**INTRODUCTION OF THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK: *Maria G N Musoke***

**Book Launch: Tuesday 27th September 2016, Makerere University Main Hall**

Prof. Musoke is a lady of many “**firsts**” in her academic life:

* She was the first Ugandan woman to get a PhD in Information Science in 2001, which she obtained from the University of Sheffield, UK. This achievement attracted the Ugandan media and the New Vision newspaper published an article about her in September 2001 titled *‘Musoke thirsts for information’.*
* She is the first Ugandan woman to become a Professor of Information Science in 2010, for which she got a Gender Equality Award in 2010 and was reported in various Ugandan Newspapers (New Vision, Monitor, etc) among the eleven female Professors Uganda had at that time.
* She is the first Librarian from the Sub-Saharan Africa to chair the Health and Bioscience Section on the International Federation of Library Association and Institutions (IFLA), which is the highest world body governing Library and Information Science (LIS) profession and it is 82 years old.
* She was the first Vice President of the Association for Health Information and Libraries in Africa (AHILA) - a regional body-from 1990-1996, and is one of the founder members of that Association.
* She became one of the first two Ugandan women on Makerere University’s Top Management in 2004, (and 2nd one was the Lady Justice Professor Lillian Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza).
* She was the first Ugandan woman to head Makerere University Library Services in 2004, a post she held for two terms until December 2014, and was reported in the New Vision Newspapers in November 2014 *‘Musoke leaves Makerere University Library better’*. Then Drake Sekeba of WBS interviewed her among the women achievers in March 2015 as part of the International Women’s day celebrations.
* She was the first documentalist of the Women and Gender Studies in 1990 to 1995, and one of the founder members of that department. She is a founder of several other women’s NGOs.
* She is the first LIS professional to become a Fellow of the Uganda National Academy of Sciences in October 2014. Later became a member of International Committee on Big data in Open data world.
* As part of her post-doctoral contribution to Makerere University, Prof. Musoke introduced two new courses, which were taught for the first time; the new courses are: ‘Health Information systems and services taught at Masters level since 2001/2 academic year; and the second is a cross-cutting course for Graduate students and researcher titled ‘Information competence and management’ that was started in 2005.

***Apart from the many firsts and achievements:***

At Makerere University, we will always remember Prof. Musoke’s efforts and passion for quality library services, which among others things resulted into (a) the extension of the Main Library building by doubling its physical space and (b) winning various development grants that increased library facilities and transformed the University library services into a model academic library in Sub-Saharan Africa. She wrote a chapter in a book, published this year, about that experience and it is titled:

“The end justifies the means: building Makerere University Library Extension with a low budget”. Chapter 8, In: *Making Ends meet: High quality design on a low budget*. IFLA Library Building and Equipment Section (IFLA Publication series, 171). Berlin: De Gruyster Saur.

We also remember Prof. Musoke for other things such as the Annual Library Day celebrations in May, the Annual Calendars and Christmas cards promptly delivered to our desks in the first week of December.

Prof. Musoke has over thirty publications to her name (but this is the first book she has authored), and has been a keynote speaker in various conferences and fora.

She has received many local and international awards, honors and other forms of recognition for her contribution to information science particularly focusing on health and women. For example:

* In 2001 then Dr. Musoke contested an ICT stories international competition and won. Her story entitled ‘Simple ICTs reduce maternal mortality in rural Uganda’ <http://www.iicd.org/stories/articles/Story.import47>
* In 2008, the Document Delivery and Resource sharing section of the International Federation of Library Association (IFLA), selected Dr. Musoke’s paper as the best: they wrote: “We were very happy with all of our papers and speakers in Quebec, who provided an excellent global overview, from Canada, Singapore, Uganda and Austria. All of the papers really spoke to our theme, so it was difficult to choose…. We decided to feature Dr. Musoke’s paper as the best because it outlines an excellent model of a hybrid blend between traditional document delivery methods combined with technology driven methods”: <http://ifla.queenslibrary.org/VII/s15/pubs/Document-Delivery-Newsletter-Oct08.pdf>
* She is a member of many international and local governing boards, for example, The regional Centre for Research, Documentation on Women, Gender and Peace Building in the Great lakes Region representing Uganda in 2011; Research for Life Advisory Council since 2013; The Congress on Medical Librarianship International Committee since 2015; The Annual Conference on Qualitative and Quantitative Methods in Libraries (QQML) International Scientific committee since 2011.

In Uganda, Prof. Musoke has served on various Governing boards, Councils and Management committees, such as: The Uganda Chattered Healthnet, The National Fisheries Resources Research Institute (NAFIRRI); Kulika Uganda, Kampala District Land Board, Muteesa I Royal University and the University of Kisubi.

When the Catholic Church was celebrating 100years of Ugandan priesthood in November 2013 at her birth place in Villa Maria, Prof. Musoke was honored to take the 2nd reading of that historical high mass.

Lastly, Prof. Musoke holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a concurrent diploma in Education, a Post-graduate diploma in LIS from Makerere University, a Masters degree from University of Wales and a PhD (as already indicated).