

Dear Colleagues

With apologies to the List Manager - may I be bold and ask your attention just for a moment about a Librarians Initiative that deserves a very special mention.

The Librarians without Borders (LWB) initiative was started last year in Canada by a group of Master of Library and Information students at the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, Canada.

Here is the link: [www.lwb-online.org](http://www.lwb-online.org)

Their first project is described on their website:

Biblioteca Tutangi, which translates from Portuguese and Umbundu into English as "let us study, let us learn", is LWB's first international initiative. This library will serve all post-secondary students in the community of Huambo, Angola, regardless of their religion, political beliefs, or ethnicity.

Access to information via libraries is of paramount importance in post-civil war Angola. According to Jorge Chimbinda, lead of the Partnership of Biblioteca Tutangi: "If Angolans want to design our own future, if we want to be free in body and in mind, the sure way is to embrace study." Jorge inspired us all at the LWB-Angola launch party, when he spoke of the power of books: "Everyone who starves for knowledge can be fed by a book, and its content is not diminished. A book teaches in silence, however, its effect is eloquent. A book liberates, a book plants the roots of development. Books are irreplaceable tools for improving the quality of education in Angola and elsewhere."

Phase I of LWB-Angola will deliver nursing and medical textbooks, photocopiers, and bookshelves, and, importantly we will work with our Angolan partners to set-up a secure energy source for the library.

I think the Cochrane-IRMG group is an august body of very eminent medical librarians and information scientists - and here is this fledgling group of young 'do-ers with a fine mission - do you remember the nineties - when there was so much talk about the future for online librarians ?

And now look at this group ..all these young Canadian Librarians beavering away for a good cause - this is knowledge management with a difference.

How about lending your support by subscribing to Librarians without Borders (LWB) , here is the link to the membership form (honestly - only takes 2 minutes and costs nothing) [http://www.lwb-online.org/involved/membership\\_form.html](http://www.lwb-online.org/involved/membership_form.html)

All good wishes to everyone on the list.

Justus Krabshuis

ps Daniella Liebrechts (in the cc field) is membership secretary of the LWB