

# TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

## NATIONAL LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SYSTEM AUTHORITY

**ANNETTE WALLACE – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

ANNUAL REPORT TO CDNL 2007

NALIS oversees the management of the National Library of Trinidad and Tobago, 23 public branch libraries, 640 primary and secondary school libraries, and 23 libraries in government ministries.

### **AUTOMATED CIRCULATION SYSTEM: FIBRE CONNECTIVITY**

One of the main challenges to the implementation of automated circulation in branch libraries was data communication. In the absence of broadband internet, the organisation attempted to increase bandwidth on the frame relay circuit to provide adequate speed for transactions. Despite these increases, however, transaction speed was irregular and the Information Technology Division hesitated to implement automated circulation since confidence in the new system was paramount.

In August 2006 NALIS introduced fibre connectivity which provided the necessary bandwidth for implementation of automated circulation.

### **WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT**

The website [www.nalis.gov.tt](http://www.nalis.gov.tt) was redesigned after benchmarking several websites and taking consideration of the diverse background of NALIS' clientele. The main NALIS site now contains twenty-nine 29 secondary websites, and 18 new web pages.

Several subject guides were created and these include online exhibitions which are virtual exhibitions held at the National Library. One of the most popular online exhibitions celebrated Trinidad and Tobago's first qualification for World Cup 2006.

### **DIGITISATION**

NALIS uses the Greenstone Digital Library to provide access to the digitised collections. The number of records in the collective databases increased to 16,075. These included the various Special Collections and Information files held in the National Library.

### **INTEGRATED LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

NALIS subscribes to approximately 200 serial titles. The LS Serials module was introduced to improve the management of the periodicals processing.

The Online Selections and Acquisition (OSA) was implemented to manage the acquisition process. The software facilitates the creation of lists, access to databases, electronic ordering, and fund management and other features.

### **RADIO FREQUENCY IDENTIFICATION (RFID)**

NALIS prepared for the introduction of the newly acquired Automated Materials Handling System by tagging over 50,000 items in its collections using RFID tags.

### SERVICES TO DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Additional licences for the installation of JAWS screen reading software were acquired and this facilitated the installation of the JAWS Software at one workstation in every branch library.

### HELP DESK SYSTEM

The BridgeTrak Suite of helpdesk solutions was introduced to alleviate the downtime experienced by NALIS end users. Since its inception BridgeTrak has increased productivity by decreasing turnaround time for incident resolution.

### PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION

The architect of the Wei T'o Freezer, Dr. Richard Smith, conducted training in the use of the freezer for fumigation and freeze drying. NALIS has begun to provide an outsourcing service to libraries in the country.

### ONE BOOK ONE COMMUNITY

NALIS hosted its second One Book One Community Project in which the population read, V.S. Naipaul's *Miguel Street*. A popular feature of this project was the Books-on Stage programme in which staff dramatised excerpts from the book. This production was successfully staged at schools and libraries throughout the country.

### CONTACT DETAILS

Address: National Library of Trinidad and Tobago, Corner Hart and Abercromby Streets,  
PORT OF SPAIN, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Telephone: + 1 868 624 4466

Fax: + 1 868 625 6096

Web address: [www.nalis.gov.tt](http://www.nalis.gov.tt)

Email contact: [awallace@nalis.gov.tt](mailto:awallace@nalis.gov.tt)