



ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY INFORMATION THROUGH LIBRARY COLLABORATION

Report of the Committee of Library Directors (CLD) to the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) Board

It gives me great pleasure to report on activities for the period August to November 2020.

Meetings. One meeting of the CLD was held in the above period.

The impact of the national lockdown on library services. CHELiN undertook a survey among the four directors to gain insight into this. The survey was conducted on both the strategic and operational levels in order to assess alignment with institutional strategies, how libraries resonated awareness of and responded to issues that were critical at institutions, and the collaboration between institutions. Issues that arose from the report may be included in the CHELiN strategies for the next term (2021-2022). Copies of the full two reports accompany this report.

Website. The CHELiN website, hosted by Stellenbosch University, continues to be populated with information from institutions. A document library to house official CHELiN documents is being developed.

ilifu Research Data Management (RDM) and Open Science. The only outstanding part of the project was the CoreTrust Seal Digital Repository certification for Figshare installations, for which the submission has been extended to March 2021.

Van service. Confirmation was provided to CHEC about continuing the van service on a daily basis in 2021, following its suspension since the start of the national lockdown. All four institutions were of the opinion that it was possible that, in future, the van service may be changed from a daily service to a service on two or three days per week. However, a decision on the regularity of the van service could not be made as long as there was a lockdown and pandemic. A recommendation can only be made after 2021, to take effect in 2022, taking into account the use of the service in 2021. It may be noted that the van service had been well used in 2019.

Training initiatives. The planned NACO training course for metadata librarians / cataloguers in the Western Cape which had to be postponed due to the lockdown, will be considered early in 2021 and rescheduled for later in 2021. If at all possible, it will be held in person, and not virtually.

Dr Elisha Chiware, Library Director at CPUT, has been appointed unanimously as **chair of the CLD** for the period 2021-2022.

In the first term of 2021, a meeting of the CLD will be held that will take the form of a **strategic planning session**, to which senior staff from the four libraries may be invited.

Ms Ellen R Tise
Chair, CHELiN Committee of Library Directors

11 December 2020