

## Editorial Overview

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It is with a great pleasure to introduce to you yet another exciting rigorous issue of eight most informative and educative articles towards resolving industrial problems and informing future academic studies in the field of archives and records management. This year our issue is Volume 57 of 2024 and is comprised of manuscripts that address different industrial problems and findings that are central to the improvement of service delivery. As you know, information management is central to everything in any business operations regardless of whether the organisation is public or private.

The first paper in this issue is brought to you by Innocentia Vidian Khoza and Jan Resenga Maluleka from the University of South Africa to address the “Records management for transparency and accountability on land allocation at the Nkambeni Tribal Authority in Mpumalanga Province of South Africa”. This is a very important subject matter for the industry. One can just imagine what would happen if records that are needed to support land claims cannot be accessed. These kinds of records affect both the community and organisations since without this kind of records, citizen land claims may not be finalised and may also lead to claimants litigating the organisation for poor service delivery to themselves. The paper sensitises the readers and industry in particular about the danger of poorly managed land claim records. It finally recommends possible solutions to avoid such glitches.

The second article is by Lameck Sospeter Kashaija, Prisca Julius Chacha, Cecylly Cornel Ngudungi and Seleman George Dutu from Tanzania Public Service College. The paper addresses “Records management programmes towards good governance and service delivery in Singida Local Authorities, Tanzania”. The article guides on the importance of the programme and the best way of developing it to a functional extent. Authors try to show how records management programmes can be used to foster good governance and improved service delivery. They emphasise introduction of proper systems, regulatory frameworks, and other tools to ensure proper management of records towards good governance and service delivery. It is important for any organisation to establish and maintain an independent or central records management directorate for improved business operation continuity.

In any organisation, business administration will never operate properly without appropriate support with authentic and timely records from proper records management practice. This is addressed by Geven Singo and Lefose Makgahlela from the University of Limpopo, with the third article about “Records management practices to support administrative operations at the University of Venda in South Africa”. The article tries to show how records management is

important for supporting university administrations. The authors further guide on how universities may strengthen their records management practices to see improved administrative operations.

Yet, the fourth paper by Gloria Regina Mukhongo, Evans Munge Mwangi and Elsebah Maseh from Moi University in Kenya, also emphasise effective governance through proper records management. The study was titled “Leveraging dark data for effective governance of KETRACO energy in Kenyan”. The paper addresses a problem of organisations that put the information together and manage it properly without using it at the end to support their business operation and progress. As a result, organisations appear to be entering into a futile exercise leading to fruitless and wasteful expenditure as they invest in what they do not use. The study encourages organisations to use their data to the advantage of their business operational growth.

Furthermore, the issue is also blessed with the study by Kabelo Kgomoewana, Lefose Makgahlela, and Amogelang Molaudzi from the University of Limpopo. Their article addresses “Records management support for traditional council administration at Ga-Mphahlele in Limpopo, South Africa”. The focus of their paper is on administration in the traditional council that needs records management support. The study recommend that traditional councils must start with improvement of their records management if they want to see improvements in their administration.

The other decisive paper was from the hands of the two authors, Erasto Gerald Luvanda and John Jackson Iwata from Moshi Co-operative University in Tanzania, talking about “Digital preservation of records at Wazalendo and Umoja Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies in Tanzania”. The paper guides the organisations on the importance of moving from manual, paper-based records management to electronic records management amidst high records production and demand.

Another thought-provoking article is from the hands of Abdul-Nasser Hikmany from Zanzibar University, addressing “The myths and realities of land registration in Zanzibar”. The study focuses on an important problem of creating records for land registration. The study addresses and propose an appropriate framework upon which lands can be registered reliably and speedily.

Another groundbreaking article is brought to you by Amos Bishi and Mpho Ngoepe from the University of South Africa. The study addresses “Transition from audio-visual archives to trusted digital repository at the National Archives of Zimbabwe”. The study emphasises the importance of moving audio-visual archives from analogue to digital for easy access and use.

On behalf of the Journal of South African Society of Archivist, I want to take this opportunity and thank all the authors who contributed to this issue. We also would like to thank all the reviewers who assisted our editorial team in selecting the best and guided on the improvement of the manuscript contents. We also thank the editorial team for all the editorial work in maintaining the quality of the journal in every issue. We believe this issue will make the best-read experience to our readers both in the practice and academic institutions, but not forgetting ordinary people who love reading in our subject area. This is for you.