



Harare
Institute of
Technology

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HITLIB NEWS



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Editorial

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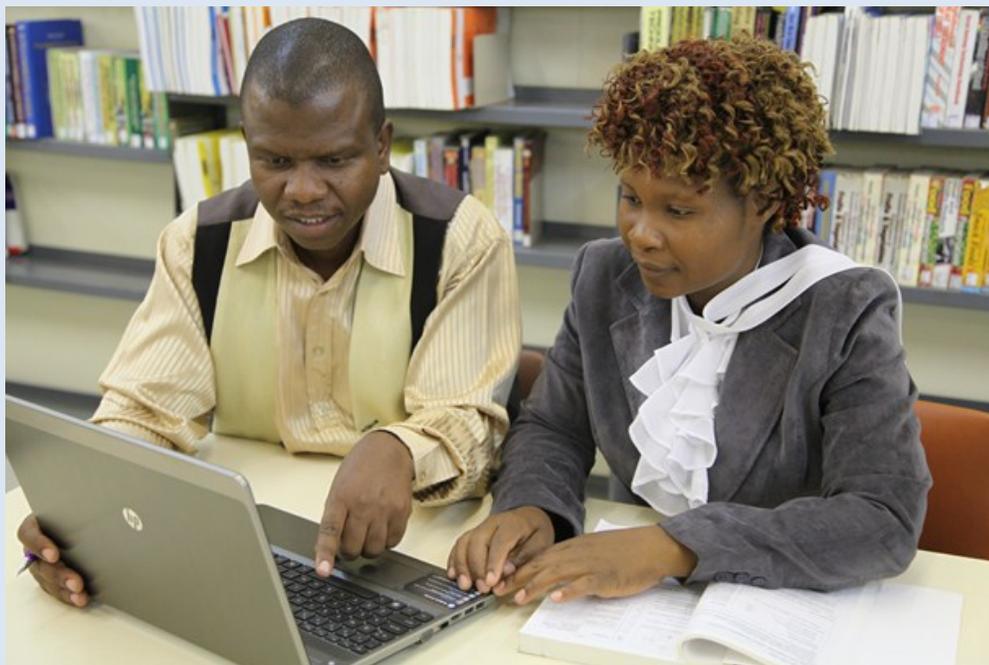
Yesteryear our library users, staff and students and other approved users would depend on the librarian for accessing information they required for their teaching, learning and research as librarians then were gatekeepers of information. Librarians did not engage their users that often. However, in recent years the same users now have a choice; they can access information online from the comfort of their offices, hostels, at home and also in Internet cafes. The need for librarians to engage their users more often and more effectively than before cannot be over emphasized. The Internet has brought about so many changes in the information world and librarians in this era cannot afford to go to sleep as the explosion in the networked digital information may render them irrelevant to their customers; staff and students in their institutes. The librarian's role has not fundamentally changed. It remains that of supporting the teaching, learning and research activities in the institute. It is the approach to provid-

ing this kind of support that should change. Stocking books for use by users is not adequate. There is need to raise marketing of all the information resources available in the library. In this volatile information era, continuous professional development becomes a survival strategy for librarians.

Libraries are becoming about supporting study, not storing books. Market your information resources



MacDonald Nhakura and Magreth Chiumbe on LIS Staff Development



Library staff development programme has been very highly effective and appreciated in the year 2012 with Mr Nhakura commencing on a block release Masters programme in Library and Information Sciences with National University Of Science and Technology (NUST). Ms Chiumbe is also enrolled with on her studies to finish Harare Polytechnic for a Diploma in Library and Information Sciences. Both professionals will immensely benefit from the programmes. The Institute will also benefit in terms of service provision by the skills the two would have acquired from their respective programmes.

Amongst the courses which Mr Nhakura and Ms Chiumbe are covering are contemporary issues in the information circles which keep them

abreast with the latest technological developments bridging the digital divide. Mr Nhakura's programme of study is done over two years and assessment is by way of continuous assessment, examinations at the end of each semester and finally a research project leading to a dissertation.

The modern Librarian is currently bombarded by a wide variety of information from the global village and Librarians have to be skilled and trained so that he may not fall prey to the ethical issues surrounding the profession in research, gathering, organising and distribution of the acquired resources to the relevant departments according to the element of subject librarianship concept.

Library professionals play an extremely important role in society and their

mission is to provide appropriate information whenever it's needed by clients or patrons. Just like doctors and lawyers, Library professionals must carry out their duties in an ethical manner and expect obviously to face some ethical dilemmas in the process. They have to align and relate questions to some ethical agreements so that they do not compromise their profession.

To MacDonald and Magreth we say all the best and indeed success in your studies. The whole Institute is waiting to benefit from the knowledge and skills you are gaining from your studies.

By E Mujera

Motivation for Multiseat Computing in HIT Library



The multiseat technology at HIT

The small size of the HIT Library meant that only a few computers could be put installed in the room despite demand for computer usage growing by each day. A solution had to be found and found very fast. In came multiseat technology and this appeared the best option.



Setting up Ubuntu on the Multiseat

A **multiseat, multi-station** or **multiterminal** configuration is a single computer which supports multiple independent local users at the same time. In modern usage the terms refer to multiple users using one PC, each with their own console (input and output devices), consisting of a keyboard, a mouse a monitor and possibly headphones as shown in the picture below

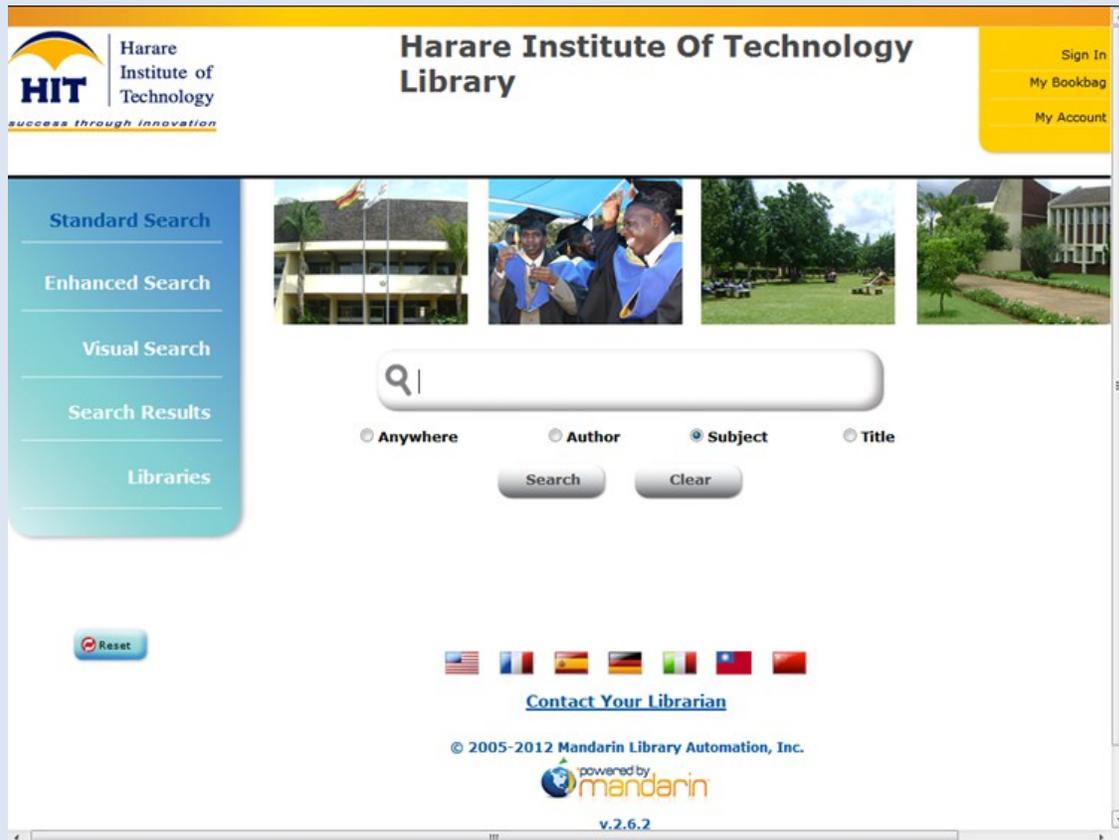
Advances in technology have brought about huge capacity of processors and memory and thus enabling computers to perform a number of tasks simultaneously without any signs of slowing down. The standard computer configuration means that only one user can the computer locally at a time, thus limiting the system as most of it remains idle. In a multiseat environment many users are able to share the same computer thus utilizing more of its total capacity. For example, if someone is using the Internet another could be using the word processor and yet another using publisher or some design graphics.

Multiseats are also more cost-effective: it is not necessary to buy separate motherboards, microprocessors, RAM, hard disks and other components for each user.



No more waiting for the board to pass a resolution to buy new computers - you're going to have money in your budget where you can afford this MultiSeat system."

The Upgrade: M3 to Oasis

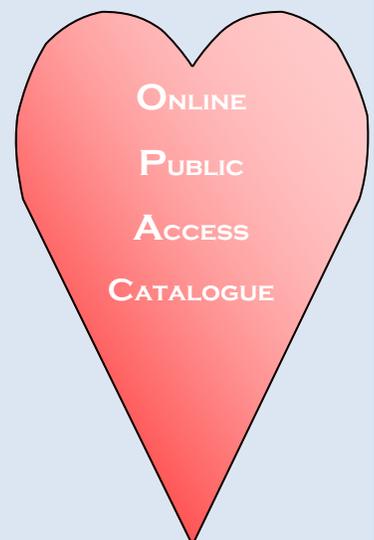


Mandarin Oasis allows you access to your library resources through any computer with an Internet connection. You can thus access the OPAC from the comfort of your office, in the computer laboratory, on your mobile, or your laptop while in the Greens Open Space facing the Workshops, Classrooms, the VC's and the Library building virtually from all over campus. The simple interface is easy to learn, and for the librarians Oasis's appearance and features can be customized as can be seen in window captured

above. Customization for HIT Library is still work in progress. Optional modules and services offered by Mandarin allow libraries to customize their system to meet their individual needs. Oasis also supports Unicode, which allows librarians and you the users to catalog and search our collections in any language.

For HIT Library, Oasis was a seamless upgrade because we were already using Mandarin M3 and

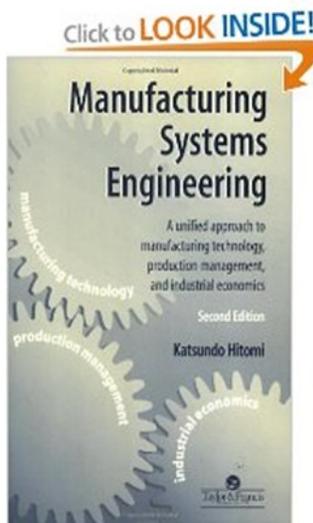
for single sites like ours or even large library systems, Oasis can help lower costs and save time with one-point installation, maintenance and updates.



BOOK REVIEW:

MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS ENGINEERING: A UNIFIED APPROACH ...

BY HITOMI KATSUNDO



This second edition of the classic textbook has been written to provide a completely up-to-date text for students of mechanical, industrial, manufacturing and production engineering, and is an indispensable reference for professional industrial engineers and managers. In his outstanding book, Professor Katsundo Hitomi

integrates three key themes into the text:

- * manufacturing technology
- * production management
- * industrial economics

Manufacturing technology is concerned with the flow of materials from the acquisition of raw materials, through conversion in the workshop to the shipping of finished goods to the customer.

Production management deals with the flow of information, by which the flow of materials is managed efficiently, through planning and control techniques. Industrial economics focuses on the flow of production costs, aiming to minimize these to facilitate competitive pricing.

Professor Hitomi argues

that the fundamental purpose of manufacturing is to create tangible goods, and it has a tradition dating back to the prehistoric toolmakers. The fundamental importance of manufacturing is that it facilitates basic existence, it creates wealth, and it contributes to human happiness - manufacturing matters. Nowadays we regard manufacturing as operating in these other contexts, beyond the technological. It is in this unique synthesis that Professor Hitomi's study constitutes a new discipline: manufacturing systems engineering - a system that will promote manufacturing excellence.

Key Features:

- * The classic textbook in manufacturing engineering
- * Fully revised edition providing a modern introduction to manufacturing technology, production management and industrial economics
- * Includes review questions and problems for the student reader.

