Surviving conferences: *Survival of the fittest?*

Erica van der Westhuizen and other VET species

*Academic Information Service*

*University of Pretoria*
Why be so adventurous / mad / foolhardy?

- Innovative
- Enjoy sharing knowledge
- Pigs for punishment?
- The leading veterinary faculty library in Africa
- AND we won the bid afterall (Budapest 2003)
Winning the bid in Budapest
4 items to arrange (how crazy can you be?)

- Pre-conference workshops (4 days)
- The Conference (4 days)
- Post-conference tours (optional but 98% foreigners attended!)
- Finding funding for colleagues from other African countries
Planning: Scientific committee

- Fiona Brown
  - UK
- Ruth Lawrence
  - Australia
- Teodora Oker-Blom
  - Finland
- David Swanepoel
  - SA
- Vicki Croft
  - USA
- Trenton Boyd
  - USA
- Erica vd Westhuizen
  - SA
Planning: Local organising committee

- Amelia Breytenbach
- Tertia Coetsee,
- Barbara Kellermann
- Antoinette Lourens
- Marguerite Nel
- Johannes Moropotli
- Sanah Mphaga
- Erica vd Westhuizen
Other important Role players

- Monica van Schalwyk & Marietjie vd Westhuizen (womanned our library during the conference)
- Ruan van Staden (IT support)
- Vet Faculty administration (logistics)
Workshops 29/06-02/07

- CABI products (Animal Health compendium, Archives)
- NISC Wildlife & Ecology Worldwide
- SABINET
- SWETS Zoological Record and Biological Abstracts
- EBSCO
- EndNote and Reference Manager
- How to use the Internet effectively
Workshopping in the Computer Lab
Workshopping teatime
5 ICAHIS gets going
The lecture hall
Day 1

• Keynote Dr Adi Paterson, DST
  – Towards e-research in South Africa
Session 1

• Library products and services
  – Pirbright, UK
  – Sokoine Univ., Tanzania
  – Univ. Free State
  – Univ. Helsinki
  – Ohio State Univ
  – Univ. Zimbabwe
Day 2

Keynote: Roy Page-Shipp, SARIS project

- E-Research librarian – great future!
- Open Access issues
Session 2 & 3 : E-resources

- Univ. Illinois – Greg Youngen - chair
- Sokoine Univ., Tanzania
- Texas A&M Univ., USA
- Roy Page-Shipp
- Makerere Univ., Uganda
- Univ. Ibadan, Nigeria
- Scripps Research Institute, California
Day 3
Session 4: Knowledge Management

- Acad. Information Service, University Pretoria
- Correy Sutherland - Chair
- Dept of Primary Industries, Australia
- Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, SA
Session 5: The Web

• University of Pretoria, Veterinary Library

• University of E.Mondlane, Mozambique

• Acad. Information Service University of Pretoria

• Zoological Society of San Diego, USA

• Univ. Missouri – Trenton Boyd - chair
Day 4

- Keynote: Prof Bruce Rubidge
- South Africa has the oldest:
  - tortoise ancestors
  - dinosaur ancestor
  - dinosaur eggs
  - evidence of human-made fire
  - and has the best record of extinction event!
Our last but by no means least Keynote

- Glenda Myers, Wits Health Sciences Library on –

Evidence-based librarianship and all that jazz (her words!)
Sessions 6 & 7: The Role of the Information Specialist

- Texas A&M University
- Virginia Polytechnic and State University, USA
- University of Zambia
- University of Pretoria, - AIS
- University of Edinburgh, - UK
The pleasures of eating & drinking
Poster session

- Largest poster session ever presented at an ICAHIS conference (13)
- See our conference blog: www.knowledgeflows.blogspot.com
- Variety of topics
- Knowledge management
Visits help to keep one sane

- Veterinary Academic Hospital, Onderstepoort
- Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute Museum and Library
- ARC Production Animal Institute, Irene
- Rietvlei Nature Reserve
- De Wildt Cheetah Breeding Reserve
Veterinary Academic Hospital, Onderstepoort
ARC Irene
Rietvlei

• Special conference blankets, handmade with loving care by Antoinette and Marguerite.
Not another visit?
More visits to keep us fit!

• Medical Library, University of Pretoria
• National Zoo, Pretoria – Hospital and research facilities
At the waterhole
Kruger here we come!

- 4 South Africans, 24 foreigners + 1 busdriver – do you still want to be a tour guide?
This is what makes it all worthwhile
Other AI participants
To sum up

• Promoted the transfer, exchange and utilisation of information
• 65 participants, developed & developing countries
• Positive feedback received

Thank you again for the best organized ICAHIS I have attended.

Vicki Kok

HIP! HIP! HURRAY!! ON THE SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM AND ORGANIZATION OF 5 ICAHIS.

Dr Tayo Babalobi
Acknowledgements

• Medical Library UP
• Faculty of Veterinary Science UP
• Academic Information Service UP
• AI colleagues who attended, Monica & Hilda who chaired 2 sessions, Robert for the welcome, Salomie for registration help, Eleta (floral arrangements) & Nico (table decorations).
• Those magnificent Veterinary Library staff members WHO MADE IT ALL POSSIBLE

All photos in this presentation were taken by 5ICAHIS participants
The Survivors!