

Curriculum vitae: Peter Johan LOR

Peter Johan Lor was born in the Netherlands in 1946, and came to South Africa when his parents emigrated in 1952. He grew up in the Western Cape and studied at the universities of Stellenbosch, Pretoria and Caen (France), where he obtained degrees in languages, linguistics and library science. His M.Bibl.¹ (1978) and D.Phil.² (1991) degrees in library and information science are from the University of Pretoria

From 1968 Lor worked in special and academic libraries and as a teacher of library science at the University of Stellenbosch and the University of South Africa, where he became a full professor in 1991. In 1992 he was appointed as the Director of the State Library, a national library with responsibilities for the Southern African bibliographical and resource-sharing infrastructure. During the 1990s he participated in a number of initiatives to develop national policies for post-apartheid library and information services. He played a leading role in forming a non-racial library association, the Library and Information Association of South Africa (LIASA), to replace the former racially-based library associations. In 2000 he became South Africa's first National Librarian and Chief Executive Officer of the National Library of South Africa (2000-2003), with the task of merging South Africa's two existing national libraries (the State Library in Pretoria and the South African Library in Cape Town).

He has been actively involved in international librarianship since the 1980s, attending IFLA conferences from 1983 onwards. He served as chairman of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (1996-2000) and undertook various international consulting activities, including the drafting of *Guidelines for legislation for national library services* for publication by the General Information Programme of UNESCO.

Following his term at the National Library, he served as Secretary General of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) in The Hague, the Netherlands (2005-2008), after which he was appointed as a visiting professor in the School of Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (2009-2011). He continues to teach an online course in International and Comparative Librarianship there. From 1998 to 2016 he was an Extraordinary Professor³ in the Department of Information Science, University of Pretoria. From 2017 he serves as a Research Associate in that department. He works online from his home in Sedgfield, on the South African Garden Route.

Lor is the author of over 200 professional reports and conference papers and around 180 scholarly articles and book chapters, which have appeared in 12 languages in 18 countries. He serves on the editorial boards of a number of South African and overseas journals, including *Library management* and *Library trends*. His current research focuses on international and comparative librarianship and on the ethical and political economic aspects of international information relations.

¹ M.Bibl.: *Magister Bibliothecologiae*, is the master's degree in library science, approximately equivalent to the MLS.

² DPhil: *Doctor Philosophiae*, formerly used in South Africa to designate doctorates in the humanities as distinct from those in the natural sciences.

³ Extraordinary Professor: a recognized expert, usually from industry or professional practice, who is honoured by a university with the title of professor and enlisted to do some graduate teaching for a token honorarium.

He is an honorary member of LIASA and the Italian Library Association. In 2008 was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Pretoria, and he was honoured with the IFLA medal in 2014.

Publications since 2011

2011

Huang, Chunsheng & Lor, P.J. 2011 International activities and relations in national libraries: report on an exploratory survey. *Alexandria; the journal of national and international library and information issues* 22(2/3):1-12. [Issue dated 2011, but only appeared well into 2012 – my copy arrived November 2012]

Lor, P.J. & Britz, J.J. 2011. New trends in content creation: changing responsibilities for librarians. *Libri* 61(1):12-22.

2012

Al-Aufi, Ali Saif & Lor, P.J. 2012 Development of Arabic library and information science: an analysis utilizing Whitley's theory of the intellectual and social organization of the sciences. *Journal of documentation* 68(4):460-491. Available <http://dx.doi.org/10.1108/00220411211239066>.

Lor, P.J. & Britz, J.J. 2012. An ethical perspective on political-economic issues in the long-term preservation of digital heritage. *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology* 63(11):2153-2164.

Lor, P.J. 2012. Preserving and developing indigenous languages: challenges and opportunities for South African libraries. *Innovation* (45):28-50.

Lor, P.J. 2012. The IFLA-UNESCO partnership 1947-2012. *IFLA journal* 38(4): 269-282.

2013

Britz, J.J., Hoffmann, A., Ponelis, S., Zimmer, M. & Lor, P.J. 2013. On considering the application of Amartya Sen's capability approach to an information-based rights framework. *Information development* 29(2):106-113. (Available online on 6 August 2012.), DOI: 10.1177/02666669124540252.V

Britz, J.J., Ponelis, S. & Lor, P.J. 2013. Distinguishing right from wrong: proposed ethical principles for the development of national information policies. *Innovation* (47):9-27

Lor, P.J. 2013. Burning libraries for the people: questions and challenges for the library profession in South Africa. *Libri* 63(4): 359-372.

2014

Lor, P.J. 2014. Revitalizing comparative library and information science: theory and metatheory. *Journal of documentation* 70(1):25-51.

2015

Lor, P.J. 2015. Librarians for peace. In: Nkondo, M. and Ralebipi-Simela, R. (ed.) *Information for all: Seth Paul Manaka, a visionary South African librarian*. Pretoria: National Library of South Africa: 148-156.

Lor, P.J. & Britz, J.J. 2015. Biblioteke en vrede: 'n kritiese besinning oor die rol van biblioteke in vredevestiging. [Libraries and peace: a critical reflection on the role of libraries in promoting peace.] *Tydskrif vir geesteswetenskappe* 55(4): 584-600.

Lor, P.J. 2015. Understanding innovation and policy transfer: implications for libraries and information services in Africa. *Library trends* 64(1):84-111, Summer 2015.

2016

- Lor, P.J. 2016. Libraries, internationalism, and peace : lectio magistralis in biblioteconomia. Fiesole, Italy: Casalini Libri. (Lecture magistrali in biblioteconomia ; IX). 73p. ISBN: 9788876560194. Available as an e-book at: <http://ilibri.casalini.it/3104661>
- Lor, P.J. 2016. Libraries and peace. *Focus on international library and information work* 47(1):4-8.
- Lor, P.J. 2016. Risks and benefits of visibility: librarians navigating social and political turbulence. *Library Trends* 65(2): 108-127.
- Stilwell, C., Bats, R. & Lor, P.J. Introduction: redefining the role of libraries in the political process and in conflict situations. *Library Trends* 65(2):93-107.

Selected papers and presentations since 2011

2011

- Lor, P.J. "Preserving and developing indigenous languages: challenges and opportunities for libraries". Keynote paper for the Satellite Conference of the IFLA Section of University and Research Libraries and the IFLA Section for Latin America and the Caribbean on the theme "*Cooperation among multiple types of libraries and affiliated information services of archives and museums toward meeting common goals of sharing*", Guatemala City, Guatemala, 10-11 August 2011.
- Lor, P.J. & Huang, Chunsheng "2011 survey of international activities and relations of national library associations". Report presented to the National Organizations and International Relations Special Interest Group, IFLA Congress, San Juan, Puerto Rico, 14-18 August 2011.
- Lor, P.J. "Ethical and political-economic issues in the long-term preservation of digital heritage". Invited Paper presented at the UNESCO/Information for All Programme International Conference on the Preservation of Digital Information in the Information Society, Moscow, 3-5 October 2011.
- Lor, P.J. "Rethinking the local: reimagining libraries in a flattening world." Contribution (virtually delivered) to a panel discussion at a Conference on "Rethinking the local: reimagining libraries in a flattening world", University of North Carolina at Greensboro, 14 November 2011.

2012

- Lor, P.J. "The IFLA-UNESCO partnership 1947-2012". Keynote paper for the UNESCO Open Session, "Learning from the past to shape our future – 65 years IFLA/UNESCO partnership", at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Helsinki, Finland, Monday, 13 August 2012.
- Lor, P.J. "All your systems suck: connectivity and connecting in LIS management." Presentation delivered at the 2012 SABINET Client Conference, Cape Town, 5-7 September, 2012.
- Lor, P.J. "Legal deposit and web archiving", Guest lecture to the Erasmus Mundi International Master in Digital Library learning (DILL) programme. University of Parma, Parma, Italy, 21 September 2012.
- Lor, P.J. "Burning libraries for the people: questions and challenges for public librarians in post-Apartheid South Africa". Guest lecture, École Nationale Supérieure des Sciences de l'Information et des Bibliothèques, Lyon, France, 11 October 2012.

Lor, P.J. "Ethical issues in the preservation of digital content." Presentation to a UNESCO Panel Session on Information Ethics and Internet Governance, at the Internet Governance Forum, Baku, Azerbaijan, 6 November 2012.

2013

Lor, P.J. "Burning issues: questions for the South African library profession in the aftermath of Ratanda". Presented at the Annual Conference of the Library and Information Association of South Africa, Cape Town, 8 October 2013.

2014

Lor, P.J. "Risks and benefits of visibility: librarians navigating social and political turbulence". Paper presented at the Open Session of the Section of Library Theory and Research, IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Lyon, 21 August 2014.

Lor, P.J. "The end of international and comparative librarianship?" Paper presented at the 2014 IFLA post-Congress Satellite Conference on the History of Librarianship, Lyon, 25-26 August 2014.

Lor, P.J. "Understanding innovation, policy transfer and policy borrowing: implications for LIS in Africa". 7th Annual Public Lecture on African Librarianship in the 21st Century. UNISA, Pretoria, 22 May 2014.

2015

Lor, P.J. "Exporting American values: Raynard Swank revisited". E-lecture to the MLIS class in International Librarianship, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, USA, 4 November 2015.

Lor, P.J. "Libraries in Sub-Saharan Africa: colonial origins and development trajectories." Presentation to "Re-thinking the library (in Cameroon)", an interdisciplinary workshop within the International Library Congress "Formation, recherche, appui au développement : les sciences et métiers de l'information documentaire face au défi de l'émergence de l'Afrique", Yaoundé, Cameroon, 3.-4 December, 2015.

Lor, P.J. "Who was to blame? The genealogy of the 'Anglo-American' national library service model." Paper presented at the IFLA World Library and Information Congress, Cape Town, South Africa, 15-19 August 2015.

2016

Lor, P.J. "Biblioteche, internazionalismo e pace [Libraries, internationalism, and peace]". *Lectio magistralis in biblioteconomia* [Magisterial lecture in library science] delivered at the University of Florence, Italy, on 2 March 2016.

Lor, P.J. "From local to global: the expanding horizons of libraries and related information organizations". Guest lecture to PhD Seminar "History and Foundations of Library and Information Science" (LIS 587), School of Information Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA, 29 August 2016.

Lor, P.J. "Libraries promoting peace: cherished illusion or opportunity for action?" Lecture at CIPR Research Lunch, School of Information Sciences, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, USA, 7 September 2016,