

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 2

LIBRARY DURING COVID ERA

COVID 19 PROTECTIVE MEASURE:

- Always wear your mask
- Sanitize your hand
- Maintain social distance

**Keep yourself, family
& friends safe by
following Covid 19
protection measures**

This issue:

ILS PROVED TO BE
WORTHWHILE ACADEMIC
FOUNDATION FOR ME

PAGE 02

Intellectual property rights
and research and
development at HIT

PAGE 03

HIT Library Migrates from
Mandarin Oasis a Subscribed
Software
To

KOHA Integrated Library
Management System an Open
Source Software

PAGE 04-05

VIEWING WIKIPEDIA WITH A
DIFFERENT EYE
Insights from Ms M Bortman

PAGE 06-07

NEW BOOK ARRIVALS

PAGE 08

ILS PROVED TO BE WORTHWHILE ACADEMIC FOUNDATION FOR ME

Insight from Ngoni Veddie Muzondo

Coming to HIT straight from high school, I was excited by Technical Communication Skills course. In particular the Information Literacy Skills component was a new baby for me to handle. I was intrigued and wanted to learn more on the subject matter. ILS proved to be worthwhile academic foundation for me as a lifelong learner in my career path. I was actually surprised that the things that I took for granted like copying and pasting were proved to me as academic theft. Henceforth I was introduced and equipped with skills to identify and make use of credible sources of information. Academically I was advised not fall prey to bogus publishers and information from the rumor mall which is not authenticated.



" ILS proved
to be
worthwhile
academic
foundation
for me as a
lifelong
learner in my
career path".
Muzondo

After completing the course, I realized the following benefits and skills to:

- Define Information literacy skills
- Define Information
- Know the characteristics of an information literate person
- Identify the need for information
- Search and retrieve information
- Evaluate information sources
- Use the information ethically
- Disseminate the information (SDI)
- Use information ethically as a lifelong learner.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AT HIT

Today it is difficult to talk of Research and Development (R&D) without the aspect of Intellectual Property and associated rights. It is actually dangerous for organisations or even governments to ignore IP rights especially now where knowledge has become the new oil, a major ingredient in the production process. “Continuous efforts on research and development (R&D) create perpetual knowledge capital which is one of the bases of the economic growth to be endogenous”. Universities today have a huge task of making sure that there is continuous knowledge production or generation going on. The knowledge generated in the Universities through R&D helps grow nations through the creation of knowledge where knowledge capital is treated as the positive function of stock of physical capital. New inventions through efforts on R&D activities get protected by approval of patents rights. Further new research brings up new goods which are used as intermediate inputs for further invention and innovations.

It is important for staff at HIT to understand the nexus between R&D and Intellectual property. For the Institute to move to the creative and innovative stage, this relationship must be well understood by people who are involved in the generation of ideas. This is not limited to a special group of people, but to everyone who has ideas that can change the way we do things starting at HIT and beyond. “Research and development (R&D) includes activities that companies undertake to innovate, improve or introduce new products and services”. It is often the first stage in the development process. The goal is typically to take new products and services to market and add to the company's bottom line. This process begins in the labs, libraries, classrooms and in the community of practices where ideas can be conceived through classroom impartation, laboratory experiments, social interactions, research and learning commons. It is not a secret that in the modern world, economic development is dependent on new ideas and new technologies that can fundamentally change the way we live, and further improve the quality of our lives and research and development plays a critical role for the success of companies large and small. Intellectual property rights seek to protect knowledge derived from R&D especially by firms involved in collaborations with others to ensure that the knowledge is not expropriated. The lack of intellectual property rights reduces the bargaining power of collaboration partners and increase costs of information for such partners.

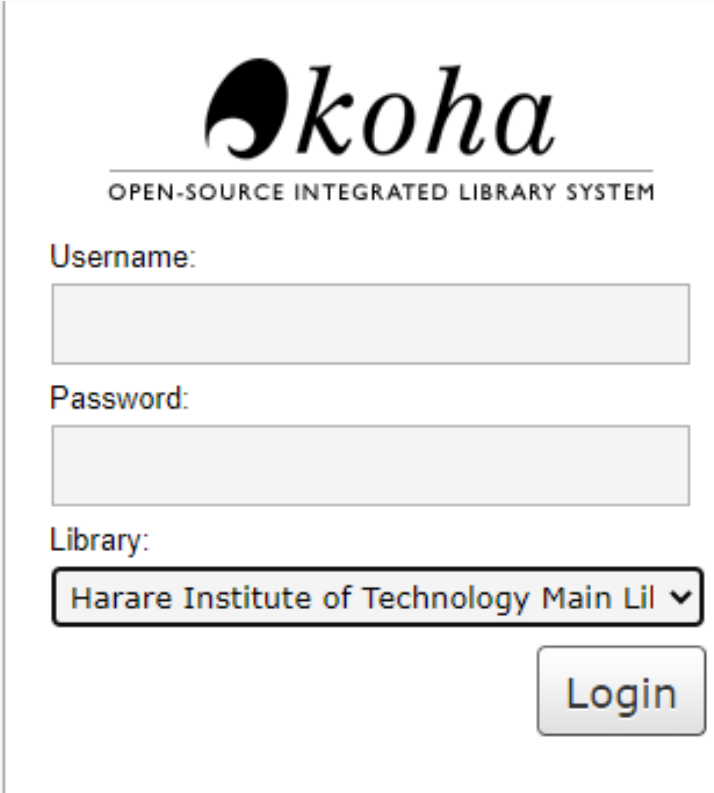
It is important for HIT as a centre for knowledge generation to balance intellectual property systems to ensure that they provide proper motivation to invest in research and development, while ensuring that the spread and development of research results are not inhibited. Weak IPR regimes lead to low returns for those seeking to innovate. There is need for staff to have knowledge of IP instruments, skills to process IP output from R&D. We need to invigorate passion for knowledge on IP issues so that we may be able as HIT family internalize all IP processes and requirements. Academic staff must be in a position to identify ideas that can be protected whilst working with students so that the process of protection can be less difficult.

HIT LIBRARY MIGRATES FROM MANDARIN OASIS A SUBSCRIBED SOFTWARE TO KOHA INTEGRATED LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AN OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

The Library and Information services embarked on a journey to migrate from using a proprietary software for their Library Management System Needs. The same opportunity is being taken to transform the way catalogue records are being created from using AACR2 standards to using the RDA standards.

MAIN FEATURES ON KOHA INCLUDES:

- Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) module which provides a simple and clear interface for library users to perform tasks such as searching for and reserving items and suggesting new items.
- Full catalogue module which enables library staff to capture details of all library items. It is MARC compliant, and also Z39.50 compliant, meaning data entry and exchange will be greatly simplified.
- Circulation module which fully automates borrowing and item management, integrating with the OPAC so users can see which items they have outstanding, for example.
- Acquisitions module which assists librarians with both acquisitions and more generally with budget management. Serials management and reporting modules perform functions that their names would suggest.

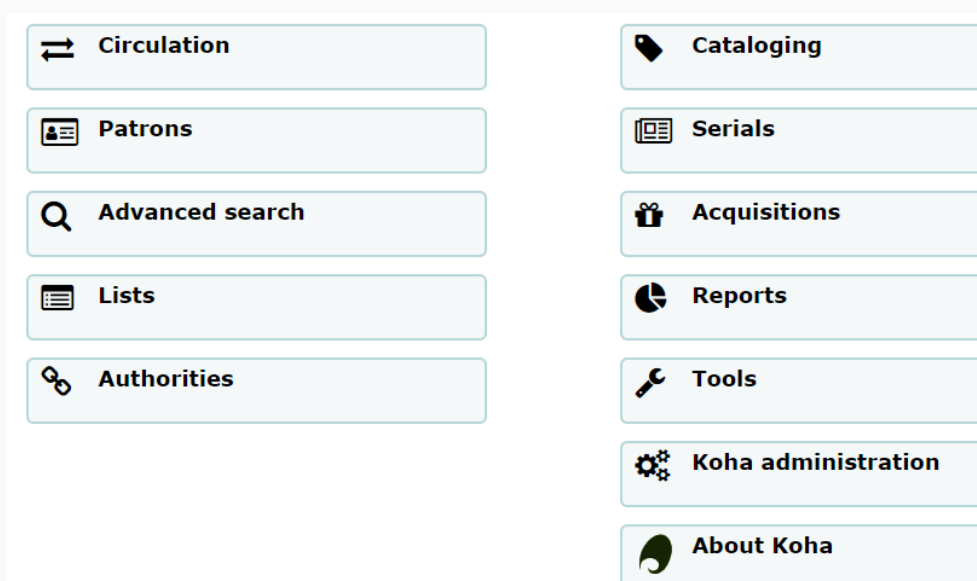


The screenshot shows the Koha login page. At the top is the Koha logo, which consists of a stylized 'k' inside a circle followed by the word 'koha' in a serif font. Below the logo is the text 'OPEN-SOURCE INTEGRATED LIBRARY SYSTEM'. The login form includes three input fields: 'Username:' with a text box, 'Password:' with a text box, and 'Library:' with a dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is currently set to 'Harare Institute of Technology Main Lil'. To the right of the dropdown menu is a 'Login' button.

HIT LIBRARY MIGRATES FROM MANDARIN OASIS A SUBSCRIBED SOFTWARE TO KOHA INTEGRATED LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AN OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE

WHY MOVE TO KOHA? WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF KOHA?

- The major benefit to accrue will be directly saving from the annual subscription fees that were being paid to Mandarin Oasis for the use of their software for our service. Mandarin charges \$810USD and KOHA is a free open source software.
- KOHA's main strength is in it being Open Source as well as its web accessibility and ease of use.
- The system is also flexible for integration with other systems and has options for plug-ins. For the benefit of those who desire to understand, below is a brief description of the new System.
- The System is Web-based and there is no need to install the software on staff and user terminals. Koha supports all library house-keeping activities such as Acquisition, Cataloguing, Circulation, Serial Control, Patron Management, and OPAC.
- It also supports Web 2.0 tools. KOHA can be readily configured to the needs of each library and is updated with new features frequently.
- Easy access to information for library staff and users due to effective searching and issuing of items.
- Automation of alerts to remind patrons and staff about, for example, overdue items or arrival of new items.
- Reduced time of processing of library items, due to MARC and Z39.50 compatibilities.
- Online supervision becomes possible, reducing the line management responsibilities of senior staff.
- Library management becomes easier through automated collection of data and report generation.
- Through the acquisition module budgets can be more effectively managed.
- Koha brings together library users and staff, as both can see various aspects of the system and can work together more effectively to achieve each user's goals.



VIEWING WIKIPEDIA WITH A DIFFERENT EYE

Insights from Ms M Bortman



Ms Bortman commenced an online Wikipedia for African Libraries Cohort 1 Course on 4th February 2021 until the 31 April 2021. She was nominated to represent the Southern African region on representations of activities in the region. She was also nominated to lead the Wikilove for women project campaign. This programme highlights women's achievements in various fields.

The programme is earmarked at promoting activities done by women in their various constituencies. The name "Wikipedia" is a blending of the words wiki (a technology for creating collaborative websites, from the Hawaiian word wiki, meaning "quick") and encyclopedia.

Wikipedia's articles provide links designed to guide the user to related pages with additional information. Wikipedia) is a multilingual online encyclopedia created and maintained as an open collaboration project by a community of volunteer editors using a wiki-based editing system.



Commons

Freely usable photos
& more



Wikivoyage

Free travel guide



Wiktionary

Free dictionary



Wikibooks

Free textbooks



Wikinews

Free news source



Wikidata

Free knowledge
base



Wikiversity

Free course
materials



Wikiquote

Free quote
compendium



MediaWiki

Free & open wiki
application



Wikisource

Free library



Wikispecies

Free species
directory



Meta-Wiki

Community
coordination &
documentation

INSIGHTS ON WIKIPEDIA

Wikipedia as an information source. As librarians our main drive is to avail access to information to everyone without any form of discrimination.

Wikipedia comes as a free online encyclopaedia that can be contributed and edited by anyone who has interest in content development.

Wikipedia says it has no rules but the policy guidelines sets out what can be done and what cannot be done setting out some kind of rules.

Wikipedia is a platform for all. Professionals and amateurs contribute to Wikipedia where the slogan ‘if its wrong put it right’ If one knows anything better than what has been written on an article then contribute that better knowledge and make the article even better.

It is therefore prevalent to find differently rated articles on Wikipedia from A class articles (very good) to E class (very bad). The honours is on the user to use the best cited articles based on the notability, reliability and neutrality status of the article on the platform.

Wikimedia Foundation through its various projects Wikipedia, Wiki Commons, Wiktionary, Wikidata and many others offer free access to all its information sources. Wikipedia is an important partner to libraries especially in Africa where resources are limited and libraries operate under stringent budgets that barely cover the needs of the libraries.

Wikipedia supplements libraries` resources, provides pathways to primary and secondary sources and citations and aids users in their researches.

Wikipedia offers a platform to record local knowledge in local languages something that the publishing industry has failed to do over the years. Wikipedia is an important tool for reference librarians as it offers a wide range of information sources and citations in its content.

Wikipedia`s engagement with different communities in different parts of the world improves its social coverage of social diversity through the different perspectives of sources and contributions which increases its representation in society.

NEW BOOK ARRIVALS

LIBRARY BOOK DISPLAYS

Recent book arrivals for the School of Allied Health Sciences

Come in and read, borrow and use for your assignments, examinations and researches.

