

## NAMIBIA TO HOST SOUTHERN AFRICAN LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE 2020

*As Dr Mnubi-Mchombu wins Best Overall Paper Award at SCECSAL 2018 in Uganda*

Not only did the Namibian delegation win the bid to host the next biennial Standing Conference of Eastern Central Southern African Librarians (SCECSAL) in 2020, but they stole the show on the last day of the five-day event as Dr Chiku Mnubi-Mchombu, a member of the Namibian team, won the Best SCECSAL 2018 Overall Paper Award.

A Senior Documentalist at the Human Rights and Documentation Centre (HRDC) in the Faculty of Law, Dr Mnubi-Mchombu's paper titled: "Access to Information and Services by Students with Disabilities: A case study of the University of Namibia," was a joint presentation with Ms Ivone Tjilale, also from the HRDC.

The SCECSAL, that was held in Uganda this year, is a regional forum for library and information associations in Africa and is held every two years, with an objective of exchanging new ideas on new technologies and enhancing the general advancement and development of library and information services in African countries. SCECSAL is constituted of the following members: Botswana, eSwatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Namibia Information Workers Association's (NIWA) bid to host the next Conference, was successful. To that end, the next SCECSAL will be held in Namibia from 20 – 24 April

2020, in Windhoek. The theme of the 24th Conference will be: "Inclusive libraries and information services toward achieving prosperity for sustainable development in Africa".

The delegation from Namibia comprised of Ms Veno Kauaria, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (Lifelong Learning); Ms Sarah Negumbo, Director of National Library and Archives Services; Dr Mnubi-Mchombu; Ms Hilya Roberts; Ms Elizabeth Matheus, and Ms Paulina Hamukwaya.

In preparation for the forthcoming SCECSAL 2020 Conference, the Namibian Information Institutions have established a National



SCECSAL Organising Committee. "I would like to invite all library, archives and information services friends, to join hands in order to ensure SCECSAL 2020 is a success," said Dr

Mnubi-Mchombu, who is chairing the Organising Committee.

Details of the upcoming Conference are available at: [www.scecsal2020.org](http://www.scecsal2020.org)

## UCCB PROVIDES SHORT COURSE TRAINING ON LOAN PRICING MODELLING TO DBN

Over 20 DBN Bankers were upskilled in the approaches of debt pricing models through the University of Namibia Central Consultancy Bureau (UCCB). The short-course took place from 11 – 27 June 2018, and is the first of its kind to be offered by the Bureau in the market.

The objective of the short course was to share knowledge and train Bankers on how to build own internal application scorecards for risk based loan pricing, build own internal probability of default models for risk based loan pricing and loan loss provision, build own internal risk based rating systems, as well as build own internal risk based loan pricing models.

Emphasising the importance of the course, UCCB Director, Mr Mapuku Thikusko, said: "This is important because Banks that use quantified pricing models are better equipped

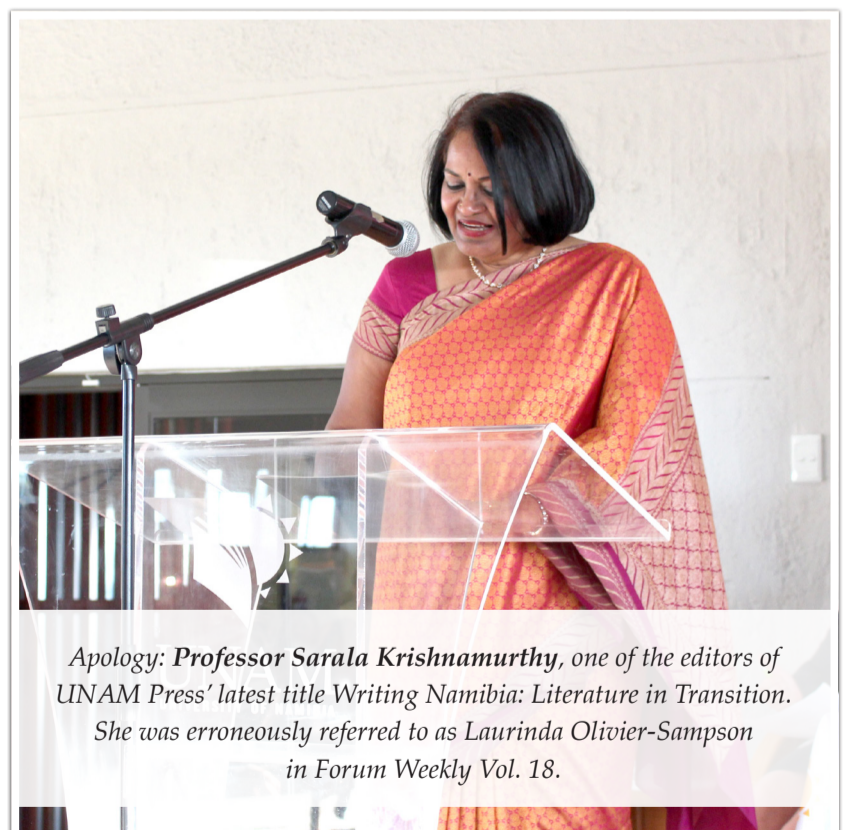


to respond to changes in the market and attracting high-value clients." It is not always possible to allow the market to dictate pricing. The pricing model can aid decision-making and contribute to an improved return of equity (ROE). Unlike the approach of allowing the market to influence pricing, hands-on knowledge of loan pricing models diminishes guessing with each transaction.

"UCCB would like to extend its gratitude to DBN for entrusting

UNAM with this important task and Dr Gumbo for his expert knowledge in this subject area," said a delighted Mr Thikusko on the last day of the course.

UCCB is the business arm of the University that offers the private and public sector a value-adding, innovative and cutting-edge cluster of multidisciplinary consultative business services and training.



Apology: Professor Sarala Krishnamurthy, one of the editors of UNAM Press' latest title *Writing Namibia: Literature in Transition*. She was erroneously referred to as Laurinda Olivier-Sampson in Forum Weekly Vol. 18.

### UNAM WILL BE CLOSED

for the Mid-Term recess:  
02 – 06 July 2018

The University re-opens for business on 09 July at 07h30