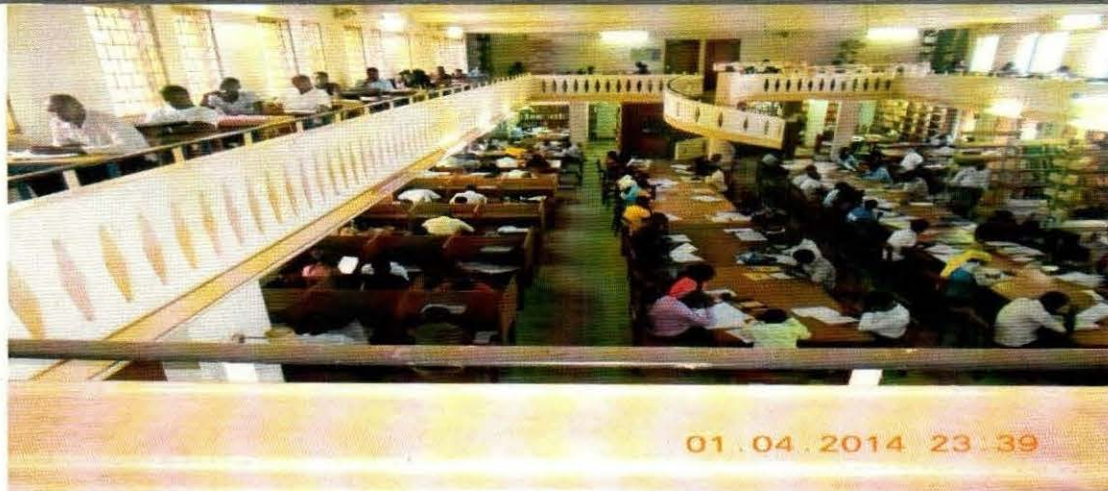


Kyambogo University Library Newsletter



Vol. 2 Issue.1 | Feb 2014



University library at a glance

INTRODUCTION

In a bid to promote information and knowledge sharing, Kyambogo University Library services has re-invigorated the idea of publishing a periodical library newsletter to share their views with the concerned stakeholders and the public. What is contained in the newsletter depicts: achievements and challenges experienced in course of time. In this issue the library highlights development of its 2nd strategic plan and some inspiring articles on literacy campaign in conjunction with Book Aid International, a brief on the stakeholders' workshop and other aspects of experiences of library staff in the course of their duties. Library staff wish to invite other members of University community to participate in the production of this periodical publication by: writing articles on their views of the library, reviewing articles of library staff any other constructive comments and contributions that lead to improving the publication. With high anticipation of useful contributions, the editorial team wishes you enjoyable reading.

Naphtali Happy Kuteesa
Editor - khappiyo@gmail.com

KyU Library makes new Strategic Plan to run from 2013 to 2018



By Edward Mukiibi
Senior Assistant Librarian

Kyambogo University Library Management with support of the University Administration, held a five day Strategic plan and library policy workshop from 25th to 29th April 2013 at Silver Spring hotel, Kamala. The workshop was officially opened by the Kyambogo University Acting Vice Chancellor,

Prof. John Opuda-Asibo. Fifteen (15) Library staff members attended the workshop. The workshop was facilitated by the University Planning unit. The team produced the second five years strategic plan for the University Library in addition to updating the previous one. This stems from the background of implementing the first strategic plan of University Library Policy, 2008/9 to 2012/13 whose performance was thoroughly reviewed, lessons learnt and both the Library's internal and external environment and stakeholders analyzed. Strategic options were then identified based on four core factors; the level of the current stock, requirement for sustaining the library services, impact of the development of ICT and the University's 10 year strategic plan at the midterm 2017/2018 formed the Strategic choices for period 2012/13 to 2017/18.

It presents the aspirations, strategies and activities that the Library shall undertake in the next five years in tandem with Kyambogo University Strategic plan 2012/13 to 2022/23. Its strategic areas of focus include;

- ☒ -Improved access to Library Information Services
- ☒ Strengthened and balanced Library Collection
- ☒ Well facilitated library services to support; research, teaching, learning and leisure among others.
- ☒ Modernized Library Services

A detailed action plan was developed that set forth the goal, objective and strategies. Areas of accountability and the milestones were identified to ease the implementation process.

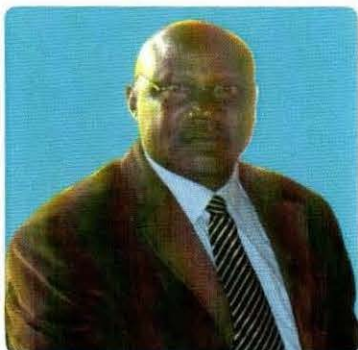
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Promotion of Literacy in Schools



By Dr. Bernard B. Bamuhiga
University Librarian

In Uganda as one of the developing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, most of the systems are still in the development stages. Among them and adversely affected is literacy. Illiteracy in the country is still rampant. There are many actors involved in literacy campaign in the country besides formally established schools and Institutions. Many approaches are used in literacy campaigns. Some groups organize reading tents, train trainers of trainers, distribute reading materials and some use more than one of these. Whatever is done is aimed at enhancing literacy.

Kyambogo University library service (KyULS) acting on University mandate of Community Outreach is actively engaged in community literacy since 1995.

KyULS in its activities in community literacy uses mainly three approaches: distributing reading materials, visits to schools to assess book usage in literacy work and training teacher-librarians to enhance their capacity to train learners in promotion of reading culture.

KyULS literacy work enhancement is in partnership with Book Aid International (BAI), a charity organization based in United Kingdom (UK). BAI is engaged in book distribution in developing countries to enhance literacy and knowledge acquisition. Uganda is one of the countries in Africa where BAI is active. KyULS is the country's distributing agent. BAI selects books according to KyULS recommendations and sends them for distribution. KyULS identifies and makes annual selections of books according to the demand expressed in the beneficiaries' letters of application.

Books are distributed to all education establishments: pre-school (Nursery), Primary, Secondary, tertiary and Universities. The

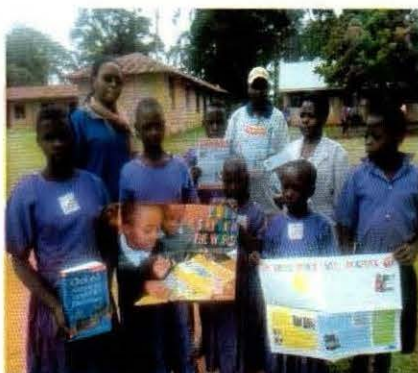
work of literacy through promotion of reading culture is carried out in Nursery and Primary schools.

The aim of KyULS, in this project, is to enhance literacy through access to relevant information materials, create and raise awareness on availability and importance of books, libraries, information seeking and usage.

The objectives are to:

- ☒ Support Universal Primary (UPE) and Secondary (USE) education by providing appropriate and quality reading materials for literacy.
- ☒ Provide appropriate and quality materials for post Secondary education.
- ☒ Support library development especially in rural Schools.
- ☒ Promote equitable access to information materials for disadvantaged groups.

KyULS has worked hard to achieve these



Book Aid International Visiting Team with some beneficiaries

objectives through:

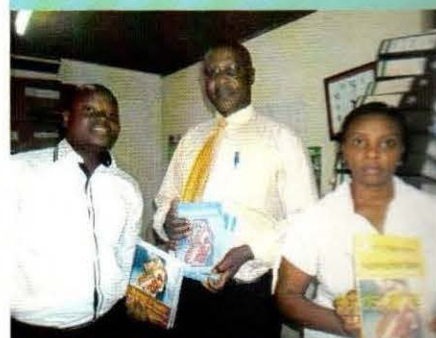
- ☒ Distribution of books equitably; paying special attention to gender and the poor.
- ☒ Considering schools in all Districts.

The education system in Uganda has a component of UPE and USE. Most of the schools that embrace UPE and USE cannot afford to purchase enough books for their communities and, therefore, rely on donations. In most of these schools, libraries are not developed. Some have book stores instead of libraries. They don't employ professional librarians; instead have Teacher-Librarians who help users to access books.

When books from BAI arrive at KyULS, they

are sorted and distributed to beneficiaries. Since 1995 many have benefited.

KyULS members of Staff conduct periodical visits to beneficiaries around the country and interact with them on use of books in promotion of reading culture. Most Primary schools have library lessons. KyULS members of staff interact with library



BAI visitation team presenting books to one of the Teacher/Librarian

lesson teachers and share experiences and provide advice where necessary.

Through these visits, awareness about the books has been created, promoted book usage, enhanced the reading culture, reduced illiteracy and a lot more learnt about the prevailing shortfalls that need attention in order to get more satisfying results.

It was found out that a lot was desired:

- ☒ Books distributed to schools were inadequate and could not meet users' needs.
- ☒ Most schools lacked ICT facilities.
- ☒ Most of the schools didn't have libraries.
- ☒ Books were kept in stores making them inaccessible to pupils.
- ☒ Books were taken care of by Teacher-Librarians who open at particular times.
- ☒ Some schools lack electricity so book retrieval and reading are impossible at night.

KyULS made observations and suggested solutions that training of Teacher-Librarians in management of school libraries provides workable solutions.

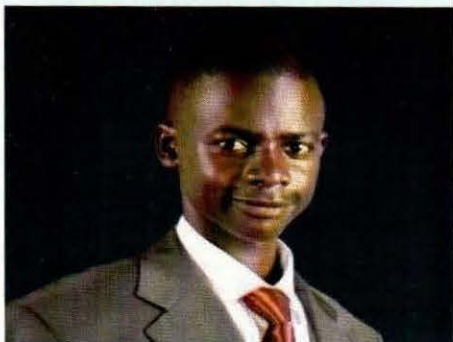
The training should be based on regions starting with schools and institutions that have already benefited from the BAI book distribution programme.




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Kyambogo University Library Stakeholders Workshop



By Robert S. Buwule
Senior Assistant Librarian

Kyambogo University Library held a stakeholders' workshop on August 7, 2013 at NPT building under the title "Kyambogo University Staff Library Workshop". The theme of the workshop was "Library Collection Development a Responsibility for all Stakeholders". Over 50 participants attended the workshop including Deans of Faculties, Heads of Departments and the members of students Guild. It was facilitated by both internal and external facilitators. Comprehensive papers were presented about:

- ☒ Library collection,
- ☒ Needed Library infrastructure
- ☒ Library user assessment
- ☒ Emerging library trends

The emphasis was on how the library could position itself to make Kyambogo University Library more relevant to users. Presenters at the workshop included: Assoc. Prof. C. Okello-Obura Principal of the College of Computing and Information Sciences Makerere University, Dr. Eunice Kateshumbwa Lecturer Faculty of Science Kyambogo University, Mr. John.B. Ngoya Lecturer School of Management and entrepreneurship Kyambogo University, Dr. Bernard B. Bamuhiga University Librarian Kyambogo University, Mr. James Okware- Assistant Librarian II Kyambogo University Library Service.

Presentations generated lively debates and indeed all the participants resolved to get more involved in library collection development activities.

Celebrating 60 years of Book Aid International

By Mary N. Kyagaba

Book Aid International (BAI) celebrates 60 years this year. The celebrations will be held throughout the year. But it can't pass without highlighting some of its landmarks.

BAI developed out of the vision, energy, ingenuity of the Countess of Ranfurly, who in 1954 recognised the power of books to change lives. Since then BAI has donated over 30 million books to libraries in Africa and trained hundreds of librarians. Its support has transformed hundreds of libraries and reached millions of people.

BAI works in partnership with libraries in Africa through donating books, information resources and supporting an environment in which reading for



Mary N. Kyagaba
Senior Assistant Librarian

pleasure, study and lifelong learning can flourish. It donated 563,424 new books to over 3,300 libraries in 2013 bringing the total to over 30 million books donated to partner libraries since 1954.

Millions of children and adults around the world read BAI books. Countries like Cameroon, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Palestine, Somalia, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe have without a doubt benefited from the generous donations of BAI. In Uganda BAI works with the Uganda Community Libraries Association (UgCLA) to transform community library services. Since 2008 BAI has been working with Kyambogo University, providing books to support teacher training. Kyambogo University receives book consignments for Primary, Secondary, Vocational, Higher Education and Medical Institutions and distributes them to rightful beneficiaries.

As part of the celebrations, Kyambogo University will be carrying out a spellathon project in 2 selected schools in Masaka and one primary school in Kabale District. This project will target young people who need extra help to develop literacy skills.

Why BAI works in Uganda

Uganda is amongst the poorest countries in the world. It is affected by shortage of books. This is the gap BAI comes in to fill. BAI donates valuable book resources to school libraries that have helped to improve on the limited number of books in most schools.

Internship experience at Kyambogo University Library

By Grace Nabanoba and Specioza Nassali DLIS

We were some of the privileged students who had an opportunity of working with Kyambogo University Library service on internship for close to eight weeks. It was such a life time experience that we will live to remember. During the period of internship, we were exposed to a lot of skills in library and information work. We learnt how to customer care and navigated library databases. We learnt that KyULS highly discourages individual work and instead encourages

team work. Though we had a lovely experience, this does not mean the library is without flaws. We identified that the library lacks reading space, enough information materials, and is understaffed. We hope management seriously thinks about addressing these challenges. Despite the flaws, we had a happy time and we were happy choosing to do our internship from Kyambogo University Library. We encourage our fellow students that when it comes to choosing a place for internship, they should consider Kyambogo University Library too, they will never regret.

Kyambogo University

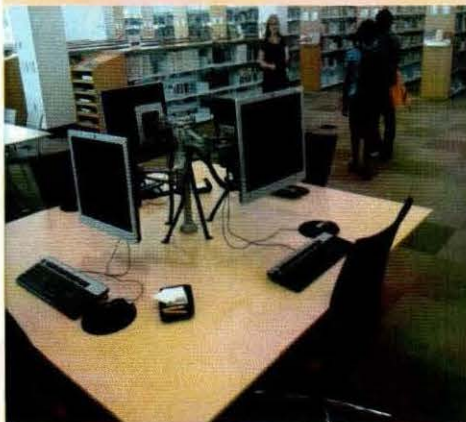
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Kyambogo University Library Strategic Plan (from page 1)

An activity based budget was drawn for each year of the strategic plan period. The budget takes into account the envisaged ADB fund for Infrastructure development in Public Universities. Kyambogo University committed some of these funds to constructing a state of the art Library. A total of Thirteen billion eight hundred seventy five million is anticipated to be spent to deliver the quality and users responsive library services. Library services need to meet the growing University needs for "knowledge and skills for service". A detailed implementation, monitoring and evaluation plan highlighting the key stakeholders, their roles and responsibilities was included to guide this Plan. Monthly, quarterly, semester and midterm reviews were suggested as methods to evaluate the implementation process to remain on course. Once supported and implemented systematically, this strategic plan is envisaged to revolutionize the library service offered at the university.



Equipment in a modern Library

Online Library Resources Access



By Mary Acanit
Assistant Librarian II

Kyambogo University Library management is pleased to inform the university fraternity about the recovery of the Library computer

laboratory services. This was after a catastrophe befell the lab when 45 out of the 51 computers were stolen. Quick means to replace the computers were not possible. However, with time through acquisition of one by one, the lab is getting back to shape. The university subscribes to online resources and the library computer lab is among the few places that access these resources in absence of a campus-wide network. Resources subscribed to cover a wide range of disciplines taught at the University and a lot more including humanities, arts and social sciences, business and economics, Engineering and technology, informatics and natural sciences. These resources are comprehensive enough to meet users academic and research needs. On average, the library computer lab serves 160 users a day; both staff and students. The number of users keeps growing and therefore, there is an urgent need of more sufficient library computer lab services. Library computer lab has dedicated staff to guide users to optimally utilize the services. Please pay a visit to service, any day, you will be highly welcome.

UP COMING EVENTS

- Selection of book consolidators
March 2014
- Internal Library Networking
March 2014
- Revision of the Library Strategic plan
March 2014
- New Library Architectural Drawings
Reviewing March 2014
- Development Library Acquisition
policy April 2014
- Promotion of Literacy in Schools
April 2014
- Enhancement of online resource access
May 2014
- Training of librarian/Teacher
Librarians June 2014
- Construction of a new library with
ADB support to start July 2014
- University Staff library workshop
July 2014
- Assessment and evaluation of BAI
books management and usage
August 2014
- Attendance to SCECSAL Conference.
August 2014

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