ITOCA (Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa) is Africa’s leading librarians training organization based in Africa. ITOCA is a capacity building organization aimed at enhancing information and communications technology (ICT) skills for African librarians, information specialists, scientists, researchers and students in Sub-Saharan Africa. Formerly, TEEAL Africa Office, ITOCA was established in Feb. 1999 as a marketing and support office for Cornell University’s Albert R. Mann Library TEEAL programme for Africa. The organization, which has professionals in 3 countries (Nigeria, Uganda, and Zimbabwe) and liaison contacts in 35 African countries, has trained over 1,000 information professionals, in 33 Sub-Saharan Africa countries in the last seven years. ITOCA, with backstopping from the TEEAL and AGORA projects at Mann Library (Cornell University) and FAO, and the HINARI project at WHO, has a mandate to carry out outreach and training activities that promote the successful adoption and use of these three programs throughout Africa.

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<th>ITOCA e-Newsletter Issue 2</th>
<th>TEEAL News</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Subscribe</strong></td>
<td>LanTEEAL An Instant Hit In Zimbabwe</td>
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<tr>
<td>To <strong>JOIN</strong> the mailing list please send a blank email to <a href="mailto:itoca-join@enewsletters.co.zw">itoca-join@enewsletters.co.zw</a> or click here.</td>
<td>The newly introduced LanTEEAL which provides seamless access to full-text articles from over 100 current journals in agricultural sciences has seen a high uptake rate by Zimbabwean institutions since its launch this past July. A total of six institutions now have LanTEEAL and according to one of the librarians it has added ‘value’ to their library collection. Some of the institutions are taking advantage of UNESCO coupons to pay for this valuable resource. Institutions with LanTEEAL in Zimbabwe include Midlands State University, Zimbabwe Open University, Chinhoyi University of Technology, Africa University, Bindura University of Science Education and ICRISAT. LanTEEAL is also installed at two institutions in Nigeria. Institutions that migrated from the compact disc version, feel that the new system, ‘frees’ the librarians to do other duties. Mr Abel Mutize, Assistant Librarian at Africa University had this to say about LanTEEAL: “Because LanTEEAL is available on a network, I find that the Agriculture librarian does not have to move up and down giving clients CDs, meaning that he has more time to do other things. Also gone are the periodic checks on CD towers to make sure all CDs are available. The collection can be accessed from designated workstations from various faculties.</td>
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<td>To <strong>LEAVE</strong> this list send an blank email to <a href="mailto:itoca-leave@enewsletters.co.zw">itoca-leave@enewsletters.co.zw</a> or click here.</td>
<td><strong>Tell a friend</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Feedback</strong></td>
<td>Is there someone you know who you think would benefit from or enjoy reading this newsletter? Let them know by forwarding them a copy of this email.</td>
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<td>For your views and comments, click here.</td>
<td><strong>My HINARI Teaching Experiences</strong> (Continuation)</td>
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<td><strong>They asked questions like:</strong></td>
<td>On Friday 22nd July 2005, I conducted my 2nd HINARI teaching session with another group of participants from the medical field. This was a presentation because I had over 40 participants and it was very hard for me to avail all these people with computers. This particular group had good computer knowledge so it was easy for me to just make a presentation and distribute handouts. As I was teaching, the participants were able to follow.</td>
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<tr>
<td>* How does one know that the maximum 15% per journal download has been reached?</td>
<td>Questions asked were:</td>
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<td>* What is the significance of registration?</td>
<td>* Why do the publishers limit on the number of articles downloaded?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>University of Nairobi- Dental Sciences holds HINARI training session</strong></td>
<td>* How does one tell that, 15% of an article has been reached?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Amani Okumu Dimba</td>
<td>Since my last teaching session, people have now nick named me Hinari.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acting Secretary, Dept. of Oral and Maxillofacial</td>
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Mr. Lawrence Chikwanha, The Deputy University Librarian at Chinhoyi University of Technology, had this to say about LanTEEAL: “With the opening of our Agricultural Information Centre we feel that with LanTEEAL we are more than ready to meet the information demands of students and researchers. It is almost unimaginable that one can have 114 current journals at such a price and don’t even have to worry about connectivity. We now look forward to the upcoming training so that our clientele can get maximum benefit from utilizing this resource. Our many thanks go to all those behind this project which is surely going a long way in bridging the information divide”.

### AGORA/ HINARI News

**Malawian Workshop A Great Success**

A training workshop for AGORA and HINARI was successfully held in Malawi in July 2005. The workshop was hosted by the Kamuzu College of Nursing in Lilongwe.

The three-day workshop was made possible through funding from the Rockefeller Foundation, Cornell University's Mann Library, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). The workshop was implemented by ITOCA (formerly TEEAL Africa) based in Harare, Zimbabwe in line with guidelines agreed upon by all stakeholders. A high powered delegation attended the certificate awarding ceremony among these were Dr. Mazlan Jusoh, (FAO Country Representative to Malawi), Mrs. Diana Jere (Kamuzu College of Nursing Principal), Dr. Andrew Daudi (Principal Secretary- Ministry of Agriculture), Professor George Kanyama-Phiri (Principal- Bunda College of Agriculture), Mrs. Sheila Bandazi (Director of Nursing Services-Ministry of Health), Mrs. Chilemba (Dean of Nursing) Professor Ruhard Phoya (Dean of Postgraduate Studies and Research Bunda College), Mr. Nelson Mabvumbe (Registrar Kamuzu College of Nursing).

A total of twenty three (23) participants from the agricultural and health sectors comprising researchers, librarians, information specialists and lecturers were trained on the use of AGORA and HINARI and other electronic resources.

**Surgery**

Faculty of Dental Science
East and Southern Africa Division, IADR
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“An effective university library system that provides easy access to current literature for both staff and students has an immediate impact on the quality of teaching, clinical practice and research. In Kenya, economic realities in the past two decades have resulted in deterioration of many essential services at the University of Nairobi, including the library. Obsolete library systems with facilities that are poorly equipped in terms of current literature, infrastructure and space are a serious disadvantage in the development of the institution as a training centre for East and Central Africa.

Although the cost of modernization may appear prohibitive, it is a process that is essential for the relevance of our teaching programs. The use of information technology as a tool for learning is a strategy that has the potential of rapidly enhancing technological advancement and diversification. One of the ways in which the University of Nairobi can reduce costs in this process is through the Health Internetwork Access to Research Initiative (HINARI), which serves as a gateway for full text journal articles and other reference sources at websites run by various contributing publishers.

HINARI was officially introduced in July to the Faculty of Dental Sciences at the University of Nairobi by means of a training workshop for librarians and staff interested in research. At this workshop in attendance were 15 dentists including students, members of staff and representatives of the Kenya Dental Association. The workshop participants have only used the system for a short period of time but the training session provided a useful forum for assessment of technical proficiency and needs of dental specialists in Nairobi.

Most of the participants were comfortable with the programs recommended for use of HINARI, namely Internet Explorer, Netscape and Adobe Reader. However, the undergraduates tended to prefer Mozilla Firefox, which also ran well with the HINARI system. We adopted a 2-hour seminar format for financial reasons, and many participants requested follow-up sessions. The Medical and Dentists Practitioners Board is discussing incorporating this training into the list.
resources in health, agriculture and related sciences with the aim of giving them skills to go back and train their colleagues and clients. The training sessions, which comprised presentations, lectures, group discussions and hands on exercises, exposed participants to in-depth functions of the portals and databases.

An organizing team made up of a representative from Bunda College of Agriculture and Kamuzu College of Nursing worked tirelessly to plan and coordinate the whole event. This team was led by the very capable duo of Mr. Geoffrey Salanje and Mrs. Margaret Ngwira.

For upcoming workshops please visit http://www.itoca.org/

AGORA/HINARI Train The Trainer Approach Paying Dividends

When the AGORA/HINARI workshops were planned, one of their objectives was that, those trained would be in a position to go back and train their users and/or colleagues on how to fully utilize these resources. True to the anticipated results, the cascading effect is being felt at various institutions that were able to send participants to these workshops. Following are different experiences from three participants who were able to hold sessions at their institutions in Uganda, Kenya and Malawi:

My HINARI Teaching Experiences

Harriet Nancy Byogero
IT Assistant
Hospice Africa Uganda
E-mail: mailto:bnharrie@yahoo.com
Website: http://www.hospiceafrica.or.ug/

“I attended the HINARI Trainer of trainers’ workshop at Makerere University Main Library from March 8th – 10th 2005. It was conducted by Gracian Chimwaza & Vimbai Hungwe. On 24th March I conducted my 1st HINARI teaching session with 15 participants studying for a Long Distance Diploma in Palliative Care. HINARI is a very useful resource for their research. This 1st teaching session was carried out in our computer room. It was a hands-on session. The participants had very little computer knowledge so I had to first take them of recognized professional development seminars.

Another workshop will be held in November, to follow up and help those who are unfamiliar with Internet technology so they get comfortable with HINARI. In the first seminar, postgraduate students outnumbered the undergraduates, but the undergraduates mastered the system faster. It may therefore, be a strategy to use the undergrads as peer trainers for IT instead of the postgrads in future seminars. The material on PubMed was particularly well received and most of the participants signed onto the ITOCA website for future updates.

AGORA/HINARI Orientation for researchers at the National Aquaculture Center in Malawi

Mike B. Thuruve
National Aquaculture Centre Library
Zomba, Malawi
E-mail: library@worldfishcentre.smdp.org.mw

“After the Malawi training workshop, I was able to hold two orientation days on how to use AGORA/HINARI programmes. I had two sessions on the 3rd of August, 2005, one in the morning and another session in the afternoon. Each session comprised 8 participants with two participants sharing a computer. My orientation ended on the second day on the 4th of August, 2005, when I held a morning session. Participants enjoyed the sessions and they were thankful that I had attended such a useful training course. The participants were very grateful to me for sharing with them what I had learnt at the workshop. The researchers who participated in the orientation programme felt that they were now better equipped to look for information on the internet especially through AGORA and HINARI.

I also intend to hold orientation sessions for other researchers who were not able to attend these sessions during the first week of September. I hope to have 15 participants or more on this particular day and it is my hope that they will also enjoy the sessions like the previous groups”.

Helpful Tips

HINARI

In HINARI you can check which year/volume/issues of each journal are accessible by clicking the “Full text journals, database and
through a brief computer basics lecture the day before the HINARI training.

I found the participants to be so enthusiastic and keen to learn. The participants were from different African countries and most of these organizations, institutions and hospitals were not HINARI registered users so I emphasized the need for their institutions to register for HINARI.

other resources” link and then clicking the “View complete list of journals”. The details are written after the name of publisher.

**TEEAL**
The author search works somewhat different from the other field searches. Author names MUST be selected from the word wheel. Type in an author’s name until it appears in the word wheel. Then double click on the entry in the word wheel to insert it into the author search box.

**Feedback**

In our endeavour to provide to you useful information, we would greatly appreciate if you tell us your views and comments.

Your feedback and views of the e-newsletter are very important to us. For your view and comments, [click here](#).

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**TEEAL**
The Essential Electronic Agricultural Library (TEEAL) a project of Cornell University's [Albert R. Mann Library](http://www.cornell.edu/) is a full-text and bibliographic CD-ROM library of over 140 of the world's most important scientific journals in the field of agriculture. It is available well below cost to over 100 low-income food deficit countries around the world.

**AGORA**
Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) is an FAO-led initiative in partnership with major science publishers, Cornell University and the World Health Organization (WHO) among others to provide free access over the Internet to current journals in agriculture and related sciences to public institutions in eligible developing countries. [http://www.aginternetwork.org/](http://www.aginternetwork.org/)

**HINARI**
The Health Inter Network Access to research Initiative (HINARI) is a WHO-led initiative that provides free or very low cost online access to almost 2500 major journals in biomedical and related social sciences to nonprofit institutions in developing countries such as teaching hospitals, government offices, universities, research institutes and professional schools [www.who.int/hinari](http://www.who.int/hinari)

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**This is a product of ITOCA - Information Training and Outreach Centre for Africa**

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