

# ACEIE NEWSLETTER

UNESCO CI Sector

| IFAP

| Information for All

*“An Information Ethical approach to create a platform for the access to and accessibility of information.”*

## In this Newsletter:

- Connecting the dots conference, 3 & 4 March 2015
- Eastern Cape Information Ethics and Digital Opportunities event, 27 & 28 March 2015
- E-learning conference in Ethiopia, 20 - 22 May 2015
- Budget Vote Speech, 21 May 2015
- ICT Security & Privacy Discussion Forum, 15 May 2015
- UNESCO Collaboration towards developing an ethical African information society

### How to contribute to this newsletter:

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This will allow you to add the content you wish to share. Alternatively, you can also email the ACEIE at [aceie@up.ac.za](mailto:aceie@up.ac.za)



## Introduction of the ACEIE newsletter

The African Network on Information Ethics (ANIE) was established in 2007 with the purpose of structuring Information Ethics within Information Science in Africa. The ANIE activities led to the formal establishment of the African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (ACEIE) on 17 May 2012.



Mr Coetzee Bester

**Director:** ACEIE

**Chairperson:** IFAP SA

The University of Pretoria Department of Information Science took the lead and formed an integral part of the conceptualisation and negotiations between the parties and now hosts the ACEIE. Since the establishment of ANIE in 2007 the network now boasts more than 400 participants with 80 universities in 19 countries. The aim of this newsletter is to remain in contact with our colleagues across the continent and have this platform through which we can share news, research and upcoming activities. The contribution towards the newsletter can be in the form of short announcements, ‘mini-articles’ (+200 words) and marketing of events taking place in the IE field are welcomed.

## Connecting the dots

Mr Coetzee Bester and Ms Rachel Fischer, from the ACEIE, were invited to attend the multi-stakeholder conference “CONNECTing the Dots: Options for Future Action,” on UNESCO’s study on Internet-related issues, which took place at UNESCO’s Headquarters, in Paris on 3 and 4 March 2015.

## Article Links

*(Click on the Images)*

Information for All Programme article



The African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics article



Ms Nozipho Sihlahla

**Chairperson:** CI sector

### The Information for All Programme:

This intergovernmental programme of UNESCO has the following six objectives:

- Information for Development
- Information for Accessibility
- Information Preservation
- Information Literacy
- Information Ethics
- Multilingualism

This conference brought together some 300 experts and participants from multi-stakeholder communities including governments, civil society, academia, the private sector and the technical. The conference was organised in response to the provisions of Resolution 52, adopted by the General Conference at its 37th session, through which Member States requested that UNESCO develop a comprehensive and consultative study on the Internet-related issues. These issues fall within the mandate of UNESCO, including access to information and knowledge, freedom of expression, privacy and the ethical dimensions of the Information Society, containing possible options for future action.

It was during this conference that the ACEIE's aim to support IFAP's objectives were further corroborated. Not only is the Information For All Programme of importance to all countries, but it also seeks to strengthen partnerships amongst stakeholders in Africa. This newsletter will be reflecting on some of these partnerships.

### The ACEIE's involvement in CI and IFAP

Due to the ACEIE's close involvement with the Department of Telecommunication and Postal Services (DTPS) and the South African National Commission of UNESCO, it is endeavouring to align its activities with the key focus areas of these two institutions. Whereas the South African chair of the Communication and Information (CI) Sector is held by Ms Nozipho Sihlahla, DTPS, the programme officer of this CI sector, Mr George Molepo from SA NatCom, holds the secretariat for both the CI Sector and IFAP programme. The ACEIE is motivated to actively contribute to these initiatives and hence the IFAP Chair for South Africa is Mr Coetzee Bester who is also the Director of the ACEIE. The ACEIE undertakes to support CI and IFAP activities within the Southern Africa region as well as within Africa as a continent.

### Eastern Cape Information Ethics and Digital Opportunities event

#### *Message from the ACEIE Director*

The Chair of the Intergovernmental Council of the Information for All Programme (IFAP) Ms Chafica Haddad was represented by Mr Hezekiel Dlamini at the recent conference on Information Ethics in Africa under the theme

## Information Ethics and Digital Opportunities.

The event took place in South Africa on 26 and 27 March, 2015. In the remarks on her behalf she mentioned that events like the Conference create forums for discussions and reflections with policy makers are serving not only to raise awareness but also to shape national strategies that enable African nations to harness the opportunities of Knowledge Societies. She described these platforms for discussion as the spirit of IFAP.

The event was coordinated by African Centre of Excellence for Information Ethics (ACEIE), the University of Pretoria and the South African Government Department of Telecommunications. The guest of honour was South African Deputy Minister of Telecommunication, Professor Hlengiwe Mkhize. During the event she reflected on the successes of the ACEIE and also referred to the tools that were developed to facilitate training on Information Ethics in Africa.



Participants at the Eastern Cape Information Ethics and Digital Opportunities event, 27 and 28 March 2015

She observed the research on Information Ethics that started in 2007 and recognised the important role by UNESCO and IFAP in building a network of 80 participating universities in 19 African countries. During the conference the ACEIE also presented her of a draft copy of a new 7-book toolkit that aims to extend the training programmes to include schools and communities in Africa.



Ms Chafica Haddad  
**Chairperson:**  
Intergovernmental  
Council of the IFAP

## Event

### Announcements:

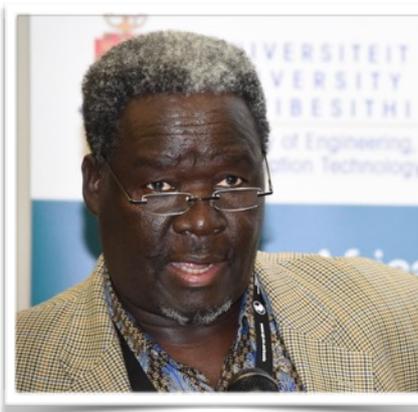
- M.IT Uganda visit, 20 June to 4 July 2015
- Implementation of Disability awareness meeting 23 to 26 June 2015, Cape Town, South Africa
- Kenya Conference: “Building Capacity through Quality Teacher Education” Pre-conference Workshop on Information Ethics & Literacy on 13 & 14 July 2015 at the Postgraduate School, Kenyatta University Contact: Ms Hellen Amunga Email: [ice.comtech@ku.ac.ke](mailto:ice.comtech@ku.ac.ke)
- School curriculum workshop ,Kievits Kroon, Pretoria, South Africa 23 & 24 July 2015
- Digital wellness policy design workshop, South Africa, 17/18 August 2015
- Information Studies (IS) 2015 Annual Conference Announcement at the University of Zululand, South Africa: 2 to 4 September, 2015 Web Address: <http://www.lis.uzulu.ac.za/conference/>
- M.IT USA visit , 15 September to 3 October 2015
- Digital wellness in Africa conference , South Africa, 25 to 27 November 2015



Ms Susanna Ackermann, Intel Education Manager East and Southern Africa



Mr Hezekiel Dlamini, Advisor for Communication and Information UNESCO Harare Multisectoral Regional Office for Southern Africa



Prof Dennis Ocholla, Head of Information Studies Department, University of Zululand

The UNESCO Regional Office in Harare partnered in coordinating the presence of IFAP structures from 14 African countries to be amongst the 140 participants who represented policy makers, government officials, academics and private sector.

## E-learning conference in Ethiopia

The 10th edition of eLearning Africa took place from 20 – 22 May 2015 at the AU buildings in Addis Abba, Ethiopia. The event was attended by 1,389 participants from 68 countries.

Susanna Ackermann from Intel Education presented on behalf of ACEIE on the Digital toolkit, which is a collaborative project between ACEIE, Intel Education, UNESCO, DBE and DPTS. The topic was well received and created good conversation amongst the audience. Immediate interest from countries like Kenya and Namibia.

## Budget Vote Speech

Mr Hezekiel Dlamini (UNESCO), Prof Theo Bothma (University of Pretoria) and Prof Dennis Ocholla (University of Zululand) attended the Department of Telecommunications and Postal Services Budget Vote Speech that took place on the 21 May 2015 at the Old Assembly Chamber in Cape Town, South Africa.

Mr Dlamini described the event as follows, "It was a great experience for me to attend as guest the South African Parliament (Old Assembly Chamber) in Cape Town. We were received by Ms. Lupane of DTSP, who led us past security into the waiting room of the DTSP offices before the DTSP Budget Vote session started. We met Prof. Mkhize, Deputy Minister/DTSP and thereafter proceeded to the Chamber.

The chairperson called the house to order and read some house rules, including advice to guests like me not to participate in the house proceedings in any way. I must say a few of us could not but clap after Dr. S. Cwele, Minister/DTSP had presented his Budget Speech, after which the chairperson had to pronounce a reminder. Then the debate on the Budget Vote followed from all parties and it was very interesting for me to note the booing and disruptions from the opposing sides. In the end enough parties supported the vote."

## ICT Security & Privacy Discussion Forum

The ACEIE had the opportunity to present at the recent ICT Security & Privacy Discussion Forum held on 15 May 2015, Kempton Park, Gauteng, South Africa.

The event was coordinated by the National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), which is a broadly representative forum of organisations in Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (SETI), and was established in 1995. Representatives of the ACEIE, Ms Erin Klazar and Mr Benson Lechaba presented at the discussion forum highlighting the involvement and the role of which the ACEIE has on Information Ethics matters.



Mr Benson Lechaba, Jnr Research Officer at the ACEIE

## UNESCO Collaboration towards developing an ethical African information society

Through these extensive collaboration opportunities between universities across Africa, government and industry, the ANIE network remains supported by regional UNESCO structures. The ACEIE is proud to be able to function as hub where we are enabled to share and connect researchers and practitioners within the discipline of Information Ethics. For more information on the ACEIE's interaction with UNESCO, please visit the following news article:



Right: Mrs Rachel Fischer, Researcher at the ACEIE

<http://www.upresearch.co.za/NEWS-NOTICES/Research-news>



“ Thank you to all the role players who have contributed to this newsletter, we look forward to the continuing collaboration and growth of this network. ”

Prof Theo Bothma

**Head:** Department of Information Science

**Chair:** School of Information Technology, University of Pretoria

## ACEIE Network



telecommunications & postal services  
Department: Telecommunications and Postal Services  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

