

## NEWS FROM:

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**26 October 2010**

### **UCT librarian wins Western Cape award**

Ingrid Thomson, a librarian with the Humanities Information Division at the Chancellor Oppenheimer Library at the University of Cape Town, has been awarded the prestigious Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) Western Cape Librarian of the Year award. She also finished third nationally, and received R10 000 from Sabinet towards professional development.

Thomson's contribution to South Africa's library profession could be described as "making the circle bigger". She has dedicated herself to finding new ways to inform, educate and broaden the interests of her colleagues throughout the country. This year she is also serving as the chair for the Western Cape branch of LIASA.

The LIASA Western Cape Librarian of the Year award is an annual event acknowledging excellence in librarianship. The award is co-sponsored by UKS, EBSCO Information Services, EBSCO Publishing South Africa and SABINET.

The LIASA award is not the first time Thomson's work has been honoured. She has won several grants to attend national and international conferences in the past, including the EBSCO-LIASA grant to attend the International Federation of Library Associations Conference in Glasgow, and the South African Library Leadership Programme, a LIASA Carnegie/Mellon-funded programme that took her to the US for two months.

"I have shared the experiences and knowledge gained on those trips with others, in the hope that they too will share further," Thomson said.

She has served as public relations officer and treasurer for LIASA, and continues to work on the organisation's *LIASA-in-Touch* magazine. She is passionate and enthusiastic about the role that librarians can play. She said: "What is particularly rewarding is when you see other colleagues take what you have offered, shared, and run with it from there."

**ENDS**

**Issued by: UCT Communication and Marketing Department**

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