



# UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI LIBRARY NEWS LETTER 2024

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## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK Ms. Angela Mumo



Dear our esteemed faculty, staff, students and partners ,  
welcome to a Must read Library Newsletter 2024 edition.  
The University of Nairobi Library has continued to fully identify  
with the philosophy of the University as spelled out  
in its mission and vision. The Library has been at the fore front  
in supporting the University Mission by providing adequate,  
current, relevant and quality information thus enabling the

University to retain a leading position locally, regionally and Globally.

The Library has continued to align her services to match the changing learning  
environment in the University with technology adoption and user focus taking the lead.

The user information needs have become our compass in designing library services.

Every moment the library is taking feedback from the user and responding accordingly  
within the shortest time possible. To continue serving our customers better, we have  
adopted many channels of marketing and updating our services that include but not  
limited to Newsletter publishing among others.

I welcome you all to spare some time and read this exciting publication

You can give your valued feedback through:

[libraryhelpdesk@uonbi.ac.ke](mailto:libraryhelpdesk@uonbi.ac.ke) OR [librarian@uonbi.ac.ke](mailto:librarian@uonbi.ac.ke)

This year 2024 Newsletter is now out with very informative and  
captivating content.

Angela M Mumo

Director, Library & information services

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### OUR CONTACTS

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## EDITORIAL TEAM



GEORGE NYALWAL



JANE MURIITHI



CHRISTINE MAYENDE



## Mission

To provide quality information services that will empower the University in carrying out its core activities of teaching, learning, research, and community service & consultancy.

## Vision

To be a world-class information center committed to excellence in the provision, dissemination, and preservation of knowledge.

## Our Mandate

The core mandate of the Library is to support teaching, learning, and research as well as consultancy and community services. The Library offers relevant information resources and accompanying services that enhance access to the resources. The Library is also known for its vital role of preservation of knowledge.

## Strategic Objectives

- To provide access to information for teaching, learning, research, and consultancy.
- To enhance Library facilities and environment for improved information delivery.
- To enhance staff capacity and innovativeness.
- To establish and promote collaborations and partnerships for resource-sharing.

## Our Core Values:

In our quest for timely provision of quality service, we are guided by the following core values:

- Quality customer-focused services - All our services will be customer-focused.
- Freedom of access to information - Provide all information needed for academic pursuits.
- Professional ethics and standards - In all our actions and interactions, maintain ethical behavior, professional etiquette, honesty, and responsible citizenship.
- Intellectual property rights - Adhere to copyright and intellectual property laws and conventions
- Preservation and conservation of knowledge - Knowledge will be conserved and preserved for posterity.
- Innovativeness and creativity - We will utilize the emerging information and communication technologies to deliver up to date and value-added information services.
- Teamwork and team spirit - Work as a team to meet the information needs of our customers and stakeholders.
- National cohesion and inclusiveness - We are open to serve all citizens without any manner of discrimination

## FROM THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR PLANNING, LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

George Nyalwal



Dear Faculty, Students, University Partners and University Community,

I hope this message finds you well and that you are enjoying the wealth of resources and services that our library has to offer.

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to read the University of Nairobi Department

of Library and Information Services Newsletter, 2024 Edition. As we approach the end of another academic year, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude for your continued support and patronage.

The University of Nairobi Management encourages library staff to enroll in Library and Information Science programs at the Bachelor's, Master's, and PhD levels. Consequently, we have a highly qualified team dedicated to providing exemplary information services to our university community and visiting researchers.

I particularly appreciate your efforts in accessing our resources remotely by Virtual Private Network (VPN). This has resulted in our achieving the status of an academic library without walls because you are now able to access our resources without being physically present in the library. Your engagement with the library is what drives us to continuously improve and expand our services. Please take advantage of all that the library has to offer during your study/ teaching/ research at this prestigious university. Our team is here to support you at every step of your way to succeed in your stay at the University of Nairobi.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Whether you prefer to connect with us in person, by phone, or through email, we are here to provide you with the support you need.

To our students, make the library your companion and everything will be just fine. Remember, no matter where life takes you after school, the library will always be here as a resource and a source of support. Your feedback helps us effectively meet your information needs.

To the library team, I am very grateful for the support you have continued to give my office in ensuring that the library budgets are prepared and properly utilized, physical facilities maintained and library reports produced on time.

**Thank you for your continued support.**  
**Warm regards,**



## **INFORMATION LITERACY SERVICES WHEN THE CUSTOMER COMES FIRST..... ..**

The university of Nairobi library performs a unique and indispensable function in the education process. The library provides quality information services that empower the University in carrying out its core activities of teaching, learning, research, and community services/consultancy. The Library has continued to innovate, re-invent and to diversify its services to meet the changing expectations of the customers.

One of the services the library has re-engineered is the information literacy program that has been engraved in the library strategic plan 2018-2025 to enhance access, utilization and promotion of information resources, services and facilities.

The library has taken effort in arranging weekly webinars and physical training to educate users on access and utilization of digital and print information resources remotely and on-campus. Online guides, step by step procedure, video links, presentations and list of subject strength have been availed through broadcasts, faculty social media platforms and on the **library website - <https://uonlibrary.uonbi.ac.ke/>** to reduce number of queries.

In order to support all students, the Library provides services and facilities for students with disability among them provision of videos, JAWS system and literature search.

The library has identified staff on standby to demonstrate to the student how to search for information, thus enhancing students' independence in searching for information resources. The staff profile on the Library website is frequently updated to make it easy for users to reach the staff in case of information related queries.

The Library has embraced web-conferencing tools, social networking, virtual referencing services among them lib-chart, online help desk and emails to communicate and provide effective and efficient feedback to stakeholders.

"There is only one boss: the customer".

We value our customers and welcome you all to utilise library resources and services.



**Rosemary Otando**  
Deputy Director Technical Services

## **USER SUPPORT AT UON LIBRARIES**

In September 2023, the University of Nairobi Libraries took a major step towards enhancing user experience by establishing the new User Support Services section.

User Support Services section is a pioneering initiative set to enhance our library's engagement with its users and elevate the overall learning and research experience.

To further bolster the performance of the User Support Services section, Mr. Ogeto has been appointed as the Library Communication, Marketing, and Branding Officer by the Director of Library and Information Services.

This strategic decision underscores the department's dedication to fostering effective communication, promoting services, and enhancing the visibility of the University of Nairobi Library within the academic community and beyond.

Needless to say, establishment of this unit is a significant milestone in our commitment to providing comprehensive support to our esteemed community of students, faculty, and researchers. Our libraries are not just repositories of books, but vital hubs that empower learning, teaching, and research. The User Support Services section will keep a pulse on user requirements and implement initiatives to create an exceptional library experience.

The section's key responsibilities include conducting user surveys, designing and implementing a user engagement framework, performing space audits across campus libraries, and managing communication, marketing, and branding strategies. Additionally, the section will oversee the adoption of best practices in environmental sustainability and participate in resource mobilization efforts.

Space audits have been carried out in several campus libraries, providing valuable insights into optimizing physical spaces. In December 2023, a comprehensive user engagement framework was pilot-tested at the Jomo Kenyatta Memorial Library with a topical display on research methods and statistics.

"The user engagement framework aims to foster dynamic interactions between our libraries and the university community," says Mr. Ogeto. "Through targeted displays, events, and outreach initiatives, we want to spark curiosity, share knowledge, and inspire a love for learning." User Support Services section is poised to implement the frameworks and strategies devised across all campus libraries. By fostering a culture of collaboration, innovation, and continuous improvement,

The library is committed to providing unparalleled support to users in their academic and research endeavors.

Stay tuned for more updates and initiatives from the User Support Services section as we strive to enrich the academic experience and empower our community to excel in their scholarly pursuits. Together, let's embark on this journey of exploration, discovery, and growth within the University of Nairobi Library.

MR. EVANS OGETO- LIBRARIAN USER SUPPORT SERVICES



**Mr. Ogeto - Incharge of  
user support services**

# FROM THE HEART OF THE LIBRARIAN

## THE LIBRARY TODAY AND THE ROLE OF THE LIBRARIAN

By Janet Anyal

Librarians work with students and academicians as well as other library staff. The role of librarians involves making sure that people can access the resources they need for their future studies or research. Librarians with qualifications in information Management can move into Specialist roles involving advising organizations on managing and protecting data. Typical duties of a librarian include; Ordering books, journals and other resources, Cataloguing and keeping track of library materials, Advising faculty on materials for their courses, Promoting the library resources, Managing library staff, managing budgets and projects, and responding to requests from students, staff and other library users, and also making sure that users can access library resources without any difficulty.

Apart from academic qualifications librarians acquire, they must also have additional skills to enable them execute their duties well. These additional skills include; Strong IT skills and familiarity with the use of databases and the internet, Good communication skills and the ability to work with people from a wide range of backgrounds and with a range of needs, Ability to work in a team and Administration and organization skills.

In the contemporary age, the librarian has an obligation to integrate AI in library service because in the ever-evolving landscape of academia, technology stands as a driving force, shaping the way Knowledge is accessed, disseminated and created. As we celebrate the continuous pursuit of excellence at the University of Nairobi, it is imperative to explore the dynamic role that Artificial Intelligence (AI) plays in reshaping the traditional contours of education. Historically libraries are regarded as repositories of printed knowledge, academic libraries have undergone a remarkable transformation, mirroring the digitization of information.

In this digital age, the influx of vast datasets, online resources and diverse Multimedia formats has necessitated a re-evaluation of traditional library functions. It is within this context that AI emerges as a powerful ally, offering solutions to enhance efficiency, accessibility, and the overall user experience. Integrating AI in academic libraries will help us achieve improved information retrieval, Enhanced search and discovery, intelligent resource management, Data analytics for decision making, collaborative knowledge management and sharing e.t.c

Today, AI is a valuable resource and an essential companion for innovation in institutions of higher learning where the University of Nairobi belongs. At the University of Nairobi Library, we champion ethical considerations hence finding a harmonious balance between technology and tradition. We also boast of our compliance with the rule of law as we observe copyright law in our information provision even as we encourage originality in our scholarly output. Please partner with us and get enlightened.

## THE WASTED EVIDENCE

By Christine Mayende - Library in -charge FBED

In academia, evidence is the foundation on which knowledge is formed, hypotheses are validated, and judgments are made. Nonetheless, in the midst of the immense sea of research output, a troubling phenomenon persists: "Wasted Evidence." Some research findings do not attain their full potential impact due to a variety of circumstances such as other researchers not referring to the publication. Despite being published, many scientific publications, and research output receive little attention or citations, remaining in obscurity.

As a steward of these published works, the librarian plays a critical role in resolving this issue and ensuring that vital evidence is not lost.

The UON Library addresses this issue of wasted evidence by maximizing the impact of the research findings through promoting increased accessibility, discoverability, and preservation of scholarly evidence.

The library advocates for the adoption of open access publishing and the institutional repository. The UON E repository establishes and maintains a multidisciplinary collection of research output for global dissemination and long-term access and use hence mitigating the problem of wasted evidence and maximizing the impact of research output.

Frequent training is done by the librarian on how to access the UON repository; both on campus and off campus. If all researchers adopted a simple policy; CITE TO BE CITED. This will befit the purpose of research and reduce on wasted evidence in our library.

## BOOK DISPLAY

By Lilan sayo

In an academic library, the strategic display of books plays a crucial role in fostering a vibrant and engaging environment for students and faculty. A well-thought-of book display not only highlights the library's vast resources but also promotes discovery, stimulates intellectual curiosity, and support academic success.

Traditionally, libraries have displayed the vast majority of their books with their spines facing out on the shelves. Not only does this technique save space, but also makes it easy for library patrons to retrieve a specific book using its call number. Book displays are a great way to showcase the library collection, entice visitors to the library, encourage new borrowing, and increase knowledge of the staff regarding the book collection.

Recently, in the quest to showcase our book display techniques, the library organized for an open week, and event that took place in all the UON libraries on 14th and 15th May 2024. Our book display in all branch libraries gave a spotlight on the new acquisitions, thematic collections related to the subject areas taught, the archives and the scholarly research output. Highlighting these materials keeps the library service fresh and relevant, encouraging patrons to explore areas they might not have previously considered.

Book displays makes it easy for our library users to find books easily saving on their information retrieval time. It makes a pleasant atmosphere to shop in and provide a positive outlook of our available brands. This makes it easy for users to also access the publications by their lecturers very easily

# FEATURED LIBRARY: THE MAHATMA GANDHI MEMORIAL

## LIBRARY (MGGL)

By John Waweru

**The Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Library (MGGL)** at the University of Nairobi serves as a central hub for academic resources and research support for Postgraduate students and faculty.

The library offers specialized support to senior researchers at the University and offers the following services.

### **Extensive Collection**

The library houses a vast collection of books, journals, periodicals, and other academic resources covering a wide range of subjects and disciplines. These resources are carefully curated to support the teaching, learning, and research needs of the university community.

### **Digital Resources**

The MGGL library offers a wide range of digital resources in addition to its physical collections. These resources include electronic books (e-books) covering various topics and genres, from academic textbooks to fiction and non-fiction titles. Users can access these e-books on their computing devices, such as e-readers, tablets, or smartphones.

The library also provides access to academic journals, magazines, and periodicals through e-journals. These e-journals contain scholarly articles, research papers, and other academic publications from different fields of study. Additionally, the library offers online collections of organized data or information, which are often searchable and accessible through library subscriptions.

The MGGL library's databases include academic databases like PubMed and JSTOR, as well as online newspaper access and reference materials. Furthermore, the University of Nairobi digital repository houses digitized historical documents, manuscripts, photographs, maps, and other archival materials. This repository is a valuable resource for research and scholarship.

To support academic research and writing, the library provides web-based research tools and software applications. These tools include citation management software like Zotero and Mendeley, statistical analysis tools such as SPSS and R, and bibliographic databases like Scopus and Web of Science.

For those seeking free and openly licensed educational materials, the library offers Open Educational Resources (OER). These resources, available online, include textbooks, lecture notes, instructional videos, and interactive simulations.

Lastly, the library's digital reference collections consist of online reference works and encyclopedias that provide authoritative information on a wide range of topics. These collections include dictionaries, encyclopedias, atlases, and specialized reference works tailored to specific disciplines.

## **Quiet Study Spaces**

The library offers designated areas for quiet study and research, equipped with comfortable seating, ample desk space, and appropriate lighting to facilitate focused work. The library also provides carrels, a valuable resource for individuals seeking a quiet, private space to study, work, or conduct research within the bustling environment of MGGL library. They offer a balance between solitude and community, enabling users to maximize their productivity and academic success.

## **Computer Facilities**

The library is equipped with computer workstations and internet access to support research, study, and academic activities. Students can use these facilities to access online resources, work on assignments, and conduct research.

## **Research Support Services**

The library offers research support services to assist students and faculty in their academic pursuits. This includes assistance with literature searches, research methodologies, citation management, and access to specialized research tools and software.

## **Reference Services**

Trained librarians are available to provide reference assistance and help users locate relevant resources for their research and academic needs. They also provide guidance on using library resources effectively and efficiently.

## **Library Instruction Workshops**

The library conducts workshops and training sessions on information literacy, research skills, academic writing, and other topics to help students develop essential academic competencies.

## **Special Collections**

The Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Library also houses special collections, archives, or rare materials of historical or cultural significance. These collections provide valuable resources for research and scholarly inquiry in specific areas of interest.

**Overall**, the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Library at the University of Nairobi plays a vital role in supporting teaching, learning, and research activities at the university, providing access to resources, services, and spaces that facilitate academic excellence and scholarly inquiry.



## FACULTY OF THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT AND DESIGN LIBRARY EXPO, 2023

The Faculty of the Built Environment and Design Library organized an expo on 26th to 27th April, 2023 at ADD Main Hall with the purpose of raising the consciousness of the user community on the academic significance of the library and to draw attention to the important role that the library plays in the scholar's life. The theme of the Expo was Books Speak; Discover and Connect.

This Expo was necessitated by a common complaint among teaching staff that students are not reading sufficiently meaning that they are not consulting books with a kind of frequency that the lecturers expect. It is quite possible that this can be attributed to the advent of the Internet and the consequent reliance by students on this medium to source

their studies and insights into their academic work. A similar observation was discerned by the Librarians themselves. The complaint was that the traffic into the library drastically reduced in recent days and that not enough consultation of resources is going on. This situation is, needless to say, the very opposite of what one would expect in a university learning environment

The event took the form of an exhibition of selected library resources in a social forum with interactivity between FBED library staff and all categories of users. The expo presented an immeasurable opportunity for the ADD Library customers to acquaint themselves with emerging trends in information access and use through e resources training.

Ten themes of the information sources were exhibited, namely; New Arrivals, Reserve/ Africana materials, Government Publications, Theses and Dissertations, Oblong Books, E books and e journals, Historical Materials, Reference books.

New Arrivals are newly acquired books by the library for FBED library users. These books are usually put on display after processing and are available for use.

**Reserve/ Africana materials** Items usually marked for short loan thus they can be borrowed for only 2 hours or used inside the library or otherwise be borrowed for use overnight as from 3pm and returned at 9am the following day. **Africana materials** are books authored by Kenyans/ Africans on/ about Kenya/ Africa.

These books are also available on short loan. A student/ staff ID is needed for a student/ staff to take out the Reserve or Africana book.



**Government Publications** These are official and authoritative publications published by government agencies. They provide valuable statistical information for a wide range of activities such as trade, social development, education, etc. The government collects information on an ongoing basis in order to inform its activities so information is fairly up to date and continuous.

They are important sources of primary information.

**Theses and Dissertations** This is the output of research undertakings done by students supervised by subject Dons. They are outcomes of scholarly research conducted by students in the faculty under supervision, and available for use in the library and in the e-repository.

**Oblong Books** are oversized books and rarely used by the library patrons yet of great significance. These books are sometimes unseen in a casual visit to the library.

**Rarely used books** These books from the record seem to be rarely used by borrowers in the library yet of great value.

E books and E journals are electronic books and journals which can be read digitally on the computer, laptop screen or on e-book readers and can be accessed on campus or remotely.

**Bound journals** collected over a long period of time and bound for preservation in the library.

**Historical Materials** books are books with a historical background regarding the source of something. They have been identified by Faculty scholars as historically important and which students need to consult more often. These books explain the development of Architecture, Design etc.

**Reference books** are books intended to be consulted for information on specific matters. They are not to be borrowed, they are only meant to be used inside the library.

They are significant books in high demand (identified by the teaching faculty) Also displayed were books that are relevant to teaching subjects at the FBED namely; Architecture, Art & Design, Urban Planning, Real Estate & Quantity Surveying and Construction Management. Individual subject areas like Fashion and Design were also sampled.

The event provided an opportunity to interact with library users and to get their feedback which was useful for the library staff to understand the needs of the user community and develop more responsive services.



**Christine Mayende**

**Library In- charge – FBED**



# LIBRARY NEWS

## LIBRARY DEPARTMENT PARTICIPATES IN CROSSREF NAIROBI EVENT (FEB 22, 2024)

UoN Library department participated in a sensitization and networking event hosted by Crossref at Fairmont the Norfolk. It was attended by over 100 registered participants including librarians, administrators, editorial teams, researchers, and research organization representatives.

The forum's agenda was to discuss current Crossref initiatives and the shared vision to build a Research Nexus for the academic and research community in Kenya among other related subjects. Crossref is a non-profit membership organization founded in 1999, to enhance scholarly communications by uniquely and persistently recording and connecting knowledge through open metadata and identifiers for all research objects such as grants and articles. In this way, it makes research objects easy to find, cite, link, assess, and reuse.

The UoN library was represented by Timothy Nzioki from the Digital Services Section (Far right).



## DVC - RESEARCH, INNOVATION & ENTERPRISE, LEADS A DELEGATION FROM GERMANY'S BADEN-WURTTENBERG ON A TOUR OF THE JOMO KENYATTA MEMORIAL LIBRARY (FEB 19, 2024)

A delegation from Germany's Baden-Wurttemberg accompanied by The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Innovation, and Enterprise (DVC RIE), Professor Margaret J. Hutchinson paid a courtesy call to JKML on Monday,

Feb 19th, 2024. The visitors were received by the Librarian in charge, Mr. Stanley Macharia, and his staff from the circulation section, who briefed them on the library's fact-file, facilities, resources, and services. Accompanying the visitors, DVC - Research, Innovation, and Enterprise and the Chairman- Department of Architecture FBED



Mr. Macharia - Librarian in-charge of FHSS Library briefing the delegation



With visitors is Dean- FASS (in specs)

## KISUMU CAMPUS LIBRARY HOSTS UNIVERSITY OF EAST AFRICA - BARATON, REPRESENTATIVES ON A BENCHMARKING MISSION

The Kisumu campus library staff hosted a team from the University of East Africa - Baraton, who were on a benchmarking mission.

The team was led by their DVC in charge of Academic Affairs, Dr. Paul Wahonya. The aim of their visit was to gather information as they prepare to set up their Faculty of Law library. They were taken around by the Librarian in charge, Madam Jane Opiyo



## UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI ALUMNI, CLASS OF 1971-72 VISIT JKML (FEB 23, 2024)

A delegation of overseas-based UoN Alumni, Class of 1971 & 1972 paid a courtesy visit to JKML on Friday, February 23, 2024. As per the itinerary, the guests also visited and toured Mahatma Gandhi Graduate Library.

The visitors were received by the Director, of Library Services, Madam Angela Mumo, accompanied by the Deputy Director in charge of Planning, Mr. George Nyalwal.



with the delegation is Mr. John Orindi - Corporate affairs office



## UON LIBRARY PARTICIPATES IN McGraw Hill Event IN JOHANNESBERG

McGraw Hill Company invited the library to attend a seminar in Johannesburg to discuss how to Navigate new teaching and learning trends in medical education and innovative teaching approaches and how institutions are addressing digital transformation challenges including multimodal & Problem based learning. Speakers were Dr. Reem Zakaria, Asst Prof. of Healthcare Management in the College of Health Sciences at Jumeirah University & Dr. Shirra Moch, Snr Lecturer and Head of Department at the Centre for Health Science Education University of Witwatersrand.

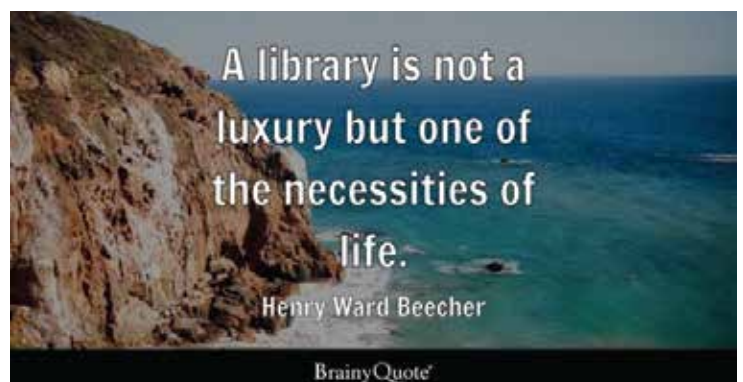
Christine Mayende represented the library



## REFLECTION

"Books permit us to voyage through time, to tap the wisdom of our ancestors. The library connects us with the insight and knowledge, painfully extracted from Nature, of the greatest minds that ever were, with the best teachers, drawn from the entire planet and from all our history, to instruct us without tiring, and to inspire us to make our own contribution to the collective knowledge of the human species. I think the health of our civilization, the depth of our awareness about the underpinnings of our culture and our concern for the future can all be tested by how well we support our libraries."

Carl Sagan, Cosmos



## **REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE INTER-UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR EAST AFRICA (IUCEA) GRACE THE JOMO KENYATTA MEMORIAL LIBRARY ON A BENCHMARKING VISIT**

The Library & Information Services department hosted a team from the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) on Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th January 2024, who were on a benchmarking visit.

IUCEA is a regional inter-governmental organisation whose aim is to foster collaboration between universities in the East Africa Community and adopt best practices with the overall goal of achieving internationally comparable standards of education in East Africa so as to promote the region's competitiveness in higher education.



## **LIBRARY HOSTS LIBRARIANS FROM THIKA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE ON A BENCHMARKING VISIT**

With the approvals from the offices of DVC (Academic Affairs) and that of Director, Library & Information Services, library staff from Thika Technical Institute were accorded benchmarking and learning visit at JKML.

This was necessitated by the fact that Thika Technical Library has been relocated to a new facility and they need to migrate their Print Collections from Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme (DDSC) to (LCCS).

The objectives of their visit were 2 fold. To equip staff with first-hand knowledge of the Library of Congress Classification System (LCCS) and its practical implementation and to improve the overall efficiency and effectiveness of their library operations. The session was coordinated by staff from Circulation and Technical Processing Units



## AALL WEBINAR: WHAT IN THE WORLD IS HAPPENING.... IN NIGER?

Held on Wednesday February 7th 2024 at 1PM EST.

The FCIL-SIS DEI committee's webinar series on global events conducted a webinar on last summer's coup in Niger. In this webinar, Aluko Opeyemi Idowu, a professor of political science in Ajayi Crowther University in Nigeria presented on the political situation in Niger and West Africa more broadly, providing background information on Niger's political and colonial history to help understand the underlying conflicts that led up to the coup and the larger implications for countries in West Africa. Stanley Macharia, a librarian of University of Nairobi presented on selected relevant research resources to assist researchers learn more about the situation in Niger and related coups. Target audience: Researchers and academic librarians who teach FCIL or any librarians who may be asked to research these issues for a patron.

Takeaways:

- Review the current situation in Niger, background information, the history of colonialism in West Africa, and its continuing effects on former colonial nations.
- Identify the different resources for researching these issues.

### SPEAKERS:

- Aluko Opeyemi Idowu, PhD, Ajayi Crowther University Oyo
- Stanley Munene Macharia, Librarian, University of Nairobi

Coordinator: Sue Silverman, Brooklyn Law School

Moderator: Errol A. Adams, J.D., M.L.S., Cooley LLP

THE FCIL-SIS DIVERSITY EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE  
AALL Presents AALL  
FCIL-SIS  
What in the World Series...  
IS HAPPENING IN... NIGER ?  
February 7, 2024  
1:00 PM to 2:00 PM EST  
Please register here:  
<https://tinyurl.com/niger24>

## LIBRARY OPEN DAY

The University of Nairobi Library Department held an Open and Academic Integrity week event on 14th and 15th May, 2024. The theme of this year's Open Week was "Digital Libraries: Equity in Information Access". Driven by the library department's vision to be a world-class information center committed to excellence in the provision, dissemination, and preservation of knowledge, this year's event aimed at showcasing the Library services and products where a display/exhibit of the University's research output and the archival collection, new arrivals, for teaching, learning, research and consultancy was done in every Faculty library.

In addition, there was an online training on the open access initiatives for enhanced knowledge creation, utilization, and visibility of the University.

Also, an open user engagement forum for enhanced service delivery was conducted. Many students and faculty members participated



KSC LIBRARY



FED Library Open Day



KISUMU Library Open Day



FBED Library Open Day



JKML Open Day



FOL Open Day



Upper Kabete Library staff and the students during open days



FHS Library Open Day



Mombasa Campus Library Open Day



FBMS Library Open Day

## MAKTABA WELFARE

Maktaba Welfare is a University of Nairobi Library staff group with membership drawn from the University library community.

Starting more than 17 years ago, welfare has over time increased in membership, greatly evolving with enhanced welfare programs, a constitution, and vibrant participation.

The objectives of the association, as listed in its constitution, are to cater for the welfare of members irrespective of grade, gender, colour, race or creed; provide assistance to members and family in case of a funeral, wedding, hospitalization and retirement; to undertake such investments or acquire property to the benefit of the members.; to co-ordinate with other welfare associations regarding the raising of funds and social interaction and to promote cohesion and unity among its members (Maktaba Welfare, 2022).

Research shows that employee welfare groups work in the interest of employees, employers and society (Odeku & Odeku, 2015).

Employee welfare groups operate to advance the interests of employees, employers, and society. Employee welfare groups promote the total development of the worker's personality, enhance productivity, and keep workers happy, all of which help to maintain strong employee morale. Additionally, it fosters a sense of accountability and respect in the workforce, making the workers good representatives of the country.

The Maktaba Welfare group has lived up to its commitment to celebrating and consoling with members as circumstances demand, which has greatly contributed to unity among staff members. It continues to foster a sense of family among the library staff through its activities. It has seen an improvement in members' social and economic welfare by assisting in times of need, sharing ideas, and celebrating milestones.



### Members of the Maktaba Welfare group attending a meeting

The welfare's office bearers are directly elected by the members and are drawn from its membership, where elected officials to serve a renewable term of 2 years. It is mandated to run the day-to-day operation of the welfare through committee meetings. It has experienced additional support for its social and financial support from members, their nuclear family, and parent and parents-in-law. The support given to members includes bereavement and family visitation in case of death, medical assistance for in-patient expenses, weddings, and retirement.

In appreciating the role of employee welfare, International Labour Organization (ILO) indicates that;

"Employee welfare should be understood as such service, facilities and amenities which may be established in or in the vicinity of undertakings to enable the persons employed in them to perform their work in healthy and peaceful surroundings and to avail of facilities which improve their health and bring high morale" (2017).



Through the existing initiatives, the Maktaba Welfare continues to live by its mission of marshalling resources to support members' social and economic well-being, through which it shall promote a positive and inclusive atmosphere where all its members shall feel valued, supported, and motivated in their roles. To sustainably benefit all the stakeholders, there must be a continued close working relationship between its membership, library management, and support of its activities by the university.

**A get together meeting organized to celebrate members on their retirement**

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FBED library receives books and journal donations from TCPAK. Through TCPAK chairmam



Faculty DEPT surgery and FHS Librarian receive book donations from Prof Griffith R. Harsh



Christine Mayende receives books/journal donations from CURLA on behalf of FBED library. Dean FBED graced the occasion



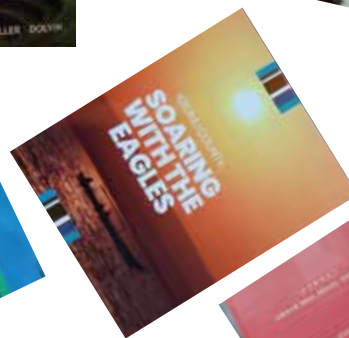
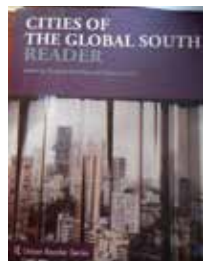
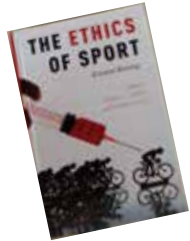
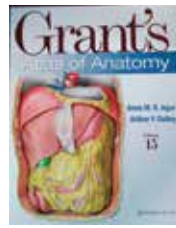
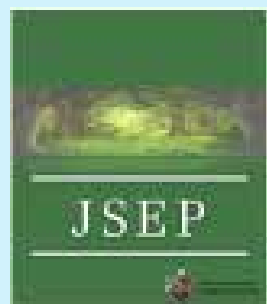
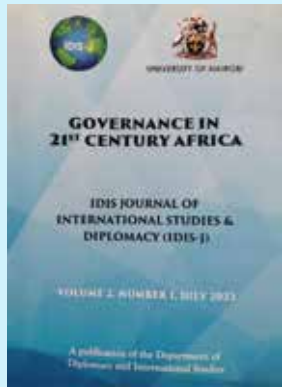
Looking on from left is DDT, DLIS, Dean FBED & Chairman RECMQS



FEd library receives book donations from Dr. Kahiga of DECTS

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