



**INFORMATION SCIENCE FOUNDATION FOR
EASTERN AFRICA**
P.O. Box 32060 Kampala
"Information and Knowledge for Development"
THE ISFEAs' MAGAZINE

Featuring: THE 2nd ISFEA COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12th FEBRUARY 2007, 6:30pm AT MAKERERE UNIVERSITY GUEST HOUSE AND THE 1st ISFEA RETREAT held on Saturday 10th March 2007 at FOREST COTTAGES -Plot 17/18 Old Kiira Road

Tuesday, March 27th, 2007

Vol. 5 No. 2

INSIDE:

The view from one ISFEA Spot	page 2
Editors' Space	page 2
Magazine Pictorial	page 2
Q&A during implemetaion year 2006	page 2
The 2 nd ISFEA Council meeting	page 3
The 1 st ISFEA Retreat	page 4
Activity Pictorial	page 7

Activity Agenda

- . The Opening prayer
- . Opening Remarks
- . Any Apologies
- . Introductions
- . Speakers
- . Q&A Session
- . Vote of thanks
- . Announcements and Professional information
- . The Closing prayer
- . After Swalloship



"Waiting to begin"



"The wisdom for ISFEA"



"ISFEA members at Forest cottages"

The Four Pillars of a successful ISFEA:-

- 1.. Recruit and Retain committed, quality membership.
- 2.. Implement successful service project
- 3.. Develop Strong Leadership at Chapter levels
- 4.. Support ISFEA

Announcements and Professional Information

- Next ISFEA Foundation Fellowship will be communicated shortly.
- Membership forms to join ISFEA Kampala Chapter are available. Please call Juliet 0772522331 and Richard 0712817264.
- Members who have any form of Jobs, placements etc, please inform Hilda 0772-590414 Fellowship administrative Secretary.
- To join the LIS Competence database for the East African region, please write or call Mr. Yusuf Kiwala kyosseuf2@yahoo.com +256-712-996466.
- If you want to share professional information in form of jovial talks to the LIS Community on a topic of your choice, please call Chris 0772-450989

Apologies

Dr.Maria Musoke, Mr. Kawooya Dick, Ms. Faith Akiteng were unable to be with us physically at the Council meeting but were with us in spirit.

THE VIEW FROM ONE ISFEA SPOT

Dear Fellow Information Science Professionals,

You graduated a while ago from a tertiary institution. You got involved in activities out there and gained experience and skills in Information Science. You can still add value to the LIS profession and your services are needed. One of ISFEA's strategic goal is Research and projects implementation. This goal contribute to capacity building and growth of members in the LIS profession by adding value to research in the East African region for establishment of information science identity in the African context and contributing to regional development. In this respect, ISFEA has developed a Competence/Skills database (profile and demonstrated experience of individuals), to take inventory of this available skills. You will enjoy career development, sharing best practices (skill base), improved service and productivity, and additional incomes etc. To ISFEA, this is an Outcome indicator, locating expertise is made easier, realizing evidence based policy, promoting Innovations and an obvious source of revenue. Please do not hastate to contact me to add your profile in our database. Our policy on Research and Projects guides members to achieve this strategic goal.

You are invited

Mr. Yusuf Kiwala

ISFEA Director – Research and Projects.

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EDITORS' SPACE

This 5th Issue of the ISFEAs' magazine features the 2nd Foundation council meeting and 1st ISFEA Retreat. ISFEA Foundation Council is a gathering of The Trustees, The Board and The Chapter Committee to discuss ISFEA issues and shape the Direction of ISFEA. This is provided for in the ISFEA constitution as a way to promote a strong leadership for a sustainable ISFEA. Do you think there is another place to be other than ISFEA? Make it between you and me. According to ISFEA Work plan 2007, there are two retreats ie. in March and in September for ISFEA Officers in order to have motivated and Informed Officers. This retreat was the second ISFEA activity in 2007 following the Council meeting in February mentioned above. This particular retreat was open to other LIS members in order to double as the fellowship activity for March 2007. My warm thanks go to those other members who attended the retreat and are not ISFEA officers. That was great commitment to the LIS profession. Keep it up.

Editorial

Ann Apio – Editor in Chief ann_apio@yahoo.com

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Hilda Nabankema – Fellowship Administrative Secretary
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Q&A during implemetaion year 2006

What is the difference between ISFEA and ULIA?

Simply, ULIA is the National Apex body in the profession and ISFEA is one of the new professional body complementing ULIA and other forms of institution in the discipline. I should also stress that ISFEA goes beyond border to attract and consolidate professionals' skills in the East African Region.

You mentioned about membership drive, what do you intend to do this year? *This is part of our plan to recruit and retain members, of course looking at benefits accruing to registered members of ISFEA. These are so many; in fact you need to hear this from already registered members.*

How do you plan to have fellowship this year? *Competition! We are holding them on a rotational manner, and attracting prizes; if a group of individuals organize it this month, the next month is another dual and so on. We need to reward the best organizers, speaker at our annual foundation dinner. Infact we have a running calendar for fellowship.*

What do you normally discuss in the fellowship? *A menu of interesting topics: social life of a professional, developments in the profession, name it. In a nutshell; the different organizers are given opportunity to come up with topics in the interest of members.*

I also notice you have been involved in consultancy work. Is that part of your mandate? *Well consultancy work is part of capacity building for members in the profession. It is an opportunity for members to tap skills and knowledge from colleagues. Infact, this is an obvious way members are supplementing their incomes.*

MAGAZINE PICTORIAL



Makerere Guest house ambiance



With Refreshments: The Council



Forest Cottages: ISFEA in the Forest



Ultra Modern LIS Persons



At the opening of the Council meeting

THE 2nd ISFEA COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY
12th FEBRUARY 2007, 6:30pm AT MAKERERE
UNIVERSITY GUEST HOUSE

*The Trustees, The Board and Kampala Chapter
Committee meeting*

Brief from Prof. I. M. N. Kigongo- Bukenya (Trustee)

Welcomed Dr. Kendra and thanked her for finding time to share with ISFEA on short notice. He commended ISFEA for the transparency and the standing work done so far especially the wonderful end of year dinner that attracted people of high caliber, the educative fellowships and meetings. He called upon the in charge public relations and advocacy, to try and harmonize the relationship with other LIS professional bodies. ISFEA has undertaken activities in Information Science as modern or ultra modern and has extended as far as Sheffield and Wisconsin, USA. He noted that ISFEA should maintain working with the old. Bring the challenge to the old and make them participate.

Brief from the Board

This was presented by Mr. Yusuf Kiwala – Director Research, Project Planning and Implementation. Yusuf thanked members of the board and the Kampala chapter for the commitment, and pledged hard work and more commitment to ISFEA activities in the year 2007.

Brief from the chapter

The Chapter Vice President highlighted a number of activities so far done, including seminars, meetings and fellowships as well as plans that are ongoing. The representative of the chapter also noted a number of challenges met by ISFEA, e.g. Misconception by some circles and she called upon members to take it as everybody's concern to create more awareness.

Brief from Dr. Kendra Albright (Trustees)

Dr. Kendra congratulated members for putting up such a wonderful idea and encouraged them to hang in there, in order to realize good things over time. She noted that the idea is unique, timely and innovative. "I congratulate ISFEA on one year of implementation. You have been busy. Good things take time despite the challenges. There is a lot of momentum building for Africa, just be in there. Am there for you."

Discussion of ISFEA annual work plan

The chairman of the board led members through a series of activities in the work plan that are to be implemented in the calendar year, 2007. Some of the key activities included; The ISFEA Retreats, Kabubu Project, Scholarship funds, Advocacy workshops, Registration of the body regionally and Internationally, attracting more members and Putting up ISFEA web site. First ISFEA General Assembly will be held in October 2007 after the Advocacy workshop. Prof. Kigongo- Bukenya noted that the work plan activities were too many for a young association like ISFEA, and he advised to prioritize these activities. His concern was on how ISFEA through Dr. Kendra could attain international sympathy. May be ISFEA to make possible project writings and for selling it abroad hence making a plea for funding. Dr. Kendra advised members to find ways of forming partnership with Institutions like IFLA, and Carnegie Corporation that funds Educational programs. These can help us accomplish certain tasks. She commended our partnership with the media for its contribution to advocacy. "We may search for large companies like British Airways that might be interested in Information Science activities and make them build library funding. She promised to solicit for support from companies/institutions and countries that may be willing to support ISFEA activities.

She advised members to develop a phased long Term strategic plan. More work on advocacy and publicity is needed for ISFEA to expand. Emphasis was also put on bringing older and experienced professionals on board from whom ISFEA can borrow very constructive ideas that it can build on, for better out puts. Members were also advised to come up with a fundable project proposal, indicating the vision, mission, activities among others.

Way forward

- * Too ambitious work plan should be revised to match with the limited human resources.
- * Bring old professionals with experience on board. These could be invited as Guest speakers in ISFEA monthly fellowships.
- * Write a project that demonstrates the statement of IS in the African context eg The Kabubu project highlighting a marriage between ISFEA and Kabubu, then take it to Carnegie or get funding from public sympathy through PR Directorate.
- * PR to do more work about asking people to join. Numbers make the body representative, potential for initiatives and innovations. It can be a funding wing if you meet people who matter.
- * Should think of having a phased long term strategic plan that consolidates our base and operations and give it to Dr. Kendra and Prof. Cortez. They are ready to look for funding sources.

Any Other Business

ISFEA to form a group that should plan and save to attend the coming IFLA Conference in Durban, South Africa. Arrangements may be made to find partners and share a stall to exhibit ISFEA activities. Prof Kortez noted that, the idea of ISFEA was timely given the poor perception of Library and Information Science professionals globally. And he urged members to carry forward this important initiative to uplift LIS identity nationally and internationally. He pledged support from the University of Tennessee. Prof. Kigongo-Bukenya added his voice that the future of ISFEA is both nationally and internationally bound and on the same note, he urged members to exploit all opportunities at their exposure. He urged ISFEA to bring speakers in the profession who will influence others.



The afternoon session during the ISFEA Retreat

THE 1st ISFEA RETREAT held on Saturday 10th March 2007 at FOREST COTTAGES –Plot 17/18 Old Kiira Road

According to ISFEA Work plan 2007, there are two retreats ie. in March and in September for ISFEA Officers in order to have motivated and Informed Officers. This retreat was the second ISFEA activity in 2007 following the Council meeting in February mentioned above. This particular retreat was open to other LIS members in order to double as the fellowship activity for March 2007.

Objectives of the Retreat

Were to review ISFEA inventory, discuss work plan, the budget for 2007 and the fellowship schedule and to review and discuss chapter growth.

Opening remarks

The moderator, Chris Ssebandeke – Chapter Projects and events secretary welcomed members to the retreat and commended them for the positive response and strong attachment to ISFEA as Information Science professionals.

Presentations and Issues arising

There were presentations and issues that came up after each presentation.

Goal setting, selecting and preparing ISFEA leaders

This was the first presentation made by Michael Kasuse, Chairman of ISFEA Board. The learning objectives of this presentation included; understand the importance of setting goals and the characteristics of an effective goal, understand the importance of building ISFEA based on the needs and goals of Information Science Professionals (ISPs), Identify the skill sets needed by ISPs to serve as effective ISFEA leaders and Prepare the ISFEA leadership team for the year 2007. As one may mention, "You will profit from ISFEA in proportion to what you put into your efforts". Effective activities are key to ISFEA's long term success and effective committees set goals and identify strategies to pursue them. Setting goals is applicable to all aspects of ISFEA operations. The presentation highlighted why it is important to establish goals. The goal setting process can create buy-in and stimulate interest in ISFEA activities. Goals can motivate members to increase their involvement in ISFEA. Setting goals and devising strategies to meet them can help ISFEA measure progress and establish effective activities.

Issues arising

The presentation also highlighted characteristics of a good goal, reasons for setting up goals and how to achieve set goals; characteristics of an effective goal, strategies for achieving goals, importance of goal setting, basic committee considerations, guide to effective committees, selecting committee leaders, ISFEA Administration Issues to consider, ISFEA Reporting requirements, Goals in finances, in meeting for the year and in the Foundation Fellowships. Members emphasized formation of relevant committees and urged these committees to show commitment to ISFEA activities. Participants also urged members to pay their membership fee annual subscription and all other relevant fees as a symbol of commitment to the LIS professional.

ISFEA Inventory

There were presentations on ISFEA Inventory by Directors in areas of Research and Projects, Leadership, Finances and Membership.

Research and Projects

This was presented by Mr. Yusuf Kiwala – Research and Projects Director and highlighted the strategic goal of Research and projects as the cause of professional growth for establishment of information science identity in the Eastern African context to contribute to regional development. Core competences in this case include; Legal status (registration and clearance), Dual existence ie requirements of professional body vs Research and consultancy, Competence/Skills database (profile and demonstrated experience of individual vs firm).

Also highlighted immediate *benefits to the profession* through Research and Projects including; Career Development, sharing best practices (skill base), improved service and productivity, and supplementary incomes etc. *Benefits to ISFEA* include; Outcome performance indicator, Locating expertise, Evidence based policy, Innovations and Source of revenue etc.

What ISFEA has done in this respect include; Consultancy, Research and Projects policy in place, Accomplished projects both at individual and firm level, Competence database at initial stages and has Proposal write ups in place. What ISFEA intends to do includes; Partnerships i.e. Kabubu project, Hima cement Records System project, Fundable project write up to Dr. Kendra; Penilova –Oxfam etc, Contribution to paper presentation in IFLA, Knowledge Management in west Africa, from Project committee, Publications in journals (international review of info ethics) etc.

Issues arising

The presenter urged members to explore their potentials using the information science identity. ISFEA's contribution to professional development should be central in every ones input to ISFEA activities. Members agreed that the different committees under research and projects should exist and compliment each other and that through these committees members are free to make different contributions depending on ones' area of specialization. Members were encouraged to contribute to professional development by writing papers for inclusion in professional journals like; "African Journal on information review of ethics". It was also agreed that ISFEA website should be put up where members will submit their profiles and eventually benefit from it in terms of getting employment opportunities. Members also explored the possibility of getting in touch with software developers outside and identify software that can be marketed and distributed by ISFEA.

Leadership Inventory

This was presented by Michael. Kasuse – Development and Collaboration Director. ISFEA intended to established a strong, sustainable and effective leadership based on, Trustees, the Board, General Assembly and Chapters of major towns in the three towns of East African countries. A team of ISFEA Trustees including; Dr. Maria Musoke, Prof. Kigongo-Bukenya, Dr. Kendra Albright and Mr. Kawooya Dick has been in place now for a year. This team has been providing technical advice to the ISFEA Board. The 8 members ISFEA Kampala Chapter Committee has been in place since August 2006. It was elected to find solutions to issues affecting Information Science activities in Uganda. It has had several meetings of discussion

ISFEA Foundation Council is a gathering of The Trustees, The Board and The Chapter Committee to discuss ISFEA issues and shape the Direction of ISFEA. Two Council Meetings have been held so far i.e. in November 2006 and February 2007. The Leadership growth in the near future includes; 1st General Assembly to be held in October 2007, The Research and Projects Committee to be in place soon, The Foundation SACCO Committee to be elected in October 2007, The ISFEA Nairobi Chapter to be formed in November 2007.

Finance Inventory

The transformation of brilliant ideas into a reality relies heavily on availability of funds. And because of this ISFEA has been able to undertake its activities during 2006.

Operational activities have been supported mainly by funds realized from Membership Subscriptions, Generous Contributions, Sale of Promotional materials, ISFEA Foundation dinner and donations. Of the total operational budget; the bulk of it was serviced using funds raised at the Foundation Dinner and this contributed 50.3%. About 77.3% of these incomes were consequently used to enable the successful accomplishment of this activity. ISFEA Trustees namely Dr. Kendra and Mr. Kawooya contributed 20.7%, membership raised 19.5%, and sale of promotional items contributed 9.3% to the operational budget.

Worth noting though is the sale of shares for the Foundation SACCO. The board has bought worth 3.7M of shares to the SACCO. The interest accrued from borrowers will go along way in contributing to ISFEA funds.

Issues arising

The presenter called upon members who had not paid up their fees to do so to allow smooth running of organizational activities and also encouraged them to sway more members to join. He urged responsible members to promote the SACCO. Members suggested that they could take advantage of ISFEA account to make their financial claims for individual professional works given current legal status.

ISFEA foundation fellowship Calendar 2007 by Ann

In addition to the many issues discussed in the retreat, the members decided to have the topic of fellowships fully discussed by; tackling the topics members preferred to have, having people in place to organize and moderate the events, having the discussant(s) of the day preplanned and also agreeing on the most appropriate day to have these fellowships. The members present were each given the chance to choose a topic of interest and also propose the people or person to present it. This was done and at the end many different topics were suggested and also a list of persons to approach made. The members preferred having a variety of presenters not only those in the field of librarianship but also mass communication, civil aviation and many other organizations that have information science professionals. A timetable was made with each fellowship having two people responsible, the organizer and moderator. These are to make sure the presenters are invited, reminded and also that the members are informed in advance about the fellowship. Members agreed that the first Friday of the month was more appropriate for the fellowships. The organizers and moderators of the fellowships were urged to ensure that their fellowship was well organized, publicized and attended because at the end of the year there was going to be a prize given to the persons with the best organized fellowship. Members felt this is a good motivator for successful fellowship events.

Issues arising

It was unanimously agreed that topics for presentation during monthly fellowships should be given to presenters early enough to enable them reflect on these topics and make where necessary, consultations and polishing.

Some topics were proposed in the retreat and the various members were supposed to carry out further research on these topics and later present them for inclusion on the overall list. The moderator called upon ISFEA Officers and the Information Science Community in the region to support these fellowships. They represent an activity that can contribute to the Information Science Identity within the African context.

ISFEA work plan

A draft work plan was presented to participants for discussion. The work plan showed the output areas for each activity, indicators, targets, budget, and month of implementation, persons responsible, documentation and comments for each activity.

Issues arising

Members agreed to actively participate and ensure completion of activity work plan in the defined period

Mapping the way forward

Participants agreed to have a follow up meetings on the issues that came up during the retreat including plans for Kampala Chapter Growth and Development. Members will then meet on Saturday, 31st March 2007, at Makerere University guest house at 5:00 pm. A tentative agenda for the meeting was drawn during the retreat.

ACTIVITY PICTORIAL



ISFEA Officers: The Council meeting



Consultations: ISFEA Council



Corporate Librarianship: ISFEA Directors



Way Forward: The Council meeting



Discussing ISFEA till late: Provide support



Advice: Librarianship in the African context



Working Break tea: ISFEA Retreat



Retreat Discussion: Issues arising



Making a point: ISFEA Spirit



The Brains: Way forward at Retreat



The Board room: Retreat afternoon session



Retreat: Not an exam, its ISFEA