

Bult

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Cover: Prof. Jonathan Jansen, Rector and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Free State, page 4.

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Bult

Issue 2 • 2009 Nuustydskrif / News magazine

UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT • UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE • YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA

Content

Overwhelmingly positive

The new-look Bult received an overwhelming positive reaction from our readers and we hope it will assist in boosting our pride in our university that lies here in the heart of the country. We want to make an imprint in people's minds of the University of the Free State as a place of excellence in education, research, community outreach, transformation and human relations, nationally and internationally. The UFS is a total student experience.



Allow me to share some of the feedback on Bult with you:

- Baie geluk! Dis 'n pragstuk en ek is sommer lus om die stories te lees! – Lientjie Mentz, Volksblad.
 - Jou nuwe Bult is absoluut puik! Daar is soveel interessante artikels in en alles is so opwindend aangebied. – Dr. Mabel Erasmus, Afdeling: Diensleer
 - Dit is 'n pragtige en vriendelike boek. Dit is voorwaar 'n wonderlike en getroue beeld van ons Universiteit! – Kathy Verwey, UV-Bemarking
 - Ek het vandag my Bult in die pos gekry. En dit lyk uitstekend en daar is baie interessante leesstof daarin. Dit is 'n produk om op trots te wees. – Andries Cornelissen, Nuusredakteur: Beeld
 - Net 'n kort nota om jou geluk te wens met die Bult in sy nuwe gewaad. Dit is 'n groot verbetering in terme van beide inhoud en aanbieding. Welgedaan! – Brand Pretorius, McCarthy Limited
- Ek wil jou net graag geluk wens met die Bult soos dit nou is, wat inhoud en voorkoms betref. Nou sal ek dit weer lees. Die ou Bult het my nie meer aangestaan nie en was so vervelig dat ek dit nie eers meer oopgemaak het nie. Doen so voort! – Derek Odendaal
- Geluk met die nuwe voorkoms van jou tydskrif. Dit lyk uitstekend / baie professioneel. – Danie Hefers, SABC2Fokus.
- I received my latest Bult magazine, and was so impressed with the presentation, its elegance, its content, and quality of production. It is quite superb, and my congratulations to the staff that have made it so. – June de Bie.

My thanks also to everyone who contributed and contributes to Bult. Without that the end result wouldn't have been what we have seen.

And for this edition: We prepared again a whole feast of wonderful articles about our university, our people and their achievements.

Enjoy the reading.
Leatitia Pienaar
Editor

We are unpacking our goals, values and brand promise in each edition. **GOALS
VALUES
BRAND PROMISE**

Bultbriewe

Ek LEES Bult

Louis Carstens skryf:

Die nuwe Bult lyk sommer briljant, en is soveel beter as die vorige weergawe. Die vorige Bult het ek sommer by my posbus vinnig deurgeblaai en weggegooi; die nuwe Bult LEES ek. Well done!

Ek is terug van Everest af. Ek het ongelukkig nie gesummit nie. Everest is groter as wat enige mens kan dink. Die berg is overwelming.

Redakteur: Ons het in die vorige uitgawe oor Louis se bergklim-ekspedisies geskryf.

'Joos tel onder die bestes'

Prof. Sas Strauss, Posbus 71670, Die Wilgers 0041, skryf:

Baie geluk met die pragtige nuwe Bult! Ek het dit van hoek tot kant gelees.

In besonder het ek die artikel oor oud-appèlregter Joos Hefer met groot belangstelling gelees. Ons was tydgenote en ek het die voorreg gehad om vir twee jaar lank as prokureursklerk 'n kantoor met hom te deel. Die Vrystaat het 'n aansienlike getal uitmuntende regsgeleerdes opgelewer. Joos Hefer tel onder die bestes van die bestes. (Brief verkort).

Veels geluk!

M.L. Spies, Altena 312, Atenaweg

Baie dankie vir die "nuwe vars blaar" wat met die Bult omgeslaan is. Dis die insiggewendste advertensie nog!

Ek laat dit op my lessenaar lê, kleurvolle buiteblad bo. 'n Besoeker steek daarby vas: "En dit?" "Blaai deur", nooi ek "en sien self hoe hoogstaande my Alma-mater is".

Een na die ander is werklik beïndruk! Ek ook, veral as ek onthou hoe alles gegroei en verdiep het, sedert ek in 1935 daar as verskrikte eerstejaar ingestap het.

Veels geluk! Mag God julle almal aanhou seën!

NUUS

‘Volgende jaar gaan jy

Prof. Jonathan Jansen het sedert hy in die middel van Julie as die nuwe rektor en visekanselier van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat oorgeneem het 'n baie bedrywige paar maande agter die rug. Hy het vyf, ses afsprake per dag ingepas om met alle belanghebbendes op kampus en buite die UV oor sy rol en hulle verwagtinge te gesels. Sy ideale spel hy uit: teen volgende jaar sal ons die plek nie meer herken nie. Hier gaan 'n positiewe gees wees. En aan die einde van sy termyn moet die UV onder die 150 of self 100 topuniversiteite in die wêreld tel. Leatitia Pienaar het reeds in Julie, kort na sy aankoms op kampus, met hom gesels.

“Van ver af hoor 'n mens allerhande goed van die universiteit, maar as jy hier kom, sien jy dit is 'n wonderlike plek. My ideaal is om vir die volgende drie maande met studente te gesels, by die koshuise uit te kom, met personeel te gesels, by skole en kerke en gemeenskappe tyd te bestee. Ek wil mense laat verstaan dat goed nie op hulle afgeforseer gaan word nie. Ek wil hoor waarvoor mense bang is, wat die probleme is, wat die ideale van die mense is. Ek gaan vir die mense vra wat my werk is: van die jong eerstejaartjie tot die ou prof, van skoolkinders tot skoolhoofde en ouers wat hulle kinders hierheen wil stuur.

“Ek gaan baie mooi luister. Dan gaan ek besin oor hoe gaan ek my mense bedien met diensleierskap (service leadership*). Dit is 'n ander perspektief op leierskap. Na al die geluister en gekuier sal ons vinnig beweeg.

“Die goed waaroor ek baie optimisties is, is dat ons aan die voorgraadse student die beste program van hulle lewens moet gee. Die eerstejaar wat inkom, moet voel dit is die beste program in die hele wêreld. Ons moet seker maak dat hy internasionale ondervinding kry. Ons moet studente uit ander dele van die wêreld en uit Afrika kan inbring. Ons moet die beste professore in elke veld, van wetenskap, tot geskiedenis tot kuns, kan inbring.

“Die mense moet hier wemel. Dit moet 'n akademiese en intellektuele plek wees wat mense trek, want aan die einde van die dag is ouers dan minder bekommerd oor goed soos integrasie. Ouers wil weet: gaan my kind die beste opleiding in die wêreld kry? Gaan my kind

'n werk kry? Gaan hy die kommunikasievaardighede, IT-vaardighede, ens. hê? Wat is die kwaliteit van ons programme? Die kwaliteit van ons kultuurlewe, die biblioteek? Voel die student dat daar 'n holistiese benadering tot sy welstand en akademiese vooruitgang is?

“ Ons moet dinge doen op 'n manier wat geen ander universiteit al gedoen het nie. Die plek gaan fokus op studente, veral eerstejaarstudente. My ervaring is as jy 'n eerstejaartjie goeie ondersteuning gee, 'n goeie oorgang van skool tot universiteit, het jy hom vir vier of vyf jaar en hy sal dalk iets teruggee wanneer hy die dag klaarmaak. Ek het 'n baie slegte eerstejaarservaring gehad en nooit weer daarheen teruggegaan nie.”

Prof. Jansen glo bestuur moet baie hard werk om die negatiewe aspekte van oorgang makliker te maak. “Ek is dol oor die voorgraadse studente. Dit waar ek wil hê die universiteit moet transformeer. Dit gaan, soos ek in my boek (Knowledge of the Blood) geskryf het, oor die kwaliteit van die mense. Transformasie is die verandering van die kwaliteit van die verhoudinge tussen mense. Nie die tel van koppe nie. As hierdie goed in plek is, is getalle nie meer 'n kwessie nie.”

Wat kan alumni doen? Een van sy hooftake is om presteerders in verskillende velde saam met hom te neem om vertroue in die UV te herstel en ook fondse vir die universiteit te kry: om goeie dinge te doen vir die universiteit. “Die UV het baie slegte publisiteit weens Reitz gekry, en tog, ek weet hierdie universiteit kan nogal 'n model van akademiese uitnemendheid vir die wêreld wees. En ek gaan daardie goed regkry. Ek gaan

dié plek nie herken nie’

hard werk sodat alumni weer trots kan wees op hierdie universiteit.”

Nasionale versoening is 'n saak wat hom ook naby aan die hart lê. “Hoe bring jy mense bymekaar en as hulle bymekaar is, hoe maak ons hulle die beste dokters, onderwysers, ens. Omdat ons behep is met die negatiewe dinge, sien ons nie dat ons een van die beste Chemie-departemente in die wêreld het nie. Dat ons een van die beste en mees produktiewe landbou-wetenskaplikes het wat gefokus is om voedsel vir Afrika te produseer. Daar is geen ander universiteit in Suid-Afrika wat meer studente uit Afrika het nie.


“Hierdie goed verdwyn egter op die agtergrond weens één ding (die Reitz-video). My rol is om vir die alumni te bewys, en ook aan mense in die buiteland wat wil geld gee, te sê: kyk na die goeie dinge wat hier aan die gang is. Hoe kan julle betrokke raak?”

“My eerste versoek aan die alumni is, praat goed van die universiteit, en tweedens, probeer inskakel by die inisiatiewe. Die alumni het 'n rol om te speel, maar dit gaan nie gebeur as hulle net eenkant wil sit nie.”

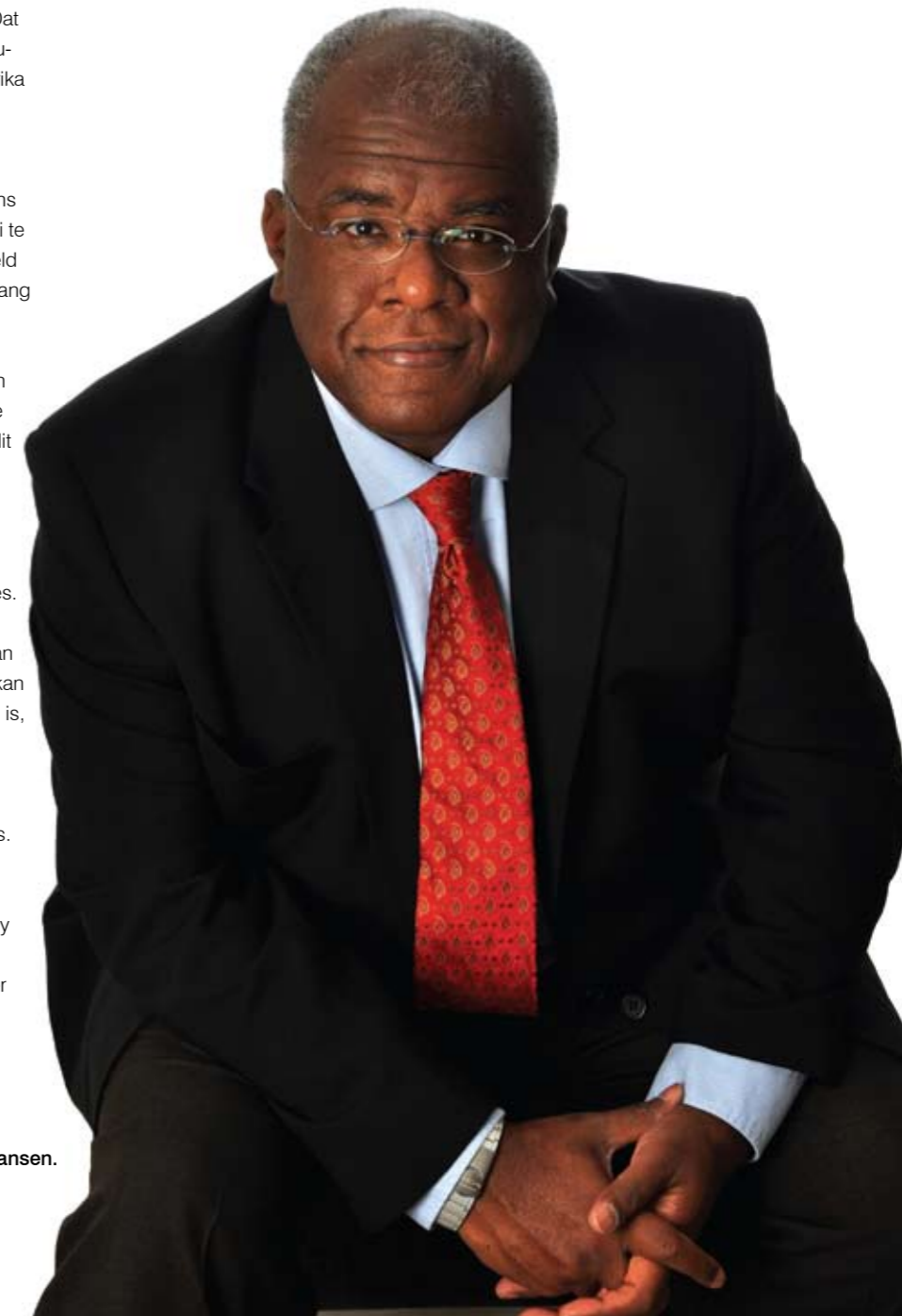
Prof. Jansen is onwrikbaar: “Volgende jaar gaan jy die plek nie ken nie. Mense gaan trots wees op die universiteit. Studente en personeel gaan positief wees. Ek kan nie wag om hier onder mense in te kom nie. Ek is 'n baie positiewe mens. Ek dink goed oor en van mense en as jy die potensiaal van mense raaksien, kan jy enigiets doen. As jou invalshoek negatief en sinies is, kan jy niks uit mense kry nie.”

Prof. Jansen en sy gesin was oorweldig deur die vriendelikheid en gasvryheid van die Bloemfonteiners. By elke potensieële eiendom waar hulle met hulle huissoek aangedoen het, moes hulle eers sit en tee drink. “Ek het nog nooit soveel warmte gesien nie. My vrou was onmiddellik gelukkig.” Sy dogter is nog in matriek in Pretoria, en hulle kuier naweke oor en weer tot aan die einde van die jaar.

* Die skrywers Svafa Grönfeldt en Judith Strother

sê in *Service Leadership, The Quest for Competitive Advantage*: The organization can obtain sustainable competitive advantages through service leadership—in other words, it has to dare not to do what it has always done, both at the organizational level and on each employee's individual level of responsibility. 

Translation of the article on: www.ufs.ac.za/jansen



Prof. Jonathan Jansen.

The football teams playing in the FIFA Confederations Cup held in South Africa in June are not the only stars of the tournament. One of the other stars is right here on our main campus. This star – the South African Doping Control Laboratory – ensured that footballers' urine and blood samples were adequately tested according to international standards.

FIFA impressed by our doping control laboratory

By Lacea Loader

"FIFA is satisfied with the cooperation of the teams and the smooth running of the analysis procedure of the South African Doping Control Laboratory." This statement was made by Prof. Jiri Dvorak, FIFA's Chief Medical Officer, after the Confederations Cup.

What a feather in the cap for our own laboratory. What a proud feeling it must be for the eight scientists from the laboratory who worked around the clock during the tournament to ensure that the 131 blood and urine tests ran smoothly. And, the analysis of all the doping control tests proved negative.

My call to make an appointment with Dr Pieter van der Merwe, head of the South African Doping Control Laboratory, for an interview came at the right moment. He just had a call from Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen (better known as *ZDF German Television*) who wanted to visit the laboratory. Good, I think – it seems that their good reputation is noticed. "I've had numerous calls from media organisations all over the world who want to know about us," says a proud Pieter.

In his office Pieter tells me about the television recording and the hard work that went into the testing procedure over the weeks of the tournament. "We normally have ten days to analyse samples – in the case of the Confederations Cup we only had 48 hours

because FIFA wanted the results before the next match of a particular team. The samples were couriered to the laboratory directly after collection and we started immediately with the analysis. We were able to report all results to FIFA within 36 hours after starting the analysis," he smiles as he thinks back at the days (and nights) he spent in the laboratory.

Not only did they test the urine samples collected randomly from the players, but they also tested some blood samples. It was the first time that blood samples were tested in South Africa.

Why is that, I ask? "Blood testing is a new regulation from the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and it was implemented in the laboratory for the FIFA Confederations Cup," Pieter explains. WADA supplies the laboratory with the international standard prohibited substance list.

"The substances used by sports men and women are becoming more sophisticated. Some substances, such as the growth hormone, can more easily be detected in blood. It is more difficult to determine these kinds of substances in urine," he explains.

The FIFA Confederations Cup was a good test run for the laboratory and it has given them an indication of



Dr Pieter van der Merwe, head of the South African Doping Control Laboratory, with the gas chromatograph used to detect illegal substances.

Photos: Hannes Pieterse

their capabilities. Next year they will be responsible for the testing of a much bigger event – the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

I can see on his face that this event is not going to be child's play. "We have already started for next year. It is going to be a great challenge for us."

The laboratory, which is situated in our Department of Pharmacology, is the only one in Southern Africa and one of only two in Africa. It conducts the doping control tests of all national and many international sports events.

Pieter takes me back a few years to the time when they started the doping tests for international sports events. "The first international sports event that used our laboratory was in 1995 when the Rugby World Cup was played in South Africa. From then on we've done the doping analysis of many international sports events presented in South Africa and elsewhere. We were, for instance, contracted by the International Rugby Board

(IRB) to conduct testing for the Sevens World Cup Rugby Tournament in Dubai this year," Pieter says.

The results of all tests done for the national programme in South Africa are sent to the Institute for Drug Free Sport in Cape Town from where it is reported to the various sports federations. However, for world cup events like rugby and soccer the results are reported directly to the IRB and FIFA respectively. "All testing is confidential and all the samples are marked numerically – we have no indication of who the player is," says Pieter.

To perform work of this nature state-of-the-art equipment is needed. And, that is exactly what the laboratory boasts with. "We are in the process of acquiring additional equipment to handle the high volume of samples the laboratory will be receiving during the 2010 FIFA World Cup." A new extension to the Pharmacology Building will also be added in the near future. **B**



Ebeth Grobbelaar, senior analyst at the laboratory, showing ZDF German Television how the samples are analysed.

10 years of excellence

By Leatitia Pienaar



Left to right: Prof. Niel Viljoen, Bennie Anderson, Frederick Fourie, Helena van Zyl, Ray Whittington and Tienie Crous.

Photos: Stephen Collett

The celebration of ten years of excellence by our School of Management in May this year was an evening to remember. Staff, students and alumni from all over the country donned the evening with their presence to bring honour to a well established, recognised business school in the centre of South Africa with world recognition.

Among the guests was a delegate from the DePaul University in the United State, Prof. Ray Whittington, who was instrumental in the establishment of the School. The agreement with DePaul is ongoing and many UFS lecturers have attended the annual summer school over the years. Many MBA students of DePaul did their internship at the UFS.

What has been only a dream in the 1970s and 1980s to establish a business school in central South Africa, has grown into one that needs to be reckoned with and one of the top thousand business schools in the world. The idea of such a school was taken forward with the appointment of Prof. Frederick Fourie (later rector and Vice-chancellor) as dean of the Faculty of Economic and Management

Sciences in 1997. And the question was asked 'why not an MBA at our university?' With Prof. Niel Viljoen at the helm, task teams started investigating and planning.

Prof. Fourie says the idea was to develop an MBA with the assistance of a well established business school abroad, and The Kellstadt Graduate School of Business at DePaul University in Chicago was identified as an excellent prospect. Kellstadt was also one of the best business schools for part-time students in the United States. "Kellstadt's available expertise and willingness to lend support, played a major role in piloting and developing an MBA of high quality right from the start."

In 1999 the Centre for Management Development was transformed into the School of Management with Prof. Viljoen as the head. The centre fulfilled a need for trained staff on lower and middle management level. Companies could have their managers trained on their doorstep.



Gift to guests of evening.

Prof. Viljoen had the daunting task of steering the school through the teething years of the MBA and another flagship programme of the UFS, the Bachelor in Management Leadership (BML), brainchild of Dr Bennie Anderson. The BML provides a management qualification for people who find themselves in management positions but who do not necessarily have the appropriate qualifications.

The first MBAs graduated in 2001 and the first BMLs a year later.

Prof. Helena van Zyl has lead the School of Management since September 2001. She says the implementation of the MBA was a dream come true for the founders of the School of Management. An MBA is one of the most important and value-adding qualifications in the global and national business environments. Almost 600 MBA degrees have been awarded since the school's inception. About 330 BML degrees were awarded and a staggering 445 are registered this year.

A younger "child" of the school is its commercial arm in the form of the Centre for Business Dynamics, established by Mr Danie Jacobs in 2004. It provides executive training and development to the private and public sectors in the central parts of South Africa. It was the first arm of a business school in South Africa to start a desk focusing on black economic empowerment and transformation. It offers a variety of programmes in cooperation with outside partners, amongst which the unique suite of leadership programmes *Creating leadership and personal capacity in women*, *Leadership in the connection economy* and *Leading – a programme for executives*.

Prof. Van Zyl says the MBA alumni of the School of Management fulfil important roles in the business, corporate and governmental structures in South Africa, and are doing the school's slogan proud: Be worth more. The mission of the school is to empower people. The footprint of our School of Management is in the whole of South Africa, in Africa and globally, Prof. Van Zyl says. She is also deputy president of the Association of Business Schools in South Africa. 



An evening of music and festivity to celebrate 10 years of excellence.

Verpleegkunde op 40 die nuwe

Deur Leatitia Pienaar



Prof. Anita van der Merwe.

Die Skool vir Verpleegkunde aan ons universiteit het oor die jare vir baie eerstes in verpleegkunde in Suid-Afrika en die provinsie gesorg, en kan vanjaar met reg trots terugkyk daarop en ook die eerste stap na 'n nuwe dimensie in hierdie veld neem.

Die Skool vier sy veertigste bestaansjaar in November met 'n luisterryk geleentheid en die opening van 'n nuwe virtuele gesondheids-

onderrig- en leerfasiliteit wat die nuwe hart van verpleegopleiding aan die Skool sal wees. Gaste van oor die hele land sal genooi word, insluitend die lede van FUNDISA (Forum of University Nursing Deans in South Africa) wat hier op kampus hul laaste vergadering van die jaar sal hou. UNEDSA (University Nursing Education South Africa), 'n projek van die internasionale stigting van Atlantic Philanthropies wat gesondheidsake op die hart dra, het R16 miljoen vir die Skool beskikbaar gestel. Dit vorm deel van 'n skenking van R70 miljoen om hoërverpleegonderwys nasionaal oor vier jaar te transformeer.

Prof. Anita van der Merwe, Hoof van die Skool vir Verpleegkunde sedert 2005, sê Verpleegkunde is 'n dinamiese veld en die UV strewende daarna om altyd aan die voorpunt van ontwikkelinge te bly. Dit bly vir verpleegkundiges ook belangrik om voortdurend opgeskerp te word in die nuutste simulasie-, tegnologie-, onderrig- en leerstrategieë, en in hierdie opsig gaan die virtuele fasiliteit 'n onmisbare en unieke bydrae lewer tot die kreatiewe integrasie van teorie en praktyk.

Kom ons gaan blaa deur die geskiedenis:

Die eerste verpleegkunde-onderrig in Afrikaans is in 1920 deur matrone E.C. Lotz van die Nasionale Hospitaal in Bloemfontein aangebied.

Toestemming vir universitêre verpleegopleiding in Bloemfontein is in 1964 in beginsel gegee. Studente het die basiese vakke aan die UV gevolg en die verpleegkundekursusse is deur verpleegkolleges of hospitaalskole aangebied. Dit is twee jaar later opgevolg met die eerste na-basiese diplomas – die Diploma in Hospitaaladministrasie en Gesondheidsdienste en die Diploma in Verpleegkunde-onderrig wat in samewerking met die destydse Verpleegsterskollege en die Nasionale Hospitaal in Bloemfontein ingestel is.

'n Leerstoel in Verpleegkunde is in 1969 by ons universiteit ingestel met prof. Idalia Loots (later Venter) aan die hoof. Dit was die tweede leerstoel van hierdie aard in Suid-Afrika. Die ander was by die Universiteit van Pretoria met nog 'n baanbreker aan die stuur, prof. Charlotte Searle.

Die Departement Verpleegkunde aan die UV was in die Fakulteit Sosiale Wetenskappe gesetel. Prof. Loots was in 1969 die enigste personeelid van die departement. Sy het diep spore in Verpleegkunde in die provinsie en in Suid-Afrika getrap.

Die eerste meestersgrade is ook in 1969 ingestel en die eerste drie studente het in 1970 ingeskryf. In 1971 is ooreenkomste tussen die UV, die Provinsiale Administrasie van die Vrystaat en die Departement van Gesondheid gesluit om studente se toegang tot hospitale vir praktiese opleiding te verseker.

Prof. Venter se opvolger, prof. Marlene Viljoen, is in 1975 as dosent in die departement aangestel. Sy was een van drie studente wat die eerste meestersgraad in intensiewe verpleging in Suid-Afrika ontvang het. Ook sy het diep spore in verpleging, gesondheidsake en ander terreine in Suid-Afrika getrap.

hart van onderrig en leer

Teen hierdie tyd was die UV se Verpleegskool die enigste in die land wat die geïntegreerde driejarige graadprogram, gevolg deur 'n 18-maande honneursprogram, aangebied het. Die volledige program het algemene verpleegkunde, verloskunde, gemeenskapsverpleegkunde en psigiatrie ingesluit. Die UV was ook die eerste om die basiese vierjaar-diplomaprogram aan te bied, 'n program wat verskil het van die graadprogram.

In 1979 is die eerste doktorsgraad in Verpleegkunde aan die destydse UOVS aan dr. L.R. Uys toegeken.

Teen die einde van 1983 het die Suid-Afrikaanse Raad op Verpleging nuwe regulasies vir die opleiding van verpleegkundiges gepromulgeer en 'n volle geïntegreerde program is voorgeskryf wat gebaseer was op die UV se kurrikulum. Studente van hierdie departement was die eerstes om onder die nuwe regulasies as verpleegkundiges en vroedvrou te registreer. Die driejaarkursus is deur 'n vierjaarkursus vervang en die diplomakursus is by die Verpleegkunde-kollege afgelê.

Studente het in 1983 ook toestemming gekry om hulle diensbelofte tydens die gradeplegtigheid af te lê. Voorheen het hulle dit saam met die Verpleegsterskollege afgelê.

Met die totstandkoming van die Verpleegkunde Kollege van die OVS in 1984, is die inname van eerstejaar-diplomastudente aan die UV gestaak en teen 1988 het die Vrystaatse Provinsiale regering die aantal opleidingsposte vir graadstudente tot 350 in totaal beperk.

Die Verpleegkunde-departement het in 1989 die voortou geneem met opleiding in gemeenskapsverpleegkunde in Bloemfontein en Kimberley. Dit was 'n nuwe konsep in na-basiese opleiding van verpleegkundiges in Suid-Afrika.

Prof. Marlene Viljoen is in 1992 as hoof van die

departement aangestel. Sy was instrumenteel in die totstandkoming van die Instituut vir Verpleegkunde van die destydse Oranje Vrystaat ('n artikel 21-maatskappy) wat gestalte gegee het aan voortgesette onderrigprogramme deur middel van afstandsonderrig. In 1993 is nuwe gevorderde diplomas ingevoer, naamlik in verpleegonderrig, verpleegadministrasie, kliniese verpleegkunde en beroepsgegesondheidsverpleegkunde. Meestersgrade kon ook nou gevolg word in intensiewe verpleegkunde, verloskunde, psigiatriese verpleegkunde en gemeenskapsverpleegkunde.

In 1997 is die Departement Verpleegkunde deur prof. Kerneels Nel by die destydse Fakulteit Geneeskunde ingeskakel om voortaan bekend te staan as die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe. Prof. Viljoen was toe die hoof en daar was in daardie stadium 335 studente, waarvan sestien nagraadse studente.

In 1999 is 'n graad in Voortgesette Verpleegonderrig ingestel om opgeleide geregistreerde verpleegkundiges die geleentheid te gee om deur middel van voortgesette onderrig 'n graad te behaal.

In 2003 het die eerste groep forensiese verpleegkundiges diplomas op die herfsgradeplegtigheid ontvang. Die UV was (en is steeds) die enigste universiteit wat dié program aanbied. So ook is die Skool die enigste wat 'n program in Psigiatriese Kinderverpleegkunde aanbied. Die Skool bied 'n totaal van 14 spesialiseringstudies aan.

Oor die jare het die Verpleegskool se personeel, soos nou, op verskillende rade en komitees in hierdie beroepsrigting gedien en is onder meer verskeie handboeke deur die Skool se personeel geskryf, akademiese hulpmiddele wat die grondslag vir die beroep gelê het en nog steeds doen.

Die Skool vir Verpleegkunde het tans 202 voorgraadse, 567 na-basiese en 62 nagraadse studente en reflekteer met trots op sy verlede, die uitdagings van vandag en die drome van môre – dié hart klop gesond! 📺



Doctorates to

By Lacea Loader

South Africa is the eighth most popular study destination for foreign students, according to a UNESCO report based on figures from 153 countries. And, from a recent newspaper survey of foreign students studying in South Africa, our university has its fair share.

We are fortunate to be viewed by foreign students – most of them from Africa – as an institution that offers quality academic programmes. In fact, a total of 1 945 international students are studying at the UFS this year, of which 1 818 are from Africa. Their presence at our institution not only enriches them as students but the university as well and will surely be of benefit to their countries of origin.

Among the many foreign students who graduated in April this year, four Ph.Ds were conferred on students from Africa and another in Theology on a student from Pakistan. Their main reasons for studying at the UFS vary from it having good learning facilities, quality lecturers and teaching programmes to it being better equipped than their homeland's universities.

For **Dr Norman Monks**, Head of the Mana Pools National Park in Zimbabwe, it was an easy choice to do his postgraduate studies with us. "As a lion researcher I am a member of the African Lion Working Group, which is associated with the UFS. Prof. H.O. de Waal, my supervisor, is associated with the African Large Predator Research Unit at the UFS and it was therefore an easy choice to register under him." His thesis deals with the demography and population status of lions in the Mana Pools National Park.

He received an M.Sc. (Conservation Biology) from the University of Kent in Canterbury, England in 1996 and this year a Ph.D in Wildlife from the UFS. Asked about himself, his cultures and beliefs, Norman responds: "I have been with the Parks and Wild Life Management Authority of Zimbabwe for 32 years and wildlife and the outdoors is a passion of mine. That is why I chose a topic for my thesis that is close to my heart."

Dr Olalekan Akinbo is a visiting research fellow at the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in Colombia, South America. He obtained the degree B.Tech. (Hon) in 1999 at Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Nigeria, and his M.Sc. in 2002 at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. This year he received a Ph.D in Plant Breeding from the UFS. "My research promoter at CIAT, Dr Martin Fregene, played a major role in my registration at the UFS." His dissertation deals with the introgression of high protein and pest resistance genes from inter-specific hybrids of *Manihot esculenta* ssp *flabellifolia* into cassava.

Dr Akinbo has high praise for his promoter, Prof. Maryke Labuschagne from our Department of Plant Sciences. "I will always recommend other colleagues to carry out their research work at the UFS because of the quality of the supervision I received. My dream is to put the opportunities offered by molecular genetics to use in plant breeding by means of cost-effective, time-saving and efficient improvement schemes aimed at meeting old and new roles."

For **Dr Dagne Wegary Gissa**, a maize breeder from the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, it was wonderful to study at our university with fully fledged facilities for the students in terms of residence, security, internet, library services (especially the reference materials) and its laboratories. "Before I joined the UFS I made a thorough investigation into what it could offer me as a postgraduate student. As the UFS has many students from various countries, it helps me to know the socio-economic and cultural values of different countries." He obtained a B.Sc. (1995) in Plant Sciences and M.Sc. (2002) in Plant Breeding at the Haramaya University in Ethiopia and this year he

boast about

received a Ph.D in Plant Breeding from us. Prof. Maryke Labuschagne was also his supervisor. "Her excellence as a mentor makes all academic challenges easy and possible," he says.


Dr Gissa's doctoral thesis deals with genotypic variability and combining ability of quality protein maize lines under stress and optimal conditions. "The Ph.D will help me to pioneer in agricultural research and solve the problems of food and income security of the Ethiopian people in particular and that of Africa in general," he says.

Dr Aneel Yousaf also received his Ph.D in Practical Theology. He focused on youth ministry in the Christ Church Lahore, one of the main cities of Pakistan. Dr Yousaf did his research on young people in the church. "As early as my own childhood I experienced that youth ministry is being neglected because churches mostly see the youth in their churches separately from the rest of the congregation. Inter-generational youth ministry is one of the solutions to this problem. The youth of a church is important and they need real care, love and a healthy environment where they can be nurtured and disciplined according to the Word of God," he says.

"Whilst in Pakistan I always had the desire to study the Bible from a broader perspective. As Pakistan is a Muslim country one does not get the opportunity to gain such good knowledge on Christian theology. Being led by prayers and encouraged by the testimonies of friends, I started with my postgraduate studies at the UFS in 2006. The Faculty of the Theology has a very good standard of education and I will recommend it for others who want to study here. The course at the UFS is very practical and I believe that it prepared me to fulfil one of my biggest dreams: to serve the people in Pakistan." His supervisor was Prof. Johan Janse van Rensburg.

"The Department of Mathematical Statistics and Actuarial Science is very strong in Bayesian statistics,

my field of interest and the topic I based my thesis on," says **Dr Delson Chikobvu** from Zimbabwe when asked why he decided to do his Ph.D at the UFS. "Prof. Daan de Waal, head of the department, visited the University of Zimbabwe where I did my honours degree in 1994. He encouraged me to come and study here." Dr Chikobvu liked the university and Bloemfontein so much that he relocated his family to South Africa and is now lecturing at the department. His wife, Perpetual, is an associate lecturer at our Department of Community Health and has a Ph.D in biostatistics.

Dr Chikobvu is passionate about the UFS. He teaches actuarial science to undergraduate students and also assists the honours and master's students with their dissertations. "I like studying and have qualifications in the fields of mathematics, statistics, investment and actuarial science," he says. His supervisor was Prof. Abrie van der Merwe. 

'Gelukkige' plantprodukt tower tuin om in *lushof*

Deur Lacea Loader

Prof. Seef Pretorius is iemand met wie jy ure kan gesels. Met sy diep en gesellige stem trek hy jou onmiddellik in 'n storie in. En toe hy my eers begin vertel van sy betrokkenheid by die ontwikkeling van 'n plant-ekstrak wat die groei van ander plante kan stimuleer, kon ons nie ophou gesels nie.

Mense noem *Lucky Plant*® die plant-bonanza, 'n versterkingsmiddel vir plante soos geen ander nie. Sy susterprodukt *ComCat*® is 'n produk vir organiese boerderysisteme. Prof. Seef, verbonde aan ons Departement Grond- en Gewas- en Klimaatwetenskappe, was betrokke by die formulering van teorieë en 'n moontlike navorsingsbenadering vir albei produkte. Vandag word *ComCat*® nie net in Suid-Afrika versprei nie, maar word dit ook met groot sukses in lande soos Sjina, Viëtnam, Duitsland en Nieu-Seeland bemark. *Lucky Plant*® is beskikbaar by kwekerie in Suid-Afrika en word deur Effekto versprei.

Prof. Seef vertel waar die twee produkte vandaan kom. "My betrokkenheid het 15 jaar gelede begin toe ek 'n afgetrede Duitse bankbestuurder Horst Polus en sy vrou Gudrun, 'n bioloog, ontmoet het. Hulle was geboei deur 'n waarneming wat hulle een dag in die veld naby Heidelberg in Duitsland gemaak het toe hulle 'n groot aantal dooie plante wat oor 'n oppervlak gestrooi was, gesien het. Sommige plante het egter oorleef en die egpaar wou weet waarom party plante oorleef het en ander nie. Hulle het die raad van landbou-ingenieur Thomas Hüster ingewin."

Horst en Gudrun het van die oorblywende plante geneem, dit geïdentifiseer en met eksperimente in hul kombuis begin. "Toe ek hulle ontmoet het, het Horst die voorlopige ontdekking en data met my gedeel en gevra of ek betrokke sou raak by verdere navorsing," sê hy. Omdat hy 'n kundige in natuurlike produkontwikkeling is, is prof. Seef gevra om te help met die formulering van teorieë en 'n moontlike navorsingsbenadering. "Die laboratoriumkeuringstoets is eers by die UV gedoen met ekstrakte van die oorlewende plante wat uit Duitsland na Suid-Afrika gebring is."

Die ekstrakte het groot potensiaal getoon om landbougewasse in terme van groei en weerstand teen abiotiese en biotiese stresstoestande, sowel as spesifieke fisiologiese prosesse, te manipuleer. Hierdie voorlopige toetse het die waarnemings wat deur die Duitse egpaar gemaak is, bevestig. Prof. Seef het 'n navorsingskontrak geteken onder die vaandel van 'n nuut-geregistreerde beslote korporasie, Agraforum CC, wat die navorsingsbefondsing verskaf het.

In die 12 jaar van navorsing wat hierop gevolg het, is bewys dat blaaraanwendings van die prototipe produk op 'n verskeidenheid gewasse soos groente, vrugte en rygewasse, beide die weerstand van gewasse teen abiotiese en biotiese stresfaktore, sowel as opbrengste onder veldtoestande verhoog het. "So is die naam *ComCat*® onder EU-regulasie vir gebruik in organiese boerderysisteme gepatenteer en geregistreer," sê prof. Seef.

En *Lucky Plant*®. Hy haal met trots 'n houertjie daarvan van sy rak af en gee dit vir my. "Gebruik dié op jou tuinplante. Verdeel die akker in twee en behandel die helfte van die plante met die produk. Jy sal nie glo watter verskil dit aan die loofgroei van die plante oor 'n paar weke maak nie.

"Ek het lank gespook om die formule vir *Lucky Plant*® reg te kry en kon dit uiteindelik doen met die samevoeging van verskillende verhoudings van aktiewe bestanddele."

Lucky Plant® is 'n unieke organiese produk wat van natuurlike plantmateriaal gemaak word. Dit is spesiaal vir huis- en tuinplante geformuleer en word maklik as loofsproei aangewend. Dit stimuleer wortelgroei asook




Prof. Seef Pretorius en dr. Elmarie van der Watt.

welike blom- en plantgroei en verhoog die plant se weerstand teen negatiewe omgewingstresfaktore. Dit verleng ook die bloeityperk en sorg vir groter blomme – en dit verbeter die gehalte en opbrengs van groente en vrugte wat in 'n tuin gekweek word.

Die kombinasie fitochemikalieë verseker bestendige groei in struike, kruie, blomme, groente, vrugtebome en gras. "Help dit ook vir potplante?" vra ek. Hy lag. "O, beslis. Trietsige tuin- en potplante kry nuwe lewe na slegs vier tot ses weeklikse aanwendings van *Lucky Plant*®. Die produk se aktiveringmeganisme verseker meer produktiewe en gesonder plante wat jou tuin in 'n fees vir die oë sal omskep."

Ek kan sien hy is baie trots op hierdie produk. "My navorsingspan, insluitend dr. Elmarie van der Watt en 'n aantal nagraadse studente, het hard gewerk aan die ontwikkeling hiervan," sê hy.

Toe ek groet, sê hy: "Kom ek gee jou gou nog 'n tuinwenk. Deur jou saailinge wat by 'n kwekerie gekoop is, nog 'n verdere twee weke in die bak met hierdie produk te besproei voor uitplanting, word hulle versterk en is die skok wat gewoonlik met uitplanting gepaard gaan minder."

Wel, daar het jy dit. Hierdie leketuinier het so saam met my kuier by prof. Seef ook 'n paar tuinwenke gekry. 



In the photo are, from the left: Kefiloe Tlhacoane, Prof Johan Bloemhoff (Scuba Diving Instructor) and Eddie Kholomonyane.

UFS's first black international scuba divers

By Mangaliso Radebe

The Department of Human Movement Science at the University of the Free State (UFS) recently made history by producing its first black international scuba divers.

Eddie Kholomonyane and Kefiloe Tlhacoane, who are both studying for a BA degree in Human Movement Science, have entered the UFS history books as the first black students to be certified as international scuba divers.

"I feel as though I am like Martin Luther King Jr because I have opened the doors for many other black students who wish to follow in my footsteps," said Eddie.

"For me to do scuba diving was not about making history, it just happened that history became part of it. For me it was about satisfying the need, desire and joy derived from scuba diving."

"It is a great achievement and it involves something I like doing – which is swimming," added Kefiloe.

So what does the future hold for these trailblazers?

They both want to do an advanced course in scuba diving and focus on completing their studies.

"After that I would like to enter both the sports and the marine world," said Eddie. "Since I was in primary school I always had an interest in the marine world.

I loved the fact that you can breathe under water but I did not know that it is something I would end up experiencing myself."

Kefiloe, on the other hand, is keen on joining the South African Navy as a diver after completing his studies.

"To qualify as an international scuba diver one has to know how to swim," explained Eddie. "You first have to practice in the pool and then write a test to check if you know your equipment, signs, and so on. It is an eight-module test in which you have to get 65% for every module."

"After you have passed everything you then have to do five dives in the sea and if you pass all your dives you qualify as an international scuba diver."

According to Prof Johan Bloemhoff, the Programme Director and Departmental Chairperson, an internationally qualified scuba diver has the license to dive anywhere in the world.

"Kefiloe and Eddie passed the Open Water course with flying colours, qualifying them to dive to a recommended depth of 18 metres. It was a pleasure to train them," he said.

Eddie is from Kroonstad in the Free State while Kefiloe comes from the Northern Cape city of Kimberley. **B**

Louis Harms, the judge's judge, honoured

By Leonie Bolleurs

What do Kerzner and Bloomberg, Vlakplaats, the Lubowski murder and our university have in common? The answer: Judge Louis Harms, the Deputy President of the South African Supreme Court of Appeal in Bloemfontein.

In 2009, the centenary year of our Faculty of Law, the UFS conferred an honorary doctorate on him. Earlier this year he also received a cum laude award from the faculty for his highly exceptional and extremely meritorious contribution to jurisprudence and the judicature. Judge Louis Harms is also a professor extraordinary in Mercantile Law and an international specialist in Intellectual Property Law and has been actively involved in legislation and international agreements on Intellectual Property Law, including the Designs Act, Trademarks Act and Patents and Copyrights Acts.

Prof. Johan Henning, Dean of the Faculty, says Judge Harms' intriguing inaugural lecture has just been published in the *Tydskrif vir Hedendaagse Romeins-Hollandse Reg*, the oldest Afrikaans law journal, and will shortly be republished in an international law journal. As a result he also propagates the name of the faculty internationally in a specialist field in a manner that very few academics, if any, can match.

Judge Harms sees the honorary doctorate as recognition of work of the Supreme Court of Appeal. "The university is going to great lengths to acknowledge the work of the Supreme Court of Appeal. Many of the judges at the Supreme Court are extraordinary professors at the university," he said.

Judge Harms has made a massive contribution to South African law. Over the past twenty years he delivered more than 160 published decisions and participated in many more. One of the judges of appeal puts it strikingly: "He is skilled and knowledgeable in all areas. He is most unusual in this regard. Some practitioners of note are referred to as lawyers' lawyers.

They are the jurists consulted by others because of their wisdom and skill. In the same sense, Harms is a judge's judge."

The director-general of the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) quotes Judge Harms as being a highly regarded international expert in the field. Amongst others, Judge Harms published the internationally acclaimed work *The enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights: A Case Book on the subject*, now in its second edition. It has proved to be an excellent training tool for the judiciary, law enforcement officials and the legal fraternity, as well as for rights holders.

Judge Harms' other acknowledged field of specialty is the Law of Procedure. He was responsible for most of the leading judgments in this field in South African law. In addition to his fields of specialty, another outstanding characteristic is his versatility and his leading decisions in many diverse areas of Private Law.

In addition, he is the author and co-author of various textbooks and editor of others. He also authored numerous legal articles.

Judge Harms' contributions to South African law, both on the bench and in the academe, are received with great respect by his fellow jurists and our university. According to one of his fellow jurists Judge Harms is one of the greatest South African lawyers of the last 50 years. "He is an intellectual giant who has made an impressive and profound contribution to the development of South African law: he is erudite, visionary, acute and principled." **B**



Judge Louis Harms.

Virus research for the birds

By Lacea Loader

Before 2009 the H1N1 virus or "swine flu" was unknown to us. Now it is a pandemic spreading across the world. We are in the fortunate position to have Prof. Rob Bragg, an expert on avian influenza, at the UFS as well as one of his Ph.D students, Dr Kulsum Kondiah, who has made a major breakthrough in the fight against beak and feather disease in parrots.



Dr Kulsum Kondiah.

"I adore birds and cannot bear to see them suffer. Just as a pet lover will go to lengths to care for dogs, cats or other pets, I will do the same for birds," says Rob in his office in the Microbiology Building.

I visited Rob on receiving the news that his research group has just received three hand-reared Cape parrots from a breeder after it was discovered that these birds tested positive for the beak and feather disease virus (BFDV). "They are extremely valuable birds and are worth around R40 000 each. Hopefully my team will be able to rid them of the virus and get them to breed to establish a small population.

This can help preserve these wonderful birds." says Rob.

Rob's expertise on avian influenza stems from his involvement as a technical advisor for ICA International Chemicals, a chemical production company in Stellenbosch. ICA has developed a unique disinfectant that has been registered and exported to many parts of the world, causing him to come into contact with situations where the avian influenza virus poses problems in the poultry industry.

At the laboratory, Rob warns me not to go into the

room where the parrots are kept. "The Cape parrots are still quite wild," he warns as he walks slowly into the room holding a packet of peanuts in his hand. "Both avian influenza and swine flu have their origins (or part thereof) in birds and, in many of the countries where ICA International Chemicals are marketing their product the poultry industries in those countries have experienced problems with the avian influenza virus. As technical advisor for ICA International Chemicals, I had to learn about this virus so that I could advise them about the control of the virus in these countries. That is why I can comment in the media about the effect of the virus," Rob explains.

"Why have you chosen this field of study?" I ask. "My main research interests revolve around the control of bacterial and viral diseases in avian species. That stems from my love for nature and wildlife. I am also a keen wildlife photographer and bird watcher," says Rob as he strokes a parrot sitting briefly on his shoulder.

Since joining the UFS in 1998, Rob's research projects have expanded to include the BFDV project and the use of bacteriophages, viruses that infects bacteria, for the control of bacterial diseases in poultry in a post-antibiotic stage. "This has actually become the main emphasis of my current research drive," he explains.


Psittacine beak and feather disease is a viral infection of parrots and it is causing severe losses in the parrot breeding industry in South Africa. It is also threatening the already endangered Cape parrot with extinction. Rob and his research team have been working on the BFDV virus for the past seven years. This virus is similar to the HIV virus in humans. "It is, however, not the same virus and cannot spread from birds to humans because BFDV attacks the immune system of the birds," he says.

The Cape parrots are not the only birds in Rob and his team's care. They also obtained a growing collection of diseased birds like Grey-headed parrots (closely related to the Cape parrot), Brown-headed parrots, African grey parrots and two Amazon parrots. "Most of these birds have recovered from the disease and we are now trying to get them to breed so that we can establish if the birds have become carriers of the virus."

Before Rob leaves the room, he turns around, holds out his arm and one of the parrots flies directly towards him. I can see the affection in his eyes as he pats the bird gently before walking out.

"One of the main problems associated with working with the BFDV virus is that it cannot be grown in a laboratory. As a result, the conventional methods of vaccine production cannot be used to make a vaccine. With modern molecular techniques and genetic engineering it is possible to produce vaccines even when the virus cannot be grown. One such option is the laboratory development of a vaccine. This is exactly what Kulsum did," Rob says proudly as we walk back to his office.

This was the first time in the world that such a DNA vaccine was developed for the control of this virus in parrots. Rob now uses this vaccine on the affected birds currently in his team's care.

Kulsum was awarded a travel grant from the National Research Foundation for Infectious Diseases in America for her research and attended a high level international congress earlier this year. She is working towards a post-doctorate degree at our Department of Medical Microbiology and Virology where she is doing research on Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic fever. 



The world takes note of research at the UFS. Cape parrots are treated against the beak and feather disease virus by Prof. Bragg and his research team. The DNA vaccine developed by Dr Kondiah is used in this treatment.

Prof. Rob Bragg.

Photos: Hannes Pieterse

A new Kovsie signature

By Pat Lamusse

There's not a lot wrong with the Kovsie campus. The lawns are manicured, the trees trimmed, the paths swept... and yet, the symbols and images that punctuate this space – the works of art – are scarce and do not really reflect the variety of the cultures of our students in 2009.

A campus is not a garden, a field, nor a yard – it is the space on which a public institution, namely, a university is situated. Campuses evolve to project the image of their university and visitors to our university form impressions of who we are from what they see when they walk or drive around the campus. Our students, staff and faculty experience their environment differently as the campus becomes part of the identity they develop as workers and students.

Because of the public nature of a university campus, the art collection operates as a vehicle to shape discussion, and a way to capture the past, present and future. The collection becomes the collective signature of the university. Plans are afoot to make the Kovsie signature more interesting, more robust – more like South Africa.

Thanks to a successful application to the National Lotteries Distribution Trust Fund we are going to embark on a major project to procure a number of new art works to display on campus. The sum awarded for the project is over three million Rand, and makes provision for a number of categories of art, from a major sculpture in a prominent position, to pieces of functional or utilitarian sculpture, such as fountains, benches and lamp-posts. Both established and emerging artists will be approached to contribute work.

Plans are afoot to make the Kovsie signature more interesting, more robust – more like South Africa.

While the pieces will result in a richer, transformed environment, the aim of the project, says Prof. Dirk van den Berg, chair of the Department of Fine Arts, "is that the campus should be made more 'human' and people-friendly. One of the objectives of the project is to introduce 'interactive pieces', rather than monuments for admiration." Often, the works of art in a collection are shaped by the tastes of the individuals who nurture the collection, and to ensure diversity, the committee tasked with implementing this project is as inclusive as possible. They will consult widely with the arts community, national museums and galleries, as well as individuals who have experience in implementing public sculpture projects, before embarking on purchasing and commissioning the sculptures.


Wait and see. Walking to the library or to class will never be the same again... 



Photo: Leatitia Pienaar

Ms Marjorie Human, of the Artists in Schools Project, and Dr Mike Besten (lecturer: Anthropology) and involved in the Khoe-San Early Learning Centre, at one of the existing works of art by Edoardo Villa on the Bloemfontein Campus. Both their projects also received an injection from the Lotto funds.

Gestremd. Gelukkig.

Deur Cindé Mostert

Ons spreek af om by die eenheid te ontmoet. Ek en Tebogo, die swaksiende, wat ook aan albinisme ly. Ek laat na om besonderhede te bespreek. Ek is seker ek sal hom herken. Maar Tebogo stap met soveel selfvertroue by my verby dat ek eers beseft dat hy toe die eenheid se deur agter sy skraal figuur toeklap.

Ons is een van min hoëronderwysinstellings in Suid-Afrika wat in 'n besondere mate en aard gespesialiseerde onderrigondersteuning en toegang tot geleenthede aan studente met gestremdhede bied. As gevolg hiervan kies sulke studente landwyd Kovsky's.

Die Eenheid vir Studente met Gestremdhede het 'n inklusiewe uitkyk op gestremdheid. Kategorieë van gestremdheid sluit in die visuele (swaksiende en blind), gehoor (hardhorend en doof), fisieke (amputasies, verlamming, serebraal gestremd), leer (disleksie, aandagafleibaarheid), psigologiese gestremdheid (psigiatryse toestande), sekere chroniese siektes (veelvuldige sklerose, kanker, diabetes) en ander soos epilepsie, aspergersindroom en spraakgebreke.

Tans gebruik 142 studente die eenheid se dienste, waarvan 18 blind en ses doof is. Blinde studente kan studiemateriaal op band of in Braille ontvang. In die eenheid se goedtoegeruste rekenaarlaboratorium kan studente die nuutste tegnologie en sagteware gebruik om hulle te ondersteun. Woordverwerkingsprogramme help met skerm-lees en vergroting van teks op die skerm. Internet en e-posfasiliteite is ook beskikbaar.

Tebogo Lengwati (25), 'n finalejaar- LL.B.-student, is swaksiende en ly aan albinisme. "Om swaksiende te wees is nie só 'n groot uitdaging as om totaal blind te wees nie. Die eenheid help my baie. Ons skryf ook by die eenheid eksamen sodat ons ekstra tyd het om klaar te maak." Tebogo sê: "My akademiese loopbaan hier het met stampe en stote in 2003 begin. Maar almal het baie vinnig verby my gebreke gekyk en my net as 'n medestudent begin behandel. Ek moes dalk harder werk... maar dit het my net sterker gemaak."

Swaksiendheid en albinisme gaan gewoonlik hand aan hand. Weens sy sensitiewe vel, is die son vir Tebogo

gif. Soos ander mense se aanmerkings en starende oë toe hy kleiner was. "Vandag sal ek eerder my toestand vir ander mense wil verduidelik. Ek verstaan dat dit vir sommiges 'n vreemde gesig is, waaraan hulle nie gewoond is nie. Ek word nie kwaad nie, ek wil hulle eerder inlig en leer oor albinisme."

Dowe studente gebruik gebaretaaltolke in die klasse en hardhorendes soms 'n sogenaamde lip-tolk. Die gebaretaaltolk woon alle klasse saam met die student by en herhaal wat die dosent sê. Wanneer 'n dowe in die klas liplees, is dit in 'n een-tot-een situasie. Wanneer dowe liplees, gaan ongeveer 'n driekwart van die boodskap verlore.

Ntombi Nkosi (25), wat in 2008 die CPP (Career Preparation Programme)-kursus gedoen het en nou eerstejaar- B.Com student is, wil verder studeer. Ntombi gesels met behulp van 'n tolk. Albei haar ouers, en vyf van haar broers en susters is ook doof. Twee

horende kinders kan ook gebaretaal praat. Gebaretaal is dus haar eerste taal. "Ek het nie voorheen geweet dat ek, as dowe, sal kan studeer nie. Dit was altyd my droom om universiteit toe te gaan." Op sosiale vlak het Ntombi aanvanklik gesukkel omdat sy nie in Bloemfontein groot geword het nie en meestal dowe vriende gehad het. "Deesdae het ek baie horende vriende. So stadig maar seker leer ek hulle gebaretaal. Maar ons skryf meestal vir mekaar." Die eenheid stuur 'n tolk klas toe, wat haar help om die les te verstaan. 'n Tutor verduidelik die werk aan haar totdat sy dit onder die knie het. Ntombi raak opgewonde wanneer sy vertel dat sy gesukkel het om tussen kuns, rekeningkunde en wetenskap as moontlike studierigtings te kies!

Skielik het daar 'n ander wêreld vir haar oopgegaan. Een wat

sonder die eenheid se geleende hande en ore, dalk net 'n droom sou bly.

Die eenheid het baie ondervinding en kennis van tegnieke en toerusting wat die onderrig van gestremde studente kan vergemaklik en verbeter. Moeite word gedoen om op hoogte te bly met die nuutste ontwikkelinge in die veld.

Hetsie Veitch, hoof van die eenheid, het die Suid-Afrikaanse span na die 2008 Paralimpiese Spele in Beijing vergesel, en Sarah Shannon 'n serebraalgestremde swemmer wat besig is met 'n nagraadse diploma in onderwys, was 'n lid van die span. Sarah het met 'n rolstoel op kampus aangekom, maar dit eerder gestoot om haar balans te hou, as om daarin te ry! Met haar sterk wil en die ondersteuning wat sy kry, bly sy alleen in 'n woonstel, loop orals rond en ry met haar aangepasde driewiel fiets van klas tot

klas. Sy het in Beijing in albei haar items die finale rondte gehaal en is pas terug van Manchester, Engeland waarheen sy uitgenooi is om te gaan deelneem. Op pad uit, loop ek verby 'n paar studente. Gelukkige studente. Tevere. Trotse produkte van die Eenheid vir Studente met Gestremdhede op die UV. 



Financial Planning Centre draws **top achievers**

By Anton Fisher



Photo: Gordon Harris

Renier de Bruyn, Annemarie Trinder-Smith and Adv. Wessel Oosthuizen.

Our university is a high-quality institution of scientific practice. The crowning of two top achievers from our Centre for Financial Planning Law (CFPL) as top students by the Financial Planning Institute of Southern Africa (FPI) bears testimony to that.

Annemarie Trinder-Smith, a financial planner at Christo Saayman Financial Planners, is the best student in the Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Planning, while Renier de Bruyn, financial advisor at PSG Consult (George) is the best student in the Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Planning.

They were among 461 students of the CFPL who had received their postgraduate diplomas at a ceremony that formed part of the annual FPI convention.

The CFPL, which was established in 2001, was the first, and for five years the only academic centre in South Africa to offer a Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Planning. Today we are still the only institution to present this course through distance learning. We are also the only institution that offers the Advanced Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Planning.

According to Adv. Wessel Oosthuizen, Director of the CFPL, large companies, banks, insurers and investment managers enrolled their staff for these qualifications. "The two diplomas form the basis for financial planners, brokers, lawyers and bankers to be recognised as certified financial planners – the CFP® status – as well as obtaining membership of the FPI.

"A qualified financial planner, especially a CFP®, is one of the most sought-after titles in the financial planning sector worldwide. With about 3 700 CFPs, South Africa has the fifth-highest number of certified financial planners in the world," Adv. Oosthuizen said.

Adv. Oosthuizen is well-known nationally and internationally for his contribution to the advancement of financial planning law and financial planning education. He was recently invited by the Financial Planning Standards Board to serve on an international committee that will evaluate the quality of education in financial planning. He was also the chairperson of a work group that developed guidelines for a standardised international curriculum for financial planners. **B**

Research

Quality and Excellence. We are committed to the highest intellectual and ethical standards in teaching and learning, in research and research training.

VALUES

Tummy time important for babies

By Leatitia Pienaar

Babies need more tummy time. Children who spent time in the prone position are more advanced in their motor development than children who are not allowed to lie on their tummies, or only for short periods.

That is the message in an article on prone positioning in motor development in children in the first six weeks of their lives, published by Ms Dorothy Russell in the South African Journal of Occupational Therapy. Dorothy is a senior occupational therapist in the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health in our Faculty of Health Sciences.

The research has been done under 120 six-week old babies at a community centre in Bloemfontein. Of the group only 17 were placed in the prone position under normal circumstances.

Dorothy says research and clinical evidence indicate that

parents are not well educated regarding the value of placing their infants in the prone position during the early stages of infancy. The supine position where babies lie on the backs, lead to a decrease in the sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), and mothers steer away from putting their babies in the prone position because of that. However, lack of exposure to prone position can result in decreased opportunities to learn functions such as rolling over, sitting up, crawling and pulling to the standing position.

Prone position encourages the development of extensor control of the neck, and the motor developments of the infant. Extensors are the muscle group that straightens or extends the back part of the body.

If tummy time is inadequate, certain areas of development can be undermined. The centre of gravity can be displaced forward with the result that body weight is centered on the sternum (breastbone), an uncomfortable and non-functional position, Dorothy says.

"Regular prone positioning gives infants the opportunity to develop head control at an early stage in life. Neck muscles are strengthened as they attempt to lift their heads to look around," Dorothy says.

The study shows there were significant differences in the active movements of the arms and the pushing-up on the arms between prone and non-prone infants. Prone is important for the development of both flexion and extension.


Dorothy is also director of the Bloemfontein Child Information Centre that forms part of the Department. The Centre was established in 1985. 

Photo: Leatitia Pienaar



Ms Dorothy Russell is showing a mother how to put her baby on his tummy.



Dr. Jerry Fourie (regs) en sy promotor, prof. Jan-Albert van den Berg.

Saam op reis

Deur Leonie Bolleurs

Ons universiteit se voortdurende strewe na gehalte en uitnemendheid, asook om in alle opsigte 'n robuuste universiteit te wees met goeie intellektuele en vakdisiplinêre diepgang sowel as hoë navorsingsintegriteit, het ds. Jerry Fourie, predikant van die NG Gemeente Alberton-Wes, aangespoor om sy Ph.D in Praktiese Teologie by ons te voltooi.

In die bediening waar pastorale terapie een van sy hooftake is, beaam ds. Jerry dat ons universiteit se kursus in dié veld 'n moet is vir enigeen wat al in die gemeenskap by die versorging van mense betrokke is.

"Ek doen pastorale terapie met mense in nood buite die gemeente deur beradingsessies en verder ook met mense wat finansieël swaar trek. Ek wil graag ten volle diensbaar bly in my gemeenskap, want ek glo dat mense Godgeskape is en ook die kosbaarste gawe aan sy medemens is. Dit is vir my baie belangrik om deel te wees van die versorging van die mens in sy geheel," sê ds. Jerry.

Hy het aandag gegee aan Publieke Pastorale Sorg aan mense geïnfecteer met en geaffekteer deur MIV en/of vigs in die bruin gemeenskap van Oudtshoorn. "Ek wou graag met hulle saamreis om iets van hulle ervarings

te belewe en met my kennis van narratiewe terapie só 'n bydrae te lewer wat met die herskryf van hulle lewensverhaal kan help," sê ds. Jerry.

Hy het 'n interessante benadering in sy navorsing gevolg. Die mense waarop hy gefokus het, het hy "gekontraakteer om medenavorsers van hulle eie reis te word". Deur deelnemende aksienavorsing is hulle nie soos objekte nie, maar as vennote in diens gestel. "Ek het ook die stemme van mense wat nie normaalweg in navorsing gehoor word nie laat hoor. My reisgenote was onder andere 'n vrou wat na 'n beroerte nie goed kan praat nie, en 'n vyfmaandeoue seuntjie wat sy ma in 'n ongeluk verloor het en se pa in die gevangenis is," sê ds. Jerry.

Volgens ds. Jerry toon sy proefskrif dat Publieke Pastorale Sorg 'n betekenisvolle bydrae kan lewer in 'n gemeenskap waarin mense met MIV en/of vigs geïnfecteer en/of geaffekteer word. "Met Narratiewe Pastorale Terapie word die eiesoortige kontekstuele aksente van die bruin gemeenskap van Oudtshoorn onder meer verken en aangespreek. 'n Deel van die resultate van die navorsing het getoon dat dié terapie in 'n bepaalde konteks verseker dat daar pastorale versorging vir die betrokke mense kan wees." 

Fisika se nano-apparaat enigste in Afrika

'n Nanometer is gelyk aan een biljoenste van 'n meter. Dit is kleiner as 'n kopseld se punt en kan nie met die blote oog gesien word nie. Die Departement Fisika het pas twee apparaate van R23 miljoen vir navorsing op nanometervlak ontvang. Só word die UV die eerste universiteit in Afrika wat oor beide die apparaate beskik. Lacea Loader het gaan inloer.



By die nuwe VersaProbe XPS-stelsel: Prof. Hendrik Swart (links) en prof. Jannie Swarts.

Foto: Leonie Bolleurs

Ons het lankal geweet dat die NanoProbe Auger en VersaProbe XPS-stelsels op pad is en prof. Hendrik Swart, departementshoof, het belowe om te laat weet as dit afgelewer word. Toe, vroeg een oggend lui die telefoon en hy sê opgewonde: "julle moet kom kyk – dit het gekom!"

Dit het 'n hele dag geneem om die delikate apparaat uit die groot trok te laai. Tegnici uit Amerika het twee weke geneem om dit te installeer en ook gehelp om personeel in die gebruik daarvan op te lei.

Ek het gaan kyk en ek moet sê, dis werklik indrukwekkend! Prof. Hendrik kan nie uitgepraat raak oor alles wat die apparaat vir die departement

gaan beteken nie. "Ons is nou op die voorpunt van oppervlakkarakterisering op nanometerskaal in Afrika. Dit beteken dat die departement nou 'n nasionale fasiliteit vir navorsing oor oppervlakkarakterisering gaan word. Dit sal ook meehelp dat die departement se publikasie-uitsette in hoër-impakpublikasies gepubliseer gaan word."

Volgens prof. Hendrik sal die apparaat nie net vir fundamentele navorsing oor nanofosfors en segregasie van waarde wees nie, maar sal dit ook veral die bedryf help om beter katalisatore te ontwikkel om petrol en chemikalieë uit gas- of steenkoolvoorrade te sintetiseer. "Sasol is een organisasie wat veral hierby baat." **B**



From the left are: Prof. Hendrik Swart, Prof. Teuns Verschoor (then acting Rector of the UFS), Dr Martin Ntwaeaborwa, and Thabo Ngoeni.

Prestigious award to two of our Physicists

Deur Leonie Bolleurs

For Prof. Hendrik Swart and Dr Martin Ntwaeaborwa from our Department of Physics this year's award ceremony of the National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) in Johannesburg was a special one. Not only were they both rewarded for their research, but it was even more special for Hendrik because he received national recognition together with Martin, one of his former Ph.D students.

When talking to Hendrik and Martin about their achievement one cannot help but notice their humbleness, their passion for and enjoyment of their work and their absolute respect for one another.

Heading our Department of Physics, Hendrik is actively involved in the research of phosphor material, concentrating on the effectiveness of nanophosphor. He received the NSTF award for research capacity development over the last five to ten years and for his significant contribution towards the development of students in niche areas of nanophysics. Sponsored by Eskom, the award includes a prize of R100 000, which will be used for research purposes.

"I am immensely proud. An honour like this does not come easily and it does not happen every day. The fact that Martin was recognised by the NSTF during the same event is a highlight of my career. We received congratulatory messages from across the

country, which is an indication of the high standing our department and the work of our staff have in the country," says Hendrik with a gallant smile.

Martin, senior lecturer in the same department and an expert in luminescent nanomaterials, received the TW Kambule National Research Foundation award as distinguished young black male researcher over the last two to five years for his contribution to the understanding and harnessing of light emitting nanomaterials for application in light emitting devices. The awarded also includes R100 000 prize money towards his research.

For Martin the award is a true reflection of his commitment to teaching and research. "I am grateful to the NSTF for recognising this commitment. It is not only about what I as a person have done to receive the award, it's also about inspiration and motivation from other people including my parents, colleagues, collaborators and friends," he says with pride.

This is not the first time both of them attended the NSTF awards ceremony. Hendrik was a finalist in 2008 in the category for research capacity developer, while Martin was a finalist in the category for black researcher.

This is a second year in a row that the UFS won two awards from the NSTF. **B**

Education takes centre stage

By Cindé Mostert

The University of the Free State boasts a brand new Faculty of Education. Although new, it is the second largest faculty on Kovsie campus. The mere size of this faculty suggests the significance of education at our university. Under the leadership of a rector, whose career took off as a biology teacher, Kovsies holds the key to excellence in education.

It seems to be a time of new beginnings for our university, and could well be a new beginning for education in South Africa. Newly appointed rector, Jonathan Jansen, spent the larger part of his life involved in the education sector, first as a scholar and student, then ranging from teacher, lecturer, manager, advisor, director to, now, rector. Jonathan Jansen knows education inside out and is fearless in his approach to remedying the difficulties in the South African educational landscape. He is also known to work closely with the business sector and community with regard to educational matters.

Almost everybody has an opinion on education, mostly because we have all experienced it. Whether it was school, college or university, we all think we know what is supposed to happen when you are being educated, vastly different from, say, surgery... who knows what happens to you under the knife? Pink Floyd begged *teachers to leave them kids alone* because *we don't need no education*. When flicking through opinions on education over the years, you find many agreeing with Pink Floyd. But when you take a really close look, it is the system they loathed, not so much the knowledge. And those who were able to move beyond the confines of the system, attempted to describe the importance of knowledge and education.

Lee lococca said: In a completely rational society, the best of us would aspire to be teachers and the rest of us would have to settle for something less, because passing civilisation along from one generation to the next ought to be the highest honour and the highest responsibility anyone could have.

The serious problems in South Africa's educational system are starting to affect more than just the scholars who were failed by it, it is taking its toll in the business

and economic sector too. Recently Finweek reported that South African education was in crisis mode. Their report revealed the shocking shortage in skills and the lack of resources to equip a nation adequately for future growth. The report highlighted the failure of the education system to face up to the challenges of global competition in the 21st century. Maybe this isn't something that parents, students or employers would like to hear, but it's a reality, nevertheless.

However, this dark picture may soon be salvaged or at least be seen in a more positive light. Kovsie campus here in the heart of South Africa is certainly doing its bit to ensure that future learners and teachers alike live up to the expectations of a developing country and the world at large. The fact that education is no longer part of another faculty indicates how highly the University of the Free State regards it.

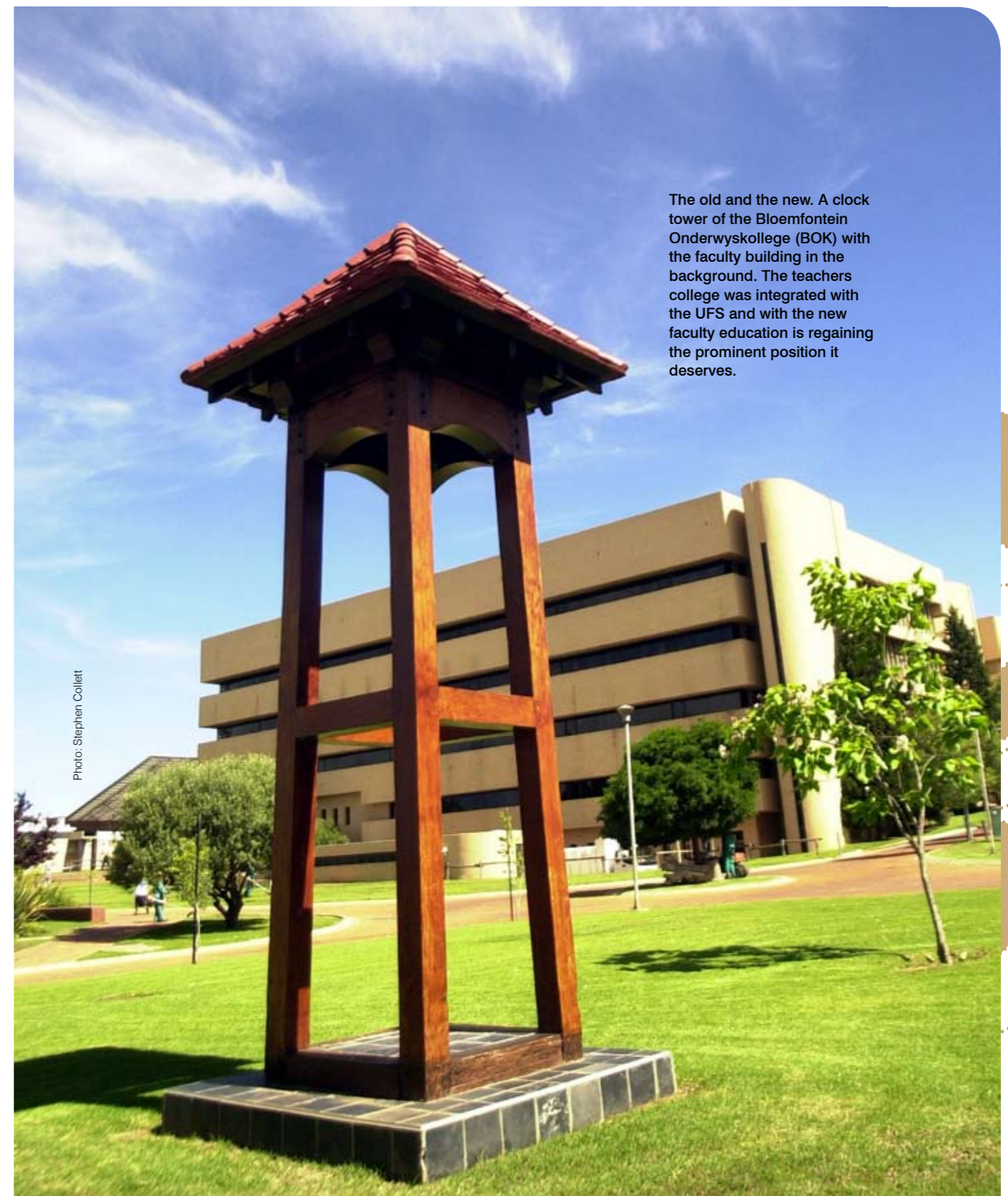
The mission of the new Faculty of Education is to serve the community. There is close cooperation between the Faculty and the Free State Department of Education. Research focuses mainly on the practical world in order to improve the quality of teaching. In order to serve the community to an even larger extent, the Faculty of Education brings the university to the student. A number of further and post-graduate courses are facilitated for off-campus students.

The image of education offered at the UFS was strengthened when it became an independent faculty. It compares favourably with other universities and there is much more opportunity to place a strong emphasis on its uniqueness.

Good training and fair treatment could ensure that our teachers remain in their country of birth to teach our children. **B**



Prof. Steve Niemann, Acting Dean of the new faculty.



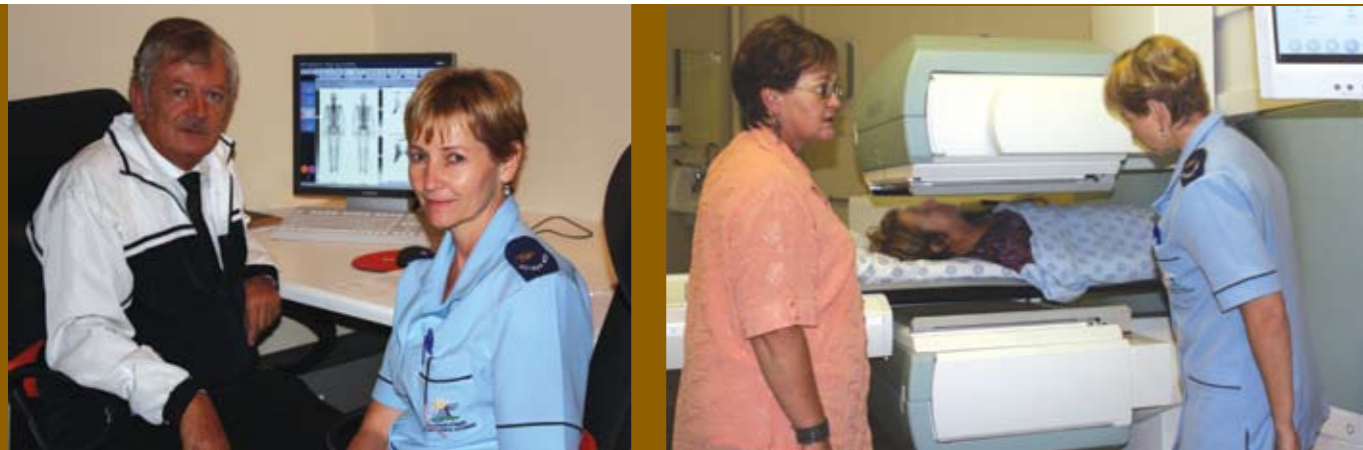
The old and the new. A clock tower of the Bloemfontein Onderwyskollie (BOK) with the faculty building in the background. The teachers college was integrated with the UFS and with the new faculty education is regaining the prominent position it deserves.

Photo: Stephen Collett

A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops. — Henry B. Adams.

UFS at the cutting-edge of nuclear medicine

By Leatitia Pienaar



Prof. Anton Otto and Ms Elna Reineke, senior radiographer.

A patient is scanned. On the left is Dr Riana Nel, senior lecturer.

The Nuclear Medicine Department at our university is at the forefront of technology in South Africa. It became the first in the academic sector in the country to obtain a Siemens Symbia single photon (gamma-ray) detecting camera system integrated with a computed tomography X-ray system.

Prof. Anton Otto, Head of Nuclear Medicine in the Faculty of Health Sciences, says the integrated system represents some of the most advanced technology in this scientific field today. It is only the second of these systems in South Africa and the first in an academic institution. The system is installed in the Universitas Hospital, which is attached to our Faculty and also serves the Central University of Technology in Bloemfontein. The Universitas Academic Hospital is the only academic tertiary hospital serving about five million people in the central parts of South Africa.

Nuclear medicine is the medical application of radioactivity to diagnose and monitor disease. A radioactive element is bound to a carrier and usually injected or given by mouth. It then localises in a specific organ in a patient's body and emits non-visible gamma-rays (like X-rays) to be detected on the outside by a

gamma camera. The images not only reflect structural anatomical detail, but also organ function, amongst others blood flow, movement and metabolism.

The greatest advantage of the camera is the speed with which the integrated studies can be performed. Tasks that will take much longer to perform with X-rays can be done much quicker with the new system and the radiation dose with the new system is often much lower.

Prof. Otto says it can be used to study a wide variety of disease in all the organ systems of the body, amongst others the brain, heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, spleen, skeleton and aspects of the haematological system. Several highly specialised procedures can be performed, as well as three-dimensional imaging.

"It is thus clear that it will bring tremendous relieve to the existing systems and increase service delivery to the people in our region significantly," says Prof. Otto. The system is probably the best practical modality in modern medicine to integrate anatomy and physiology. The system was ordered more than three years ago and installed in 2008. **B**

Personeel

Nontombi a portrait of love

By Mangaliso Radebe

The Artists in Schools Project, one of our university's ways of giving back to the community, has grown in leaps and bounds since its launch five years ago. One of the key factors in its success is undoubtedly the feminine touch of a tireless and selfless community worker – Nontombi Julia Ntakakaze.

Nontombi manages this project that seeks to develop the arts and culture learning area among learners, including the disabled, in schools in the Free State.

A Fine Arts professional and a former *Free State News* cartoonist, she honed her artistic skills at the Motheo Further Education and Training College and at the Central University of Technology in Bloemfontein.

Nontombi started showing glimpses of her talent at the age of four. However, it was as a high school dilettante that she realised she could make a living out of her then nascent talent.

"My interest in Art seriously started when I was in high school," she said. "I would always draw Biology and Science structures for my classmates and sometimes they paid me for that."

Born and bred in Botshabelo outside Bloemfontein some twenty-something-odd years ago, she attended school at Lebelo Primary and Reamohetse Secondary schools. And she found herself having to give back to Lebelo through the Artists in Schools Project. Art was not her first love though.

"When I grew up I always wanted to be a fashion designer," she said. "I was very passionate about fashion and style. I guess that is why I enjoyed dressing up dolls until I was fifteen years old."

Despite her love for fashion, art would eventually


become her greater love.

She is secretary of the Visual Arts Network of South Africa in the Free State. In 2007 she won first prize in the arts and culture category of the Premier's Youth Awards. The year before that she was a mentor of the provincial winners in the poster category of the Department of Water and Forestry Art competition *Baswa le meets*, and went on to bag the first prize in the same category nationally.

Earlier this year she was one of the four women from the Free State who were nominated by the *Soul Magazine* for the Most Inspirational Woman diadem. "I believe that with God everything is possible and that the harder you work, the luckier you get, no matter where you come from," she said.

Nontombi produces original artwork from paintings to drawings and mosaics to murals. Some of her work was even sold in countries like the USA and France.

But where does she get ideas for her artworks from? "I get my inspiration from the township lifestyle, jobless women, men at parking lots and also from kids and orphans," she said.

When she is not immersed in her community work, which is a rare luxury, this demure lady spends time with her six-year-old niece, Zanele. Dating for her – for now – takes a back seat to her work. "That is not really important to me for now," she said. 



Nontombi Julia Ntakakaze.

Many facets. Many skills.

When one says James Letuka, most Kovsies will think Director KovsieSport. Correct. However, an interview by Doloros Itumeleng, Communication Sciences student, brought to light also another side of James.

James is a father of five and has been married for over 30 years. He is a simple family-orientated man: humble, welcoming and friendly. He possesses a streak of perfectionism and he is very professional. He started his teaching career in 1971 at Lebeko High school until 1975. He was then promoted to school principal at Moemedi High School where he worked up to 1986. In 1986 he continued to climb the ladder when he was promoted to inspector of schools for the Free State.

"In 1997 Prof. Callie Strydom invited me to come and work at the university at the Department of Strategic Services, conducting research on higher education matters. Later in 2005, I was appointed as the Director of KovsieSport. This is where my journey with sport was brought to life again. I am a teacher and an academic, but sport has always been my life," James said.

James holds a very strong vision for KovsieSport. "I would like to see the university become the number one university in sport. To achieve this, we will need to appoint fulltime coaches for all the major sporting codes. I would also like sport to be a unifier at the university."

Amongst other things, James has served as chairperson of Bloemfontein Celtics for 15 years. He played a lot of sport when he was young and tennis is still his favourite sport. "I was in the South African Top 4 for tennis for a very long time many years ago. Today I still play tennis but, not competitively." James is also an avid reader. "I love reading. The types of books I read are politically inclined. At the moment I am reading *Obama – From promise to power* and *Mbeki – The Dream deferred*. I also love politics and I served in the first executive committee with Steve Biko. He was my chairman," James said. 



James Letuka.

Mickey het groot planne met sport

Deur Leonie Bolleurs

Die professionalisering van KovsieSport, die uitbou en verdere ontwikkeling van KovsieSport uit 'n goeie kern mense en die UV wat sy regmatige plek as top-sport-universiteit vol staan. Dié is van die hoofdoelwitte wat Mickey Gordon vir KovsieSport beplan. Die doelwitte sal binne twee jaar realiseer.

Mickey is in 2008 aangestel as Hoof: Sport en Besigheidsontwikkeling en is verantwoordelik vir sport, spesiale projekte asook die kommersiële sy van KovsieSport. Hy was voorheen vir meer as twintig jaar by die Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir CHO, nou Noordwes-Universiteit, as sportbestuurder betrokke. Volgens Mickey het die UV beperkte fondse en moet sport sy eie bronne ontgin deur aktiwiteite onder die UV-vaandel aan te pak. Dit sluit in nasionale en internasionale toernooie, kursusse en skolekursusse. Die UV se kundigheid op sportgebied word hierdeur tentoongestel en die profiel van KovsieSport word ook gelig.

Hy sê: "Sport het 'n sterk bemarkingswaarde vir die UV." Deur genoemde inisiatiewe te loods sal waarde toegevoeg word aan die bemarking van 'n goed gebalanseerde universiteit, wat gebalanseerde studente sal lewer op grond van sport, kultuur en die akademie.


Groot veranderinge wag op KovsieSport. "My visie is dat sport aan die UV 'n nuwe rigting sal inslaan," sê Mickey. Hy gaan saam met sy personeel werk om die nodige kopskuif aan te help wat hierdie veranderinge sal akkommodeer.

Een van dié veranderinge is 'n strategie om die sewe sportsoorte – hokkie, krieket, rugby, atletiek, netbal, sokker en tennis – tot medaljewenners vir die UV te ontwikkel. Mickey beplan ook veranderinge ten opsigte

van sportdeelname en die fasiliteite. Transformasie is ook 'n belangrike faktor wat hy ingedagte hou as hy van verandering praat. Die manier hoe sport bestuur word, sal ook verander.

Hy is baie positief oor die veranderinge wat gaan kom. "Dit is 'n fantastiese uitdaging en ek is ook optimisties oor die samewerking wat reeds tussen die sportlui bestaan. In 2009/2010 behoort ons die positiewe omskakeling te kan vergelyk met hoe dinge nou staan," sê hy.

Mickey het nie net baie planne in sy kop nie, maar is gebore met sport in sy bloed. Hy het vroeër jare vir die Vrystaat krieket en hokkie gespeel en was later 'n bekende krieket-administrateur. Hy dien vandag nog op die Suid-Afrikaanse hokkieraad. Hy is deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Hokkievereniging aangewys as sameroeper van die nasionale dameshokkie-span vir die volgende twee jaar.

Mickey is met Elri getroud en hulle het drie seuns. 



Mickey Gordon.

Grieks (nee Russies!)

Nico Luwes, Head of the Department of Drama and Theatre Arts, opens his Russian Dossier

Teater is 'n internasionale taal. In 1992 is ek met die Piers Nicholson-toekenning na Rusland en die suidelike stad Pyatigorsk by die Swart See om 'n teateroer te onderneem en 'n Russiese teatergroep se opvoerings te sien. Hoewel ek glad nie Russies verstaan het nie, kon ek die opvoerings verstaan aangesien die handeling, karakteruitbeelding, woorduiting en klanke, wat emosies binne 'n sekere konteks oordra, betekenisvergemeenskaplik moontlik maak. Min het ek toe geweet dat ek in 2005 en 2006 twee toneelstukke in Russies sou afrig in die Chekhov-teater in Pavlodar, Kazakstan.

Igor Mercoulov, the present director for the Moscow State Academic Chamber Opera Theatre under Boris Pokrovsky, came to direct a Chekhov play in 1990 with our students and he saw my production of The Cherry Orchard (Chekhov). In this play the Russian Revolution is predicted and the downfall of the aristocratic bourgeoisie, the social class that owns the means of producing wealth and is regarded as exploiting the working class, becomes a reality.

As a typical Russian from a communist country, Igor was surprised to see that we do the play as a tragedy for the high class and do not focus on the triumph of the lower classes in the play. With fast changing political views in Russia at that time, he then directed the same play in Pavlodar in a similar way and the production caused a political stir. Igor discussed my work with the director of the theatre and he then invited me to direct Romeo and Juliet in his theatre. Easier said than done!

Igor and I translated the play in Moscow. After some serious trouble obtaining a visa for Kazakhstan, and with wonderful support of the South African Embassy, I could fly to Pavlodar in the Siberian region. It was a cultural and a physical shock! Temperatures were as low as minus 43 degrees. I was faced with one interpreter who struggled with English and the rest of the cast and theatre personnel who could not even understand one word I said.

The funniest thing was that the director of the theatre,

Victor Avvakumov, spoke Russian to me as if I could understand every word he was saying! Up to this day he still is doing it, much to the delight of his actors!

I must say, by now I can follow the drift of Russian conversation. Then, I just signed contracts in Russian and trusted that all would be well.

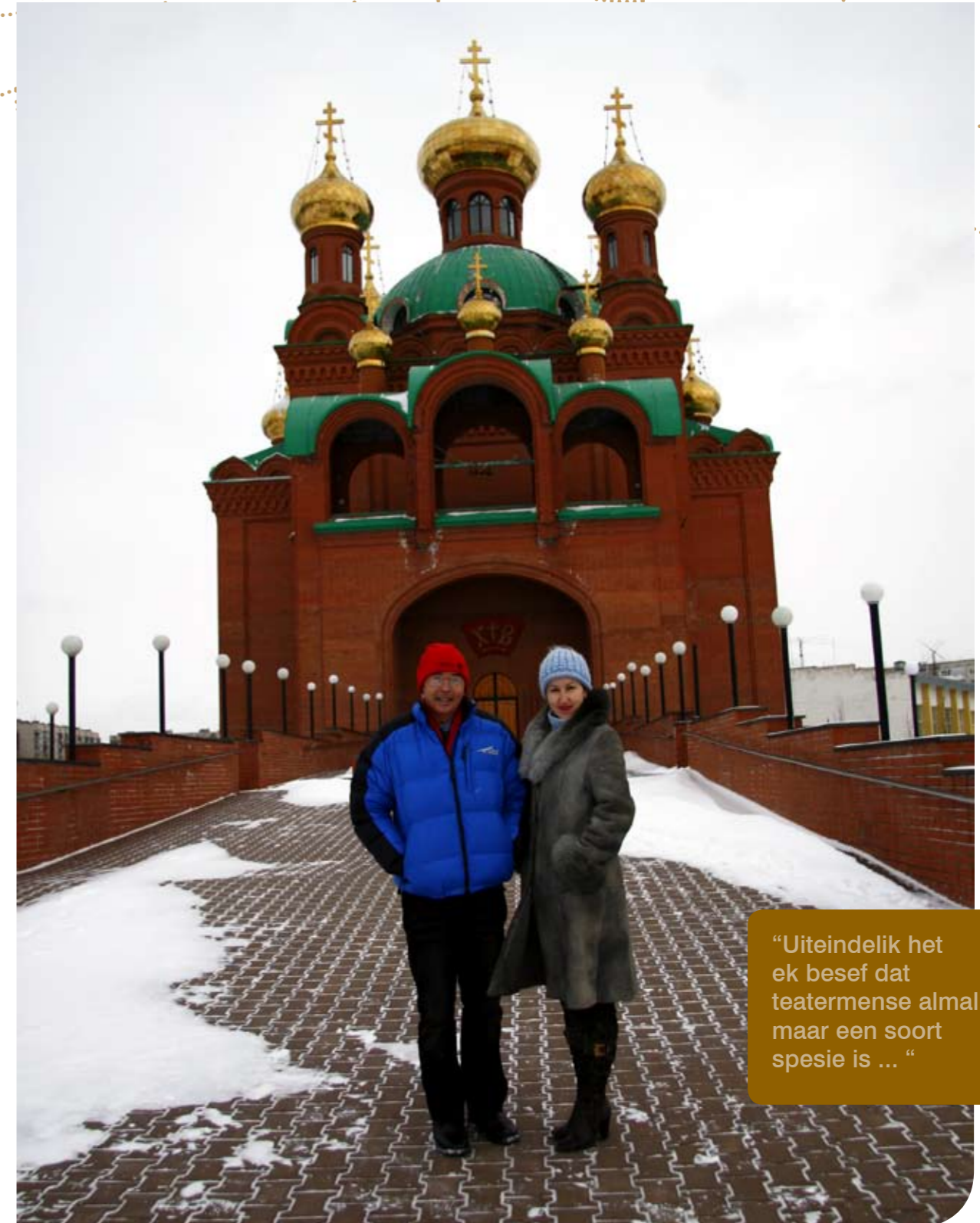
The moment I met the decor, sound and costume designers all started falling into place, as I could sketch pictures and they immediately clicked. Rehearsals started in a very old theatre and with a few basic Russian words and a tremendously clever translator/interpreter, Nina Belova, who also played Juliet, we could plot the play and within three weeks the play was ready for the premiere. Somehow, we all started understanding each other perfectly well, and poor Nina didn't have to translate everything. With the English text next to the Russian, and by repeating the same scenes, one could hear whether the interpretation was honest and meaningful, carrying the correct emotion within the specific context. It was a learning curve for all of us, and the actors worked very hard and tried to speak English to me as often as they could.

Obviously the press and television had lots of interviews about this crazy idea and the theatre was full from day one. The play is still part of the repertoire and is still being performed today.

Die lewensomstandighede in die karig gemeubileerde woonstel was uiters Spartaans met bittere koue en slegs basiese kos. Mens moet maar waak teen die eensaamheid en die onbeholpe gevoel as jy iets in 'n winkel wil koop.

Tydens 'n nagmerrie ondervinding by die Almaty-lughawe waar die polisie my vir ure ondervra het omdat my visum sodanig "verstryk" het en ek vir vyf dae tronk toe sou moes gaan en dan gedeporteer sou word, het ek besef dat dit nie feetjieland is waarin ek my bevind het nie.

Sal ek weer gaan? More! 



“Uiteindelik het ek besef dat teatermense almal maar een soort spesie is ...”

Prof. Nico Luwes and the Russian interpreter Nina Belova.

Lucius follows a career

While growing up as young boy in Tsumeb, he was already a curious child at that early age – a trait that would later shape his professional life.

Prof. Lucius Botes, Dean of our Faculty of the Humanities, says: "I remember I was in Grade 4 when I asked my parents to buy me all the magazines that were available in the early 70s and I actually measured how much advertisement space was in each magazine. I then started to reflect 'How come some advertisements had more space and others less?' Was it because of their volume? Those kinds of things really intrigued me at an early age. I tried to find out the reasons behind the obvious."

"I came to the UFS to study Theology," he explains. "I finished my B.A. and Theology degrees and after

working for some time in Pretoria I applied for a position the Sociology Department. I did Sociology at master's level. I was employed on a contract basis then." He got a permanent position as junior lecturer in 1990 in the Department of Sociology and took the responsibility for the research methods and for Development Sociology modules and courses.

However, Prof. Botes had other fields of interest while growing up: law, diplomacy. "But then I also wanted to become a pastor because I like to care for people and support them and this, in the end, won the battle. I became a minister for a while, but realised the

in curiosity By Mangaliso Radebe

academia was calling. In 1996 he did his Ph.D jointly with the Institute for Social Studies at The Hague in the Netherlands where he was a visiting fellow.

A year-and-a-half after his return in 1997 he got the idea to revitalise the Centre for Development Studies (CDS). As the saying goes, the rest is history. Eleven years down the line the CDS would become the huge establishment that it is now, employing many researchers who are consistently churning out cutting edge research studies.

This year Lucius became Dean of the Humanities and intends to turn the faculty into a world-renowned source of excellence. "In five years' time I will really like to see a faculty where people have really excelled and are happy in their work context and workplace," he says.

"At this stage we have islands of excellence and I will like to bring those islands together. If I can contribute in that way, I will be very happy."

This is no mean undertaking coming from a man who models himself after his father and the ubiquitous Nelson Mandela, the global icon he had the privilege of meeting on two occasions. "Madiba will always be one of the top role models in terms of the values he stood for, his integrity, and his ability to forgive and forget," he says. "My father also had a huge influence in my life. He taught me that a person has to take responsibility for his or her own fate."

Lucius says he derives inspiration from making a difference in other people's lives. "With the CDS, students come in as novices and go out as fully-fledged researchers, ready to take on the world. It gives me so much pride and inspiration when I see how people have developed."

More than 140 people have graduated in the master's programme and are now working in the non-governmental organisations, the public and corporate sectors of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. Most come from other African countries, Europe and America. He is still the programme manager of the master's and Ph.D programmes. "This is close to my heart. I think it is my legacy to the university and to the region."

Lucius is married to Hubré Schutte, a medical representative, whom he met while they were both singing in the university choir. When not working, this doting father spends valuable time with his 12-year-old twin daughters, Louise-Mare (Palesa) and Huibre-Mare (Lerato). "I love them dearly," he says affectionately. And who would have guessed: Lucius is a keen gardener and has a couple of racing pigeons. I used to be a fanatic pigeon racer but nowadays I do not have time for that. I just have a few pigeons and birds now." He also loves sport, having played cricket, soccer and rugby while in school and he thinks Bafana Bafana will do well in the World Cup next year. "I am a pathological optimist. They have done us proud in the Confederation Cup playing against the best in the world." And he will be there clad in his Bafana jersey and a vuvuzela – to boot – to witness it all. 



Gesogte medalje vir 'n

Deur Lacea Loader

Prof. Johan Grobbelaar sit gemaklik in die stoel oorkant my. Buite waai 'n ysige wind en die koue wolkies hang laag oor die kampus. Sy kantoor by die Departement Plantwetenskappe is lekker warm en vol aandenkings van sy reise dwarsoor die wêreld. In sy stem hoor ek die diepe waardering vir die eer wat die UV aan hom gegee het met die toekenning van 'n Raadsmedalje, en die Kowsie Alumni wat hom ook vereer het.

Johan het vanjaar die eer te beurtgeval om die Raadsmedalje te ontvang.

Hy word erken vir sy betekenisvolle diens en sy pogings om deurgaans die UV te verteenwoordig en die universiteit se naam na buite te dra. En dit het hy voorwaar gedoen.

Johan het sy loopbaan aan die UV gewy. In sy verbintenis van langer as 40 jaar het hy gevorder van tegniese-assistent tot senior professor.

Hy was deel van baie eerstes. Hy was leier van die eerste navorsingsekspedisie na Marion-eiland; het die eerste Ph.D oor navorsing op Marion-eiland gedoen; bygedra tot die totstandkoming van die Instituut vir Omgewingswetenskappe; die instel van limnologie (studie van binnelandse waters) as kursus en navorsingsrigting en die eerste internasionale kongres oor toegepaste fikologie (studie van alge) in Suid-Afrika gereël. Hy het ook die totstandkoming van die Sentrum vir Omgewingsbestuur gemotiveer; en die ontwerp, bou en inwerkingstelling van die eerste kommersiële albiotegnologie-produksieaanleg in Suid-Afrika (Musina Spirulina – wat veral gemik is op opheffing van die gemeenskap) waargeneem.

“Toe ek hoor van die toekennings was ek onkant gevang. Dit het my tot stilstand gebring en laat dink oor my betrokkenheid by dinge wat vir my saak maak,” sê hy.

Twaalf jaar gelede het hy begin motiveer om 'n SIL-kongres (Societas Internationalis Limnologiae) in

Suid-Afrika aan te bied. Die bod is vyf jaar gelede in Lahti, Finland aanvaar en die kongres sal in Augustus 2010 in Kaapstad plaasvind. Dit is die eerste keer in die geskiedenis van SIL dat 'n kongres op die Afrika-kontinent gehou word en ongeveer 1 500 wetenskaplikes van meer as 40 lande word verwag.

Johan is voorsitter van die plaaslike reëlingskomitee. Hy het 'n aantal toekennings en vererings van die UV ontvang, soos 'n Eeufeesmedalje, 'n toekenning vir navorsingsuitnemendheid en 'n toekenning vir diens aan die Fakulteit Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe. Hy het ook die silwermedalje van die Suid-Afrikaanse Genootskap vir Plantkundiges vir sy bydraes en die Phycologist Award van die International Association of Applied Phycologists ontvang. Die Kowsie Alumni het hom vereer met 'n nasionale bestuurstoekenning.

As 'n B2 NNS-geëvalueerde navorser is die impak van sy navorsing en publikasies en volgens SCOPUS is daar 461 verwysings na sy werk in die literatuur, met 'n h-indeks van 9. SCOPUS is die grootste en mees omvattende samevatting- en verwysingsdatabasis van navorsingsliteratuur in die wêreld. Die databasis bevat onder meer die inligting van 18 000 ewekniebeoordeelde navorsingsjoernale, 23 miljoen patente en sowat 36 miljoen referate. 'n H-index poog om beide die produktiwiteit en die impak van 'n wetenskaplike se werk uit te druk. In Johan se geval beteken dit dat 9 van sy wetenskaplike artikels deur minstens 9 navorsers oor elk van die afgelope tien jaar aangehaal is. Een van sy artikels is 137 keer aangehaal en dit is veral sy navorsing oor die respons van fotosintese in dinamiese ligomgewings wat toonaangewend is.

uitsonderlike mens



Foto: Hannes Pieterse


As voorsitter van UVPERSU, die meerderheidsvakbond aan die UV, het hy ook bygedra tot die finansiële omdraai van die UV.

Sy diens is nie net betekenisvol vir die UV nie. Hy lewer ook 'n onmisbare bydrae aan die gemeenskap van Bloemfontein. Dit word bevestig deur sy deelname aan baie komitees, besture en aksiegroepe. So dien hy reeds sedert 1994 as raadslid van die Mangaung Plaaslike Munisipaliteit.

“Ek is dankbaar vir die geleentheid wat ek gehad het en die hoogtepunte wat ek kon bereik. Ek kon my

passie uitleef en navorsing in die uithoeke van die aarde en oor kontinente doen – van Marion-eiland tot in die Amasone. Dit het van my 'n wêreldburger gemaak.”

“Nou moet jy my verskoon,” sê hy en staan op uit sy gemaklike stoel. “Ek moet 'n begrotingsrede van die Mangaung Plaaslike Munisipaliteit in die Norman Doubell-saal in Heidedal gaan bywoon.”

Ek weet hoe koud hierdie lokaal in die winter kan wees. En op 'n dag soos vandag gaan dit bitterdend wees. Maar, vir Johan is dit nie 'n probleem nie. “Dis wat ek doen en waarvan ek hou.” 

Students

Ons twee sewes-Bokke

Deur Leonie Bolleurs

Sukses. Prestasie. Wen. Alles weerspieël gehalte. Dit is ook waarna ons universiteit strew: om gehaltestudente op te lewer wat hulle merk in die samelewing maak. Robert Ebersohn (B.Com Algemene Bestuur) en Phillip Snyman (B.Agric) dra reeds sedert Oktober 2008 die Groen en Goud en elke keer as hulle op die veld uitdra, kan ons nie help nie om met trots te sê: "Dit is 'n Kovsie daardie."

Robert en Phillip is in die Suid-Afrika Sewespan ingesluit en het aan die Internasionale Rugbyraad se Sewes-Wêreldreeks deelgeneem. Die span het besonder goed gevaar deur in vyf van die agt toernooie se eindronde te speel en het drie van hierdie wedstryde gewen. Alhoewel hulle net-net teen Fidji in die finaal van die laaste toernooi verloor het, is hulle as Sewes-Wêreldkampioene vir 2008-2009 gekroon. Dit is die eerste keer in 10 jaar dat Suid-Afrika die reeks wen.

Volgens Dougie Heymans, Kovsie-rugbybestuurder en hulpfrigter van die Shimlas, was albei spelers uitblinkers in die span. Die span by KovsieSport, by name Dougie, Jaco Swanepoel (hoofafrigter van die Shimlas en Kovsie-rugby) en Waksie Prinsloo (voormalige Shimla-afrigter) het almal 'n groot rol in Robert en Phillip se voorbereiding vir provinsiale en nasionale rugby gespeel.

Robert sê: "Ek kom al 'n lang pad saam met Jaco en Dougie. Jaco is een van Suid-Afrika se beste afrigters en ek het baie by hom geleer. Om as Shimla afgerig te word, is uniek. As sportman word jy voorberei om op enige vlak rugby te speel. Ek pas steeds toe wat ek as Shimla geleer het. Shimlas het ook trotse rugbytradisies soos eerlikheid, opregtheid en spanwerk, wat jy op, sowel as van die veld af, kan gebruik."

Phillip beaam ook dat die span by KovsieSport 'n groot rol in sy rugbyloopbaan gespeel het. "My insluiting in die Shimla-span het 'n goeie basis vir my provinsiale rugbyloopbaan gelê," sê hy.

Robert is vir eers klaar met sewesrugby en kon nie wag om weer in die Curriebekerreeks vir die Cheetahs op die veld te dra nie. Hy gaan ook weer sy studies hier



Robert Ebersohn.



Phillip Snyman.

aan Kovsies hervat. "Ek sal Kovsies vir seker aanbeveel vir enige voornemende student wat in beide die akademie en op sportgebied wil presteer. Dosente hier verstaan en akkommodeer studente wat hul potensiaal op albei vlakke wil bereik. Jou houding moet net reg wees en jy moet bereid wees om hard te werk," sê Robert.

Voordat Phillip hom ook weer by die Cheetahs sou aansluit, het hy Suid-Afrika in sewesrugby by die Wêreldspele in Taiwan verteenwoordig. Phillip is tot 2010 deur die Vrystaat gekontrakteer en moet tot dan vir die Cheetahs speel. Tussendeur wil hy ook weer sy studies opneem. Daarna gaan hy vir die volgende paar jaar net rugby leef. "Ek wil kyk tot op watter vlak my rugby my in Suid-Afrika kan vat. Rugby oorsie is ook 'n moontlikheid heelwat later in my loopbaan," sê Phillip.

En sal Phillip Kovsies aanbeveel? Net soos Robert antwoord hy: "Vir seker. Ek het van my lekkerste tye op Kovsies gehad." 

Residences: the incubator

for academic excellence

By Anton Fisher

A deliberate effort should be made to rethink the residence experience of our students to create an atmosphere that promotes academic achievement, an enquiring mind and interaction across the boundaries of race and culture in these residences. This vision for student residences was spelt out by Prof. Ezekiel Moraka, Vice-Rector: Student Affairs, when he outlined a number of proposals that he believes the UFS should consider implementing.

"In order to ensure that an atmosphere conducive to learning and the total development of the student prevails in our residences, I believe that several important aspects should be attended to quite promptly and appropriately," says Prof. Moraka. For a start a residence life division should be created to align residence life with academic programmes and assist in ensuring that the residences become academic learning centres.

"Academic activities must be given priority over all other student activities. Academic needs of resident students would be integral components of this division, as well as addressing obstacles to academic success." The division should also develop and strengthen student leadership skills.

This links up with a proposal for the continued empowerment of residence heads and students on diversity issues. Prof. Moraka says: "The management of diversity cannot be left to chance. People are grappling with diversity issues the world over. It is therefore extremely important to have diversity programmes that would assist students to deal progressively with diversity issues. For instance, we could create a residence diversity council (RDC) which will focus primarily on the development of diversity programmes as well as addressing the concerns of students regarding diversity issues."


The effective empowerment of resident student leaders is also important. A strategic starting point could be with the first-year students and the creation of a leadership forum for them would be ideal, he believes. Such a forum would focus on general aspects of leadership in order to prepare prospective student leaders for their envisaged roles in various student governance structures.

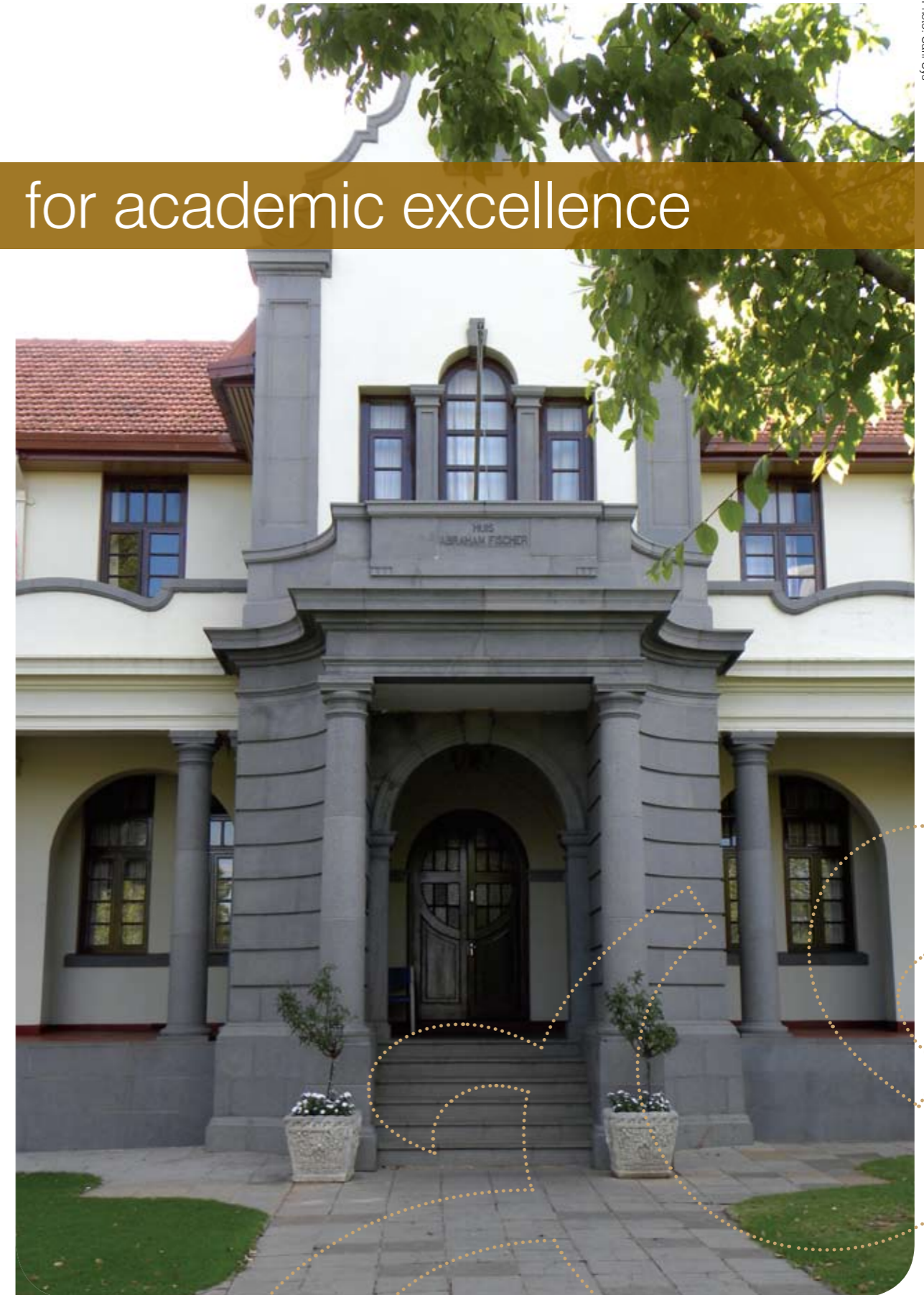
Initiation practices must also be eliminated. "Initiation practices are actually outlawed, because by their very nature they are degrading and undermine the human dignity of an individual. Such activities inhibit the academic performance of students."

To curb initiation practices proactively, he suggests our university must formulate a creed, containing the standards of the institution and what it expects from students.

"To ensure adherence to the creed, perhaps it should be mandatory for first-year students and their parents to sign the creed prior to registration. Thus, sending a clear message that, abiding by the creed is part of the requirements to remain studying at the institution," Prof. Moraka suggests.

He also believes the UFS should consider accommodating first-year students separately from senior students. That may expedite the adjustment of first-year students and ensure good academic performance.

Finally, he says party-political activities should be removed out of residences. "I am not implying that students in our residences should be apolitical, not at all. Outside the residences, there are student political organizations and students are free to participate in those," he says. 



Abraham Fischer house.



1ste Plek: Damesafdeling in 'Varsity Vocals'
5de Plek: Algeheel in 'Varsity Vocals'

Prof. Ezekiel Moraka, Viserektor: Studentesake aan die UV, en die sêrgroep van Marjolein-koshuis.

Marjolein sêr New York aan die brand

Deur Lacea Loader

Eleanor Roosevelt het gesê: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." In ons midde is 'n groep damestudente wat geglo het in hul droom om internasionale status met hul sang te bereik. Dié droom het hul gelei na New York... waar dit toe wel gebeur het.

My eerste ontmoeting met Marisan Nienkemper en haar sêrgroep was voor die Hoofgebou. Ek het gehoor van hul reis na New York en wou 'n foto van hulle laat neem. Almal het gestraal en ek kon die opgewondeheid in hul stemme hoor. Toe hulle begin sing het ek verstaan waarom dié agttien nagtegale op pad was na die Groot Appel.

Marjolein-koshuis se sêrgroep sing sedert 2006 saam en het daardie jaar tweede gekom in die UV se sêrkompetisie en het in 2008 die kompetisie gewen. Hulle het ook aan die nasionale sêrkompetisie vir universiteite deelgeneem. "So tussen die studies deur het almal darem altyd tyd om te oefen. Ons studeer in 'n wye verskeidenheid studierigtings – van medies, regte, aktuarieel, opvoedkunde tot drama," sê Marisan.

Marisan, 'n MB.ChB.-student in haar derde jaar, was van die begin af die afrigter. Haar passie vir en totale verbintenis teenoor die groep se sukses was

deurslaggewend vir hul sukses vanjaar tydens Varsity Vocals, 'n internasionale sêrkompetisie wat jaarliks vir a capella-groepe in New York aangebied word. "Ek het al verlede jaar met die sêrrotasies op kampus geweet dat ons regtig 'n spesiale groep meisies is wat dit baie geniet om saam te sing. Almal het die passie vir musiek uitgestraal."

Haar geloof in die groep en lewensuitkyk dat geluk in jouself lê en dat jy self verantwoordelik daarvoor is, het haar gemotiveer om in 2008 'n e-pos vir die organiseerder van Varsity Vocals, Amanda Newmann, te stuur. Geen Suid-Afrikaanse groep het nog aan die kompetisie deelgeneem nie. "Wat 'n voorreg sou dit nie wees om die eerste te kon wees nie!" En ... hier het Marisan en haar groep se droom begin ...

Teen Februarie vanjaar het sy gedink dit gaan nie realiseer nie. "Dit sou in elk geval nie meer prakties moontlik wees om 'n toer na New York te reël nie.

Oftewel, dis wat ek gedink het!" In Maart kom die e-pos toe. Hulle kon deelneem mits hulle fondse kan bekom en betyds hul visums gereël kon kry. Marisan moes ook 'n DVD van Marjolein-sêr op YouTube plaas. Daarna het Amanda laat weet dat hulle sang van so 'n hoë standaard is dat sy hulle eintlik as die gaskunstenaars wou gebruik. En, met hulp van oral het hulle binne twee weke genoeg geld gehad en is visums, vliegtuigkaartjies en verblyf in New York gereël.

Met dae en nagte se harde oefening agter hulle en 'n onklusbare entoesiasme is die groep (vergesel deur Esta Knoetze, koshuushoof van Marjolein) in April na die stad wat nooit slaap nie. Times Square, Statue of Liberty, Empire State-gebou, 5th Avenue, Central Park, Ground Zero – die groep kon net nie genoeg van New York kry nie..

MTV het 'n hele middag saam met hulle deurgebring en daar is opnames van die sêr-oefeninge gedoen en onderhoude is gevoer. Dit sal later vanjaar tydens 'n sêr-realityprogram op MTV uitgesaai word.

En toe ... breek die groot dag aan. Die groep het eerste plek in die damesafdeling en 'n algehele vyfde plek in die kompetisie behaal. "Ons het ongelooflike positiewe terugvoer van al die beoordelaars en die gehoor gekry."

"Die toer en kompetisie het al my verwagtinge oortref. Ek sou nooit kon dink dat my groep internasionale status kon bereik nie. Dit was nog altyd 'n verafgeleë, wonderlike droom van my. Maar dié ervaring het my geleer om jou drome na te jaag en elke geleentheid wat in jou rigting kom ten volle aan te gryp! Never say never!"



Johané Nienkemper, Marisan Nienkemper, Lauren Ford en Martinette van Jaarsveld met hoede soos dié van die Statue of Liberty.

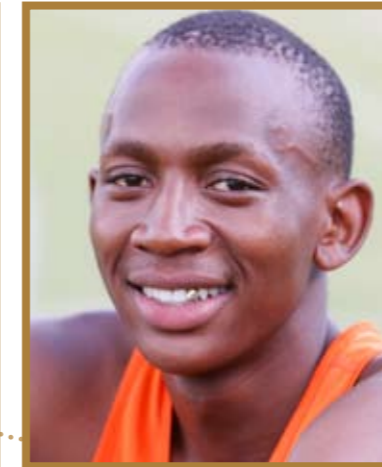
Soke and Jonas set the pace across the world

By Leonie Bolleurs

The 2008 Kovsie Sportsman of the Year, Boy Soke, is taking the lead, not only on the track but also in placing team Kovsies with the best of the best in both the national and international sports arena. In their pursuit of excellence, Boy Soke and Windy Jonas, a fellow Kovsie athlete, are doing their bit to take our university from good to great with their achievements.



Boy Soke.



Windy Jonas.



Soke, a B.Com.Hons student, is a true ambassador of our university, competing all over the globe. Not so long ago he participated in the World Student Games in Belgrade, Serbia, with fellow Kovsies Thuso Mpuang and Kashisho Kumbane. Earlier this year he also represented South Africa in the Cross-Country World Championships in Jordan. Prior to that, he participated in the South African Senior Championships in Stellenbosch where, for the third time in a row, he won the 5 000 m track and field event.

Also this year Soke won the Southern Regional Cross-Country Championships in Mauritius, beating his peers from Zambia, Malawi and Mauritius. He was the captain of the South African team. In 2008 he participated in Brazil (half-marathon), Scotland (cross-country) and Ethiopia (track and field).

Excelling at and representing not only our university but also our country in cross-country, track and field, and road running, are but some of Soke's highlights. In 2004 he won the South African Cross-Country Championships held at Tempe, Bloemfontein. "Cross-country was the first item I excelled in since I started running as a boy of about nine years old. After primary school I picked up on running in the then Standard 8," Soke said. The rest is history.

Windy Jonas, a student in the Career Preparation Programme, started out as sprinter at the age of 10.

Captain of South Africa's Cross-Country Team

"Since then, athletics has been my life," said Jonas. Looking at Jonas track record, one could say that he was living life to the fullest.

This year he participated in the African Junior Championships in Mauritius and also represented South Africa in the Cross-Country World Championships in Jordan. Prior to that, he participated in the South African Senior Championships in Stellenbosch where he ran his personal best, improving with six seconds in the 1 500 m track and field item.

"My favourite discipline to participate in is track and field. I received my first South African colours in track and field at the South African Schools Championships in Sasolburg in 2006." As proof of these successes, Jonas has a silver and bronze medal to show. Jonas is also a triple medallist. At the Common Wealth Games in India in 2008 he received a gold medal for the 800 m, silver for the 4 x 400 m, and bronze for the 1 500 m, respectively.

Jonas, a student in the Career Preparation Programme, was also recently introduced to road running by Soke.

Why Kovsies? "It was close to home and Kovsies was also home to long-distance legends Hendrik Thugwane and Stephen Phori," Soke said. The location of Kovsies clenched the deal for Jonas, who loves living in the centre of South Africa. "And I have good training mates," he adds.

Member of the South Africa Cross-Country Team



Windy Jonas.

Photographs: Hannes Pieterse



Alumni

Ruim hand vir behoeftige, briljante studente

Foto: Verskat



Van links is, agter: adv. Seef Hefer, voorsitter van die Kovsie-Alumni Trust, mev. Francis Hoexter, raadslid van die Trust, Ralph Kramer, en Ryno Opperman, ook 'n raadslid; voor PK Nkate, en Leendert de Kramer.

Die bydraes van ruimhartige donateurs maak dit jaarliks vir behoeftige en briljante studente moontlik om hulle studies aan ons universiteit te voltooi.

Die Trustfonds van die Kovsie Alumni Trust word gebruik om akademiese, kulturele en sportbeurse aan verdienstelike voornemende, sowel as huidige Kovsiestudente, toe te ken. Die droom van tersiêre opleiding moet nooit prysgegee word weens 'n gebrek aan geld nie, sê die voorsitter van die Trust, adv. Seef Hefer.

Vanjaar het die Trust R24 000 aan studente met gestremdhede en R28 500 aan ad hoc-aansoeke toegeken. Geldelike bystand van R224 888 is ook aan

studente uit die Alumni Skenkingsfondse verleen. Die NNP-beurs van R20 000 is gelykop verdeel aan twee meestersgraadstudente, Eleanor Bernard en Nandi Venter aan die Departement Afrikaans en Nederlands, Frans en Duits. Die Sapcor-beurs is toegeken aan die blinde student Magteld Smith wat aan haar Ph.D werk.

Mnr. PK Nkate, 'n blinde honneursstudent in Ondernemingsbestuur, het R6 000 ontvang, mnr. Ralph en Leendert de Kramer R3 500 en R6 000 onderskeidelik met hulle ad hoc-aansoeke. Mej. Carien Gordon, mnr. Geoff Bezuidenhout en Mej. Ilana van der Merwe het R6 000, R3 500 en R3 500 onderskeidelik ontvang na gelang van hulle aansoeke.

– Sulet van Heerden.

Dewald Louw

Almal se Idol

Deur Lize du Plessis

Aanhouer wen. Probeer is die beste geweer. Wie nie waag nie, wen nie. Hierdie spreekwoorde is almal van toepassing op Dewald.

Dewald Louw se droom om 'n bekende sanger te word, het in 2006 waar geword toe hy kykNET se Afrikaanse Idols gewen het. Ná twee minder suksesvolle pogings in M-Net Idols, het hy in sy moedertaal in harte gekruip – iets wat hy vandag nog regkry.

Alhoewel Dewald 23 jaar gelede in Durbanville gebore is, is dit in Bloemfontein waar hy skoolgegaan, gematrikuleer en begin studeer het. Vanweë sy besige skedule moes hy in 2006 noodgedwonge sy studies staak en sak en pak Johannesburg toe trek. Om die skuif van Bloemfontein na Gauteng te maak, was wel met goeie rede, maar in sy hart sal hy altyd 'n Bloemfonteiner wees. Sy ouers, prof. Flip en Maria Louw, asook sy suster, Tania, woon immers steeds hier, waar prof. Louw 'n dosent in die Departement Kurrikulumstudie aan die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde is.

Dewald se droom het begin toe sy Graad drie onderwyseres hom van klas na klas geneem het om vir die ander leerlinge te sing. Dewald se album, *In jou oë*, is kort na Idols bekend gestel. Daarna het hy die hoofrol in die pantomime *Peter Pan* met oorgawe vertolk. Sy splinternuwe album, *Ek en Jy*, met die gewilde kortspeler *Lekker Kry*, vlieg soos soetkoek van winkelrakke af. Vir sy Engelse aanhangers is daar vier liedjies op die album, waarvan een Mika se *Grace Kelly* is. Ná Idols het Dewald beslis gekom om te bly. Hy het nie verniet die afgelope drie jaar 320 keer op die verhoog geklim om jonk en oud te vermaak nie – 'n syfer om op trots te wees!

Sy naam is in huise regoor die land bekend, maar dit is in Mimosa Mall in Bloemfontein waar een insident met

aanhangers uitstaan. 'n Groep meisies het Dewald kort nadat hy as wenner van Idols gekroon is, vir ongeveer 40 minute agtervolg. Nie eers sy besoek aan die badkamer kon hulle afskrik nie. Hy het daarna beseft dat 'n gewone hoed soms die oë bietjie minder laat dwaal.

Alhoewel Dewald as gevolg van sy Idols deelname nie die B.A. Mediastudie-graad voltooi het nie, is sy Kopsie-jare steeds met wonderlike herinneringe gevul. Hoogtepunte tydens sy studies was die hoofrolle wat hy in twee kinderproduksies van die drama-departement kon vertolk, asook 'n moet vir alle nuwe studente: die eerstejaar-sêr en die Kougomkamp.

Vir Dewald was dit snaaks om uiteindelik êrens te wees waar sang en musiek belangriker as rugby is. Hy wil egter graag in die nabye toekoms, tussen sy besige skedule deur, sy studies by Kopsies voltooi.

In sy vrye tyd geniet Dewald dit om te lees. Hy voeg egter by dat hy nie fiksie geniet nie – hy verkies inspirerende leesstof. Hy sonder boeke van Richard Branson en Napoleon Hill uit. Een van sy ander groot liefdes is tegnologie en rekenaars. Hy hanteer self sy webblad (www.dewaldlouw.com) en maak só seker

sy aanhangers word op hoogte gehou van sy optredes.

Dit is feitlik onmoontlik om negatiewe berigte oor Dewald in die media te kry. Hy maak 'n punt daarvan om sy morele waardes uit te leef. Hy probeer niemand beïndruk deur sy lewenstyl nie. Indien lede van die publiek wel opkyk na hom en sy manier van leef, is dit slegs 'n bonus. Alhoewel hy op die TV verskyn, gereeld op die radio gehoor word en meisies se knieë lam maak, bly hy steeds Dewald. Sy gesin, huis en hart bly in Bloemfontein en hy kom gereeld huis toe om sy wortels te herontdek. Dewald Louw: almal se Idol, is 'n inspirasie vir almal en 'n bewys dat ons nooit moet ophou droom nie. **B**



Aksie!

Scene 1 ... Take 1 ...

Die sepie 7de Laan het nie bekendstelling nodig nie. Oud en jonk sit saans vasgenaai voor die televisieskerms om die jongste dramas en intriges te sien ontvou. Min weet egter dat van die bekende gesigte regte, egter Kowsie-bloed in hulle are het. Hulle is Hendrik Cronje (Lukas), Sekoati Tsubane (Kabelo) en Crystal Donna Roberts (Janine), die nuweling. Sekoati en Crystal het albei Drama studeer en Hendrik BA Korporatiewe Kommunikasie. Leatitia Pienaar het hulle weggeskeur van hulle repetisies om die volgende vrae te beantwoord.

Wat beteken die rol wat jy in 7de Laan speel vir jou en jou loopbaan?

Hendrik: Ek sien dit as 'n voorreg om deel van die 7de Laan-span te wees. As akteur leer jy dissipline, en respek vir jou mede-akteurs en die beroep. Wat jy as akteur by 7de Laan leer, gaan jou definitief baie help in jou loopbaan vorentoe.

Sekoati: My role as Kabelo has offered me the opportunity to put my foot in the industry door and kick it wide open! The outreach of 7de Laan is massive, so obviously being part of a show of this magnitude can only mean the beginning of greater things to come.

Crystal: So cliché soos dit mag klink, ek het altyd drome gehad van op TV wees. Vandat ek vyf jaar oud was, was daar niks anders wat ek wou doen nie. Nadat ek studeer het, het dit maar swaar gegaan en as ek nie sterk was nie sou ek seker lankal opgegee het, maar ek het net aanhou bid en probeer. En eendag toe kry ek daardie oproep, daardie oproep wat miskien jou lewe gaan verander. So dit wys jou net wat harde werk, gebed, en baie hare op jou tande kan doen. Vir my loopbaan ... kom ons hoop dit maak baie ander deure oop.

Hoe hanteer jy die bekendheid (roem) wat daarmee saamgaan?

Hendrik: Ek dink nie te veel daaraan nie. Ek vergeet eerlikwaar baie keer daarvan en onthou dit wanneer iemand my vreemd in 'n mall aankyk. Ek is maar skaam

oor die hele bekendheidsding.

Sekoati: In Johannesburg people only make a fuss once in a while. Outside of Jozi is another story all together. It can get very out of hand, but the trick is to stay calm and polite even if you are in a bad mood.

Crystal: Wel ek het maar onlangs my debuut op 7de Laan gemaak, so ek sal nie rereg weet hoe dit voel om bekend te wees nie.

Hoe verskil die karakter wat jy speel van jouself?

Hendrik: Lukas is baie meer naïef en happy go lucky as ek. Ons deel 'n liefde vir sport, maar dis waar dit eindig.

Sekoati: We differ very much. I'm not as nice as Kabelo and I'm much smarter than him. I've got nothing against him, I just think he's too nice!

Crystal: Sy is meer girly as wat ek is, en sy het meer ouens op hoërskool as wat ek gehad het. Ek dink ek was ook wyser as Janine toe ek haar ouderdom was.

Is daar 'n oomblik voor of agter die skerm wat jy altyd sal onthou?

Hendrik: Daar is baie! Die oomblikke waar jy nie jou woorde kan uitkry nie en vir die verkeerde redes vassteek. Gelukkig het dit nog nie te veel gebeur.

Sekoati: One can never forget the fashion shows or parades because of the costumes we get to wear. You can never forget looking good or silly!



Hendrik Cronje.

Sekoati Tsubane.

Crystal Donna Roberts.

Crystal: Die dag toe Marius Weyers my 'n kompliment gegee het. Dit was nogal iets, aangesien dit Marius Weyers is, en ek het die wêreld se respek vir hom.

Watter ander rolle het jy op televisie of die verhoog vertolk of vertolk jy nou?

Hendrik: 7de Laan was my eerste noemenswaardige kennismaking met TV. Alhoewel ek in standerd vyf 'n "play" op die planke gesit het vir vermaak gedurende die skool se debat-kompetisie. 'n Weergawe van Leon Schuster se bekende verkeersbeamptegrap.

Sekoati: I played Jeff on Generations and Fifiso on Mtunzini Dot Com. Since then I've just been Kabelo.

Crystal: Toe ek nog by Kowsies studeer het, het ek aan baie verhoogproduksies deelgeneem. Ek het in Pinocchio gespeel en Gerben Kamper was die regisseur. Ek was Alice Ayres in Hegter waar hy ook die regie behartig het. In 2005 het ek die rol van Hanna in die Die nag van Legio vertolk. Aan die begin van die jaar het ek een van my droomrolle vertolk: Juliet in Romeo and Juliet, wat in die Artscape Arena opgevoer is met Anthea Thompson as regisseur.

Hoekom het jy hier kom swot?

Hendrik: My ouers bly in Bloemfontein, oorkant die kampus! Ek hou van Bloemfontein.

Sekoati: Ek het in Bloemfontein gebly.

Crystal: Ek was in Bloemfontein op skool, en dit was die logiese volgende stap. Ek wou oorsee gaan studeer, maar my ma sou nooit toelaat dat 'n 18-jarige

alleen oor die waters reis nie, maar ek is glad nie spyt nie. Ek het die ongelooflikste vriende gemaak wat soos my familie is en ek het onder leiding van baie goeie dosente studeer.

Watter staaltjies of interessante gebeure uit jou studentedae kan jy met ons deel?

Hendrik: Ek dink die dis geskik om my interessante stories met Bult te deel nie! Maar ek het 'n baie goeie tyd by Kowsies gehad.

Sekoati: All the trips to the various festivals around the country with the drama department!

Crystal: Haha... uhm..." Rule number one about Fight Club..."

Wat beplan jy vir die pad vorentoe?

Hendrik: Ek wil 'n goeie Afrikaanse flik vervaardig. Op universiteit het ek altyd die droom gehad om iets vir Afrikaans te beteken. Die stigma wat aan Afrikaans kleef is vir my onaanvaarbaar en ek wil dit probeer verander.

Sekoati: My debut CD is coming out soon and I plan on starting a production company.

Crystal: Ek wil baie graag meer televisiewerk doen. Ek wil ook oorsee gaan werk. Daar is so baie ander dinge wat ek nog wil doen, soos leer om te DJ en my teatermaatskappy te begin, en stage en screen plays publiseer en by Bloukrans gaan bunjee ... nog baie meer, but all in good time. 📺

Meet go-getting Violet

For Violet Phatshoane it's all or nothing. And it's this feisty get-up-and-go attitude which has made her, at 36, the chairperson of the largest association of law firms in South Africa. Margaret Linström catches up with this go-getter.

When Violet enters the room heads swivel and jaws drop. And yes, this pretty, perfectly groomed dynamo is impressive enough even before she speaks her first word but it's her inspiring story which really bowls you over.

Violet grew up as an only child in Rustenburg. For mom Nelly and dad Lucas their live wire daughter, who excelled academically and was the school's debating champion, was born to be an attorney.

Violet's straight A's led her to the University of the North in Pietersburg, where she completed her B.Proc in 1994. The next year she moved to Bloemfontein to enroll for an LL.B degree at the University of the Free State.

"It's a decision I have never regretted as Kovies and Bloem have always been good to me". Violet went on to do an LL.M degree in Labour and Constitutional Law, and her involvement with the University of the Free State continues. She still lectures Labour Law in the Department of Mercantile Law, she's the external moderator for the diploma/certificate in Labour Law, and she serves on the Kovies Law Alumni.

Violet explains her success in her trademark humble manner. "I've been fortunate in that I've always had people who believed in me." One of her mentors was the late Judge Pierre Olivier, who during her first working year at the Appeal Court persuaded her to

make Bloemfontein home. "He had a friend at (legal firm) Naudes, whom he told about me." The result was that Violet joined Naudes as a candidate attorney, becoming a director in 2000.

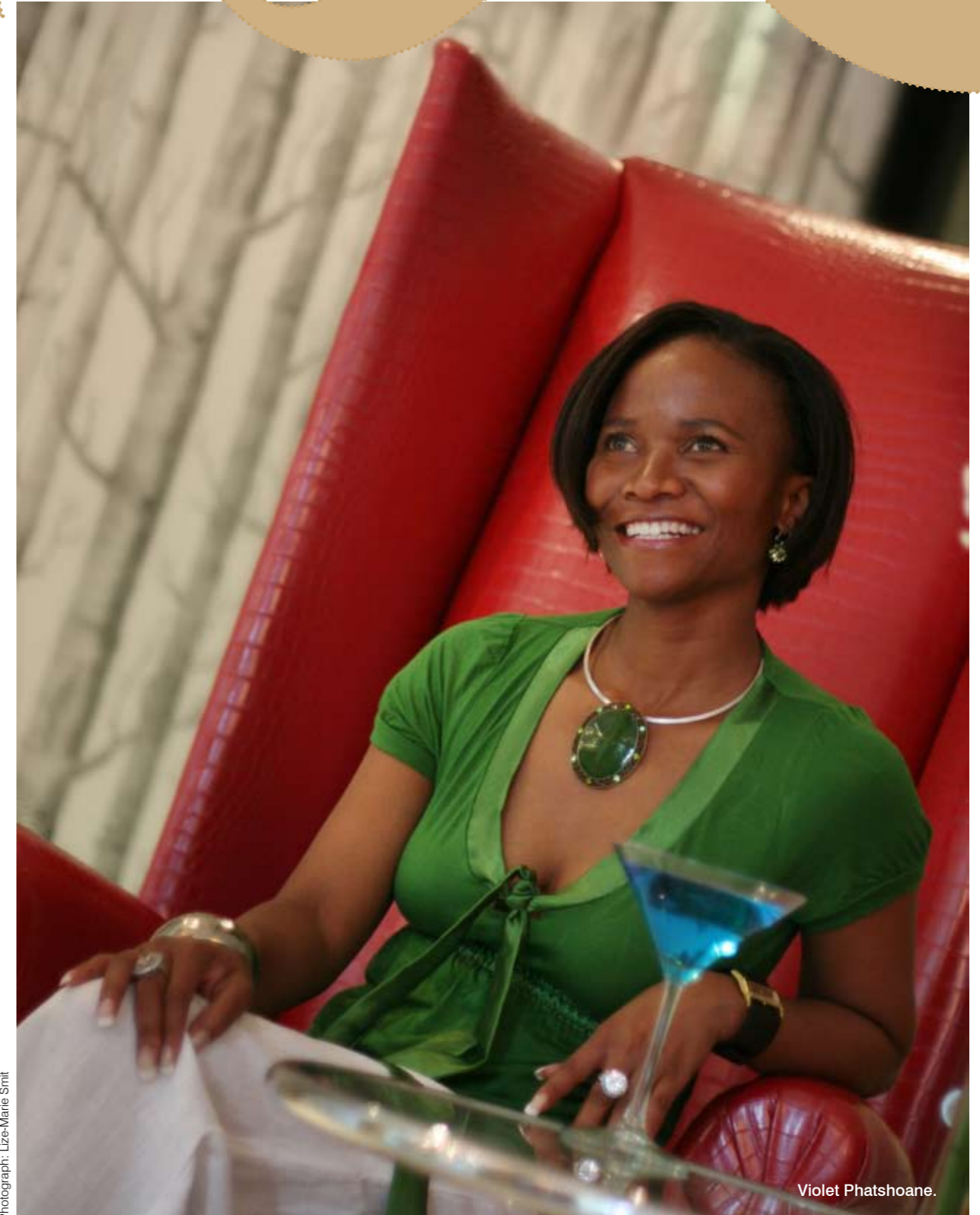
The year 2002 has special significance for her as during this year a long-cherished dream became a reality when she started Phatshoane Henney Incorporated with Douglas Henney and Jan Berry. From this was born the Phatshoane Henney Group of Associated Firms – the largest association of law firms in South Africa.

But Violet is still not content with her success. She aims to grow the number of firms to 35 by the end of 2009.

But what else, apart from being a respected labour and industrial relations attorney and astute businesswoman, makes Violet smile? "Shopping," she quips. "I scare myself sometimes, but that's how I relax. Every Saturday I hit the shops."

She draws her inspiration and strength from her family. "My mom and her sisters have always supported and believed in me and I don't want to disappoint them."

And her drive to succeed? "I'm driven by a strong desire to do good to others. I'm aware of the fact that I'm very blessed and that not many women have achieved what I have." **B**



Photograph: Lize-Marie Smit

Violet Phatshoane.

Deon Meyer in liga van wêreld se bestes

Deur Lize du Plessis

Tussen die skryf aan sy nuwe boek en nog 'n oorsese reis het *Bult* Deon Meyer vasgetrek met 'n paar vrae.

Waar het jou liefde vir skryfwerk vandaan gekom vir stories en spesifiek speurverhale?

Ek was bevoorreg om in 'n huis vol boeke groot te word en het reeds op laerskool met groot geesdrif gelees. Daarby was my pa 'n onuitputlike bron van interessante stories – feit, fiksie en 'n keurige vermenging van die twee. Ek onthou dat ek al hier van ouderdom nege of tien die begeerte gehad het om self stories te skryf – en dié drang het net sterker geword.

Die oorsprong van my liefde vir speurverhale is moeiliker om te peil. Ek het gewoonlik geantwoord met "Dit kom uit my tienerjare, toe ek Ed McBain en John D. MacDonald ontdek het", maar staan onlangs met 'n biografie van Enid Blyton in my hande, en besef ek het as kind alles verslind wat sy geskryf het. So baie daarvan was speur- en spanningsverhale vir die jeug.

Watter belangrike invloede het 'n rol gespeel?

Met die jare besef 'n mens jy is as skrywer beïnvloed deur alles – jou wedervaringe, die mense om jou, die boeke wat jy gelees het, die rolprente wat jy gesien het... So is daar byvoorbeeld wyle mev. De Bruyn, my Engelse onderwyseres op hoërskool, wat iets in my opstelle raakgesien het, my aangeprys en aangespoor het, en 'n sekere selfvertroue gegee het.

Sou jy spesifiek verwys na ander skrywers, is die lys lank, maar veral die speur- en spanningskrywers van die jare sewentig: McBain, MacDonald, John le Carré, Frederick Forsyth, Ted Allbeury, Robert B. Parker.

Hoekom is daar so 'n groot aandrag op jou werk dat dit al in 17 (dalk meer) tale vertaal is?

Ek sou hoop dit is omdat die boeke darem nie te vrot is nie.

Jy word as een van die beste skrywers in jou genre in die wêreld beskou, hoe voel jy daarvoor?

Dit is 'n vorm van erkenning, en erkenning is lekker, veral wanneer jou dagtaak in afsondering gedoen word. Maar ek steur my nie te veel daaraan nie, want dit help my min as ek die gras moet sny, die asdrom moet gaan uitsit of 'n argument met een van ons tienerkinders probeer wen. Dit maak ook nie die skryfproses makliker nie – elke boek is 'n worsteling.

Jy konseptualiseer en skep in Afrikaans? Sou dit 'n teken wees dat Afrikaans nog springlewendig en gesond is, 'n taal om mee rekening te hou?

Die feit dat ek in Afrikaans dink en skryf is bloot 'n teken dat ek glad nie kans sien om die hele proses nog moeiliker te maak om dit byvoorbeeld in Engels te probeer doen nie. Afrikaans is springlewendig en gesond, ondanks my pogings.

Wat het jy by die UV gedoen, wanneer en watter staaltjie of datums staan nog in jou geheue uit?

Ek was 'n bedryfsjoernalis en mediaskakelbeampte by die destydse Skakelburo, waar Tom Ferreira en Sakkie van der Vyver my met groot geduld en humor touwys gemaak het. Harold Verster was die grootbaas en het toe reeds die soort staal getoon wat vir ons drie Curriebekers gebring het.

My twee lekkerste stories uit daardie tyd is beide oor rugby. Ek het Huis J.B.M. Hertzog afgerig, Tom was Reitz se breier, en daar was groot mededinging (en natuurlik grootpraat) op kantoor toe ons twee spanne kragte meet. J.B.M. het, tot my groot vreugde, teen



Deon Meyer.

'Deon Meyer op dieselfde kortlys as Le Carré

Deon Meyer, Suid-Afrika se internasionaal gerekende polisieromanskrywer, is vir die Sweedse Martin Beck-toekenning vir sy boek *Dead at Daybreak* benoem. Dié boek is 'n vertaling van sy gewilde *Orion*, wat ook vir 'n TV-reeks verwerk is. Ook op die kortlys van benoemdes is John le Carré, Robert Harris, Peter Temple en Andrea Maria Schenkel.' – Volksblad, 25-11-2008

rustyd met 9-6 voorgeloopt in 'n bitter taai wedstryd en ek het al visioene gesien van hoe Tom hoed-in-die-hand sal moet kom beken dat die beste afrigter gewen het. Toe stuur hy so 'n 20-jarige, onbekende mannetjie op, wat binne minute die hele gang van die wedstryd verander het. Dié nuweling het ge-dummy, gebreek, ge-drop, ge-place en ge-score, en toe die eindfluitjie blaas het ons met goed 20 punte verloor.

Ek het na die speler gestap en gevra wat sy naam is. "André, oom," het hy gesê. "André Joubert. Maar almal noem my Juba."

Die ander storie gaan oor Gysie Pienaar wat my een

aand by 'n oefening kom haal het. "Ons kort 'n voorry vir die Shimla-feeswedstryd," het hy gesê. "Gaal haal jou tokse." En dit is hoe ek die voorreg gehad het om 'n enkele wedstryd saam met legendes soos Joggie Jansen en Gerrie Sonnekus te speel. En dan sê ek ook graag vir my seuns: "Daar's net twee ouens wat op die koshuisrugbyvelde deur Gysie gehaal is vir hoër louere. Henry Honniball. En ek." My seuns staan onbeïndruk.

Hoe sal jy onthou wil word?

As 'n humanis wat die waardigheid en waarde van alle mense hoog ag. **B**

A Bed-time story

By Ilse Smalberger



Prof. André Venter and a patient in the unit.

It's not often that a R1,5 million investment grows to R24,967 million in cash, gifts in kind and savings. However, it is possible with a lot of dedication and hard work, generous giving of time and money, the support of many people and corporate institutions, and the conviction that what you are doing is absolutely worth it.

This success story started with the Healing Kids project, launched by the Fuchs Foundation in 2007. Having to turn away on average ten children per month due to a lack of facilities, our Department of Paediatrics and Child Health was overjoyed to be named as one of four hospitals nationally to participate in the Healing Kids project and receive R1,5 million in seed money for fundraising. And so, the Beds of Hope Campaign was born.

With a target of R15 million and a dedicated fundraising team headed by Mrs Cathy Castagno, Project Director, and Prof. André Venter, Head of the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, the hard work began.

With the assistance of two project coordinators, Karin Serfontein in Johannesburg and Nina Landman in Bloemfontein, and committed staff from the UFS Marketing Office in both Johannesburg and Bloemfontein, various events were hosted through which the Beds of Hope Campaign was brought to the attention of the public. These included the Amazing Rainbow Rally – now in its fifth year, the Kovsie Connoisseurs Evening, and the Rose Ball, which will be hosted in Bloemfontein this year as part of the fundraising strategy.

For the most part, however, hours were spent following up on proposals and tying prospects down to appointments. In total more than a thousand companies in Johannesburg and Bloemfontein were contacted and internationally 350 foundations and companies were approached for possible funding.

The campaign also successfully committed the media both nationally and regionally to publicise the

of Hope

objectives of the Beds of Hope Campaign, with Leef magazine becoming the main media partner. With the kind assistance of our friends in the media, Beds of Hope received R1,132 million in free publicity, which paved the way for fundraising by creating much needed awareness of the plight of our little patients.

The biggest highlight of the Beds of Hope Campaign was Carte Blanche who brought the campaign into the living rooms of millions of South Africans. They also donated millions to various other paediatric units and gave much needed publicity to the cause.

Over the last two years many partnerships were formed to assist the campaign. The Waterfront Shopping Centre in Bloemfontein was one of the first partners to help create awareness and raise funds. St Andrew's Primary School came on board with their Bearers of

Hope campaign, which raised R31 000. This year, Practice Relief agreed to host the first Bloemfontein Business Bed Race to raise funds and create awareness for the campaign.

The true heroes of this story, however, are the donors and friends who believed in the cause and gave of their time and money to achieve this amazing goal. Each contribution brings hope and saves lives. Each bed provided saves 35 babies and children annually and gives each one of them an opportunity to live happily ever after. **B**

Fuchs honours our project

The Beds of Hope Campaign was honoured by the Fuchs Foundation as top performer in its Healing Kids project, initiated in 2007 in celebration of the foundation's 40th anniversary.

The Fuchs Foundation has been a valued donor of the University of the Free State for many years.

The overall goal of the Healing Kids project was to make a contribution to improving the quality of paediatric care at public hospitals in South Africa and a total of 18 carefully selected beneficiary institutions, nationally, participated in this project. The first phase of the Healing Kids project aimed at establishing and building the capacity of tertiary hospitals to mobilize resources to provide state-of-the-art care services, particularly in neonatal intensive-care units at the participating hospitals.

The Fuchs Foundation says in a letter signed by the chairperson, Walter Clewlow, and the CEO, Riaan Els: "Whilst it was never intended that this project takes the form of a competition, your 'Beds of Hope Campaign' in aid of the Universitas Hospital has managed to achieve an overwhelming success by generating economic benefit to the staggering value of almost R25 million during the course of the project, this ranking yourselves as the top performer – by far – amongst all the Healing Kids partners. We salute you as a team and would like to extend to you our highest admiration of both your dedication and excellent performance. You have indeed exceeded our most ambitious expectations and you have certainly made us proud."



The Top Performer Award contains precious personal items from the estate of the late Mrs Emily Fuchs, treasured for 40 years.

Gideon our export product to the USA

By Leatitia Pienaar




Dr. Gideon Strauss.

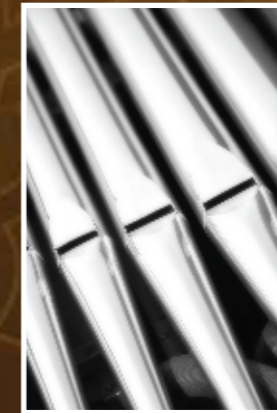
In October one of our export products to the United States, Dr Gideon Strauss, will take over as president of the Center for Public Justice (CPJ), in an independent, non-partisan organisation dedicated to public policy research, leadership development and civic education and with a distinctive Christian-democratic perspective.

Dr Strauss will commute between Hamilton, Canada and Washington DC in the United States and he and his family will relocate to Washington DC in 2010.

Gideon received a doctorate in Philosophy on The Ethics of Public Welfare from our university in 1995. He worked as a senior researcher in public policy at the UFS, and as an interpreter for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. He was also an advisor to the South African constitutional assembly on the language clauses in the founding provisions and bill of rights included in the 1996 Constitution of the Republic of South Africa.

Since 1999 he has served as research and education director of the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC), a labour union committed to justice in the workplace and civic education. He travelled and lectured extensively in Canada and the United States.

He and his wife, Angela, have two daughters, Tala and Hannah. Gideon Strauss is the son of Prof. Jannie Strauss en Dr Annette Strauss. 



Centuries ago the Greek philosopher Plato said: "Music... gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything." Our Department of Music and the Odeion on campus in Bloemfontein, take centre stage in bringing this to the people of Bloemfontein and the region. Photos by Stephen Collett.

