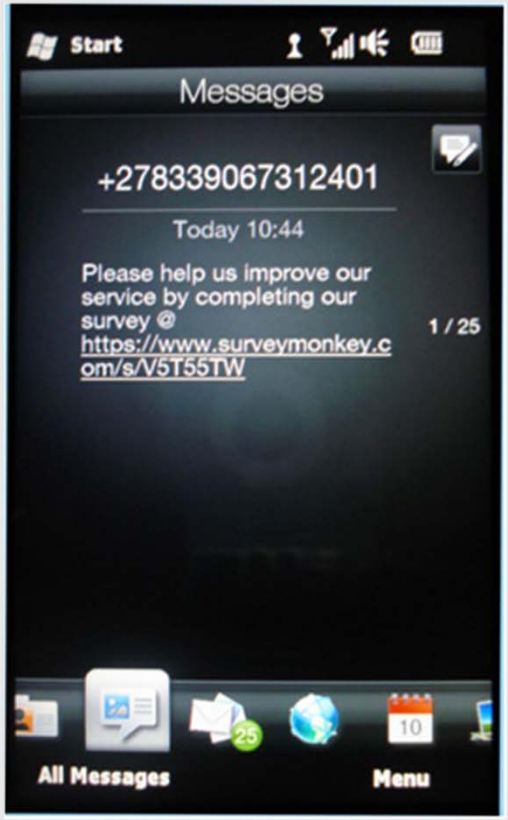
Literature Search Results Evaluation Survey 2010

1. Survey questions

1. Indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I received the literature search in good time for my information needs.	○	○	○	○	○
I received enough references.	○	○	○	○	○
The references were relevant.	○	○	○	○	○
The literature list was easy to understand.	○	○	○	○	○
The attached guidelines/instructions were valuable.	○	○	○	○	○

2. Were the guidelines provided with the literature results



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SERVICE TO PRINT CHALLENGED

Students with visual impairment

- Conversion:
  - print to e-format for blind students using EyePal and Plustek Book Reader to make material accessible.
  - PDF into audio, txt, rtf, etc, using EasyConverter for blind and other students upon request.

DOLPHIN EasyConverter

EyePal

Plustek Book Reader

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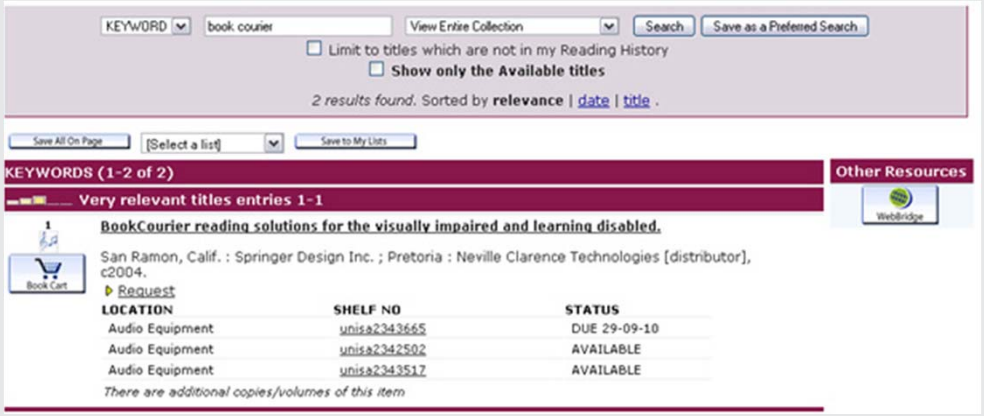
Assistive technology on the move

- Items that can be requested



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Students with dyslexia

- Students with dyslexia can request the ClassMate Audio Book Reader, a device designed to improve reading skills, developing and understanding vocabulary, while promoting phonetic recognition and fluency.

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FINALLY……

Setting the direction….

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Impact

- Performance targets and measured annually
- SSI
- Peer review regularly

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Concluding remarks

- Great times for information professionals as they embark on a shared journey as partners
- Alignment with Teaching and Learning, and Research Strategy critical
- Impact of services
- Leadership in own area of expertise

Thank you for your attention... and questions

Dr Buhle Mbambo-Thata
mbambtb@unisa.ac.za

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