

## **June: *Copyright Issues for Librarians***

Denise Nicholson, Copyright Services Librarian at the University of Witwatersrand came down from Johannesburg for the day, and presented a very informative talk on current copyright law, potential changes, fair use, the open access movement, intellectual property issues in Africa, and copyright harmonization efforts. Over 60 library and information workers coming from all sectors filled the room at Nampak R&D in Epping, Cape Town.

Ms. Nicholson urged us to stay vigilante of local and international legal efforts to both erode, and protect, fair use. Questions were raised about the legality of making multiple copies of articles for in-house use, and converting copyright protected articles from one format to another. There was also discussion about blanket licensing agreements, and the pressures felt by librarians to police copyright law in their libraries.

Ms. Nicholson maintains an article alert service for current issues in copyright law and intellectual property. Please contact her if you would like to be added to her mailing list. Write to her at: Nicholson *dot* D *at* Library *dot* wits *dot* ac *dot* za [translate the *dots* and the *at* into their appropriate symbols – this prevents internet miners from gathering email addresses for spam].

LiSLIG Western Cape extends a special thanks to Ms. Nicholson for making herself available for the day, and to Nampak R&D for hosting the event and providing refreshments.