



July – September 2026 | Volume 1, Issue 2

# The **NUST Library** NEWSLETTER

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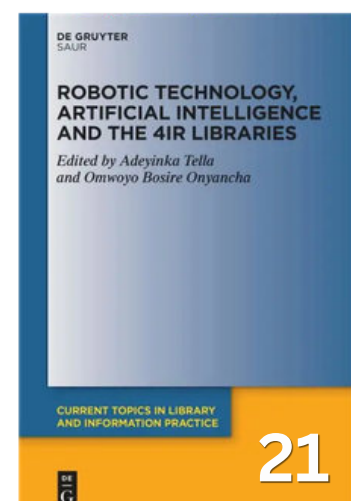


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***The Editor/Interim Deputy Librarian***  
*Mr. Israel Mbekezeli Dabengwa*



***The Managing Editor***  
*Ms Siphwe M. Sibanda*

## The Library is the place!

Think of a place you choose to visit repeatedly—a place where you always feel welcome, where you can connect with others, discover new opportunities, and leave feeling enriched.

The success of such a destination is rooted in service, empathy, and a dedication to fostering human potential. At times, you will tend to refer others to that place so that they can get the same service experience you felt...

Libraries embody these exact characteristics. They are not static book storerooms, but rather dynamic, trusted destinations for research, skills development, and quiet reflection.

In this issue of Ingwalo: "The Library is the Place," we shine a spotlight on how the NUST Library embodies this spirit daily. I am incredibly grateful to my team for opening up and sharing their own meaningful stories connected to this theme, adding a wonderful personal dimension to this edition. As you read on, we invite you to explore the unique experiences and innovations that prove the library is not just a building, but the very heart of learning and community.

Welcome to the second issue of "Ingwalo", the NUST Library Newsletter!

We want to extend our gratitude to the amazing team that made this issue possible:

- **Design and layout:** Mr. Antony Kujenga, Mr. Vitalis Kupara, Mr. Edius Nxumalo and Mr. Israel Dabengwa.
- **Editing Support:** Mr. Israel Dabengwa, Ms. Nonhlanhla Moyo, and Ms Nomagugu Mabhena.

Your efforts have made this newsletter a valuable resource for our library community. We are proud to share stories about our patrons, events, and collections. Keep turning pages!

Thank you all for your hard work and dedication!



# NUST LIBRARY

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NUST LIBRARY



**The NUST University Librarian,  
Mrs. Cynthia Sharon Ncube**

# Access for All

## inside NUST Library's new era of growth and inclusion

**Introduction:** It has been a season of transformation for the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) Library. From a new branch library in Harare to the university's first Disability Resource Centre, from a smoother remote-access experience through OpenAthens to a renewed commitment to staff development and wellness, the Library is reshaping what it means to serve its community fairly and fully.

The Editor, Mr. Israel M. Dabengwa sat down with Mrs Cynthia Sharon Ncube (CSN), NUST University Librarian, to unpack these developments, the thinking behind them, and what lies ahead. She shared insights into the strategic initiatives being implemented to enhance library services and support academic research. Mrs Ncube emphasised increased, inclusive access and outlined initiatives to tailor resources more equitably and effectively. Looking ahead, she outlined plans to integrate emerging technologies to further modernise the library's offerings.

**Editor:** The library has experienced several notable developments recently. Could you give us a brief overview of the major initiatives currently underway?

**CSN:** A lot is happening at the moment. The first is our new branch library at the Harare Campus, which is about 90% complete. We are looking at an August 2026 launch, and everything is being put in place, from personnel to library materials and other resources, to ensure the branch opens on schedule.

We are also establishing a Disability Resource Centre, the first of its kind at the university, which is likewise set to launch in August 2026. On the systems side, we have been migrating our remote-access platform from our previous provider to OpenAthens Connect. And in terms of infrastructure, we recently completed renovations to the library basement, one of our most popular student spaces, to resolve a long-standing ventilation problem. New extractor fans and air-conditioning have been installed; the work is complete, and students are back enjoying that space.

**"The university library truly is the epicentre of the university."**

*- Mrs Cynthia Ncube*

### Access To Library Resources Policy

**Editor:** The proposed Access to Library Resources Policy is currently under consultation. Why was this policy considered necessary, and what benefits do you expect it to bring?

**CSN:** This policy came about as a recommendation from our national accreditation body, the Zimbabwe Council of Higher Education (ZIMCHE), which had circulated a list of standard policies that every university should have. We did not yet have an Access to Library Resources Policy, so we began drafting one, and it is currently at the consultation stage ahead of formal approval and adoption.

The policy provides a formal framework for users to access and use library resources, services, spaces, and digital collections, giving the community structure in engaging with the Library.

## Harare Campus Branch Library

**Editor: The university is establishing a branch library at the Harare Campus. What motivated this development, and how will it enhance services for users there?**

**CSN:** For years, students and deans with classes at the Harare Campus have been requesting a branch library there. The demand was real, and it aligned with our commitment as a Library to fair and equitable access to resources, regardless of a user's geographical location.

It simply was not right for students to be disadvantaged in accessing library services and resources purely because they were based away from the main campus. The Harare branch responds directly to that need and to the sustained demand from both students and academic leadership.

## Disability Resource Centre

**Editor: The University, through the Library, is going to launch a Disability Resource Centre, the first of its kind at the university. Could you tell us about its significance and the services it offers?**

**CSN:** This is a major step forward for the university, and we owe a great deal to the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development. Through the Zimbabwe University Library Consortium (ZULC), NUST and other public and private university libraries applied for a ministry grant to purchase assistive devices, and the application was successful.

Every institution in the consortium was expected to provide space for the procured assistive devices, and while other universities already had a Disability Resource Centre, NUST did not have one. The assistive devices procured through the grant are already on their way to Bulawayo, and establishing the Centre allows us to extend our commitment to fair and equitable access to persons with disabilities among our students and staff.

The Centre itself will be a university-wide initiative rather than a library project alone, offering assistive devices and technologies together with trained staff to support users. We are currently running a survey to better understand the specific needs of our community members living with disabilities, so that future acquisitions are guided by their input. Some of our personnel have already completed a two-day training at the Harare Institute of Technology on the assistive devices procured, so the team is trained and ready to run the Centre.

## OpenAthens Connect

**Editor: The library recently subscribed to OpenAthens. What advantages has it provided over the previous remote access system?**

**CSN:** Beyond being more cost-effective, OpenAthens offers more features than our previous remote-access system, and it addresses some challenges we had experienced over the years. Our former provider was in the process of being taken over by another company, and the pricing that came with that transition was simply not sustainable for the university.

OpenAthens Connect compared far more favourably on cost while offering a stronger set of capabilities.

## Looking Ahead

**Editor: Among these developments, which do you believe will have the greatest long-term impact on the university community?**

**CSN:** Honestly, I think all of them will have a great, lasting impact. The Harare branch library has been long overdue, and people deserve library services regardless of where they are based. The Disability Resource Centre is going to matter for a very long time, because it is a government and ministry priority.

**Editor: Thank you for the insightful interview. We are looking forward to future conversations and building on the ideas we discussed.**



# Librarians take a day out to celebrate their service

The National University of Science and Technology Library joined the Zimbabwe Library Association (ZimLA) Matabeleland Branch in commemorating Librarians Day 2026 on the 25th of May 2026 at Blue Hills Camp in Esigodini.

The gathering, held under the theme “Celebrating the vital, evolving role of library professionals in fostering community, connection, and research integrity,” was far from a quiet retreat. Instead, it was a strategic bootcamp designed entirely to enhance the student and lecturer experience.

This annual event celebrates the vital role librarians play in knowledge access, literacy, and community development. It featured professional networking, team-building activities, and the recognition of outstanding service in the field. The participants came from library schools, public libraries, school libraries, research libraries, and college and university libraries.

## A Celebration of Community Triumphs

Just as sustainable communities rely on strong support systems, dedicated librarians can transform students’ research.

When asked about their most fulfilling career moments, the NUST library staff’s answers invariably centred on user triumphs.

“I remember helping a student who was struggling to find resources for his research project. After guiding him, he came back excited, telling me that his project had improved big time”

One librarian at NUST recalled the joy of serving the patrons.

Another librarian highlighted the deep satisfaction of supporting a PhD candidate in their research, while another found purpose in helping students who were overwhelmed by

research by showing them how to use databases.

## Address from the ZimLA President

Mrs Lindiwe Mpindiwa, the ZimLA President, challenged librarians to fundamentally reshape their communities in the midst of new developments such as Artificial Intelligence.

“To truly transform your library, you must actively engage with developments in the profession. Lead the change, as libraries are crucial for harnessing Africa’s knowledge, providing community access, supporting education, preserving culture, and advancing digital diffusion across the continent.” She noted.

## What This Means for the NUST Community

Inspired by the strategic focus of the day, the NUST library team is shifting gears to meet modern needs. To help the university community navigate the Fourth Industrial Revolution safely, the library is preparing to introduce more

Artificial Intelligence literacy sessions to empower patrons to use it wisely and to their advantage. Ultimately, Librarian’s Day served as a powerful reminder of the profession’s core mandate and future commitment to serving communities.

“Librarians Day is a day where Librarians take time out to reflect on their profession so that they see where gaps are. On this day, librarians remind each other of their mandate to serve their communities. Lastly, we remind each other not to stop learning; otherwise, we will lose relevance.” One librarian at NUST perfectly summarised this.

The NUST library is more than just a physical building; it is a dynamic hub connecting you to the resources you need to thrive in your learning, teaching, or research endeavours.

Are you ready to elevate your studies, streamline your research, and master new digital tools?

Visit the NUST library today, connect with your dedicated faculty librarian, and take control of your academic success!

Text| **Israel M . Dabengwa**| Photography| **COMA**



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# NUST Library Training Week 2026

## from a passive archive to an active research powerhouse

Every participant who completed the post-training survey rated the 2026 NUST Library Annual Training Week, held from 25 to 29 May 2026, as either good (69.2%) or excellent (30.8%) — with zero negative ratings recorded. The numbers reflect more than satisfaction: they mark a strategic capacity-building milestone, one that is repositioning the NUST Library as a driver of modern research and innovation at the university.

Under the theme, Transforming Library Services: Embracing AI, Digital Tools, and Research Support for the Future, NUST Library staff stepped decisively out of the stereotype of the passive archivist and into their new identity: digital navigators, AI prompt engineers, and active research partners powering the university's vision and mission.

### Redefining the Modern Academic Library

The notion that academic libraries are quiet repositories of physical books has disappeared. The

2026 Training Week, the most ambitious in the programme's history, featured a record number of presentations and a growing cohort of external facilitators compared to previous years, confirming that NUST Library professionals are transforming into frontline research enablers.

This year's lineup also leaned more heavily on external facilitators, a deliberate choice to bring specialist expertise. The external facilitators included Doreen Mupabwa (continuous professional development),

Mrs. Thobekile Dhlwayo, CBZ Holdings (financial literacy), Mr. Patson Ndlovu from UNESCO (sexual harassment in the workplace), The City of Bulawayo Fire Brigade and Ambulance Services (firefighting and first aid), Ms Melba Sitwala, International University of Management (professional identity on social media), N. Miller (Henry Stewart Talks) and Prof. S. Chimhenga, Zimbabwe Open University (inclusivity in the workplace).



## Emerging Themes from the Training: AI, Professionalism, and Lifelong Learning

One of the clearest shifts in this year's training was the inclusion of prompt engineering — a topic that was virtually absent from the programme two years ago, and a sign of how quickly academic librarianship is changing at NUST.

"It was practical and refreshing." Said one participant.

### Practical Skills Take Centre Stage

Participants consistently named the practical, hands-on nature of the sessions as one of the programme's greatest strengths — and the benefits reach beyond the library. With sharper database navigation and AI prompt engineering skills, NUST librarians are now positioned to shorten literature review timelines for postgraduate students and researchers, supporting the university's broader research agenda.

The presentations were positively received by the participants as they have real-world applications.

"It was practical and refreshing." Said one participant.

"Workshops are the way to go to address these real-world issues." Said another.

*"I learnt more about AI, including how to properly prompt".* Said another participant.

A recurring theme in the participants' reflections was the growing importance of Artificial Intelligence and digital literacy in modern librarianship.

"As librarians, we should embrace AI and use it as a tool." A participant remarked.

Professional identity and continuous development also featured prominently in the post-workshop survey.

"Continuous professional development" and "Managing a professional identity through social media" were among the key takeaways of the workshop.

Professionalism also came through in lighter moments. During the session on managing a professional identity, one participant offered a line that stuck with the room: "A bad attitude is like a flat tyre — you can't get very far."

### A Holistic Training Experience

The 2026 Training Week strengthened NUST Library as a safe, inclusive community hub by combining first-aid and emergency response training with staff facilitation skills to boost access, collaboration, innovation, and lifelong learning.

The inclusive and participatory atmosphere was equally celebrated.

*"The training week provided an open platform for participation by all library staff members."* Said one participant.

*"I appreciate that I was given an opportunity to actively participate by presenting."* Another participant said.

Text| **Judah Marowa, Aliyona Matanha, and Edrick Lunga**| Photographyl **Antony Kujenga, Vitalis Kupara, Edius Nxumalo**



## Research Commons

driving **research excellence and Heritage-Based Education 5.0** at NUST

The National University of Science and Technology (NUST) continues to strengthen its position as a leading institution in research, innovation, and community impact through the growth and success of its Research Commons. This dedicated facility supports researchers, postgraduate students, and academic staff in their research pursuits. The Research Commons, located within the Prof. M. Makhurane Technovation Centre, is more than simply a physical space; it serves as a comprehensive research support hub that enables users to navigate the increasingly complex research landscape with confidence and efficiency.

### Supporting Research Excellence

The Research Commons was established in the last quarter of 2025 to address the practical needs of researchers by providing access to specialised services, expert guidance, and collaborative learning spaces. Through its integrated approach to research support, the facility assists users at various stages of the research process, from literature discovery and data gathering to publication and scholarly visibility. Among its key services are the following:

- Researcher profiling, which assists academics in establishing and enhancing their scholarly presence.
- Training and support in reference management tools.
- Bibliometric services
- Expert guidance in the literature database search.
- Personalised one-on-one consultations provide researchers with tailored assistance in areas such

as citation management, research strategies, database navigation, and the effective use of research tools.

These services collectively improve research productivity, strengthen information literacy skills, and enhance the overall quality of scholarly work produced at the University.

### Growing Demand Reflects Increasing Value

The impact of the Research Commons is reflected in its steadily increasing usage. When the facility was first introduced, it recorded an average of four users daily. Within the first month, this figure rose to approximately 15 daily users, representing a 275 per cent increase. Seven months later, average daily usage had grown further to at least 25 users, amounting to a 525 per cent increase from the original baseline. This sustained growth demonstrates the Research Commons' growing relevance within the University's research ecosystem and highlights its increasing value among postgraduate students and researchers.

For many users, this facility has become an essential part of their academic journey. Mr Themba Moyo, a Master's student in the Faculty of Engineering, credits the Research Commons for improving the quality and efficiency of his research.

*"The Research Commons has transformed the way I conduct my literature reviews. The support I received*

*in searching academic databases and managing references saved me countless hours to identify sources that I might otherwise have missed. It has made me more confident as a researcher.*” He said.

## Positive User Experiences

User feedback consistently highlights the benefits of the Research Commons and its contribution to academic work.

Researchers and students have cited easier access to expert support, improved database search skills, greater confidence in using reference management tools, and the availability of a quiet, productive environment for reading and writing as the facility's most significant advantages.

A doctoral candidate described one-on-one consultation services as one of the most valuable aspects of the facility.

*"The personalised consultations were particularly helpful when I was developing my research strategy. The librarians guided me through advanced database searching techniques and introduced me to tools that improved my organisation and workflow. The support has been instrumental in progressing my research,"* he said.

The Research Commons has also earned praise from the academic staff. Prof. T. Mutanda, a renowned researcher and a regular patron, noted that the facility provides a comprehensive support system that enhances scholarly productivity across the University. "Research today requires access to specialised tools, quality information resources, and expert guidance. The Research Commons brings all these elements together in one place, creating an environment that supports both emerging and experienced researchers," He said.

These experiences demonstrate the important role that Research Commons plays in helping researchers overcome common barriers to productivity and achieve their scholarly objectives more effectively. They also reflect the library's commitment to fostering a culture of research excellence, collaboration, and innovation across the NUST community.

## Advancing Heritage-Based Education 5.0

The success of the Research Commons closely aligns with NUST's commitment to Heritage-Based

Education 5.0, which emphasises teaching, research, community service, innovation, and industrialisation as the key pillars of higher education.

By strengthening research capacity and knowledge creation, the Research Commons contributes to the University's mandate to develop solutions to local and national challenges. Through access to information resources, research support, and collaborative learning, it enables researchers to generate knowledge translated into innovation, entrepreneurship, and community development. It also fosters critical thinking, problem-solving, and lifelong learning essential for graduates and researchers contributing to Zimbabwe's heritage, socio-economic transformation, and NUST's vision of impactful Heritage-Based Education 5.0.

## Building a Stronger Research Culture

Globally, Research Commons facilities have become an important feature of modern academic libraries. International studies have shown that these spaces enhance research productivity, improve information literacy, increase scholarly visibility, and foster interdisciplinary collaboration.

The NUST Research Commons reflects these global best practices by transforming the library from a traditional repository of information into an active partner in the research process. By combining modern research tools, professional expertise, and user-centred services, the facility creates an environment where knowledge is not merely accessed but actively transformed into meaningful research outputs.

## A Partner in Academic Success

The library remains committed to supporting the University's academic community and the Research Commons stands as a testament to this commitment, providing researchers and postgraduate students with the resources, expertise and environment needed to thrive in today's dynamic research landscape.

Researchers and students are encouraged to take full advantage of the facility's wide range of services and become part of a growing community dedicated to advancing knowledge, innovation, and research excellence at NUST.

Text| **Ethel Chivhange**

Photography| **Ethel Chivhange**



## Behind the Search Bar

### NUST Library advances resource discovery through RDA Training

The National University of Science and Technology (NUST) Library has taken a significant step towards enhancing access to scholarly resources through specialised training in Resource Description and Access (RDA), an internationally recognised cataloguing standard.

Held from 13–17 April 2026, the five-day training programme brought together 21 participants from libraries and records centres across Zimbabwe. Facilitated by experts from the Faculty of Communication and Information Science (FCIS), together with senior cataloguing librarians from NUST and Lupane State University (LSU), the workshop focused on strengthening metadata practices to improve the discoverability, accessibility and interoperability of library resources.

The training equipped participants with practical skills in applying RDA standards to describe authorship, titles, publication details and relationships among resources. By adopting RDA, NUST Library aims to provide the university community with more accurate and relevant search results, reducing irrelevant records and making it easier to discover both local and international scholarly materials.

Speaking on the significance of the programme, the

organiser, Dr Hlomphang Pangeti (LSU), emphasised the importance of continuous improvement in metadata management. Metadata is data about other data, describing the structure and content of files, documents, images, or datasets to help users understand and manage data. For a book, it may include the author, publication date, and subject, aiding organisation, search, and preservation.

*“As we move forward, we will continue to evaluate, refine and expand our metadata standards, always striving to deliver precise, efficient and user-friendly access to the scholarly resources that underpin our academic community.”* She said.

The training also highlighted the broader impact of RDA adoption on the national information landscape. Mr Chenjerai Maodzwa (Acting Sub-Librarian, NUST library), noted that aligning local metadata practices with international standards strengthens national information infrastructure and facilitates cross-border scholarly communication.

*“The successful adoption of RDA in library metadata strengthens the national information infrastructure by aligning local practices with international standards, facilitating cross-border scholarly communication*

and improving access to research outputs across the country.” He said.

Prof. Notice Pasipamire (FCIS) observed that establishing common metadata standards is crucial for ensuring interoperability and consistency across diverse research databases and institutional repositories.

*“The harmonisation of metadata standards positions institutions to participate more effectively in regional and global initiatives, creating opportunities for collaboration, resource sharing and increased visibility of local research.”* Prof. N. Pasipamire added.

Beyond improving library services, the training represented a strategic investment in professional development. Participants gained hands-on experience in cataloguing diverse resource formats, managing complex metadata relationships and applying internationally recognised standards. These skills will contribute to improved workflows, stronger bibliographic control and enhanced support for teaching and research.

Dr. Shadreck Ndinde (FCIS) pointed out that students and researchers are expected to benefit significantly from the initiative as it improves the ability of computer systems or software to exchange and make use of information stored in library systems.

*“Clear and compatible catalogues help the NUST community find theses, datasets, journals, and other resources needed for academic work. This supports information literacy and independent learning.”* Dr. Ndinde noted.

The programme concluded with certificates in RDA presented to all participants, recognising their successful completion of the competency-based training and Koha installation (a library management information system).

The collaboration between NUST Library, LSU and the FCIS reflects a shared commitment to metadata excellence, open scholarly communication and continuous professional development.

Text| **Edrick Lunga and Aliyona Matanha** |Photography| **Nomagugu Mabhena**

**NUST  
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# ACCESS LIBRARY RESOURCES REMOTELY

**NUST Library has recently migrated to OpenAthens Connect for remote access to library resources.**

**YOUR STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE TO LOGGING INTO MyAthens**

**01**

**VISIT THE PORTAL**  
Open your internet browser on your smartphone, tablet, or laptop and head straight over to:  
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**02**

**FIND YOUR INSTITUTION**  
Locate the “Find your institution” search box. Start typing **“National University of Science and Technology”** and select it from the search suggestions.

**03**

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## eBook Collection

### NUST Library expands digital learning through **Springer Education eBook Collection**

The NUST Library continues to strengthen its support for teaching, learning, research, and innovation through the provision of the internationally acclaimed Springer Education eBook Collection. This premier digital resource offers unrestricted access to thousands of scholarly e-books covering a wide range of educational disciplines and contemporary issues shaping the education sector globally.

The collection provides comprehensive coverage of key areas including curriculum development, educational leadership, pedagogy, inclusive education, educational technology, policy studies, teacher education, and lifelong learning. Authored by leading international scholars and researchers, the collection delivers authoritative and evidence-based content that supports academic excellence across the university.

Accessible 24 hours a day, both on and off campus, the collection enables students, researchers, and

academic staff to access high-quality scholarly resources from any location using laptops, tablets, or mobile devices. This flexibility aligns with modern learning and research practices, allowing users to engage with academic content whenever and wherever needed.

One of the distinguishing features of the Springer Education eBook Collection is its multidisciplinary and global perspective. The collection addresses emerging trends and challenges in education systems worldwide, making it an invaluable resource for researchers and postgraduate students undertaking dissertations, theses, journal publications, and other scholarly projects. Users benefit from access to current research findings, theoretical frameworks, and evidence-based practices that inform both academic inquiry and professional practice.

The resource benefits the Faculty of Science and Technology Education (FSTE) by providing scholarly content for course development, lecture preparation, curriculum enhancement, and student learning. It helps staff enrich engagement with international perspectives and scholarship.

Beyond its rich content, the collection offers several features that enhance the research experience,

including advanced search capabilities, downloadable chapters, citation management tools, and user-friendly navigation. These functionalities enable efficient discovery and use of information, supporting productivity in both teaching and research.

The acquisition of the Springer Education eBook Collection reflects the NUST Library's commitment to resources that advance the university's goals in teaching, research, innovation, and community engagement, ensuring patrons remain connected to scholarship and international discourse.

In evaluating the collection, Dr. Nhlanhla Mkweli and Mr. Tapiwa Muzari, Senior Lecturers at FSTE, highlighted its value to the university community.

*"The resource is highly relevant to the Faculty of Science and Technology Education. It effectively supports student learning, teaching activities, research, and professional development, particularly in STEM education. The overall quality of the collection is excellent, and I strongly recommend its continued subscription and expansion to further enhance academic and research outcomes."* Dr. Mkweli noted.

*"The Education Springer E-book Collection makes research work, preparation of modules and actual teaching relatively easy due to the vast information it provides."* Added Mr. Muzari.

The NUST Library encourages all patrons to explore the Springer Education eBook Collection and discover resources that support their academic, research, and professional interests. Whether investigating educational policy reforms, digital learning methodologies, educational psychology, classroom management strategies, or broader pedagogical issues, users will find a wealth of reliable and scholarly information.

Library statistics show that the usage of the Springer collections has risen steadily over the past few years (37% per annum), with 2025 recording the highest levels to date.

By March 2025, 18,203 searches were recorded, an increase from 12,491 in March 2024 and 12,954 in March 2023. [Source: Springer Usage Statistics on NUST, Zimbabwe]

By providing access to the Springer Education eBook Collection, the NUST Library reaffirms its commitment to advancing teaching, learning, research, and innovation while fostering a vibrant and inclusive knowledge environment for the university community.

Text| **Chenjerai Maodzwa** |Photography| **Springer**

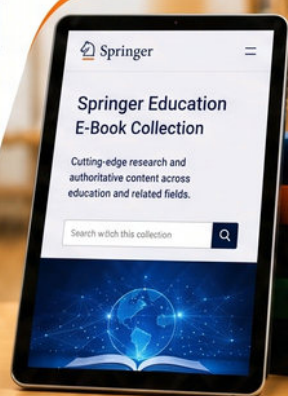


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#### GAIN INSIGHTS

From global education experts and trusted scholarly content.



#### SUPPORT

Your learning, teaching, and innovation.



### WHAT'S INSIDE THE COLLECTION?

The collection covers everything from Early Childhood has to particular focus on:

- ✓ Early Childhood Education
- ✓ Higher Education
- ✓ Science & Mathematics Education
- ✓ Educational Sociology & Psychology
- ✓ Teaching & Teacher Education
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# Meet your Faculty Librarians

## Faculty of Agricultural Science and Technology



**Ethel Chivhange** - *Research Commons, Prof. M. Makhurane Technovation Centre, Main Campus*

Ethel Chivhange is a Research Support Services Librarian and faculty liaison for two faculties, the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Technology and the Faculty of Environmental Science. She holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science. She supports students, researchers, and academics in strengthening access to information, improving research workflows, and building capabilities in data, discovery, and digital scholarship. She is passionate about librarianship because it connects people with knowledge. She enjoys helping students and researchers find the right resources, develop confident research skills, and use information and technology in meaningful, ethical ways.

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## Faculty of Science and Technology Education



**Chenjerai Maodzwa** - *Main Library, 114 Fort Street Avenue, Byo*

Chenjerai Maodzwa is the Acting Sub-Librarian (Technical Services) with extensive expertise in library and information management. He holds an MSc in Library and Information Science, a BA in Media Studies, and several professional qualifications in librarianship and public relations.

His key areas of specialization include ILS training, research support, research data management and cataloguing and classification using RDA. He is passionate about quality assurance and advancing excellence in library services and information organization. A member of Zimbabwe Library Association.

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## Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences



**Judah Marowa** - *Main Library, 114 Fort Street Avenue, BYO*

Judah Marowa is an information professional and academic librarian with over two decades of progressive experience in library and information services, he has developed strong expertise in digital scholarship, research support, information access, and scholarly communication systems. Judah holds a Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) from NUST, a postgraduate diploma in the same field, and a BSc (Hons) degree in Psychology. His work focuses on leveraging emerging technologies to deliver relevant, high-quality information services that meet the evolving needs of researchers and information users. He is an open science advocate and is engaged in scholarly research, with research interests addressing training and knowledge transfer in academic library environments.

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## Faculty of Engineering



**Noma Mabhena** - *Main Library, 114 Fort Street Avenue, BYO*

Postgraduate Diploma in Social Science Methods from Stellenbosch University and a BSc (Hon) in Library and Information Science from NUST. As Reference Librarian and Faculty Liaison for Engineering, I provide reference and research support to students and academic staff. I teach information and AI literacy, promote print and electronic resources, support literature searching, and market library services.

My interests include information literacy, research support, collection development, user engagement, and library marketing. I enjoy helping students build research skills, supporting academics in managing scholarly information, and promoting equitable access for first-generation students and underserved communities. Supporting researchers through the research process is rewarding.

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## Faculty of the Built Environment



**Siphethimpi Ntombizami Zondo** -  
*Main Library, 114 Fort Street Avenue,  
BYO*

Siphethimpi Ntombizami Zondo is the E-Resources Librarian and Faculty Librarian for the Built Environment at NUST Library, where she brings over 19 years of experience to advancing digital access and research support. She holds a Master's degree in Library and Information Science. She plays a key role in connecting students, researchers, and academics to high-quality electronic resources while strengthening information literacy and research practices. Passionate about innovation in librarianship, she enjoys empowering users to confidently navigate information, harness digital tools, and engage with knowledge in impactful and meaningful ways.

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## Faculty of Applied Sciences



**Mr A. Machimbidza** -*Main Library,  
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My name is Mr A. Machimbidza, I hold an Honors and a Master's degree in Library and Information Science. In my dual role, I manage library collections and serve as the dedicated Liaison for the Faculty of Applied Sciences, bridging the gap between academics and information resources.

My professional interests focus on digital curation, open access, and enhancing research support services.

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## Faculty of Medicine



### **Florence Masocha -**

*Faculty of Medicine, Mpilo Hospital, BYO*

Holds an MSc in Library and Information Science from NUST.

Responsible for teaching Information Literacy Skills to 1st year students in the faculty of Medicine. Also offer research support services to both students and members of staff in the faculty.

Miss Masocha has vast experience in collection development and records management, among other skills.

Miss Masocha is passionate about assisting library patrons with identifying and recommending relevant resources for their research and taking them through the information literacy skills.

She has vast experience and connections dealing with local and international book suppliers for over 15 years. She was a member of the Bulawayo Book Distribution which is involved in the facilitation and selection of book donations from the UK, for over 15 years.

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## Faculty of Communication and Information Science



### **Mtandazo Mswipa - Main**

*Library, 114 Fort Street Avenue, BYO*

Mtandazo Swipa is a Circulation and Client Services Librarian at the National University of Science and Technology (NUST) Library, Zimbabwe. She holds a Master of Science in Library and Information Science and has over 10 years of experience in academic librarianship. She is the Faculty Liaison Librarian for the Department of Communication and Information Science (CIS).

She is passionate about librarianship and firmly believes that the library is the heart of the university. Her goal is to ensure that students, researchers, and staff have equitable access to quality information resources and services that foster academic excellence, innovation, and lifelong learning.

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# STEM GAMES

## THE PUZZLE OF THE ISSUE

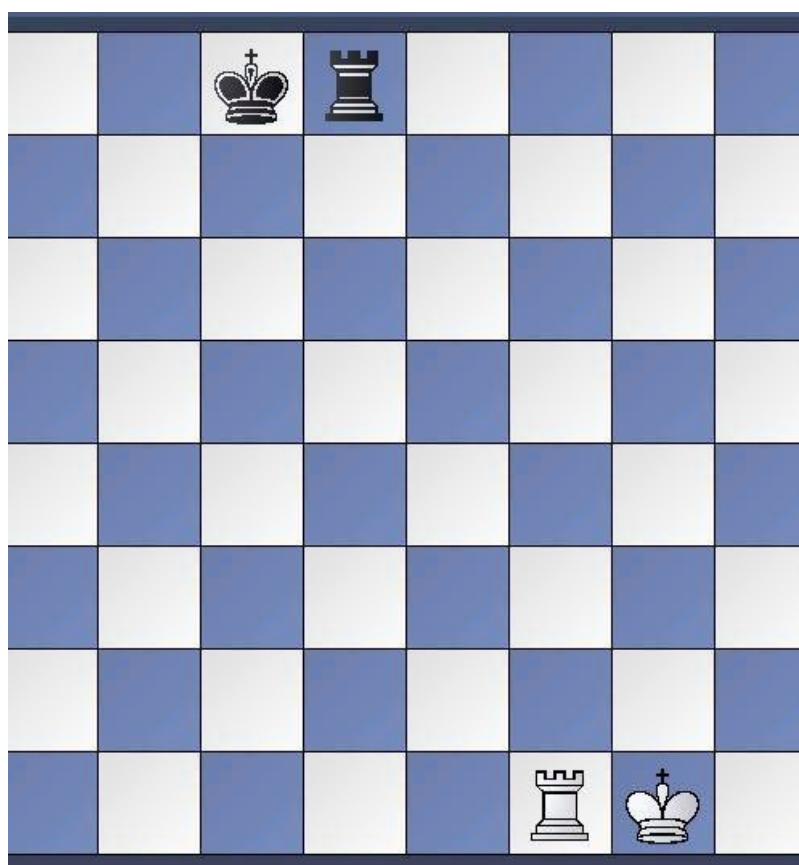
## SODUKU

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## GRAND MASTER CHALLENGE THE ENDGAME



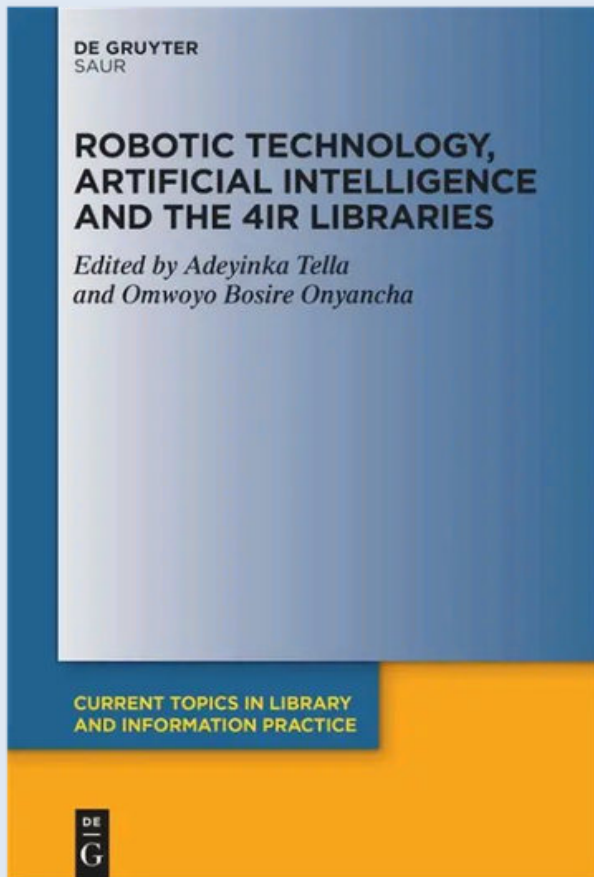
### Instructions for Participants

1. Analyze the position deeply
2. Find:
  - ☒ A winning line for White (mate or decisive material gain in 6 moves)
  - ☒ A winning counter-line for Black (if White slips)
3. Provide full move sequences (notation encouraged)

Send your solutions within 3 days to [ingwalo@nust.ac.zw](mailto:ingwalo@nust.ac.zw)

# Book Review

## ***Robotic Technology, Artificial Intelligence, and the 4IR Libraries.*** Edited by Prof. Adeyinka Tella and Prof. Omwoyo Bosire Onyancha



*Robotic Technology, Artificial Intelligence, and the 4IR Libraries* is a timely and thought-provoking collection that examines the transformative impact of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) on libraries and information services. Bringing together contributions from librarians, researchers, and information professionals from across the African continent, the volume offers diverse perspectives on how emerging technologies are reshaping the library profession and the broader knowledge landscape. This collection demonstrates how African librarians and information professionals engage with global technological developments while addressing local realities and priorities.

Across its chapters, the volume examines the intersection of robotics, artificial intelligence (AI), big data, and hypermedia with the traditional and emerging functions of libraries. It highlights both opportunities and challenges, urging librarians to reimagine their roles in a rapidly digitising world. The early chapters provide a broad overview of the 4IR technologies and their implications for knowledge institutions. Topics such as robotic automation in cataloguing, AI-driven information retrieval, and smart library systems are discussed clearly. The book emphasises that libraries are no longer just repositories of books but dynamic hubs of digital innovation, requiring librarians to acquire new skills in data science, digital curation and technological mediation.

Later chapters delve into case studies and theoretical reflections, demonstrating how libraries worldwide are adapting to these changes.

Among these, Chapter 14, *Changing Role of Librarian in the Age of Hypermedia Seduction: Reflection on the Researcher's Exposition*, stands out as particularly relevant to Zimbabwean higher education. This chapter explores the concept of "hypermedia seduction", the overwhelming pull of multimedia platforms, interactive content and algorithm-driven feeds that shape how information is consumed today. This chapter explores the concept of "hypermedia seduction", the overwhelming pull of multimedia platforms, interactive content and algorithm-driven feeds that shape how information is consumed today. The researcher argues that librarians must move beyond their traditional custodial roles to become critical guides in this environment. They are tasked with helping learners and researchers navigate seductive but often shallow digital content and ensuring that scholarship remains rigorous, ethical, and purposeful.

This reflection aligns closely with Zimbabwe's Education 5.0 philosophy, which emphasises teaching, research, community service, innovation and industrialisation. In the context of hypermedia, librarians are not simply service providers but partners in the creation of knowledge. They support innovation hubs, facilitate interdisciplinary collaborations, and ensure access to reliable and contextually relevant information. By mastering AI tools and hypermedia systems, librarians can empower students to become problem solvers and innovators who contribute to national development. The chapter also stresses librarians' ethical responsibility to guard against misinformation and superficial learning, a critical task in nurturing graduates who can drive industrialisation and innovation.

Chapter 14, in particular, is a call to action for Zimbabwean librarians to embrace their evolving identity as digital mentors, research partners, and innovation catalysts.

In conclusion, this book is a valuable resource for academic librarians, educators, and policymakers. It situates libraries at the heart of the 4IR, showing that their relevance depends on adaptability, technological fluency, and visionary leadership.

Text|**Ms Mtandazo Muswipa** |Image| **De Gruyter**



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