Biblioteek- en Inligtingsdiens

Library and Information Service

UNIVERSITEIT STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

ANNUAL REPORT

2017

Contents

Members of the Senate Library Committee in 2017

CHAIRMAN:

Prof TE Cloete, Vice-Rector: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

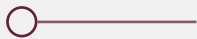|	
Prof MI Cherry	Faculty of Science
Prof LC Jonker	Faculty of Theology
Prof A Louw	Faculty of Science
Prof GO Sigge	Faculty of AgriSciences
Prof C van der Walt	Faculty of Education
Prof JL van Niekerk	Faculty of Engineering
Ms T Overmeyer	Dean of Students
Dr A van der Merwe	Senior Director: Learning and Teaching Enhancement
Ms H Swart	Acting Senior Director: Library and Information Service
Mr MD Frier	Secretary
Mr B Davids	Students' Representative Council

1 *Introduction*

In 2017, the activities of the Library and Information Service (hereafter "the Library") focused on supporting the vision of Stellenbosch University (SU), namely to be an inclusive, innovative, future-focused, world-class university that is firmly rooted in Africa. We continued to create an environment that promotes academic excellence by responding to the fast-changing higher education landscape, keeping abreast of the latest technological advances, and providing relevant spaces, information resources and services.

2 *Highlights of the year*

We appointed a research data services manager, who will support **research data services delivery** to the campus community. This is in line with the University's emerging strategy to incorporate information and communications technology (ICT) into its research activities to help make the research process more efficient.

SU's partnership with the University of Bath resulted in a two-week **staff exchange with the University of Bath Library**. This has enhanced our research service offering, such as research analytics and research data services.

Through our implementation of the **new integrated library system Alma**, we have consolidated the availability and discoverability of our printed and electronic information into one management and search interface. This not only enables better search and retrieval via the Library website, but also improves process integration with vendor and campus systems. SU is the first institution in Africa to have successfully implemented Alma.

For our **annual Documentation Centre lecture** during the SU Woordfees, facilitator Prof Lizette Rabe interviewed Naspers chairman Ton Vosloo about his life and work, after which the Manuscripts Section hosted an exhibition.

Dr. Anthea M. Lesch was one of the presenters

The presentations at our **fifth annual Library Research Week**, which was themed "The nuts and bolts of research", drew capacity audiences that praised the relevance and quality of the presentations.

Scholars' **use of our special collections yielded an exceptional research output**, which included six books, five articles, seven theses and dissertations, and many conference papers. This reaffirmed the research value of our unique collections.

3 *Our strategic priorities*

3.1 STATE-OF-THE-ART SPACES AND TECHNOLOGIES

One of our strategic objectives is to provide and sustain state-of-the-art spaces and technologies that allow users with diverse needs to effectively discover and create knowledge.

Creating cutting-edge spaces through upgrades and refurbishments

The refurbishment of the Medicine and Health Sciences Library took centre stage in 2017. The contemporary new spaces offer innovative and collaborative learning, teaching and research facilities which will contribute significantly to Tygerberg students' academic experience and success. By December 2017, the project was nearing completion, and we were preparing to reopen in February 2018.

On Stellenbosch campus, in turn, we have been working in close partnership with Facilities Management and the newly appointed architects to plan the next phase of **the upgrade of the Stellenbosch University Library (SU Library),** as the former JS Gericke Library is now known. The refurbishment will include a new entrance, circulation and security areas, offices, student computer work areas, a collaborative learning space, a coffee breakaway area, as well as an upgrade to the area outside the entrance. Work will commence in 2018.

Improving access to library spaces

To help meet clients' growing demand for **24/7 access** to the SU Library and all branch libraries, we further extended library hours for the 2017 end-of-year examinations. These hours will apply during examination periods in 2018 also. At the same time, we remain mindful of the fact that demand for full-time access to all libraries will very possibly increase in future.

3.2 SKILLED, DIVERSE, ADAPTABLE AND ENGAGED STAFF

By the end of 2017, we had 101 staff members, of whom 88 were full-time and 13 part-time permanent appointments, along with 44 student assistants.

Training and developing our staff

To achieve success in the 21st century and keep pace with the demands of our fast-changing profession, academic librarians must embrace continuous personal development and learning, whether formal or informal.

A key strategic action in 2017 was to **enhance staff skills** so that we can respond to clients' changing learning, teaching and research needs. Staff upskilled through:

- formal studies towards a PhD, the master's degrees in Library and Information Science (MLIS) and Information Technology (MIT), the bachelor's degree in Information Science (BInf) and the Programme in Archival Studies (a total of 14 staff), as well as the Professional Learnership (PLUS) programme on level 3 of the National Qualifications Framework (one staff member);

- Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) courses such as project management and leadership (six staff members);

- SU's information technology (IT) training programmes;

- events such as SU's Scholarship of Teaching and Learning conference, the e-Research Africa conference and the conferences of the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA) and the South African National Library and Information Consortium (SANLiC); and

- other sessions and workshops, such as the ATLAS.ti™ training, the Figshare software launch, the ORCID South Africa workshop, an SPSS short course, and workshops on bibliometrics, data carpentry and predatory journals.

Learning from peers abroad

Thanks to SU's partnership with the University of Bath in the United Kingdom, Alvina Matthee (librarian at the Medicine and Health Sciences Library) and Marié Roux (Manager: Research Impact and Research Commons) participated in a two-week **staff exchange with the University of Bath Library**. There, they acquired valuable knowledge on research impact (or research analytics) services and research data management practices, the structuring of faculty librarians' services, and collaboration between faculty librarians and research services staff. In addition, they investigated open access services, the institutional repository, special collections, marketing, and collaboration with the institutional research office. An SU/Bath collaboration to develop a research data management adventure game gained considerable momentum after this visit, and the game should be ready for roll-out towards the end of 2018.

The head of our Medicine and Health Sciences Library **visited the University of Leipzig's Medical Library** as part of the Stellenbosch-Leipzig Partnership Forum. As both institutions' Medicine/Health Sciences libraries are modern, service-orientated facilities, and both were undergoing refurbishment or construction at the time of the visit, this was an excellent opportunity to exchange ideas on best practices. The visit also offered valuable insights into our German counterpart's research support services.

Our partnerships with the universities of Bath and Leipzig show that engagement between committed, adaptable and empowered library staff significantly contributes to enhancing services. Both partnerships will continue in 2018, and reciprocal visits are on the cards.

Promoting scholarship through staff publications and presentations

Highlights in terms of **staff research outputs** in the year in review included the following:

- Keikelame, MJ, Suliaman, T, Hendriksz, M [our staff member] & Swartz, L. 2017. Psychosocial challenges affecting the quality of life in adults with epilepsy and their carers in Africa: A review of published evidence between 1994 and 2014. *African Journal of Primary Health Care & Family Medicine*, 9(1), a1275. https://doi.org/10.4102/phcfm.v9i1.1275.

- Kortje, M & Jacobs, I. 2017. *Next-gen library system: some efficiencies gained.* Poster presentation at the 18th annual LIASA conference, Kempton Park, 2–6 October.

3.2

Nurturing a caring and cared-for staff corps through community outreach, staff wellness and development

In our second year of contributing to the **67 Blankets for Nelson Mandela Day** initiative, staff donated 197 beanies and 95 scarves to the learners of Heideveld Primary School.

Heideveld Primary School learners all wrapped up for winter

Our IT staff travelled to McGregor to **donate 80 computers to McGregor Primary School** and to help set up and program the machines. We had withdrawn the computers from our stock as part of our equipment replacement programme. In her letter of thanks, the principal shared the learners' excitement, saying that the computers had given them a different view of the technological world.

The computer room at McGregor Primary School

Excited!

Other ways in which staff made their social impact felt were:

- a R1 200 donation to, and help with making sandwiches for, the **Toasties for Tummies** drive as part of the Mandela Day celebrations;

- the **SU Casual Day** activities in aid of people with disabilities;

- the collection of 17 000 bread tags in aid of the **Bread Tags for Wheelchairs** initiative; and

- an R830 donation towards cancer research at the **Cuppa for Cansa** tea.

To enhance staff wellness and development, we hosted ten so-called **Happy Hour information sessions**. Topics included safe internet practices, gut health, the prevention of burnout, understanding food labels, and safe food storage. Fourteen library staff members also took part in the **annual SU Fun Walk,** and 32 in the **SU Staff Sports Day**. The latter included 21 recruits for the "mass warm-up", as well as domino, volleyball and soccer team entries.

"Fit for purpose". Members of the sizeable contingent who represented us at the SU Staff Sports Day

3.3 AVAILABILITY, SUSTAINABILITY AND DISCOVERABILITY OF INFORMATION RESOURCES

Maintaining relevant and sustainable electronic and printed collections

Our 2017 materials budget totalled R82 561 309, of which we spent approximately 90% on electronic resources. These included subscriptions to 123 databases and journal packages, which provided full-text access to 282 971 academic journals. The graph below illustrates how we have managed to increase access to electronic journals by over 250 000 titles over the past decade, with a notable increase of 76 171 titles in the past year alone.
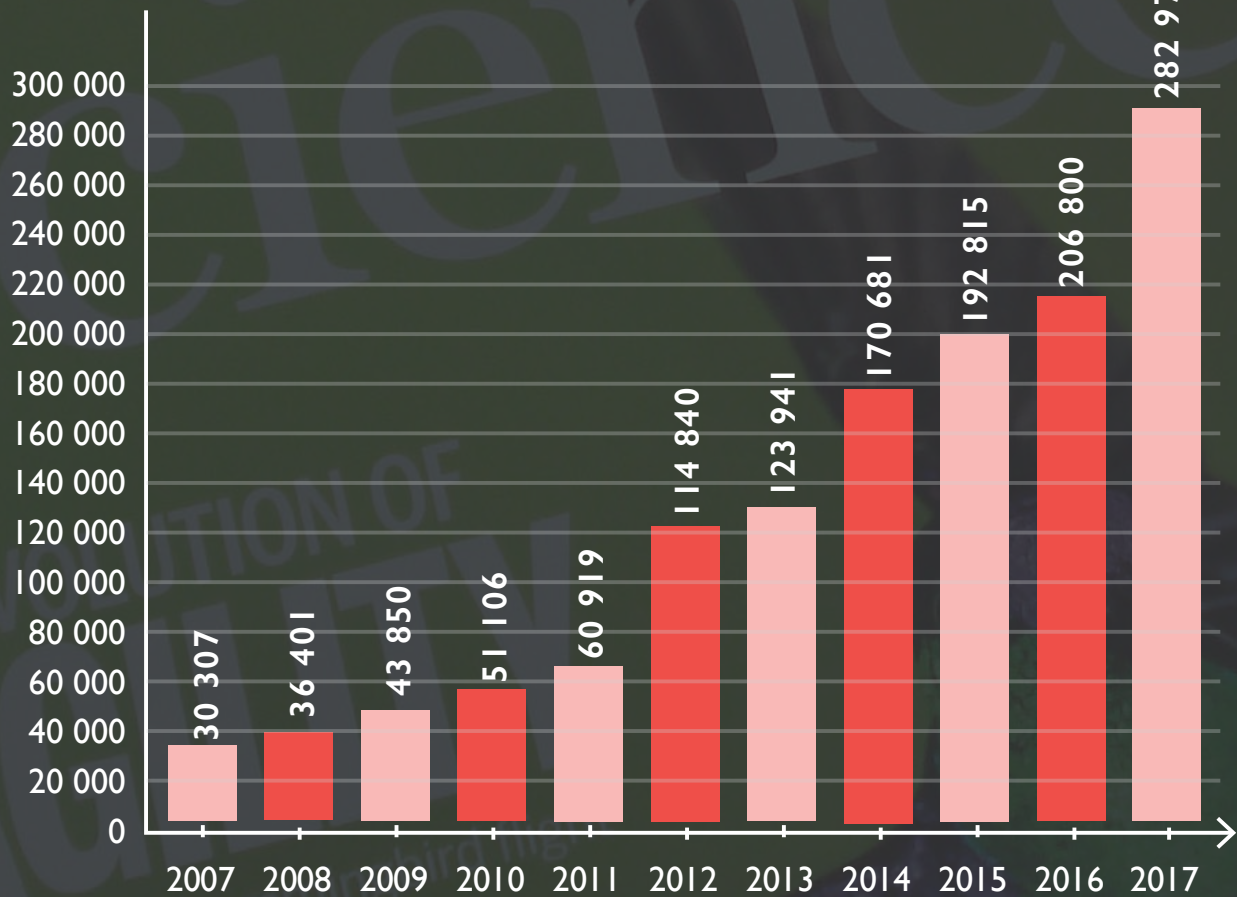
Figure 1: *Full-text journals available via our website, 2007-2017*

Our clients continued to make full use of our electronic resources offering in 2017. As table 1 shows, users downloaded 1 930 536 full-text articles from the 20 most frequented databases alone.

Database	Full-text downloads
ScienceDirect	691 720
JSTOR	199 544
Wiley Online Library full collection	174 307
Taylor and Francis SSH and S&T journal collection	117 460
Springer/Kluwer full-text journal package	114 064
SA Media	95 947
UpToDate	72 189
Academic Search Premier	56 485
Sage Premier journal collection	47 489
HeinOnline	46 891
IEEE/IET Electronic Library (IEL)	43 409
Knovel	40 894
INET BFA	37 148
ACS publications (American Chemical Society journals)	33 552
South African Law Reports	31 453
Clinical Key	30 254
LWW total-access collection	28 289
Emerald	26 780
Business Source Premier	26 084
Civil Procedure Library	16 577
Total	**1 930 536**

Table 1: *Top 20 databases according to full-text downloads*

3.3

Financial constraints are an ongoing challenge for most modern academic libraries. Following a R3,3 million cut in our 2017 materials budget, we had to cancel subscriptions to 91 journals and four databases. These we identified based on very low usage or very high cost per use.

As our 2017 book budget was reduced by 33%, we could purchase only 3 105 new printed books worth R2 436 997, but were fortunate to also add 1 262 donated books to the collection. When one takes into account redundant books that had to be withdrawn, the printed book collection grew by 3 142 (see figure 2 below). In addition, we acquired 101 electronic books at R334 114.
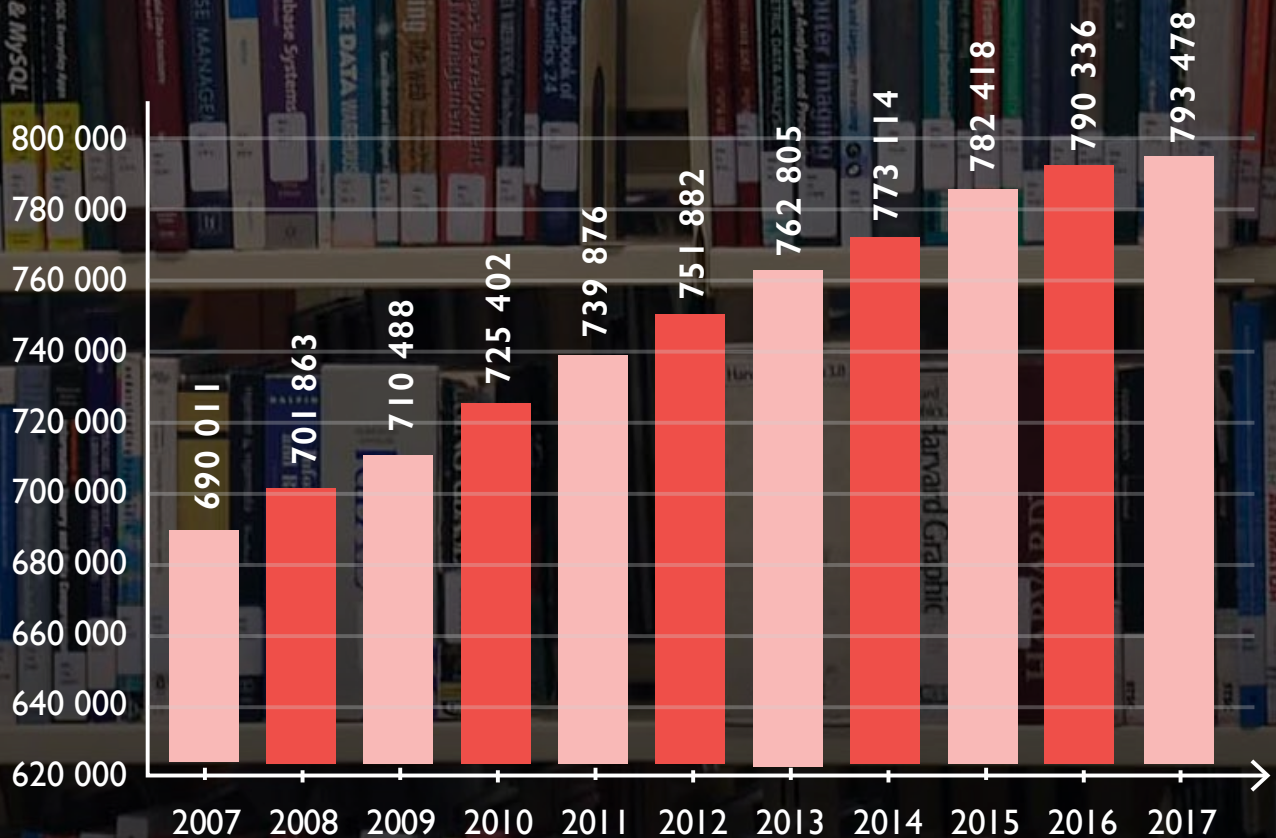

Figure 2: *Size of printed book collection, 2007-2017*

Using, expanding and showcasing special collections

Our Special Collections Division (Manuscripts, Rare Books and Africana sections) and the collections in the Documentation Centre for Music (DOMUS) are valuable information sources for postgraduate and postdoctoral research, as well as for various publications and conference presentations. In 2017, use of these special collections resulted in the following research products:

Books

- Du Plooy, H. (ed.). 2017. *Gespreksgenoot: 'n brieweboek.* Pretoria: Litera.
  (Manuscripts Section, various collections for information on Elize Botha)

- Gaulier, Armelle & Martin, Denis. 2017. *Cape Town harmonies: memory, humour and resilience.* Cape Town: African Minds.
  (Denis-Constant Martin collection, DOMUS)

- Mouton, F.A. 2017. *Iron in the soul: the leaders of the official parliamentary opposition in South Africa, 1910-1993.* Pretoria: Protea.
  (Manuscripts Section, various collections)

- Schoeman, Chris. 2017. *The historical Overberg: traces of the past in South Africa's southernmost region.* Cape Town: Penguin Random House.
  (Various collections in Manuscripts Section, and Africana Section)

- Styan, James-Brent. 2017. *Hartebreker = Heartbreaker* [biography of Chris Barnard]. Cape Town: Jonathan Ball.
  (Manuscripts Section, Amanda Botha collection)

- Van der Westhuizen, Christi. 2017. *Sitting pretty: white Afrikaans women in post-apartheid South Africa.* Pietermaritzburg: University of KwaZulu-Natal.
  (Manuscripts Section, various collections)

Articles

- Fourie-Basson, Wiida. 2017. Lelie van die veld [Dr Augusta Vera Duthie]. *Matieland*, 60:54-55.
  (Manuscripts Section, Marloth and various other collections)

- Froneman, Willemien. 2017. After fame: a micro-ethnography of popular late style. *Popular Music and Society.* 1-16.
  (Nico Carstens collection, DOMUS)

- Pauw, Marietjie. 2017. Naklanke van Arnold van Wyk se *Poerpasledam* vir fluit en klavier. *Litnet Akademies,* 14(3).
  (Arnold van Wyk collection, DOMUS)

- Pistorius, Juliana M. 2017. Coloured opera as subversive forgetting. *Social Dynamics,* 43(2):230-242.
  (Eoan collection, DOMUS)

- Rommelspacher, A. 2017. "Let Mrs Mafekeng stay": an evaluation of the Paarl riots of 1959. *Historia,* 62(1), May:48-72.
  (Manuscripts Section, various collections)

3.3

In addition to the books and articles published, several **theses, dissertations** and **conference presentations** emanated from the use of our special collections, including the following:

* Coetzee, C.J. 2017. *Competing audio-visual industries: a business history of the influence of SABC-TV on the Afrikaans cinematic film industry, c.1976-c.1986*. Unpublished master's thesis. Stellenbosch: Stellenbosch University. (Manuscripts Section, various collections)

* Pistorius, Juliana M. 2017. *Resistance through complicity: opera and race in apartheid South Africa*. Annual Meeting of the American Musicological Society, Rochester, NY, 9-12 November. (Eoan collection, DOMUS)

* Van Aardt, Peet Petrus. 2017. *Resources as part of the narrative in biography*. Unpublished doctoral dissertation. Stellenbosch: Stellenbosch University. (Manuscripts Section, various collections)

A **film** entitled *Vyftigjarige herdenking van 1ste hartoorplanting*, by Khaki Films, used manuscripts from the Amanda Botha Collection.

The **Manuscripts Section at SU Library received new manuscript collections**, adding value to the existing collections. These include the following:

- **IDASA collection**, which contains unique photographs depicting South Africa's political history. Given Dr Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert's close involvement with IDASA, these documents add value to the existing, well-utilised Van Zyl Slabbert collection.

- **Ben Dehaeck collection**, which contains information on community theatre in Stellenbosch and adds to the regional history of Stellenbosch

- **Koos van der Riet collection,** which contains cartoons of SU and Paul Roos Gymnasium staff

- **C. Louw collection**, containing Anglo-Boer War prisoner-of-war documents and artefacts

DOMUS received the following new collections:

- The collection of producer **Patrick Lee-Thorp** (also responsible for Mountain Records), which contains documents, artefacts and audio-visual material of musicians such as Amampondo, Jonathan Butler, Basil Coetzee, Coenie de Villiers, Lesley Rae Dowling, Robbie Jansen, David Kramer, Edi Niederlander and Tony Schilder

- The documents and books of musicologists **Rupert Mayr** (also music critic for *Eastern Cape Herald*) and **Bernard van der Linde**

- A small collection of items relating to opera singer **Johan Botha**

- Sheet music and documents from musicologist and composer **Charles Oxtoby**

Events and exhibitions that showcased our special collections included the following:

- The annual Documentation Centre lecture during the Woordfees, which took the form of a conversation with Naspers chairman Ton Vosloo, facilitated by Prof Lizette Rabe, about his life and work, followed by an exhibition in the Manuscripts Section, on 4 March

- A week of workshops and talks themed "Record | Memory | Archive", hosted by the Hidden Years Music Archive Project (HYMAP) and the Interdisciplinary Forum for Popular Music, based on the HYMAP David Marks collection in DOMUS, on 5-7 September

- An exhibition of print editions from the Fay Singer South African Jewish music collection in the Music Library foyer to coincide with the "Performing the Jewish Archive: Out of the Shadows" festival organised by the SU Music Department and Leeds University in the week of 10-17 September

3.3

Improving the discoverability and accessibility of our resources

Now that we have implemented the new library management system **Alma** – the first African institution to have done so – our printed and electronic information is consolidated into one management and search interface. This offers better process integration with vendor and campus systems, improved search and retrieval via the Library website, and a reduction in local system administration.

The **Library website was redesigned to be compatible with all mobile platforms**. The redesign includes a seamless integration with the Alma search and retrieval system and a cloud-based library guide and reference service.

The usage statistics for both the **wireless network** and student printing services show that the SU Library remains the preferred study and research environment for both undergraduate and postgraduate students. The physical services and facilities, and the wireless network in particular, were thus reviewed and upgraded. We will continue to address system inefficiencies to meet modern users' expectations.

3.4 WORLD-CLASS, DIVERSE, INNOVATIVE AND CLIENT-ORIENTATED SERVICES

We continued strategic actions in support of student success and research excellence.

E-learning

Five faculties partnered with us to provide **e-learning for undergraduates** (see table 2). To support these partnerships, faculty librarians prepared curriculum-integrated information literacy e-guides for Scientific Communication 172 and 116, Information Skills 172 and 174, and Language and Thinking Skills EMS 114, and added another eight assignment-specific pages ("tabs") to existing library guides. Altogether 2 896 undergraduates completed assessments on the information literacy skills they had gained by using our module-specific library guides. By linking library guides to specific modules on SUNLearn, a total of 8 078 views were achieved.

Partner faculties	Module	Students enrolled	Students assessed (curriculum-integrated library training)	Views
AgriSciences	Viticulture and Oenology literature search tips	275		67
Arts and Social Sciences	Information Skills 172	1 731	1 731	264
	Information Skills 174	124	124	
Economic and Management Sciences	Language & Thinking skills EMS 114	115	115	230
	Economics 214	676		687
	Business Management 113	1 800		1 272
	Business Management 142	250		142
	Public & Development Management 314	78		45
Law	Roman Law 271	120		167
Science	Scientific Communication 172	800	800	3 918
	Scientific Communication 116	126	126	691
	Computer skills 272	100		130
	Physiological Sciences reference sources online	900		312
	Eerste River Project for the module "University Practices"	128		153
Total		7 223	2 896	8 078

Table 2: *Module-specific undergraduate e-learning in partnership with faculties*

These interventions seem to have had the desired effect: Lecturers and coordinators confirmed that students were sourcing better-quality articles where a module-specific library guide was available, and faculty librarians also received fewer requests for face-to-face assistance from undergraduates who had to work on assignments.

To assist SU's postgraduates, we **collaborated with the Postgraduate Office to create e-learning material**, which we share with other universities as part of the European Union's Erasmus+ project called Enhancing Postgraduate Environments (EPE). One such contribution that we submitted to EPE for approval and publication on their website in 2017 was a blended learning tutorial on predatory journals. It was based on the Sharable Content Object Reference Model (SCORM). We also completed another SCORM tutorial, on how to track and enhance one's research footprint, which will follow the same approval procedure in 2018. Moreover, in the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, students in the M in Contemporary Health & Nursing, M in Research Methodology and BCur Hons degree programmes now enjoy access to **a new generic e-guide** in addition to our face-to-face postgraduate and researcher training workshops. The 30 enrolled postgraduates viewed the guide 120 times.

In terms of our **general library guides**, we managed to attract 240 179 views in 2017 – 19% more than last year's 202 057 (see figure 3 below) – with the addition of Camtasia videos for the guide *Improving your literature research strategy* as well as for Roman Law 271. These we were able to create using our newly acquired knowledge from the blended teaching-and-learning short course run by the SU Centre for Learning Technologies. The videos are available to students on and off campus.
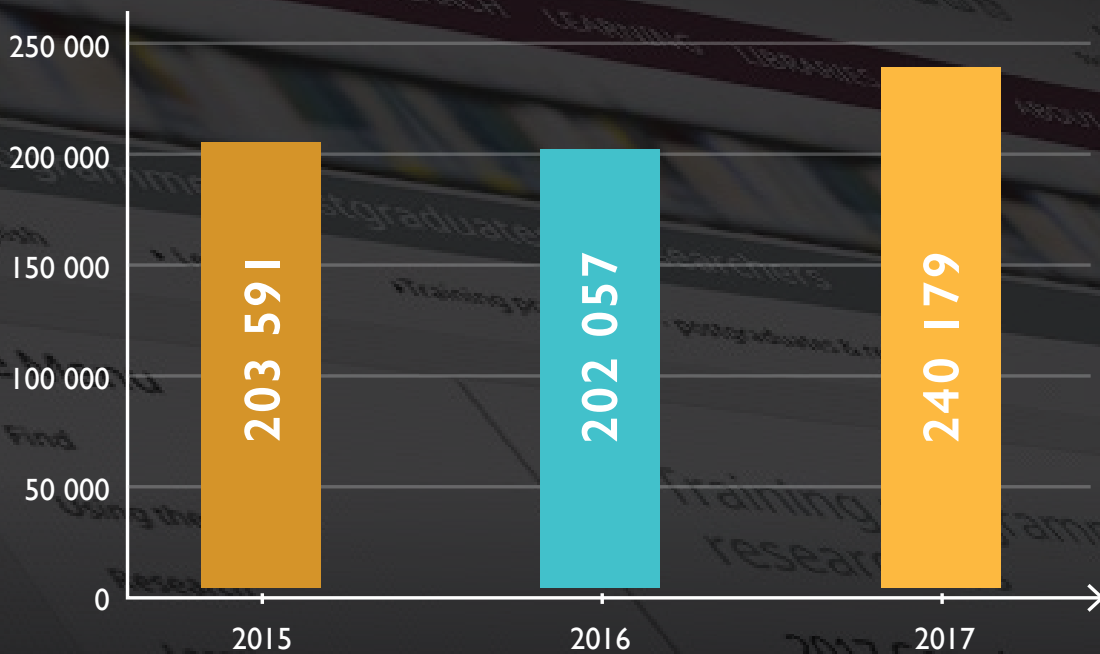

Figure 3: *Annual library guide views, 2015–2017*

Library guides that support research occupied nine of the top ten positions on the list of most-viewed guides for the reporting year. The subject guide *Law & Government Publications* was the only exception to the rule. Encouragingly, two new library guides, *Science in context* and *Off-campus access for Stellenbosch-registered students,* made the list of the 20 most popular guides (see table 3 below).

	TITLE OF LIBRARY GUIDE	VIEWS (and 2016 position)
1	How do I find, access and use information effectively: a step-by-step guide	53 592 (1)
2	Law & government publications	27 837 (2)
3	The research process	23 369 (3)
4	Postgraduate and researcher guide	13 161 (7)
5	Referencing	10 543 (6)
6	Directory of South African Music Collections	9 059 (4)
7	Google and Google Scholar	6 846 (10)
8	Where to publish your research article	6 168 (9)
9	Mendeley	5 709 (13)
10	Off-campus access for Stellenbosch registered students	4 929 (-)
11	Psychology	4 860 (12)
12	Education	4 694 (8)
13	Science in context	3 941 (-)
14	Business Management	3 796 (19)
15	Chemistry & Polymer Science	3 618 (11)
16	Political Science	3 287 (17)
17	Theology	3 136 (14)
18	Physiological Sciences	2 888 (-)
19	Bibliometrics and citation analysis	2 830 (15)
20	Economics	2 610 (-)

Table 3: *Number of views for the 20 most popular library guides, 2017*
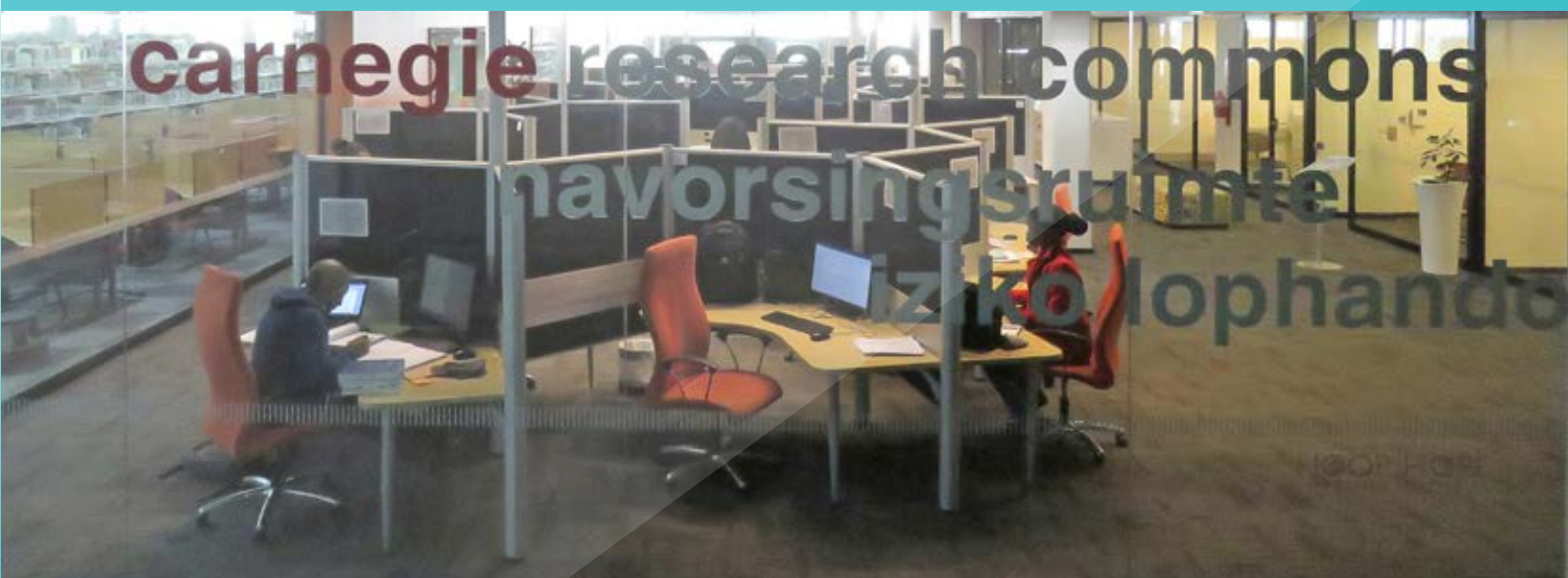
Research support

We implemented new ways of marketing our **Research Commons workshops** and, as a result, 464 postgraduate students and staff members attended (2016: 349 participants). The most popular workshops were "Mendeley for reference management and academic networking" and the new workshop "Tips on how to format your thesis (MS Word)" (see table 4). Participant feedback was extremely encouraging and bodes well for the future of these events:

"

I think the whole session was well packaged and delivered. The presenter highlighted and explained all the major points on Open Access. Overall, it was an excellent session!"

"I want to come again for more."

"Great course. This will improve my research and save me lots of time! A very valuable skill, and the funding/careers functionalaity of Mendeley is a bonus. Thank you."

3.4

Workshop title	Number of participants
Mendeley for reference management and academic networking	134
Tips on how to format your thesis (MS Word)	56
Copyright issues in theses and dissertation writing	50
Managing your unique author ID with ORCID	49
Making important decisions about publishing your research	46
Finding government statistics	44
Submitting your thesis/dissertation to SUNScholar	27
Useful tools and applications for research	23
Increase your online research visibility	17
What are the benefits of open access publishing for researchers?	10
Your research footprint: tracking and enhancing scholarly and scientific impact	8
Total	**464**

Table 4: *: List of workshops and number of participants, 2017*

ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) – a unique author identifier system

The National Research Foundation's statement in April 2017 that mandated the use of an **ORCID** identifier whenever a researcher applies for a rating, or when students and staff apply for funding, presented us with an opportunity to convince more clients to connect their ORCID identities to their SU identities. By the end of the reporting year, 1 405 SU staff and students had done so (see figure 4 below), including 52% of academic staff. The number of academics with SU-connected ORCID identities grew across all faculties, most notably in the Faculty of Education (figure 5).
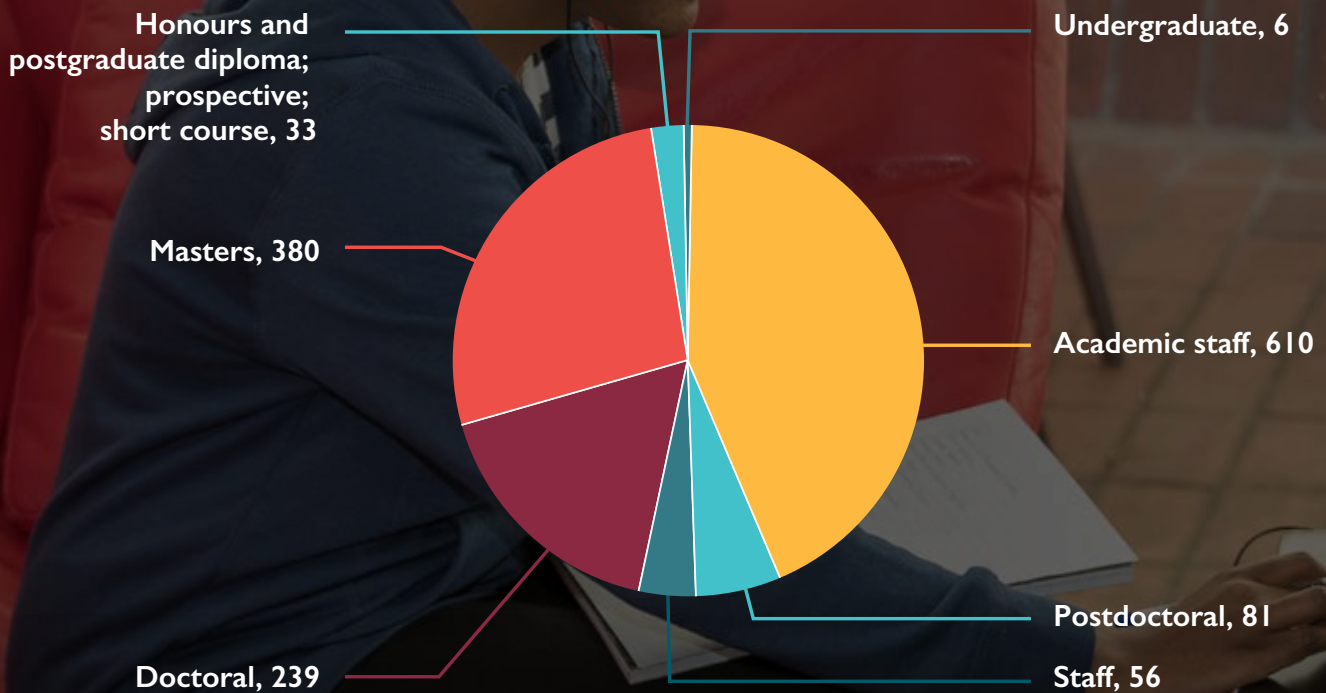

Honours and postgraduate diploma; prospective; short course, 33

Undergraduate, 6

Masters, 380

Academic staff, 610

Doctoral, 239

Postdoctoral, 81

Staff, 56

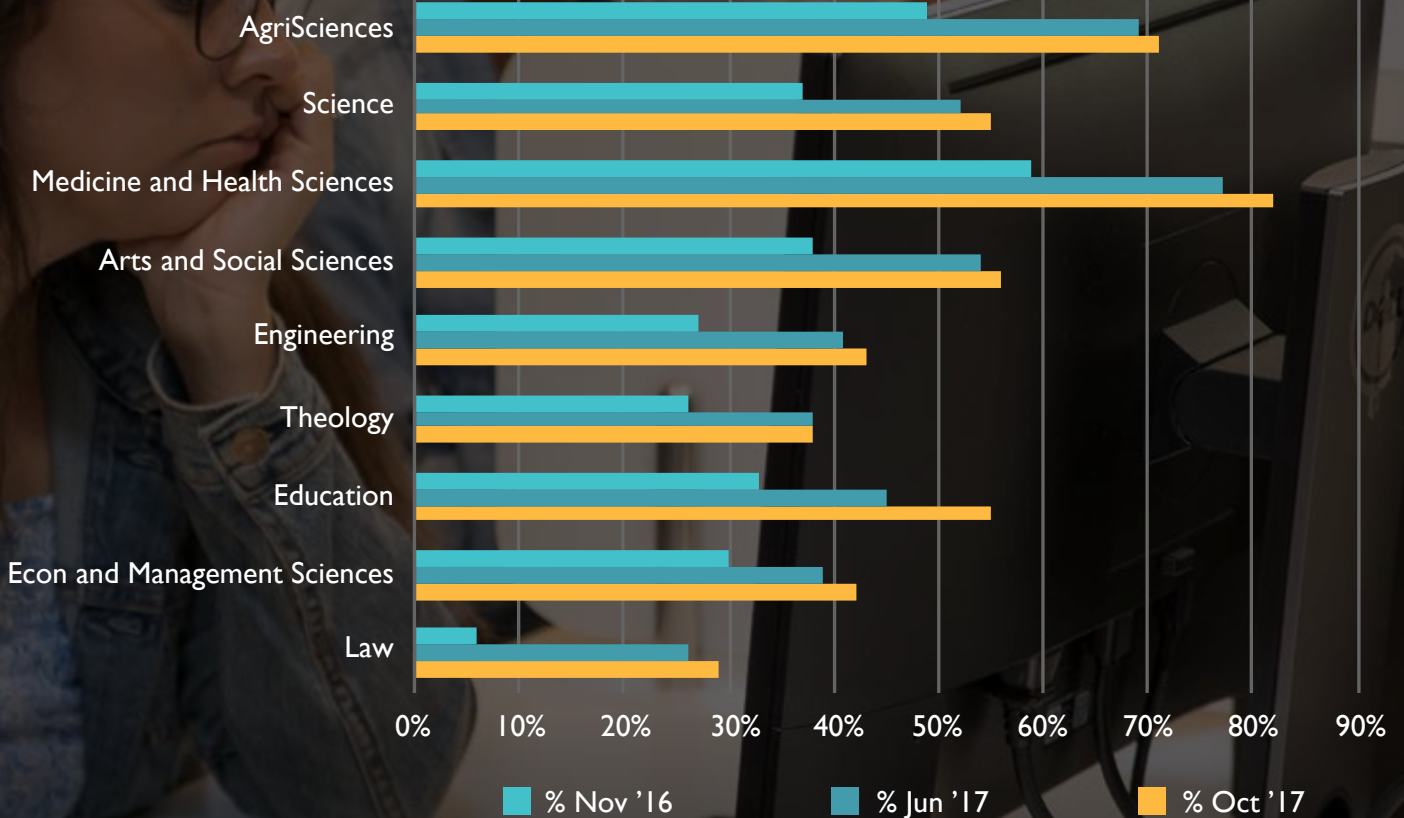*Figure 4:* *Number of SU-connected ORCID identities by client type, 2017*

Figure 5: *Percentage of academic staff with SU-connected ORCID identities, 2016–2017*

In other ORCID-related developments in 2017, SU joined the ORCID South Africa Consortium, which also includes Tshwane University of Technology, Rhodes University and the universities of the Western Cape, South Africa and Limpopo among its members. With the Tertiary Education and Research Network of South Africa (TENET) as administrator, the consortium offers several benefits, including premier institutional membership at a reduced cost. Our staff also formed part of an international team that helped develop new publicity material for ORCID. As a result, one of SU's postdoctoral fellows, James Craig Brown from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, contributed to an ORCID promotional video.
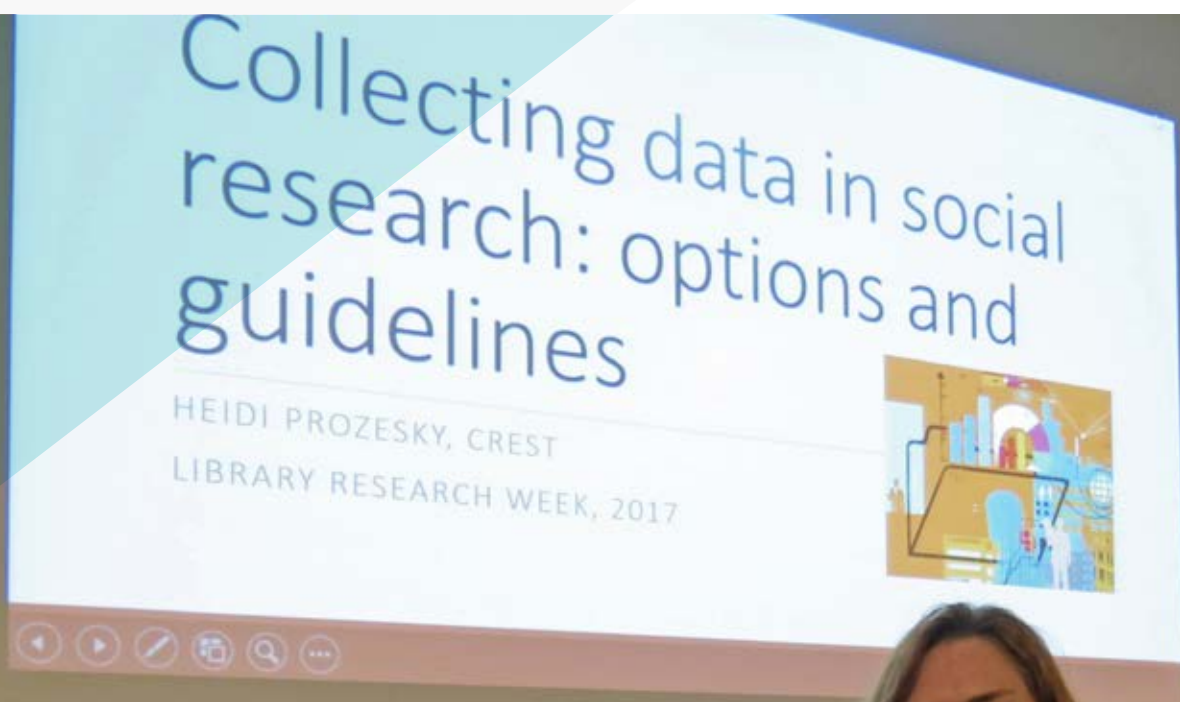
Library Research Week

Another key initiative in supporting SU research is our annual **Library Research Week**. Already in its fifth year, the theme of the 2017 event was "The nuts and bolts of research".

Presentations centred on the following four research sub-themes:
- Conceptualise your research
- Collect your research data
- Analyse your research results
- Share and publish

The turnout was exceptional and audience members experienced the presentations as very relevant and of a high quality. Apart from the 453 postgraduates and researchers who attended in person, we also reached 81 individuals who viewed recordings of some of the presentations on YouTube.

Dr Heidi Prozesky, CREST, one of the presenters at Library Research Week

Digital scholarship and open access

Open access (OA) initiatives continued to make our institutional research outputs more visible and accessible in 2017.

SUNScholar, our OA institutional repository, grew significantly with the addition of 1 112 theses and dissertations from the 2017 graduations, 907 new and retrospective research articles and conference papers, and 89 OA book chapters from SU-affiliated authors. With some 619 000 web visits and 405 000 downloads in 2017, use of the repository also continued to grow (see figure 6).
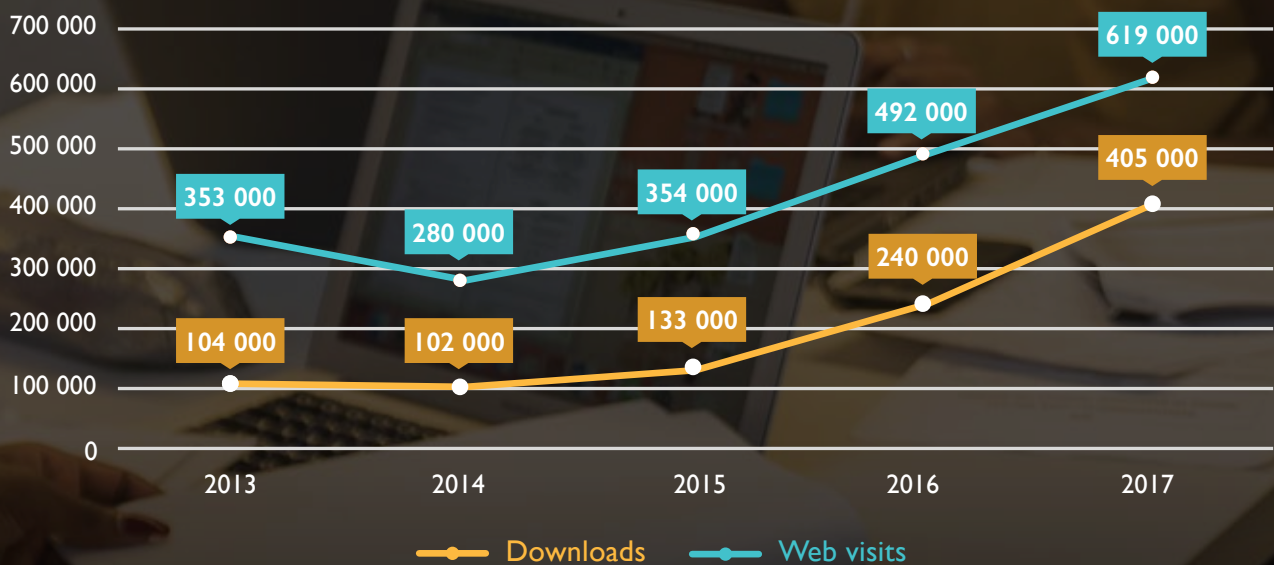
Figure 6: *SUNScholar usage, 2013–2017*

SUNJournals, our open journal hosting platform, now hosts 25 journals after the addition of *Ukumela: the South African Journal of Legal Reasoning, Writing and Education* in the year in review. We look forward to the first *Ukumela* issue in 2018. Both the publishing and usage statistics for the platform were encouraging: SUNJournal-hosted titles featured 116 research contributions (2016: 91) by SU-affiliated researchers, and received 263 279 visits in 2017. Visits ranged from more than 30 000 for established titles such as *Social Work* and *South African Journal of Industrial Engineering*, to around 2 500 for newly hosted journals such as *Journal of Student Affairs in Africa* and *South African Journal of Nephrology*.

Our digital heritage repository, **SUNDigital Collections**, grew equally significantly (see figure 7) and now boasts 12 514 individual items across 28 collections (2016: 7 657 items in 26 collections). The 4 857 new additions in 2017 included 178 articles and 79 speeches from the Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert collection, and 1 509 of Beyers Naudé's sermons from the collection held at the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology. The South African Jewish music articles collection also grew steadily, and now comprises 4 964 articles.
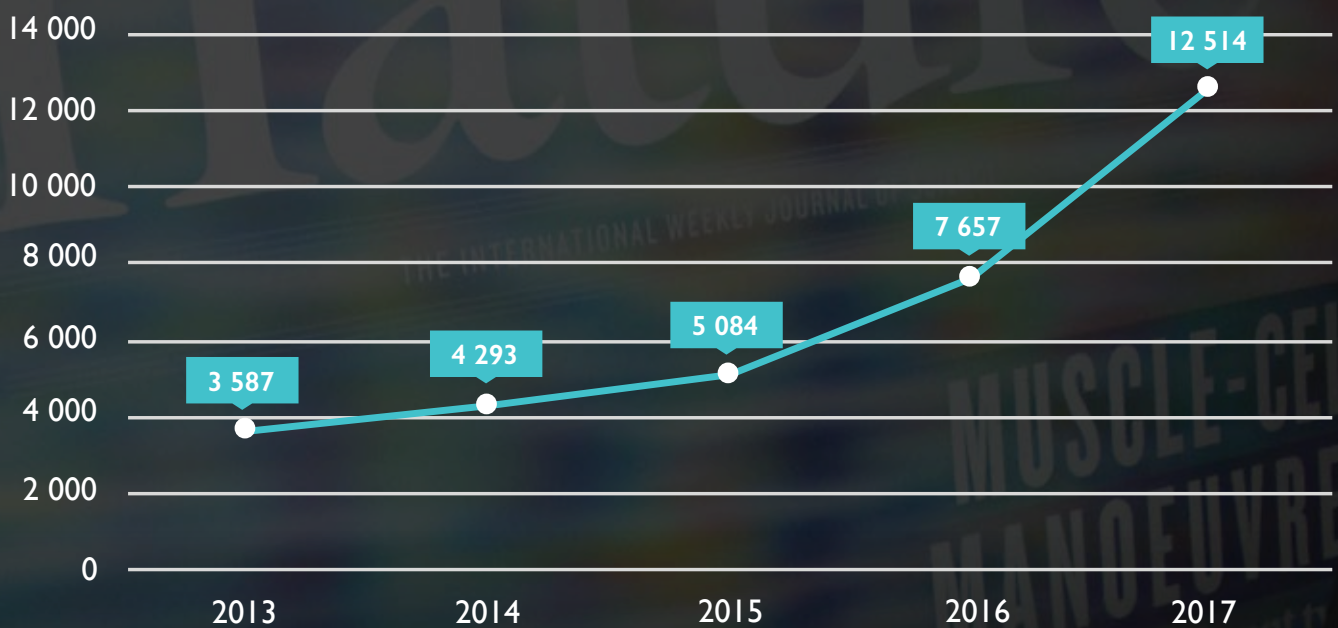

Figure 7: Number of items in SUNDigital Collections, 2013–2017

Since the inception of our **Open Access Publication Fund** in 2009, we helped fund 554 articles to the value of R6 576 120. In the past year, 103 applications secured funding of R888 736. The Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences is the most prolific user of the fund and accounted for 42% of the applications.

Finally, to further promote OA, we again took part in **International Open Access Week**, 23–27 October. To this end, we hosted a talk on the benefits of OA publishing by staff members Mimi Seyffert-Wirth and Naomi Visser, as well as the presentation "I put my journal behind a paywall, so why am I talking to you about Open Access?" by Dr John Measey from the DST-NRF Centre of Excellence for Invasion Biology. Dr Measey's discussion focused on the role of a chief editor of a society journal and an editorial board member of a so-called "massive" OA journal. He also elaborated on the history of journal publication, and the obstacles for society journals in adopting an OA model.

Research data management

Research data management (RDM) and related data services are increasingly becoming part of the research mandate of universities worldwide, and SU is no exception. RDM concerns the process of the effective organisation and structuring of research data through the entire research lifecycle. In keeping with this global trend and SU's evolving strategy for ICT in research, we appointed a research data services manager, included a presentation on RDM concepts in our 2017 SU Research Indaba participation, and hosted a workshop on data skills, presented in collaboration with the Data Carpentry organisation.
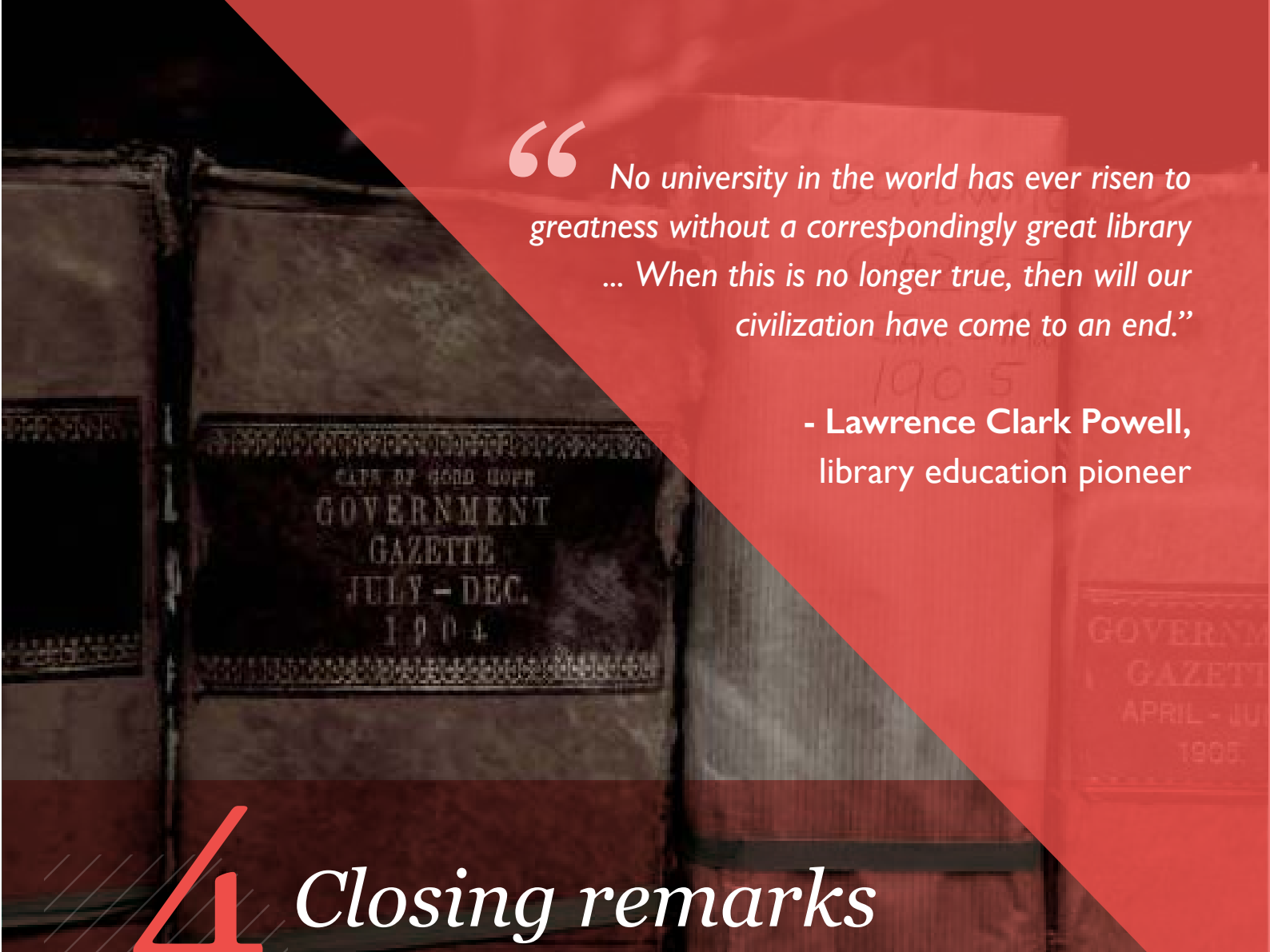
3.5 COLLABORATIVE RELATIONSHIPS WITH STAKEHOLDERS

The **South African National Library and Information Consortium (SANLiC)** seeks to facilitate affordable access to scholarly electronic information on a non-profit basis, mainly through collective negotiations with publishers and other content suppliers. In 2017, our partnership with SANLiC helped us save R125 million in subscription fees. In exchange, we paid SANLiC service and membership fees of R166 676 only, which makes it a collaboration well worth continuing.

In another collaboration, we contributed to the Western Cape Tier-2 Data Node Consortium, or **Ilifu** (isiXhosa for "cloud") as it is now known. The Ilifu project formally commenced in 2017 and strives to establish cloud technologies for data-intensive research, deploy RDM best practices, and advance infrastructure support for bioinformatics and astronomy research. We contributed to the RDM component by testing the efficacy of the Figshare system as an RDM platform for SU. To this end, we collaborated with SU researchers regarding the functionality of the system, benchmarked Figshare against international standards, and ensured compliance with SU policy and standards. In this way, we hope to help Ilifu create guidelines for good RDM, work-integrated learning programmes for data science, policy considerations for open science, and best practices for data-sharing and citation.

As a member of the **Cape Library Cooperative (CALICO)** regional consortium, we added value by sharing the lessons we had learned from the implementation of the Alma next-generation library system with fellow CALICO members. We also agreed to curate the records of the first 20 years of the consortium's existence (1997–2017) in our Special Collections Division in both printed and digital format. CALICO's search for collective off-site storage options of printed collections continued and we look forward to helping the consortium explore potential solutions in 2018.

> "No university in the world has ever risen to greatness without a correspondingly great library ... When this is no longer true, then will our civilization have come to an end."

> **- Lawrence Clark Powell,**
> library education pioneer

4 Closing remarks

Our clients remain paramount in our efforts to be a world-class, innovative information service. Therefore, we made a special attempt to obtain client feedback in 2017, such as through our new committee of library student assistants. This has confirmed that our offering of collaborative learning spaces and excellent services and resources remains key in sustaining SU's teaching, learning and research activities.

We thank the University management, the Vice-Rector: Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies, Prof Eugene Cloete, all deans of faculties as well as the Senate Library Committee members for their continued support. Finally, thank you to our senior management team and staff for their hard work and commitment to provide excellent service to SU's academic community throughout 2017.