



***National Scholarly Editors Forum
9th Annual Meeting
Scholarly Publishing Unit
Report Back***

*Applying scientific thinking
in the service of society*

**OR Thambo Southern Sun Hotel
S Veldsman
9 September 2015**

Taxes on the import of services

Books, Journals and e-resources

- Electronic Services Regulations published in terms of the Value-Added Tax Act of 1991 in Government Gazette No.37489 on 28 March 2014, came into operation on 01 June 2014
- During the public consultation process, prior to the publication of regulations, HE sector realized , that it failed to comply
- Number of organisations (HESA, DHET , SARS and National Treasury) met to manage this risk
- HESA was instructed to submit a voluntary disclosure application on behalf of HEI, this was done on 10 November 2014
- ASSAf, as per the NSEF meeting, also submitted a letter to Min N Pandor for assistance. Letter back from DST to support.
- This confirms that VAT is now due and payable for the sector and that HEIs are all having to pay arrears for the last 5 years, as well as in future

Discipline –grouped Peer review Panels

- Religion, Theology and related fields
- Law and related Legal Fields
- Health Sciences and related Medical Fields Group
- Humanities: Language and Literature

Roll out of new discipline grouped journals for peer review

- Humanities (Part 2): Visual and Performing arts;
- Education;
- Engineering and Architecture;
- Mathematics and Sciences.
- Economics and Business Management; and
- Information, Communication Studies and Knowledge Systems
- History, Politics and Philosophy
- Social Sciences (Part 2)
- Questionnaires have been sent to editors; due date was end August 2015
- +- 70 of 160 journals have been received.

Roll out of new discipline grouped journals for peer review

- Humanities (Part 2): Visual and Performing Arts
- Education;
- Engineering and Architecture;
- Mathematics and Sciences.
- Information, Communication Studies and Knowledge Systems

Ad Hoc peer review of scholarly books/proceedings

- Pilot project 2014
- ASSAf to organise peer review panels for the evaluation of books and conference proceedings for 2015
- 9 panels, organised into broad subject groups
- Called for nominations in Febr/March; postponement; constituted the panels in July
- Approx 90 participants, 9 scribes, two days (4-6 Aug 2015); participation across all institutions, races, gender and age

Ad Hoc peer review of scholarly books/proceedings

- Evaluation:
 - Almost 4000 applications evaluated, largest group i.t.o number of applications and members: Built environment and Engineering
 - Smallest: Health Sciences
 - Orientation session
 - Further developed criteria which the panels could consider.
 - Due to more members on evaluation panel, completed work faster
 - Feedback of the process was overwhelming positive
 - Received further recommendations to better the process for 2016
- Finalising recommendations and report to DHET

National Site Licenses

- DHET contracted ASSAf to do a draft implementation framework
- During 2014 established an Advisory Committee; two meetings
- Various stakeholder meetings
- 2015 appointed consultants to assist with business case
- Draft business case has been sent to various stakeholders for comments.
- Meeting with DHET and DST

National Site Licenses

- Meeting with the CEO of SANLIC so that its activities and position can be clearly incorporated into the final report.
- This revision is on the basis of a discussion with officials from the DHET and DST.
- The final report will be submitted to the two departments by end year.
- They will consider the report and then to engage directly with the stakeholders themselves
- DHET will engage directly with Universities South Africa about their proposals in due course.