

2008 WCHELIG Seminar on Digital Collections



The WCHELIG seminar on 'Digital collections: strategy, management and policy' was held on Thursday, 29th May 2008. Speakers included Monica Hammes, Hussain Suleman, Peter Underwood, Janine Dunlop, Henda van der Berg and Pateka Ntshunthe-Matshaya.

Proceedings were open by Nikki Crowster, who was followed by Hussain Suleman, senior lecturer in Computer Science at UCT, who spoke about the role institutional repositories (IR) has to play in digital collections, open access initiatives and its legalities. Monica, assistant director of the University of Pretoria's Library Service for open scholarship, focused on creating a policy framework for digital collections. This presentation included issues such as copyright and the protection of one's own collections.

Peter Underwood, Professor of Librarianship at UCT, discussed the management of collection development policies in relationship to digital collections, whilst Janine Dunlop, from UCT's Manuscripts & Archives Department, gave us a more practical presentation in comparing different archival software and the implementation of digital collections at UCT.

Furthermore, Henda van der Berg presented a detailed description on the NRF's role in promoting a national ETD project and the benefits and shortcomings that involve such a project. Our last speaker for the day was Pateka, Director in library services of UWC, who gave us insight on how the ETD project was implemented at UWC.

We are sure that everybody who attended the seminar benefited from the speakers' vast experience in the field of digital collections and would like to thank everybody for their positive feedback and suggestions.

We would also like to mention that because the WCHELIG Blog kept on experiencing problems, the committee decided that it would be best to put the WCHELIG information on the LIASA website. The committee is confident that everybody will benefit from this arrangement since the information will be more accessible. This means that you will soon find the articles on the panel discussions held in November 2006 & November 2007 and the seminar, and its presentations, on the Liasa Website.

We are grateful for your support and positive feedback that we received as committee the last two years.

We wish all our colleagues the best

The WCHELIG committee 2006-2008