

Building the Infrastructure for Open Access

Presenter: Ms S Mashego

Compiled by Library Team



Two monks were arguing about a flag. One said, “The flag is moving.” The other said, “The wind is moving.” The patriarch, Zeno, happened to be passing by. He told them “Not the wind, not the flag; mind is moving.”

Douglas R. Hofstadter.

Background

Implementation of Knowledge Commons in Polokwane Branch Library

- Computers
- Computer carrels
- Networks

DEFINITION

Open Access: (OA)

The OA to information is a horse of a much different colour than open access to land and water. Open access mean a free-for-all (Fitzgerald B.2004).

Knowledge commons:

It is a dynamic space which brings together learning and technology, study and research, academic support, print and online resources all in one place for students and faculty

Knowledge Commons

➤ Purpose

- To determine how far the library has gone in terms of provision of information resources and services to students, in support of teaching, research and learning.

Open Access

The library has about 30 computers designated to Unisa students.

➤ Knowledge Commons Offers access to the following:

- Library online catalogue
- Internet
- Databases
- Myunisa / Mylife
- Online reference sources

Open Access Cont...

➤ Procedure for knowledge commons access:

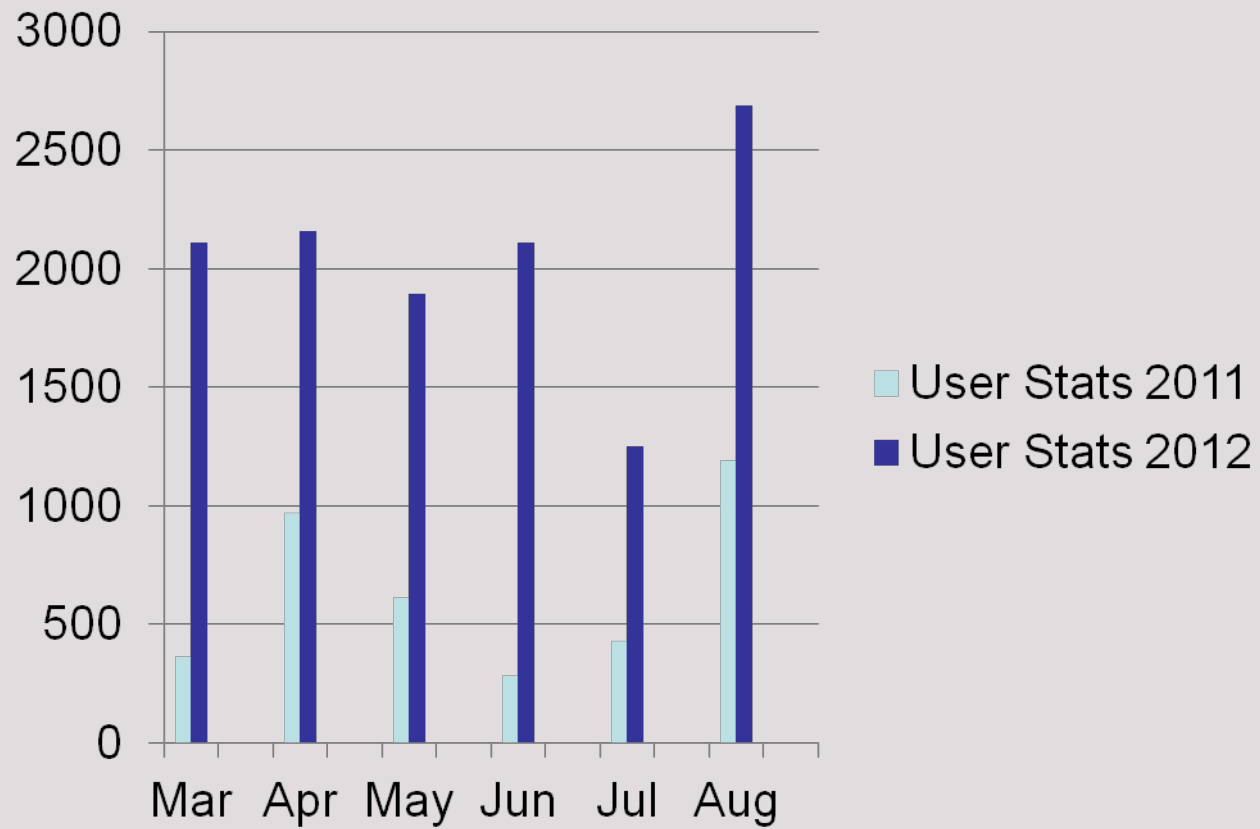
- Register for myunisa.
- Maximum time.

Knowledge commons

➤ Benefits

- Access to global information resources
- It's a one stop shop
- Promote active, collaborative and independent learning
- conducive environment for learning
- Students with special needs
- Printing facility
- Service excellence
- Human intervention





Challenges

- Students not signing in and signing out
- Disconfiguration of computers
- Inconsistent Internet connection
- Low bandwidth
- None compliance
- Study space
- Book condition
- Receipt

Recommendations

❖ To minimize the challenges faced in terms of Knowledge commons

- Deep Freeze software
- Cafe' station software



UNISA Mobile Library- experiences of the Limpopo region

Presenter: Ms S Mashamaite



BACKGROUND

- The mobile library was showcased in the Limpopo region on the 11 July 2012. Unisa students, staff from the region and muckleneuck, librarians from local public libraries, institutions of higher education and government departments were present during the launch. The bus started operating on the 14 July 2012 to a village called Botlokwa which is 50km outside Polokwane.

Methods used to determine the mobile library centres

- DISA (Department of Institutional Statistics and Analysis)
- Google maps
- Unisa partnerships

Student orientation at Giyani





PURPOSE

- The purpose of the mobile is to enhance learning by providing access of library services to Unisa students. The mobile library seeks to take the library services to students in remote areas who are far from Unisa Library branches.

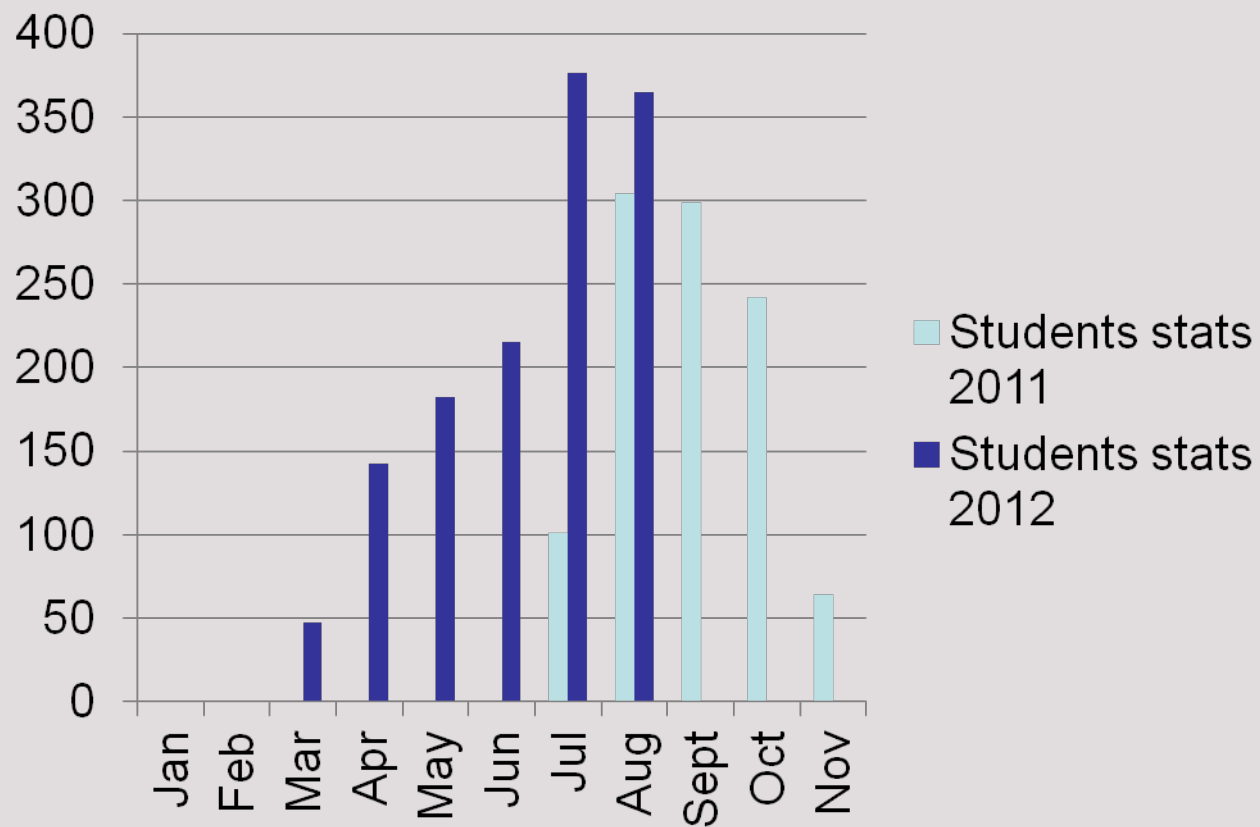
Marketing of the mobile library services

- Website, regional facebook, sms, mylife email, posters, mobile schedules.

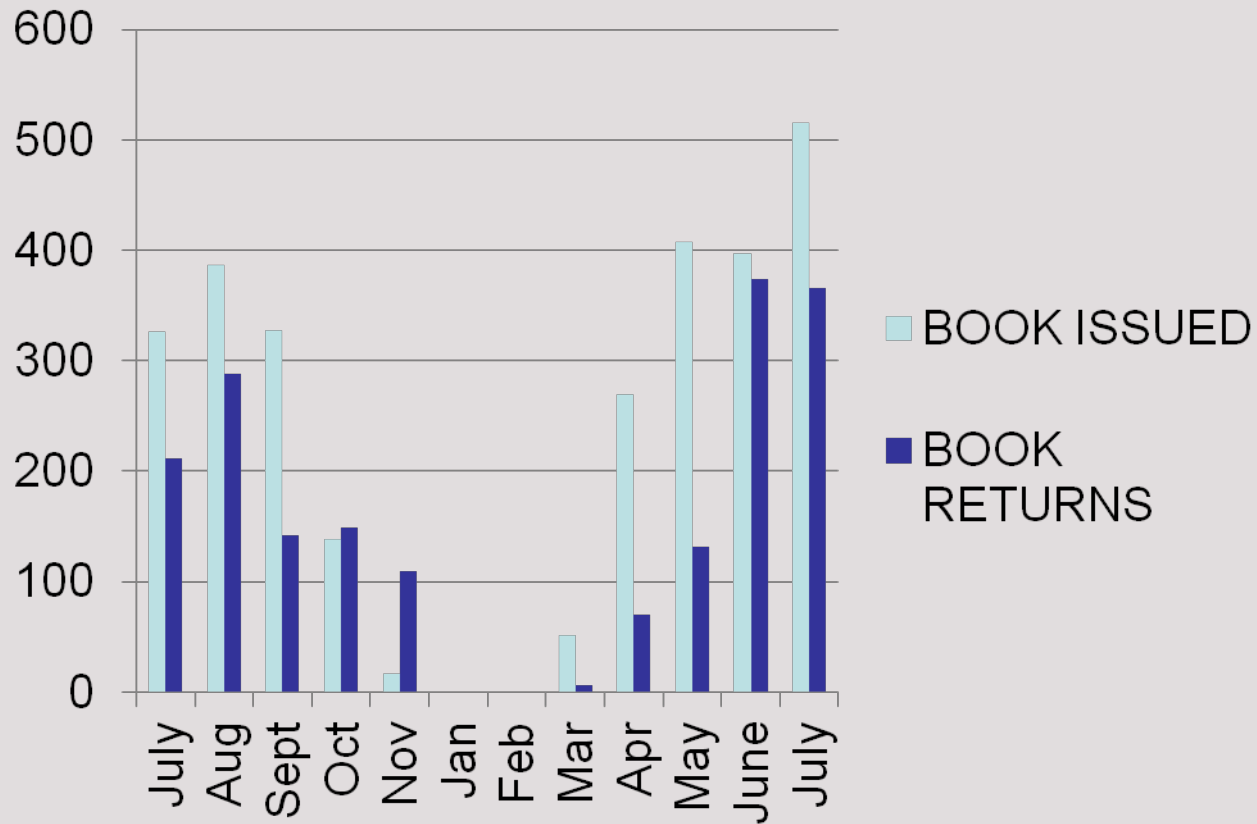
Areas visited

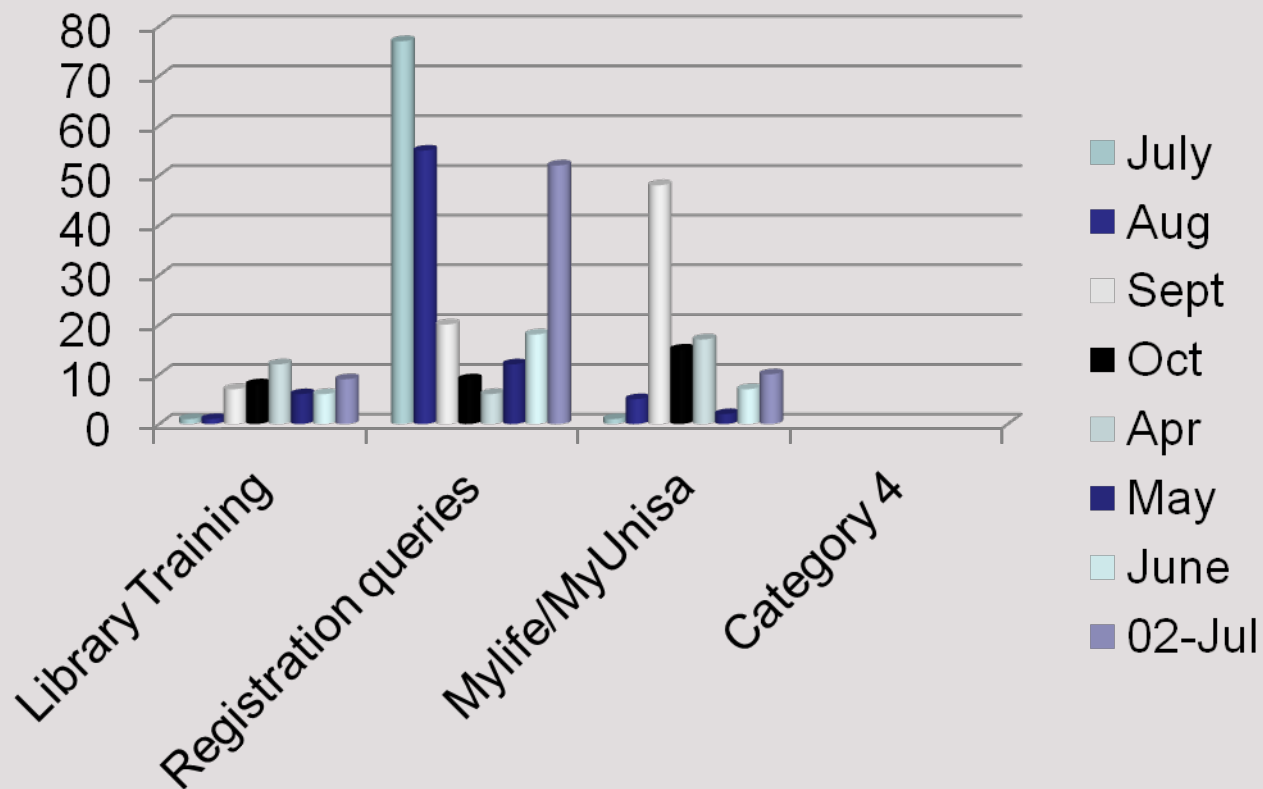
- The mobile library as the first of its kind at Unisa; it is servicing the following areas:Nebo, Jane-Furse, Arabie, Senwabarwana, Phalaborwa, Shilubane, Ga-Kgapane, Makhado , Giyani, Musina, Kuta-Sinthumule Prison, Botlokwa, Burgersfort and Lephalale.

AREA	DISTANCE
Nebo	286km
Jane Furse	243km
Arabie	226km
Senwabarwana	155km
Hoedspruit	436km
Phalaborwa	418km
Shilubane	256km
Ga-Kgapane	244km
Giyani	344km
Musina	400km
Makhado	222km
Botlokwa	132km
Burgersfort	299km
Lebowakgomo	110km
Lephalale	459km



CIRCULATION





CHALLENGES

- Internet connectivity
- Millennium offline
- SMS
- Student cards
- Operational hours
- Unavailability of phone
- Mechanical
- Shelf space

IMPROVED PLANS

- Centres which had a low turn-out of students were replaced.
- Postal codes book was acquired from the Post Office.
- A review was done on the number of hours.
- Satellite was installed in June 2012 .

CONCLUSION

- The mobile library is indeed an information partner. Students appreciate that they can access recent editions of prescribed books and electronic articles.
- The Unisa mobile library has succeeded in its objective to ensure equitable access to information resources and library services for students wherever they are.

THANK YOU