



Knowing is not enough: engaging in the knowledge economy

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Stellenbosch Symposium / IFLA Presidential Meeting 2010

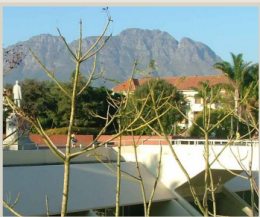
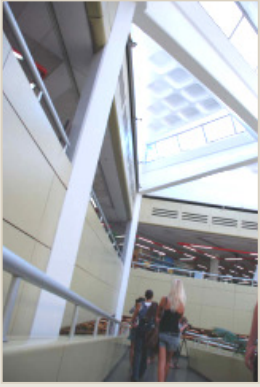


Biblioteek- en Inligtingsdiens

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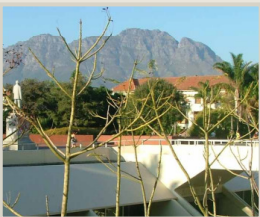
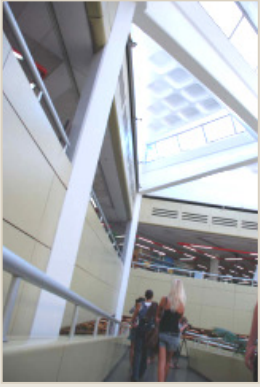
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Introduction

“If one assumes that knowledge resides in the intellect and that information is how it is communicated, then information is the source from which new knowledge is created and the means through which it can be shared, organised and put to use to create new products and services”(CILIP)

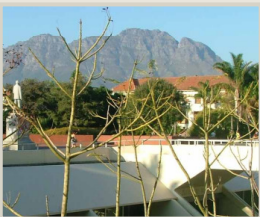
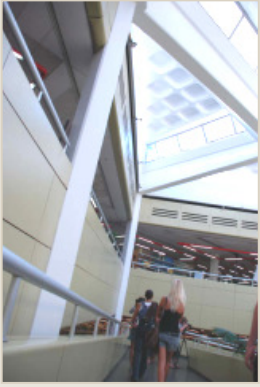


Access to knowledge as a significant contributor to growth and development

• **Information and knowledge crucial to growth and development**

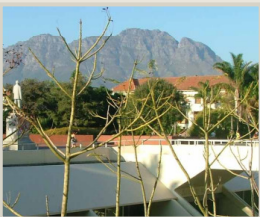
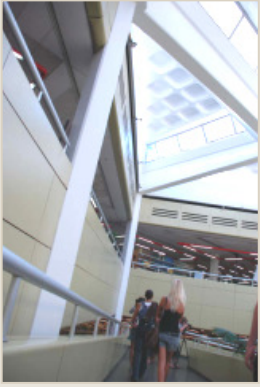
• **Lack of access to knowledge opposite effect – growth of poverty and deprivation**

• **Information and knowledge fundamental pillars for freedom, etc.**



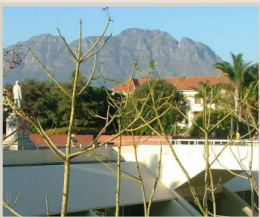
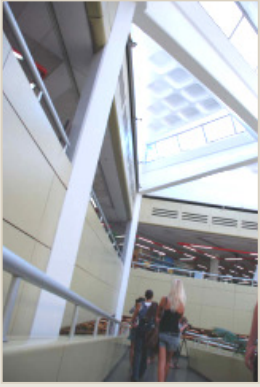
Ubuntu and social capital

- People's allegiances and relations with each other
- Principle of Ubuntu built on a strong oral communication culture
- Synergy with western concept of social capital
- Intellectual capital most valuable asset of knowledge society



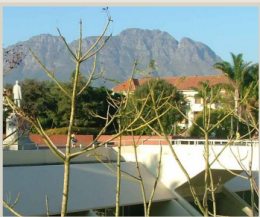
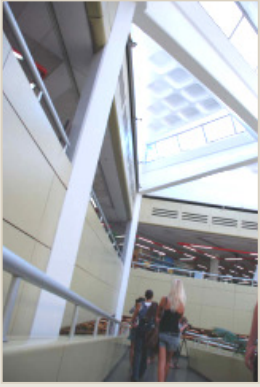
Providing content that is relevant

- Information relevant to educate, entertain and resolve local and global issues
- Information alone does not solve problems – actual resources must also be available
- Content produced in Africa for Africa, potentially higher relevance than non-African content



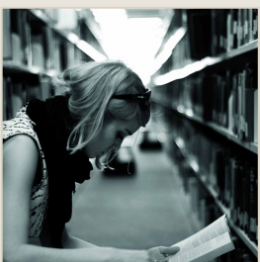
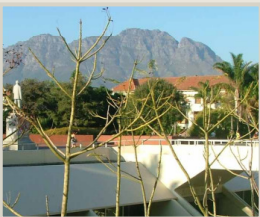
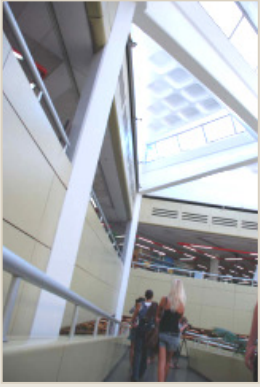
Indigenous knowledge

- **Strong oral culture on the decline**
- **‘In Africa, each time an old person dies, it’s a library that burns down’**
- **Libraries more diverse developmental role**



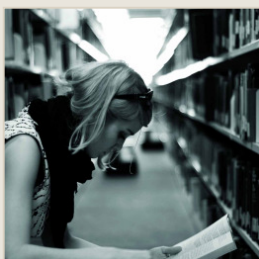
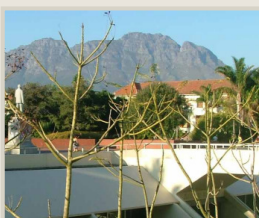
Scholarship and publishing

- **Alternative to publish African scholarship locally**
- **Libraries must vigorously pursue the issue of making African research output available electronically**
- **Allow for wider dissemination and increase African scholarship**



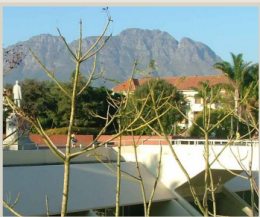
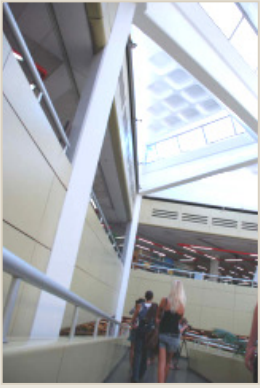
Technology and Open Access

- **Open Access a significant contributor to an information society**
- **Facilitates free flow of information**
- **Key contribution in provisioning universal access to information and knowledge**



Conclusion

- Libraries substantial role to play to ensure easy access
- Strengthening African scholarship
- Libraries to broadening traditional roles
- Libraries the hub of their communities
- Seize the opportunity



THANK YOU!

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