



InfoForum

Newsletter of the Potchefstroom Campus Libraries



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Welcome back!

The campus is bustling again. Welcome to all first-years and seniors! The Library would like to support you. With scholarly information from the Library, we give you the necessary push to excel in your studies. The library website gives you access to scientific information sources, electronic theses and dissertations, exam papers, e-dictionaries and much more. Just ask at the [Information desk](#) - the library staff is your mightiest weapon to survive in academia!



Library [introduction video](#) on YouTube

Research portal

The Library has made available a research portal on the website to assist staff and students when doing their research. The portal is available at <http://www.nwu.ac.za/library/research.html>. The purpose of the portal is to make available information on library services and resources that would be of interest to researchers.

On that page links can be found to the following information:

[Impact factors](#)

[Proquest Theses & Dissertations](#)

[Accredited journals](#)

[Manual for postgraduate study](#)

[Abbreviations for journal titles](#)

[RefWorks](#)

[Nexus](#)

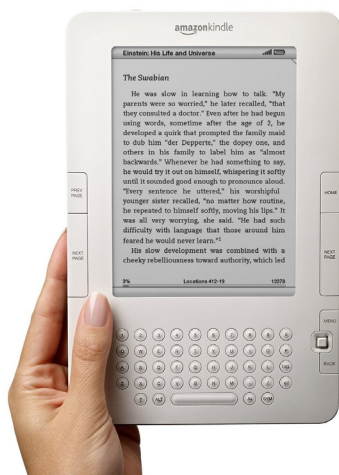


Query	Results	Synthesis Plans	History	My Alerts	My Settings	Help
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Elsevier's [Reaxys](#) database is the successor of the [Crossfire Beilstein and Gmelin database](#). Reaxys is an intuitive, user-friendly, web-based platform to search in Beilstein, Gmelin and The Patent Chemistry Database (PCD) for experimentally validated data on organic, organometallic and inorganic chemistry. Reaxys enables you to search by structure, reaction, text and property data. A new unique feature includes a synthesis planner and is of great importance and relevance to especially synthetic chemists and drug researchers.

Videos: <http://www.info.reaxys.com/training-center>

E-book reader



At the end of 2009 the Library purchased its first true e-book reader. Kindle (distributed by Amazon.com) is a small miracle about the size of a typical soft-cover book, and up to 1 500 titles can be downloaded onto it. To add a new title to the collection, you simply go to the Kindle store via 3G connection, choose from the almost 400 000 titles, supply your credit card information and 60 seconds later you can start reading.

The screen can be viewed at any angle, even when in direct sunlight, is very easy on the eyes, and the text size is adjustable. In addition, Kindle also has a read-to-me function which enables the user to listen to the book. The New Oxford American dictionary with more than 250 000 entries forms part of the package, as well as access to Wikipedia. PDF files can also be downloaded to it from your computer.

A charged battery can provide up to one week's reading time.

The more powerful version, Kindle DX, is also available in South Africa. It has a larger screen and a capacity of more than 3 500 books.

Ordering procedure

- Book announcements and publishers' catalogues are sent to the different subject groups on a regular basis.
- Each subject group has a library representative responsible for the expansion of their library resources.
- Recommendations can be sent by internal mail (Internal Box 484) or e-mail to the Acquisitions Section (jubrie.oosthuizen@nwu.ac.za or christine.schutte@nwu.ac.za).
- When a recommendation is received, a check is done to determine if sufficient funds are available for purchasing the material.
- Next, a possession check is performed to determine if the Library already has the item, we check if it is still in print and what the purchase price is.
- The orders are placed and we receive the items after approximately 4 to 6 weeks.
- If a source is urgently needed, it can be requested by e-mail from Jubrie Oosthuizen (jubrie.oosthuizen@nwu.ac.za) or Christine Schutte (christine.schutte@nwu.ac.za).



facebook

Sign Up

LLB Law Library (North-West University) is on Facebook

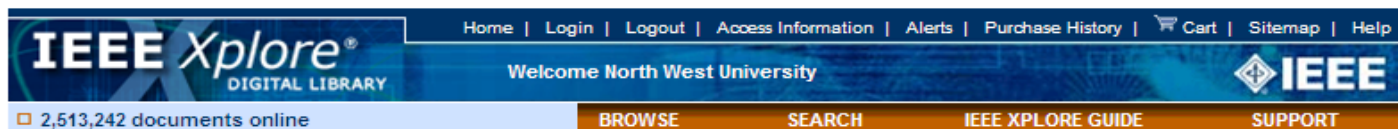
Sign up for Facebook to connect with LLB Law Library (North-West University).

The law librarian created a [facebook group](#) for 4th-year LLB students. Facebook is an online social network with more than 175 million users. Students are some of the primary users of this social network.

The idea is to benefit from facebook in a library environment and to push the Library into these students' facebook space, making use of so-called "push pull technology".

As Law is not a static subject area, this group on facebook comes in handy to inform students of new court cases, changes in legislation, etc. It also includes links to access this information directly. A student who keeps abreast of changes in his/her subject field can immediately apply it in his/her studies and maybe even surprise a lecturer or two.

This group on facebook introduces the Library to them as a friendly, accessible environment. The students can also easily contact the librarian. The benefits can be summarised in three words: "engage, interact, feedback".



IEEE Xplore[®] DIGITAL LIBRARY

Home | Login | Logout | Access Information | Alerts | Purchase History | Cart | Sitemap | Help

Welcome North West University

2,513,242 documents online

BROWSE SEARCH IEEE XPLORE GUIDE SUPPORT

The Library has been subscribed to IEEE Xplore since December 2009. [IEEE Xplore](#) is a database with full text access to more than a million articles from over 12 000 individual publications and is valuable for research in the fields of engineering, computer science, electronics, chemistry, physics and mathematics. This resource access literature from:

- IEEE journals, transactions and newsletters since 1988, with selected content since 1913
- IEEE conference papers since 1988, with selected content since 1953
- IEEE standards since 1948
- IET (the new name for the IEE) journal and newsletters since 1988, with selected content since 1965
- IEEE books since 1974
- IET conference papers since 1988

User manual http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/guide/g_oview_guidepdf.jsp



Bibliographies – role of the Library

As part of the support offered to students and staff by the Ferdinand Postma Library, we can assist with advice on bibliographic style. This assistance includes a booklet entitled '[Quoting Sources](#)' (or the Afrikaans version 'Verwysings') published and marketed by the Library, as well as the [RefWorks tool](#) for which we are subscribed and for which training is provided.

The subject librarians in the Information Services Section and in the various branch libraries are also equipped and prepared to help with the bibliographies of theses, dissertations and other academic writings. However, there are some limitations:

- Librarians will be glad to help to find information and to give advice on how to make optimal use of it, but they are not research assistants.
- The student and his/her promoter/supervisor will remain responsible for the completeness, correctness and relevance of references and items in a bibliography. Library staff can and will assist only with the technical correctness or format of references and bibliographies. We will therefore not do any searches in electronic or printed sources – either to check that references are complete or to correct them.
- Our expertise and advice are limited to the so-called Harvard style as set out in 'Quoting Sources'. With regard to other styles prescribed by some of the faculties or schools we can only be of limited assistance.
- We will be glad to help by checking one or two pages of a bibliography. In this way, we provide the necessary guidance to enable a student to practise this essential part of his or her academic skills.

Tom Larney
Director Library Services



Library catalogue
North-West University



[Catalogue Home](#) | [Help](#) | [Login](#) | [Library Home](#)

New catalogue function – “My List”

Previously we showed you how to keep track of all books borrowed by you. You had to activate the option ([read how](#)). You can now save a list of sources not yet borrowed for later use. If you come across an interesting source in the catalogue, which is, however, not immediately relevant, you can save the record in your “My List” so that you can return to it at a later stage. [This](#) explains how.

Hard work rewarded

The Library is both a virtual and a physical space where students and staff are offered support in their quest for knowledge. It speaks for itself that there will always be Library staff members wanting to expand their knowledge. Last year, two of the staff members' perseverance and hard work paid off when they obtained their respective degrees.

Tom Larney, the Director of Library Services on the Potchefstroom Campus, obtained a doctorate in Theology in September 2009. The title of his thesis is "The family as primary religious unit in a postmodern context: a pastoral study". In the thesis, Dr Larney focuses on the role of the family in postmodern times with regard to the family's religious life, the challenges faced by the family as primary religious unit and also the ways in which families can receive pastoral guidance by the church. According to Prof G.A. Lotter, the promoter, the value of the thesis lies in the fact that the importance of the family and its relation to the church are explored and illustrated and that practical guidelines are provided on how the family can function as a religious unit in a postmodern context.

Ambrose Lekoma has been working for the Library since 2004, first as shelf assistant and since 2005 as clerk at the Acquisition and Processing Department. Mr. Lekoma decided to study after his appointment in the Library and subsequently enrolled for the degree BSc, majoring in Psychology and Computer Science. At the end of 2009, Mr Lekoma successfully completed the examination for the last modules of his course. The BSc degree will be conferred on him in March 2010.



Congratulations to both colleagues and their families!



Many members of staff on campus will remember the well-known blue, green and red face of the DOS-based Inmagic textbase program. All of us were also familiar with the most used ISAP database. Today, more than 25 years later, we can confirm that the Windows version of the software is still widely used and is known as: Inmagic® DB/TextWorks®.

"Inmagic® DB/TextWorks® is a special combination of database and text retrieval software that enables you to build networked and standalone textbases to manage diverse types of information including documents, images, and multimedia."

"A textbase can contain just about anything, from customer information to company policies or competitive intelligence. The design of your textbase depends on your particular application needs. You simply specify the fields that you want to include in each record. The DB/TextWorks fields can handle full and abstracted text, plus dates, numbers, images, and more. You can pour as much information into any field as necessary, from a 50-word memo to a 50-page proposal."

With the availability of the DB/Text® Web Publisher Pro, the library has an interactive Web publishing and access system enabling users to deploy, publish and maintain textbases on the Web quickly and easily.

All these years the Library made these programs available for use on campus with the necessary support and training, and will continue to do so in future.



We highlight some of the databases that are still active and maintained on a daily basis.

- [NWU exam papers](#)
- [Accredited journals](#)
- [New library acquisitions](#)
- [BATL: Bibliography of Afrikaans Linguistics](#)
- [THRHR journal indexing](#)
- Gallery: index, description and photos of PUK Campus artworks
- Archive: various databases
- [Kerk: \(Journal articles of the RCSA\)](#)
- Potchefstroom Campus minutes

Staff matters

The Library would like to welcome the following new staff members



Bernie Swarts
Education Sciences
Library



Izette Minny
Loan Services



Maggie Melk
Loan Services



Moses Seleke
Administration



Patrick Moeng
Administration

Staff who moved to other departments in the Library



Seka Sizani
Information Systems



Surita Lessing
Loan Services



Israel Gaanakgomo
Acquisitions and
Processing

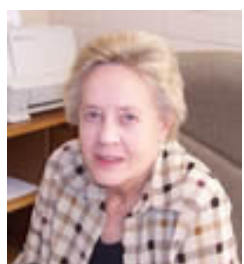


Lezelle Snyman
Information Services



Tshepo Kalanko
Education Sciences
Library

We say farewell to



Marthie Lotter
Education Sciences
Library

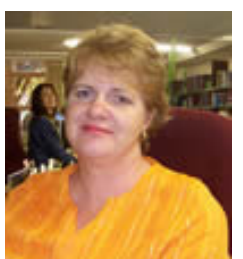


Zainneth Claasen
Loan Services

The following staff received long-service awards



Elize van Eldik
10 years' service



Anna-Marie Bisschoff
20 years' service



Anneke Coetzee
20 years' service



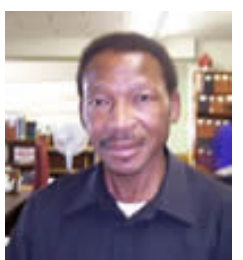
Israel Gaanakgomo
20 years' service



Henriëtte Groenewald
20 years' service



Helena Brand
25 years' service



Solomon Manone
25 years' service



Mariana Lourens
35 years' service

Staff movements



Dr Tom Larney, Marieta Buys, Retha Badenhorst and Elize van Eldik attended Sabinet's "Annual Regional Meeting" on 20 July 2009 at the Johannesburg Country Club in Woodmead where Sabinet held an information session about all of their new products and about improvements on existing products.



Suzette Janse van Rensburg attended the RDA (Resource Description and Access) course that was presented from 22-24 July 2009 at the National Library of South Africa in Pretoria. RDA is going to become the cataloguing standard and will most likely replace the current AACR2: Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules in 2009.



Christine Schutte, Jubrie Oosthuizen, Erika Rood, Louise Vos and Marieta Buys attended the "Effective Business Writing" course in Potchefstroom on 25 and 26 August 2009.



Louise Vos, Hester Spoelstra, Erika Rood and Elize van Eldik attended the "GAELIC and Friends Marketing Fair" on 11 September 2009 at the National Library of South Africa in Pretoria.



Christine Schutte and Marieta Buys attended the LIASA Conference in Bloemfontein from 28 September to 2 October 2009.



Corrie Breitenbach and Carine Basson attended the 8th annual IUGSA (Innovative User Group: South Africa) Conference in Port Elizabeth from 11-13 November 2009 where both presented papers. Corrie talked about "Circulation Activity reports" and Carine about "ERM coverage load without CASE". Both presentations were received well. Carine was also elected as additional member of the new IUGSA management.



Mietsie Harman completed a course in fire-fighting on 4 September 2009 and attended the "Gaelic Summer Training Camp" held at WITS on 26 November 2009.

Training rooms

The Library has two training facilities namely *Besembos* and *Tarentaal*. Students and staff may book these facilities at the Information Desk of the Main Library or by phoning Ria Adelaar at 018 299 2812.



Articles written by: Christine Bronkhorst, Corrie Breitenbach, Elize van Eldik, Jubrie Oosthuizen, Louise Vos, Louw Venter and Suzette Coetzee

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