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# Built

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



# Bult

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# Letter from the editor

The University of the Free State has a solid research foundation, with many renowned researchers and discoveries to proof. Research is also fully embedded in the mission the university set for itself:



**"Advancing excellence in the scholarship of research, teaching and public service."**

During the year many of our researchers enjoyed national and international acclaim for their contributions. Especially the women in science moved to the front. Read more about it in this issue.

As spelled out in the 2012-2016 Strategic Plan the UFS expects to be one of the top-three research and teaching universities in South Africa and thereby laying the initial groundwork for academic excellence and academic competitiveness on a worldwide scale. It is also working towards being an innovator university in respect of teaching, research and community engagement.

Research also became an important requisite for promotion of academic staff. Staff will not be considered for promotion to senior lecturer and above without sustained high levels of research output and positive teaching evaluations. The bar is raised by the opening of positions to international competition.

Rated researchers at the UFS grown from 79 in 2008 to 109 in 2012, an improvement of almost 40%. In the same period doctoral graduates grown from 55 to 94 (71%), and the publication units from 396,13 to 566,07 (43%). It is phenomenal in any sense.

*People are rounding off their activities for the year. Diaries are booked to capacity and there are only so many hours in a day...*

*The year 2013 was fully packed for staff and students at the UFS, and a busy year awaits us in 2014.*

*Have a wonderful festive period, drive safely, rest well and take 2014 on with woema! **B***



Front page: South Campus, Bloemfontein  
Photo: Sonia Small

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# Research will place the UFS amongst



2

**R**esearch at the University of the Free State is looking to the future with the appointment of the Vice-Rector: Research, Prof Corli Witthuhn. **Leatitia Pienaar** asked her some questions.

Prof Corli Witthuhn

## How does the UFS want to position itself with regard to research?

The strategy for research in the next five years is to improve our national university research standing. Not only do we want to improve our national profile, but also our international impact, visibility and collaboration. We want our research to be relevant and innovative in the South African context, but also to have an international impact. The current strategy is to encourage researchers to focus on novel and innovative research of quality that is attractive enough to be published in international journals of high impact. We also aim at increasing our researchers' visibility through various electronic formats so as to increase the number of citations of their work and to support excellent research activities to change the research culture at the UFS.

## How important is research in terms of the UFS' Strategic Plan 2012-2016?

"Universities are recognised by their research activity." Ultimately it is the research activities and research

profile that distinguishes us as a university from other types of institutions of learning. The reputation of the university is largely dependent on our research activities and the impact of our findings. Research is currently the most important strategic drive of the university and will play an even greater and more prominent role in the future as South Africa transitions towards a knowledge economy. This is confirmed by the significant financial support of research out of the strategic funds of the university. In order to improve our status internationally and nationally we as academics have to publish our research findings in high impact international journals. We have to increase the number of highly productive researchers, with international recognition, and we are also putting in place support structures to enable researchers to successfully apply for NRF rating. Furthermore, research has become an integral part of the promotions policy. Without a strong focus on research and proof of research productivity staff cannot be promoted. We have to acknowledge that this can only be achieved by hard work, dedication and passion.

# Higher Education leaders



There are two programmes currently to support the research development of staff. The Prestige Scholars Programme aims to identify young, post-doctoral scholars who have the potential to be world leaders in research in the future. Various interventions support their early career development and the programme also encourages the establishment of productive research programmes and groups. The second of the staff development programmes is aimed at mid-career development, during which established researchers are supported to increase their research outputs in order to be internationally recognised for their scholarly contribution and impact.

## Where does the research focus lie and where is it moving to, if it is moving?

We are in the process of rethinking our research strategy to better support internationally recognised scholars and to attract internationally recognised researchers and younger scholars who show research talent and potential. The aim is to capitalize on our unique strengths and even introduce new areas of thought that will enhance our competitiveness. We will also support innovation in the future, not only to encourage the drive towards cutting edge research, but also to contribute towards the long term sustainability of the university. We have put in place various measures of accountability to ensure that we get excellent return on the investment made into research from the strategic research funds. We are also excited about the training supplied by the Postgraduate School on the skills required to improve the quality of our research outputs. The UFS has again committed to the goal of increasing our research outputs by aiming to attract 20 critical scholars.

## What are the challenges to bring researchers to the UFS and to retain them? Many older researchers are doing excellent work, but retirement is a reality.

We are in the process of approving the guidelines for retiring academics to ensure that we do not lose the valuable input that these scholars can still make as productive researchers and mentors to our younger academics. These retired scholars will receive initial financial support followed by a significant incentive for the publication of articles and scholarly books.

We also engaged in a number of other interventions in order to attract, retain and build research capacity at the university. One of these interventions has been to substantially

increase the number of post-doctoral researchers at the university. This is also something we will continue to facilitate in the future in order to increase research productivity. Many of these post-doctoral researchers come from different parts of the world and we hope that those post-doctoral researchers that show potential will remain and take up some of the positions of these retiring researchers thereby contributing towards diversity and making the university a more comprehensive international institution.

## What kind of research does the UFS want to be known for?

We are currently doing exciting research in the fields of nano-science, biotechnology, education, chemistry, cardiology and HIV/Aids, to mention a few. We are also excited to establish the Afrimontane Research Unit in Qwaqwa that will focus on the research related to mountainous areas and will play an important role in increasing the research activities on the Qwaqwa Campus.

## What are we known for?

That the research conducted at the UFS will be recognised as being dynamic in nature, be relevant and of high quality, have a greater international and national footprint but also make a difference to society. We will connect both post graduate and undergraduates more directly through vibrant intellectual activities and we hope this energy will also have an impact on the communities we serve.

## Registration and patenting are challenges. Is it contributing substantially to third-stream income?

We have drastically increased the number of registered patents over the past few years. Patents were licensed in the medical and agricultural sectors and we are currently licensing a number of patents in the biotechnology field to a university spin out company. Building a significant income stream from patenting and licensing of technology takes time. However, patenting is just one of the avenues that the university uses to sustain a long term third stream income. Substantially more income is currently being generated from avenues such as contract research and the commercial activities from laboratories. We have raised considerably third stream income due to the better management of short courses presented by staff at the UFS. **B**

# In pursuit of excellence ... The Odeion School of Music

The Odeion School of Music (OSM) has a new look and feel, but the changes are far more than cosmetic. Margaret Linström speaks to Marius Coetzee, the Innovation and Development Manager at the OSM ...



The OSM Camerata's main objective is to kindle and forge the talents of exceptionally gifted musicians.

When one enters the foyer of the OSM, the changes are immediately obvious. Colourful, modern furniture and striking murals with light streaming through floor-to-ceiling glass doors herald a major change from the former greys and browns.

For Coetzee the main objective is to develop the OSM into one of the leading tertiary music institutions in South Africa, on par with international standards. The current strategy of the OSM is to steer towards uncompromising excellence and internationalisation, which is underpinned by a policy of proactive innovation. And, have all their efforts to renew and innovate at the OSM borne fruit yet? "A resounding yes," says Coetzee.

One of the first signs of renewal was a change of name – formerly known as the Department of Music, it is now called the Odeion School of Music. Coupled with this were efforts to rebrand and market the OSM aggressively. "The name change was in line with international trends at universities worldwide. The name implies that we offer a comprehensive programme of quality teaching, training and research in both the artistic and academic spheres with a view to deliver well rounded professional musicians, educators and researchers."

Something which the OSM takes great pride in is its staff. "We have a group of highly competent and experienced specialists in the fields of performance, teaching and research, as well as an administrative component of well qualified support personnel in academic, general and concert administration," explains Coetzee.

Another aspect that receives top priority at the OSM is its student recruitment drive to attract the cream of the crop. Coetzee founded the prestigious A List scholarship programme with the generous support of the Rector's Fund which enables the OSM to literally handpick gifted students nationally and internationally. For the 2013 academic year, there were no less than four international postgraduate students as part of the A List scholarship programme. "Our academic programme, prompted and lead by Professors Nicol and Martina Viljoen, comprises both undergraduate and postgraduate studies, while specialised focus areas include historically informed performance practice, Schenkerian analysis and cultural musicology." According to Coetzee, a wide spectrum of instrumental and vocal tuition is offered, coupled with the availability of performance and training ensembles which include the new flagship ensemble known as the OSM Camerata, the Odeion Choir, as well as the Odeion Sinfonia.

The OSM Camerata (OSMC) was founded in 2012 with the main objective to kindle and forge the talents of exceptionally gifted musicians and literally chase after the highest artistic standards possible. Coetzee says that special attention is given to employ dynamic young conductors, both internationally and locally. In context of the long-term strategy of the OSM, the idea is to establish an extended orchestral conducting chair. The OSMC and visiting conductors will be instrumental in facilitating the conducting modules and expose students to state-of-the-art knowledge with regard to conducting technique, repertoire, rehearsal schedules, programming and the application of progressive teaching methodologies. According to Coetzee, the aim for 2013 was to thoroughly institutionalise the OSMC as a vehicle of excellence. ■



Prof Nicol Viljoen in die historiese Teatr Zdrojowy in Walbrzych, Pole

**G**edurende die laaste twee weke van Junie vanjaar het profs Nicol en Martina Viljoen van die Odeion Skool vir Musiek (OSM) 'n baie suksesvolle reis na Europa onderneem waartydens prof Nicol Viljoen twee solo-klavieruitvoerings in Pole gelewer het, en hulle ook 'n gesamentlike referaat by 'n kongres in Budapest voorgedra het.

Die eerste van die twee klavieruitvoerings het op 20 Junie in Krakow plaasgevind by die befaamde Zespol Państwowych Skool vir Musiek. Tydens hierdie geleentheid het prof Viljoen uitsluitlik Chopin Mazurkas voorgedra, en is hy uitgenooi om hierdie uitvoering toekomstig weer in Pole te herhaal.

Die tweede klavieruitvoering was in die historiese Teatr Zdrojowy im. Henryka Wieniawskiego in Walbrzych. Hierdie

# Nicol Viljoen lewer solo- uitvoering in Pole

konsert het Chopin Preludes, Mazurkas, en die Ballade in g min ingesluit. Die gehoor het prof Viljoen reeds na afloop van die Mazurkas met 'n staande ovacie beloon – en weereens aan die einde van die konsert, waartydens hy toegejuig is. Die hoof-organiiseerde van die geleentheid, Jerzy Kosek, wat ook die dirigent van die Filharmonia Sudecka is, het prof Viljoen op grond hiervan uitgenooi om volgende jaar as solis saam met sy orkes op te tree.

Kosek het verder aangebied dat dirigieerkuns-studente aan die OSM op 'n uitruilbasis onder sy leiding met die Filharmonia kan kom werk, en het aangedui dat hy graag bande met die Universiteit van die Vrystaat en die Odeion Skool vir Musiek sal wil versterk. Twee van die lede van die Filharmonia Sudecka is tans doktorale studente in Uitvoerende Kuns aan die OSM, naamlik Karol Legierski (konsertmeester) en Marianne Cilliers (eerste viool), terwyl die mede-konsertmeester, Dorota Graca, in die proses is om ook vir doktorale studie aan die Skool te regstreer.

Die referaat wat profs Viljoen in Budapest gelewer het, het deel uitgemaak van die inter-dissiplinêre kongres "The Arts in Society", waar meer as twintig lande verteenwoordig was. Hul referaat het gehandel oor die Suid-Afrikaanse komponis Hans Huyssen se post-apartheid oeuvre. Charla Schutte, ook 'n doktorale student aan die OSM, het tydens die geleentheid 'n referaat gelewer oor 'n interpretasie van indoktrinasie-liedere aan die hand van 'n analitiese model van die filosoof Johann Visagie.

Tydens die reis het prof Martina Viljoen ook 'n produktiewe ontmoeting gehad met die uitvoerende bestuurder van Common Ground Publishers, 'n akademiese uitgawe wat in die VSA gevestig is, met die oog daarop om akademiese werk vanuit die OSM by hierdie uitgawe te publiseer – **Verwerk deur Leatitia Pienaar.**



The Office: Student Ideas  
has big plans to encourage  
an entrepreneurial spirit at  
the university

# Students making money from the 'Garage'

By Amanda Tongha

**T**here is a hot new business address on the Bloemfontein Campus. Situated in the basement of the Benito Khotseng Building, the 'Garage', as its inhabitants affectionately call it, is the meeting place for some of the university's most creative and brightest young minds.

It is here where Faith Leburu, a first-year Communication student, is working on plans for her business to be named Med-Deliver. The business will use bicycles to collect chronic medication from public hospitals and clinics and deliver it at a cost to clients. Sharing this space with her is Marlize Holtzhausen, a third-year student in Business Management, who is part of a team that has developed a software application that alerts recipients to respond to an emergency.

Third-year Communication student, Ayanda Makhanya and her team of six are setting up a website bringing homeowners and artisans together. Homeowners in need of an artisan can log onto their company's website, Genesis Africa, and search for registered people with the necessary skills.

These young entrepreneurs are part of a group of students benefiting from the Office: Student Ideas – created as part of Innovation and Business Development, which falls under the Directorate for Research Development. The initiative assists students in the process of planning and starting up a business. The support these students receive also includes creating a business plan, applying for funding, business coaching, mentoring and a range of other services. In addition, the programme prepare and guide students to take part in business competitions.

This group of students – as part of the Idea Start Accelerator Programme – greatly impressed during the annual Free State enterPRIZE Job Creation Challenge this year. The competition is an initiative of the International



Photos: Johanne Roux

Some of the students from the Office: Student Ideas.

Labour Organization (ILO) and the Department for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (Detea). The three ventures mentioned above plus seven more from other Kovsie students were among the 42 winners and runners-up in various categories of the challenge. These ten winning enterprises were awarded prize money to the total of R1,25 million.

Originally established in 2011 by Prof Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector, the purpose of the Office for Student Ideas is to build an entrepreneurial community. Johnathan Smit, consultant in the Office: Student Ideas, says, "Students come here with raw ideas, they don't have established businesses. Most of them say, 'listen here I have an idea but don't know what to do'. We help them with that first step."

Nobody is turned away, says Smit, so there are no good or bad ideas. "It's about the learning process of entrepreneurship, we help all students."

Smit himself is an entrepreneur. He starting his own business while still a third-year student at the UFS,

putting text books on tablets. This was way before iPads became popular, he says, mentioning that it had not quite worked out as hoped.

Having learned the hard way, Smit recons he is the ideal person to offer advice and lessons to the student entrepreneurs he mentors. "I can associate with students. I know what it is to study from seven in the morning to twelve a night, than working on your business idea from twelve to three in the morning and sleep for three hours." Smit speaks with great admiration about working with the students. "The energy in that room is amazing, it is contagious."

The Office: Student Ideas has big plans to encourage an entrepreneurial spirit at the university, he says. "We believe that entrepreneurship is the key to a healthy economy in South Africa. Many graduates obtain a degree but have no other option than to start their own ventures."

To get in touch with the office, contact Smit at [idea@ufs.ac.za](mailto:idea@ufs.ac.za)

## More business ideas from students who are part of the Idea Start Accelerator Programme

- **Zandile Mabizela** has an arrangement with Media24 buying old magazines from the company which she sells to fellow students at a price of R10 per magazine.
- **Maryann Keletso Moshoeshoe's** venture, Crafted Ink, writes storybooks for children in four languages. She and her team will also launch an e-book.
- **Jason Viviers** imports essential oils from countries such as Morocco for his perfume retail business and fragrance, JVP.
- **Elaine Trinder Smith** has started Farmfun Adventures, an outdoor venture offering school children a farm experience.

# Affordable eye-tracker developed



The Department of Computer Science and Informatics (CSI) developed a high-quality eye-tracker at a fraction of the cost of the imported devices. Along with the hardware, the team, under the leadership of Prof Pieter Blignaut, has also developed specialised software for a number of applications. These would be useful for graphic designers, marketers, analysts, cognitive psychologists, language specialists, ophthalmologists, radiographers, occupational and speech therapists, and people with disabilities. In the not-too-distant future, even fleet owners and drivers would be able to use this technology. – **Leatitia Pienaar** 

## Business partners and Kovsky alumni meet

Photo: Stephen Collet



The Advancement Office hosted a successful breakfast in Johannesburg. More than 160 Kovsky Alumni, business partners and friends of the university attended the breakfast at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Rosebank. The Vice-Chairperson of the UFS Council, Mr Edward Kieswetter, addressed the audience on the topic "Leadership with a sense of higher purpose". Here are, from the left: Mr Christian Meuwly, Ambassador of Switzerland to South Africa, Mr Edward Kieswetter, also CEO of Alexander Forbes, Ms Judy Nwokedi, infrastructure executive at Alexander Forbes, Mr Brand Pretorius, former executive director of McCarthy and Kovsky alumnus, and Dr Holger Dix, country director of the Konrad-Adenauer Foundation. – Foto: Supplied

# Abdon sets new publishing standards

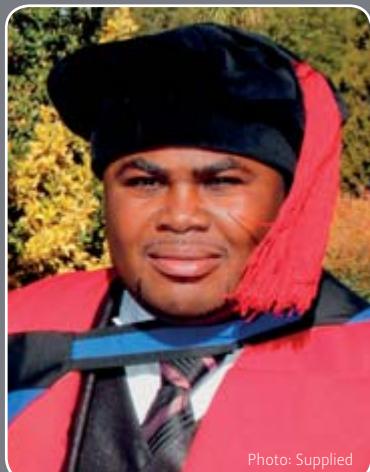


Photo: Supplied

Postdoc student Abdon Atangana (28) in the Institute for Groundwater Studies (IGS) sets new standards for articles. Up to the beginning of October 2013 he has published 28 articles in accredited journals and awaits approval for 24 other articles. He is also guest editor for six reputable scientific journals.

Atangana is from Cameroon and enrolled at the UFS in 2009, finishing his BSc Honours in Applied Mathematics in one year. In 2011 he tackled his PhD in Geohydrology and submitted his final thesis in January 2013 – being the youngest PhD graduate at the Winter Graduation. – **Leatitia Pienaar** 

# Research





Prof Maryke Labuschagne



Rose Lekhooa

## Women in the science take centre stage

Women researchers at the UFS were in the limelight this year. Three women were awarded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Prof Marian Tredoux turned old theories regarding the formation of metals on their head.

Research by Prof Marian Tredoux of the Department of Geology, in collaboration with her research assistant Bianca Kennedy and their colleagues in Germany, placed established theories regarding how minerals of the platinum-group of elements are formed, under close scrutiny. The article on this research of which Prof Tredoux is a co-author – ‘Noble metal nanoclusters and nanoparticles precede mineral formation in magmatic sulphide melts’ – was published in *Nature Communications* on 6 September 2013. It is an online journal for research of the highest quality in the fields of biological, physical and chemical sciences.

This study found that atoms of platinum and arsenic create nanoclusters, long before the mineral sperrylite can crystallise. Thus, the platinum does not occur as a primary sulphur compound. The research was conducted at the Steinmann Institute of the University of Bonn, Germany, as well as Bloemfontein.

Dr Marieka Gryzenhout and Prof Maryke Labuschagne of the Department of Plant Sciences received national recognition for their research at the Women in Science Award 2013 function of the DST. Dr Gryzenhout received the award as Young Women Scientist and Prof Labuschagne was first runner-up in the category Distinguished Women Researcher, both in Life Sciences.

The third award-winner was Rose Lekhooa in the Doctoral Fellowship category. She is studying toward a PhD in Pharmacology and said the fellowship would enable her to attend seminars and workshops internationally.

Dr Gryzenhout also received the TW Kambule NRF-NSTF Award as emerging researcher in June 2013. She was the recipient of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations’ Outstanding Doctoral Research award in 2010.

Prof Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the UFS, said: “Dr Gryzenhout represents one of a growing group of very impressive young scientists at the university who are emerging as leading international scholars in their fields.

“Her international leadership in mycology research has already made significant impacts on the African continent and beyond. The university will continue to invest in these young academic stars through its Prestige Scholars Programme where scholars like Dr Gryzenhout are increasingly well-placed to be the next generation of scientific leaders in the world.”

“It is a great privilege to receive the award, especially as second one in this year,” Dr Gryzenhout said. She established a research programme, Mycotoxicogenic and Phytopathogenic Fungi, at the UFS. She is president of the African Mycological Association and general secretary of the International Society for Fungal Conservation. She is also a member of the Nomenclature Committee for Fungi – a permanent committee of the International Botanical Congress.

Prof Labuschagne received the African Union Kwame Nkrumah award for life and earth sciences in 2011, and the National Agriculturalist of the Year Award and the National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) Award for research-capacity development over the last five to 10 years, both in 2008.

**- Leatitia Pienaar** 

# 'A very small percentage of cases culminate in a conviction'

**D**r Jo-Marí Visser, lecturer at the Faculty of Law, received her PhD at the Winter Graduation Ceremony of the UFS. The focus of her thesis is 'First generation forensic evidence and its influence on legal decision-making: A South African perspective'. She shares some details with us.

Police statistics see thousands of reported crimes each year and the entity responsible for criminal prosecutions, the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), enjoys conviction rates of almost 90% per year. However, it does not translate into the same percentage of crime suspects being arrested and convicted of the charges against them.

The reality in South Africa is that only a very small percentage of cases culminate in a conviction. The main stumbling block is the fact that case dockets rarely contain sufficient amounts of evidence – as well as lacking quality evidence – to justify the case going to trial. In my research, I investigated the reasons for this, as well as the quality of evidence contained in dockets that actually do proceed to trial.

In South Africa, the types of evidence most often used in criminal prosecutions include eyewitness testimony and DNA analysis. Eyewitness evidence is notoriously unreliable and it is estimated that more than 70% of all wrongful convictions in the USA resulted because of faulty eyewitness identification. The extent of this problem in South Africa is unknown. DNA evidence, although justifiably referred to as the "golden" standard of identification evidence, is only relevant in approximately 10% of criminal cases.

Much more is needed to satisfy a court beyond reasonable doubt that the person standing accused is guilty. The additional proof required may come in the form of first generation forensic evidence. This includes types of forensic evidence harvested through methods specifically designed for use in the criminal justice system. These methods stand in contrast to, for example, DNA evidence, where the latter originated purely from scientific methods for non-forensic use. First-generation forensic evidence



Dr Jo-Marí Visser

mostly entails the performance of comparisons, such as fingerprints, ballistics, bloodstain pattern analysis, trace evidence and much more.

While a plethora of these types of forensic evidence exist and are used in South Africa, recent research shows that much of it, including fingerprint comparisons, are immensely unreliable and that most are not supported by scientific foundations. In America, some courts have even excluded fingerprint evidence on the basis that the method of comparisons does not enjoy scientific validity testing and too little empirical evidence exist to support the idea that no two people have the same friction ridge prints.

Perhaps the greatest concern regarding forensic evidence is that South Africa (as does many other countries) lacks effective measures to test for reliability before and during presentation to courts. While South African legal practitioners and judges still rely to a great extent on the instruments built into our type of criminal justice procedure – referred to as the accusatorial system – these instruments do not succeed in ensuring that only reliable and valid forensic evidence are admitted in our courts.

My research investigated these problems and suggested some short-term and longer term steps to improve the quality of forensic evidence used by legal decision-makers during criminal trials. – **Leonie Bolleurs** 

# Ancient Hebrew

## Surprising ties found between Hebrew and African languages



**O**ne of the most challenging aspects of language teaching is to guide students to develop a ‘feel’ for the language. Every language has a natural rhythm, an amorphous sense which allows the speaker to share, receive and understand a message from much more than mere words. Can you imagine the challenge educators face when it comes to a ‘dead’ language like ancient Hebrew? A language not present anymore in people’s mouths.

Professors Jacobus Naude and Cynthia Miller-Naude teach Hebrew at the UFS. When talking to them, you realise that they have found engaging ways to rejuvenate this antiquated language. And, in an interesting turn of events, they have also found that in some respects the Hebrew they have been teaching is not that far different from some African languages that are spoken today.

This has tremendous implications for the translation of the Bible into African languages. When translating the Bible, the ideal is to work from the original source. Even the original source is not as original as it seems to be. The original stories were told orally and there are distinct differences between the language we use when we are telling something versus when we are writing something.

We tend to be more formal and critical in writing, more open and free flowing in talking. Take into account that translations of the Bible are often made from a Western language – with a completely different linguistic structure – and then re-translated into an African

language with a structure that is closer to the original. It makes sense that direct translations from Hebrew into African languages would be the ideal situation. Ideally, the meaning of the translation should be aligned as closely as possible with the original text.

It is for this reason that Hebrew is taught in a holistic way at the UFS. Students need to know the formal aspects of the language, but they also need to learn as much as possible about the finer nuances. Students are taught with methods that allow them to engage with ancient Hebrew. They sing songs and animate their actions while speaking Hebrew and are exposed to the ancient Hebrew culture and worldview. Not only does this allow the students to understand the context of this early world more clearly, it also assists them in remembering better. Learning the language becomes a social exercise and instead of decoding words in an abstract way, the language and culture are brought to life.

Once students understand the subtle nuances in the language as well as the worldview of the time in which

# breathes again

By Igno van Niekerk

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Photo: Igno van Niekerk



the language was spoken, a whole new world opens up. A world where the earth was indeed flat, where heaven was a dome with storerooms where rain was kept, and once the windows of the dome were opened by God, the earth was blessed by the rain. It was a world where logic prevailed, and the logic of the time was proven. When you dug a well, there was water; when you looked at the end of land, there were the oceans; and therefore it was clear: the earth was drifting on water. Once aware of the context in which Biblical texts were written, another dimension opens up to the translator. It is the knowledge of these subtle, yet important, perspectives that the translation of original Hebrew texts becomes an adventure in which new meanings can be found.

Knowledge of ancient Hebrew becomes the pathway to understanding the message of the Bible. It is beneficial to teachers, preachers and all of us seeking the Truth. This message is often dependant on translation. At the UFS, Hebrew is taught in a way that vitalises both students and the language. **B**



Foto: Hannes Pieterse

# Naval Hill Planetarium: Building on a century-old dream

**November 1926.** Prof Alfred Richard Rossiter, astronomer of the University of Michigan, sets foot on South African shores. His mission – to determine the perfect location for an observatory that Prof WJ Hussey and Mr RP Lamont planned to station in the southern hemisphere. This dream dates back to 1910 when very little was known about double stars in the southern hemisphere.

After weighing up several options, Prof Rossiter decided that Naval Hill in Bloemfontein was the most suitable place to set up the observatory. Work on site started in June 1927. On 28 April 1928, the Lamont-Hussey Observatory was completed at a total cost of £23 000.

This observatory was especially built to discover and investigate double stars in the southern hemisphere, as the southern night sky was at this time still a huge empty space to astronomers. By 1947, Rossiter had documented 7 200 double stars and recorded 25 000 measurements of double stars.

**November 2013.** The new Naval Hill Digital Planetarium, situated inside the Lamont-Hussey Observatory, is officially inaugurated. The building project, which includes the purchase of the projection technology and a custom-made perforated aluminium dome, cost about R14 million. The founding donors of the Naval Hill Planetarium are the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs and the Mangaung Metro Municipality.

Building on the dream to discover and document the true beauty of the South African night sky, the planetarium will be used as a resource to communicate research by astronomers all over the world. The information communicated, will include research conducted by major telescopes based in South Africa, such as the South African

Large Telescope in Sutherland and the Square Kilometre Array that will be stationed in South Africa and Australia.

This planetarium will be run and managed by the University of the Free State. The planetarium is the first of its kind in Sub-Saharan Africa.

"Together with our Sky-Skan system, we purchased a database that is continually updated by the latest research. Thus, rather than conducting research – for which we would need telescopes like those found at Boyden Observatory – planetariums are a very effective way of communicating the product of research in an exciting and interesting manner," said Pat Lamusse, Assistant Director in the Office for Institutional Advancement.

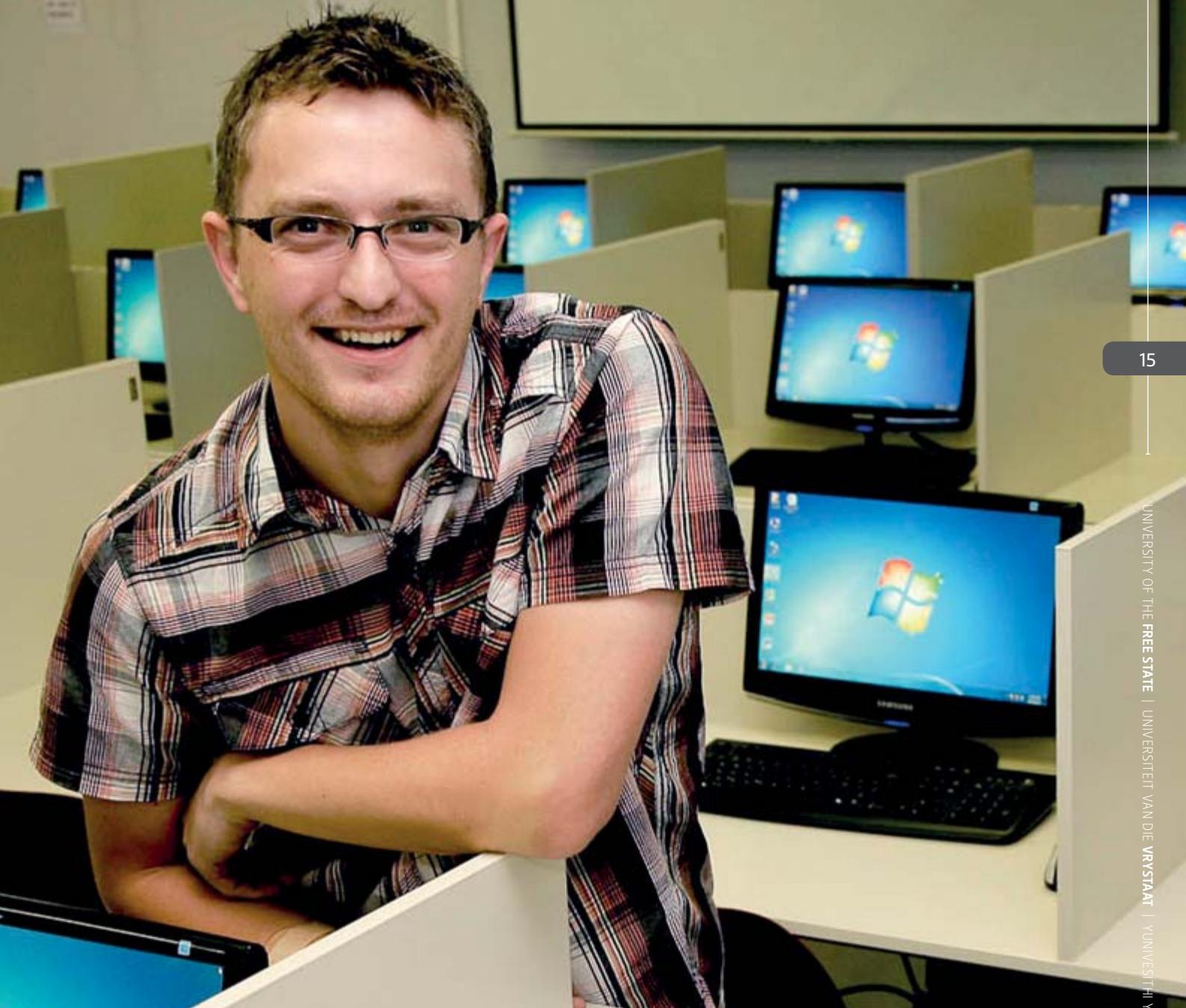
In addition to communicating the latest in astronomy research, the planetarium can use its system to project pre-recorded shows on many subjects, such as the environment, geology, chemistry and biology.

The UFS will purchase licences to air these shows in our planetarium. Shows are available for all age groups and, together with live presentations of the latest in astronomy research, planetarium events can be tailored to suit the audience.

Pre-recorded shows last from about 10 minutes to about 45 minutes.

"Once we learn to use the digital technology, it is possible that in future, we will be in a position to develop and produce our own home-grown planetarium shows."

Another benefit of the planetarium is that it will attract people to further study in the sciences. ■



# Personnel

# Na 20 jaar roep sy eerste – dosent en

**P**rof Teuns Verschoor se termyn as viserektor kom vanjaar tot 'n einde na 11 jaar diens in die rektoraat. Hy het in 2003 diens gedoen as waarnemende Viserektor: Studentesake en is in 2004 aangestel as Viserektor: Akademiese Bedryf. Hy het in 2008/2009 waargeneem as Rektor, en het daarna diens gedoen as waarnemende Senior Viserektor, en as Viserektor: Institusionele Sake.

"In 1979, met my aanstelling as senior dosent in die Departement Straf- en Geneeskundige Reg, wou ek eintlik net dosent en koshuishaaf vir studente wees – 'n voorreg wat ek tot 1993 kon uitleef."

Maar met die oopstelling van die UV vir alle studente – en die konflik tussen studentegroeperings wat geleidelik al hoe groter geword het, is die amp van Studentedekaan ingestel en was die uitdaging vir hom net te groot om 'nee' te sê vir

aanstelling in so 'n pos – ook ter wille van studente wat leiding gesoek het in die hantering van groeiende diversiteit in die studentebewolking.

In hierdie hoedanigheid was hy ook vanaf 1997 medevoorsitter van die Breë Tranformasie- en die Studentetransformasieforum. Die forums was werklik verteenwoordigend van alle belanggroepes. "Nie net studente en personeel nie, maar ook ouers, kerkleiers, onderwysvakbonde, politieke organisasies en ander belanghebbendes het deelgeneem aan stimulerende gesprekke oor heilige koeie in die samelewings- en universiteitsopset, en ook aan die uiteindelike voorleggings aan die Universiteitsraad."

## Laagtepunte in jou loopbaan?

"Daar was 'n hele paar: Selfmoord deur 'n belowende en gelowige student wat, in 'n kombers toegedraai, homself in sy hangkas doodgeskiet het.

Begrafnisse van jong, belowende studente wat in motorongelukke te sterwe gekom het, en die skok-effek daarvan op koshuismaats wat huilend vir die eerste keer hulle eie sterfliekheid beleef.

Die ongeveer R80 000 se skade wat wit studente in 1996 in Olienhout aangerig het toe hulle uit die koshuis getrek het, na onoplosbare rassekonflik.

Die nagenoeg R600 000 se skade wat wit en swart studente saam in 2008 op die Bloemfontein-kampus aangerig het, uit teenkanting teen die verskerpte pogings om koshuise te integrer.



# passie weer mentor

Deur Leatitia Pienaar

En dan die Reitz-video wat die UV se openbare beeld tot in die grond afgebreek het.”

## En die hoogtepunte?

“Daar is voortdurend hoogtepunte: Elke student van jou wat gradueer – te meer so wanneer dit jou meesters- of doktorale student is of studente vir wie jy mentor kon wees.

Elke boek, elke artikel van jou wat gepubliseer word.

Die UV se 100-jarige bestaansviering.

“Die aanstelling van prof Jonathan Jansen as Rektor en die daaropvolgende paar jaar wat lag-lag die mees dinamiese tydperk van groei in studentegetalle en akademiese kwaliteit was, en van die internasionale erkenning en aanvaarding wat dit meegebring het. Dit was 'n pure voorreg om deel van alles te kon wees.”

## Hoe lyk die pad vorentoe?

“Ek keer terug na my eerste liefde: Dosent en mentor wees (en hierdie keer ook meer tyd bestee aan my rol as eggenoot, pa en oupa!). In Oktober vanjaar het ek weer begin klasgee in Geneeskundige Reg vir die mediese tweedejaarstudente. Ek werk tans ook aan 'n boek (op versoek van prof Jansen) oor die faktore wat aanleiding gegee het tot die Reitz-video.

En dan is daar vyf studente aan my toegewys vir begeleiding met hulle LLB-skripsies.”

## Is jy tevrede as jy terugkyk oor jou loopbaan tot dusver?

Ek het 'n stuk raakgelees uit 'n outobiografie van Sean O'Casey, wat my gevoel raakvat: “Nou ja, vir my was die taak genotvol, verruklik, bedrywig, en soms 'n skrikwekkende ervaring, en dit was vir my heellik. 'n Klaaglied in een oor miskien, maar altyd n jubellied in die ander. En vir my is die taak eenvoudig 'n uitnodiging om te lewe.” **B**

# Medies raak ontslae van papier

Foto: Iolhan Roux



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Die eerste groot stap na 'n papierlose lesingomgewing vir die Skool vir Geneeskunde het vanjaar afgeskop met eerstejaarstudente wat skootrekenaars ontvang het. Die oogmerk is om die volle voorgraadse mediese program binne 'n paar jaar rekenaargedrewe te maak.

Prof Pieter Nel, Programdirekteur: Gesondheidswetenskappe van die skool in die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe, sê studente sal in al hul kontaksessies met hul skootrekenaars werk. Die hele gebou waar die studente klasloop, is met Wi-Fi toegerus. Die studente koop die rekenaars teen 'n baie laer bedrag as wat in die handel beskikbaar is.

Eerstejaarstudente sal in die komende jare skootrekenaars ontvang sodat die hele voorgraadse mediese program binne 'n paar jaar ten volle op rekenaar geskied, sê prof Nel. - **Leatitia Pienaar** **B**

# Who are they – the girl-children in trafficking?

By Michelle Nofling



Photo: Michele Nofling

At the time, I found myself in the House of Healing – a shelter for victims of child trafficking just outside Cape Town – doing research for a feature article. During my few days' stay with these girls, the age-old battle of good against evil played out in front of me.

I prepared myself for an aloof (at best), or openly hostile (at worst) reception to the house. These victims have lived horrors and humiliation beyond what I could ever try to conceive. I was steeling myself for mistrust and cynicism. What I found was a girl who could not wait to play; a shy young woman who invited me to the dinner table; a sense of human solidarity, of hope, of love. And the story of Nomalanga\*.

Little by little, while we plaited hair and threw a ball, she guided me through the dark labyrinth of her journey. Her young body sitting long-legged on the veranda in the winter sun was the same body raped by brutal men. Her wispy voice that sent hymns into the air was the same voice pleading for her life. Her soft eyes following the stray kitten winding itself around her ankles were the same eyes that were clouded by alcohol and drugs. Her arms that cuddled a stuffed cow close to her heart were the same arms pinned down by strangers for R100.

"They have big hands, and me, I have small hands and a small face. I say, no, no, no, don't kill me. Please." The echo of these words still closes up my throat as I recall that fourteen-year-old girl-child talking into her knees.

As with most atrocities, the cold facts and clinical statistics tend to eclipse the breathing, feeling victims, obscuring the innocence that stubbornly lingers among the lasting devastation. My article aimed to trace the lines of this modern-day slavery in the form of Nomalanga's face.

After I left the shelter, I received news that Nomalanga was reunited with her father. After that, who knows? She often comes to play in my mind. I fervently hope her wish has come true: to don her uniform and return to school. ■

Michelle's feature, *Babes in Barbarians' Hands*, was published in *The Big Issue*, South Africa. Subsequent to that, the International Network of Street Papers distributed it overseas. In July, her article was chosen as one of the top-five finalists in the 2013 International Street Paper Awards, in the category of Best Feature Story – Writing for Social Impact. The awards were launched in 2008 to highlight the outstanding, independent editorial achievements of street papers and their contribution to social justice.

**The article is available at these two links:**

<http://www.bigissue.org.za/issue-195/babes-in-barbarians-hands-sas-children-lured-into-sexual-slavery>

<http://www.streetnewsservice.org/news/2012/may/feed-330/sa%E2%80%99s-children-lured-into-sexual-slavery.aspx>

# 'n Franse ridder in Kovskye-geledere

Deur Braam Muller

Foto: Jaco Pienaar

**S**y is die middelste van vyf dogters, maar prof Naòmi Morgan, Hoof van Frans in die Departement Afrikaans, Nederlands, Frans en Duits, het nooit die gemaklike middelweg gekies nie. Sy doen nog altyd haar bes in enigets wat sy aanpak.

Soos sy op skool vir juffrou gesê het toe dié wil weet hoe leer sy, "op my bed." Juffrou was nie juis beïndruk nie, maar prof Morgan was 'n dux-leerling van die Hoë Meisieskool Oranje in Bloemfontein, waar sy ook gebore is. Laerskool was die ou Pres Brand, soos maar met die meeste van Westdene se kinders destyds.

Prof Morgan het 'n ver pad gekom sedert daardie jare. Die Franse regering het haar vanjaar 'n ridderskap gegee – sy is nou 'n houer van die gesogte titel Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Ridder van die Nasionale Orde van kuns en die lettere). Suid-Afrikaanse skrywers soos Jan Rabie, André P Brink en JM Coetzee spog ook met die titel.

Ná Frans op skool het prof Morgan geweet sy wil dit haar hoofvak op universiteit maak (sy moes 'n banklening aangaan vir haar studies aan die UV; daar was nie beurse nie). Daarna is sy 'n jaar of wat as au pair Frankryk toe. Terug by Kovsies het sy haar honneurs- en meestersgraad behaal. Weens die politieke situasie was Frankryk buite die kwessie vir 'n doktorsgraad, maar toe kom die raad: gaan Switserland toe. Sy het toe haar PhD in Genève gaan haal.

Kovskyes behoort bly te wees oor die dag toe sy haar by sy doserende personeel aangesluit het. Prof Morgan is 'n harde, dog begeesterde werker wat sommer 'n hele paar dinge terselfdertyd kan behartig.

Musiek liefhebbers, teatergangers en boeklesers het in die afgelope drie of vier jaar deeglik bewus geword van haar talent as skrywer en vertaler. Dis waarskynlik ook wat die Franse van haar werk laat kennis neem het. Eers was dit die Franse sanger Jacques Brel vir wie sy en Bernard Odendaal laat Afrikaans praat het sonder om die inhoud



Prof Naòmi Morgan

van sy liedjies te verander (twee verhoogproduksies was baie gewild op kunstefeste landwyd). Toe kom die moeilike taak om Afrikaanse liedjies in Frans te laat weerklank met die Afri-Frans-projek. Weer opvoerings landwyd met die Franse sangeres Myra Maud wat Suid-Afrika vir die konserfe besoek het. Toe kry Edith Piaf ook kans om in Afrikaans te weerklank.

Intussen het sy besluit om 'n werk van Nobelpryswnner JMG Le Clezio, *L'Africain*, as *Die Afrikaan* te vertaal. Prof Morgan wag nie vir vertaalopdragte nie! Sy soek sommer self en verlede jaar het seker haar grootste triomf gebring toe haar vertaling van die Franse novelle van Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt as *Oskar en die pienk tannie* die Vryfeesverhoog tref, met Sandra Prinsloo as aktrise.

Prof Morgan moes veg om dit opgevoer te kry. Toe sy die teks vir Sandra gee, was die stryd gewonne. Die novelle self is ook deur Naòmi vertaal en is gewild by lesers.

Tussen al die akademie, referate by internasionale konferensies en klas- en kantoorwerk, byt die toneelgogga ook. "Ek is 'n 'big talker' en dialoog op die verhoog is 'n natuurlike uitdaging." Cor, die ander van Gogh, is ook in Gent, België, en Amsterdam opgevoer en Helena van Bethesda, wat handel oor Helen Martins, het op haar tuisdorp Nieu-Bethesda gedeputeer.

Kyk jy prof Morgan so, is sy nog lank nie klaar met skeppende werk nie. **B**

# Championing the linguistic needs of the Deaf community

By Amanda Tongha

**F**ourteen years after he arrived at the University of the Free State, Dr Philemon Akach, head of the Department: South African Sign Language, has much to look forward to as he prepares for retirement.

Steering the first curriculum in Sign Language at a South African university and campaigning over a decade for South African Sign Language (SASL) to be introduced as an academic subject in schools, things are moving full steam ahead for Dr Akach. Appointed by Basic Education Minister, Angie Motshekga, this academic is part of a nine-member task team that will manage the implementation of SASL as a school subject for grade R-12 learners at South Africa's 42 schools for the Deaf. The curriculum will be rolled out in 2014 with members of the task team currently traveling the country, visiting schools to report on the readiness of teachers.

They have to determine if teachers use Sign Language as language of teaching and learning; and if not, why. Establishing if schools are ready to welcome the new curriculum, the task team also has to find out if schools have equipment such as computers with webcams. From this audit they will report back to the minister on readiness.

"If this is set up before I hang up my yoke, it's going to be the best send-off," says Dr Akach, who also received a National Excellence in Teaching and Learning Award from the Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa (HELTASA) and Council on Higher Education (CHE) this year for the work he do within the deaf community. He was also bestowed with the Alumni Award for outstanding service to the UFS

"I have been at this for 37 years," Dr Akach says, recounting the years he has been involved in Deaf education. Close to twenty of those years were spent in his home country, Kenya, where he was trained as a teacher for the Deaf.

Photo: Sonia Small



Dr Philemon Akach

Dr Akach moved to South Africa in 1996 to take up the job as director at the Deaf Federation of South Africa. It's here that campaigning for SASL to be introduced as an academic language began in earnest. "We lobbied schools on what Sign Language is. We went to universities propagating for Sign Language to be introduced as an academic course."

In 1999, Dr Akach moved to the UFS for a trial pilot to teach Sign Language. In that year the university became the first on the continent to teach Sign Language as an academic subject.

"My condition for taking up this course was that it is not embedded in special education or a special-need inclusive education programme, but that it is housed in a language department. When we started it we said it has to be a language issue, not disability."

"We don't target any students; we open it up to the university. So if your degree requires a language credit, we want to be on the list of languages that you can choose from."

Dr Akach says with the curriculum that will be rolled out at schools from next year, it builds a good case for SASL to be the 12th official language.

"There is over 600 000 Deaf people in South Africa. A big chunk of the citizenship uses the language. SASL is not only for Deaf people. SASL is for all of us. The Deaf community is a special linguistic minority that the majority will join as for them joining the majority." **B**

# Jong navorsers dra by tot UV se posisionering

'n Tweede groep van 15 jong akademici is gekies om deel te wees van die Visekanselier se Prestige-program vir Jong Navorsers (PSP). Die eerste groep van 25 geleerde het in 2011 by die program aangesluit, waarvan sommige gedurende 2012 by samewerkende universiteite in die buiteland uitgeplaas is.

Die program identifiseer en bevorder belowende jong akademici by die universiteit ter voorbereiding op 'n volle professoraatskap met voortreflike navorsingsprestasies.

Prof Jackie du Toit, Akademiese Mededirekteur van PSP, sê: "Hierdie hoogs gesogte kruisdissiplinêre program vir die volgende geslag van UV-professore het in die afgelope twee jaar Fulbright-studiegenote opgelewer; NRF Y1-gegradeerde jong wetenskaplikes; NRF Blue Skies- en Thuthuka-ontvangers en verskeie Y2-graderings van die Nasionale Navorsingstigting.

"Wetenskaplikes in die program het vennootskappe met vooraanstaande universiteite in Japan, Europa, die Verenigde Koninkryk en die VSA bewerkstellig. Binne die Suid-Afrikaanse akademie is die PSP 'n nuwe benadering tot die bevordering van wetenskap en die ontwikkeling van professionele geleerde. Dit dra by tot

die posisionering van die UV as 'n innoveerde onder navorsungsuniversiteit in hierdie land."

"Hierdie versnelde program van die volgende geslag professore behels 'n intensiewe mentorskaprogram by die UV en internasionale plasing met 'n vooraanstaande geleerde aan 'n topuniversiteit." – **Leatitia Pienaar**



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## SA Media se knipseldiens waardevol vir navorsing

Deur Helena Prinsloo

SA Media is 'n juweel in die UV-stal. Navorsers wat oor eietydse aangeleenthede inligting soek, kan amper nie anders as om hier aan te klop nie.

SA Media is een van die mees uitgebreide persinligtingsstelsels waardeur toegang verkry kan word tot 'n databasis bestaande uit 6 miljoen koeranterigte en aktuele tydskrifartikels wat sedert 1978 rekenaarmatig ontsluit is. Die persberigte word oordeelkundig gekeur, wetenskaplik ontsluit en met behulp van die jongste rekenaartegnologie vir inligting en navorsing beskikbaar gestel.

Sowat 108 000 berigte word jaarliks opgeneem en aan intekenare intyds beskikbaar gestel. Sodoende word hulle op die hoogte gehou van gebeure op staatkundige, ekonomiese, maatskaplike, arbeids- en kulturele gebied.

SA Media se kliënte sluit in, hoëronderwysinstellings, navorsingsorganisasies, provinsiale regerings- en provinsiale biblioteke, regslui en die Parlementsbiblioteek (The Library of Parliament).

Die knipsels verskaf sienings van die openbare en private sektor oor eietydse aangeleenthede, menings van kenners en sienswyses van gewone mense, statistieke en nagevorsde artikels, sowel as verteenwoordigende benaderings van verskillende persgroepes.

Die diens spaar die gebruiker tyd, want koerant- en tydskrifnavorsing is tydrowend en verseker dat gerigte inligtingsoektoggte gedoen kan word om voortreflike besluitneming te bevorder.

**Meer inligting kan van Hester van der Berg by vdbergh@ufs.ac.za verkry word.**

Photos: Supplied



# Teaching at 64 schools, simultaneously

By René-Jean van der Berg

**I**t is late afternoon and the learners are restless. They sit crammed up against each other in a warm dusty classroom with little ventilation. All are staring at the screen at the front of the class. Eager to learn, eager to experience something they have never experienced before – technology.

Earlier, a team from the UFS arrived to set up broadcast and computer equipment. To many of the children attending school in rural Free State, this ‘state-of-the-art’ computer equipment is already a strange sight.

Then, the broadcast starts, much to the amazement of the learners in the class.

“At first, both learners and teachers felt intimidated by the electronic teacher. But soon they discovered that they could interact the same way as they would in a normal class situation. The teachers also discovered that this method is not there to replace their role as teachers. It was also by this broadcast that learners could see science experiments live,”

recalls Thakane Nteko, assistant administrator for ICTISE (ICT Innovation in Schools Education).

The ICTISE-project is an initiative of the School of Open Learning at the university’s South Campus and uses computer and broadcast technology to bring quality education and teaching to schools.

With the internet broadcasts by ICTISE, learners across the Free State receive quality teaching in mathematics, physical science, accountancy, geography and economics.

“The success of this project cannot be measured,” says Sarietjie Musgrave, head of ICTISE, proudly. “We broadcast to 64 schools, but it stretches far beyond only these schools.”

The ICTISE-team found that it is not only the learners from the participating schools who attend the broadcast sessions. Learners from other schools travel by minibus in order to attend the broadcast sessions. The school principals also started recording the sessions on DVD and are distributing it to neighbouring schools.

“Technology is not limited to time and place. We can help to bring quality teaching to schools and make a difference.” **B**



# Studente / Sport

# Life colleges help students

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Rudi Buys (left) with some of the students who travelled abroad in the Student Leadership for Change programme in September 2013. – Photo: Johan Roux.

In August 2013 the UFS introduced Student Life Colleges as a new arrangement to support greater numbers of students to achieve success during their student career. **Lacea Loader** spoke to Rudi Buys, Dean of Student Affairs, about this new concept.

## What are Student Life Colleges?

The Student Life Colleges are clusters of campus and day (city) residences that share their resources and facilities and work together on student development projects. Students that stay off-campus can now make use of some facilities in the campus residences of the college they belong to, while career, leadership and citizenship development programmes are offered to all students in the college clusters.

In this way, student life colleges not only help a greater number of students to adapt to study demands, but also grow their leadership potential and citizenship and guide them in designing career paths.

UFS students form part of either a campus or day residence, and through this residence they become a member of the student life college their residence

# to grow their potential

belongs to. This allows for all students to form part of a smaller community and prevent them becoming lost in masses of students studying at campus. At the same time, the college community introduces them to students and staff from diverse backgrounds, faculties, residence communities and interests and does so within a considered and well-structured environment that support their development.

Even if students wish not to join a campus or day residence, they may still join a student life college and in doing so find their sense of belonging, mentorship and support as a UFS student.

## How will it impact on the current identities of residences?

The student life colleges will strengthen the positive role of residence identities, since residences are now well-connected to the overall strategic direction of the university. Previously, each residence was isolated and had to get by without a clear connection to other residences or the support gained as being part of a team.

This often created distance between the university and the residences. Student life colleges help residences to find their proper place in the network of the university community and at the same time join each residence to a team of fellow-residences to find support and contribute to their academic and development success. Stronger residences build stronger colleges that build a stronger university.

## What is the advantage of the colleges to off-campus students?

With only 12% of UFS students staying on-campus, the vast majority of our students reside off-campus and are in need of greater support and access to facilities. Student life colleges provide a gateway for off-campus

students to connect with support, facilities and development programmes. Off-campus students, who form part of a college through their day residence, will be able to use study rooms, computer centres and social spaces at the campus residences of their college, where they will in future also have students' lockers to use during the day.

Lecturers will be able to present workshops, and leadership-development programmes will be offered to all students in the gazellies (residence hall) of the campus residences of a college. Since we have five student life colleges at the Bloemfontein Campus and three at the Qwaqwa Campus, we now have a dramatic increase in opportunities for off-campus students to access support.

## How are the residences grouped?

At the Bloemfontein Campus, four campus residences and one day residence are grouped, while at the Qwaqwa Campus two campus residences are grouped with a day residence. The Qwaqwa Campus also launched its first-ever day residence this year for exactly this purpose.

## Tell us about the newly-planned residences.

The new residences are planned in a precinct design model where four residences form part of one precinct as a student life college. In the new residences, the designs assist both under- and postgraduate students to interact meaningfully, while enabling much more social interaction and study space than previous residence designs.

The next residence to be built at the Bloemfontein Campus will be the third of the four residences designed for the first college precinct, next to the new Education Building on the western side of the campus. **B**

# Netbal, kinders en syfers – alles passies van Bo, sê Protea-kaptein



Foto: Stefan Lotter

Maryka Holtzhausen

Sy het al op 'n jong ouderdom vir die Proteas begin speel, maar het haarself na 49 wedstryde nog steeds as die 'kleintjie' in die span gesien...

"Ek wou altyd net 'n Protea wees en het my nooit oor kapteinskap bekommer nie," vertel Maryka. "Ek kon dit nie glo nie. Dit is so 'n groot voorreg en ek is dankbaar teenoor die Here vir die geleentheid wat Hy oor my pad gebring het. Om kaptein van jou land se span te wees, bring ook skielik ander uitdagings as om 'n universiteitspan te lei. Maar ons afrigter het aan my gesê ek kan bly wees dat my eerste toernooi as kaptein in Afrika was en nie oorsee met al hulle media nie."

Maryka se Protea-span het geweet dat die Afrikaspiele taai sou wees, maar hulle het gegaan om te wen en het in die eindstryd oor die tuisspan getriomfeer. "Ons het hard gewerk en hard gespeel. Elk van ons spelers was eintlik haar eie kaptein en het geweet wat gedoen moet word. Die span het dus my werk baie makliker gemaak.

Deur Stefan Lotter

**N**a sewe jaar in die Protea-netbalspan, was Kovsies se Maryka Holtzhausen steeds verbaas oor haar verkiesing as kaptein vir die Afrikaspiele in Malawi vroeër vanjaar. Maryka was ook kaptein van die span wat vanjaar se Varsity-netbaltoernooi gewen het.

"Die ondersteuning vir netbal in Malawi is groot. Dit is vir hulle soos wat rugby hier by ons is. Om Malawi se netbalspan dus in hulle eie land te wen, was 'n groot ding."

Skaars terug van Malawi, het Maryka Kovsies ook geleei om as kampioene by vanjaar se USSA-toernooi te kon uitstyg. Die toernooi, wat by die Universiteit van Pretoria gehou is, het weer ander uitdagings gebied. Tukkies het die Kovsies naelskraap oorrompel in die spanne se eerste kragmeting van die toernooi. En in die eindstryd was dit weer Kovsies teen Tukkies gewees.

"Tukkies was die verdedigende USSA-kampioen en het ook voor hul tuisskare gespeel. Hulle het sterk Proteaspelers in hul span, wat dit nie makliker gemaak het nie," sê Maryka.

"Halfpad deur die eindstryd het die ondersteuners egter vir ons begin skree en was die skare skielik aan ons kant. Ek dink almal hou maar net van Kovsies oor die tipe mense wat ons is... plat op die aarde, altyd dieselfde en doen net wat gedoen moet word."

"Ek het USSA baie geniet. 'n SA span moet presteer, maar USSA was net 'n lekker toernooi met 'n lekker groep spelers saam in die span."

Buiten die Afrikaspiele en USSA was 'n ander hoogtepunt vir Maryka toe sy vanjaar as die universiteit se Sportvrou van die jaar aangewys is.

Maryka het aan die Hoërskool Kemptonpark gematrikuleer en Bcom(Rek) aan die UV studeer. Later het sy ook haar



Foto: Johan Roux

honeursgraad in Bestuursrekeningkunde voltooí. Sy is tans besig met haar tweede jaar in Menslike Hulprbonbestuur by Kovsies en is ook 'n sportorganiseerdeer by die Hoërskool Eunice in Bloemfontein.

"Vroeër in die jaar het al die netbal my nogal besig gehou en tydsbestuur was moeilik, maar dit is nou rustiger. Ek hou van die roetine wat ek nou by Kovsies het met oefen en klasdraf. Ek rig Eunice se eerste netbalspan af en help ook so af en toe by die Graad 1's uit."

"Ek hou daarvan om kinders te leer – dis hoekom ek by Eunice afrig. Die passie wat ek daarvoor het, kom alles van Bo. Anders sou ek dit seker lankal opgegee het."

Maryka dink daarvan om uiteindelik die private korporatiewe sektor te betree. Haar passie vir syfers en die bestuur van projekte, is die lewe wat na netbal op haar wag.

"Op die oomblik is netbal my lewe, maar ek besef dit kan nie altyd so wees nie. Tog koppel ek nie 'n tydperk daaraan nie. Ek wil wel in die volgende Wêreldbeker in 2015 speel en volgende jaar Statebondspele toe gaan. Ek sal sien wat gebeur verder in my loopbaan na die Wêreldbeker."

"Maar ek glo die Here sal vir my sê as ek moet stop met netbal en dan ander deure vir my begin oopmaak." **B**

# Golden Key honours role models



Mbahalelo Rammbwa, Golden Key UFS Chapter President.

UFS students swell the ranks of the world's biggest academic honour society, the Golden Key International Honour Society. More than 500 students joined the organisation in 2013.

The induction of new members, consisting of the top 15% of the university's academic achievers, to the UFS chapter took place in August 2013. Individuals who play an important part as role models to these students also receive much-deserved recognition. For their valuable contribution in this regard, Profs Odireleng Ntwaeborwa, Dave Lubbe, Dennis Francis, Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela and executive chairperson of Richmark, Gavin Varejes, were induced as honorary members.

Another feather in the university's cap is the fact that the UFS registrar, Dr Derek Swemmer, is chairperson of the society's international governing body and co-advisor of the UFS chapter. - **Amanda Tonga** **B**

# Eerste eeu van UV-rugby met nuwe boek gevier

Deur Frikkie van Rensburg

**D**ie eeufeesboek, *Universiteit van die Vrystaat Rugbyklub – 100 jaar van sprankelrugby: Shimlas 100 jaar* – is die geskiedenis van die eerste eeu in die bestaan van dié sportklub. Dit is 'n verhaal van geloof, hoop, stryd en vasberadenheid om te midde van sosiale, politieke en ekonomiese strominge uit 'n 'Klein begin' in 1912, tot een van die heel grotes in Suid-Afrika te ontwikkel.

Vrystaat-rugby sonder die Shimlas, is soos Coke sonder gas. Suid-Afrikaanse rugby sonder Kovalsland se bydrae, is soos pap sonder sout. Die klub het in sy eerste eeu 70 Springbokke opgelewer en van die 1 500 Vrystaat-spelers, was etlike honderde Kovalsies.

Sedert die 1980's het die klub vanweë die ál groter eise wat beroepsrugby op internasionale, super- en provinsialevlak gestel het, al swaarder getrek om sy plek tussen die voorste rugbyklubs in die land gestand te doen en om op plaaslikevlak die aanslag van ander Stadsbeker-aanspraakmakers die hoof te bied.

Die UV het 'n baie groot aandeel aan die Vrystaat se Curriebeker-oorwinning in 1976 gehad. Sewentien van die 19 spelers in die Curriebeker-groep vir die eindstryd was Kovalsies en 12 van hulle het toe reeds vir die Springbokke gespeel of het later Springbokke geword.

Die storie van Kovalsierugby is die storie van jongmannet wat onder wonderlike en buitengewone omstandighede geleef en gespeel het – iets wat net een keer in 'n leeftyd gebeur. Dis 'n verhaal van groot vreugde en oorwinnings, maar ook een van hartseer en moeilike tye. Soos die spreekwoord onder Kovalsies egter lui: "Eenkeer 'n Shimla, altyd 'n Shimla, eenkeer 'n Kovalsie, altyd 'n Kovalsie."

Die boek is in 16 hoofstukke verdeel. Vername politici en kerkleiers het in die afgelope eeu vir die eerste span



uitgedraf. Die feit dat adv Bram Fischer en dr Thys Zeeman in die 1920's die skakelpaar van die eerste span was, is nie algemeen bekend nie. Die ontstaan en gebruik van name soos Shimlas, Irawas en Pelliespark word in twee hoofstukke behandel.

'n Groot deel van die boek is gewy aan interessante vertellings deur oudbeamptes, oudspelers en oud-Kovalsies. Van die vertellings sluit in: "... En toe maak die nonne kruise", 'Joggie en die prof' asook hoe sommige van die manne kleigetrappet het met die Rooitaal, soos die slag toe 'Onion' in 'n telefoongesprek met 'n 'U' gespel is, ook Piet Bester se baie kort intervarsity, toe luiperd se kind 'saam bier gedrink' het, ens, ens, ens.

Daar is natuurlik ook 'n heerlike hoofstuk vir statistici, sowel as 'n volledige lys van die Shimlas se uitslae sedert 1966.

Die boek van 560 bladsye bevat 'n allemintige 3 121 groep-, span-, aksie- en gesigsfoto's. Frikkie van Rensburg, voormalige sportredakteur van *Volksblad*, is die skrywer van die boek. **B**

Navrae kan gerig word aan **Ansu Colditz** by [rugby100@ufs.ac.za](mailto:rugby100@ufs.ac.za), +27(0)82 457 8071 of +27(0)51 401 2136.

# Van onbekende Kovsky tot opspraakwekkende Springbok

Deur Stefan Lotter

**D**ie afgelope twee jaar het Pieter van Zyl saam met die Cheetahs tot hoër hoogtes as ooit tevore in Superrugby gestyg. Hierdie boereseun van Vrede het ook vanjaar sy Springbok-debuut teen Skotland gemaak en skuif ná die 2013-Curriebekerseisoen Pretoria toe om by die Bulle aan te sluit.



Pieter van Zyl

Maar voor hierdie vurige skrumskakel se rugbyloopbaan vlam gevat het, was hy vir vier jaar 'n Kovsky...

## Tyd by die UV

"Ek het BAgri geswot en in 2011 graad gekry," vertel Pieter. "Ek het nooit werklik vir die UV rugby gespeel nie omdat ek meestal beseer was. Ek het drie wedstryde vir die Shimlas gespeel, maar nooit Varsitybeker nie. My betrokkenheid was meer by Armentum en die Irawas."

"Ek wou altyd rugby speel, maar dit was ook vir my belangrik om te swot. Ek sou nogal graag ook Bourekeningkunde of Finansiële Bestuur wou swot."

Pieter het in matriek vir Grey Kollege se derde span gespeel en nie enige rugbybeurse by Kovsies losgeslaan nie. Hy sê sy pad ná skool tot by die Cheetahs en daarna die Bokke, was net genade. Hy het egter later by die Vrystaat o-19's en -21's naam gemaak en dit was hier waar die Vrystaatse Rugbyunie van hom kennis begin neem het.



## Springbok-debuut en -loopbaan

"Ek was in die Kaap met vakansie toe ek die oproep gekry het. Die insluiting by die Bokgroep was 'n eer, maar om deel van die span te wees vir 'n toets, was soos om uiteindelik jou vrou te ontmoet. Ek was nog nooit so verlief op 'n meisie nie..."

"Die week voor die wedstryd raak jy al hoe meer opgewonde. As jy dan uiteindelik op die veld gaan, is dit soos 'n auto pilot wat inskop en dan doen jy net wat jy moet doen."

Nou is Pieter se volgende uitdaging om homself te bewys as 'n Springbok met 'n gevestigde plek in die span.

## Van Zyl word 'n Bul

"Ek bly al lank in Bloemfontein en sien die skuif na die Bulle as 'n nuwe uitdaging," vertel hy.

"Dit is 'n groter unie met meer spelers. In hierdie lewe moet 'n mens jouself uitdaag om beter te doen. Die Bulle was nog altyd die beste span in Suid-Afrika en het oor die jare die mees legendariese skrumskakels opgelewer, soos Joost van der Westhuizen en Fourie du Preez." **B**

Photo: Sonja Small



# Tumelo, part of Africa's next generation of leaders

*By Amanda Tongha*

It took Tumelo Moreri a trip to London to develop a deeper understanding of her African roots, looking differently at the continent of her birth. Having spent time in the British capital with young leaders from across the world at the G8 2013 Youth Summit, she is determined to give back to the continent.

Moreri, a former SRC member and Kovsie Dux student and one of the winners of the 2014 Mandela Rhodes Scholarship, was part of an African Union (AU) delegation that attended the summit in June this year. This AU contingent included representatives from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Botswana, Kenya, South Africa, Nigeria and Zimbabwe. Chosen as Sherpa of the delegation, Moreri gained valuable insights into international diplomacy.

"My role was to act as a link between our and other delegations. It also involved negotiating with other countries on behalf of the AU, to win their support on topics that strongly affected African position."

This BSc Actuarial Sciences honours student says conversations constantly took her back home. "Most

of the topics on the agenda focused on Africa. We were on foreign soil discussing Africa's problems. I want to discuss Africa on African soil."

Born in Botswana, Moreri now has a deeper understanding of the phrase 'I am an African'. "My mission has ceased to be only about Botswana. I am an African at the service of all Africans. I came back with the realisation of the need to invest myself fully in Africa. Africa's development has been negatively affected by a brain drain; this is something we need to reduce."

"I also got to realise how limited my knowledge of Africa is. This has inspired me to research, read more and ask more questions. The experience has fuelled my passion and appreciation for Africa. I love Africa." □



Kovsie students Michael van Niekerk, Mpoi Makhetha, Siobhan Canavan, and Cebolenkosi Sokhela, travelled to the USA and China, meeting the best in their career fields.

# Students meet international experts in their fields of study

*Amanda Tongha*

Travelling to the USA and China, four students were afforded a unique opportunity to meet with leading people in their fields of study. Michael van Niekerk, Siobhan Canavan, Mpoi Makhetha and Cebolenkosi Sokhela, all members of the Golden Key International Honour Society, travelled abroad as part of the International Scholar Laureate Program (ISLP).

Joining a select group of outstanding universities from across the world, the four were given access to people, places and global perspectives, learning how their career fields are practiced in other parts of the world.

Van Niekerk, a fourth-year MBChB student and former SRC member of the Bloemfontein Campus, and Sokhela, a third-year BSc Microbiology student, visited

Washington, Philadelphia and New York in the USA. As part of the medicine constituent of the programme, the two visited clinics and hospitals to get an inside glance at what people in their fields of study do.

Van Niekerk's trip also included a visit to Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, where he met representatives of the National Institute of Health – the largest source of funding for medical research in the world.

Also part of the medicine delegation was Makhetha, a third-year BSc Human Molecular Biology student, who travelled to China. Joining her there, was Canavan, a third-year Media Studies and Journalism student, who formed part of a diplomacy and international relations delegation visiting Beijing, Xi'an and Shanghai. **B**



# Intervarsity mees omvattend en vernuwende in die land

**D**ie intervarsity tussen die universiteit en die Noordwes-Universiteit (NWU) was 'n groot sukses. Hierdie 70ste viering van intervarsity tussen die twee instellings, wat reeds in 1927 vir die eerste keer gehou is, is die oudste geleentheid van hierdie aard in Suid-Afrika.

Volgens Rudi Buys, Dekaan: Studentesake aan die UV, is dit ook die mees omvattende en mees vernuwende intervarsity in die land, wat reeds in 2010 alle geïnkorporeerde kampusse van voormalige universiteite soos die Universiteit van die Noorde insluit. Daar word ook nie meer net op sport gefokus nie, maar ook op kulturele programme en forums vir samesprekings tussen studenteleiers.

Van die 32 geleenthede wat die UV en die NWU teen mekaar gewedywer het, het die universiteit 16 keer gewen, die NWU 13 keer en daar is drie keer gelykop gespeel.

Sport- en kultuuraktiwiteite soos debat, is regoor die Bloemfontein-kampus gehou. Rekordgetalle ondersteuners het die verskillende wedstryde, debatskompetisies en feestelikhede bygewoon. Die

eerste SR-Voorsittersreünie wat tydens die intervarsity plaasgevind het, word beskou as 'n besondere mylpaal in die geskiedenis van die UV.

"Ons is egter veral daarmee tevrede dat studente van diverse agtergronde en kampusse aan intervarsity-programme deelgeneem en geleenthede bygewoon het en op hierdie manier die ryke verskeidenheid van Kovsies met trots ten toon gestel het," het Buys gesê.

"Die suksesvolle verloop van die intervarsity bevestig dat dit vir die UV belangrik is om die trotse geskiedenis van bykans 100 jaar van intervarsity met die NWU te behou, maar ook om dit te vernuwe as spieëlbeeld van ons jong demokrasie en in pas met 'n jong generasie Suid-Afrikaners wat nou ons studente is," sê Buys. - **Verwerk deur Leonie Bolleurs** 

# Alumni



# Dr More Chakane

## A journey from Uniqwa to

**D**r More Chakane started his school career in 1974 at the small Mokwallo Public School in Vredefort in the Free State. Born in 1966 from parents who taught at the same school, this young boy excelled academically right from the start. His mother taught him Afrikaans and his father mathematics. At the end of Grade 8 he pocketed top marks in his district and it was clear: this learner was heading for a bright future.

After passing matric in 1986, Chakane immediately enrolled as a first year for a Bachelor of Science in Pedagogy at the former Uniqwa (now the UFS Qwaqwa Campus). This hard-working student passed chemistry and mathematics with distinctions and loaded his curriculum with extra subjects. During this time, he emerged as a leader, guiding the entire student body through the difficult Apartheid era.

"I was not afraid to speak out – regardless of possible imprisonment or expulsion from the university. It was during this time of leadership I took a conscious decision to never ever be afraid of Apartheid machinery. This experience still carries me today. I buried fear in Uniqwa in 1990, and I fear no more," he said.

Chakane's academic achievements lead him to the University of the Witwatersrand where he obtained his BA Honours degree in Education in 1991. This was followed by a scholarship from the Ivy League Cornell University to study Master of Science. After completing his master's, Cornell University offered him yet another scholarship and he subsequently obtained his PhD in Philosophy – officially donning the title: Doctor.

That did not signal the end of Dr Chakane's study career, though. This avid student is still at it – currently finishing his MBA at Wits Business School while in the throes of his third year as an LLB student at Unisa.

Dr Chakane's CV is an impressive read. During his early career, he taught physical sciences and science didactics

on Senior Secondary School level and at Colleges of Education. He served the Universities of the Western Cape and Witwatersrand in their Education Policy Unit. In addition, Dr Chakane was head of the ETDPSSETA (Education, Training and Development Practices Sector Education and Training Authority). He assisted the United Arab Emirates to establish their National Qualifications Framework. Back in South Africa, he became the chief executive officer of SETA within a mere fourteen days. Currently he is acting head of the SARS academy.

This formidable man, whose origin springs from a humble town in the Free State, takes pride in his relationship with the once-derided Uniqwa. According to Dr Chakane, the dormitories in Lerelatshepe – rather than the individual rooms – were the most supportive environment one could ever hope to find. These quarters provided a bedrock of support and paved Dr Chakane's road to one of the most prestigious universities in the USA.

With his roots deep in the Free State's earth, he wishes to return to his alma mater one day. "University is my home, and books and research my bread and butter." It is here in this province where he was raised and taught, where his mother, who played a significant role in his life, believed in him and stood by him unwavering.

*During the establishment of the Forum for Former SRC Presidents of the UFS, Dr More Chakane was chosen as vice-chairperson. **B***

# Cornell University

By Kathy Verwey



Dr More Chakane

## Jurie Swart neem deel aan Archiprix in Moskou



Jurie Swart in Moskou.

Jurie Swart, oud-argitektuurstudent, het vanjaar aan die toonaangewende Archiprix in Moskou deelgeneem. Archiprix is 'n internasionale kompetisie waar die wêreld se top-argitektuurstudente aangewys word. Argitektuurdepartemente, -skole en -fakulteite van 1 500 universiteite uit 78 lande wêreldwyd word genooi om hul top-meestersgraadstudente oor twee studiejare in te skryf.

Jurie is in 2012 as die streekswenner van die Corobrik Argitektuurstudent van die Jaar-toekenning aangewys en het ook eervolle vermelding in die internasionale 2012 Graduate Architecture Projects gekry.

"Hy is as die Archiprix-deelnemers se gunsteling aangewys. "Uit die top-25 is sewe wenners aangekondig, en alhoewel ek nie gewen het nie, is dit steeds 'n ongelooflike prestasie en ek is trots daarop dat ek die universiteit se naam kon hoog hou," sê hy. – Leatitia Pienaar ■

Sy projek kan besigtig word by: <http://www.archiprix.org/2013/index.php?project=3152>

Die voormalige SR-voorsitters wat die bekendstellingsdinee vir 'n vereniging vir oud-SR-voorsitters bygewoon het.



Foto: Stephen Collett

# Oud-SR-voorsitters snoer kragte saam

**'Geen beter plek as die UV om 'n bydrae te lewer'**

Deur Kathy Verwey

**V**anjaar se UV/NWU-intervarsity was nie net 'n geleentheid vir mededinging op sport- en kulturele gebied nie, maar ook vir voormalige SR-voorsitters om bymekaar te kom en 'n vereniging van hul eie te stig.



Voormalige SR-voorsitters, is van links: mnr Roelf Meyer, mnr More Chakane, me Anchen Laubscher en prof Voet du Plessis.

Twee en twintig voormalige SR-voorsitters het die bekendstellingsdinee op Vrouedag Vrydag 9 Augustus 2013 bygewoon, met spesiale erkenning aan al vier vroulike voorsitters wat voorheen die SR gelei het en ook teenwoordig was. Onder die ander gaste was voormalige

rektors en voorsitters van die UV-Raad, asook voorsitters van die alumni.

Die lede bestaan uit voormalige SR-voorsitters van al drie die UV se kampusse. Die uitvoerende komitee bestaan uit Michiel Strauss (voorsitter), More Chakane (ondervorsitter), Naudé de Klerk (sekretaris), Wynand Wagner (tesourier) en Lorraine Kriek (addisionele lid).

Michiel Strauss was in 1975/1976 voorsitter van die Studenteraad van die destydse UOVS. Hy het by die stigtingsgeleentheid gesê dit was dié tydperk waarin die grootste deel van die jeug in ons land baie gely het in 'n stryd om vryheid van spraak. Hy was ook lid van die Afrikaanse Studentebond, 'n sambrelorganisasie vir Afrikaanse universiteite en kolleges. Jare later het die vraag dikwels by hom gespoek of hy nie 'n verskil kon maak, beter begrip kon toon of kon uitrek na die sogenaamde swart studenteverenigings van daardie tyd nie.

In die Suid-Afrika van vandag is baie mense op soek na geleenthede om 'n verskil in ons gemeenskap te maak.

## Bekende alumni vereer

Die wantroue in die politiek en politici lei daartoe dat patriotiese Suid-Afrikaners nie die politieke roete wil neem om hul bydrae te lewer nie. Michiel het egter besluit dat dit nooit te laat is om 'n bydrae in Suid-Afrika te maak nie. Suid-Afrika is immers die land van tweede kans en hy wil sy kans nou aangryp! Daar is geen beter antwoord as om te belê in die jongmense van Suid-Afrika nie, het hy gesê.

Michiel se gedagtes het begin beweeg in die rigting van sy alma mater, waar hy bevoorreg was om gevorm te word. Michiel, wat in Kaapstad woon, het bewus geword van die feit dat daar iets moois en betekenisvol besig was om by die UV te gebeur. Toe alumni van Universiteit Stellenbosch en die Universiteit van Kaapstad begin vertel dat hulle graag hulle kinders na die UV wil stuur, het hy besef dat dit sy antwoord was: die UV was nou 'n leier op die gebied van akademiese standarde, versoening, leierskapvorming en nasiebou. Hy kon aan geen beter plek dink om sy bydrae te lewer as by sy alma mater nie.

Michiel het sy gedagtes met 'n paar voormalige SR-voorsitters gedeel, wat dadelik hul samewerking gegee het – en so is die idee gebore: 'n Vereniging van voormalige SR-voorsitters van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat. Hul visie was nie 'n bymekaarkom om die goeie ou dae te herleef nie, maar 'n visie om 'n verskil te maak in ons land en om saam te bou aan die nuwe UV.

Roelf Meyer (SR-voorsitter van 1970) het tydens die bekendstellingsgeleentheid gesê sy tydperk as 'n leier by die universiteit het aan hom die geleentheid gegee om sy vaardighede en ervaring toe te pas en dit met die nuwe leiers van die instelling te deel. Meyer is bekend vir die prominente rol wat hy gespeel het in die onderhandelings om 'n einde te bring aan apartheid in Suid-Afrika en voorsitter van die Burgerlike Samelewingsinisiatief (CSI) van Suid-Afrika.

Die UV word hoog aangeskryf as gevolg van die uitsonderlike standarde en uitnemendheid wat deur die senior leierskap uitgeleef word. Waar ek 'n verskil kan maak, sal ek dit met plesier en met trots doen, het hy gesê.

Die vereniging het op Saterdag 10 Augustus 2013 vergader om 'n tussentydse grondwet te aanvaar en bedryfsake te oorweeg. Die vereniging het terselfdertyd 'n ooreenkoms bereik oor hul belangrikste take ter ondersteuning van die doelwit om leierskapvaardighede aan studenteleiers in amptelike hoedanighede oor te dra en sinvolle bydraes van alumni tot die ontwikkeling van die universiteit te bewerkstellig.

**Dr Michiel Strauss is leraar by die NG-gemeente Welgelegen.**

Foto's: Elmada Kemp



Haar Edele Regter Violet Phatshoane (Cum Laude-toekenning), mnr Paul Colditz (Cum Laude-toekenning), me Hanlie Retief (Cum Laude-toekenning) en mnr Tefo Ramanamane (Visevoorsitter, UV-Alumni).

Die akteur en filmmaker, Hannes van Wyk, onder meer bekend vir sy rol as Krynauw du Boisson in die M-Net-sepie Egoli, is as Oud-Kovsie van die Jaar aangewys tydens vanjaar se Kovsie Alumni-toekenning. Hy en ses ander oud-Kovsie-studente en -personeel is by dié glansryke geleentheid vereer vir hul uitsonderlike prestasies en bydraes gelewer tot die UV gedurende 2012.

Van Wyk, wat sy BA Ed in 1990 aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat voltooí het, is vir sy bydrae tot en ontwikkeling van die Suid-Afrikaanse Film- en Televisiebedryf vereer. Dit sluit in werk as produsent, skrywer, navorser en direkteur van maatskappye soos PACOFS, M-Net en die SABC.

Die akteur is nie enigste persoon in die openbare oog wat tydens die geleentheid vereer is nie.

Die bekende rubriekskrywer, Hanlie Retief, wat weekliks met die land se top-nuusmakers onderhoude voer vir die koerant Rapport, is met 'n Cum Laude-toekenning vereer. Sy is saam met Paul Colditz, Hoof-Uitvoerende Beampete van FEDSAS, die nasionale verteenwoordigende organisasie van beheerliggame asook UV-Raadslid, en regter Violet Phatshoane, stigter van Phatshoane & Henney Prokureurs en Regter in die Hooggereghof van Suid-Afrika, in hierdie kategorie vereer.

Hanlie het aan die gehoor vertel dat haar graad by Kovsies deure vir haar oopgemaak het. Sy het vertel van die onderhoud wat sy destyds met die atleet Zola Budd gevoer het, haar eerste storie wat in die universiteitspublikasie Bult geplaas is.

Prof Johan Willemse, wat internasionaal bekend is as landbou-ekonom, en dr Philemon Akach, ook bekend vir sy bydrae tot die ontwikkeling van Gebaretaal op die kontinent, is vereer met die Alumni-toekenning vir uitsonderlike diens aan die UV.

Die Kovsie Ambassadeurtoekenning is aan regter Faan Hancke, voormalige Voorsitter van die UV-Raad en Buitengewone Hoogleraar in die Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid aan die UV, oorhandig. Hy steeds betrokke by die Alumni Trust. – Amanda Tongha



# Facebook Status Update

*Deur Elsabe Pepler*

**F**acebook is goed. Ek behou so kontak met dosyne van my voormalige studente. Ek sien heeltyd wat hulle doen, maar het nogtans gesukkel om twee van hierdie einste eertydse studente vas te pen om meer oor hulle uit te vind, nou, lank nadat hulle in my klasse gesit het in Bloemfontein. In 1996 het 'n skaam, half-Engels-half-Afrikaanse Chris Botha sy oog op reklame gehad, en in 1997 was musikale DuPreez Strauss 'n minder rustige eerstejaar in kommunikasie en joernalistiek. Hier is my kontak met Botha en Strauss.

## The Jozi advertising guru with orange and white Cheetah blood

Chris Botha says I was his most favourite lecturer, back in the day at Kovsies, where he studied BA Communication Science.

The tables have turned since then, though. I am now the one in awe of him, watching his spectacular rise in the field of advertising. From the humble side lines emerged an ambitious man advancing to the position of Group Managing Director of The MediaShop which palms in accolades year after year. The once-shy student now regularly features as one of the top under-forty media youngsters in South Africa, as cited by *The Media* magazine and other surveys. All this while continually inspiring his enormous team to ever-greater heights.

I recall a very well-mannered, somewhat introverted Afrikaans guy with a naughty boyish face who was adamant to conquer the advertising industry one day. Chris was part of the graduating class of 1998 and went on to AAA School in Johannesburg in 1999. His heart was set on advertising from his first year, and he tells me how he travelled holidays on his own cost to do any kind of work in advertising agencies everywhere. This is his golden advice to students and future industry workers: work hard and get experience, because a degree can only take you so far. What do I have to offer that is different?, students should ask themselves.

He firmly points out differentiation as the reason to his success. One should always be willing to view things from as many different angles as possible, Chris says, because your clients are always radically different. They all need something to differentiate themselves from each other,



and for that you have to use your entire brain to make significant paradigm shifts.

It is precisely this whole-brain approach he loves most about the advertising industry. He revels in the process of one moment grappling with spread sheets, statistics, figures and projections, and the next bouncing creative ideas around with his design teams on conceptualizations, copy and outrageous, prize-winning taglines.

He clearly enjoys every minute of his life, whether working long hours under serious pressure with difficult clients, having fun with his colleagues, or spending time with his family. Chris is one of my Facebook friends and I'm always captivated by his status updates and pictures. Most of these centres around the richest blessings in his life: his wife, Julie – whom he describes as one of God's greatest gifts to him; his young children – whom he cannot believe he played a part in creating; and his job as advertising director. He is a

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humble, thankful man, brimming with faith, who readily confirms that God looks wonderfully after him.

He is proudly South African and has never considered leaving the advertising industry or the country. He

also regularly visits Bloemfontein for some good old-fashioned “kuier” with his mom and friends. I am extremely proud to say that my former student understood – and still holds onto – the importance of hard work, having fun and staying yourself.

## Flambojante verhoogster: klas van '99

Ek *doll* myself bietjie op voor ek met dié mooie man Skype. Hy reageer effens verbaas op my vraag oor hoe dit voel om beroemd te wees. Hy dink hy is beroemd nie. “Uhm, maar jy het onder ander vir Oprah Winfrey, Celine Dion, Clint Eastwood, Elton John, Matt Damon en Mandela opgetree, nie waar nie, DuPreez?”

Vir 'n voormalige Bloemfonteinse boorling en student is hy ligjare van waar hy begin het. Iemand wat vir 'n jaar lank die musiek-direkteur van Disney se Lion King-toneelstuk in Singapore was, is nie alledaags en gewoon nie – en baie ver van sy Kommunikasiestudie-wortels by die UV in 1997.

DuPreez het na sy BA Kommunikasiegraad by Kovsies meer van die lewe in Londen gaan leer, weg uit die beskermde Bloemfontein van sy kinderjare. Hy het teruggekom met ondervinding en selfkennis, en met sy sertifikaat oorvol krediete vir 'n volgende graad US gaan inskryf – net om die ekstra vakke wat reeds geslaag was, te verpak. (Let wel: alle grade en sertifikate is tot dusver cum laude behaal.)

DuPreez is tydens ons gesprek ernstiger as wat ek verwag het. Niks oppervlakkig en luidrugtig of egosentries, synde 'n media-ster nie. Ek sien steeds die intelligente, ietwat opstandige en verveelde student in my klas, maar nou op 'n dieper en besinnende manier. Sy pa, prof Sybrand Strauss, was vir baie jare aan die Fakulteit Teologie verbonde.

DuPreez het nie sy uitsonderlike loopbaankinkels en bekendheid doelgerig georkestreer nie. Hy het instinktief besluite geneem wat telkens groot verandering meegebring het. Hy sien homself eerder as iemand wat na 'n effe verveeld raak met dit waarmee hy besig is en dan skielik verras word met nuwe verwikkelinge wat hy nie eers kon voorspel nie.

Dis hoe hy in New York beland het. Op 29-jarige ouderdom het hy een oggend wakker geword en besef dat hy amper 30 is en nog nie eens in New York gebly het nie. Onaanvaarbaar!

Hy het al sy geld in een mandjie gesit en musiek gaan swot by die beroemde Juilliard Musiekskool. Daar het hy 'n besoeker aan die skool hom vir koffie genooi en voor

hy besef het, was hy besig 'n hotel-oudisie vir musiek-regisseur van die geliefde Lion King van Disney – nogal in die Verre Ooste. “Ek het maar net klavier gespeel en gesing toe die man my vra!”

Dis waar sy hele hart gevange is: in musiek. Vanaf die komposisie tot by die uitvoering en die verspreiding en bemerkning van die woorde en note in sy kop. Du Preez was mede-vervaardiger en skrywer van die multitalige musiekspel 'Jacobsbaai' wat in New York opgevoer was.

Nou werk hy lang dae en nagte aan 'n innovatiewe konsep in televisie/musiek wat aan tien ander lande verkoop is. Sugarushed (gaan loer by [www.sugarushed.com](http://www.sugarushed.com)) is 'n kombinasie van 'n realiteitsreeks en 'n dokumentêre "vervolgverhaal" oor 'n *music label* wat opwindende nuwe kunstenaars ontdek en bemark. Hy raak sigbaar opgewonde as hy oor die program gesels, al sien jy die moeg van lang ure se werk daaraan. Vir hom is dit 'n droom wat waar geword het: om onbekende, belowende nuwe musiek talent te soek, te ontgin, produseer en die wereld in te stuur onder die handelsmerk Sugarushed.

Hy lyk self soos 'n kleurvolle, singende Disney-roofdier of flambojante verkleurmannetjie in die episodes van Sugarushed waar hy tussen die klavier en mikrofoon en sangers rondspring. Hy dra *funky* klere in helder kleure met goeters om sy nek. Elegant, dinamies, energiek. Hy was juis die *surfer dude* in Villa Rosa wat amok gemaak het onder die meisies.

Hy was eintlik aan die droom van en op pad na 'n meestersgraad in musiektegnologie, maar die lewe het met DuPreez gebeur terwyl hy ander planne gemaak het. Oor sy twee jaar in die Ooste waartydens hy musikale regisseur van die Disney-span se Lion King was, stroom die storie en verstomming by sy mond uit. Hy is mal – mal – oor die Ooste, en Disney, nou ja, Disney doen nikls op klein skaal nie.

Ek is erg beïndruk met die eertydse rebelse eerstejaarstudent van 1997 wat in my klasse op Kovsies presteer het en drome oor verhoë gedroom het.

En ek weet wanneer ek 'n mens sien wat *famous* is. Iemand soos DuPreez Strauss. **B**

# Dr Kgotso Maphalla: Sesotho literature

With over 42 books to his name, he is to the Sesotho culture and literature what William Shakespeare is to the English. Among the books he has authored are 13 novels, 19 poetry anthologies, five short story collections and two drama books. He has also written six radio dramas for SABC's Lesedi FM and Qwaqwa Radio.

His name is Kgotso Pieter David Maphalla, popularly known as Dr KPD.

Dr Maphalla is a proud friend of the Kovsie family, having been conferred with an honorary doctorate in 2007.

His passion for writing and mentoring budding writers is indisputable, as he is currently writing six books aimed at developing new talent.

"As the older generation of writers, it is our responsibility to encourage younger writers to infuse new developmental themes into their writing," he said during the recent Writers Day event held on the Qwaqwa Campus.

"Our generation must give way to the younger ones to project new ideas into their writing. Their biggest challenge is to unite all writers, irrespective of their language. They must note that things have changed and they must accept other languages, otherwise the culture of writing will be faced with a myriad of challenges going forward," said Dr Maphalla – who has also translated two Afrikaans novelettes by Marita van Aswegen and Estelle Foster, respectively, into Sesotho.

Dr Maphalla now spends most of his time mentoring writers and offering advice to the Metjodi Writers, an organisation he founded. Among his many accolades

over the years are the Thomas Mofolo Awards for Poetry (1991, 1992, 1993, 1994), Thomas Mofolo Awards for Best Novel (1992, 1994) and Thomas Mofolo Overall Award in 1992. He has also won the MNET Book Prize for the Best Novel (1996) and the Maskew Miller Longman Literary Award in the Sesotho category (2009).

"I have received many awards and they are all important to me. However, the Lifetime Achiever Award from the Department of Sports, Arts and Culture under the then Minister Pallo Jordan in 2005, is very close to my heart," Dr Maphalla said.

Most recently, he was honoured by the Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality where he also transferred his copy rights to local schools and organisations. "I have up to date transferred rights of over 20 books to various community structures and schools in Bethlehem and Qwaqwa and these include the UFS Qwaqwa Campus," – referring to the rights to his novel, *Ha Maru A Rwalessana*, that the UFS now holds.

"This, in short, means I am signing off my rights to the books to these various organisations. For example, the UFS now has a right to further print more copies and keep the royalties," said Dr Maphalla.

"This is the legacy I want to leave behind and I am doing it now while I am still alive." ■

# A living legend

By Thabo Kessah



Dr Maphalla handing over the rights to his book, *Ha Maru A Rwalellana*, to Mary Mensele (Department of African Languages).

## 'n Besondere skildery

Prof Daan Pienaar skryf (na aanleiding van artikel in Bult 1 van 2013)

Dankie vir die berig aan die einde van die blad waarin u 'n foto van my, my dogter en kleindogter geplaas het. Die berig maak nie daarvan melding dat ek ook hier studeer het nie. Ek was nie net dosent hier nie, maar ook student.

In 1960/61 was ek die eerste student wat die BA-graad met Hebreeus as hoofvak verwerf het.

Ek wil ook 'n opmerking maak oor die kunswerk 'Vlam van Besieling' deur Daniela Geldenhuys in Huis Steyn. Van die mense wat 'n bydrae gemaak het om die kunswerk te koop, is Jans Rautenbach en Georg Meiring. Die kunswerk het in die 'gazellie' van Steyn gehang. Die Vishuis-inwoners is in 1958 na Steyn verskuif, maar is in 1959 terug na Vishuis en het die kunswerk saamgeneem. Jans Rautenbach was die dryfkrag agter die aankoop van die kunswerk.

## Dié familie het 'n eeu se verbintenis met die UV

Mev Ria Uys van Westerbloem, Bloemfontein, deel haar familie se verbintenis met die universiteit:

Uys Louw, tans 'n eerstejaarstudent- LLB-student, stam uit twee families van Kovsies.

Oupa Dirk Uys, BA (Hon) was die eerste geslag Kovsie. Hy was 'n boorling van Dewetsdorp en het ook daar gematrikuleer. Hy het vanaf 1957 vir 30 jaar in die biblioteek gewerk. Hy was getroud met Ria Friis, wat ook in die biblioteek gewerk het. Hulle het twee kinders, Elna Louw en Jaco Uys. Elna was 'n Kovsie, maar Jaco was op Stellenbosch, aangesien hy ingenieurswese gestudeer het. Dirk Uys is in 1996 oorlede.

Oupa Eben Louw het 'n meestersgraad in Sendingwetenskap in die jare 2000 aan die UV verwerf. Hy is getroud met Letitia. Hulle het vier kinders, Stefan, Gerhard (Kovsie), Hilda (Kovsie) en Letitia. In Natal was hy op verskeie plekke predikant. Is nou afgetree en in woon in Kaapstad.

Pa Gerhard Louw verwerf 'n BTh en is leraar op Winterton. Hy was 'n inwoner van JBM Hertzog en redakteur van Irawa. Hy het koshuisrugby gespeel en is met Elna Uys getroud. Hulle het drie kinders, Uys, Maritia en Jana. Uys is reeds 'n Kovsie en die dogters hoop om ook Kovsies te word.

Ma Elna beskik oor 'n Bluris van die UV. Sy was 'n inwoner van Huis Soetdoring en het hokkie vir die UV gespeel. Sy is landdros op Ladysmith en pendel tussen Winterton en Ladysmith.

**Red: Laat weet gerus van u verbintenis met die UV.**



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