

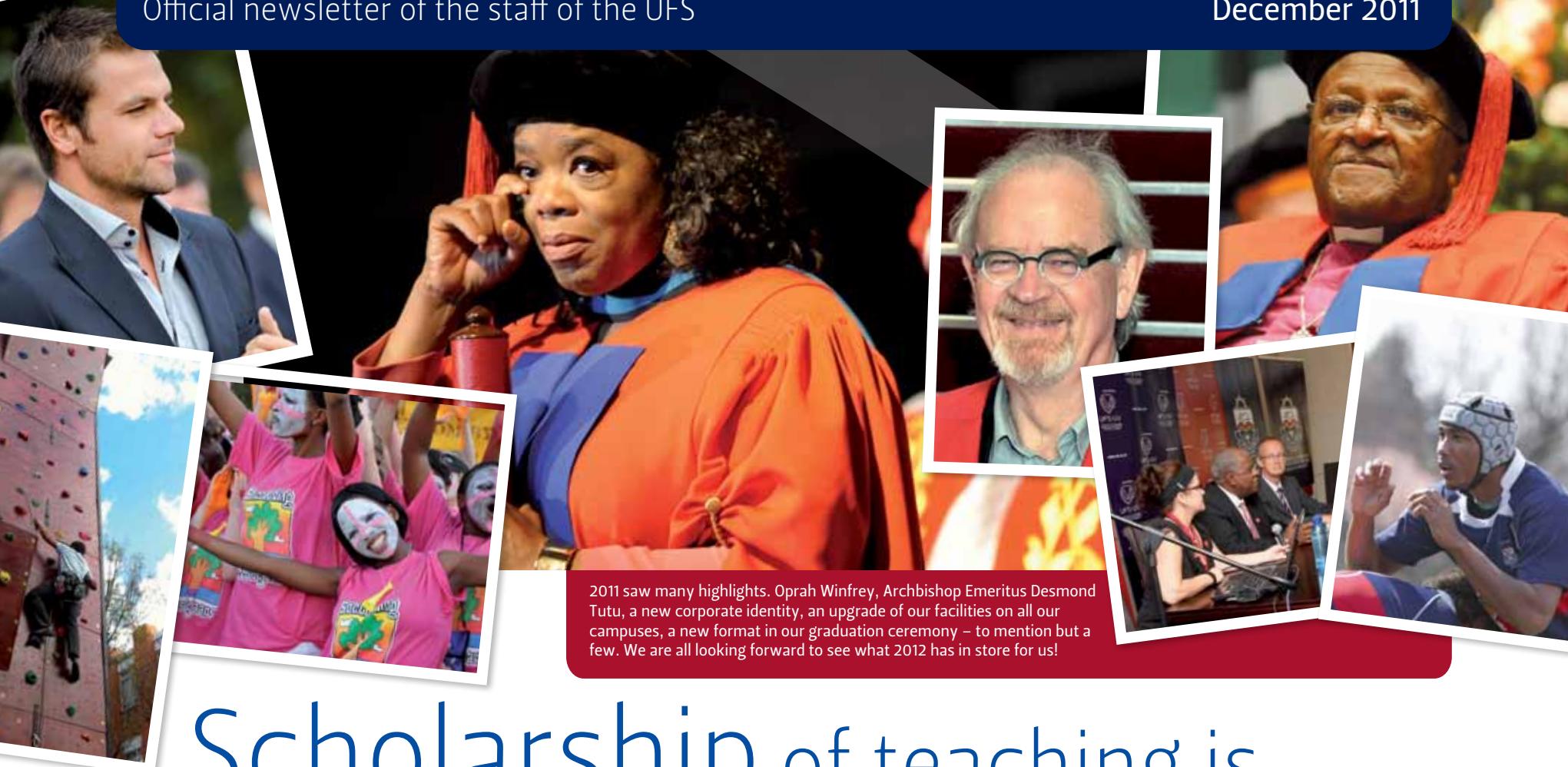
dumela

Amptelike nuusblad van die personeel van die UV
Official newsletter of the staff of the UFS

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



December 2011



2011 saw many highlights. Oprah Winfrey, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, a new corporate identity, an upgrade of our facilities on all our campuses, a new format in our graduation ceremony – to mention but a few. We are all looking forward to see what 2012 has in store for us!

Scholarship of teaching is about setting the bar high

By Lacea Loader

**If we want to be the best,
we must act like the best.**

Addressing lecturers who teach first-year students, Prof. Jonathan Jansen, our Vice-Chancellor and Rector, said one way of achieving this was to look at our way of teaching, to scrutinise ourselves and keep on setting the bar high.

Much has been done to contribute to our university's scholarship of teaching and learning. Not only was a Centre for Teaching and Learning established this year, but 5 000 more seats were built in various new buildings around our Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa Campuses to comply with the need for lecture hall facilities.

Other initiatives include the hiring of at least 25 more academic teachers outside the normal faculty budgets; the creation of awards for excellence in teaching (to be presented at graduation); teaching excellence was built into the standards for appointment and promotion and a model undergraduate teaching programme (UFS101) was created.

However, this is not enough. "I am concerned with the way some of our teaching staff approach their work. We must be professional academics. If we want to be the best, we must act like the best. Be disruptive, do not only confirm what students believe – challenge them."

"We have some good university teachers, but we need more support for university teaching – we must make our good lecturers more visible. We also need stronger recognition of good university teaching in the institutional award system.

However, we must also not assume that academics and researchers make good university teachers," he said.

Prof. Jansen spoke about what we must get right in order to improve on our quality of teaching. "We must have a highly professional class of university teachers and there must be a scholarly character and a depth of teaching that make it impossible to pass the course or module without attending every class. Our classroom ethos must be marked by the setting of high standards for student achievement and we must have a quality of assessment that privileges actual learning over exam prediction," he said.

He encouraged lecturing staff to provide a selection of learning materials that is intellectually challenging, epistemologically disruptive and up to date. "We must have an instructional space that uses the best available technologies to enable in- and out-of-class learning, a reflective, self-critical teaching disposition that remains open to change and improvement, i.e. student evaluations and peer review, a teaching strategy that is inclusive and embracing the diversities in the classroom, as well as a quality of teaching that transforms knowledge and the student experience," he said.



From the editor

Ordinary people believe only in the possible. Extraordinary people visualise not what is possible or probable, but rather what is impossible. And by visualising the impossible, they begin to see it as possible. - Carter-Scott, Cherie

This year our university did just that; we made the impossible possible. Contributing to both our academic and human projects, we saw and experienced many highlights this year. We awarded Honorary Degrees to Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu and Oprah Winfrey; we held a successful SRC election; we extended the Rag to the Heidedal community; we doubled the group of student leaders sent to universities in

America, Europe and Asia, and we developed and upgraded a number of buildings on our campuses.

In this last edition of *Dumela* for 2011, we are also focusing on some of our extraordinary colleagues and students who made our university proud this year. There are also some exciting initiatives in store for next year. Read what Quintin Koetaan says about our cluster colleges and the new ideas to be implemented in four new residences to be developed.

Who is the brain behind our new Skills Lab? Who is streamlining the academic programme in the Centre for Africa Studies, and restructuring it to enable students to gain skills necessary to deliver a research proposal towards a dissertation after their three years of study? And who is fascinated with the work that words do? Read our articles on Dr Santie van Vuuren, Prof. EC Ejiofor and Prof. Helene Strauss and see how they contribute to academic excellence at our university.

Then there are some of our colleagues who keep themselves busy with extraordinary things, like Prof. André Keet, working as an independent contributor

for the United Nations. And Gavin Dollman, Master's student from our Qwaqwa Campus, who use brainwaves to move "lego robots".

Not only do we have extraordinary people, doing extraordinary things; we also build extraordinary structures. Read Amanda Tongha's overview on developments on our campuses this year, including new buildings as well as upgrades to other buildings.

Also read about other stars, including Dr Izzeldin Abuelaish, Thuso Mpuang and Gabisile Hlumbane, Samantha Renda-Dollman, Dr Derik Coetzee, Hermann van Heerden and Natalie Jordaan.

To those colleagues who are going on leave, whether you spend time at home or at some interesting faraway destiny, get inspired by our own Indiana Jones – Prof. Lodewyk Kock and his adventures with anacondas, spiders, piranhas and volcanoes.

Till next year

Leonie

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**4 | Koppie koffie met...
Dr Santie van Vuuren**



16 | Prof. Lodewyk Kock

Roland Rudd, Kovsie alumnus and recipient of the Excellence in Secondary School Teaching: Western Cape Teaching Awards 2011, writes:

I studied BEd at the UFS and was awarded the prize for the Best BEd student in 2006 as well as the Best Student in Practical Teaching. I have now gone on to win the award for the Best Secondary School Educator in the Western Cape. I really feel indebted to the Faculty of Education and the University of the Free State for all the input and the direction they gave me while I was at university. I believe this is the best Faculty of Education and university in South Africa. I have made it known that my success is through the input and solid grounding the UFS offered me.

Gerhard Groenewoud van Parexel skryf:

Beste prof. Jansen

E k dreig nou al maande om my gelukwensings oor te dra vir dit wat u reeds op E ons Alma Mater se kampus bereik het. Die kampus lyk die beste wat dit in jare was en dit wil voorkom asof dit met die studente ook redelik vlot. Ons vertrou maar dat, as hier nie betogings is nie, hulle mekaar verdra en hulle studies eerste plaas.

Soos u seker reeds van my naam kon aflei, het ek vanaf ongeveer 1950 'n verbintenis met hierdie universiteit, toe my pa aanvanklik 'n dosent in Chemie, en later Rektor was. Ek was van 1997 tot my afdrede aan die einde van hierdie maand by Parexel. Ek wil die hoop uitspreek dat u darem nog 'n paar jaar hier sal aanbly om deur te voer wat u begin het. Hierdie universiteit behoort 'n baie groter rol in ons samelewing te speel en dit moet by die kwaliteit, integriteit en ywer van die dosente begin.

Doen so voort!

10 | Our young leaders



16 | Prof. Lodewyk Kock



19 | New buildings on campus

20 | Natalie Jordaan



This month on Facebook...

By Lelanie de Wet

Announcement of our new SRC President: Richard Chemaly



Well done boy u made us proud - Biggie Scatt Ramovha

Yes, glad you won, you where my favourite!! - Katlego Leroala

Glad u da president Richard!!! - Kea Seitshiro

Yeah! - Ashleigh Crouch

O yay!!!!super congrats mister Chem D knew I made the right choice:) - Tracy Gowar

Congrats my President! - Conrad Achilonu

Congrats Chem!! - Anri Bredenkamp

Well done Richard! Really happy it's you! - Lize Wolmarans

Thanks all. Much appreciation. Hope to serve you with the greatest of my strengths. But in the mean time see y'all at Barbas tonight? - Richard Chemaly

Big-ups to all who made it... - Mofokeng DE-James Ntei

When I see the group of young leaders on the SRC my heart is warmed by its diversity! I am so very proud of you all and proud to be a Kovsie! - Johan Coetzee

On Prof. Jansen's Facebook page...

Hi prof...Hope you had a good wknd. Wantd 2 say thanks for the improvements in Kovsie Cricket Club. With the new coach, upgrade of facilities and jst general proffesionalism of the approach to cricket at UFS, I am sure a few new Proteas will come from our ranks. Hope cricket will stay high on the agenda of UFS sport from now on, sure there is more that could be done to take our cricket to the next level... Thanks UFS! - Keenan Carelse

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Residing in a new era at UFS

By Quintin Koetaan



MY
VIEW

Being intensely involved with student matters at our university makes you a part of highlights such as planning new resident facilities, re-grouping these residences into colleges and the all-new format of the SRC elections.

With the phenomenal growth of the University, the Division: Housing and Residence Affairs (HRA) came to face a new reality: We need new residences at our Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa Campuses.

A complicated factor for these residences, however, was to have cutting-edge, innovative resident facilities that can give new life to the building of residences worldwide.

HRA (with the help of the Dean of Student Affairs and our Rector) did a detailed investigation into the residence environment at various overseas universities in order to determine world trends on residence policies, programmes and plans. HRA also looked into how residences can build and sustain strong positive residence cultures that can give life to the community engagement mission of our university and optimise the academic impact of living and learning in residences.

Facility issues, such as residents', staff and learning requirements and structural initiatives also had to be considered.

All this being done, recommendations were made, architects appointed and plans were drafted. These architectural plans were constantly measured against the report of HRA's study tour as well as the outcome of a housing survey, which was conducted amongst the students and management in the residences.

Several new ideas will be implemented in the four new residences. This will be a revolutionary design of student housing for South Africa. It will, for example, include shared facilities like a lecture hall, dining hall, computer room, study/reading room, etc.

Buildings should be completed in December 2012.

Another suggestion is the 'cluster colleges' whereby residences will be grouped into five colleges. Previous groupings were limiting and the cluster concept showed the possibility for growth in students, student leadership and staff alike.

The Leadership for Change Programme poses many advantages for our residences and student leadership in residences; the SRC elections this year were an eye opener and the outcome was a victory for the new direction of student politics.

Quintin Koetaan.

Sentrum vir Rekeningkunde bied besigheidsetiekkompetisie aan

Die internasionale ouditeursfirma Ernst & Young (E&Y) het ons Sentrum vir Rekeningkunde (SVR) aan die begin van die jaar genader om Projek Alpha, 'n besigheidsetiekkompetisie vir studente in besigheidsetiek aan te bied. Die hoofdoel daarvan is om die studente bewus te maak van die geweldige onetiese aspekte in die besigheidswêreld en openbare sektor. Niel de Leeuw, 'n oud-student van die SVR en tans 'n direkteur van E&Y, was van die begin aktief af by die projek betrokke.

Die finale beoordeling van die tien wengroepe is deur 'n interdissiplinêre groep beoordelaars gedoen, wat bestaan het uit personeel van die SVR onder leiding van prof. Dave Lubbe van ons Sentrum vir Rekeningkunde, direkteure van E&Y, teoloë en filosowe, asook 'n personeellid van die Sentrale Universiteit vir Tegnologie wat in besigheidsetiek spesialiseer.

Tydens 'n gala-onthaal was prof. Driekie Hay, ons Viserektor: Akademies, asook Derek Engelbrecht, Senior Direkteur van E&Y, die twee gassprekers. Die finale drie wengroepe, asook die algeheel beste spreker onder die groep van ongeveer 350 studente het die aand groot prysie van E&Y ontvang.

Ons universiteit kan voorwaar trots wees op die uiters suksesvolle aanbieding van hierdie projek saam met E&Y. Die feit dat die SVR die eerste universiteit van buite Johannesburg is wat versoek is om aan die prestige kompetisie deel te neem, is 'n groot eer wat die SVR te beurt gevall het. - Prof. Dave Lubbe



Prof. Driekie Hay, ons Viserektor: Akademies (middel voor), saam met van die beoordelaars van die kompetisie.

Een tree vooruit!

Deur Cindé Greyling



Dr Santie van Vuuren.

Foto: Anja Aucamp

mense

Koppie koffie met...



Dr Santie van Vuuren, Hoof van die Skool vir Aanvullende Gesondheidsberoep, het jare lank hieroor gedroom. En nou is die kliniese vaardighheidssentrum 'n werklikheid. Wel... die naaste aan die werklikheid wat jy kan kom!

Santie is sedert 1979 as voltydse lektor by ons universiteit aangestel en as uitvloeisel van haar meestersgraad is die speelgoedbiblioek by die Departement Pediatrie en Kindergesondheid gestig. En dit was nie die eerste en laaste breinkind wat sy op kampus laat gebeur het nie.

"Die kliniese vaardighheidssentrum," verduidelik Santie, "is 'n leeromgewing waar studente in gesondheidswetenskappe kliniese, kommunikasie- en informasietegnologiese vaardighede tot 'n spesifieke vlak van bevoegdheid leer – voor of tesame met direkte pasiënt/kliëntkontak." Hierdie mondvol beteken dat studente of professionele personele in 'n ondersteunende omgewing so na as moontlik aan die werklikheid praktiese ondervinding kan opdoen.

"Hierdie formele konsep van 'n interdissiplinêre fasiliteit bestaan nie in aanvullende gesondheidsberoep in Suid-Afrika nie," verduidelik sy. "Maar ek het geglo dat dit noodsaaklik is. Die waarde van so 'n sentrum is dat foute toelaatbaar is en direkte en onmiddellike terugvoer is moontlik. Hier word vaardighede ook deur herhaling, teen elke student se eie tempo, bemeester."

Die doel is om ook verder interprofessionele leer in samewerking met die Skool van Geneeskunde en Verpleegkunde moontlik te maak, byvoorbeeld deur vaardighede van professionele personele op te skerp of nuwe vaardighede aan te leer. "Ons beplan ook om 'n diens aan die gemeenskap te lever deur byvoorbeeld moontlike opleiding van dagmoeders in die stimulering van kleuters aan te bied."

Santie droom daarvan dat die vaardighheidssentrum 'n plek van uitnemende leer sal word, waar studente en dosente opgewonde voel oor hulle beroepe en graag wil leer. En, vertel sy ernstig, nog 'n droom is om weer fiks genoeg te wees vir die Cape Argus fietswedren!

Daar is so baie, buiten die kurrikulum, wat Santie vir studente kan leer. Soos om 'n pad van eerlikheid, regverdigheid en omgee te loop – want dit bring persoonlike geluk en energie... veral wanneer dingte moeilik is. En moeilike dae beleef sy ook!

"Die eerste dag van die Fakulteitsnavorsingforum wil ek nooit weer oor hê nie! Ek was die voorsitter

Santie droom daarvan dat die vaardighheidssentrum 'n plek van uitnemende leer sal word, waar studente en dosente opgewonde voel oor hulle beroepe en graag wil leer.

en gasspreker, en het in plaas van die versoekte en geskeduleerde uur, net 20 minute gepraat. Die hele program vir die eerste sessie was toe omvergewer... Aai! Maar ek het dit oorleef!"

Santie het beslis 'n baie groot invloed op baie mense se lewens, en wanneer sy iemand moet uitsonder wat vir haar 'n verskil maak, is dit sommer 'n handvol! "Ek kan nie een persoon uitsonder nie... maar beslis my gesin en kollegas in die Skool en Fakulteit. Elke persoon het 'n aandeel daarin gehad om my te skaaf en te ontwikkel."

Renowned international researcher joins our Centre for Africa Studies

By Marlie van Rooyen

After 22 years in the United States of America, Prof. EC Ejiougu decided to return to Africa – to his roots – to join our university's Centre for Africa Studies at the beginning of 2011. A friend from Botswana told him that his legacy was in Africa, not elsewhere, and this inspired him to investigate opportunities in South Africa.

"I believe my skills are much more needed here than in Europe or America," he tells of his decision to join our university. "So far the university has been good to me, but I am still getting used to the new environment. My colleagues are supportive and although I have not seen much of the town, I have had a few good experiences." Before joining the Centre, he was Assistant Research Professor at the Centre for Innovation at the University of Maryland, College Park. As Senior Researcher at the Centre, he has already helped with the streamlining of the academic programme, restructuring it to enable students to gain skills necessary to deliver a research proposal towards a dissertation after their three years of study. He has also taken up PhD and Master's supervision.

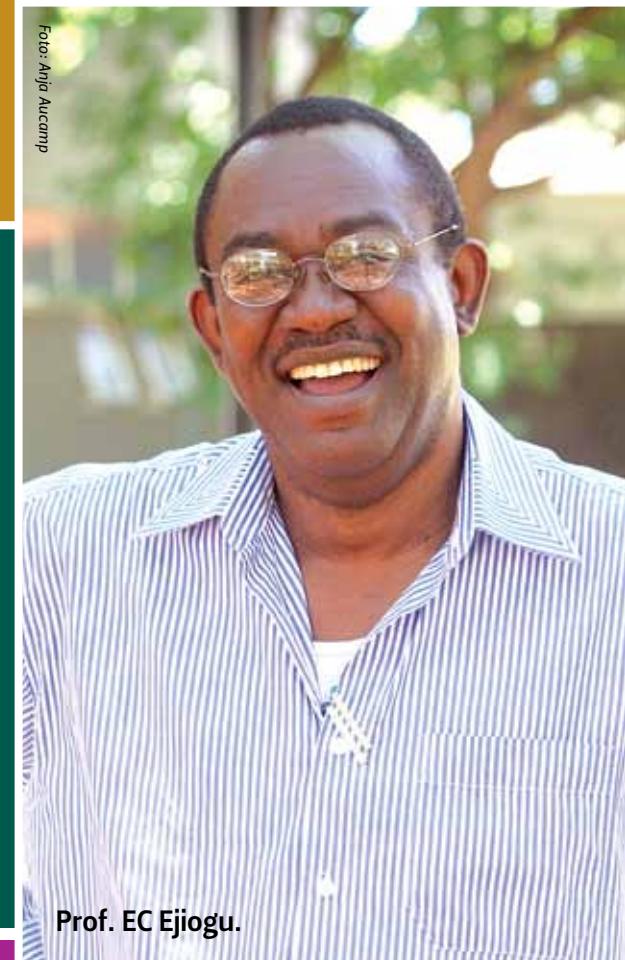
His latest publications include a book published in March 2011 with the title, *Roots of Political Instability in Nigeria*, and a book co-edited with Prof. Kwandiwe Kondlo, Director of the Centre for Africa Studies, *Africa in focus: Governance in the 21st century*, published in April 2011. Prof. Ejiougu is already working on a new

book project on Kenya, Angola, Zimbabwe and South Africa, editing another and completing peer-reviewed articles one after the other. He is a dedicated academic and social scientist who has extensive experience in working with national and international NGOs, academic institutions, research organisations and the corporate world. His speciality areas include international security and peace studies, political economy/development and comparative political sociology.

Prof. Ejiougu, known by friends, family and colleagues as EC, is motivated by his work and functions best in his office and in the library. In his spare time (of which there is very little), he enjoys a brisk walk and jog. Prof. Ejiougu's message to students is to take their studies as seriously as possible: "Master's and PhD students should strive towards excellence. I encourage all my students to write and publish before they complete their studies. It is important for them to work towards being scholars."

Although Prof. Ejiougu is now far away from his own family, which includes three children still at school in the US, he makes use of every possible opportunity to visit them when he attends conferences. "I still travel back and forth between here and the US, but it all forms part of the adjustment. Who knows, in future we might relocate the whole family to South Africa," he said.

Foto: Anja Aucamp



Prof. EC Ejiougu.



Prof. Helene Strauss.

Photo: Johan Roux

A little chit-chat over high tea ...

By Cindé Greyling

Helene Strauss was recently appointed as Professor at the Department of English – a career change that brought her and her family back home. After living abroad for eleven years, it is good to be back, she says.

Helene is very happy that our university has given her this opportunity. "I am extremely pleased about all the wonderful new initiatives for intellectual revitalisation on campus and I am thoroughly enjoying reacquainting myself with the interests and goals of students and colleagues at Kovsies."

She completed her PhD at the University of Western Ontario, London, Canada, where she taught courses on Film Studies, Children's Literature and South African Literature and Culture. "I was subsequently appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Cultural Studies at McMaster University, Hamilton, Canada." Her research and publication record reveals that Helene has an on-going preoccupation with questions concerning social justice, race, gender and ethical interpersonal interaction in South Africa and beyond.

Since she started her academic career, she had also worked as a book reviews editor; a grant and manuscript reviewer; a union steward; a conference organiser; and a member of numerous departmental and university

committees. Not surprisingly then, that not one day in her life looks the same as the next!

Helene explains that she has always been fascinated with the work that words do. "I am less interested in the English language per se than in the various forms of signification that shape how we communicate and make sense of the worlds that we inhabit," she says. "I care about the ways in which cultural texts – including novels, poems, films, autobiographies, popular music, comic books, and television programmes – affect our thoughts and actions."

As someone who has made reading into a way of living, Helene finds it difficult to single out a favourite quote. "For today, I'll pick this one: *The learning process is something you can incite, literally incite, like a riot*, by Audre Lorde."

When Helene needs to pick any other career, she sticks with words: "I would have loved to be a documentary filmmaker or a celebrity biographer!" It almost goes without saying then, that Helene's favourite part of the day would be when she's reading her 23-month-old daughter a bedtime story.

And what is the one thing she would like to teach students? "To become a life-long learner and never to dismiss any person's point of view, especially if you disagree with it. I guess that's two things..."

Foto: Hannes Pieterse



Voor: proff. James du Preez, Maryke Labuschagne, Max Finkelstein; agter: André Roodt, Neil Roos en Hendrik Swart. Afwesig die neem van die foto: prof. Zakkie Pretorius.



Sewe van UV nou ASSAf-lede

Sewe van ons kollegas in die akademie is tot lede van die Akademie vir Wetenskap van Suid-Afrika (ASSAf) verkies.

Die lede is proff. Hendrik Swart, Fisika; André Roodt, Chemie; Zakkie Pretorius, Plantwetenskappe; Max Finkelstein, Wiskunde; James du Preez, Mikrobiiese, Biochemiese en Voedselbiotegnologie; Maryke Labuschagne, Plantteling; en Neil Roos van ons Nagraadse Skool.

Die parlement het die *Wet op die Akademie vir Wetenskap van Suid-Afrika* in 2001 aanvaar, met die gevoulige totstandkoming van ASSAf in 2002 as die amptelike Akademie vir Wetenskap van Suid-Afrika wat deur die staat erken word, en wat die land in die internasionale gemeenskap van wetenskap-akademies verteenwoordig.

Die hoofdoel van die akademie is om wetenskaplike denke in diens van die gemeenskap te bevorder en toe te pas, om sodoende uiteindelik die gehalte en omvang van die rol wat die akademie in die land se lewe en vordering te bepaal kan vervul.

Kollegas wat tans lede van ASSAf is, sluit proff. Jonathan Jansen, Visekanselier en Rektor; Johan Henning, Dekaan: Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid; en Frans Swanepoel, Senior Direkteur: Navorsingsontwikkeling, in.

Prof. Aldo Stroebel is onlangs ingehuldig as een van 20 stigterslede van die Suid-Afrikaanse Jong Akademie vir Wetenskap (SAYAS), die jeugvertakking van ASSAf, wat daarna strewe om 'n ster aan jong wetenskaplikes wat raakvlakke met die wetenskap het, op internasionale vlak te bied.

Prof. André Keet keeps UFS on the agenda in Geneva



news

Prof. André Keet, Director of the International Institute for the Studies in Race, Reconciliation and Social Justice, visited the United Nations (UN) offices in Geneva, Switzerland in October. Here is what he writes about the visit:

The visit to Geneva was a great return for me to the work of the United Nations, this time as an independent contributor. I really value this position, since you can be respectfully critical and supportive at the same time without having a pre-determined position.

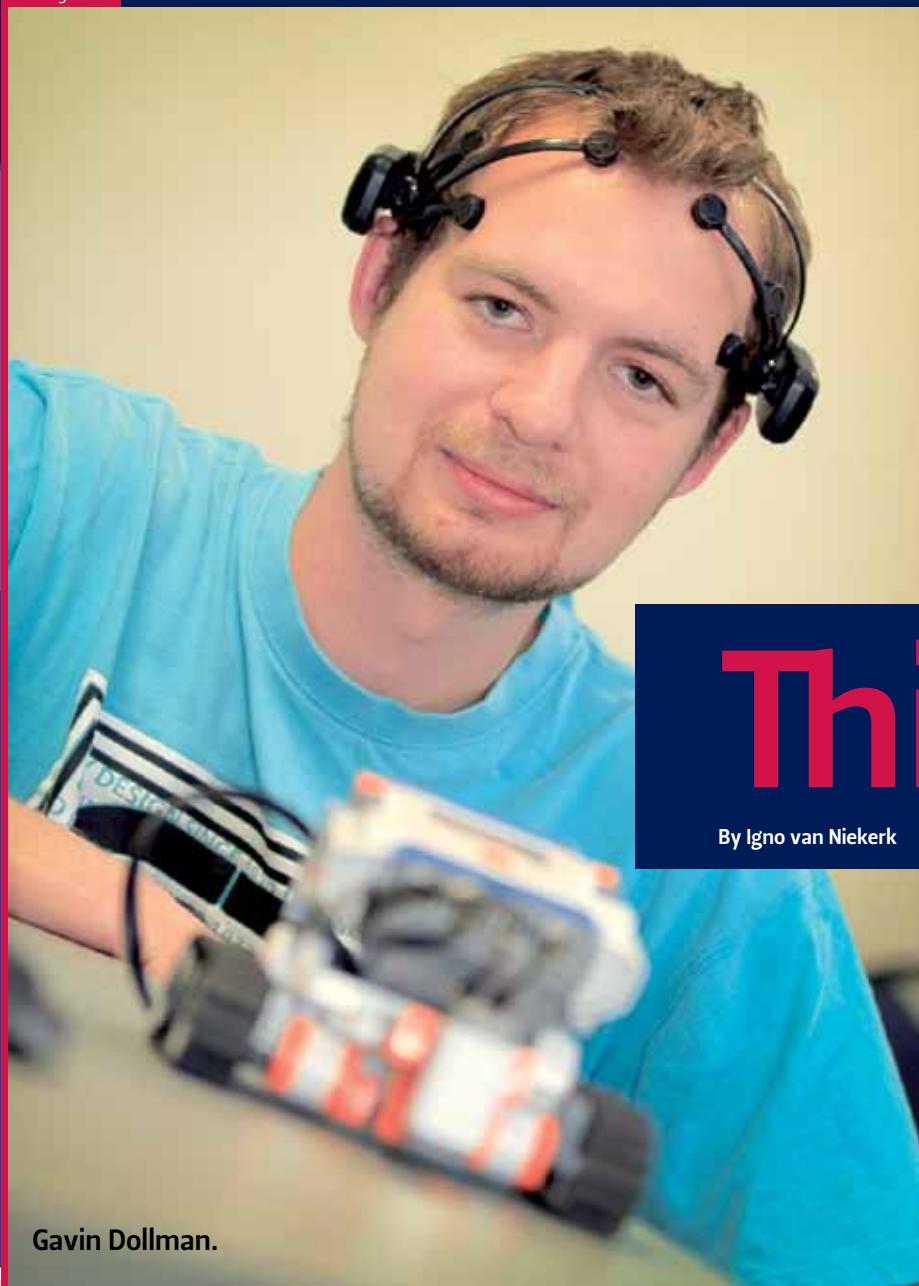
I addressed the Intergovernmental Working Group, a structure of the Human Rights Council responsible for monitoring the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action on combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. The Durban declaration is a document adopted by the UN following the world conference in Durban in 2001. A follow-up conference took place in 2007 and earlier this year a consensus document around this declaration was adopted in New York.

My presentation focused on the role of education in combating racism, racial discrimination and

xenophobia, with a specific focus on universities and national human rights institutions. I made recommendations, which were debated and discussed by member states. This will find its way into the final report. Over three days, my fellow presenters and I participated in the working group. I also met with our permanent mission and the Deputy Ambassador in Geneva who took a keen interest in transformation processes at our University.

Networking with other UN member states has been a crucial element of my work and I made good connections with countries in Eastern Europe and South America, apart from already established links within Africa and other blocks. This will be an important element of our work at the Institute apart from advising relevant structures within the UN. The rich experiences and possibilities for learning and engagement world-wide need to be explored. In this sense, the UN provides for a great 'water hole', a gathering space infinite in its diversity, teaching and education. - Amanda Tongha

Photo: Igno van Niekerk



Gavin Dollman.

He was in Grade 7 when he saw the complex language of computer code for the first time. To many people, that string of code might have been intimidating. For Gavin Dollman it opened a brand new world. "I have always loved technology," Gavin says, where he sits in a computer lab in the Mathematics Building on the Bloemfontein Campus of our university.

Gavin is doing research for a Master's degree, and his field of study is something that would have seemed impossible a few years ago. He shows me a computer headset with several cables attached. "This headset was manufactured for the computer gaming industry to make game playing more interactive. As a commercial product it's not as expensive as a lot of its predecessors have been." Gavin explains that the headsets work with EEG signals. In laymen's terms, the headset picks up the "energy waves" created when you think and, due to the software interface which Gavin has been working on, you can use your brainwaves to let one of the "lego robots" go in a specific direction.

Gavin's research is based on how the headset can be used by "average citizens". He is investigating the influence of previous computer experience and other factors in determining the

Think play

By Igno van Niekerk

successful "manipulation" of the robots. This is clearly not where it will all end. Once you allow your imagination to roam, you see the possibilities. What if you have an extra sense? Just imagine your brain being able to manipulate an extra arm – or, in terms of the online world – just imagine you think about the fact that you are hungry and suddenly an advertisement for food appears.

In terms of Gavin's work, the robot is matched to the person in the same way we often have to get voice recognition software to recognise our voices. Once the matching has taken place, the "relationship" between the person and the robot can lead to incredible possibilities; possibilities which, like the string of code Gavin saw in Grade 7, might be intimidating to some, but to Gavin it's once again opening a brand-new world.

Study Buddy project prepares youth for leadership challenges

Since high school, Xander van Lill, an honours student in our Department of Psychology, asked himself the question: "What is the value of my existence in an ever-changing and somewhat paradoxical learning environment?" Being a student at the Department did not only shed light on Xander's questions but it also gave him the opportunity to act and make a difference in some learners' lives.

As part of a Service Learning Initiative, students of the Department are involved in the Study Buddy service-learning project at Ikaelelo High School in an attempt to prepare the youth for the leadership challenges they face. With a little effort, they also empower learners with the skills and knowledge to enjoy a better quality of life.

The Study Buddy project utilises community psychology principles to facilitate life skills development, study skills, career planning and personal enrichment. A typical day would include a class discussion on characteristics of African leadership, activities to develop skills relevant to leadership and small-group discussions where

the perspectives obtained during the sessions are critically reviewed and applied to everyday contexts.

"I am amazed by the learners' willingness to challenge our team's ideas and innovatively adapting the course of the sessions to address their challenges. At times, I felt so moved by the learner's strong sense of social activism and need for influence that I doubted my role as a facilitator. Although I might not agree with all the viewpoints of the learners, I am willing to acknowledge that our group discussions are changing my perspectives on many subjects."

"My life's value is enriched by the learning opportunities at Ikaelelo and I believe it to be the same for some of the learners. Hopefully, with all our differences, we will continue to reinforce our common sense of equality and keep each other accountable for our words and actions as citizens taking responsibility for the present and future of South Africa. I conclude that my role in life is not isolated, neither somewhat heroic, but that I am defined by my South African citizenry as well as my fellow citizens," said Xander. – Leonie Bolleurs



"Defined by my fellow citizens," says Study Buddy facilitator Xander van Lill to a group of learners at the Ikaelelo High School.

**Monnapula Molefe**

The best of 2011

*In 2011, our university experienced many milestone events and highlights. **Phelekwa Mpono** from Strategic Communication talked to some of our staff and students who shared their personal highlights.*

Elrika en Martmarie**Nontombi Hlwempu****Martie Miranda****Esteé Manus**

Monnapula Molefe, Assistant at the Department of Language Management and Language Practice:

I finally got my degree in BA Language Practice this year in May. I am also continuing with my Honours in the same field of study. What I really enjoyed was tutoring in the Sign Language Department. I learnt that to draw the students into what we do, I must make the tutor classes a bit informal, as it is more fun. Currently I am conducting research under the title, 'Reconceptualising Translation and Interpreting Studies'.

Elrika Ferreira and Martmarie Swanepoel, BCom (HR) graduates: After the 2010 Soccer World Cup, 2011 was a pleasant surprise. We joined the ever-ongoing rat race by sending out our CVs. This landed us our amazing jobs. Another highlight was Elrika sharing the award for Best Third-Year Student in Voluntary Community Services. Mostly we had the honour of working with great people. We worked as volunteers for Dr Oprah Winfrey's graduation ceremony and we got the opportunity to see her. Another highlight was our attendance of the Commercio Student Seminar, with us rubbing shoulders with high rollers of leading companies both nationally and internationally. We ended the year on a high note by obtaining our degrees in BCom (HR).

Nontombi Hlwempu, BEd second-year student: I am currently doing my second year in BEd. The modules were heavy in the first and second semester but I feel good about the outcomes. I am also looking forward to the exams. I learnt that I must do well in my tests so I will not be under a lot of pressure to perform well during the exams. My favourite lecturer is Dr Jannie Pretorius. He makes time to assist us when we have difficulties with modules he lectures. Voting for the 2011-2012 SRC was another big moment for me. We were given an opportunity to voice whom we want as leaders.

Martie Miranda from our Unit for Students with Disabilities: One highlight was serving on the Interpreters' Committee during the 16th World Federation of the Deaf congress held in South Africa for the first time. We coordinated Sign Language interpreters during panel sessions among the delegates. Co-training young and upcoming SA Sign Language interpreters was another big moment for me. Then our Unit for Students with Disabilities was put on the map this year when it celebrated its ten years of existence. We had many firsts this year: two deaf students who are in the process of completing their degrees; Tshediso Molehe was elected to the SRC and Karabo Motlahakoana was part of the Leadership for Change Programme.

Esteé Manus, Senior Assistant Officer: Economic and Management Sciences:

This year a lot happened, mostly I was blessed with a baby boy end of March. I was sad when I had to leave him. Knowing I leave so he can benefit makes it worth it. I got the job of my dreams, which compensates well and I am content. I started working here in January on a temporary basis. Since 1 September, I am the Senior Assistant Officer: Economic and Management Sciences. My colleagues are wonderful, they make working easier. I love working with students and the first-years call me teacher. I feel honoured. I got an opportunity to explore. Mostly, I got a chance to see and be at Oprah's graduation.

Health Sciences has first machine of its kind in Sub-Saharan Africa

The Department of Oncology within our Faculty of Health Sciences launched their newly installed Synergy Linear Accelerator, which will serve patients in the Free State, Northern Cape and Lesotho. This is the first Synergy installed in Sub-Saharan Africa with IMRT and Stereotactic capabilities.

Established in 1969 and housed on the premises of National District Hospital in Bloemfontein, the Department of Oncology renders services to 2 400 new and 25 000 follow-up patients with various diagnoses of cancer annually.

Renovations and the upgrading of old facilities, as well as the new facilities with beautiful gardens, were made possible by the dedication of staff, supported by funding from donations received from the Government as well as the business sector. – Sandra Gouws

Qwaqwa Campus hosts church leaders

Our Qwaqwa Campus recently hosted a great number of church leaders for a one-day training course on spiritual leadership. The university found it necessary to empower church leaders in the Qwaqwa region," said Dr Elias Malete, the Campus Principal.

"We were approached by various spiritual leaders, making the high demand for this kind of empowerment evident," said Dr Malete.

Dr Gerhard Botha from our Faculty of Theology's Centre for Assisting of Spiritual Leaders facilitated the training. Other presenters include Dr Hannes van der Walt from the University of Pretoria who delivered a paper, *The Introduction to strategic planning for pastors and ministers*. The paper explained components of strategic models for churches.

One of the attendees, Pastor Lekhotla Thito of the Apostolic Faith Mission in Phuthaditjhaba, said that the training was important, as it made them go further to understanding and spreading the word of God. "It also discourages spiritual leaders from forming churches for their own selfish reasons," he said.

This training was concluded by a certificate ceremony. – Thabo Kessah

Training event equips leaders for the year

Discussions and training around inspirational spaces, proper programme planning skills and some good advice from former residence heads and student leaders were some of the highlights at this year's leadership training event presented by Residence Life, a sub-division of Housing and Residence Affairs.

Different divisions within Student Affairs were also introduced to our new student leaders at this event that was opened by the SRC President, Richard Chemaly.

We selected a great group of diverse leaders. The training we presented focused on creating an inspirational and welcoming space in residence communities," said WP Wahl, Assistant Director: Residence Life. – Leonie Bolleurs

Kovsies a research-led university

Our university has 95 researchers who are rated and evaluated by the National Research Foundation (NRF). Applications for re-evaluation and new applications for evaluation are currently being processed. The results of these applications are expected early next year and it is likely that the number of rated researchers at our university will increase. The NRF-rating system involves evaluation and rating of individual researchers by leading local and international researchers based on their recent research track records and outputs. NRF-rated researchers are considered to be leaders in their disciplinary fields.

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Versprei die WOORD...



Daar was die afgelope maand of twee heelwat bedrywighede by ons die universiteit met media wat daaroor berig het. Twee nasionale studenteberade is by ons Bloemfontein-kampus gehou en van ons studente en personeel het aan 'n optog teen MIV/Vigs deelgeneem. Ons het ook inspirerende besoekers gehad, terwyl van ons studente geïnspireer het met indrukwekkende prestasies.

- Die besoek van 114 Kovsie eerstejaarstudente aan universiteite in die VSA en Europa het plaaslik sowel as internasionale mediadekking gekry. Die studente wat deel uitmaak van die Leierskap vir Verandering-program se besoek is in *Mail & Guardian*, *Sunday Times*, *The Times*, *Volksblad* en *RSG* gedra. Internasionaal het die *Cornell Daily Sun* en *Chronicle Online* onder meer daaroor berig.
 - Ons universiteit het 'n nasionale studenteberaad aangebied, die eerste een in die land. Studente van verskeie tersiêre instellings het by ons Bloemfontein-kampus byeengekom om alles van media tot die land se ekonomiese bespreek. *Mail & Guardian*, *The New Age*, *OFM*, *Citizen*, *Krant*, *Public Eye*, *Free State* en *Ons Stad* het oor die beraad berig.
 - Ons universiteit het ook gasheer gespeel vir die nasionale beraad van die internasionale Golden Key-vereniging. Meer as 130 afgevaardigdes het by ons Bloemfontein-kampus byeengekom. *Citizen*, *Kampus-Volksblad* en *Bloemnuus* het oor die beraad geskryf.
 - Studente en personeel van ons universiteit het hul steun aan Wêreldvigsdag op 1 Desember 2011 gewys deur 'n optog teen die apatie teenoor MIV/Vigs te hou. Die optog is in *Citizen*, *Kampus-Volksblad*, *OFM* en *Krant* gedek.
 - Ons universiteit se blinkste sportsterre is tydens die KovsieSport-toekennings vereer, met Thuso Mpuang and Gabsile Hlumbane wat onderskeidelik as Sportman en
- Sportvrou van die Jaar aangewys is. *Citizen*, *Mangaung Issue*, *Express*, *Daily Sun*, *Free State Times* en *Volksblad* het oor die toekennings berig.
- Hermann van Heerden, 'n gestremde student by ons universiteit, het vir tien uur aaneen op sy rolstoel se agterwiele ge-wheelie en daarmee moontlik 'n Guinness wêredrekord losgeslaan. Hermann se rekordpoging moet nog erken word. *SABC 2 en 3*, *e.tv*, *The New Age*, *Citizen*, *OFM*, *Ons Stad*, en *Volksblad* het die storie gedra.
 - Nog twee ander studente se prestasies het media-aandag getrek. Jaco Griessel, 'n student by ons Skool vir Musiek, het 'n gesogte Nelson Mandela Rhodes-beurs ontvang en *Citizen*, *OFM*, *Krant* en *Volksblad* het daaroor berig. Khethiwe Mtshali, 'n student by ons Qwaqwa-kampus, se harde werk het aan haar 'n maandlange besoek aan China besorg. *Express Eastern Free State* en die *Eastern Free State Issue* het die storie gedra.
 - Dr Izzeldin Abuelaish, 'n Palestynse dokter wat nuusopslae gemaak het toe drie van sy dogters in 'n aanval deur Israeliese magte gesterf het, het ons universiteit in Oktober besoek. Dr Abuelaish, oftewel die Gaza-dokter, het twee openbare lesings by ons Bloemfontein-kampus aangebied. *METRO FM*, *5FM*, *The New Age* en *Volksblad* het almal oor dr Abuelaish se besoek berig.

1. By die 2011 Suid-Afrikaanse Golden Key-beraad was, van links: Ruddy Banyini, uittredende President: UV-tak; Puso Thahane, President: Wits-tak en Katleho Mohono, Vicepresident (intern): Wits-tak.
2. Ons studente wys hul steun vir Wêreldvigsdag.
3. Dr Izzeldin Abuelaish.



About bringing the bacon home ...

By Cindé Greyling

The scores of first-years, gracing the campus ground, don't just come from nowhere. Nope. They are gathered from all around with effort, time, passion ... and a little lunacy! Marketers Pieter Jordaan and Sam Masoka take us behind the scenes.

Both Pieter and Sam are experienced sales people, each with a different touch, but getting right to it, nevertheless. Sam describes his job as marketing, exhibiting, promotions, events, analysis, recruiting and a whole lot of preparation. For Pieter, a typical day looks like this: "Talk, travel, talk, travel, talk, travel, talk..."

Since it is difficult to have either Pieter or Sam tied down to a desk, we only had minutes to get some answers out of them ... places to go and people to see, you know?

What is the most extraordinary thing that has ever happened to you while you were working?

Pieter: Missing the potholes! Oh, and one Grade 12 learner asked about being a sexologist. I gracefully explained that Psychology might be the right choice.

Sam: I shall never forget the reaction of the learners, teachers, principals, Head of Marketing and Vice-Chancellor when we put up our first PowerPoint presentation.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

Pieter: Giving learners hope; motivating them to increase their marks by 10% in every subject by the end of Grade 12, and then to see them at Kovsies as first-years!

Sam: To sharpen my teaching skills every time so that learners understand my presentations, and to show them that tertiary education is very important and possible.

How does a typical lunch on the road look like?

Pieter: I always have water and some sort of snack – to keep me awake! Best coffee: Wimpy. Best burger: Nando's. Best Spar in South Africa: Secunda!

Sam: I typically eat a mixed grill for lunch when on the road.

Do you ever speed?

Pieter: Only when driving ... No seriously, I rarely go over the speed limit.

Sam: Honestly? Sometimes. Mostly because of traffic congestion.

What has experience taught you NEVER to do again?

Pieter: Buy the last sausage roll at a garage. NEVER again!

Sam: Never to be late for an appointment.

Would you encourage your child to become a marketer? Why or why not?

Pieter: I will encourage them to fulfil their dreams, whatever that may be...except politics!



Sam Masoka and Pieter Jordaan.

Sam: Yes, because you have the opportunity to inspire learners to study further than Grade 12 – and that is very rewarding.

Best sales line ever heard?

Pieter: "Yes, Sir, the sausage roll is fresh ..."

Best sales line ever used?

Sam: If you want to become a doctor, choose Kovsies for the best medical faculty in the country.

So there you have it ... if the sausage roll was not that fresh, you know where to find the best doctor around!



events

dumela



An exploration into making the world work better

Changing young minds— into future leaders

By Lacea Loader

Last year our university became the first tertiary institution in the country to invest hugely in its first-year class by sending 71 students to visit seven universities in the USA. The aim: to learn about issues such as diversity, leadership and citizenship in order to change and enrich the minds of these young leaders who have committed them to building a truly non-racial community during and beyond their university years.

Due to the success of the Leadership for Change Programme, the number of students and partner universities more than doubled this year with 150 first-year students given the opportunity to travel to universities in the USA, Europe and Asia.

The stringent selection process included a panel interview, during which students had to present their views on diversity, leadership and citizenship.

This year's programme kicked off with a cohort of 114 students visiting universities in the USA such as Cornell University, New York University, Binghamton State University, Appalachian State University, Cleveland State University, the University of Massachusetts, the University of Minnesota and College of the Holy Cross, from 22 September to 7 October 2011. Another three groups consisting of 18

students visited the Universities of Ghent and Antwerp in Belgium and the University for the Humanistics in The Netherlands. The groups visiting the universities consisted of between 8 and 10 students.

"The rest of the students will be visiting universities in Japan, France, the USA and Europe, between 6–28 January 2012."

The groups travelled with a mentor to their respective universities where they spent 11 days on programmes touching on the three identified issues designed by the partner university.

The F1 students are still in a dream-like state as we begin our voyage to distant lands to explore different cultures and especially different perspectives that we can then possibly integrate with our own, in our radically diverse campus and country. I believe that this is the beginning of GREAT things." Message

posted on the UFS Facebook page by Vusi Masetya, who visited James Madison University.

"You need to be able to live a selfless life in which you serve others. Blessed to share the beginning of a never-ending journey as a pioneer of change with you all," Marnette Brewis, posted on the Leadership for Change Facebook page. Marnette visited College of the Holy Cross.

"Thank you, UFS, for giving me the opportunity to learn so much about my friends and myself, leadership, citizenship, diversity and America! This was certainly a life-changing experience and I would recommend the Leadership for Change programme to any first-year over any other programme anywhere in the world!" Thabiso Letselebe posted on the UFS Facebook page. Thabiso visited Cleveland State University.

events



Our young leaders' comments on Facebook:

Cleveland State University Planted a Tree in Recognition of the F1 PROGRAMME. Here Team Leader Thabiso Mike Letselebe and Mentor Mrs Rene Pelser do the Opening of the Plate. - **Thabiso Mike Letselebe**

the change starts today!!! F1!!! - **Cecile Boshoff**

It won't be too long from now until we see the impact of the F1 students on our campuses! We're in the process of planting our footprints. - **Vusi Mesatywa**

Cannot believe we're nearly done with the programme! Enjoyed the learning so much! Can't wait to share the knowledge! - **Marco Smit**

I have learnt so much thus far and I can't wait to bring back all my new ideas and experiences - **Charne Viljoen**

We have been very fortunate to attend Texas A&M!! I personally am learning a lot about diversity and pride. Thank you, everyone, for your contribution and spirit!!!! - **Mias Nortier**

wow!! can't believe our time here is almost over. I've learnt so much and my thinking and vision has really broadened. Can't wait to implement some of the thing at Kovsies and being a leader for change!! Texas A&M has really influenced my views on diversity, integration and especially the value of participation and pride to a university - **Martiné van der Merwe**

Thank You, UFS, for giving me the opportunity to learn so much about myself, my friends, leadership, citizenship, diversity and America! This was certainly a life-changing experience and I would recommend the Leadership for Change programme to any first-year above any other programme anywhere in the world! - **Marco Smit**

Learning so much about myself that I am constantly in introspection. Can't believe we almost have to go back. - **Marco Smit**

The journey has been great and life changing the transformation that takes place within the

individuals in the CSU TEAM IS GREAT. - **Thabiso Letselebe**

Feeling the positive!!! Appalachian State University's energy is intoxicating! Currently at the International Coffee Hour, going to mingle some more with our Japanese friends that is hosting it today... - **Cecile Boshoff**

Met the president of the Student Government Association today at UMass. Had a great lecture about personal and social identities - **Lehan**

"The easiest way to be ignorant is to associate yourself with the same people" F1 Leadership for Change: The catalyst towards CHANGE - **Pinky Mokemane**

... The city that NEVER sleeps NYC – no jokes!!! - **Eddie Bob DeWet**

Kovsgem en Kovsky Jool trou

Het jy geweet dat jool baie meer is as blommetjies vrou, polistireen kerf en kreatiewe sveiswerk is om 'n wenblot in die vorm van jou gunsteling-sprokieskarakter te verseker? Die akroniem vir jool, "jou onbaatsugtige opoffering vir liefdadigheid",werp dalk bietjie meer lig op die doel van hierdie geleenheid wat hom aan die begin van elke nuwe jaar voordoen.

Jool, nou bekend as Kovsky Jool Gemeenskapsdiens na die ampelike bekendstelling in Oktober vanjaar, met Rudi Buys, Dekaan: Studentesake, wat afgevaardigdes van Studentesake en ons SR toegespreek het; is 'n groot fondsinsamelingsprojek deur ons studente om 'n verskil te maak in mense se lewens. Kovsky Jool Gemeenskapsdiens het reeds in 2010/2011 R1,5 miljoen aan verskeie liefdadigheidsorganisasies versprei.

Die ampelike bekendstelling van die jool- en gemeenskapsdienstroue, is 'n historiese gebeurtenis vir ons universiteit en het saamgeval met die ampelike opening van die nuut opgegradeerde kantore.

Volgens Karen is die samesmelting 'n mylpalgebeurtenis waarop ons as universiteit trots kan wees. "Vir die eerste keer het ons die persone wat geld insamel sowel as die verspreiders van bediening aan gemeenskapsdiens onder een sambrel," sê sy.

Kovsgem/Kovsky is 'n akroniem vir Kovsky Studente Gemeenskapsdiens. Dit is 'n organisasie wat sedert 6 September 1982 by ons universiteit geregistreer is. Hierdie is 'n nieksistiese, nierassige en niediskriminerende platform wat aan studente die geleenheid bied om vrylik met mekaar om te gaan en iets aan die gemeenskap terug te gee.

Kovsky Jool streef daar na om volhoubaarheid in ons gemeenskappe te skep, asook om ons jeug voor te berei om verantwoordelike toekomstige landsburgers te word. Die 70ste verjaardag van die jaarlike Kovsky Jooloptog gaan in 2012 gevier word met die studenteliggaaam wat sy energie, kreatiwiteit en hulbronne gaan aanwend om geld in te samel vir verskeie verdienstelike sake. – Leonie Bolleurs

Kovsky Jool Gemeenskapsdiens spog met meer as net 'n nuwe naam. Hulle het ook onlangs hul kantore oorgedoen. Bo (links) sit Karen Scheepers, Hoof: Kovsky Jool Gemeenskapsdiens.



Foto's: Anja Aucamp

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Art students dance away with first prize at parade

Two of our students in our Department of Fine Arts, Minet Kleynhans and Dawid Griessel, walked away with the first prize in the senior entry level category of the "Construct your Skin" art-garment parade that was held at Oliewenhuis this year. Kezia Gerber, also a Kovsky, followed in second place.

With their skilful performance of a marionette-cat-skeleton dance across the stage the judges did not have any choice but to reward our two students with first place.

The "Construct your Skin" art-garment parade was previously known as "Shed your Skin". An extravagant stage constructed by the Fractal committee's main sponsor for this event, Wiehann Formwork and Scaffolding, flanked by Oliewenhuis's African Carousel, made this parade of "wearable sculptures" exceedingly spectacular.

In anticipation of this event the Fractal committee challenged art students from various local schools and tertiary institutions to design artworks that conform to the shape of the human body. More than 80 young participants took part with phenomenal inventions that made it truly hard for the judges to single out winners.

The parade also showed garments made from foliage, computer parts, balloons, bubble wrap, mesh wire and even chocolate.

Students expose their creativity at the art-garment parade; an event striving to collect funds to support and launch exhibition opportunities for young upcoming artists.



Eat Sum Mores and time with God make our sport stars tick

By Ruan Bruwer

Thuso Mpuang and Gabisile Hlumbane were honoured by KovsieSport as their senior sportsman and sportswoman for 2011. Thuso's top achievement was qualifying to participate in the World Athletic Championships. Gabisile is a member of the Banyana Banya national soccer team that qualified for the London Olympics in 2012.

Dumela tried to find out who they are off the sports and athletics track.

The 24-year-old Gabisile Hlumbane is originally from Springs in the Eastern Gauteng. She was offered a sports bursary by Kovsies and is currently in her third academic year, studying BAdmin. Although she misses her home a lot, she has made Bloemfontein her home for the time being. "I would like to go back to Springs one day. Currently I'm only seeing my family once or twice a year as I'm very committed to football and academics at this point in time," she said.

Nicknamed Chyna (note: spelled like this) by a teammate who believed she looked like a Chinese, Gabisile started playing football with her six brothers at a young age.

According to her, she enjoys spending time on her own in her flat in Bloemfontein. "That's the time I either like reading spiritual books (she listed *A woman after God's own heart* and the Bible as her favourite books on Facebook), listening to gospel music or spending time with God." When asked what only a few people know about her, she is hesitant before answering that she has a boyfriend. He is anonymous.

As for Thuso, time with family is vital, as he also does not get to see them too often. He is originally from Mafikeng and busy with his degree in BCom Economics.

He says that apart from friends and family, the feeling of reaching his own goals is what makes him tick in life.

Thuso admits that he easily gets frustrated. "However, I always try to compose myself. Things like when something happens without a valid reason or when a person does something without thinking; those are the kinds of things that irritate me."

Thuso (26) says he is addicted to Eat Sum More biscuits and describes himself as a very joking person who cannot

Nicknamed Chyna (note: spelled like this) by a teammate who believed she looked like a Chinese, Gabisile started playing football at a young age with her six brothers.

keep a straight face, even if he is in trouble. "For relaxing I enjoy going to any club in Bloemfontein that plays good house music; that's if I have the energy, though," he mentioned.

He represented South Africa at the Beijing Olympics in 2008. "Since I started athletics, Frankie Fredericks from Namibia has been my hero and he still is."

Thuso is currently in a serious relationship.



Top: Thuso Mpuang.
Bottom: Gabisile Hlumbane and Dr Choice Makhetha, Vice-Rector: External Relations (acting).



The SHES team is, from the left, front: Dr Somarié Holtzhausen and Dr Victor Teise; at the back: Dr Rika van Schoor, Desi McCarthy, Emmie Smit, Prof. Rita Niemann, Dr Marianne Viljoen, Dr Annelize Venter and Dr Fanus van Tonder.

SHES-team appreciates authenticity

By Amanda Tongha

SHES-elites, that's how staff at our new School of Higher Education Studies (SHES) describe themselves. The uniqueness of this School lies in the fact that staff cherishes relationships within the workplace, empowering one another regarding academic achievement and thus creating an atmosphere of appreciation.

Dr Annelize Venter, newly appointed Head of the School, is an advocate for authentic leadership and the belief that a true leader inspires the team to learn more and to create change so that they can develop to become even more specialised in higher education, thus striving for excellence.

She adopted the "we" instead of "I" approach and encouraged all the staff in her School to participate in the Living Learning Communities programme presented by Staff Development and Performance Management. This programme is all about the discovery of authentic leadership as well as appreciative inquiry. The latter focuses on change and the improvement of performance in an appreciative way.

Every week the School sets apart time for critical debates and it has already initiated academic reading groups for 2012. One of the members of the School, Emmie Smit, says, "We regularly apply the 5D-cycle of appreciative inquiry to ensure that we create an extraordinary environment in the Winkie Direko penthouse."

Future for research on our Qwaqwa Campus is bright

The future of scientific research at our university is bright, considering the research projects showcased by staff and students during the highly successful Research Day event held at our Qwaqwa Campus. These projects covered various study fields on topics that included language development, challenges facing rural education, medicinal plants, polymer/wax blends, land reform and grain production.

Acknowledging the hard work displayed by all students and staff, Prof. Willie van Zyl, Academic Head, said that he was proud of everybody, especially the young scientists.

"I am impressed by the work that was displayed here today and as we continue to build an excellent research team, you should be the first ones to be impressed by what you do," said Prof. Van Zyl.

Nthatisi Molefe, a BSc Honours (Zoology) student, and Motshabi Sibeko, an MSc student in Chemistry, were both awarded prizes for being the best presenters in their categories. – Thabo Kessah

Photo: Thabo Kessah



Nthatisi Molefe (middle), the winner of the best presenter of a research project in the honours category being congratulated by Dr Tom Ashafa, Departmental Head of the Department of Plant Sciences; and Prof. Willie van Zyl, Academic Head on our Qwaqwa Campus.

Prof. Mahlomaholo's search for knowledge takes him to the world

By Amanda Tongha

"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only a page," philosopher and theologian St. Augustine is quoted saying. Somebody who is turning pages in the world is Prof. Mahlomaholo Mahlomaholo, lecturer and researcher at our School of Education Studies. Just during last month, October, Prof. Mahlomaholo visited Rome, France and Russia. In Rome, he attended a conference on the arts and science. In France, he spent four days teaching and then delivered a keynote address at St. Petersburg University in Russia.

For somebody who grew up in the sleepy town of Ladybrand in the Free State, it is a humbling experience. Prof. Mahlomaholo says about travelling the world, "I realise how blessed I am, I don't think many have that privilege. Where I come from it took some people to believe in me and provide the support."

It was this support that led him to study at Harvard University, where he obtained a Master's degree in Counselling and Consulting Psychology.

In January this year, Prof. Mahlomaholo joined our Faculty of Education where his main responsibility is doing research work. He also teaches Education Management to BED Honours students.

Working as a researcher is how Prof. Mahlomaholo got to see the world. The father of five says he has been everywhere but to the East. Of all the places he has visited, Rome is his favourite. "I studied history at some stage, so I was able to identify some places."

Rome is also the city where a gang of female robbers almost pickpocket him. "A lady who looked like she was carrying a baby asked for something. While trying to understand what she was saying, a friend of hers hands were in my pocket." His wife who was with him alerted him and the robbery was foiled.

Prof. Mahlomaholo says there is something exciting about travelling to distant and foreign places. "I enjoy being in different places, being exposed to different ideas. There is the opportunity to explore, getting lost, but eventually finding your way around."



Prof. Mahlomaholo Mahlomaholo.



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Op 'n lekker noot!

Deur Cindé Greyling



Foto: Johan Roux

Die Vrystaatse Universiteitskoor in aksie tydens 'n uitvoering in ons Eeuveeskopleks.

Die vreemdste van alles is, hulle het nie eers probeer om deel te neem nie... laat staan nog te wen. Maar hierdie keer was die maatemmer glad nie dig genoeg om hulle talente weg te steek nie. Want die Vrystaatse Universiteitskoor het selfs die Russe stil gesing!

Corné van Pletzen is sedert 1996 dirigent van Kovsies se koor en saam het hulle al deur Turkye, Hongarye, Duitsland, Oostenryk, België, Pole, die Tsjeggiese Republiek en Egipte getoer. Maar dit was in 2009 wat hulle groot naam gemaak het. Hulle was die algehele wenner van 'n koorkompetisie in Praag... en hulle het nie eers deelgeneem nie! Bonosile Gcisa en Chester Meyer is ook deel van die span wat ons koor afrig.

"Omdat ek bang was daar sou nie genoeg lede kon saamgaan Europa toe nie, het ons net as deel van die nie-kompeterende deel van die kompetisie opgetree," verduidelik Corné. "Hulle het ons toe na die prysuitdeling toe uitgenooi en ek het aangeneem ons sou 'n sertifikaat van deelname kry... Toe kondig

hulle ons as die algehele wenners aan!" Dit was die eerste keer in tien jaar wat 'n Russiese koor nie die kompetisie gewen het nie. "Die beoordelaars het gesê of ons nou deelgeneem het of nie, hulle kan geen ander koor die kompetisie laat wen nie!"

Buiten vir al die harde werk, is daar ook tyd vir speel en pret. Tydens een optrede in Namibië het van die studente vir Corné 'n poets gebak. "Ons het Coenie de Villiers se Karoonag gesing. Maar toe ek omblai, sien ek alles behalwe katbos en kambro!" lag Corné as hy terugdink aan daardie foto van h skamel geklede meisie. Dit het hom só onkant gevang dat hy die res van die stuk uit sy kop uit gedirigeer het... met 'n groot klomp glimlagte vanuit die koor!

Corné meen koorsang is so populêr omdat dit twee wonderlike goed kombineer: Mense en musiek. Van die kosbaarste vriendskappe word in die koor gesluit en daar was selfs al 'n paar "koor-huwelike"! Corné vertel ook trots hoe transformasie spontaan in die koor gebeur het. Sonder dat hy probeer het, is die koor verteenwoordigend van alle kulture op kampus. Musiek tref nie onderskeid nie – dis 'n gemene deler groter as enige verskil tussen mense.

Hoewel klassieke musiek sy groot liefde is, het hy al op 'n keer opgewonde geraak oor 'n Italiaanse pop-groep se musiek. "En op skool het ek skelm na Abba geluister!" spot hy. Want sy musiekonderwyser het gereken 'n mens luister nie daarna nie. Buiten musiek is Corné dol oor enige tegnologie en motors.

New facilities on our Qwaqwa Campus take education to another level

By Thabo Kessah

The 2012 academic year will be very different if developments on our Qwaqwa Campus are anything to go by.

Developments on this campus include the new multi-million rand student residence, which is, just by the look of it, full of vitality, vigour, and indeed, colour! This home-from-home 200-bed residence is presently occupied on a trial basis by 92 female first-year students who were previously housed in one of the off-campus residences, Bonamelo.

The colourful residence will soon boast a state-of-the-art computer laboratory, which is expected to be operational at the beginning of 2012.

Meanwhile, the R13,5 million new Education Building is ready for 2012. This facility has a 100- as well as a 150-seater lecture hall, four 50-seater classrooms, an office block, ablution facilities, two

separate laboratories for biology and science, as well as an IT laboratory with 60 work stations. All these facilities are user-friendly for disabled students.

"We are happy to have such a facility in the faculty as it will take teacher education to another level," said Dr Dipane Hlalele, Programme Head of the Faculty of Education.

The new gate and the dining hall are also getting new modern shapes and the first phase of repairing the drainage system at the gate is almost done.

"The front part of the dining hall will be completed by mid-December. Immediately thereafter, renovations to the kitchen area will also start," said Daniel Mofokeng, Assistant Manager: Maintenance.



It's all smiles in the new residence! Bright and beautiful colours adorn both the interior and the exterior of the residence.

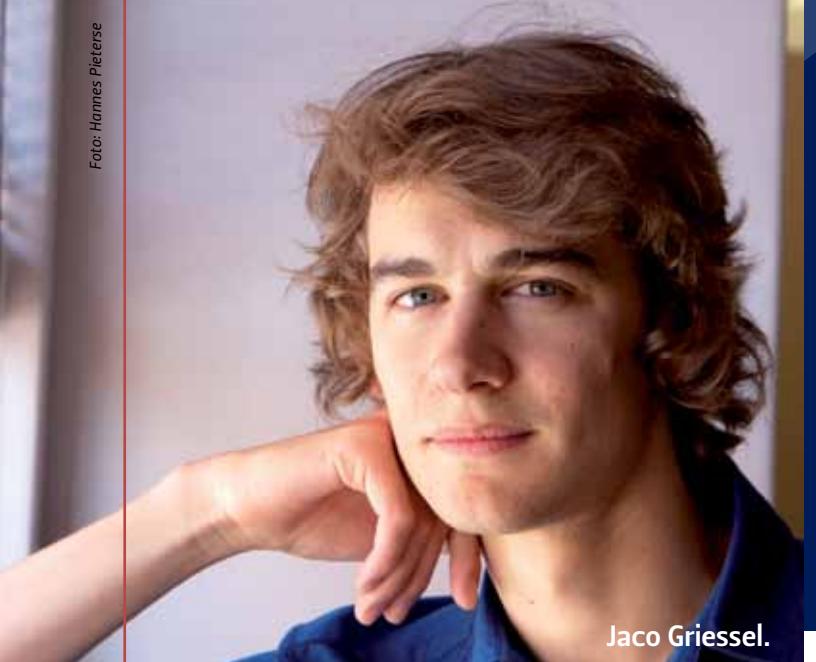
Jaco slaan 'n noot met Mandela Rhodes-beurs

Hy luister graag na die vroeë twintigste-eeuse Franse komponis, Maurice Ravel, en rammel die name van die Amerikaanse minimalist Steve Reich en die musiekblýspelkomponiste Stephen Schwartz en Stephen Sondheim af; ook die Kanadese prog-rock-kitaarspeler, Devin Townsend. Jaco Griessel, 'n honneursstudent by ons Skool vir Musiek, het maar 'n paar jaar gelede musiek ernstig begin opneem. Sy musiekennis, wat strek van klassiek tot jazz, laat jou egter anders glo. Onlangs is aangekondig dat dié Kovsie-student 'n gesogte Mandela Rhodes-beurs vir 2012 ontvang het om volgende jaar vir sy meestersgraad te studeer.

"Alhoewel ek nooit jou tipiese wonderkind was nie, kan ek sê dat musiek van kleins af 'n sterk reaksie by my ontlok het," vertel die 25-jarige Jaco. "Ek was altyd, en is nog steeds sensitief vir klank en wat daar in opgesluit lê. Eers toe ek 16 jaar was, het ek daarvan begin dink om 'n loopbaan van musiek te maak, alhoewel dit my nog vyf jaar geneem het om die moed bymekaar te skraap om dit net te gaan doen."

Jaco, 'n gebore Bloemfonteiner, sê albei sy ouers is musikale, hoewel nie professionele musikante nie. "My pa, wat 'n kinderneuroloog en dosent hier op kampus is, speel pragtige klassieke kitaar. My ma, wat 'n Engels onderwyseres by Fichardtpark Hoërskool is, het toe sy jonger was klavier op 'n baie hoë vlak beoefen." Sy jonger broer, wat ook 'n Kovsie is, studeer kuns en is 'n baskitaarspeler in die Bloemfonteinse musiekgroep, Wolfgang Marrow.

Jaco sê sy gunstelingmodules is komposisie en orkestrasie en noem dat hy graag eendag musiek wil skryf. "Dit is só bevredigend om iets te skep en dit dan met ander mense te deel." – Amanda Tongha



Jaco Griessel.

Photos: Prof. Kock and crew

Prof. Kock searches for cancer and anti-fungal remedies in middle of Amazon

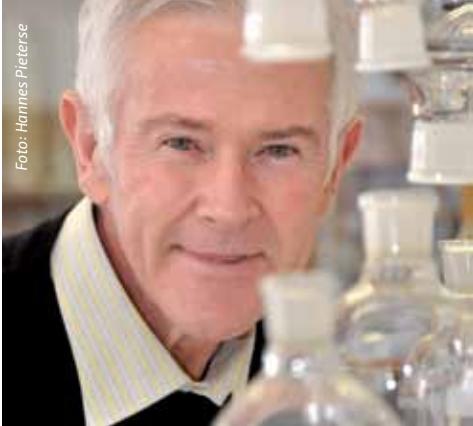


Foto: Hannes Pieterse

Prof. Lodewyk Kock.

More about Prof. Jones, I mean Kock, whose itinerary reads:
AIM: Finding yeasts that can expose new antifungal and anticancer drugs
HEADQUARTERS: Quito (Capital of Ecuador; Altitude: 2 800 m, population: 2,5 m, Place: Andes Mountains)
SEARCH: Andes Mountains and Amazonica (tropical rain forest: Cuyabeno WILD Reserve; Altitude: 200-280 m)
DATE: December 2010
CREW: Prof. Lodewyk Kock and Inca guides
TRANSPORT: By trolley carts, tree topping and Inca boat
MAIN DANGERS: Altitude sickness, piranha, anaconda, cayman-infested waterways, malaria, yellow fever, bullet ants, tarantula (painful bite), etc...

Spiders, anacondas, exploding volcanoes, piranhas, the Amazon. This sounds like Google meta tags for an Indiana Jones movie. Not really, unless it is Prof. Lodewyk Kock from our Department of Microbial, Biochemical and Food Biotechnology who is starring in the leading role.

At the end of last year, Prof. Kock embarked on a great adventure to Ecuador (the Amazon and the Andes mountains) to search for yeasts to be used in new anti-cancer and antifungal remedies. His mission Amazon and Andes was not in vain, as the research was successfully used in six keynote lectures at international congresses of repute in the USA, China and Europe in 2011, as well as in publications and e-congress format.

SPECIALITY FOODS: Amazonia swamp pupa and happy food (smiling roasted guinea pig)

SUNSET: Priceless

DIFFICULTY LEVEL: Hectic!

ADRENALIN LEVEL: Maximum

AGE RESTRICTION: Non (depends on fitness level)

RECOMMENDATION: A must for all serious biologists

WANT TO DO THIS?: First get a PhD, secure a relevant research project and funds, find a research post at a top university such as the University of the Free State

SPONSORS: SA Fryer Oil Initiative (safoi)

- 1) Prof. Kock's accommodation in the Amazon jungle at the Cuyabeno Wild Reserve, Ecuador, overlooking the Cuyabeno river infested with Piranha, Anaconda and Cayman. Can only be reached by Inca boat.
- 2) Prof. Kock's research also included a trip to the Andes Mountains.



Beste wense en Feesgroete

Soos die Feesseisoen nader kom, dink ons terug aan die afgelope jaar en die mense wat gehelp het om ons onderneming op 'n besondere manier te vorm.

Ons wens u 'n gelukkige Feesseisoen toe. Mag 2012 gevul wees met vrede en voorspoed.



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Sanlam CIO91MS10BPA

GELISENSIEERDE VERSKAFFER VAN FINANSIELLE DIENSTE

Sanlam
Ons dink vooruit

Correction:

Dr Choice Makhetha's surname was spelled incorrectly in the previous issue of *Dumela*.

Studente leer A tot Z van boerdery

In groep van ons studente in die Departement Landbouekonomiese het egte Vrystaatse boeregaarheid ervar met 'n besoek aan die Arlington-boeregemeenskap. Boere en boervroue van die gemeenskap het egter baie meer as tradisionele koekies, beskuit en pasteie verskaf. Buite dat ons studente hierdie besoek terdeë geniet het, het hul ook eerstehandse kennis van die boerderybedryf opgedoen wat nie sommer met geld gekoop kan word nie.

Ons studente is die A tot Z van boerdery verduidelik en het selfs die kans gehad om saam op 'n trekker te ry terwyl kunsmis in die landerye ingewerk word. Ander interessante oomblikke sluit in 'n bespreking oor aangeplante weiding, stoetery, die gebruik van 'n GPS-stelsel op landerye en die versorging van verse na geboorte. Daar was ookveral groot belangstelling in die Anatoliese herdershond wat nie net skape oppas nie, maar ook so ongeveer 1 000 skape bymekaarmaak. Inligting oor die bedryf van 'n hoenderplaas met 35 000 braaiuikens was ook baie leersaam.

So, of dit nou hoenders, koeie, stoetramme of honde met interessante vaardighede is, dit was in meer as een opsig 'n ondervinding wat ons studente nog lank sal bybly. Vir baie van die studente was dit die eerste keer op 'n plaas en terwyl dié wat 'n paar skape en beeste het, nou kan teruggaan en by hul familie oor die nuwe kennis wat hulle opgedoen het, gaan spog. – Lize Terblanche





Internasionalisering voeg waarde toe tot die Vrystaat en Europa

Deur Lyzette Hoffman

In sy strewe na akademiese uitnemendheid en internasionalisering, het ons Fakulteit Teologie se Departement Ou Testament twee kollegas uit België, proff. Hans Ausloos en Bénédicte Lemmelijn, ontvang.

Beide prof. Ausloos en Lemmelijn is Ou Testamentici wat reeds vir 'n geruime tyd by ons universiteit betrokke is. In 2008 het hulle klasse hier vir voor- en nagraadse studente aangebied. Tans is hulle veral gemoed met navorsing. Hulle was albei voorheen verbonde aan die Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven). Sedert verlede jaar is prof. Ausloos egter werksaam by hulle "sustersuniversiteit", die Université catholique de Louvain (UCL).

Ons universiteit het 'n uitruiloooreenkoms met KU Leuven waardeur die akademici van die twee instellings mekaar oor en weer besoek. Prof. Fanie Snyman, Hoof van ons Departement Ou Testament, is ook by die uitruiloooreenkoms met KU Leuven betrokke. "Dit is danksy die goeie verhouding en kontak op persoonlike vlak wat hierdie ooreenkoms tussen die ons universiteit en KU Leuven baie goed in die Departement Ou Testament werk," meen prof. Snyman.

Die twee Ou Testamentici uit België het naas hul akademiese belewenisse aan ons universiteit

ook ervarings op ander terreine opgedoen: 'n erediens saam met passievolle gelowiges in Heidedal en 'n vrolike kerksaas in die NG Gemeente Heuwelkruin. Hulle drie kinders skakel by Universitas Primère Skool (Tjokkies) in. Om in 'n "buitenzwembad" te swem en kaalvoet skool te gaan, is iets wat hierdie drie jong Belgiese kinders nooit sal vergeet nie.

Internasionalisering is belangrik vir universiteite in Europa en Afrika. Daarom is hierdie kontak met ons universiteit vir proff. Ausloos en Lemmelijn baie waardevol. Akademici kry op hierdie manier die geleentheid om hul horisonne te verbreed en hul vaardighede nog meer te slyp.

Die mooi blou lug, oop ruimtes en hartlikheid van die mense van die Vrystaat is iets wat hulle met hulle saam sal terugneem België toe. Die goeie verhoudinge tussen die dosente en studente aan ons Fakulteit Teologie is iets wat hulle ook opgeval het. "En tot slot is et voor ons allemaal ook telkens weer heel aangenaam om Afrikaans te spreken. Aan die andere kant van die wereld een taal te spreken die zo nauw aanleunt bij onze eigen moedertaal is 'regtig wonderlik,'" aldus prof. Hans Ausloos.

Tienie kan nou sy droom verwesenlik

Hy kry nou die geleentheid om 'n bydrae te lever op 'n terrein waar hy lankal 'n groot behoeft waargeneem het. Dit is 'n groot verantwoordelikheid, maar: "Ek sien verskriklik daarna uit."

So sê prof. Tienie Crous, voorheen Dekaan: Ekonomiese en Bestuurswetenskappe. Hy is in die kantoor van die Viserektor: Akademies aangestel met as kernopdrag die ondersteuning en bemagtiging van akademiese departementshoofde en ander akademiese bestuurders/leiers by wie 'n behoeft aan ondersteuning bestaan. Hy het ook 'n beperkte aanstelling in die Sakeskool, veral ten opsigte van die PhD-program.

Sy fisiese adres is die Sakeskool.

Tenie weet waarvan hy praat. Hy het in 1982 by die UV aangesluit en sal volgende jaar reeds 30 jaar hier werksaam wees. Hiervan was sewe jaar as Departementshoof, sewe jaar as uitvoerende hoof van 'n entrepreneuriese eenheid, 12 jaar as Dekaan en 14 maande as waarnemende Viserektor. "As Dekaan het ek ervaar hoe ons akademiese departementshoofde, bestuurders en leiers verwaarloos word."

Sy vakgebied is bestuur en strategie en hy kan hierdie kennis nuttig gebruik om departementshoofde te ondersteun. Hy verleen reeds hulp aan departemente wat strategieë wil formuleer. Sy ander groot uitdaging is bemagtiging en leierskapontwikkeling, wat vanaf 2012 aandag sal geniet. - **Leatitia Pienaar**



Prof. Hans Ausloos en Bénédicte Lemmelijn.

Binnehof van die Grote Aula van die Maria Theresia College, Fakulteit Teologie.

Religiwetenskappe, KU Leuven, België.

Foto: Britt Weynants



tell us about it...

Hoe gelukkig kan jy nou wees? Een van ons eie dosente het saam met die Springbokke tydens die Rugby Wêreldbeker getoer. Twee van ons meer senior studente het ons Visekanselier en Rektor, prof. Jansen met sy nuwe boek, *Great South African Teachers*, gehelp en boetie en sussie Van Heerden kon albei oorsee vlieg as deel van ons studenteleierskapprogram. Dr. Derik, Hermann, Loraine, Nangamso and Lihlumelo vertel ons van hul avonture.



Dr Derik Coetzee

The pool of death," só het die poel bekend gestaan waarin die Springbokke in die Rugby Wêreldbeker 2011 deelgeneem het. Die uiters belangrike taak om spelers vir hierdie taai stryd voor te berei was in die hande van die bestuur. Kovsky is trots om te sê dat dr Derik Coetzee, biokineties van die Springbokrugbyspan, aan ons universiteit werkzaam is.

Dr Coetzee wat al vir 29 jaar hier op die Bult werk, sê hy geniet die positiewe energie van studente of, soos hy tong in die kies sal sê, "bosluis", want hul suig jou leeg en teer op jou.

Dr Coetzee sê die wêreldbeker is 'n wonderlike en emosionele ervaring. Die heel lekkerste was wanneer die span na 'n wedstryd-wen in die kleedkamer die Springboklied sing. Passievoller en lojaal, is hoe hy die Springbokspan opsom. As gevolg van baie rugby, oefen- en speelure, asook die intensiteit waarteen die wedstryde gespeel word, is die beseringssinsidente hoog. Dit was dr Coetzee se rol om as biokineties op te tree en 'n rol as oefeningsterapeut en geneeskundige in die finalefase-rehabilitasie te speel.

Aan aspirant Oefen- en Sportwetenskapstudente het dr Coetzee die volgende raad: "Spesialiseer in 'n sportsoort waarvoor jy 'n passie het. Bemagtig jouself dat jy die beste in jou spesialisgebied is en maak 'n waardevolle bydrae tot 'n span."

- Anri Bredenkamp



Hermann and Loraine

You rarely come across two exceptional leaders in one pack... But siblings Hermann and Loraine van Heerden both got picked to join our Leadership for Change Programme in, wait for it – America!

BEd student Hermann joined last year's group of 71 students and Loraine, studying optometry, was part of this year's 150 first-years getting a sneak preview of student life aboard.

"It was the best birthday gift ever!" says Loraine who got the news that she would be going to New York during her birthday dinner. Neither she, nor Hermann has been overseas before. Fortunately for Loraine, Hermann could provide some much-needed tips on travelling.

"I explained the subway to her and urged her to pack light," he explains. "But she didn't want to know too much – Loraine was looking forward to the surprise element!"

Both were in awe of the magnitude of New York. Seeing the Statue of Liberty was a once-in-a-lifetime moment for Hermann and Loraine will never forget the bright lights of Times Square. Besides New York, Loraine went to Binghamton and Hermann visited Cornell University in Ithaca. "I will never forget seeing students all over campus ... studying. Whenever you turned a corner, there will be students with open textbooks. Reading. Studying. Even over weekends. That was a real inspiration."

This trip is something both Hermann and Loraine will treasure for a long time to come. They wish that more students could have the opportunity to see the world from the other side! "If the opportunity comes your way," says Hermann, "grab it with both hands!"

"And take LOTS of photos!" Loraine adds.
- Cindé Greyling



Nangamso Koza and Lihlumelo Yoyana

The long-awaited book that celebrates South Africa's greatest teachers has finally hit the shelves. Two of our students, Nangamso Koza, former BCom Law, and first-year Communication Science and Journalism student, and Lihlumelo Toyana, a Postgraduate Diploma in Governance and Political Transformation student, assisted Prof. Jonathan Jansen, our Vice-Chancellor and Rector, to compile the book.

Nangamso and Lihlumelo started working on the book in February 2011. As they had previously worked with Prof. Jansen, he invited them to work with him on the book.

Nangamso and Lihlumelo were responsible for reading the letters, creating a database and keeping contact with all the writers. Ultimately, 128 stories were chosen to form part of the book, *Great South African Teachers*. Some of the stories highlight the dedication of teachers who did all they could to bring forth the potential of learners. "Mentorship dates back to those times; it is not a new thing or a new word. What made it work was the willingness to provide knowledge to the learners," said Lihlumelo.

"This has served to affirm to us that education can reunite the nation. It was an honour for both of us to travel back to the 1950s of the Bantu Education System; to read about others' personal experiences, learn how they made it despite the circumstances," elaborated Nangamso.

"South Africa needs to look at ways and means of applying a gainful employment policy. Teachers need to work in an environment that will encourage and motivate them. Teaching should be given back its respect as a profession. I hope the book becomes a motivation to teachers and learners alike. This was a humbling experience and it makes me value teachers even more," Lihlumelo concluded.

The book was released on 10 October 2011 and is available at all leading retail book outlets.
- Phelekwa Mpono

Groot jaar vir bouprojekte op ons kampusse

Verpak, afgelewer en reg om gebruik te word. Dis wat gesê kan word van die nuwe geboue op ons kampusse wat vanjaar voltooi is, asook bestaande geboue wat opgeknapp is. Sowat 7 000 kubieke meter beton en 2,7 miljoen bakstene later is nege van die elf bouprojekte op ons kampusse reeds afgelewer.

Nuwe geboue wat vanjaar voltooi is, sluit in die Kliniese Vaardighheidssentrum vir die Aanvullende Gesondheidsberoepie, die Gesondheidswetenskapkompleks en die Opvoedkundegebou op ons Bloemfontein-kampus. Opknappingswerk is ook voltooi by die Departemente Argitektuur en Mikrobiële, Biochemiese en Voedselbiotegnologie. Op ons Qwaqwa-kampus is ses nuwe kantore by die Wetenskapgebou voltooi. Bouwerk aan die nuwe Opvoedkundegebou en koshuis op dié kampus is ook afgehandel. Die bestaande kantore van die ou Opvoedkundegebou, sowel as die wetenskaplaboratoriums, is ook opgeknapp.

Geboue op albei kampusse wat nog voltooi moet word, sluit in die nuwe Ekonomiese Bestuurswetenskappe-gebou op ons Bloemfontein-kampus en eetsale by die Qwaqwa-kampus. Laasgenoemde gaan na verwagting in Januarie 2012 in gebruik geneem word. Die nuwe kleuterskool, Little Professors, word ook vroeg volgende jaar in gebruik geneem.

Volgens Louis Badenhorst van Fisiese Beplanning is net meer as R200 miljoen aan dié bouprojekte bestee. Die meeste projekte is deur die Departement Hoëronderwys en Opleiding befonds. Die nuwe kantore en eetsale op ons Qwaqwa-kampus word deur ons universiteit befonds. Ons

universiteit het ook bygedra tot die koste van die opknappingswerk by die Departemente Argitektuur en Mikrobiële, Biochemiese en Voedselbiotegnologie.

Louis sê befondsing van die Departement Hoër Onderwys en Opleiding is volgens sekere definitiewe behoeftes toegestaan. Die kriteria is behuisings, laboratoriums en vaardighedsontwikkeling. – Amanda Tongha

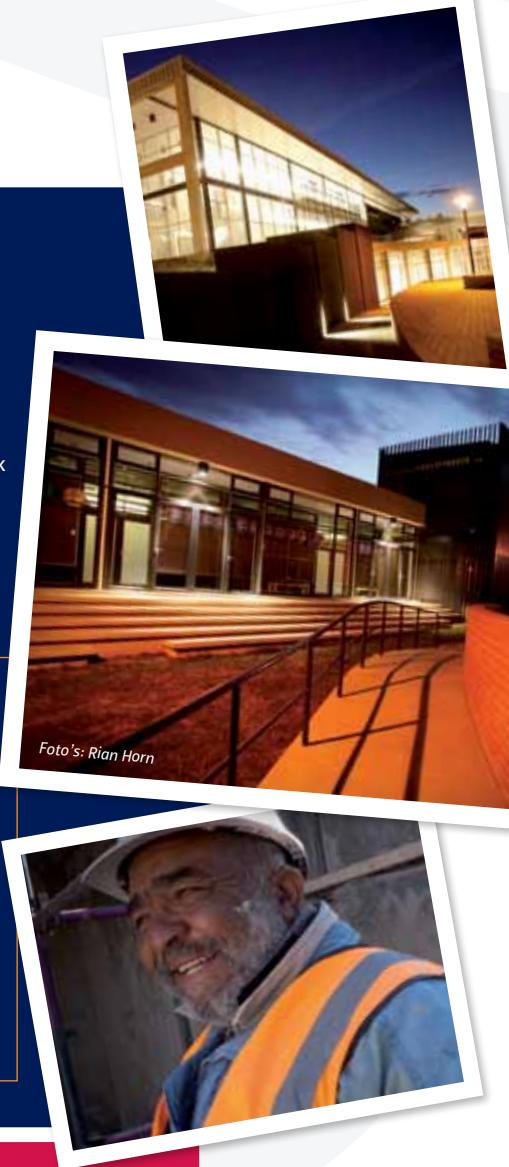
Bouprojekte in syfers

Sowat 800 werkers het aan die bouprojekte op ons Bloemfontein- en Qwaqwa-kampusse gewerk. Ongeveer 600 by die Bloemfontein-kampus en 200 by die Qwaqwa-kampus.

Sowat 25 maatskappye wat in verskillende ambagte spesialiseer, was betrokke.

'n Span van ses konsultante wat uit 'n argitek, bourekenaar, siviele, struktuur-, meganiese en elektriese ingenieur bestaan, was per projek betrokke.

Sowat R62 miljoen is begroot vir die nuwe Ekonomiese en Bestuurswetenskappe-gebou, die meeste geld wat op enige van die bouprojekte bestee is. Die ses nuwe kantore by ons Qwaqwa-kampus is teen 'n koste van R1 miljoen gebou.



Foto's: Rian Horn

"My anger has kept me going," says Mercy

By Thabo Kessah

Our Qwaqwa Campus commemorated this year's International World Aids Day by hosting the world-renowned Mercy Makhalemeli, who has been living with HIV for 19 years. She was the first black woman to address the nation about HIV/Aids issues in the South African National Parliament in 1995.

"Being HIV positive does not mean you should stop celebrating life. We must continue doing so in

our own spaces and in our hearts every day," said Mercy, who addressed the opening Plenary of The XI International Aids conference held in Geneva, Switzerland, back in 1998.

She emphasised that every person, irrespective of his or her socio-economic conditions, has a crucial role to play in creating an HIV-free society.

When asked what has been the one thing that kept her going over the years, she replied, "anger".

"My anger led to frustration. I wanted to prove to the world that my status would not determine how far I would go in achieving my goals in life. I

wanted to set an example that being HIV positive is not the end of the world," Mercy said.

She was also given special recognition by the former United Nations Secretary, Kofi Annan, during the *UN General Assembly on HIV/Aids* in 2000 and is the recipient of the *Nelson Mandela Health and Human Rights Award* that she was presented with in July 2004.

The ceremony was concluded with the candlelight memorial in honour of the victims of HIV and all those who have been infected and affected by this scourge.

Landbou-ekonomie groet twee kollegas

Die Departement Landbou-ekonomie het in Oktober 2011 afskeid geneem van twee kollegas wat amper sinoniem met die Departement geword het, prof. Klopper Oosthuizen en dr Kit le Clus.

Klopper se verbintenis met ons universiteit het reeds in 1973 begin toe hy as eerstejaartjie hier ingeval het. Met sy B.Sc.Agric-graad wat hy in 1975 gekry het, het hy by die staat se Departement Beplanning in Pretoria begin werk en is vir twee jaar na ons universiteit geselekter om in ekonomiese ontwikkeling te spesialiseer. Toe 'n lektorspos in September 1977 oopval, was daar 'n behoorlike geveg om hom vir ons universiteit te behou. "Van toe af kon ek my passie vir Boerderybestuur in die Departement Landbou-ekonomie uitleef," sê Klopper.

Hy onthou die vroeë dae toe die Kovsie-familie baie kleiner was en daar nog geleentheid aan die einde van die jaar vir die dosente-piekniek met "volley ball" en ander speletjies op verskillende plekke op die Bloemfontein-kampus was.

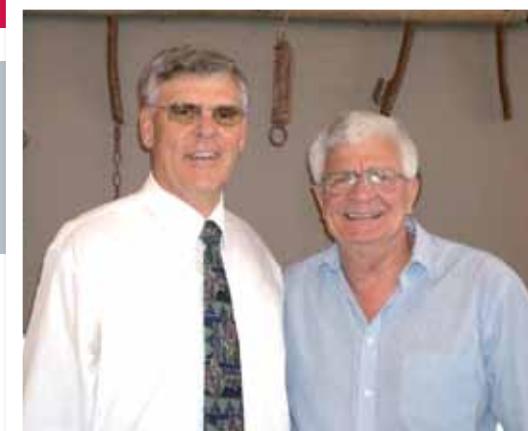
Klopper sal sekerlik die meeste onthou word vir sy verbintenis met die Universiteit van Minnesota wat uitgeloop het op 'n ooreenkoms om skole betrokke te raak om die ekonomiese geletterdheid van die

ongeveer 150 000 ekonomie-onderwysers te verbeter. "Met behulp van Minnesota het ons 'n publieke maatskappy gestig waardeur ons 'n Train the Trainer-model toegepas het, met 'n landswye netwerk van 250 opleiers wat die onderwysers moet oplei, en die onderwysers weer die nie miljoen leerlinge."

En die toekoms: "My oupagrootjie Gert Oosthuizen is in 1817 in George (die dorp is in 1811 gestig) gedoopt en in 'n sekere sin voltooi ek hierdie 200-jaar-kringloop met my aftrede in George se wereld."

Dr Kit le Clus se verbintenis met ons universiteit het vroeg in die 1960's begin. Hy het sy B.Sc.Agric in 1965 behaal en in 1975 sy D.Sc. Agric. Hy was van 1969–1975 dosent aan ons universiteit en daarna by Malcomess in Isando, en van 1981 tot sy aftrede in 2001 by die Nasionale Mielie-Produsente-Organisasie (Nampo, later Graan SA) as bestuurder van navorsing en ontwikkeling betrokke. Hy is hierna as buitengewone professor in ons Departement Landbou-Economie aangestel, waar hy vir derdejaars klas gegee het.

Afrede is vir hom net nog 'nwoord vir skryfwerk en hy is nog by verskeie projekte in Suid-Afrika en die buitenland betrokke. – Leatitia Pienaar



Prof. Klopper Oosthuizen (links) en dr Kit le Clus was onderskeidelik van 1978 en 1975 by ons universiteit betrokke.



Sweat, tears and hard-work pays off

Photo: Phelekwa Mpono



Natalie Jordaan.

Natalie Jordaan is a dedicated student who has proven that no obstacle should stand in one's way of success. She is also the first deaf student from our university to obtain a degree in BCom IT.

Natalie started by bridging with what was then called the Career Preparation Programme in 2004. She registered to study Education in 2005 but decided to change her subjects the following year.

It was not easy to fit into the hearing world in the beginning. Both her parents are deaf. Some students were weary to

communicate with her and they did not know how. "I took matters into my own hands and approached them instead. It was easier to socialise with those students who do Sign Language," said Natalie.

Our Unit for Students with Disabilities (USD) supported Natalie throughout her studies. "My hope is the world should see a deaf person can do anything. I also encourage deaf people to study. Mostly, I hope more deaf people will study at our university in future," she said.

Natalie stated that working as a student assistant at our Department of

Computer Science and Informatics was a big opportunity for her. American author, Helen Keller is her inspiration. As political activist and a lecturer, she was the first deaf-blind person to earn a Bachelor of Art degree. Natalie strongly believes there is no excuse for deaf people to feel limited.

She is currently living her dream. She is now working at Multichoice and her colleagues, she says, are amazing.

One must be brave enough to face life's challenges. Taking on another is Natalie Jordaan in the private sector.

– Phelekwa Mpono

bultjie

“Bedtime story” for tired staff and students

Dis die einde van die jaar en Mammie meen as hierdie laaste Bultjie kort voor die vakansie iets oor die Bokke, die Cheetahs of die akademie op Varsity sê, ek vir 'n kollektiewe Desember-depressie vir almal verantwoordelik sal wees! "Verveel hulle eerder met daai niksgoggende feite oor die lewe waarmee jy my aan die slaap praat as ek wil lees!" seg sy. "Almal se breine het rus nodig!" Here we go!

Staff and students swimming in the sea or enjoying warm baths at home these holidays, consider this! Think how it was for the unfortunate people living in the years around 1500 in Europe and England. Most people married in June because they took their annual bath in May and still smelled pretty good in June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers on the wedding day; hence, the custom of carrying a bouquet when getting married up until today. Ons genderbewuste studente sou dit maar swaar gehad het! Die man van die huis het eerste in die ou houtsokkelt gebad, dan die seuns en ander mans, daarna die vroue en laasteens die babetjies. Die water was later so vuil dat jy dalk regtig per ongeluk "die baba saam met die badwater kon uitgool!" (Mammie se oë is half toe!)

Lekker by die huis die vakansie? Daai mense het in daai jare in grasdakhuise gebly en in die winter is al die huisdiere soos honde, katte, muise, slaghase, hoenders, ganse, eende, rotte, ens. op die oop solder in die huis aangehou sodat hulle darem warm kan bly. As dit reën en die dak lek tot op die solder het dit soms gebeur dat die spulletjie daarbo begin skarrel het en dié wat nie met vlerke vir die dakbalke bedeel was nie daar afgeduiwel het! Vandaar die spreuk: "Dit

reën honde en katte!" And obviously, all kinds of bugs, goggas and smelly goertematoeterjies of the animals landed on the bed below! So a bed with big posts and a sheet over the top were invented to keep the crawlly and smelly invaders away. That's how canopy beds came into existence! The second option was to try and run from the falling objects, but the slate floors in richer houses got slippery in the winter when wet; so they spread thresh on the floor to keep their footing while trying to run from the commotion. In winter, they were mostly drunk to keep warm. Most inhabitants in those cold countries drank the whole winter through to keep warm. So, as the winter wore on, they kept adding more thresh until it would all start slipping outside when you opened the door. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway, and that is where the word "threshold" comes from. (Mommy has just turned on her side in bed.)

As julle so lekker braai die vakansie! Vleis was min in daai dae en as jy varkvleis kon bekostig, kon jy dit ophang en daarmee voor besoekers spog. Gewonder waar kom: "He could bring home the bacon" vandaan? Voila! Meer ernstig – die tamaties in die pewter-bakke het die suur en lood in die kos verhoog en die rykes wat dié borde kon bekostig, het dikwelsloodvergiftiging opgedoen en soms die pewter-emmer geskop. Die mense het vir 400 jaar gedink tamaties is giftig! Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf; the family got the middle; and guests got the top, or "upper crust". (Long sigh from Mommy.)

And you think students drink too much at intervarsity? Lead cups were used to drink ale or whiskey and *allerhande konkoksies*. The combination would sometimes knock people

out for a couple of days! Daar lê hulle pote in die lug soos intervarsity-studente op Maandae! Verbygangers het soms gedink hulle is dood en sou begin begrafnisreëlings tref! They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up; hence, the custom of holding a "wake." Stadig met die doppe dié vakansie!

Now for the gory stuff! England was old and small – and still is! They started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and take the bones to a "bone house" and re-use the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 was found to have scratch marks on the inside, and they realised they had been burying people alive. So they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground, and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the "graveyard shift") to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be "saved by the bell" or was considered a "dead ringer". (It worked! Mommy is snoring away!)

And that's the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth! You still awake? Did you know the song with the longest title is, "I'm a Cranky Old Yank in a Clanky Old Tank on the Streets of Yokohama with my Honolulu Mama Doin' Those Beat-o, Beat-o Flat-On-My-Seat-o, Hirohito Blues", written by Hoagy Carmichael in 1943?

Hope this blocked out any academic stuff from your precious brains! Lekker vakansie hou en liefde van boom tot boom!

Bultjie