

Chairman's Message; "UTANA on a Steadfast Journey"



Prof. Elisam Magara, C/M UTANA

It all began on Thursday 13th October 2011 at Litterturhuset (the House of Literature) when I was in Norway as a Visiting Professor at the University College Oslo where I met Mr. Trond Andreassen, the then Secretary General of NFF, before proceeding to his Office.

During our conversation, Trond developed interest in the authorship situation in Uganda. In the end, a need for building capacity of academic and non-fiction authors in Uganda was hatched. Academic and non-fiction authors are important resources for development of any economy. In academic world, authorship is considered as one of the most prestigious careers, as it contributes to knowledge creation and wisdom. It is also an enabler of information sharing and transfer, preservation of heritage and the transformation of society. However, over time, authorship in Uganda has been affected by increased abuse of copyrights and rampant piracy.



Trond Andreassen, International Secretary, (NFFO)

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In 2012, with support from NFF through Nabotu, a reconnaissance study on the state of Non-fiction and academic writing was conducted in Uganda among the academic and nonfiction authors through visits to bookshops, online questionnaire and interview of contacts, from March to July 2012. The study attempted to establish the factors that impacted on the current operations in the book sector; the challenges, views, attitudes and potential for academic and non-fiction authorship in the

country.

The findings of the study presented to invited stakeholders on 22nd July 2012 at Grand Imperial Hotel revealed that the sector faced a number of challenges such as poor reading culture, inadequate funding, uncontrolled piracy and copyright infringement through photocopying, digitization and internet downloads, absence of contract guidelines and unclear earning avenues from authorship. Apart from these, there was also no common forum for facilitating the promotion of academic and non-fiction authorship, cooperation and strategic alliance.

The expectations of authors were many; they wanted enhanced capacity building training and fellowships, mentorship schemes, support for endowments, grants and awards for the writers. On 30th November 2012, UTANA was constituted in an initial general assembly at Makerere University, Department of Pharmacy.

In May 2013, the Uganda Textbook Academic and Nonfiction Authors Association (UTANA) was registered as per the Company Act Cap 110, as a Company Limited by Guarantee and not having a share capital. UTANA is a member-driven association upholding and enhancing the profile, status, rights and needs of academic and non-fiction authors in Uganda. Its Mission is "To promote the rights of academic and non-fiction authors through advocating for the recognition of their works and protection of their rights, products and services in collaboration and cooperation with all stakeholders in the book value chain".

Since May 2013, UTANA has endeavoured to bring together various authors and writers to build their capacity on issues pertaining to authorship including copyright, earning a living in authorship, technical skills and competence in authorship, authorship mentorship, author-publisher partnerships, and book design & marketing among others.

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Editorial....

Anytime you come across a book, it is the result of a relationship that worked. It starts with the author, who sought to send a message to the reader. The author is supported in putting those ideas down into a manuscript. A publisher then picks up the manuscript and edits it before preparing it for publication. After it is published, the book is picked up by the bookseller who makes it available to the reader through a sale. There is a need to strengthen this relationship in Uganda. The need to develop this relationship is behind the articles in this bulletin.

That is how UTANA has been behind developing a strategic alliance between all players in the relationship, as a way of contributing to improved literacy for all. We hope you will find the articles in here educative.

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Mrs. Joyce Tabingwa - ChairPerson

Mr. Source Peter Opak - Member

Mr. Moses Talemwa - Member

Ms. Samalie Namukasa - Member

Mr. Emmanuel Otim - Secretary

Chairman's Message Continued.

Since then, writers and authors have held joint authorship professional talks, organized capacity building workshops and seminars and attempted to tap cooperation and synergies in existing organizations and institutions in the sector, including international and Government departments. Nationally, there is an appreciation of the roles of authors in society, improved linkages between authors and publishers, increased knowledge and skills, internationalization of authorship promotion through partnership.



UTANA LAUNCH, 4th Oct. 2014, at Statistics House

There is increased awareness on authors/writers' rights, innovation in writing and authorship, linkages between authors, publishers and collecting society and recognized contributions of writers to the social economic development. For the first time in the history of Uganda, a copyright can be used as a collateral security for bank loan in the country.

UTANA has implemented a number of programmes including, the hosting of the Pan African Writer's Symposium

(PAWS) in 2016, and developing Guidelines on Publisher-Author Standard Contract/Agreement (PASCA),



LAUNCH OF PASCA, 4th OCTOBER 2019 at NATIONAL LIBRARY UGANDA

conducted research in authorship industry, and has instituted a Writers-Authors Investment Club to support in increasing authors saving capacities while pursuing their authorship business. UTANA has hosted talk shows and author exposition to increase authors' visibility. To support the authors' efforts to engage in gainful publishing process, in 2020, with support from NFFO, the Association is launching the UTANA Grant Scheme for authors (UGSA). This is meant to encourage authors in Uganda increase their capacity of authorship.

UTANA appreciates the generous contributions of a number of organizations including Norwegian Non-fiction and Translators Association (NFFO), Kopinor, Norway, East African School of Library and Information Science, National Library of Uganda, Uganda Registration Service Bureau (URSB), Uganda Publishers Association (UPA), Uganda Society, Inter University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), Uganda Reproduction Rights Organisation (URRO), National Book of Uganda (NABOTU) and Government of Uganda through Ministry of Education and Sports and Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Welfare, Department of Culture and Family Affairs and institutions that have hosted UTANA activities. To ensure dissemination of her efforts, UTANA has documented the following: UTANA Occasional Papers Series 1-3: Promotion of Academic and Non-Fiction Authorship in Uganda Required Intervention (2013), Selected Papers 2012-2015, Programme and Abstracts for the 4th Pan African Writers Symposium (2016), School Book Provision Programme (2016), and Building Capacity for Sustainable Academic and Non-Fiction Authorship in Africa (2018). This Authors voice is another effort to keep abreast with current affairs in the authorship sector. God bless you as you read.

Ugandan authors poised to get support in completing their works

Uganda Textbook Academic and Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA) in partnership with the Norwegian Association of Non-Fiction and Translators Association (NFFO) is implementing a 3 Year Project (entitled UTANA Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA) to support authors in their writing process. The grant supports authors (who are already in their writing process) to facilitate the completion of their publications/academic works. It is hoped that at the end of the grant, the work will be published (either electronically or in hard copy). This is the first round of the competitive grant scheme to benefit authors of academic and general non-fiction works.

Goal: Strengthening Authorship Capacity for increased availability and accessibility of Ugandan based authored books on the world market.

Objectives

1. To build capacity among writers and authors for increased authorship in the Country
2. To support Authors with publication grant for increased authorship in Uganda.
3. To promote authorship products through increased advocacy and awareness of Ugandan authored books in Uganda

Project Description: The support shall be used to build capacity of writers, facilitate their works through grants for publishing and ensure promotion of their works. This project shall offer grant to support writers in critical areas of textbook, academic and non-fiction books in the production process. The Grant shall endeavor to help writers who are currently writing non-fictional scholarly pieces or general pieces. Those applying for printing awards should show approval/guarantee of Publisher's readiness for publication in a specified period. The guarantees include current UTANA authors and prospective members. The basis of the award shall be based on exhibit or possession of an evaluated manuscript that needs support for production. A unified book promotional program shall be implemented to increase awareness of public on the products published from the project.

Expected outcomes

- Improved level of academic writing in the Country
- Writing/publishing skills developed among authors
- Increased cooperation of UTANA with stakeholders

Selection process for 2020 Grantees:

UTANA Grant Scheme for Authors (UGSA) a project implemented by UTANA aimed at supporting authors in

their writing process to facilitate the completion of their publications/academic works. The Selection Committee, mandated by UTANA Executive Board, conducted the selection process. The selection criteria hinges on the fact that the applicant is currently working on a scholarly or a general non-fiction work with a view that with UGSA's intervention, the work will eventually be published (either electronically or in hard copy). The committee attempted to consider a wide-ranging group of authors and subjects and was mindful of authors in all levels of locations and education. Whereas the expectations of the project encouraged new and upcoming authors to apply, some of the young authors did not measure up to the minimum expectations.

To mainstream quality assurance in the selection process; evaluation was done using a merit point evaluation system. The methodology of the review process shall be agreed by the team together with the project coordinator. Each proposal was intensively reviewed by a minimum of two people on the team, and averages were computed accordingly. In addition, all reviewers had an overview of all the proposals especially in providing qualitative appraisal in regards to the selection criteria. The selection process was moderated by the Project Coordinator, whose task was to assess the consistency and coordinating the assessment. Members of the team endeavoured to ensure transparency, integrity and confidentiality of their involvement in the evaluation exercise. Some of the areas in the criteria attempted to address clear delineation of project output, and a clear indication that a book shall be published (hardcopy of e-book) with the support.

UTANA GRANT SCHEME FOR AUTHORS (UGSA): BENEFICIARIES for 2020/2021

S/N	Name	Topic	Category of Award
1	LUCY LUNY-OLO	Kamalilo Ka Lawino/Kimibala Kya Lawino	Completion of manuscript writing, Manuscript Review and Editing
2	RONALD KA-KUNGULU	Cyber Law in Uganda, In International Encyclopedia of Laws	Editing
3	JOHN NGUBIRI	Ordinary Level Physics: Principles, Illustrations & Applications	Completion of manuscript writing, Manuscript Review and Editing

4	ERIC NAMUN-GALU	Casting CRPD lens on Disability Rights Law in Uganda	Completion of manuscript writing, Manuscript Review and Editing
5	TUGUME LUBOWA HASSAN	Ethnomedicine in Buganda. The Strength & Challenges	Completion of manuscript writing, Manuscript Review and Editing
6	ABASI KIYIM-BA	Gendering Power & Destiny in Oral Literature. Lessons from the Folk Tales from the Baganda	Completion of manuscript writing, Manuscript Review and Editing
7	NASSUR TAB'AN EL-TABLAZ	Analysing O-level Literature: Novel, Plays and Poetry, 2021-2025	Completion of manuscript writing to Book Production
8	KAGONGI IGNATIUS	Amahiri-The Traditional Sport. A translation into Runyankore	Completion of manuscript writing to Book Production
9	KIGENYI WANSOLO ANDREW	Enono Ya Busoga Family Unit—A Complete Government	Completion of manuscript writing, Manuscript Review and Editing
10	OPAK SOURCE PETER	The god of the Iteso before the Christian God	Completion of manuscript writing to Book Production

Africa (UNISA) (2006); Masters of Science in Information Science (1999), Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Science (1996), Bachelor of Library and Information Science (1994) from Makerere University.

He served as a Director of the East African School of Library and Information Science (EASLIS), Makerere University (2006-2010). Previously, Magara worked as a College Librarian at National College of Business Studies (NCBS), Now Makerere University Business School (MUBS) (1993-1997). Magara served as visiting Professor, Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences (HIOA), Department of Archivistries, Library and Information Science, Norway. To Society, Magara served as a Chairman Uganda Library and information Association (ULIA) 1999-2008), a member a Committee on Copyright and Other Legal Matters (CLM) of IFLA, a Member of Information and Communication Committee of UNATCOM with special assignment on Memory of World Programme; and a Chairman Uganda Textbook Academic and Non Fiction Authors Association (UTANA), promoting authors rights in Uganda and Pan African Writers Symposium. He has been a principal researcher of a number of international programmes including: JULAP, Edlib, KIPS, Magara's twenty six years of technical, professional expertise and professorial Career are exhibited in library and information sciences, records and Archives management, information management, preservation of documentary heritage, and readership and book promotion punctuated by Public policy engagement, knowledge transfer, international collaborative research and scholarship.

Email: Magarasam@gmail.com

Appeal for Support of the Scheme

UTANA Appeals to individuals, organizations and development partners, and organizations to support the move of improving authorship capacity in Uganda. Send your request to ugsaproject@utanauganda.org. We shall appreciate your support.

UTANA LEADERSHIP

CHAIRPERSON, Prof. Elisam Magara



Prof. Elisam Magara is a professor of Information Science in the Department of Records and Archives Management, College of Computing and Information, Makerere University. Magara holds a PHD in information Science from the University of South

Vice Chairman: Godwin Anywar

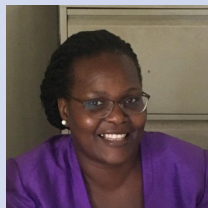


Godwin Anywar is currently lecturing at Makerere University in the Department of Plant Sciences, Microbiology & Biotechnology, at the school of Biosciences in the College of Natural Sciences. His research interests broadly include medicinal plants, pharmacognosy, ethnobotany & ethnopharmacology, natural product development & microbiology. He is widely published with several research articles and book chapters in high impact journals. Anywar is a recipient of international awards; serves as reviewer of several international reputed journals and is a member of several international professional bodies. He is the current Vice Chairman of the Uganda Textbook Academic & Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA). Anywar recently submitted his doctoral research in a split site model at the prestigious Fraunhofer Institute

for Cell Therapy & Immunology in Leipzig, Germany, and the Institute for Virology at Leipzig University in Germany & Makerere University. Here, he investigated the cytotoxic, antiviral (anti-HIV-1) & immunomodulatory properties of medicinal plants used by herbalists in treating people living with HIV/AIDS in Uganda.

General Secretary: Winny Nekesa Akullo

Winny Nekesa Akullo holds a Master's Degree in Information Science from Makerere University. Winny is the Secretary of UTANA and Publicity Secretary of Uganda Library and Information Association. She is also Standing Committee Member of the IFLA Government Libraries Section. She is a researcher and has presented at a number of local and international conference.



Assistant secretary: John Situma-Watsuna, is a Teacher, an Author for Primary Schools books. He formerly worked as a deputy General Secretary of Uganda National Teachers Union. (UNATU).

Treasurer, Robert Kayiki

Kayiki, the Treasurer, is currently a Librarian at Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA). Robert is a double faced professional - one face of his profession is librarianship and another face is financial management. Robert commenced his financial Leadership track as a Deputy Treasurer (2004) of then Uganda Library Association (ULA). Later he was elected as a Treasurer (2005-2007) of the Uganda Library and Information Association (ULIA). He has also been a Financial Controller of Juba University Library Automation Project (JULAP) Makerere University Implementation Committee (2008- June 2009) and Educating Librarians for Southern Sudan (EdLib) Project Makerere University Implementing Committee (July 2009- April 2013). The above projects were some of the projects under the Norwegian Cooperation Programme for Capacity Building in Sudan (NUCOOP). It is also a fact that Robert was also a President (2002/2003), Makerere University Library and Information Science Students Association (MULISSA). His relevance in financial management has continued to manifest his current day-to-day work as he is the Directorate Budget Liaison Officer for the Directorate of Education and Social Services at KCCA. He has widely authored a number of publications singly and as joint authorship.



Assistant Treasurer; Dr. Justus Biryomumeisho



Dr. Justus Biryomumeisho, Ph.D., is a teacher by profession having read mathematics and evaluation at Makerere University. He has since taught at Makerere University, Makerere University Business School, formerly National College of Business Studies, Nakawa and Gulu University. He is currently serving as senior lecturer and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Business and Development Studies at Gulu University. He has written and published widely in peer-reviewed journals. He is a reviewer in several international journals in the field of finance and management. He has reviewed a couple of books. Further, he has contributed a book chapter in the forthcoming *"COVID-19 and Education in Africa ; Challenges, Possibilities and Opportunities."*

Publicity Secretary; Mr. Emmanuel Otim



He is a Deputy Headteacher CityHigh School, he is a chemistry teacher and an author in chemistry. He holds a portfolio of Publicity Secretary in UTANA.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. **Ms. Irene Serunjogi**
2. **Ms. Joyce Tabingwa**

Irene Nakayenga Sserunjogi, is a Librarian by profession and works with National Curriculum Development Center (NCDC), Kyambogo as a Head Librarian. Irene is an Editor to the NCDC institutional Magazine "The Curriculum Tree", a bi-annual publication. He is an Innovator with the International Network for emerging Librarian, a programme sponsored by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundations, an exposure on how libraries in developing world become relevant in their communities. He is married and a mother of five Children.



Ms. Joyce Tabingwa is a member of the UTANA board. She works with the Farmer's Media as an editor and researcher as well. she started career as a journalist in the nineties to date which has greatly inspired her in writing and editing educational materials. She is a board member in charge of Education in the Uganda Media Development Foundation (UMDF) an Konrad Adenauer Foundation Germany. She has done quite a number of research studies locally and internationally.



REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Dr. George Muganga, Westen Region

Ms. Samalie Namukasa, Central Region

Mr. Joseph Ochwo Emma , Eastern Region

Mr. Julius Maama, Northern Region

Dr George Muganga is a development practitioner by training and experience with a bias in sustainable development. He holds a Bachelor and Doctorate degrees in Development Studies and a Master of Population and Development. Muganga is a teacher, researcher, author and Editor. He boasts of a teaching career of over 15 years at both under and post graduate



level, has undertaken several research projects and is widely published. Muganga is a former Senior Lecturer and Dean Faculty of Business and Development Studies at Bishop Stuart University and has facilitated in several other Institutions including Uganda Management Institute, Kampala International University, Ankole Western University among others. Publications span over areas of environmental management, malaria control, book industry, technology, rural development to mention but a few. Muganga has been the Editor Journal of the Development Studies, International Ecumenical Fellowship Journal and a peer reviewer of several other works. Muganga is currently working as Principal officer in charge of coordination at the National Environment Management Authority. He is also a registered member of UTANA, serves on the Executive Committee and is the Chairperson of the Evaluation committee of UTANA Grant Scheme for Authors Project 2020.

Ms. Samalie Namukasa



She holds a Bachelors's Degree in Library and Information Science from Makerere University. She is a committee member on the UTANA board. Currently working Uganda Bureau of Statistics. She is also one of the editors for Utana Newsletter.

Coordintor--Eastern: Demba Joseph Ochwo, is a teacher and an author of the Primary School Textbooks including New primary Social Studies for Uganda Book. He is a Retired Teacher Educator at Busindizi PTC.



Coordinator Northern: Mama Julius is a writer



and UTANA Coordinator in Northern Uganda. He is a proprietor of Innovative Institute of Agriculture, Business and Capacity Building (IABC)-Arua. He holds a Degree in Agribusiness Management (Mak) and Master of Sustainable Agriculture and Rural

Development (Ndejje University). He holds Level 5 Assessor Validation Certificate in Occupation –Farmer. He is an author of many books including Agricultural Value Chain Management

Members of the UGASA Selection Committee

Dr. George Muganga - Chairman

Prof. Elisam Magara - Project Cordinator

Dr. Justus Biryomumeisho - Member

Ms. Sarah Mirembe Kyankya - Member

Mr. Godwin Anywar - Member

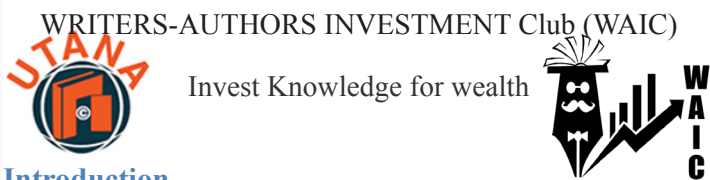
Ms. Sarah Mirembe Kyankya, holds a MA in Public



Administration and Management, Makerere University and is currently a Book Editor at National Curriculum Development Centre. She has a Diploma in Intensive Book Editing Course, New Delhi, India, MA Diploma - Press and Democracy in Germany and Africa

for Press Journalists from East and Southern Africa, Bachelor of Arts (Mass Communication), Makerere University, and attained several short course trainings in book editing and publishing. She worked as a Chief Sub-Editor at The Crusader Newspaper; News Reporter at The Daily Monitor Newspaper and Book Editor at Fountain Publishers.. Sarah is an Editor in charge of children's books, picture books, reading books and textbooks (Primary and Secondary). She was involved in commissioning authors and illustrators and participated in the design of the final products. She also represented the African Publishers Network, (APNET) at the Gothenburg Book Fair in Sweden where she presented a paper on "Children's Hunger for Reading and Books". She presented a paper at the International Conference on Storytelling, New Delhi, India.

UGANDA TEXTBOOK ACADEMIC AND NON-FICTION AUTHORS ASSOCIATION (UTANA)



Invest Knowledge for wealth

Introduction

Writers-Authors Investment Club (WAIC) is an investment arm of the Uganda Textbook Academic and Non-Fiction Authors Association (UTANA) supporting authorship and literary service provision in Uganda.

Vision: A Member driven Club upholding and enhancing the profile, status, rights and needs of authors in Uganda

Mission: Supporting writers and authors to enhance their livelihood through innovative investment

Categories of Membership

1. Author and Writers
2. Organisations/Corporate Membership

How to Join

1. Fill a registration form: <https://utanauganda.org/re/>
2. Pay a non-refundable membership fee
 - a) Individual Membership: 150,000/=
 - b) Organisations/Corporate Membership: 500,000/=

Payment should be made to: WRITERS AUTHORS INVESTMENT Club (WAIC), Account No. 01361116903763; DFCU Bank, Main Branch. Specify your Registered Telephone Number with the Club.

Details: <https://utanauganda.org/home/writers-authors-investment-club/>

MEMBERS OF WAIC COMMITTEE

- Professor Elisam Magara, ChairPerson,
- Ms. Gertrude Sekabira, Vice Chairperson,
- Mr. Godwin Anywar, Secretary,
- Mr. Ignatius Kagongi, Member,
- Rev. Dr. Johnson Ebong, Member,
- Mr. Robert Kayiki, Member,
- Ms. Winny Nekese Akullo, Member
- Mr. Source Opak, Member

SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES

Gertrude Ida K. Ssekabira, Vice Chair of the WAIC.



Currently a Human resource Manager at PIBID, Gertrude Ida K. Ssekabira holds a Mcs Degree in Human Resource Management, Bachelor's degree in -AArt & Design education, Dip. In Art Double Main.

She has training in Project Planning and management of PAIDESA Zamia, Gender in Development of Mar-

burg German, leadership and management of Department of Agriculture USA; Graphic Design (The Hague, Netherland), Counselling (Nairobi Kenya), Social Entrepreneurship by British council. She is a Renown visual Artist who has held local and International Art Exhibitions, an educational innovator, Founder member of Namugongo Martyr's Museum an Author of four books and a receiver of eight awards.

Seminars and Meetings

Public Dialogue: UTANA participated in a number of national dialogues organized by Department of Culture, Minister of Labor, Gender and Social Development. On the topic Resilient Art webinar debate for creative industry on 15th April 2020 11:00pm,

the Chairman participated together with others to shed light on the current state of creative industries a midst crisis in an exclusive global discussion together with key industry professionals while capturing experiences and voices of resilience from artists. In a panel of 6, together the debate raised awareness about the far reaching ramification of COVID-19 across the sector during and following the crisis. With a request from UTANA, the Ministry hosted the Director of Intellectual property, Uganda Registration Service Bureau (URSB). Issues raised included preparedness of digital migration in registration records to move with technology; A need to have a serial system like we have for books or serials. As a one stop center, how is the URSB be ready with online/electronic registration of copyright. UTANA members have been listening and participating in those meetings.

Challenges and Opportunities of Authors during COVID-19 and beyond: Authors' Opinions'.

Like any other sector, Covid - 19 has had an effect to the authorship and book industry and to yourself as a writer and author. 1. What could be some of the areas and challenges that have affected your business as writer/author or the industry at large? 2. What are some of the lessons we have learnt as authors or writers in the period of Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown. 3. What do you think can be done to mitigate the gaps caused by the Covid-19 pandemic for the future of the authorship industry? The following are some of the expressions from members and observations:

Challenges

In the book sector, authors have for a long time relied on publishing of books and reliance on payments through book sales and royalties and supported occasions like book expositions and book readings that help them to earn a living. A big market of books is exhibited by universities and schools. In the Covid-19 time, schools are closed, universities are closed, book shops and book stores and publishing firms are closed and thus the level of earning by authors is minimal. In addition, Libraries where most of the books can be accessed are closed. Some of the expressions include:

As an author, I have faced the following challenges. Difficulty in accessing internet. Lack of access to physical libraries & the different services they offer such as reading spaces & other amenities in writing. Lack of access to research materials/respondents etc.

Other challenges include inability to travel as many authors use public means, locked up Internet Cafes. Poor sales. Those authors whose books are not published electronically, their works cannot be accessed and thus cannot earn. As a lesson, this requires a change of culture among the public in terms of authorship, publishing and use (including use of online publishing) mindful of copyright infringement. Book shops are closed and not selling, the printers are not working either, e-selling and e-writing is also risky according to some authors. One author notes that "I have seen one of my books online, yet I didn't put it there myself". Some authors have been participating in book fairs nationally and internationally, but that opportunity is not there.

A number of authors depend on the infrastructure and equipment of their parent organizations e.g. premises/offices, ICTs, etc. which were not available during the lock down. The lockdown created a lot of anxiety e.g.

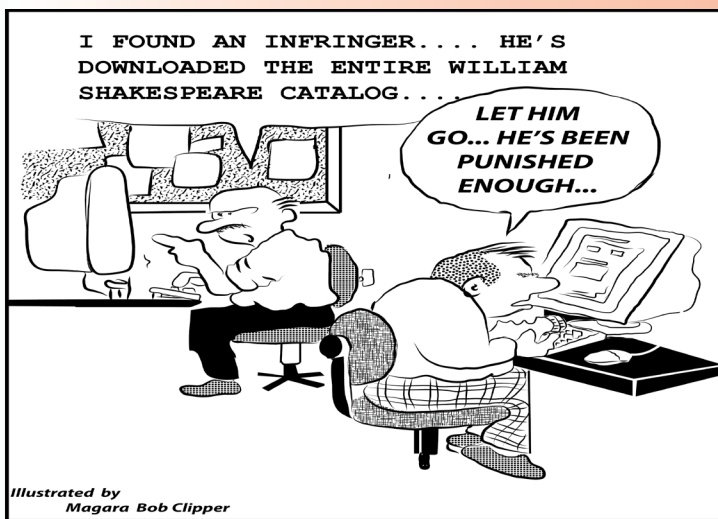
frequent presidential addresses about COVID-19, Minister of Health updates, curfew times, travel restrictions, fear of food shortages for families, uncertainties about the duration of the lockdown, etc. Such environment was not conducive for critical thinking. The cost of data is still too high for online transactions amongst authors' networks. There are ICT capacity gaps amongst authors for effective networking and communication.

Lessons: Asked what are some of the lessons authors or writers have learnt during the period of Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown is: *To be dynamic and flexible because there are opportunities that can be exploited during the lockdown, such as other avenues for marketing our works, especially social media, to target a wider readership.*

A trend is now on e-learning and use of online platforms. A number of institutions now prefer to purchase on-line materials. There are expressed budget cuts in government departments which has led to lessened priority for books. There has been expressed need of integration of knowledge among individual authors to survive in the Post Covid-19. Home and Parental-Children relationship have been strengthened and thus reading and learning programmes and technologies by both Children and parents encouraged. Save monies taking advantage of investment clubs to buffer us in case of such pandemics. 2. Create home office spaces to provide home working environment.

Mitigating factors: What do you think can be done to mitigate the gaps caused by the Covid-19 pandemic for the future of the authorship industry". The following suggestions were made: (I) a special covid fund be set up to facilitate authors in documenting/writing about different aspects of covid-19 in different disciplines. (ii) Virtual covid workshops be set up for authors to dialogue/discuss survival & coping mechanisms during the covid pandemic & the resultant lockdown & tips on how to prosper & thrive during this period as an author.

Whereas Copyright protection has been concentrating on photocopying and piracy in the operations done in Uganda; there is a need to look more into identification of protected digital materials. The Post COVID-19 shall demand for increased access to information, and therefore systems to protect authors' rights in a sharing of information of a commercial nature shall prevail. The anti-copyright lobby in the digital space requires a priority discussion. There is a likelihood that with increased copyright resale among creators, Government will reconsider compensating authors through public



lending rights, work on strategy on online remuneration, and clear implementation strategy on exceptions and limitations.

We need to take note that literature (books) is a public good and in such, the government is obliged to guide the public in use and protection of that 'good'. There is therefore a need for sustainable framework on protecting authors works open to the public, especially through strengthening copyright protection as mandated by the Copyright and other neighboring rights (CNR) 2006, including building a sustainable collective management of secondary rights. A good writer is a good reader, as noted by one author "I have been forced to read a book of more than 1000 pages, systematically in the COVID-19 Lock down, which has enabled me to understand the subject.

A number of authors depend on the infrastructure and equipment of their parent organizations e.g. premises/offices, ICTs, etc. which were not available during the lock down. The lockdown created a lot of anxiety e.g. frequent presidential addresses about COVID-19 updates, Minister's updates curfew times, travel restrictions, fear of food shortages for families, uncertainties about the duration of the lockdown, etc. Such environment was not conducive for critical thinking. 3. The cost of data is still far high for online transactions amongst authors' networks 4. There are ICT capacity gaps amongst authors for effective networking and communication. Lessons 1. Save monies taking advantage of investment clubs to buffer us in case of such pandemics. 2. Create home office spaces to provide home working environment.

Conclusion: It is true that Corona virus Crisis has had a direct impact on the daily lives of authors on private lives, but also on working situation of writers. On a positive note, some authors are taking this time to have some writings. As UTANA we believe that every person is a prospective author and in whatever responsibility somebody has he can write, examples as a Secre-

tary General in that organization, tell us good models of managing organization, as a general manager of a company tell us the best management model, such writings are practical and support development of any growing nation. However the biggest challenge is not writing, it is supporting the authorship and publishing of authors work. We think, like other countries, elsewhere and authors require a formalized support by Government. One appropriate strategy is a set up for an author/writers/ Artists development fund to support the authors in their recovery from COVID-19 as well as continuous service sector. On the side of literature, Authors can help in documenting / writing relevant and crucial areas of the country that requires.

God Bless You,

Prof. Elisam Magara, Chairman UTANA

National Consultative workshop on Instructional Materials and Book Policy, 5th and 6th March 2020 at Civil Service College, of Uganda Jinja.:



Stake holders on book policy at a meeting in jinja.

UTANA like any other stakeholders in book industry participated in a National Consultative meeting on Instructional materials that are crucial in teaching and learning process for quality education achievements. It was noted that the ministry set up book procurement, which only guides procurement of instructional materials but do not provide a supportive policy and legal framework for regulating the book industry in the country. This has been manifested by un regulated entry and access to instructional materials, piracy, inappropriate book content on market, non-domestication of international agreements on instructional materials and un clear linkages between central government and local governments among others. The workshop discussed a draft regulatory impact assessment (RIA) and institutional materials in education institution. The workshop intended to generate consensus on the instructional materials

in education policy and legal framework to regulate the book industry in Uganda. The authors appreciated the government clear intent to develop a national book policy, which among other issues focuses on expansion of library network, promotion of reading book trade issues, local language publishing, education, culture, etc. The policy proposes that all books shall be subjected to the board for evaluation before they permitted into the schools. There are also proposals to enforce the use of uniform security devices, adopt new reforms in the procurement system that protect and give advantage to local publishers in line with Buy Uganda Build Uganda (BUBU). The policy provides provision access to book through school libraries, reading promotion, streamline relationship and roles key institutions etc.



OPINIONS

DILEMMA OF UGANDA'S BOOK INDUSTRY IN THE DIGITAL ENVIRONMENT.

Charles Batambuze



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Digital technologies including social media platforms have offered great opportunities to Uganda's book industry. A number of local online bookstores are beginning to set up shop for the purpose of marketing and selling Ugandan books. Examples include: The Creaking Bookshelf, TPDBookshop and others. With the slow growth of the e-book market in Uganda, the new digital book platform start-ups have for now specialised in selling and delivering printed copies. The platforms are helping to expand the market reach for Ugandan books.

It should however be noted that Ugandan writers and publishers continue to express concerns about copyright protection for their works in the digital en-

vironment. The biggest threat to publishing appears to be the ease with which pdf files of books are shared on social media platforms. One recent example, is a new book, "Unveiling Sexuality Discourses in Uganda" by Prof Sylvia Tamale which made its rounds on whatsapp. At the onset of the Covid-19 lockdown, a certain popular website was set up to provide free downloads for the Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEBC) past papers. The Uganda Reproduction Rights Organisation (URRO) intervened by issuing a Cease and Desist Notice, following a complaint from UNEBC. The content was thus pulled down. Earlier in 2019, another website without authorisation, had pdfs of full texts of National Curriculum Development Centre (NCDC) books which were available for free downloading.

An investigation conducted by the Uganda Reproduction Rights Organisation (URRO) in 2019 has established that sections of university course books were captured on phones and converted into pdf for sharing on students peer to peer social media networks. In some cases, university lecturers have been known to send pdf extracts of chapters of books to their class as part of coursework. Of course international pirate websites continue to be another source of books to some readers in Uganda.

In a recent operation by URRO on a print shop in Kampala, more disturbing news was unveiled. A number of dismembered secondary school textbooks were recovered. They were dismembered to ease scanning of the books. Investigations show that the books were being scanned for inclusion on a digital learning platform being developed by a big company, which will eventually be vended to schools.

What the above incidences show is that there is generally a pushback against traditional methods of accessing information via the library. Copyright owners in Uganda that include authors and publishers need to take some measures to ensure protection of their revenue streams from digitalised works. They need to work with the Uganda Reproduction Rights Organisation (URRO) to provide licenses that cover digital uses and accordingly collect royalties from such uses. Secondly, work with URRO in lobbying government to establish a Private Copy Levy that would be used to provide compensation to authors and publishers for unauthorised works that are distributed or shared over the social media networks.

Challenges in academic authorship

Anywar Godwin

Academic authorship can be deeply rewarding experience albeit demanding. Authorship opens doors to promotion, tenured positions, proliferation of research networks & recognition both among peers and wider community but also keeps the author knowledgeable or well-informed about a particular area. However, just like any other endeavour, it is not free of challenges. Some of the challenges that bedevil academic authorship include lack of mentorship of junior colleagues by their seniors.

Experienced authors are sometimes engrossed in consultancy work and do not have time to mentor others, or do not know to mentor because they were not mentored themselves or do not have any formal mentorship training. Other challenges include, lack of training on authorship, heavy teaching loads, large classes and lack of funding which limit or deny potential authors writing time or opportunities, lack of guidance on how to for instance on how to handle ethical questions in academic authorship such as plagiarism, authorship disputes which mostly arise in case of multiple authorship.

There is need for continuous training of seasoned, novice and even potential authors due to the dynamic nature of the authorship landscape that comes with new and emerging trends such as e-publishing, predatory publishers, electronic publishing and grantsmanship among others.

How Bookshop is Coping with Covid-19

Florence Lusiba



Strategic alliances are essential for the book industry to survive and this has been deemed very important as the country grapples with how to best manage the education system during and after the Covid-19. The lockdown caused schools and universities to close and left

teachers unpaid and publishers, Booksellers and Authors hanging dry since sales of books dropped drastically with no demand from schools or institutions. How best will the book industry manage to reach students while at home on lockdown and ensure that learning and specifically reading continues?

Literacy statistics from **UWEZO 2015 Report** showing that reading is a challenge at the lower and upper primary levels and only 60% and 49% of P.3 –P.7 students in Private Primary Schools and Government schools re-

spectably, are able to read and understand a P.2 English story.

The **UNEB Report for 2019** states ‘The English language continues to pose a serious challenge to candidates at all levels of education. Many of the candidates cannot express themselves especially in questions that require explanation, while many others cannot spell basic words correctly’. Improving literacy levels is important and Bookshops should therefore be considered an essential service. The Bookshop chain needs to remain strong in order for books to reach the final users across the country. In order for this to happen the suppliers of the book chain i.e the Authors, Publishers, Distributors should continue to strengthen their alliances with the Booksellers. This takes place when agreements are signed between the Authors and Publishers, between Publishers and Distributors and Booksellers.

The booksellers in turn form an alliance with the schools, institutions, students and parents and retail their books to the final users. In the past the Government formed alliances with booksellers under the Decentralization of Instructional Materials Procurement (DIMP) project to distribute supplementary readers to government schools. Currently due to Covid-19, Schools are not accessible due to the lockdown and new alliances need to be formed under **Home schooling** that has become the order of the day.

Mobile Libraries that partnered with schools need to adapt in order to reach the final users who are the children at home. During this period, teachers need to work together with the NCDC and encourage parents to buy approved books for the syllabus from the bookshops. The Publishers role is to ensure a constant supply of books to the bookshops to cover the syllabus. Bookshops should therefore be seen as a ‘One Stop Centre’ for all textbooks, readers and dictionaries in order to facilitate the learning process during COVID-19.

Challenges faced by authors in the Publishing industry in Uganda

Otim Emanuel

Preamble

Text book publishing involves writing (by an author), editing of the script by an editor and publishing of the works that is undertaken by the publisher. Text book publishing is a business and requires investing a lot of money into it. It is on this basis that authors find it challenging to publish their works independently. Instead authors have found themselves dependent on Publishing houses for support. In the process they end up facing the following challenges:-

- (a) Typesetting of authors works takes longer than expected because the typesetters have other works to handle.

- (b) Typesetters make mistakes especially in subjects they did not particularly like during their school time.
- (c) Authors do endless proofreading of typeset work.
- (d) Corrections to the works are either made or not. Uncorrected works sometimes end up in text books.
- (e) Number of textbooks printed is never transparently declared to authors.
- (f) Proceeds from the sale of books are rarely fully declared to authors.
- (g) Publishers take a large stake (90%) of the sum accrued and leave authors with only (10%). The 10% is shared among those who contributed to the works.
- (h) Some publishers do not sign agreements/ contracts with their authors thus exploiting them (authors).
- (i) Because agreements are not signed there is no clarity in the mandates of the author and publisher.
- (j) Inconsistency in paying out royalties to authors is common.

All in all, the challenges rotate around transparency and accountability of funds.

The Future of Strategic Alliance

Civil society contributes significantly to the promotion, protection and advancement of human rights.

Strategic Alliance as a Mitigating Factor for Authorship: During and Post COVID-19

via ZOOM

Prof. Elisam Magara
Chairman UTANA - Moderator

Gertrude Kayaga - Mulindwa
Former Director, National Library of Uganda

Martin Okia
Chairman, National Book Trust of Uganda, (NBTO), Publisher

Florence Lusiba
Marketing Manager, Gastro Uganda Ltd

Charles Batambuze
Executive Director, URRO Advocate Literary Works

Grace Baguma
Director, National Curriculum Development Center

Date: **THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2020**
Time: **11:00AM - 1:00PM**

Organized by: **UTANA** and **NCDC**

In an effort to promote protection of human rights, a number of bodies, organizations and associations have emerged to work as civil society actors for a better future and share the common goals of improving society needs as mandated by Article 20(1) of Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) that: Everyone has a right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association. Globally, there are number of ways instituted to support authors, including collecting management (through reproduction rights organisations), public lending (through public and national library systems), investment clubs

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(by organised groups of authors) supported grants and national social support schemes and capital incentives to publishers and book distribution among others. Such schemes to succeed require well guided strategic direction. UTANA with assistance from Department of Culture and Family Affairs, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development organised a stakeholder's consultative meeting on Strategic Alliance as a Mitigating Factor for Authorship: During and Post Covid-19 Zoom Meeting, 2nd July 2020, 11:00-1:00PM. The views expressed shall be analysed with literature search, and personal dialogue with other stakeholders to inform the future of strategic alliance in Uganda. This shall be published in the next issue.



UTANA SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

1. UGSA Awards Ceremony 28th August 2020, Silver Springs Hotel
2. UGSA Write shop Training, 15th to 16th October 2020, On Invitation
3. Writers-authors investment Club (WAIC) meeting, Theme: Invest Knowledge for Wealth, 30th October 2020,
4. Academic Authorship Skills Enhancement Training (AASET), 19th to 20th November 2020
5. UTANA Annual General Meeting, 15th December 2020

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