

ACTEA Librarians eNews, June 2003, No. 7

The mission of ACTEA  
is to promote quality evangelical theological education in Africa  
by providing supporting services,  
facilitating academic recognition, and  
fostering continental and inter-continental cooperation.

Greetings fellow Librarians/Information workers,

This year is really flying by! Time flies when your are having fun, and I am sure that this is the case with each one of you.

In this issue read about:

1. ACTEA Librarians eNews available on the Web
2. Training for Librarians in Nairobi, 11-16th August 2003
3. WEA Theological Resources CD
4. Database of Theological Theses on Africa
5. Feed the Minds Library Grants
6. Phyllis Masso's Column
7. Letters from our Readers
8. Needed - Librarian for Theological College of Zimbabwe
9. Free Library Automation Advisory Service

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1. ACTEA Librarians eNews available on the Web

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Did you know that ACTEA Librarians eNews is available on on Web, including all back issues?

Check it out at:

<http://www.theoledafrica.org/ACTEA/LibrarianServices/eNews>

The French edition of ACTEA Librarians eNews, called BIBLICO, is also available.

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## 2. Training for Librarians in Nairobi, 11-16th August 2003

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By popular demand, the Christian Association of Librarians in Africa (CALA) - Kenya is once again offering training for theological librarians. The dates are 11-16 August, 2003.

In the mornings, instruction in cataloguing, classification and serials management will be offered to those with little or no library training. Simultaneously, more advanced librarians will be learning such things as basics of distance learning, web-page design, basics of MARC (international cataloguing standards) and cooperative cataloguing for serials, theses and Africana.

In the afternoons both groups will come together to learn basic computer maintenance, making the most of MS Word and Excel for serials management, research paths, marketing your library, budgeting, preparing for library automation, basic internet searching of full-text journals using the INASP and PERI grants. On Saturday there will be a field trip to one of the many libraries in Nairobi.

The cost is 7,000 ksh (\$100) for day scholars; 4,000 ksh (\$60) for CALA members. For those needing accommodation at the Daystar hostel, the cost will be 10,000 ksh (\$145); 7,000 ksh (\$60) for CALA members.

Special offer from "Evangelical Review of Theology" to attendees: add 3,000 ksh (\$40) to any of the above prices and get the complete full text of ERT on CD (searchable by Logos software which is included) from 1977 up to 2002. This CD also includes many other resources (WEF Theological Commission books) e.g., Faith and Church Study Units Books edited by Donald A Carson, Task Force book edited by P.G. Schotenboer, Outreach and Identity series, other WEF books, Bibles (GNB, ASV, KJV, Spanish, French, Dutch, Portuguese, Arabic, etc.). Also included are useful reference works such as the "History of the Christian Church" by Philip Schaff.

Your contact person for the workshop is Phyllis Masso:

[cala-kenya@jpmasso.com](mailto:cala-kenya@jpmasso.com)

If you are interested in presenting one of the classes at the workshop, please send your CV with pertinent experience noted, along with an abstract of your presentation. Send by e-mail before 30th June 2003.

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## 3. WEA Theological Resources CD

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The Theological Resource Library CD published by the Theological Commission of the World Evangelical Alliance, described above, is again available for sale. This CD contains the full text of "Evangelical Review of Theology" up to October 2002, all the WEA Theological Commission books and monographs, several other WEA publications and a number of Bibles and other resources. After a period when it was sold out, it is now available again at a cost of US\$40 plus \$5 shipping.

Please supply full mailing address and send your orders to:

WEA TC Publications, 17 Disraeli Street, Indooroopilly, Queensland,  
Australia 4068  
e-mail: [dparker@pacific.net.au](mailto:dparker@pacific.net.au)

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#### 4. Database of Theological Theses on Africa

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The ACTEA eNews of August 2001 and ACTEA Librarian's eNews no. 2 announced that the Theological and Christian Education Commission of AEA (the Association of Evangelicals in Africa) had embarked on a project of compiling a list of theses and dissertations at the Masters and Doctoral levels.

A database of the African theses collected so far will soon be ready for distribution. It will be in an MS Access file which is 1.3MB in size. For those who do not have MS Access, the data can be made available in MS Word or WordPerfect if requested. Approximately 750 theses have been listed so far. However, there are far more out there to be added!

Graham Naude (Namibia Evangelical Theological Seminary) would like to thank all those who have so willingly helped with the collection of data and who have waited patiently for the compilation. If you have any further data to add please forward it to Graham at

[naude@iway.na](mailto:naude@iway.na)

You can write to Graham at the above address for a copy of the MS Access /Word/ WordPerfect file. Please specify which file you would like.

Graham is aware of errors in the database, but he would not mind you alerting him to others!

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## 5. Feed the Minds Library Grants

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Feed the Minds (FTM) makes two types of library grants - small grants (under 250 British pounds) which are used for replenishing a library, and larger grants (over 250 British pounds) which are used to meet some special purpose, such as the introduction of a new course or replacement of books after some catastrophe. There is no maximum amount, but a grant is unlikely to exceed 2,000 British pounds.

To obtain more information contact:

The Administrator  
Feed the Minds Book Service  
Albany House, 67 Sydenham Road, GUILDFORD, Surrey, GU1 3RY, UK

e-mail: [headoffice@feedtheminds.org](mailto:headoffice@feedtheminds.org)  
Phone (044) 1483 888580  
Website: <<http://www.feedtheminds.org>>

I am assuming that most of you already know that FTM sends requesting colleges a catalogue of books from which to choose! A wonderful service.

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## 6. Phyllis Masso's Column

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Phyllis is largely responsible for organising the very successful workshops held in Kenya - the one being held in August is taking shape under her capable direction.

Phyllis writes, "Charles Nandain from Nairobi International School of Theology in Nairobi and Daniel Ruheni from Daystar University will be representing the Christian Association of Librarians in Africa (CALA)-Kenya at the US conference of the Association of Christian Librarians (ACL) in June. They will stay for an additional 3 weeks to learn from observation at the Wheaton College Library and Billy Graham Centre, thanks to the generosity of the missionary arm of the organisation.

"Charles Nandain, secretary of CALA, has been elected as the new Kenya Library Association chairman and is looking forward to revitalising the organisation. CALA's assistant secretary, Caroline Ndemaka, was elected assistant editor. Other Christians who are not part of CALA are also on the

new executive. We are very happy that Christians will be taking such an active role in our professional organisation."

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## 7. Letters from our Readers

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Jeanette Harris, the Librarian from Cornerstone Christian College (Cape Town, South Africa), writes:

"In 1995 the Cape Evangelical Bible Institute moved from its original building in Athlone to a building in Plumstead that had housed a convalescent home, and was renamed Cornerstone Christian College. I was asked to write an article for our Wynberg Anglican parish magazine to inform the churches in our parish of the benefits of having this college in our midst. My visit to the college not only resulted in an article, but in my being, seven years later, the Librarian-in-charge. A very intriguing position for a trained nurse and midwife - librarian in a building that was previously a hospital! Initially i was asked to take over for a year (1998) whilst the librarian was on sabbatical. When she resigned in 2000 I took over her post which eventually moved from being a half-day to full day.

"I'm a solo librarian, assisted after lectures by students who have campus employment. This means continually training people, and, in the beginning, teaching them as I was learning myself. The learning curve has been enormous, but very interesting. Fortunately local librarians have been a source of continual input and encouragement. Being married to a theologian has meant constant exposure to theological books, so much of the material I deal with here is familiar territory. Although the job is not without stresses and problems at times, it is wonderful to be able to work in the area of one's passion - books! - and to be paid for it. Interaction with postmodern young people is continually challenging for one who was a teenager in the swinging 60s. I've had to manage a period of great change in that our students now do degrees in conjunction with Stellenbosch University, so the library has had to be upgraded accordingly.

"I have a sneaking suspicion that I'm far better at being a librarian than I was at being a nurse!"

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## 8. Needed - Librarian for Theological College of Zimbabwe

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Rob Goodwin, Interim Vice Principal (Academic) of the Theological College of

Zimbabwe (Bulawayo), writes:

"... Despite the economic and political challenges facing the College (both students and faculty) the College continues to develop and expand. Our current goal is to introduce an MA programme to complement our current B.A. and B.A. Honours degrees.

"In order to do this successfully, however, we will need an MA level librarian. Our purpose in writing is to ask whether you may know of anyone who may be willing to give a few years of their life to serve the community here at TCZ in Bulawayo.

"We are in the process of training a Head Librarian of our own, but need someone to come into the system with effect from January 2004 in order to fill the gap for perhaps up to 5 years."

Please contact Rob if you are interested or know of someone who might be interested.

[robwork@telconet.co.zw](mailto:robwork@telconet.co.zw)

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## 9. Free Library Automation Advisory Service

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Phyllis Masso offers one-day workshops to teach the basics of MARC (the international standard used for computerising your card catalogue), using a booklet distributed by the Library of Congress. She also teaches how to do copy cataloguing using the well-liked ITS for Windows software and its CDs which contain hundreds of thousands of properly catalogued books (sample software is available to librarians for 30-day trial). Phyllis is happy to teach staff, faculty and even students in library school.

If you would like advice on purchasing library automation software, Phyllis can recommend, help you decide, and facilitate purchasing of software and other peripherals for library automation, such as barcode readers, and barcodes. If you would like, Phyllis can send you a short paper she has written which will help you select a program and another paper on things you should do before automating.

contact Phyllis at:

[phyllism@jpmasso.com](mailto:phyllism@jpmasso.com)

Remember Phyllis is also your contact for the August Librarians' Training

Institute in Kenya - however, note the different e-mail address for queries about the Training Institute - [cala-kenya@jpmasso.com](mailto:cala-kenya@jpmasso.com)

Well, friends, that is all for now.

God bless and continue being a blessing to your respective colleges as you serve the Lord through your work and ministry!

David Fitz-Patrick  
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