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NATIONAL OFFICE NEWS

The year is now fast racing towards an end and it is usually a time to reflect on the past year. For all LIASA members I do hope that this was a year in which you achieved your personal and professional goals.

LIASA Conference 2005 was indeed an experience that tried our patience and challenged our commitment to LIASA! Despite the registration, accommodation and transport challenges, conference still proved to be a meeting place for old and new members. It was a pleasure meeting so many people at the Conference, even if it was under difficult circumstances - it helped putting a face to a name! The stimulating pre-conferences, the inputs from our international speakers and the CICD training sessions all contributed to a diverse programme. The informal discussions at Conference about your expectations of LIASA will definitely contribute to the development and success of LIASA. Personally I would like to thank all the delegates who throughout the Conference and the trying situations still behaved courteously towards the staff.

Conference 2006 will be held in Tshwane from 25-29 September 2006 at a venue to be announced. The theme for this conference is 'Libraries: Partners in Learning, Nation Building and Development'. It is being hosted by the LIASA Representative Council. The process of organizing the conference will be driven from the LIASA National Office and members of both Gauteng North and South branches are on the Local Organising Committee. Your thoughts on the annual conference will assist in ensuring that the 2006 Conference would be a big success.

The membership administrator's position has been advertised and we are confident that it will be filled soon.

Ujala Satgoor, the CICD Project Co-ordinator and former SALLP Project Co-ordinator, has resigned to take up a new and exciting position at the University of Pretoria. Although this is a very big loss for LIASA we wish her well in her new career. I am sure many of us can say that Ujala has touched our lives in one way or other.

I wish all our members a peaceful and positive festive season. 2006 is election year for LIASA and I would like to encourage all members to be involved in the LIASA structures and to contribute to strengthening the Association.

by Karin Kitching

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We would like to thank all the members who renewed their membership of LIASA whilst at the conference in Nelspruit. A total of 101 members renewed their membership at the conference and eight (8) new members joined the Association. The office staff have indicated that they have sent out confirmation of payment letters and the new cards for 2006. If you have not received confirmation of your payment by now please feel free to contact the office staff at one the following numbers:

Office Manager: Karin Kitching, karin@liasa.org.za
Tel: 012-337-6129

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Tel: 012-3376051; Fax: 012-3376108

During the AGM on Thursday 29 September, the price increase for individual members for 2007 were approved. With effect from 1st October 2006 individual fees will be increased from R180 to R210 per annum per member. If members renew during the early bird period, 1 September 2006 to 30 September 2006, they will pay R180. **Please diarize the early bird date.**

Lucille Webster, Chair: Membership Committee

EDITORS NOTES

Dear Readers,

Thank you for your articles, notices, photographs, etc. throughout the year. Without your contributions this magazine would not exist and the South African Library world would be the poorer for it. Make it your New Year's resolution to submit your library success stories.

Thank you to our loyal advertisers and sponsors for their continued support.

Season's Greetings