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NATIONAL UNIVERSITY
OF LESOTHO

Session: AI in Cataloguing

Speaker: Bongiwe Shongwe (UKS)

Date: 11 June 2026

Time: 09:00 – 12:00

Biography:

Bongiwe Shongwe is a well-rounded professional with qualifications including a Bachelor of Social Science Honours, a Higher Diploma in Education, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Information Services from the University of Natal. She began her career teaching high school English before transitioning into research at the University of Stellenbosch and later at Health Systems Trust, where she earned recognition as the 1996 New Health Systems Researcher of the Year for her work on integrating STD services in Khayelitsha.

Driven by a passion for growth, she moved into the IT field, obtaining Microsoft A+ and MOUS certifications, and worked as a Systems Librarian at the University of Natal for over eight years, supporting library technologies. She later joined Universal Knowledge Software (UKS), progressing from Customer Relations Specialist to Chief Technical Officer, where she focuses on researching and implementing cutting-edge technologies to strengthen UKS's position in the African library technology space.

Her diverse background in teaching, research, information science, and IT enables her to handle complex, multidisciplinary projects. Outside of work, she is a fitness enthusiast who enjoys tennis and running, values family time with her husband and two grown sons, loves dining out and cooking, and has a passion for reading, particularly horror fiction.

IFLA AI BUILD-UP WORKSHOPS 2026

Bongiwe Shongwe | UKS

June 2026

Use of AI in cataloguing

LIASA

BRIEF OUTLINE

- The AI reality facing librarians
- Understand what AI and LLMs are
- Learn the basics of prompt engineering
- Understand and use AI tools for cataloguers
- Hands on demos AI tools and prompting