

A Chronological History of the Education Library, University of Pretoria: 1902-2007

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Celebrations in 2008**



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1. INTRODUCTION

The Education Library of the University of Pretoria came into being on 8 October 2001 with the incorporation of the former Education College of Pretoria into the University of Pretoria. In the discussion of the history of this library it is therefore important to look at the histories of both Education Collection of the University of Pretoria and the Library of the Education College prior to incorporation, as well as the history of the new entity after incorporation, called Education Library of the University of Pretoria. This discussion will be done in a chronological manner.

2. EDUCATION COLLECTION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

1906

- The Council of the Transvaal Technical Institute acquires books for the subjects of English, Literature, History, Philosophy as well as **Education** as recommended by Prof John Purves.

1908

- The “Arts Library” of the Transvaal Technical Institute is transferred to Kya Rosa to serve as a library during the founding of the Transvaal University College (TUC).

1909

- The TUC expands and moves to the “Staatsgimnasium” in Proes Street. The library is relocated to the same building in a room next to the office of the secretary.

1911

- The TUC moves into The Old Arts Building and the library is relocated to the 1st level of the southern wing of the building

1912

- The Dewey Decimal Classification system is adopted

1924

- Library expands to include the space of the History Reading Room of the Old Arts Building

1937

- A Three year diploma course in library work is instituted for Higher Education Diploma Students (This includes library work for such students)

15 April 1939

- Old Merensky Library Building is inaugurated

15 July 1957

- Old Merensky Library Building is expanded with a 2nd phase extension

1975

- A subject librarian system is established and the first subject librarian for the Education Collection is appointed. (Tukkie Werf, Junie 1976, Jg 2, no.3, p.6)

26 March 1976

- The New Merensky Library Building is inaugurated (Tukkie Werf, Junie 1976, Jg.2, no.3, p.6)

1980 – 2001

From 1980 the following subject librarians for Education succeeds each other:

- **Ms M. Lee**
 - **Ms. A van Zijl**
 - **Mrs I Bartmann**
 - **Ms C Venter (1994-2001)**
-

3. LIBRARY OF THE TEACHERS COLLEGE PRETORIA (TCP)**1-10 July 1902**

- The Conference of Teachers in Town and Refugee Camp Schools of the Transvaal and Orange River Colony, decides to establish “Normal Schools” in Johannesburg and Pretoria for the training of teachers (Oberholzer, 1952: p.17-19)

2 September 1902

- The “College” starts with one student and grows to 19 students by the end of 1902. The College is housed in a house in 126 Rissik Street, Sunnyside and is called the “Normal School” (Oberholzer, 1952: p. 27)
- The first batch of books that would form the core of the library is also delivered. In the first years the small “library” is housed in a building at the corner of Mears and Rissik Streets. The first person responsible for the library is Miss I. de Carry, not a qualified librarian. (Swiegers & Reitz, 1955: p.30)

November 1902

- Mr Scott, the first head of the College is succeeded by Mr Adamson. Before his departure he writes a report on his experiences in which he suggests the “**provision of a good English Library**”. (Oberholzer, 1952: p.38)

1903

- The Johannesburg “Normal School” closes and its 40 students are transferred to Pretoria. The 2 institutions merge and is named the “**Transvaal Normal College**” (Yearbook, 1989: p. 35)

1907

- By this year the College has three libraries, which are each funded by separate funds.
- The first of these libraries is called the “**College Library**” aimed at internal students.
- The second library is called the “**Circulating Library**” for teachers in service. A printed catalogue of the book collection of the Circulating Library is sent to practicing teachers, and every 6 months books are recalled as a control measure.
- The third library is a “**small subject library of professional nature**”, to which only College staff has access. (Swiegers & Reitz, 1955: p.30).

1908

- The Transvaal University College (later to become the University of Pretoria) is established. The first students include students from the Normal College.

1909

- The Heidelberg Education College and the Johannesburg Teachers Training Centre is started and the Transvaal Normal College is renamed the Pretoria Normal College
- The “**Grootzaal**” (Big Hall) is completed and the “library” is moved to the “**Biblioteeksaal**” (Library Hall) that borders the “Grootzaal”. During this time the “Biblioteeksaal is also used as general lecture room and demonstration laboratory for natural sciences. (Swiegers & Reitz, 1955, p.30)



The "Grootsaal" after completion in 1909 (Oberholzer, 1952, p.66)

1934

- During the rectorship of Prof J.S. van Heerden the library is decentralised to the lecture rooms. At this stage nearly every classroom has its own classroom library (or subject library), managed by the lecturer responsible for that subject. The Afrikaans and English Novels though are still housed in the "Biblioteeksaal" (Swiegers & Reitz, 1955: p. 31)

1935

- From the start of the College, books for the library are supplied by the Department of Education. This practice is stopped however during the Depression years due to a lack of funding. From 1935 funding by government resumes again.
- 1935 is also the year in which the College returns older and lesser used books to the Department of Education. The rest of the College collection is re-catalogued.
- The collection is placed under supervision of Academic staff in the classrooms.
- Additional funding for collection building comes from hostel funds as well as private College funds. (Oberholzer, 1952: p. 111)

1946

- The book collections in the different classroom libraries are centralised again and move to the "Biblioteeksaal".
- The first qualified librarian and library assistant are appointed.
- The collection is classified according to the Dewey Decimal Classification System. (Swiegers & Reitz, 1955: p. 31)



The Library in 1952 (Oberholzer, 1952: p111)

1952

- The library collection consists of 14 000 books and 22 journal titles and grows with 2000 books per year. (Oberholzer, 1952: p. 111) (Swiegers & Reitz, 1955: p.31)

1954

- The Normal College's name changes to "Onderwyskollege van Pretoria" (Teachers College Pretoria). The new A.H. du Preez van Wyk Library is completed in 1953 and the library moves into the building in 1954. (Jacobs, 1955: p.45)



A.H. du Preez VanWyk Library

1955

- The library college consists of 20 000 books as well as related collections e.g. pamphlets, brochures, pictures, maps, newspapers – and journal clippings, as well as films. (Swiegers & Reitz, 1955: p. 31) The collection also consists of relevant journals, newspapers and a collection of 5000 Departmental Text Books approved by the Transvaal Education Department for use in classrooms across the province's schools.
- The College's Local Collection with photos of student groups, personnel and functions and activities through the years, as well as architectural plans of most of the buildings that were used through the years is housed in the Library.
- Control of the 1300 handbooks is transferred to the College.
- A model school library is started as a practical tool for the training of students in the school librarian course. (Swiegers & Reitz, 1955, p.32-33)

1963

- Mrs Cloete is appointed as College Librarian

1974

- The Education of Secondary Teachers become the sole responsibility of the University of Pretoria.

1975

- New College grounds are bought in Groenkloof.

1977

- A new system of subject referents is implemented whereby specific lecturers of the academic departments act as liaisons between the academic departments and the library, to help the acquisition of sources for the different subjects for the library etc.

1978

- An agreement is arranged between the Teachers College Pretoria and University of Pretoria whereby the training of teachers will be done in conjunction with one another.

1987

- The library prepares for the move to the new Groenkloof Campus, by evaluating and weeding the collection

1988

- The Teachers College Pretoria moves to the new campus in Groenkloof. The Library move starts on 11 January 1988. With the help of 21 staff members, using 400 crates (the total shelf length could stretch for 1.6 km), the job is finished in 5 days.
- The library publication "Bibberasie" is published for the first time

1989

- The Audiovisual Collection is moved to the second level of the library
- The Groenkloof Campus of the Teachers College Pretoria is inaugurated
- An Inter-College Symposium for Departments of Library Science is held at the Teachers College Pretoria.

1990

- In line with the theme "Year of the Reader" the College Library undertakes an array of book exhibitions, aimed at various reader groups and the community.
- A group of statuettes by Joán Couzyn on well known poets (Sanlam Donation) are unveiled in the library by Mr PJ Clase, Minister of Education and Culture.

1991

- In November of this year an evaluation is made of the "Goudstadse Onderwyskollege" Library's collection and a selection is made of sources to be moved to the Teachers College Pretoria.
- An exhibition by Mr Oswald Gerber is unveiled in the library by Mr J.D.V. Terblanche, Superintendent-General of the Department of Education and Culture in November.

1992

- Mr J.E. Schutte leaves the College after many years of fruitful service as head of the College Library.

1993

- The “Goudstadse Onderwyskollege” is amalgamated with the Teachers College Pretoria” and moves to the campus of the Teachers College Pretoria. As part of the amalgamation process the two libraries of the two institutions are integrated. ±6000 books, ±2000 reference sources, 10 cabinets full of posters/pictures and various electronic/audiovisual resources are transferred to the Teachers College Pretoria’s library. A wide variety of furniture and other audiovisual equipment are also transported there.
- The Language Laboratory of the "Goudstadse Onderwyskollege" is relocated to the Northwestern wing of the Teachers College Pretoria’s library.
- An archive for the "Goudstadse Onderwyskollege" is established in the library.
- Mr C.F. Bouwer is appointed as departmental head of the Teachers College Pretoria’s Library.

1995

- Mrs E Coertze is appointed as co-departmental head of the College library.

1998

- The Transvaal College of Education, Laudium and the Transvaal Education College Soshanguve close and 20 of their staff members is relocated to the Teachers College Pretoria.

1999

- The INMAGIC-system is acquired to computerise the library collection. The Card Catalogue-system is stopped in 1998. From 1999 the new sources acquired by the library is catalogued through the INMAGIC System. The loan system is still done via a hand system (Loan cards)
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4. NEW PHASE: INCORPORATION OF COLLEGE LIBRARY INTO UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA LIBRARY SERVICES



Education Library: Groenkloof Campus

8 October 2001

- As part of the incorporation of the Teachers College Pretoria into the University of Pretoria, the Education Collection that is part of the Theology, Education and Sociology (TES) Service Unit in the Merensky Library of the University of Pretoria moves to the library building of the former Teacher' Training College on the Groenkloof Campus. The new entity that is formed is named Service Unit Groenkloof and the library is called the Groenkloof Library. This new library contains approximately 120 000 books, 1200 videos, 280 music Cds, and a wide variety of pictures/posters, transparencies, music cassettes, multimedia CD ROMs, photographic slides, maps, educational apparatus, and hand puppets.

8 October 2001 – 31 March 2002

- The new Service Unit Groenkloof is initially operated as a satellite unit of the TES Service Unit of the Academic Information Service under the leadership of Mrs S. Swanepoel, with three subject information specialists for the different academic departments of the Faculty of Education.
- Service Hours in this period are only from 8:00 – 17:00

- Two library circulation systems are operated during this period: an electronic circulation system (Innopac, Millennium) for sources from the university and a hand system with cards for sources from the former Teachers College.

1 March 2002

- Mr BJ van Wyk is appointed as Service Unit Leader for the Service Unit Groenkloof and the Service Unit becomes a fully fledged service unit separate from the TES Service Unit.

2002

- Service Hours change to come in line with those of the main campus library
- After Hours personnel is appointed
- The Library received an HIV/AIDS and Education Pamphlet-collection from Ms C Coombe, a world renowned researcher in this field.
- The College-Archive is moved from the library to the UP-Archive on the main campus of the University
- A magnetic security gate is installed at the exit of the library to detect resources taken out of the library
- The Education Journal Collections of both the former College and that of the University are re-evaluated. Irrelevant journals are cancelled and accredited journals of international quality are identified and subscribed to. The result is one of the top education journal collections in Africa.

2003

- Minolta becomes the new Photocopying agent at UP and a Photocopying counter is opened in the Groenkloof Library with another service point outside the library on campus.
- Mr BJ van Wyk receives an award from the US government to undertake a study visit to the USA from 8 April to 3 May 2003. The Education Faculty finance part of this visit. During this study visit some of the top American Universities' libraries are visited to identify the best practices and technological systems used in Education Libraries internationally. Also looked at is how Education Libraries are organised regarding their book-, journal – and multimedia collections. The most effective methods of organising resources are determined. Best practices are phased in after the visit, to ensure that the Groenkloof Library compares with the best internationally
- In August the hand (card) circulation system is stopped and the electronic circulation system (Millennium) expanded to include all resources in the library. (Temp records are created on Millennium for sources from the former Teachers College)
- The Study Collection is relocated behind the circulation desk
- August-December - The Agricultural and Natural Sciences Journal Collections before 1990 is moved from the Merensky Library to Level 2 of the Education Library as an archival collection. As part of this relocation a permanent Interloans Office with an Ariel Workstation is established.

- Further, as part of this relocation, the Education Journals before 1980 that were kept in the Lesser-Used Section of the Merensky Library, is moved to the Basement level of the Education Library, where it is integrated with the older Education Journals of the former Education College.

2004

- The High Performance Centre School (A UP sport school for children with sport talent) with children from Grade 3 to Grade 12 is established on the Groenkloof Campus. Teachers and pupils of this school also become users of the library.
- Formal information literacy courses is presented to First Year Education students as part of their compulsory modules.
- The first E-Newsletter for clients of the Education Library is published
- A Research-CD is compiled in conjunction with the Faculty of Education as a resource for Post-Graduate students
- An Integrated Technology Centre is established on the Ground Level of the library with 7 computer workstations (with funds from Investec), as well as audiovisual equipment e.g. DVD players, video players, tape recorders, slide projectors, tv monitors etc.
- The local printers that were connected to the client computer workstations are replaced by three network printers from Minolta.

2005

- Two group discussion rooms are established on level 2, equipped with video/DVD-players and tv monitors.
- A project is launched to evaluate the reference collection of the library: irrelevant sources are weeded and new sources are acquired in line with the collections of top education libraries internationally.

2006

- A student from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee in the USA, Dillon Young does his internship at the Education Library
- The Jonathan Jansen collection (former dean of the Faculty of Education) is placed on UPSpace (The institutional repository of UP)
- The Higher Education Quality Council (HEQC) visits the library on 17-18 August as part of the accreditation of the ACE, PGCHE and B.Ed courses.
- On 7 September the Education Library holds a function to market the Academic Information Service's new e-products to lecturers of the Education Faculty. During this function the Jonathan Jansen Collection on UP Space, the new library web site, as well as Google Scholar/Scholar SFX as a global or federated search engine for all our databases, books, journal articles, and Internet are demonstrated to academic staff of the Faculty of Education.
- The Minolta Copy Centre is opened in the library (The Copy Shop that were in the Aldoel Building is relocated to the library)

- All computer workstations in library are set up to work through the IT Lab on campus, and are opened up for clients to work on MS Office Products, Library Web pages, databases, ClickUP and also the **Internet**.
- The Education Library hosts three IBBYSA (International Board on Books for Young People South Africa) events.
- A workshop is presented to Education Centre Heads of Mpumalanga Department of Education on the "Library of the 21st Century" to give them an overview of how libraries look like today and how they function.

2007

- 6 additional Computer workstations are placed in the library, as well as a workstation with a scanner for use by clients
- A New IP telephone system, working via the IT Network is established on campus and also in the library
- The name of the Library changes officially from Service Unit Groenkloof to Education Library.

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