

## International Conference on Information Literacy - Africa (ICIL, 2024)

### Information Literacy Revolution... Get Ready!

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONFERENCE & CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR PAPERS, PECHAKUCHA, DOCTORAL FORUM, AND POSTERS

The International Conference on Information Literacy ICIL- Africa, is held bi-annually with the aim of bringing together researchers, library and information services professionals, employers, media specialists, educators, policy makers and all other related parties from around the world to exchange knowledge and experience and to discuss recent developments and current challenges in both theory and practice. ICIL - Africa is a sister conference to the European Conference on Information Literacy (ECIL) that started in 2012.

The ICIL - Africa has had two previous rounds since 2019. The COVID19 pandemic has prevented the holding of the ICIL conference in 2021, however, the 2<sup>nd</sup> ICIL-Africa was held successfully in 2022, and was hosted by the North-West University, South Africa under the theme: “**Information Literacy in the Fourth Industrial Revolution**”.

The year 2024 marks the collaboration between the Bibliotheca Alexandrina represented in The International Communication Section (ICS), the North - West University (NWU) and University of Pretoria in South Africa, within the framework of organizing and hosting the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the International Conference on Information Literacy - Africa (ICIL). It is worth mentioning, that ICIL – Africa will rotate all over African Countries in its upcoming rounds.

Within the framework of this round, we will work on bringing to the table of discussion the word around several trending and emerging topics that matters to librarians and researchers related to **Digital inclusion, Smart libraries and the Inclusion of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in different contexts related to libraries and Information literacy.**

### CALL FOR PAPERS' SUB-THEMES:

#### Information Literacy's general topics

- Information Literacy and Sustainability in Libraries
- Information Literacy/ Media literacy and the battle against Disinformation (Fake News, Reliable/Unreliable Resources)
- Information Literacy & Emerging Technologies Trends Emerging since COVID -19
- Information Literacy and new paradigms: digital literacy, digital competencies, digital skills and digital thinking.

#### Artificial Intelligence and Library operations

- How AI will change the job of librarians?!
- New Approaches to Information and AI Literacy trainings to Library Staff
- AI ethics in libraries



- Using artificial intelligence to advance classification systems, Content indexing, Document matching, citation, Content summarization,
- Using AI in analyzing digital collections, identifying subjects, and adding metadata with these technologies.
- The design of artificial intelligence-powered knowledge discovery tools.
- How library management systems have evolved in sync with related technologies.
- How computer technologies and AI contributed to convert the library manual systems into computerized ones, giving rise to library automation.
- AI-driven chatbots (responding to questions from library users and directing them to specific library resources)
- Creating programming that introduces patrons to new AI tools and teaches them how to use the technology appropriately and safely.
- The use of virtual reality to bridge the distance barrier for distant or disable persons.

### **Information Literacy and Smart libraries**

- The emergence of smart libraries and how it has changed the paradigms of library by acknowledging the potential benefits and transformation smart library brings to library operations and services.
- Skills to be possessed by smart librarians such as: analytical and computational thinking, data literacy, information literacy, social intelligence...
- Emerging technologies used for smart libraries such as cloud computing, big data, 3D printing, Internet of things IOT, Artificial Intelligence, RFID, drones etc.

### **Information Literacy and Robotic process automation:**

- How robotic process automation (RPA) are employed to perform routine administrative tasks like data migration, shelf management, forms processing, and email marketing.
- The usage of robotics in different tasks such as retrieving books on demand from mass storage facilities.

### **Data and AI Literacy:**

- Today, the literacy objective of libraries and library professionals takes aim at data literacy and AI literacy.
- Providing skills needed for people to confidently participate in and engage with a society that is employing more artificial intelligence tools and processes each day.

## **PRESENTERS&CHAIRS GUIDELINES:**

Kindly note the following guidelines to ensure that quality presentations are made at the ICIL-Africa 2024.

### **1. Plagiarism Check**

Acknowledgement of other people's intellectual work is a cardinal rule of research. It is a criminal offence to take credit for another person's work. BA & NWU expects librarians and all authors to duly acknowledge all



sources quoted and used in their papers. Plagiarized works will not be accepted and may incur penalties. Final papers will be subjected to an independent plagiarism check.

## **2. Papers language**

Submitted papers must fall within the ambit of the theme and sub-themes and could be written in English, French or Arabic. However, abstracts, should be written in English Language, along with, the author(s) original language.

## **3. Structure & Timing of the different presentation Types:**

### **Individual papers**

Abstracts should not be longer than 300 words including references is required. Oral presentation will be allocated 20 minutes per paper and there will be a 10 minutes discussion for comments and questions after the presentation.

### **PechaKucha**

These sessions will cover work-in-progress reports, new developments, innovations and good practices. It is a short, very focused, visually appealing and inspiring narrated slide show (20 slides). 6 minutes 40 seconds length (20 seconds for each slide). 10 minutes for discussion and questions will also be allocated for each presentation.

### **Doctoral forum**

This section covers short papers either on a critical literature review of the research topic or research question(s), research objectives, research methodology and work done so far of ongoing work of PhD students. This provides an opportunity to gain valuable feedback from peers and subject specific experts. Papers will be 20 minutes with 10 minutes for discussion and questions.

### **Panel discussions**

Panel discussions will also be accommodated. These discussions should address a common theme. Furthermore, they will be scheduled for 90 minutes and may include a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 5 papers. In addition to individual proposals (of no more than 300 words each including references), please also submit an overview description of no more than 500 words (including references) with the panel's content and objectives.

### **Keynote papers**

Keynote presentations will be allocated 45 minutes with 15 minutes for discussion and questions.

### **Posters**

- Abstracts of no more than 300 words including references for papers is required
- Posters should be prepared in advance and brought already printed to the conference by the presenters.
- Furthermore, conference organizers will not be able to receive any posters by mail in advance, print or transport posters.
- There will not be facilities on-site for printing or composing posters.
- No audio-visual equipment is permitted for poster presentations.

- You may also bring handouts.
- Each poster should be no larger than A0 paper size measuring 84.1 cm (width) × 118.9 cm (height) or 33.1 inches (width) × 46.8 inches (height).
- Each presenter is allowed one poster.

#### 4. Technical details:

- If the abstract of the proposed paper presentation is accepted, the completed paper (10 – 12 papers) should be scholarly organized, proof -read, and copy edited before submission for review.
- All abstracts should be presented in English language, along with, the paper's original language, in case the paper is presented in French or Arabic.
- Presenters must include the following information along with their proposed abstracts:
  - Title of proposed Paper,
  - Name(s) of the speaker(s),
  - Name of affiliated institution, if any,
  - Presenter's official title or professional role,
  - Short professional profile (5 lines maximum),
  - Presenter's e-mail address, telephone/ fax.
- Presenters may bring their files in MS PowerPoint format on USB drives.
- Presenters are advised to restrict to the time limit. The Session Chair will not allow any presenters exceed the allocated 20 minutes in any case.
- There will be an opportunity for questions and discussions after each presentation. During this time, participants may ask more questions and seek clarifications from the presenter. Questions and answers should be within the time allotted.
- The content of the presentation can be a very brief introduction of the concepts, research problem identified, methods used, findings, conclusion, limitations etc.
- It is recommended that the presenters focus more on their research methods, findings, implications and the usefulness of the research and not the literature. Unless a presentation involves a conceptual, literature of philosophical or similar research.
- Please be at the venues on time. You are requested to be at your designated venue at least 10 minutes before commencement of the session. If you do not arrive on time, the presentation will not take place at the discretion of the session chairperson – and the programme is followed as it is published. If for some reason you cannot present at a specific time anymore, please contact the programme committee via the registration desk.
- There will be ample opportunities during the breaks and lunch for further discussion.

#### 5. Submissions:

Please e-mail your proposed abstract to [Baifa.Services@bibalex.org](mailto:Baifa.Services@bibalex.org)

#### 6. Changes, Cancellation, withdrawals:

The submission of abstracts for papers and presentations and the description for posters is viewed as a commitment to register and take part in the ICIL – Africa 2024, nevertheless, if a paper is accepted and there



are some situations that prevent the author(s) from being present, it is incumbent for the person(s) to make alternative arrangements for the presentation and communicate such in writing to the Bibliotheca Alexandrina [Baifa.Services@bibalex.org](mailto:Baifa.Services@bibalex.org) at least 6 weeks earlier before the conference.

## 7. Guidelines for session chairs

- Session chairs are requested to check the conference schedule and be clear about the exact date, time, venue and room of the session that you are chairing.
- Please be in your designated venue at least 10 minutes prior to the commencement of your session. Acquaint yourself with the working of the lights, computer projector etc. Please contact the registration desk or usher immediately if you face any problems.
- Please stick to the time as indicated on the programme. Chairs may not swop or move sessions. If presenters do not show up, then the registration desk staff must be notified and then the specific presentation is cancelled and the programme is followed normally. Changes can only be determined and communicated by the programme committee at the start of each morning's session.
- Announce the time allotted to each paper (refer to the top of this document).
- Briefly introduce yourself and welcome the participants to your session. Announce that you will be chairing this session. Remind the presenters and audience to adhere to the guidelines.
- Please ensure that each presenter starts on time and ends on time. It is your responsibility to ensure that the session finishes on time. Cards showing the time left will be provided in the rooms (5 minutes, 1 minute and Stop for papers or just 1 minute and Stop for PechaKucha).
- When inviting presenters, announce their name and surname, affiliation and title of the paper. You may refer to the conference programme for the details.
- Please encourage questions and answers, discussions, comments and interaction among the participants given the time limit.
- At the end, convey acknowledgements and thanks and either invite the next speaker or conclude the Session.