

Built

NEWS MAGAZINE
NUUSTYDSKRIF
#1 | 2016



*Inspiring excellence. Transforming lives.
Inspireer uitnemendheid. Verander lewens.*

UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
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Welcome to the first edition of Bult for 2016!

"Almost every successful person begins with two beliefs: the future can be better than the present, and I have the power to make it so."

DAVID BROOKS

This motto could easily be the motto of the staff, students and alumni of the UFS. Reading about everyone's stories, this is what is reflected: someone intent on making a difference in the world.

Looking at the research done by Reitumetse Molaoa and Prof Esta van Heerden in the Department of Microbial, Biochemical and Food Biotechnology, the pursuit of a better environment is obvious. Read how Tumi is trying to address South Africa's energy crisis with cow dung and other waste materials.

Through their research, other researchers such as Dr Chitja Twala, Dr Charlotte Boucher, Dr Henry Jordaan, and Dr Samantha van Schalkwyk are also making a huge difference at the UFS. This group of researchers all do work that has the potential of not only transforming lives in their immediate surroundings, but also in the broader South African society.

The UFS is also very proud of the work done by Prof Pieter Meintjes and Dr Brian van Soelen. In March this year, their work with the H.E.S.S. Collaboration resulted in another publication in the

prestigious science journal *Nature*. In 2006, the Astro group of the UFS, led by Prof Meintjes, also published in *Nature* as part of the PLANET programme. Read more about this on p 8.

Another feather in the cap of the university was the remarkable growth in its output of scholarly books over recent years. The 13,83 subsidy units from scholarly books in 2010 has grown to 98,52 in 2014, lifting the university to fourth position nationally. Read on p 22 what Dr Glen Taylor, Senior Director: Research Development, says about this.

In the sports arena, the UFS also performed well. Louzanne Coetzee and world champion Wayde van Niekerk are set on making the UFS proud.

The UFS is also proud of Rolene Strauss, Miss World 2015, and Elizabeth Malapo, a former student who took the title as First Princess at this year's Miss South Africa competition. Rolene is pursuing her studies in Health

Sciences at the university this year.

Bult also likes to report on its alumni. Please read the article on where our sports heroes are today.

Greetings until next time

Leonie



Letter from the editor

Bult



COVER | Nozi Bonje, BSc Honours student. Read more about Nozi and the Student Bursary Fund Campaign on page 2.
FLYLEAVES | Design elements from various spaces on the Bloemfontein, South and Qwaqwa Campuses.

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Opinions expressed in the publication are not necessarily those of the university. *Bult* is sent to alumni, donors, business and government leaders, opinion formers and Kovsie friends. With the necessary acknowledgement, articles can be published elsewhere. Contact the Editor in this regard.

Menings wat in die publikasie gelug word, weerspieël nie noodwendig dié van die universiteit nie. *Bult* word onder oudstudeerders, donateurs, sake- en regeringsleiers, meningsvormers en Kovsie-vriende versprei. Artikels kan met die nodige erkenning elders gebruik word. Rig navrae hieroor aan die Redakteur.



“Motho ke motho ka batho. A person is a person through others.

We cannot survive in solitude.”

This is the philosophy **JEAN-PIERRÉ VAN DER WALT** lives by. He is a Kopsie alumnus who was able to study with external funding.

BY MICHELLE NÖTHLING

CHANGING LIVES THROUGH THE



It also reflects what lies at the heart of the Student Bursary Fund Campaign, launched recently by Prof Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the University of the Free State (UFS). “I believe the best way to break the cycle of poverty in South African families,” Prof Jansen says, “is to ensure that

talented first-generation students gain access to high-quality university degree training.” To that end, the campaign aims to raise money to fund talented, deserving students.

“Studying is not just about learning from a textbook,” says **NOZI BONJE**, who is currently a top BSc honours student at the UFS, majoring in Molecular Genetics. Her tertiary education has also been made possible solely through funding. “You start seeing things in a different perspective and respond differently.” Nozi and her friends are now initiating a mentorship programme to encourage high school kids to reach their potential.

VALENTINO NDABA, who completed a BA Communication Science degree in Media Studies and Journalism at the university with funding, reiterates the transformative power of higher education. “My grandmother used to tell me: ‘Imfundo iyisinkwas sakho saphakade’ – education is your eternal bread. To find a way out of poverty, I had to further my studies.” And that is exactly what she did.

“The impact of financial support reaches far beyond its monetary value. It pulls families from poverty. It sends forth experts and visionaries into the world. It changes the futures of individuals, of communities, and of our country irrevocably.”

We cannot raise this money alone. We need your support and generosity to change the landscape of our youth’s future.

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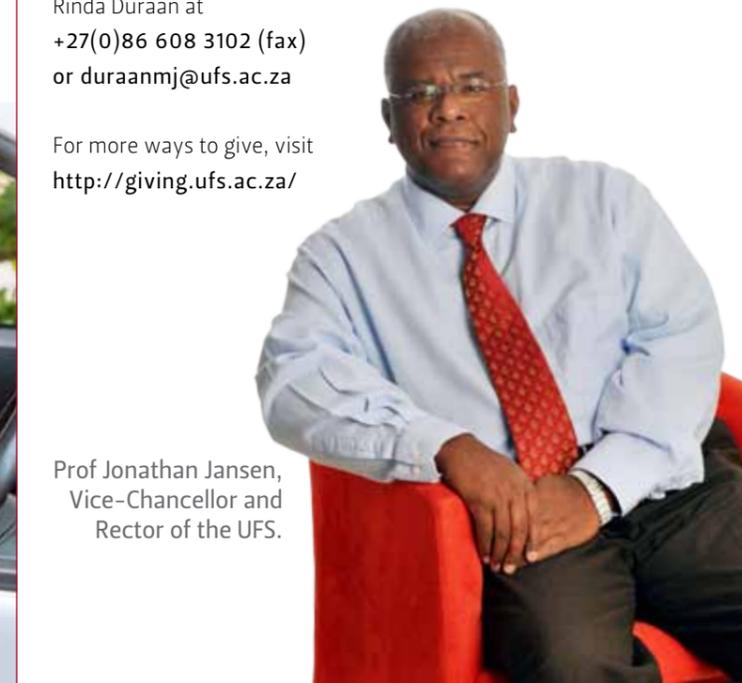
Nozi Bonje.



Valentino Ndaba.



Jean Pierré van der Walt.



Prof Jonathan Jansen,
Vice-Chancellor and
Rector of the UFS.

Kovsie **Fit** -droom

bied nuwe diens
aan UV-gemeenskap



DEUR JÓHANN THORMÄHLEN

Die droom van 'n gimnasium vir die gemeenskap van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat (UV) het 'n werklikheid geword.

Die UV sal vanaf **Junie 2016** amptelik 'n nuwe diens aan studente en personeel op die Bloemfontein-kampus bied; 'n diens waarmee hulle 'n gesonde leefstyl kan handhaaf en wat ook die universiteit se reeds suksesvolle sportspanne sal help.

KovsieFit, 'n kommersiële gimnasium vir die universiteitsgemeenskap, is deel van 'n rits opwindende nuwe wendings vir KovsieSport.

KovsieFit is een van twee gimnasiums; die ander een is 'n Hoëprestasie-sentrum vir die UV se atlete en sportspanne, wat in die Callie Human-sentrum gesetel sal wees. KovsieSport se kantore het ook begin vanjaar daarheen verskuif en die Hoëprestasiesentrum het reeds oopgemaak.

'n Derde gimnasium is die Sportwetenskapsentrum, die voormalige Biokinetika-gimnasium langs die Mabaleng-gebou. Dit het reeds in Januarie oopgemaak en sal hoofsaaklik as rehabilitasiesentrum gebruik word.

Volgens DB Prinsloo, Direkteur van Kovsiesport, is die geriewe 'n mylpaal. Hy het gesê die UV het nog nooit sulke geriewe gehad nie en dit sal ook sy atlete en sportspanne help.

Gideon Trotter,
100-m-naelloper van die UV.

Prinsloo het prof Nicky Morgan, Viserektor: Bedryf, bedank vir die hulp om dié droom te verwesenlik.

Pieter du Plessis, Uitvoerende Assistent vir die Viserektor: Bedryf, het gesê die idee om 'n hoëprestasiesentrum te bou, kom al jare en daar sou aanvanklik 'n nuwe gebou opgerig moes word.

“Ons het dit toe deurdink en besef ons moet eerder 'n ander bestaande gebou inspan en dit opknop. Die Callie Human-sentrum was die natuurlike plek, aangesien daar reeds 'n klomp sportbedrywighede plaasvind. Dit is byvoorbeeld naby Pelliespark en die swembad,” het hy gesê.

Volgens hom vorm KovsieFit en KovsieSport se kantore weer 'n sogenaamde sportsentrum op die Bloemfontein-kampus.

“Dit is ook belangrik vir die universiteit dat sy studente en personeel gesond is en 'n aktiewe leefstyl handhaaf.”

Du Plessis meen die nuwe geriewe skep ook opwindende geleenthede vir navorsing in Sportwetenskap en Biokinetika. Die opleiding van Biokinetika- en Sport-wetenskapstudente sal steeds by die Sport-wetenskapsentrum plaasvind. **B**

KovsieFit
se nuwe
geriewe sal
studente en
personeel van
die UV van
die Vrystaat
die geleentheid
bied om fiks
te bly.

MEET OUR COUNCIL

Nthabeleng Rammile is no stranger to the UFS. Not only did she complete all her qualifications – BCom (Human Resources), BComHons (Marketing), MCom (Services Marketing), and PhD (Brand Management) – at the UFS, but was also a lecturer in Marketing, Brand Management, and Consumer Behaviour at the university for 13 years. She was elected to the UFS Council this year.

Nthabeleng was inducted into Golden Key – an internationally recognised, non-profit organisation affiliated with over 400 universities worldwide – as an honorary member in 2010.

Currently, she is working as a pastor at Global Reconciliation Church.

“I am privileged to empower people, especially

women, with knowledge, wisdom, and encouragement from the word of God,” she says.

Her involvement with the university came full circle when she was elected to the Council in 2016. As a council member, her primary goal is to influence decisions that will make the UFS the best academic institution in the country. She also hopes to play a role in the wellness of students and staff members.

She is hugely passionate about education, and takes her role as a member of Council very seriously.

“Education, whether formal or informal, is the ultimate liberating tool for our nation. That is why I am so glad to be a part of the UFS Council,” she says.

Nthabeleng is married to Mohau, also a pastor at Global Reconciliation Church. They have two children – a son, Mohlodi (12) and a daughter, Tlotliso (7). She relaxes from her emotionally-demanding job as pastor by travelling and being outside in nature. **E**

Nthabeleng Rammile

BY ILSE SMALLBERGER
PHOTO | SONIA SMALL

A UFS journey comes full circle



“This will ensure that the lab can continue testing vaccines for the next three years.”

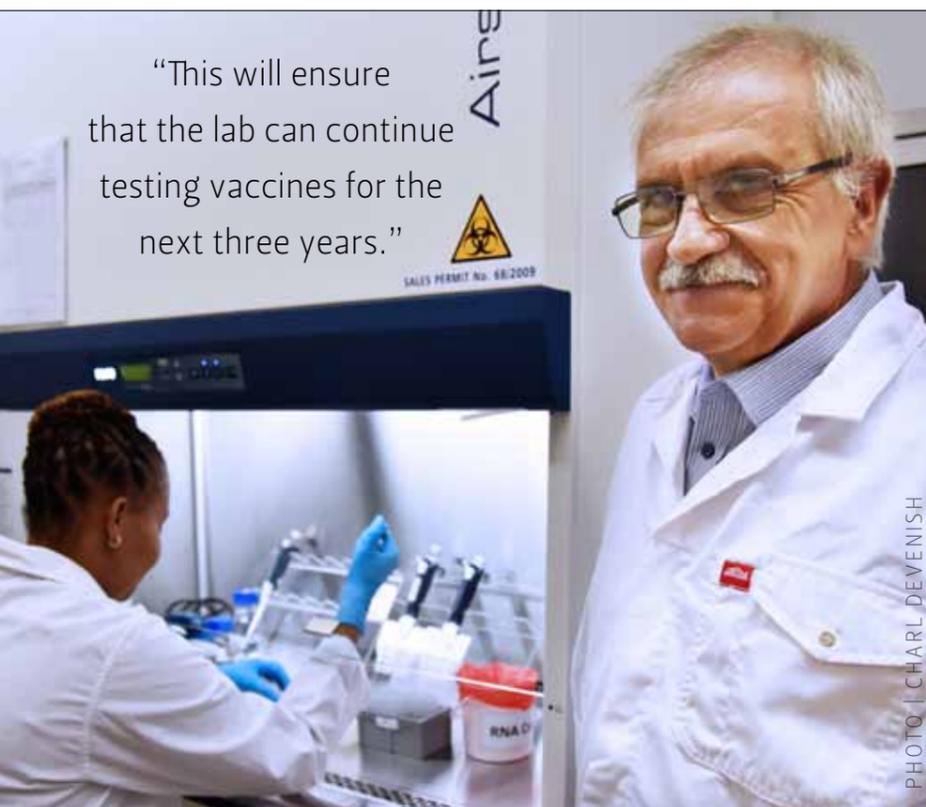


PHOTO | CHARL DEVENISH

National Department of Health invests **R53.5 million** in UFS laboratory

BY NONSINDISO QWABE

The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that, worldwide, about 5.2 million children under the age of six die annually. Of these deaths, 29% can be prevented through vaccinations. Research has revealed that vaccines prevent about 6 million deaths globally each year. Consequently, safe and effective vaccines are essential tools in maintaining public health. These vaccines require strict international regulation.

The South African National Control Laboratory (NCL) for Biological Products at the UFS – the only one of its kind in Africa – plays a vital role in this regulation process. Now, in recognition of the outstanding work

done by Prof Derek Litthauer, Director of the NCL, and his team, the National Department of Health has awarded the laboratory a contract to the value of R53.5 million. This will ensure that the lab can continue testing vaccines for the next three years.

The lab receives samples of vaccines from manufacturers and importers for rigorous evaluation and testing. No vaccine may be used in South Africa without a release certificate issued by the control lab certifying that the vaccine is suitable for use in humans.

The contract of R53.5 million underscores the commitment to providing vaccines of the highest quality in South Africa by both the National Department of Health and Prof Litthauer’s team at the NCL. **E**



Dr Derek Litthauer.

Navorsers in Departement Fisika deel van span wat in *Nature* publiseer

DEUR LEONIE BOLLEURS

Navorsers in twee departemente aan die universiteit was in minder as ses maande by navorsing betrokke wat in die toonaangewende navorsingstydskrif *Nature* gepubliseer is.

Die Departement Mikrobiese, Biochemiese en Voedselbiotegnologie was verlede jaar deel van 'n span navorsers waarvan die referaat in *Nature* gepubliseer is. Vanjaar het 'n referaat van die H.E.S.S. Collaboration, waarby navorsers van die Departement Fisika betrokke is, in hul voetspore gevolg.

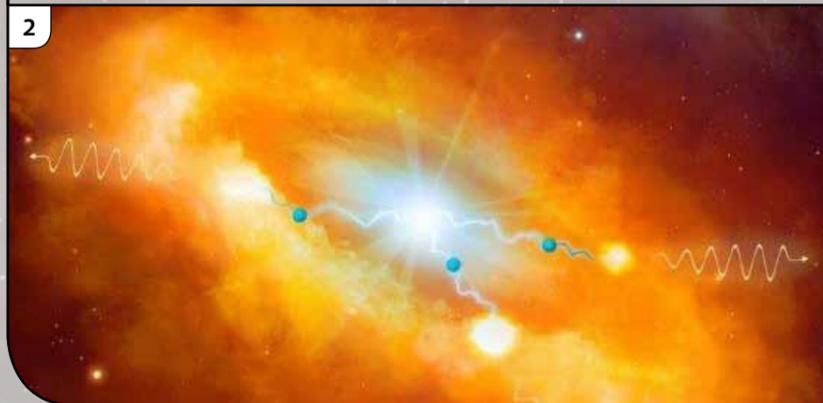
Prof Pieter Meintjes, professor in die Departement Fisika en groephoof van Astrofisikanavorsing aan die UV, en dr Brian van Soelen, dosent en opkomende navorser, is al sedert 2012 lede van die H.E.S.S. Collaboration ('n samewerkingsgroep van internasionale wetenskaplikes).

Die referaat wat in Maart vanjaar in *Nature* gepubliseer is, 'Acceleration of petaelectronvolt protons in the Galactic Centre', is gebaseer op 'n ontdekking wat deur die H.E.S.S.-samewerkingsgroep gemaak is.

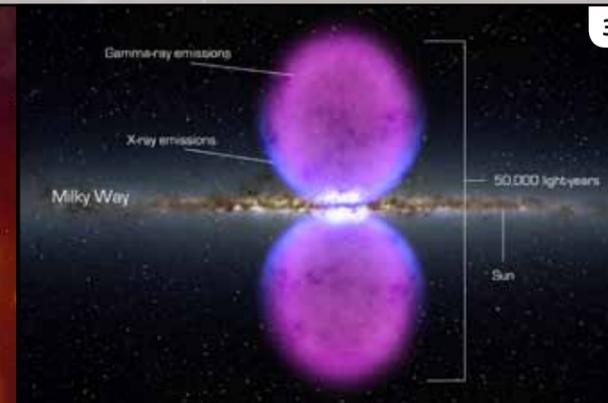
Die navorsing waaroor die H.E.S.S.-samewerkingsgroep in *Nature* verslag doen, fokus op die ontdekking van 'n proton PeVatron in die middel van die Melkwegsterrestelsel. 'n Proton PeVatron is 'n voorwerp wat protone tot 'n energievlak van $\sim 1 \text{ PeV}$ (10^{15} eV) kan versnel. "Dit is buitengewone hoë energievlakke - baie groter as wat bereik kan word deur byvoorbeeld die groot Hadron Collider in CERN, Switzerland. Die



1



2



3



4

PeVatron is naby die middel van die Melkweg geleë, en terwyl daar verskillende moontlike bronne is, is die mees waarskynlike kandidaat die Sagittarius A*, die 4-miljoen-sonmassa-gravitasiekolk in die middel van ons Melkweg-sterrestelsel," sê dr Van Soelen.

"Dit is 'n uiters belangrike ontdekking, want dit impliseer dat spiraalgalaksies soos die Melkweg genoeg energie produseer om gelaai deeltjies tot bykans die spoed van lig te versnel.

Volgens prof Meintjes is die prosesse agter die versnelling baie interessant. Deur die prosesse te bestudeer, kan navorsers met maniere vorendag kom om plasmaversnellers te bou ten einde energie te produseer. In die prosesse kan plasmas (superwarm gasse) deur middel van magneetveldskokke genoeg energie ontvang sodat gelaai deeltjies kernsmelting kan ondergaan, wat 'n uiters doeltreffende en skoon bron van energie is. Die energie kan in elektrisiteit omgeskakel word. Die navorsing is nog in die beginfase, maar teen die spoed wat tegnologie ontwikkel, behoort prosesse soos hierdie oor tien tot twintig jaar nie ver van die werklikheid te wees nie.

Buiten hul betrokkenheid by die H.E.S.S.-samewerkingsgroep, het prof Meintjes en dr Van Soelen in Januarie 2015 'n referaat oor gammastraal-emissie van die Groot Magellaanse Wolke (LMC Large Magellanic Clouds)-gebied in *Science* gepubliseer. Die UV-astrogroep het ook in 2006 as deel van die PLANET-program in *Nature* gepubliseer. **B**

1 Dr Brian van Soelen en prof Pieter Meintjes.

2 'n Hubble-foto van 'n spiraalsterrestelsel soos ons Melkweg om te illustreer hoe ons Melkweg lyk as dit van buite waargeneem word

3 'n Kunstenaarsvoorstelling van hoe hoë-energie deeltjies uit die Melkweg vloe nadat dit geproduseer word. Die hoë-energie-emissie is deur die Fermi-gammastraalteleskoop gemeet en bevestig weereens dat ons Melkweg 'n bron van baie hoë energie asook dergelike ander bronne van hoë-energie-uitstraling bevat.

4 Die Hoë-energie Stereoskopiese Stelsel (H.E.S.S.)-teleskoop; die wêreld se mees sensitiewe hoë-energie-gammastraalteleskoop, wat naby die Gamsberg in Namibië geleë is.

MEET OUR COUNCIL

Ryland Fisher:
mediakenner,
politieke
kommentator,
kuns liefhebber,

redakteur, joernalis,
rubriekskrywer,
outeur,
entrepreneur...

DEUR ILSE SMALBERGER

Met meer as 30 jaar se ondervinding in die mediabedryf as voormalige redakteur van *Cape Times* en *New Age*, asook assistent-redakteur van die *Sunday Times*, en danksy 'n diepsinnige begrip van die politieke situasie in Suid-Afrika, was Ryland Fisher 'n vanselfsprekende keuse om in die Raad van die UV te dien.

Hy is in Kaapstad gebore en getoë en het Joernalistiek aan Rhodes-Universiteit studeer voordat die politieke toestand in Suid-Afrika sy studies onderbreek het. Ten spyte hiervan, het Ryland diep spore in die akademie getrap. Hy het lesings oor rassekwessies en diversiteit by onder meer die Universiteit van Kaapstad, Instituut vir die Bevordering van Joernalisme in Johannesburg, Emory-Universiteit in Atlanta en Ohio-Universiteit aangebied.

Ryland het reeds twee boeke vrygestel (*Race* in 2007 en *Making the Media Work for You* in 2002) en was onder andere redakteur van die *Official Opus on Nelson Mandela*.

Hy is in 2015 tot die UV-Raad verkies. Ryland glo dat sy besondere agtergrond en begrip van die mediabedryf, asook van ras- en diversiteitsaangeleenthede, 'n waardevolle bydrae tot die Raad kan lewer.

“Ek het bewese ondervinding in die politiek, media en entrepreneurskap. Ek bied ook gereeld lesings oor die media en maatskaplike transformasie aan. Ek glo dit bied my unieke siening wat tot voordeel van die Raad kan wees,” sê hy.

Ryland het 'n besondere voorliefde vir die kunste en is uitvoerende voorsitter van die Kaapstadfees. Hy en sy vrou is reeds meer as 30 jaar getroud en sy drie dogters is sy hart se punt. **B**

Ryland Fisher



FOTO | JOHAN ROUX

MEET OUR COUNCIL

LIKELELI MPHUTLANE – *giving back* to her alma mater

BY ILSE SMALBERGER

The UFS has long been considered a leader in diversity. Its diverse character is nowhere more apparent than on the UFS Council, where different voices with differing viewpoints and diverse cultural backgrounds strive to lead the institution to greater heights.

PHOTO | SUPPLIED

One such voice belongs to Likeleli Mphutlane,

who has been serving on the UFS Council since 2015. This dynamic young woman was born in Lesotho, and matriculated at Louw Wepener High School as a Matriculant of the Year Top 14 finalist.

She completed a BA degree at the UFS, while serving as vice-primaria of Welwitschia Residence, after which she obtained a BA Honours degree from the University of South Africa.

She qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 2014. After gaining work experience at PriceWaterhouseCoopers and SAB, she now works as independent consultant in her own company, Inspire Innovation Business Consultants.

Likeleli serves on the audit and risk committee as well as the financial committee of the Council.

“I believe that my role on the Council is to share my expertise and skills to ensure that the university upholds the highest standards of governance, and achieves its objectives of remaining financially sustainable,” she says.

“I also think that, as a black female alumnus, I bring a diverse viewpoint to the Council.”

While her responsibilities as co-founder of the Lesotho Young Professionals Forum, and chairperson of the Free State branch of the Association for the Advancement of Black Accountants South Africa, keep her busy, she enjoys physical activity and travelling with her husband, Stephen Monyamane. **B**

UFS
launches
continental campaign
for **women's rights**
to celebrate Human Rights Day

BY ANNELIE DE MAN

To celebrate South African Human Rights Day, the newly-established UFS Centre for Human Rights, funded by the Faculty of Law Advocacy Division, was host to Adv Pansy Tlakula, Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights on the Bloemfontein Campus.

Adv Tlakula launched a campaign by the African Commission, declaring 2016 the year for human rights in Africa with a particular focus on women. The aim of the campaign is to raise awareness throughout Africa of human rights, and, more particularly, the rights of women. She also mentioned the African Youth Charter and the obligations on all states to build the capacities

of young people, keeping in mind the particular role they as young people play in peace-building and conflict resolution. She urged students to advocate continuously for the implementation of the Youth Charter as well as the 2009-2018 Plan of Action of the Pan African Youth Union.

The guests included the CEO of the South African Human Rights Commission, Lindiwe Khumalo, as well as Commissioner Mohamed Ameerma, and other delegates of the Free State South African Human Rights Commission. **B**

Service learning:
a **fresh**
approach to **local**
and
international
collaboration

BY KAREN VENTER

Over time, the School of Nursing has developed its service learning project capacity. On the international front, networking by lecturers has opened doors to the formation of international partnerships, creating a framework of knowledge sharing for students, lecturers, and communities.

One of the significant developments in the first-year service-learning programme is a community engagement grant from the National Research Foundation for the period 2015-2017, to explore opportunities on how to share knowledge through rural-based health dialogues for improved health outcomes.

More collaborations were formed between HiComm, the UFS School of Nursing, and the community of Springfontein. HiComm is a communication tool which integrates web and SMS interfaces to assist organisations and communities to overcome logistical barriers.

Karen Venter, lecturer at the School of Nursing, who leads this programme, believes that an open, active network of communities, non-profit organisations, and universities will foster sustainable community-university partnerships. "This will also steer community members towards self-action through open communication. As partners, our common goal is to explore a combination of new academic and technological models for research-based community engagement," she says.

One of the international partners in this programme is Virginia University in the USA. On the recent visit by two of its students, Sid Pailla, PhD engineering, and Ella Shoup, Social Sciences, who share a passion for community engagement and service learning, a memorandum of understanding for research collaboration was signed, and will strengthen future programmes. **B**

PHOTO | SUPPLIED



From the left: Sid Pailla, Karen Venter, and Ella Shoup.

Relations with **Osaka** University will be strengthened

BY LEATITIA PIENAAR

The UFS's relations with the Osaka University of Japan will be strengthened, bringing more faculties into the fold, says Prof Hussein Solomon, Senior Professor in Political Studies and Governance.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the UFS Faculty of the Humanities and the Osaka School for International Public Policy was signed in 2012.

“The Osaka-UFS agreement is the only one that the Japanese university has in Africa, and is a compliment for the university.”

Osaka is one of the top universities in Japan, and is listed among the top universities in the world.

Prof Solomon is driving the agreement at the

UFS. Osaka University requested an agreement after he lectured in Japan in 2011. Prof Solomon is recognised as a world expert on conflict and conflict resolution in Africa, South African foreign policy, international relations theory, religious fundamentalism, and population movements in the developing world.

The MoU makes provision for the establishment of two institutes, annual conferences, the exchange of PhD students, or postdocs, and a link between other universities in Africa.

The institutes are the Southern African Centre for Collaboration on Peace and Security (SACCPS) (<http://www.saccps.org>), and the Centre for Engagement on African Peace and Security (CEAPS) (<http://www.ceaps.info>). SACCPS is a network of researchers and practitioners in southern Africa and beyond. CEAPS explores the issue of conflict resolution in Africa.

Projects are funded by the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science.

Prof Hussein says other faculties at the UFS can benefit from the MoU. Japan is the third-largest economy in the world, and students can tap into their knowledge. Natural and agricultural sciences should also benefit as Osaka University is the leader in natural sciences in Japan.

The Qwaqwa and South Campuses of the UFS will also be drawn into the fold, with joint supervision also being envisaged.

Prof Hussein will visit Japan again in July this year. Before then, his book, *Islamic State and the Coming Global Confrontation*, was published at the end of April 2016. Two more books are in the pipeline, one which will be published in July and the other in August this year. **B**

**Prof Hussein
Solomon**

UFS Postgraduate Student Council's *community project* a success

BY OTENG MPETE

The UFS Postgraduate Student Council embarked on a courageous community engagement project for Mandela Day in 2015. The programme aimed at helping offenders at Tswelopele Correctional Centre to pass their matric exams, and to give them the opportunity of tertiary education.

The Postgraduate Student Council assisted the offenders at

Tswelopele by offering career guidance for when they leave the correctional facility, as well as study techniques to assist them throughout the year, to ensure a 100% pass mark in 2016. Eleven offenders who had participated in the Postgraduate Student Council project passed their matric exams, while one is currently busy with his supplementary exams. Tswelopele has a 92% pass rate; it is the best-performing correctional centre in South Africa.

Prof Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the university, said that he is immensely proud of the matriculants from

Tswelopele Correctional Centre. He added that it is vital for every human being to receive a second chance.

“Rehabilitation programmes are meant to give offenders a second chance at life, because we cannot give up on humanity.”

“Correctional centres and rehabilitation centres are a societal responsibility. Society must not give up on offenders. Everyone deserves a second chance.

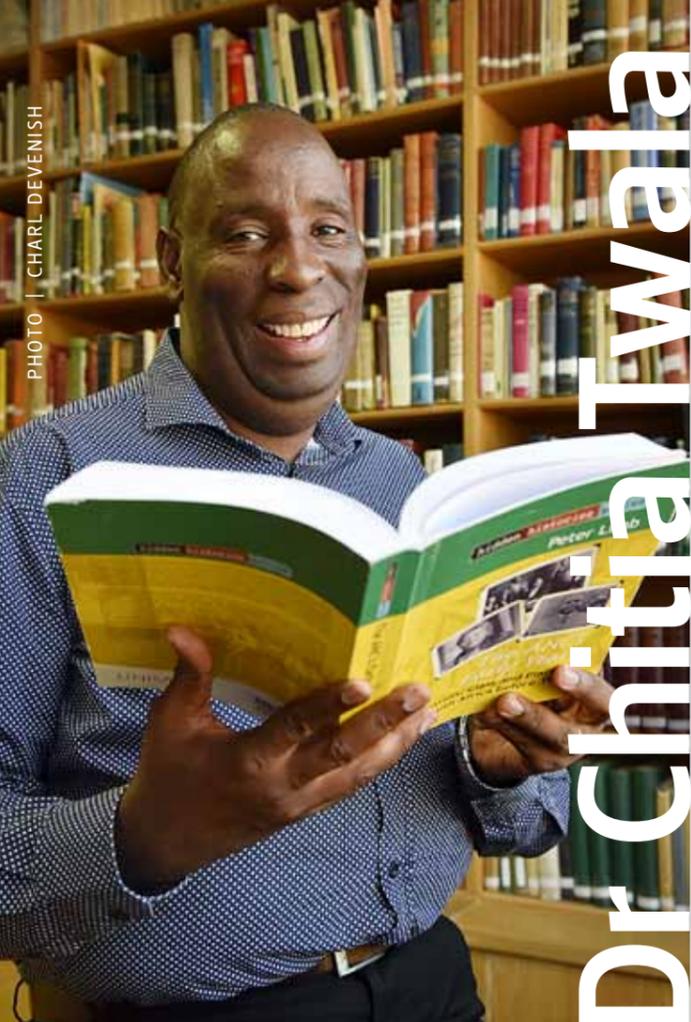
“To our offenders going through rehabilitation and all our young people who are our hope for the future of our beloved country, be encouraged. Dream again. Discover the wonder in your lives,” said Gustav Wilson, Regional Head: Development and Care, Free State and Northern Cape Region. **B**

Prof Jonathan Jansen, UFS Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Dr Henriette van den Berg, Director of the Postgraduate School, and Gustav Wilson, Regional Head: Development and Care, Free State and Northern Cape Region.



PHOTO | OTENG MPETE

Research Navorsing



Dr Chitja Twala

Changing the face of African stereotypes one lecture at a time

BY OTENG MPETE

Dr Chitja Twala, Senior Lecturer in the Department of History at the UFS was invited as a Visiting Fellow at the Harvard University Centre for Africa Studies. His time as a Visiting Fellow was spent on research for a book project, attending seminars, and presenting academic papers.

Currently, Dr Twala is collaborating with Prof Peter Limb from Michigan State University on a book on the history of the African National Congress (ANC) in the Free State from 1912 to 2012. The book is expected to be published by UNISA Press towards the end of 2016. He is the author of six chapters in *The Road to Democracy in South Africa: Vol. 4 (1970-1980) and Vol. 6 (1990-1996)*.

His most recent international invitations include a history lesson to students from Bellows Union High School, in Vermont. His presentation was titled 'South Africa and the US: Black-White Confrontation History'. He pointed out the misrepresentations and stereotypes of Africa, and compared the US Civil Rights Movement to the resistance to apartheid in South Africa.

He was also invited to University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), where he presented a paper titled: 'The twelve disciples of Nelson Mandela: their role in the liberation struggle'.

Dr Twala has published 62 peer-reviewed articles in local and international journals, and has collaborated with leading academics. He is an editorial board member of the *Journal for Contemporary History* and *Yesterday and Today*.

He is also one of the first fellows of Prof Jonathan Jansen's Vice Chancellor's Prestige Scholarship Programme. **B**



Dr Boucher produces cutting edge research

BY PROF JACKIE DU TOIT



Dr Charlotte Boucher, a member of Professor Jansen's Prestige Scholars' Programme, is a National Research Foundation Thuthuka grant-holder.

When Dr Charlotte Boucher completed her PhD in 2014, one of her examiners referred to her work on the current understanding of the innate immune response as "on the cutting edge of veterinary biotechnology research". She is co-leader of Veterinary Biotechnology, and lecturer in the Department Microbial, Biochemical, and Food Biotechnology at the UFS.

Dr Boucher, a member of Professor Jonathan Jansen's Prestige Scholars' Programme (PSP), is a National Research Foundation (NRF) Thuthuka grant-holder.

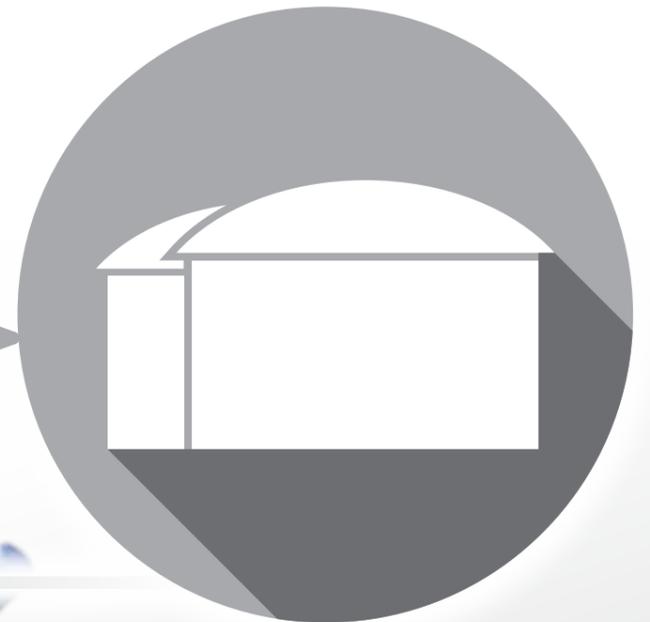
She has also conducted research at the Institut

National de la Recherche Agronomique in France, where she worked on patented technology, which currently forms the basis of an expression platform. Expression technology is being applied currently in the development of diagnostic kits and/or vaccines for the poultry industry. This research has been successful in attracting funding from the Technology Innovation Agency.

Her current work focuses on understanding *Avibacterium paragallinarum*, a pathogenic bacterium that causes upper respiratory tract infections in chickens, resulting in huge economic losses globally while having an obvious impact on world food sustainability. Her focus is on exploiting the genomes and proteomes of all the reference isolates belonging to this bacterium, in order to understand immunological responses associated with this disease. **B**

Towards an environmentally friendly, **renewable** energy solution for SA's energy crisis

BY LEONIE BOLLEURS



Countries such as Germany and the USA have begun to generate electricity from agricultural waste products, cow dung, and various food wastes through a process known as biogas production.

Reitumetse Molaoa is a researcher and postgraduate student in the TIA-UFS SAENSE platform, managed by Prof Esta van Heerden from the Department of Microbial, Biochemical and Food Biotechnology at the university. Reitumetse dreams of a better understanding of the interactions of bacteria involved in biogas production, in order to optimise biogas production options in South Africa.

Biogas is a good alternative for fossil fuels, as it addresses the issue of limited energy resources.

Biogas production

Theoretically, any organic material can be used to produce biogas. Consequently, it is an excellent way for farmers to dispose of agricultural waste and sewage sludge. The biogas liquid effluent can also be utilised as a fertiliser for plants and crops, as it is high in nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium.

Biogas is produced in a digester. In the digester, an oxygen-free space into which material such as cow dung and waste food are fed, the bacteria digest the organic material. Thus biogas, which consists mainly of methane and a mixture of carbon dioxide, nitrogen,

and hydrogen sulphide, is produced naturally.

Because it is highly flammable, methane can be used as renewable energy source.

According to Reitumetse, little is known about the interaction of bacteria in the digester. "For biogas to be used as a sustainable fuel source, we need to understand the bacterial groups and growth dynamics inside the digester in order to produce biogas optimally," she says.

She is currently testing a variety of feedstock including maize, bran, and molasses for their potential in producing biogas. She is also researching conditions which may be beneficial for biogas production.



Advantages of biogas

Apart from the fact that biogas can be used to generate electricity, it has other advantages. It is more environmentally friendly than traditional ways of generating electricity. Biogas burns clean without polluting the environment, thus reducing South Africa's carbon footprint. Moreover, it is renewable and as long as waste is produced it will never be depleted. Renewable energy facilities also require less maintenance than traditional generators.

A number of industries in South Africa, including farming, have recognised that this technology could be used to generate heat and to power machines.

Reitumetse would be happy if her research makes a significant contribution by providing insights to an environmentally friendly, renewable energy solution for South Africa's energy crisis. However, to find solutions for the here and now is more important. **B**

Reitumetse Molaoa

Growth in scholarly books is remarkable



BY LEATITIA PIENAAR

“The UFS has shown remarkable growth in the output of scholarly book publications over the recent years,” Dr Glen Taylor, Senior Director: Research Development, says. The 13,83 subsidy units from scholarly books

in 2010 has grown to 98,52 in 2014, lifting the university to 4th position nationally.

“It is encouraging for the research office to see that the number of books have increased over the years, together with the units we receive for subsidy, but also the steady increase in quality of our scholarly books in general,” he says.

One of the authors, Dr Christian Williams of the Department of Anthropology, received the 2016 Distinguished Scholar Book Prize at the university’s official opening earlier this year. The book, *National Liberation in Postcolonial Southern Africa: a Historical Ethnography of Swapo’s exile camps*, is the first full-length scholarly monograph on Swapo and Namibians in exile.

The 13,83 subsidy units from scholarly books in 2010 was about a 10% increase in outputs from 2005 to 2010. In 2010, the higher education industry sector as a whole produced 401,68 units from scholarly books. The UFS contribution of approximately 3,44% placed the university in 10th position, Dr Taylor says.

In 2014, the industry had grown significantly in the field of scholarly books. The units increased from the 401,68 in 2010 to 879,68 – a growth of about 119%. The UFS produced 98,52 of these units,

contributing 10,5 % of the scholarly book units for the sector as a whole, placing the UFS in fourth position.

Dr Taylor said in terms of research output subsidy units, the scholarly book category accounts for only about 6% of the total units the universities receive. Journal outputs are still the main subsidy generator for the higher education industry. The main reason is that it takes longer for researchers to produce a scholarly book than a journal article. The Department of Higher Education acknowledges this phenomenon, and has adapted this subsidy policy to increase the number of subsidy units for scholarly books from 5 in the past to 10 units.

“The increase in subsidy for scholarly books should stimulate the sector further, and an increase in scholarly books is expected, which complements the university research output strategy to become a leading research-intensive institution,” Dr Taylor says.

Scholarly books are produced mainly in the social sciences (35%), followed by philosophy,

theology, and religion which account for 13,5% of the outputs. Law contributes 9,5%, language, linguistics, and literature 9,3%, and education 5,6%. Natural and agricultural sciences produce less than 1% of the scholarly books outputs. **B**

Dr Glen Taylor.

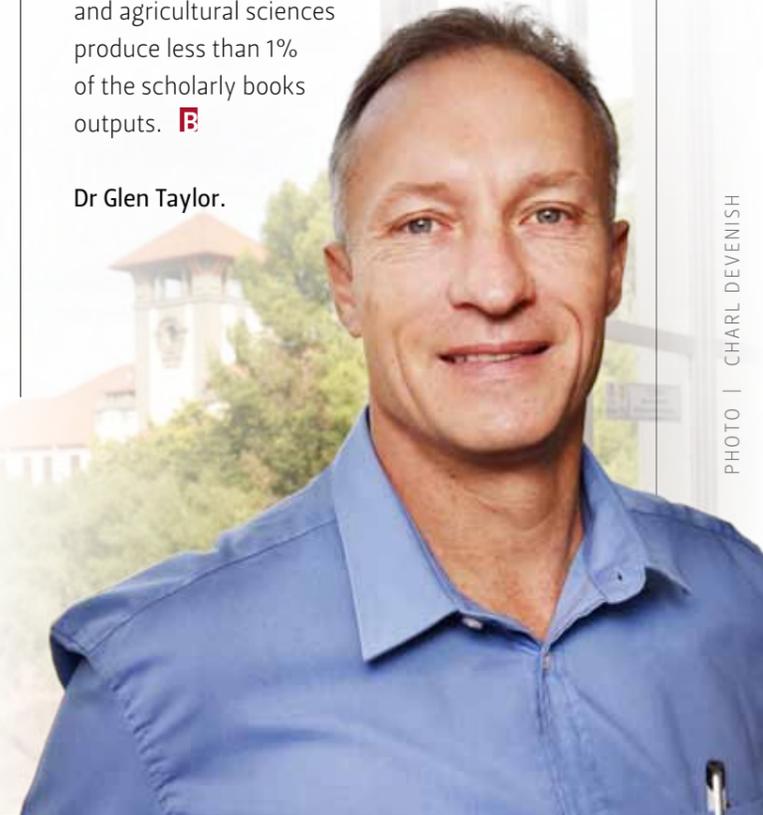


PHOTO | CHARL DEVENISH



PHOTO | SONIA SMALL

Visionary Scholarship on Water

BY PROF JACKIE DU TOIT

Universities across the world are often accused of being out of touch with reality, and unable to translate blue skies research into the immediate needs of an increasingly complex society. This criticism is countered successfully by the visionary research coming from the cohort of young scholars on the Vice-Chancellor’s Prestige Scholars Programme (PSP) at the UFS.

The work of Dr Henry Jordaan in Agricultural Economics illustrates this. Although El Nino and drought has brought a sense of urgency to his and other young scholars’ work, the establishment of an international Water Footprint research network has been some years in the making.

Dr Jordaan’s interest was first aroused by research conducted for the Water Research Commission in 2007 on the optimisation of water use in agricultural value chains.

Since then, he has developed a conceptual framework that allows for a holistic approach to analyse the behaviour of farmers to allow them to maximise their benefits from access to irrigation water.

Prof Max Bergman, sociologist of the University of Basel, was particularly impressed by this work, and he has since become a mentor and close collaborator. Dr Jordaan’s research on water footprint assessment and the like has also attracted a significant number of graduate students.

Recently, he co-convoked a special session on the topic at the 15th World Water Congress in Edinburgh. There, the International Water Footprint Research Alliance was launched. The UFS, represented by Dr Jordaan, is a founding member with partners from the Netherlands, Spain, and China. This alliance puts the university at the forefront of research on a limited resource through their proposed collaborative work on field and forage crops, as well as on fuel and fibre crops in South Africa. **B**

Dr Henry Jordaan

What does it mean to be a woman or a man in this world?

BY MICHELLE NÖTHLING

Significant moments of connection. That quiet pause that brims with understanding quite unexpectedly. It is within these spaces that Dr Samantha van Schalkwyk bridges the divide between the sexes.

“I am currently leading a major gender research project at the UFS,” says Dr Van Schalkwyk, Senior Researcher and Coordinator of Trauma, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation Studies. “The project brings both male and female students from our university together in workshops and truth-telling processes to share their gendered experiences and traumas.”

The workshops, Dr Van Schalkwyk explains, offer the participants a safe space to interrogate what it actually means to be a young woman or man in this world. During these sessions, students are guided into challenging their personal, damaging understandings of masculinity and femininity. “We begin to deconstruct gendered social conditioning, and to explore new ways of understanding ourselves.”

Conducted under the auspices of Prof Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, who leads Trauma, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation Studies, Dr Van Schalkwyk’s project is about disrupting patriarchy. It is one of the first academic projects to explore these gender dynamics. Although academically rooted, the work is intensely practical. It is closely connected to gender reconciliation work done by Dr Will Keepin and Rev Cynthia Brix from the non-profit organisation Gender Reconciliation International. Ultimately, this is healing work.

The insights gained from this project are highly relevant for our country at present. “This project has theoretical and practical implications for changing gender relations in university contexts,” Dr Van Schalkwyk says, “and is of critical significance when considering the staggering rates of gender-based violence at university campuses in South Africa.” **B**

PHOTO | CHARL DEVENISH



Dr Samantha van Schalkwyk



Staff
Personeel

Prof Sechaba Mahlomaholo

honoured
at National
Teaching
awards



BY OTENG MPETE

Prof Sechaba Mahlomaholo, Dean of the UFS Faculty of Education, has been honoured with the prestigious Kader Asmal Leadership Runner-up Award at the National Teaching Awards held annually by the Department of Basic Education.

“To be recognised is overwhelming. I am proud to be seen as a leader who embodies some of Prof Kader Asmal’s traits. The award is recognition for what I have been trying to achieve throughout my life: the restoration of recognition and respect for educators. Secondly, in embodying excellence, young teachers should know that the sky is not the limit. Lastly, I believe that teaching is a patriotic act; education development has been identified as an apex

priority for both social development and social upliftment,” says Prof Mahlomaholo.

He says the faculty’s top priorities are focusing on education, recognising the need to improve the quality of education, skills training, as well as the development of teachers who are already in service, while also addressing issues such as the development and training of caregivers and Technical Vocational Education and Training teachers who lack formal qualifications. Currently, the faculty is working on a programme that will introduce the training of teachers of children aged 0-4.

In 2015, the Faculty of Education had a total of 364 registered students at the Bloemfontein Campus. The faculty was delighted to announce that it had 697 registered students in 2016. Prof Mahlomaholo is also very excited about the increase in student numbers on the Qwaqwa Campus. The faculty had

a total number of 249 registered students in 2015 which has increased to 568 students in 2016.

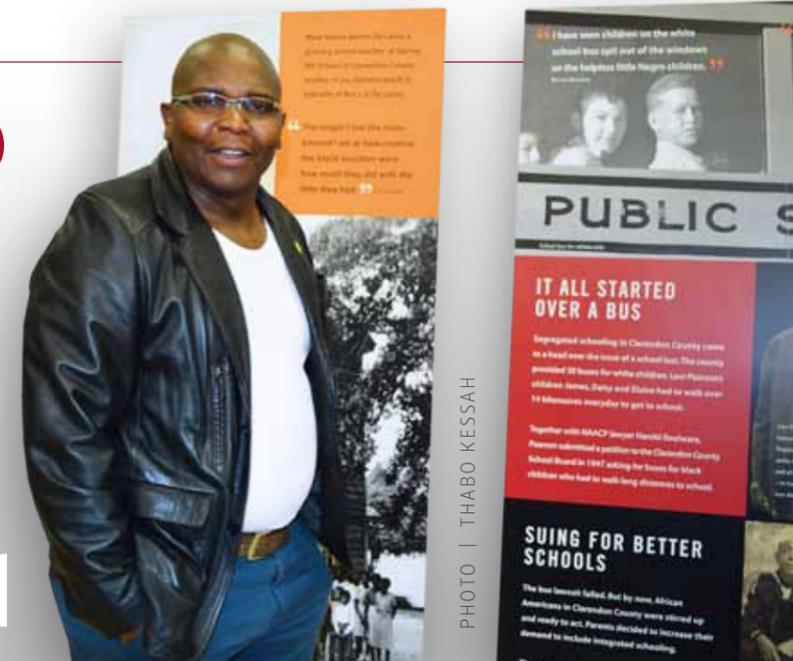
B

Prof Sechaba
Mahlomaholo.



PHOTO | OTENG MPETE

Dr Kamohelo Tshabalala: from lab technician to subject head



Dr Kamohelo Tshabalala.

BY THABO KESSAH

Growing up in the rural streets of Thaba-Bosiu village in QwaQwa has not only shaped Dr Kamohelo Tshabalala’s views on hard work, but has also made him take advantage of the opportunities given to him, and has opened his eyes to how he could impact positively on the lives of ordinary citizens.

This is reflected in his recent PhD study, which was aimed at contributing towards efficient energy generation and cost-effective rural electrification.

Dr Tshabalala started his academic career as a laboratory technician in 2004, just after graduating with a BSc degree in Physics and Mathematics at the Qwaqwa Campus.

“Mine has not been an easy journey. When I thought the doors of opportunities were closed on me after graduating, I was fortunate to be offered a lab assistant post, which reinforced my desire to venture into scientific research,” he says.

“In early 2005, I was offered a scholarship to pursue both BSc Honours (Material Science) and MSc (Magnetic Materials) degrees at the University of the Western Cape, where I spent the next three years.”

One of his greatest achievements, apart from his PhD, has been the best PhD presentation award which he won at the Korea Institute of Technology in South Korea in 2011.

“Getting an accolade from an international institution affirms that one’s background should never be allowed to determine one’s future achievements.

The sky is the limit.”

Dr Tshabalala is now the Lecturer and Subject Head in the Department of Physics on the Qwaqwa Campus of the UFS. **B**

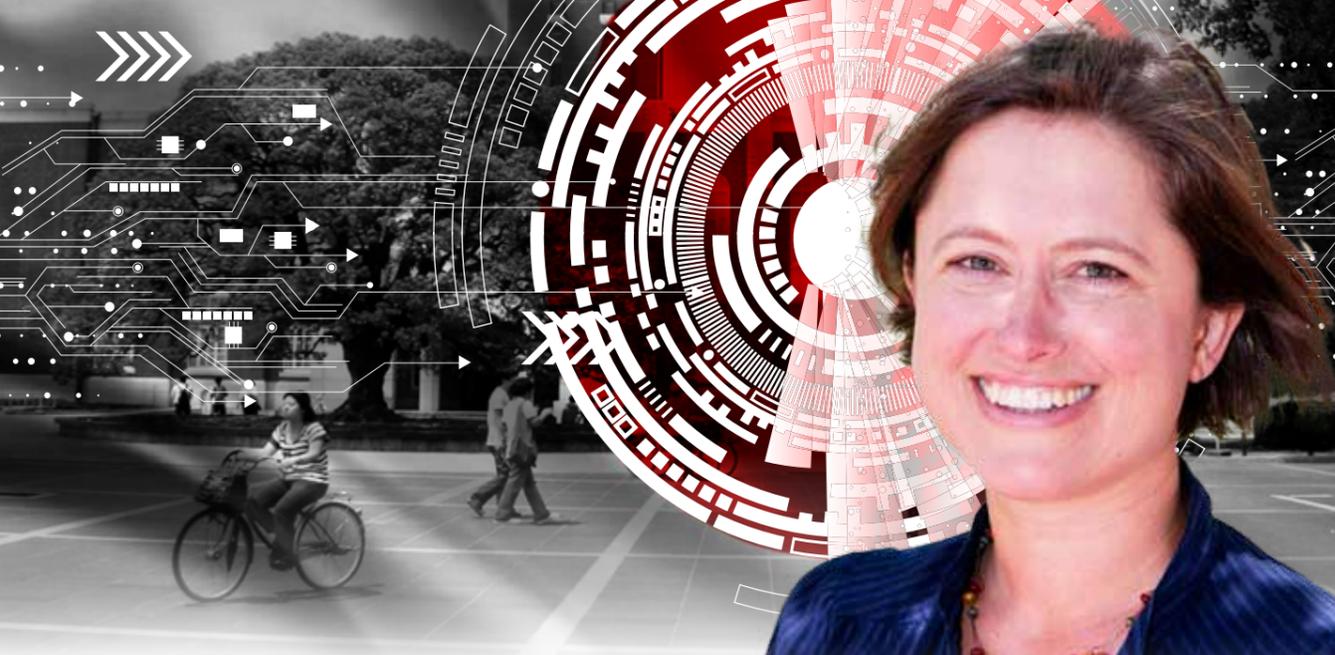


PHOTO | HANNES PIETERSE

Academic attends **Science** and **Technology** in Society forum in **Japan**

BY THABO KESSAH

Dr Aliza le Roux.

Forum focuses on improved communication between scientists and communities

Atending the Science and Technology in Society (STS) forum in Kyoto, Japan in late 2015, Dr Aliza Le Roux was afforded not only the rare opportunity of interacting with other young scientists, but also of being exposed to new collaborations with the global leaders in the scientific world. She attended the forum as one of three delegates of the National Research Foundation (NRF).

“The STS is a global initiative aimed at enhancing communication between scientists and the society they serve, especially in developing countries like South Africa. Every year, it invites eminent participants including Nobel Laureates, scientists, top business and political leaders from over 100 countries,” she says.

“This forum exchanged views on the extremely important dilemma facing humankind: the progress

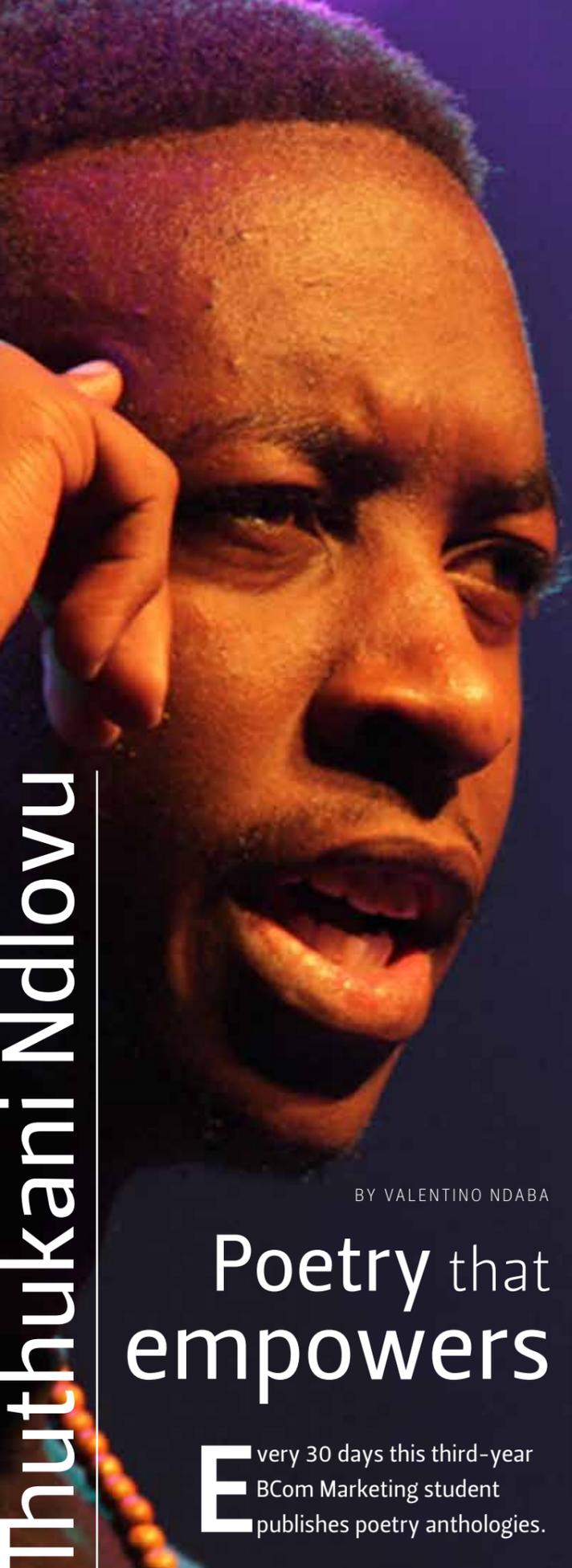
of Science and Technology (S&T) in bringing prosperity and quality of life to humankind, and the unequal sharing of benefits among different communities,” she added.

According to Dr Le Roux, S&T applications also raise important issues such as harmonising economic development with climate change, preventing the use of advanced technology by ill-meaning groups, or controlling infectious diseases, and so forth.

“This is what we call ‘lights and shadows of science and technology’, that is, how to enhance progress of S&T while controlling their negative applications,” she says.

Dr Le Roux is the Subject Head in the Department of Zoology and Entomology at the UFS Qwaqwa Campus. **B**

Students Studente Sport



It all began last year when Thuthukani Ndlovu published 'The Power of Poetry' - an online poetry book. As a high school Literature student, Thuthukani developed a fascination for word play and figures of speech, and the love for poetry gradually grew over the years.

After his debut book, he decided to publish on a monthly basis. These anthologies are titled according to themes.

In January 2016, he published the first book for the year. *From the Motherland* featured poets from different African countries. The anthology was a celebration of being African, and dealt with issues of race, citizenship, heritage, and identity. The second book coincided with Valentines' Day and was entitled: *All About Love*. March's edition was dedicated to International Women's Day. *The Women* carried poems by a strictly female authorship from Botswana, Zimbabwe, India, Ghana, Nigeria, America, South Africa, Mexico, and Britain.

"Poetry is a very effective tool to communicate. If someone tells you, for example, about women's emancipation in a paragraph, you might be pessimistic. But I believe that a poem gives it a different dimension. Poets are very creative and profound. Most poems have a paradigm shift element, they open your mind more," says Ndlovu.

The April anthology will be entitled: *Authors of Emancipation*. The theme is aligned with freedom and what it means to various citizens around the globe. **B**



BY VALENTINO NDABA

Poetry that empowers

Every 30 days this third-year BCom Marketing student publishes poetry anthologies.

PHOTOS | SUPPLIED



Paralimpiese Spele in Louzanne se visier

DEUR RUAN BRUWER



Nadat die 22-jarige Louzanne Coetzee reeds twee keer die verlangde kwalifiseringstyd behaal het, is die kans uitstekend dat 'n Kopsie vanjaar by die Paralimpiese Spele gaan aantree.

Dié blinde atleet het twee keer tye van onder die vereiste 6 minute in die 1500 m vir siggestremdes gehardloop, wat 'n Afrikarekordtyd van 5:18:44 insluit.

Die nagraadse blondkopstudent het dié tyd in Maart op die nasionale kampioenskapsbyeenkoms vir atlete met liggaamlike gestremdhede in Bloemfontein kaggedraf. Op dieselfde byeenkoms het Louzanne 'n wêreldrekord van 19:17.06 in die 5 000 m opgestel.

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Sportkonfederasie en Olimpiese Komitee (Saskok) sal die laaste sê hê in die besluit of sy Spele toe gaan. Vir haar sal dit 'n bonus wees, aangesien haar visier op 2020 se Spele ingestel is. "Dit sal goeie ervaring wees indien ek vanjaar kan gaan. Dit sal my help in my strewe om in 2020 'n medalje los te hardloop," het sy aan Bult gesê.

Sy hardloop vanjaar met 'n nuwe gids, Khotatso Mokone, aan haar sy. Hy is self 'n topklas-Kopsie-atleet.

Louzanne het in 2014 die eerste blinde vrouestudent geword om tot die Studenteraad verkies te word. Dié slimkop wat haar graad in Geïntegreerde Korporatiewe en Bemerkingskommunikasie cum laude geslaag het, is vanjaar besig met haar meestersgraad.

Sy het in haar eerste jaar op Kopsies vir die eerste keer begin hardloop en word deur Rufus Botha gebrei.

"Harde werk (sy oefen gemiddeld agt tot nege keer per week) en 'n goeie ondersteuningstelsel," is waaraan dié oud-hoofmeisie van die Pionierskool in Worcester haar sukses toeskryf. **B**

Louzanne Coetzee en Khotatso Mokone.



FOTO | AKSIEFOTO'S

OB:

BY JOHANN THORMÄHLEN

They are friends and fellow athletes at the university, but when Obakeng (OB) Molopyane and Wayde van Niekerk walk into the gymnasium, it is strictly business.

The man behind Wayde's conditioning

Although they share a special bond, Molopyane stresses the importance of a professional working relationship when it comes to the world athlete's conditioning.

The Master's student in Sport Science at the university is one of the lesser-known members of the Van Niekerk management team. Together with Ans Botha, his coach, Molopyane is helping the Kvsie star prepare for the Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in August.

Molopyane, the top honours student in his Sport Science class last year, has been working with Van Niekerk for more than a year. He took responsibility when the 400m world champion decided to move his conditioning from the Free State Sports Science Institute to the university.

Obakeng (OB) Molopyane was the top honours student in his Sport Science class in 2015 and is part of the Wayde van Niekerk management team.

Molopyane himself is a 100m sprinter, and has been friends with Van Niekerk since 2012. He also does the conditioning for Gideon Trotter (100m) and Craig van Niekerk (400m), Wayde's brother. "But when we are in the gym, I am the Sport Scientist, and they are athletes. When they leave, it is just me again," Molopyane explains.

The last year has been exceptional for Wayde. The South African Sports Star for 2015 became the first athlete in history to run the 100m under 10 seconds, the 200m under 20 seconds, and the 400m under 44 seconds.

According to Molopyane, Wayde's success creates added pressure on his work. "I tend not to think about the pressure, because it sort of puts you off and adds more pressure. I will stick to my plan. I know I have a good plan," he says.

He also has big dreams: "I want to be a national consultant as a Sport Scientist, and advance the country in this field, because I think we are behind in terms of education and implementation. I want to leave my mark here and make a global impact at the same time." **B**

PHOTO | JOHANN THORMÄHLEN

Hand2Hand collects over 1000 second-hand textbooks

BY VALENTINO NDABA

Students act on the needs of other students



The Hand to Hand (Hand2Hand) Student

Association was founded last year by Sikhulekile Luwaca, the current Student Representative Council: Associations Student Council.

Sikhulekile and Surprise Malete, former Vice- and current Chairperson, soon garnered the support of 100 members behind the founder's vision to ease the plight of needy students.

"The whole vision was to create a platform where students who have, would give to students who don't have."

"Instead of us always asking for help from corporates and companies, we thought why not create an environment where students who have textbooks can donate them?" says Surprise.

The organisation has since collected over 1000 second-hand textbooks from students at the Bloemfontein Campus. In collaboration with the UFS Department of Social Work, about 80 students have been assisted.

Hand2Hand assists students not only with textbooks, but also with food and funds for registration. The Food Collection project has distributed over 70 grocery packs to needy students.

Initiatives such as those undertaken by Hand2hand stand to prove how a sense of common humanity can go a long way in a student's life. It proves that we are indeed interdependent on each other and can triumph if we walk the journey of life hand in hand. **B**

Surprise Malete



PHOTO | CHARL DEVENISH

DEUR RUAN BRUWER

Wayde doen dit weer



Skaars ses maande nadat die Kovsies se briljante atleet, Wayde van Niekerk, wêreldkampioen in die 400 m geword het, het hy weer vir iets besonders gesorg.



Hy het in Maart op die Vrystaatse kampioenskapsbyeenkoms weereens koerantopskrifte gehaal toe hy 'n wêreldeerste behaal het. Hy het die 400 m onder 44 sekondes, die 200 m onder 20 s en die 100 m onder 10 s gehardloop.

Dit nadat hy die 100 m in 9.98 s kafgedraf het. Dit was die gesamentlike

derde beste tyd tot nog toe deur 'n Suid-Afrikaner.

Wat dit nog meer merkwaardig maak, is die feit dat dit sy eerste mededingende wedloop in hierdie nommer sedert 2011 was. Hy het die naelloopnommer gebruik as deel van sy voorbereiding vir die Olimpiese Spele, waar hy 'n goue medalje in die 400 m najaag.

Wayde het met sy skittertyd in die 100 m die eerste Vrystater geword om die 100 m in minder as 10 s te hardloop en het daarmee sy mede-Kovsie-atleet, Gideon Trotter, se Vrystaatse rekordtyd van 10.20 s verbeter. **B**

FOTO'S | ROZELLE LAUBSCHER EN CHARL DEVENISH

Wayde van Niekerk

Kovsie wears the crown as Miss SA First Princess

Elizabeth Molapo, newly crowned Miss South Africa First Princess, hopes to be given the opportunity to represent the country at Miss Universe in December.

"If so, I'll have to start preparing immediately. I'll be working for Cell C in Johannesburg and am looking into

other opportunities the platform of the competition has given me," she said about her plans for next year.

Elizabeth is a BCom Economics graduate at the UFS. For the next year, she sees her duty as helping to uplift South Africa and to be part of a solution.

After being named a finalist, she received some handy advice from fellow Kovsie student and former Miss World, Rolene Strauss.

"I'm incredibly grateful to everyone for trusting me with such an important position of influence."

"The competition has been a wonderful opportunity to grow and rediscover myself. It inspired me to dream bigger." **B**

From the left are Anri Powell (Elizabeth Molapo's mentor); Miss South Africa 2016 First Princess, Elizabeth Molapo; and designer/Miss SA judge Casper Bosman at Carnival City after the crowning.

PHOTO | SUPPLIED



Elizabeth Molapo

The best medicine in the world!

BY CINDÉ GREYLING

Her birth was a medical miracle, and that was only one of many astonishing achievements yet to come. Today, after her “trip around the world”, Rolene Strauss is back in Bloemfontein.

Few South African universities boast having a former Miss South Africa gracing their campus, let alone a former Miss World! But, says Rolene, with their white

coats on, she and her fellow students are one and the same.

Although she was a tad nervous on her first day back in medical school, all turned out well. “It was almost like the first day in high school,” Rolene recalls. “But I soon settled in. The students and lecturers appreciate the fact that I want to be as normal as possible, and simply focus on my studies.”

According to Rolene, adjusting back to student life was ‘lovely’. “I believe that there is a time for everything. For the last two years, I was a student of life. And now it is time to finish my degree. While I was away, I longed to learn something new about healthcare every day. But I must admit, the night calls to Pelonomi hospital, I didn’t miss!”

Although worlds apart, Rolene believes that her reign will enhance her medical career. “There is a distinct difference in the way I think, the way I see the bigger picture, and also the way I communicate with patients. All lessons in life can improve your ability to handle various situations better – as was the case for me.”

Rolene looks forward to making an impact on women’s health in South Africa with a holistic approach. “I would like to contribute to prevention, rather than cure, through a women’s health centre. I’m passionate about health, women, and education. That is what drives me.”

But before that all happens, she’s simply happy to be back. “Only a Kovsie knows the feeling!” **B**

Rolene Strauss



Alumni

Oud-Kovsie skryf vir 'leser binne homself'

DEUR EUGENE SEEGER

Die spanningsverhaalskrywer Deon Meyer stel eersdaags sy jongste boek, *Koors*, bekend (November 2016). Hierdie oud-Kovsie skryf met 'n meesterspen en het sy eerste storie al op die ouderdom van 14 die lig laat sien. Sy destydse gehoor het nie veel daarvan gedink nie, en Meyer begin eers weer in sy vroeë dertigerjare skryf; dié keer aan kortverhale. Vanaf 1983 tot 1989 werk hy in die destydse Skakelburo aan die UV en behaal hy ook 'n honneursgraad in Geskiedenis.

Vandag is hy alombekend en sy boeke word in Engels, Frans en Duits vertaal. Ons het 'n paar vrae aan dié bekroonde skrywer gestel.

Watter raad kan jy vir ontluikende Kovsie-skrywers bied?

"Die beste raad vir enige voornemende skrywer is om te lees,

"Die beste raad vir enige voornemende skrywer is om te lees, lees, lees."

lees, lees. Uiteindelik skryf alle skrywers vir die enigste leser wat hulle ken – die een binne jouself. En as jy daardie leser se smaak wil ontwikkel, beter jy soveel as moontlik lees."

Wat lê in die toekoms vir jou voor?

"Ons skiet in April een van my oorspronklike draaiboeke – *Jagveld*. Dit lyk of 'n internasionale fliek wat op *Infanta* gebaseer is aanstaande jaar geskiet gaan word, terwyl 'n ander oorspronklike draaiboek, *The Scorpion Next Door*, bes moontlik ook aanstaande jaar in die VSA verfilm gaan word. Ek gaan so 'n bietjie vakansie hou voor ek aan 'n volgende boek begin dink."

Dit sal lesers dalk verbaas dat Meyer nie net 'n bobaas-spanningsverhaal kan skryf nie. Hy en sy gewese vrou, Anita, het al 'n resepteboek bekendgestel, en saam met mede-ysterperdryer Adriaan Oosthuizen het hy 'n gids vir avontuur-motorfietse, *Ridders van die Grondpad* (Dirt Busters) uitgegee. **B**

Deon Meyer

FOTO | BRENDA VELDTMAN

Tanya het 'n groot passie vir menseregte



FOTO'S | VERSKAF

Dit gebeur nie aldag dat 'n LLB-gegradueerde die geleentheid kry om 'n klerkskap in die Konstitusionele (Grondwet-) Hof te doen nie. Tanya Calitz gooi onmiddellik wal as 'n mens haar gelukwens: "Dit is nie alleenlik deur my eie werke nie. Ek eer God vir sy genade." Leatitia Pienaar het met hierdie talentvolle jong vrou gepraat wat as Kovsie Dux vir 2015 aangewys is.

Tanya het vanjaar op die UV se herfsgradeplegtigheid haar LLB-graad Summa Cum Laude (met hoogste eer) – twee vlakke hoër as cum laude – ontvang en so die seël op haar vier (eintlik vyf) jaar van studie geplaas.

"Ek het nog altyd 'n groot passie vir menseregte en belangstelling in geregtigheid gehad," sê Tanya. As onderhoofdogter het sy op skool al 'n taakgroep begin om na mense in die woonbuurt Tokoza en in ouetehuse uit te reik. Op universiteit was sy 'n vrywilliger by Kansa se kinderafdeling en het lande soos Kenia, Uganda en Rwanda tydens 'n leierskapstoer besoek.

Tanya was ook by verskeie studentestrukture op kampus betrokke. Sy was deel van die Leierskap vir Verandering-program wat Cleveland-

Staatsuniversiteit besoek het, en het in die Studenteraad-, koshuis- en Golden Key-komitee gedien. Sy was ook 'n studente-assistent en het as tutor in die Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid gedien.

"'n Mens kan nie net op akademie fokus nie en moet geleentheid soek om betrokke te raak en gebalanseerd te wees. Dis vir my belangrik om Jesus se liefde en hart vir mense te wys, omdat Hy ons bron van Hoop in hierdie gebroke wêreld is. Hoop geskied nie altyd oor grense op uitreike in ander lande nie, maar jy kan ook hoop in die werksplek bring, oral waar jy gaan, elke dag," sê sy.

Prof Jonathan Jansen, Visekanselier en Rektor, het by geleentheid oor haar gesê: "Haar liefde en omgee is sonder grense – en dit gebeur onbewustelik."

Tanya was tydens hierdie onderhoud weer, soos in haar eerste jaar van studie, gedurende die eerste paar maande met iets anders as haar klerkskap in die Grondwethof besig. Sy het goeie ondervinding by die regsfirma MacRobert Prokureurs in Pretoria opgedoen. Sy begin op 1 Julie 2016 met haar klerkskap van 'n jaar by adjunkhoofregter Dikgang Moseneke.

Daarna stel sy haar visier op 'n meestersgraad aan 'n oorsese universiteit – soos Stanford in die VSA – as sy 'n beurs kan kry. In die toekoms wink die Verenigde Nasies ook vir haar en sal sy haar wil uitleef om 'n verskil in ander mense se lewens te maak. **B**



Tanya Calitz

Voormalige Kovsie-sportsterre:

Waar is hulle nou?

DEUR RUAN BRUWER

Die UV het oor die jare etlike sportlui op die hoogste vlak opgelewer. Party het ná hulle loopbane self as afrigters by die sport betrokke gebly. *Bult* het 'n paar van hulle gaan opsoek en die volgende vrae aan hulle gevra:

1. Wat doen jy nou en waar bevind jy jouself?
2. Beste herinneringe aan die UV?
3. Watter invloed het jou tyd by die UV tot vandag toe in jou lewe en/of loopbaan gehad?

Charlene Hertzog, kaptein van die Protea-netbalspan. BA-graad van 1998 tot 2001 en deelyds honneurs in Onderwys van 2003 tot 2006:

1. Ons is weer terug in Bloemfontein. Ek bestuur die boerdery op ons plaas en neem ook aan perde-uitouritte deel.
2. Al die goeie vriendskappe wat ek gesmee het, asook die goeie gees wat daar altyd onder die studente geheers het, hetsy met jool, intersêr, eksamens of sportbyeenkomste.
3. My tyd as student en sportvrou het my geleer om nooit tou op te gooi as daar teleurstellings op jou pad kom nie en om jou te anker in jou geloof.



Thuso Mpuang.



Leslé-Ann George.

Thuso Mpuang, Olimpiese atleet en Afrikakampioen in die 200 m. Menslike Hulpbronbestuur tot en met 2013:

1. Ek werk vir die Vrystaatse Sportkonfederasie, waar ek die akademiese komponent koördineer.
2. Wat ek as student onthou, is dat ek altyd tuis gevoel het wanneer ek my voete op die Kovsie-kampus gesit het.
3. Ek het geleer om goeie tydsbestuur toe te pas, myself te bestuur en die moontlikhede daarvan om 'great' te wees. Ek is vandag wat ek is danksy die belegging wat die UV in my gemaak het.

Kate Roberts, Olimpiese silwermedaljewenner in driekampaflos. BCom in Menslike Hulpbronbestuur van 2002 tot 2005:

1. Ek bestuur die Junior Driekampakademie in Pretoria en rig driekampers van 13 tot 20 jaar daar af.
2. Die intervarsities teen die Pukke. Die rugby was altyd 'n groot affêre.
3. Danksy die ondersteuning wat ek van die universiteit ontvang het, kon ek my driekamploopbaan ontgin. Daar was altyd 'n kultuur van 'n nabye gemeenskap wat my welkom laat voel het.



Kate Roberts.

2. Die koshuislewe was baie lekker gewees, so ook die rugby vir die Shimlas.
3. Ek sou sê ek het geleer om alles wat jy aanpak, voluit te doen om sodoende bo uit te kom, hetsy in sport of akademie. Maar ook om dit te geniet.

Leslé-Ann George, Proteahokkiespeler. Deelyds BCom Bemaking van 2010 tot 2015:

1. Ek doen vanjaar my honneurs en rig tussendeur die *Eunice High School* se o.14-hokkiespan af.
2. Om as 'n studenteassistent by die Departement Kommunikasie en Handelsmerkbestuur te werk en deel van 'n veldtog te wees. Om te sien hoe dit ontvou en hoe studente dit omarm, was spesiaal.
3. Om 'n Kovsie-student te wees het my geleer om jou geleenthede aan te gryp en om verhoudinge te bou en as 'n individu te groei.

Christo Ferreira, Springbokrugbyspeler. Vanaf 1979 tot 1986 'n graad in Personeelleiding en daarna BProc:

1. Ek werk as die senior regsbestuurder by die Suid-Afrikaanse Rugbyunie in Kaapstad.



Charlene Hertzog.



Christo Ferreira.

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