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# Bult

Nuustydskrif | News magazine



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

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



# Bult

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



**Cover:** A sculpture in front of the Winkie Direko Building on the Bloemfontein Campus. Photo: Evert Kleynhans.

**Flyleaves:** The three UFS campuses in full bloom during Spring 2015.

# Brief van die redakteur

Nog voordat ons ons oë kon uitvee,  
het die jaar die halfpadmerk  
verbygesteek. Namate die maande,  
weke en dae verbyrol, glimlag die  
UV net al breër oor al die prestasies  
van sy personeel en studente.



Dit is vir ons 'n voorreg om vir u inligting oor dié prestasies te bring. Die mees onlangse is die goue medalje van Wayde van Niekerk in die 400 m mansatletiek by die Wêreldatletiekbyeenkoms in Beijing, China. Ook op sportgebied is ons trots op Nicole Walraven, wat aangewys is as SA se onder-21 Hokkiespeler van die Jaar. Lees ook oor Jarred Meyer, 'n voormalige Kowsie, wat aangestel as onderkaptein van die Nedbank Ke Yona-span.

Verder het Veritas manskoshuis al singende 'n eerste plek vir hulself losgesing by die 2015 ATKV Nasionale Universiteite Sêrkompetisie wat in Stellenbosch aangebied is. Marjolein het die algehele tweede plek behaal en is aangewys as wenner van die Beste Eie Komposisie en Beste Voorgeskrewe Liedere.

Die UV is verder ook trots op 'n voormalige student, Rolene Strauss, wat aangewys is as Mej Wêreld 2014, Andricia Hinckemann wat die titel dra van Mej Aarde 2015, Tweede Prinses asook Relebohile Kobeli wat aangewys is as Mej Lesotho 2015.

Op navorsingsgebied is die UV baie trots op die twee nuwe SARCHI-leerstoele wat toegewys is. Die UV het in totaal vyf SARCHI-leerstoele. Lees meer hieroor op bl 20. 'n Ander prestasie op akademiese gebied is dié van Bright Peprah, 'n PhD-student van Ghana in plantteling, wie se voorlegging vir befondsing deur die kompeterende Program for Emerging Agricultural Research Leaders (Pearl) suksesvol was. Hy ontvang R5.5 miljoen vir sy navorsing om die betakaroteen-inhoud van kassawa te verbeter.

Hierdie is maar enkele van die prestasies wat die UV breed laat glimlag. Intussen is die universiteit besig met gesprekke met belanghebbendes rakende die hersiening van sy taalbeleid. Lacea Loader skryf hieroor op bl 13.

Ingesluit by die uitgawe is 'n skeurstrook met 'n paar vrae oor die verspreiding van Bult. Ek sal dit baie waardeer as u dit kan voltooi en terugstuur aan bolleursl@ufs.ac.za. **B**

Groete  
Leonie



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## Alumni

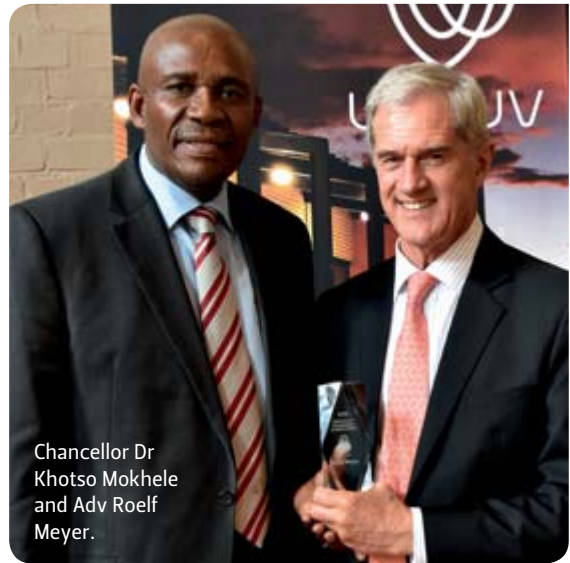
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# Alumni



Alumni and staff enjoyed entertainment by well-known musical groups Freshly Ground and The Muses.



Chancellor Dr Khotso Mokhele and Adv Roelf Meyer.



# inspired to keep the Kovsie flag flying high at reunion weekend festivities

By Mamosa Makaya

**T**he alumni reunion weekend was held on the Bloemfontein Campus on 28 and 29 August 2015, when a line-up of exciting events, talks, and tours around the campus was presented. At this event the Chancellor, Dr Khotso Mokhele, presented the Distinguished Alumnus Award to Adv Roelf Meyer for his outstanding contributions to the human interests of South Africa, and his current work of facilitating peace processes around the world.

The celebrations began with a leadership symposium on the theme of "Leadership: Linking legacies and futures", which was attended by current student leaders and the SRC Presidents Alumni Association. In his dialogue with the audience, Adv Roelf Meyer shared experiences of his personal growth in the process of bringing about democracy in the country: "If you really want to contribute to change, it is not only an intellectual exercise; it is also a heart and soul thing," he said.

The anchor event was the inaugural Chancellor's Distinguished Alumnus Award Luncheon hosted by Dr Mokhele. Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge, executive director of Inyathelo, renowned politician and women's rights activist, presented the keynote address in which she highlighted the

role that universities have in preparing women for leadership, and how they, in turn, can prepare society for female leadership. "South Africa is ready for a woman as president. This should be looked at from the perspective of what qualities women bring to leadership," she said.

In his remarks, Dr Mokhele said that "what draws a student back to his/her Alma Mater is the quality of the experience they had on campus. This campus contributed to the transformation of this country through alumni such as Roelf Meyer and Kobie Coetsee."

In accepting the award, Adv Meyer introduced Youth Zones, a project which he has been involved with for the past five years, empowering and supporting 40 000 youths in the Free State. "There are many who came before and after us who well deserve this award, therefore, I accept it on behalf of all alumni," he said.

To wrap up the weekend's festivities, former SRC President Richard Chemaly hosted the Faculty of Law alumni cocktail event at the CR Swart Auditorium. Speaking at the event, Prof Caroline Nicholson, Dean of the Faculty of Law, said: "A faculty cannot exist without its alumni; we need you to carry us. Your continued support and collaboration is truly appreciated." **B**

Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge, executive director of Inyathelo, renowned politician and women's rights activist, presented the keynote address at the alumni reunion weekend.





# Global leaders awarded

Various faculties at the university recognised the contributions of prominent global leaders with honorary doctorates at the July and September 2015 graduations. Three individuals were honoured for their humanitarian leadership and noble deeds.



Dr Lis Lange, Vice-Rector: Academic, Dr John Samuel and Prof Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the UFS.



Prof Heidi Hudson from the Centre for Africa Studies at the UFS and Dr Lakhdar Brahimi.



Dr Saretha Brüssow and Dr Mercy Oduyoye.

# honorary doctorates at the 2015 graduations

By Valentino Ndaba



**Dr Lakhdar Brahimi** was recognised with an honorary doctorate from the Centre for Africa Studies. Algerian-born Brahimi was first involved with the United Nations (UN) in 1992, and has since been deployed all over the world on peacekeeping missions. He has worked as a mediator on behalf of the UN for South Africa, Haiti, Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Democratic Republic of Congo, Cameroon, Burundi, Angola, Liberia, Nigeria, Sudan, and Côte d'Ivoire, among numerous other countries. In 1993/4, he played a direct role in South Africa's democratic transition as a special representative.



**Dr Mercy Oduyoye** was recognised by the Faculty of Theology. She is widely regarded as one of the most influential women theologians in Africa, and was the first black woman to receive a degree in Theology in 1965 from Cambridge University in the United Kingdom. She continues to shift the paradigm of gender in theology internationally as the director of the Institute of African Women in Religion and Culture at the Trinity Theology Seminary in Ghana.



**Dr John Samuel** received recognition from the Faculty of Education. He has contributed to the Public Participation Education Network (PPEN) campaign as a founding member. He established the Centre for Education Policy Development, the Joint Working Group (for The National Party Government and the ANC), the National Education Conference, and the National Education and Training Forum. In addition, he made leadership contributions to the First Education and Training White Paper, the first Green Paper on Higher Education, and is the CEO of the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls.



**Prof Jeffrey Sachs** was honoured by the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences at the Spring Graduation Ceremony. He is a prominent American economist and humanitarian. He has done extensive work in sustainable economic, social and political development across the globe. Prof Sachs is the Director of The Earth Institute, Quetelet Professor of Sustainable Development, and Professor of Health Policy and Management at Columbia University in the US. He is Special Advisor to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on the Millennium Development Goals, having held the same position under former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan. He is Director of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network. **B**



Photo: Supplied

“Loraine ook primaria van Huis Soetdoring en is steeds die enigste student in die universiteit se geskiedenis wat in dieselfde jaar as SR-voorsitter, joolkoningin en Dux-student gekies is.”



Loraine Roux.

# Raadslid Loraine Roux

## – 'n Ware Kowsie-ambassadeur

Deur Ilse Smallberger

Loraine Roux (née Kriek), eertydse Studenteraadsvoorsitter, is in 2012 tot die Raad van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat (UV) verkies. Dié oud-Kowsie het diep spore aan die UV getrap en baie personeellede en oudstudente sal haar onthou as die pragtige slimkop wat sukses op soveel verskillende terreine van studentwees en menswees behaal het.

Haar reis as 'n Kowsie het begin as 'n finalis van die gesogte Matrikulant van die Jaar-kompetisie. Sy het daarna 'n B-graad in Verbruikerswetenskap aan die UV verwerf. 'n Gebore leier, was Loraine ook primaria van Huis Soetdoring en is steeds die enigste student in die universiteit se geskiedenis wat in dieselfde jaar as SR-voorsitter, joolkoningin en Dux-student gekies is.

Die Kriek-familie is stoere oud-Kowsies met drie generasies – Loraine, haar oorlede oupa Johan Kriek, en peetouers Rhyno en Mariette Kriek – wat almal op die Studenteraad gedien het.

Dit is dus geen verrassing nie dat 'n vooraanstaande firma soos Deloitte & Touche Loraine se unieke talent

en leierskapsvaardighede raakgesien het en dat sy dadelik ná universiteit opgeraap is om die uitvoerende hoof se internskap (CEO Bootcamp) te voltooi. Tans is sy deel van die span wat Deloitte & Touche se etiese en bedrogvoorkomingsdienste regoor Afrika en Europa uitbrei.

Sy gebruik ook hierdie kundigheid en ervaring in risikobestuur, etiese praktyk en goeie korporatiewe bestuur in haar rol as UV-raadslid. As deel van haar werksaamhede as alumni-verteenwoordiger op die Raad dien sy op die naamgewingskomitee, asook op die oudit- en risikokomitee.

“Dit is vir my 'n groot voorreg om op die Raad te dien, maar dis ook 'n groot verantwoordelikheid,” sê sy.

“Ek streef daarna om alumni as belangeparty aktief te verteenwoordig en om die universiteit te help uitbou deur goeie besigheidsbeginsels toe te pas.”

Loraine is in 2014 met Gabriel Roux getroud en die egpaar woon in Stellenbosch. **B**



# Collecting awards!

By Cindé Greyling

With more than ten awards to his name already, Sibusiso Tshabalala is sure to collect many more during his promising career.

Sibusiso grew up in Sebokeng, a township near Vereeniging and Vanderbijlpark, before spending his teenage years in Welkom, where he matriculated in 2009. Thereafter, he pursued his tertiary studies at the University of the Free State, which presented him with the Ambassador's Award.

Some of the highlights in Sibusiso's short but remarkable career include being selected as one of Google's 10 Young Minds in 2012. Every year, Google searches for 10 international students who show "strong leadership capabilities, entrepreneurial drive, and commitment to social activism". His Afrika Kusama initiative in the Free State, with its focus on promoting literacy and critical thinking skills among previously disadvantaged learners, won him this award. He was also listed as one of South Africa's Top 200 young South Africans by the *Mail and Guardian*.

These accomplishments followed various others, including a Pan African Universities Debating Championships award as one of the top 10 speakers, and an invitation to take part in the South American Business Forum in Argentina in 2011. The aim of this forum is to reduce the gap between generations and nationalities of the world's future leaders.

Despite the global recognition, Sibusiso takes pride in many local actions. He was the funding chair for South Africa's first student-driven and university-based CANSA relay for life. With such diverse experiences and so many stories to tell,



Photo: Supplied

Sibusiso Tshabalala.

it is no wonder that this vibrant young man's writing has appeared in the *Daily Maverick*, *City Press*, *allAfrica.com*, and the *Mail & Guardian's* opinion platform, Thoughtleader.

Sibusiso is currently a Capetonian where he is the programme coordinator of the World Design Capital promotion project. It has been just over five years since he closed his schoolbooks to venture into the "real world", and he has already made a mark. There can be no doubt that he is a true ambassador for the University of the Free State. **B**

## Celebrating the birthday of Ahmed Kathrada and the Triumph of the Human Spirit



During the launch of his latest book, *Triumph of the Human Spirit*, Ahmed Kathrada – stalwart of South Africa's liberation struggle – was treated to a great surprise. As the event seemed to come to a close, members of the SRC carried a candle-lit cake – shaped in the number 86 – to Kathrada. This surprise was organised by the UFS to celebrate his birthday on 21 August 1929. – **Michelle Nothing** **B**

# Drie grade in vier jaar – cum laude

Deur Cindé Greyling

**T**ydens Jacqui Middleton se derde gradeplegtigheid in 2015, het prof Jonathan Jansen, Visekanselier en Rektor, haar lewensverhaal vertel om ander te motiveer. En dis omtrent 'n storie.



Foto: Laurika van Straaten

Jacqui Middleton.

Na twee dekades in onderwys, het Jacqui haar drome vlerke gegee deur 'n BA Korporatiewe- en Bemerkingskommunikasie, 'n Honneurs in Besigheidsbestuur en 'n Meestersgraad in Volhoubare Landbou te voltooi – binne vier jaar.

“Dit was rof,” onthou Jacqui, “maar ek het my doel voor oë gehou – om myself toe te rus en 'n verskil in ons land te maak. Dit het gehelp gedurende daardie eerste paar maande toe ek dikwels alleen in my kamer gehuil het.” Omdat Jacqui voorheen 'n onderwyskollege bygewoon het, wou sy graag 'n universiteitservaring hê. “Oppas waarvoor jy wens” lag sy. Maar danksy haar vriendelikheid en gesonde humorsin het sy oorleef.

“Ek het uitgereik na veral studente met gestremdhede in my koshuis en ook met ander senior studente vriende gemaak. ‘Grootmensgeselskap’ was terapieus na 'n dag vol van twintigjariges. Om die pas vol te hou, het Jacqui altyd voor gesit en aan klasbesprekings deelgeneem. Wanneer ander studente effens steurend geraak het, sou sy sê: “Asseblief, help my om graad te vang voor my aftrede.”

Dit motiveer Jacqui om elke dag 'n verskil in ander se lewens te maak. “Elkeen het 'n belangrike werk op aarde. Daarom moet ons tyd maak om mekaar te waardeer.”

Terwyl sy haar PhD voltooi, is Jacqui saam met haar man, Keith, medebestuurder van hulle plaas op die Oranje-Rietkanaal. Sy is ook een van vyf direkteure vir Konsortium – 'n maatskappy gemik op die bemagtiging van kommersiële boere, plaaswerkers, grondbegunstigdes en landelike gemeenskappe.

“Ek dank die Here vir die geleentheid, prof Jansen vir sy geloof in my, my man wat my ondersteun het, en al die personeel by Kopsies wat my gehelp het om my wildste drome te oortref. Verder het ek geleer dat ek ook belangrik is, en myself moet krediet gee vir harde werk.” **B**



Unemployed graduates given a lifeline through the

## Workplace Readiness Programme

Partnership between university and industry proves beneficial for graduates.

By Mamosa Makaya

The UFS Business School, in partnership with Pharmapreneurs, an HR consulting company, and leading pharmaceutical companies embarked on The Workplace Readiness Programme to cultivate “fresh” talent among unemployed graduates, ready to begin their careers in the pharmaceutical industry in Gauteng.

Thirty unemployed BEE graduates were selected for the programme, and were placed at host companies for four months to obtain practical work experience. They received classroom-based training at the UFS Business School on a variety of credit-bearing subjects including Leadership, Financial Management, Business and Information Technology, Personal Financial Management, and a background to the pharmaceutical industry.

There are multiple benefits in the partnership, not only for companies, but also for the National Development Plan, by increasing the employment rate and ensuring that managerial posts better reflect the country’s racial and gender make-up. The training expenditure increases participating companies’ BBBEE ratings. The participating pharmaceutical companies include Adcock-Ingram, Aspen, Cipla, Genop, and others.

Photo: Supplied



Two graduates of the Workplace Readiness Programme.

The UFS Business School plans to expand the programme to include other healthcare sector industries, to grow as the academic lead, and possibly become a blueprint for similar programmes at other universities. **B**

## Judge Ian van der Merwe unanimously re-elected at Chairperson of the UFS Council for a third term

By Lacea Loader

The Council of the University of the Free State (UFS) unanimously re-elected Judge Ian van der Merwe as its Chairperson for another three years at its meeting on Friday 11 September 2015, which took place on the Bloemfontein Campus.

Judge Van der Merwe serves as Judge of the Free State High Court. He is an alumnus of the UFS and has been a member of the Council since 9 March 2007.

In accepting his re-election, Judge Van der Merwe said that he was honoured and grateful for the support. “I will do my best not to disappoint the

Council and will do what is in the best interest of the UFS,” he said.

“The UFS is privileged to have in the person of Judge Van der Merwe a man of great public standing and a wealth of experience in the governance of universities, to continue to lead the Academic and Human Projects of the institution at such a critical moment in the history of South Africa”, said Prof Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the UFS.

Judge van der Merwe was elected as Chairperson of the UFS Council during a meeting on 20 November 2009 and was unanimously re-elected for a second term on 16 November 2012. His third term will commence on 1 January 2016. **B**

Photo: Stephen Collett



Judge Ian van der Merwe.



# Lecturer among handful selected for business development course

By Leatitia Pienaar

Dr Frelet de Villiers of the Odeion School of Music.

Six delegates from the Free State attended the Swiss SA Business Development Programme Advanced workshop in Cape Town. Among them was Dr Frelet de Villiers, lecturer at the Odeion School of Music, a postgraduate student and an MBA graduate. Dr De Villiers developed an interactive app (*Notes & Fun*) which aids piano students in their quest to learn music notation.


The course was presented in all the major provinces, and of the 30 delegates who were selected nationally, six were from the Free State. Karen Eksteen, Manager: Innovation Skills Development at the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), calls it "a major accomplishment" for the province.

Dr De Villiers says, "The best advantage of this type of workshop is to introduce your project to the outside world, and get feedback from different sources. The possibility of having been chosen to go to Switzerland would have been amazing, and would have been an excellent opportunity to meet different experts in the field, and perhaps possible partners and sponsors."

The programme forms part of the broader Swiss South Africa Joint Research Programme (SSAJRP), which began in 2010 with the signing of the Science and Technology Agreement between the South African Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and

Innovation (SERI). This led to the support of joint projects in biotechnology, life sciences, and public health.

"The programme showed tremendous successes, not only with the 2013/2014 programme but also with the previous years' delegates, some of whom started companies, sold off their companies to global competitors or began start-up companies which are showing growth," she said.

On completion of the Cape Town-based course, Cedric Scheepers, founder and CEO of Quainted Consulting, an Enterprise Social Networking company, was selected to represent South Africa in Zurich, Switzerland, in October 2015. "This is a great opportunity to gain international business exposure as well as to network with some of the most successful business people in the world," he said. Cedric will pitch his business ideas to international venture capitalists, and visit the Googlefest competition. 



# UFS Qwaqwa Campus graduate sells the university to the world

By Thabo Kessah

**W**hen the Fulbright Foreign Student Programme visited the Qwaqwa Campus during her third year in 2012, Vangile Nhlapo attended the session with a clear objective – to find out as much as possible about the programme and then to apply. At that stage, she still had a full year to go before completing her studies.

The presentation and subsequent encouragement of her mentors obliged her to explore the opportunity to further her studies in the United States.

“I have always had immense interest in languages, and I am a proud UFS languages alumnus”, said Nhlapo, who graduated with a BEd FET Languages degree in 2013.

“I took a decision to apply which, at later stage, seemed too cumbersome to deal with. However, with time, all fell into place, despite the rigorous interviews and tests I had to go through. Eventually, I was granted the scholarship and, later, an opportunity to study at the Montclair State University in New Jersey from July 2013,” she said.

Vangile enrolled for the Master's degree in Applied Linguistics and TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), which afforded her the opportunity to market the UFS and South Africa to the world.

“Our cohort of students was diverse and international in nature. I had classmates from Iraq, Russia, Germany, and Afghanistan, to mention but a few. It was a learning curve, not only for me, but for all of us. Americans in particular enjoyed my South African experiences in education. My Rwandan classmate and I did our part in sharing the best that Africa can offer, despite all the hardships facing the continent,” she said.



Vangile Nhlapo enjoying some time out on the New York subway before heading back home earlier this year.

“I have always had immense interest in languages, and I am a proud UFS languages alumnus.”

At this moment, Vangile is busy developing her PhD project with the help of her mentor, Dr Dipane Hlalele. She is also considering a job offer from the Qingdao Technological University in China.

“My ultimate aim is to stay here at home and make a valuable contribution in the language planning and policy sector,” was her parting shot. **B**

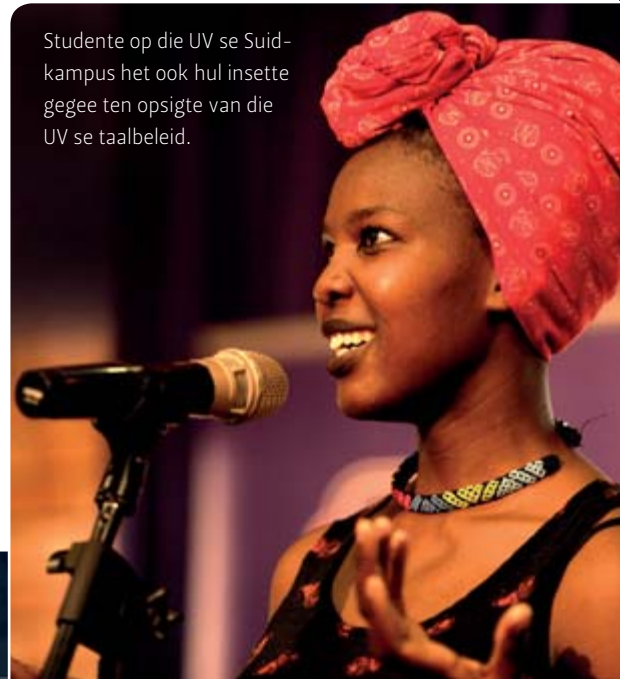
# UV se Taalbeleid word hersien

Deur Lacea Loader

**D**ie Universiteit van die Vrystaat (UV) het in Augustus 2015 'n omvattende konsultasieproses van stapel gestuur om die instelling se Taalbeleid te hersien, nadat die UV-Raad op 6 Junie 2015 'n mandaat aan die senior leierskap gegee het.

Die mandaat is aan die senior leierskap verleen in reaksie op algemene besorgdheid wat tydens 'n Universiteitsvergadering op 28 April 2015 deur die studenteliggaam asook sommige personeellede uitgespreek is oor die moontlike nie-geëkwaliteite van die UV se huidige parallelle voertaalbeleid om die diepgaande transformasie by die instelling te ondersteun.

Studente op die UV se Suid-kampus het ook hul insette gegee ten opsigte van die UV se taalbeleid.



Foto's: Johan Roux

Paneelbesprekings oor universiteite en taalbeleid het deel van die hersieningsproses gevorm. Van links: Prof Adelia Carstens, Direkteur: Eenheid vir Akademiese Geletterdheid, Universiteit van Pretoria; prof Arlys van Wyk van die UV se Sentrum vir Onderrig en Leer; prof Kathleen Heugh, Medeprofessor in Toegepaste Linguistiek, Universiteit van Suid-Australië; en dr Pam Maseko, Senior Lektrise in die Skool vir Tale: Afrikaataalstudies, Rhodes-Universiteit. Die bespreking is gelei deur prof Van Wyk.





Dr Willy Nel, Fakulteit Opvoedkunde op die Bloemfontein-kampus.



By die sessies wat deur persone wat gehoorgestrem is, bygewoon is, is Gebaretaaltolke gebruik. Hier tolk Khetha Makoatsone.



Tolkdienste was beskikbaar by die sessies.

Dialoë met personeel, studente, alumni, eksterne belanghebbendes en die konvokasie is op die drie kampusse van die universiteit gehou waartydens geleentheid gegee is om standpunte oor die toekomstige taalbeleid van die UV te stel en voorleggings te maak. Voorleggings kon ook deur middel van 'n aanlynopsie gedoen word. Die hersiening is 'n oop proses met drie breë moontlike opsies – dat die parallelle voertaalbeleid behou word; dat geringe aanpassings aan

die beleid gemaak word; of dat groot veranderinge aan die bestaande beleid gemaak word.

Wat uit die navorsing en konsultasies na vore kom, sal dien as 'n duidelike voorstel aan die Raad in November 2015 oor die voorkeurtaalopsies, gebaseer op insette deur die universiteitsgemeenskap en sy formele verteenwoordigende strukture. **B**

Kollegas op die Qwaqwa-kampus het ook aan die taalgesprekke deelgeneem.



Op die Bloemfontein-kampus het personeel hul bydrae gelewer tot die taalgesprek.



Meet

# Drs Ngara and Ngara

By Thabo Kessah



Drs Rudo and Kudzayi Ngara.

Drs Kudzayi and Rudo Ngara are no ordinary couple on the Qwaqwa Campus. They are both newly-selected Vice-Chancellor's Prestige Scholars, and both hold PhDs from the University of the Western Cape. What is even more interesting is that they come from two distinctively different disciplines. Dr Kudzayi Ngara is a wordsmith from the Department of English, and Dr Rudo Ngara is a plant scientist.

Dr Rudo Ngara's research interest lies in understanding how crops respond and adapt to a range of abiotic stresses such as water stress, high soil salinity, and high temperature.

"My interest in this field of study is motivated by the need to develop crops that produce maximally under harsh environmental conditions," said Dr Rudo Ngara, whose area of specialisation is plant biotechnology. "With the current projections in global climatic change and its effects on food security, there is an increasing need to produce crops under hot and dry conditions," she said.

In her research work, she employs proteomic technologies that help in the separation and identification of stress-responsive proteins. "I intend using molecular cloning techniques in the future. These will help in the further characterisation of these stress responsive proteins," she added.

Dr Rudo Ngara has published five research and review articles, two conferences proceedings, and one book chapter to date.

On the other hand, her husband's research focuses on how literary imaginings and representations of cityscapes offer different but complimentary pathways to the uncovering of the fluid and contradictory qualities that mark many African cities.

"I am fascinated by literary representations of Johannesburg in the writings of Ivan Vladislavić, a second-generation South African, who describes the transitional period from the last decade of apartheid to the emergence of the post-apartheid state and beyond. His writing provides many insights about Johannesburg. His texts are telling in that there are few fully-developed black characters in his stories. My views differ from his as we may write about the same city yet have different experiences, probably because we visit the different areas, we don't go to the same shops and pubs," he said.

Dr Kudzayi Ngara also holds the view that it is difficult for even prominent writers to survive on their writings. "The culture of reading is no more. Many people read only if they have to – be it for their education or profession."

Earlier this year he spent three months as a Nordic Africa Institute Guest Researcher, and was a recipient of the University of Cape Town Postdoctoral Fellowship in 2012.

Both Drs Ngara are lecturers and subject heads in their respective departments. **B**





**Community | Gemeenskap**



# Shepherd Centre reaches across Africa to embrace Ethiopia

By Michelle Nothing

Scenery of the farmlands and landscape found in Ethiopia.



The entrance to the Shiloh Bible School in Hawassa, Ethiopia.



Students studying in the library at the Seminary of the Full Gospel Church in Ethiopia.

Spreading the gospel of salvation, ministers reach out to touch the moral fibre of their communities. But more often than not, this task can collide with apparently insurmountable challenges. It is at this juncture that the Shepherd Centre fulfils its calling.

Under the auspices of the UFS Faculty of Theology, the Shepherd Centre assists spiritual leaders across denominations in their religious activities. In 2012, the work of the centre was catapulted beyond Bloemfontein and surrounds, north across Africa ultimately to embrace Ethiopia.

PhD student Pastor Thesfaye Edema brought the need for theological training in Ethiopia to the attention of Dr Gerhard Botha, Director of the Shepherd Centre. "During 2013, I visited Ethiopia, and saw first-hand the desperate need their seminaries were experiencing," Dr Botha says.

Committed to a joint vision of extending theological education into Africa, Dr Botha and Prof Fanie Snyman,

Dean of the UFS Faculty of Theology, travelled to Ethiopia in March 2014. This visit culminated in a signed agreement of mutual collaboration between the UFS Faculty of Theology and the Seminary of the Full Gospel Church in Ethiopia.

"The churches in Ethiopia play a very large role in human cohesion, and answer to a variety of social challenges," Dr Botha says. "The better the church and the leaders of the churches are equipped, the better their contribution within the communities will be."

As a result of this collaboration, 10 Master's students and 12 PhD students have joined the postgraduate programme offered in Ethiopia. Dr Botha will conduct four contact sessions of one week each over a period of two years in Addis Ababa. Dr Botha is extremely excited about the potential of the project. "The fields of research within Ethiopia will most definitely help universities in Africa for the future development of theological training. We are already learning so much."

The Shepherd Centre offers postgraduate training not only in Ethiopia. In collaboration with the Shiloh Bible School, the centre will also conduct short learning programmes in Hawassa in the near future. **B**



# Postgraduate students

## lend a helping hand to their communities

By Thabo Kessah



UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE  
UNIWERSITEIT VAN DIE VREESTAT  
YUNIVESITHI YA FREESTATA

PGSC members preparing a vegetable garden at the Team Spirit Centre.

"I am overwhelmed by the love and support that I see here today. We have already acquired a stand where we hope to build a proper facility that will take care of these gentle souls." These were the words of a visibly emotional Manthabeleng Mofokeng, the owner of a hospice housing 15 vulnerable children in Makoane village in Qwaqwa. These words were in response to the goodwill gesture from the Qwaqwa Campus Postgraduate Students Council (PGSC) who braved a cold July day to put a smile on those children's faces.


"Our visit to the Team Spirit Centre in Makoane was inspired by our desire to put a smile on the faces of the disadvantaged children," said Thollwana Makhetha, PGSC Community Services coordinator.

"As the PGSC, we do not only strive for the promotion of high academic standards. We also care deeply for our communities. We come from these very same communities and we want to create a space for us as students to get involved in various projects, social activities and community outreach programmes," said Makhetha, Masters of Science student specialising in Polymer Science.

"We are honoured to be here and happy about the support we were given by the campus management and various departments at the university as we were planning for this very important day," Makhetha said.

Manthabeleng Mofokeng shared her wishes with the Qwaqwa Campus delegation that included the Campus Principal, Prof Prakash Naidoo.

"We urgently need a proper facility as it becomes difficult when some of the children fall ill. A bigger space would allow us to separate them as they take their treatment until they recuperate. With the help of the university, we will be able to draw up a plan to source funds for this much-needed structure" she said.

With the help of the Community Engagement office, staff and students, as well as other community members, the PGSC managed to donate groceries worth R 4 000 and toys, books and furniture valued at R 5 000. They also helped with the feeding of the children, putting up a new fence around the centre, washing of laundry and gardening. 

# Changing people's lives one person at a time

By Leonie Bolleurs

**K**gosi Mocwagae is a junior lecturer in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning at the university. He believes that there is no point in living if you cannot bring about positive change in people's lives.

Since 2008 – when he was project leader for KOVSCOM (Kovsie Community) in the Khayalami Residence – he has worked to better the lives of others.

In 2012, he was invited to join Genesis ARK (Acts of Random Kindness), which is driven by the mission to make every day a Mandela day. In 2014, he was elected as chairperson of this organisation which has worked hard to get where they are today.

"The beneficiaries of our projects are the least fortunate communities, with a particular focus on informal settlements," he said.

Kgosi and his team believe that, by empowering the least fortunate, they instil confidence and build long-lasting relationships. At the same time, they tackle social and economic issues.

"By giving clothes to the least fortunate, we give them confidence when looking for work. A soup kitchen attends to the immediate issue of food insecurity. By giving one blanket to a single household, up to four persons can benefit from its warmth. By supporting the KFC Add Hope campaign, we help to raise funds to change lives. With the take a child to school initiatives, we focus on buying school uniforms – allowing children to have confidence in a class from an early age. That's what we're all about," he said.

Their great measures of hard work and goodwill resulted in their organisation being announced as the winner in a MetroFM competition during July 2015. "MetroFM opened up a competition that gave listeners the opportunity to nominate their favourite organisations. The competition specifications were that the top four most voted for would win R10 000. We came out on top, thanks to all the support," he said.

"I have realised that people would like to contribute and do good for others but are often faced with challenges, such as time and whom to approach in this regard. To such people, I urge them to offer support to existing organisations.

It is also important to realise that you don't have to give a person money to make a positive impact in their life. The simple act of random kindness of buying someone less fortunate a cup of coffee on a cold winter morning has a positive impact. Lending an ear to the least fortunate also shows them the significance of their existence. **B**



Kgosi and two children at a blanket drive.



A serene sunset scene with a body of water in the foreground, reeds, and a building in the background. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm glow. The text "Research | Navorsing" is overlaid in a white box.

# Research | Navorsing



Prof Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela.



Prof Felicity Burt.

Photos: Supplied

## Two research chairs awarded to UFS women

By René-Jean van der Berg

**T**wo professors at the UFS have just been chosen as recipients of research chairs by the National Research Foundation's South African Research Chair Initiative (SARChI).

The research chairs are a massive financial injection for research in each of the relevant disciplines – that of Profs Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela from the Centre for Trauma, Forgiveness, and Reconciliation Studies at the UFS, and Felicity Burt from the Department of Medical Microbiology in the Faculty of Health Sciences.

Profs Gobodo-Madikizela and Burt are two of 42 female researchers in the country receiving research chairs as an initiative to give due recognition to women in research.

The work of Prof Burt's research chair is to investigate medically significant vector-borne and zoonotic viruses currently circulating; to define associations between these viruses and specific disease manifestations that have previously not been described in our region, to increase awareness of these pathogens; to further our understanding of host immune responses, which should facilitate development of novel treatments or vaccines and drug discovery.

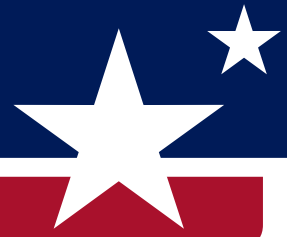
Prof Gobodo-Madikizela, who has received international recognition for her work on forgiveness studies, will use this research chair to investigate historical trauma within two African contexts – those of South Africa and Rwanda. She hopes to gain insight into the role that memory plays in the formation of the experience of trauma, and to bring about healing of the trauma.

Prof Corli Witthuhn, Vice-Rector: Research at the UFS, expressed her pride on the announcement.

"We are extremely proud of the national recognition these two outstanding women researchers received. The UFS strives for research excellence, and the five current NRF research chairs, as well as two NRF A-graded researchers who are at the forefront of their disciplines globally, indicates our continued commitment to innovating, relevant, and high-impact research. We are excited about the progress of the past two years to position the UFS as a national leader in research." **R**



# American Connie Graham pleased to be a “Kovsie”



**C**onnie Graham lives in Washington DC, and is studying towards a PhD at the UFS Business School. **Leatitia Pienaar** crossed the Atlantic via email and asked her a few questions. “All in all, I am quite pleased to be a Kovsie,” she says.



Connie Graham in Washington DC.

**How did you land at Kovsies?** I had been reading about the UFS and UNISA for some time, and the South African PhD process on Degree Information.com. This web site discusses a range of possibilities for distance education and other external programmes. Through it, I found that several North American people have graduated from UFS and UNISA, primarily theologians. I applied to both schools, but the UFS was much more approachable. I chose South Africa because the doctoral process was more to my liking than the North American version, and the cost was much more reasonable for me.

**What is the topic of your PhD?** The PhD research is on the discovery of the interaction requirements for South African doctoral students, and the development of a management plan to accommodate these interaction requirements. The discovery of SA doctoral interaction requirements is most important, because the process of dissertation writing creates a sense of isolation that leads a high drop-out rate in doctoral programmes. This sense of isolation is not limited to SA,

but I have limited my range to SA universities, to make my dissertation more manageable.

**More about yourself?** I am 68 years young, and grew up in New Jersey. I attended university in Kentucky, and, after college, I joined the US Air Force as an officer, which was still an exotic occupation for a young lady of my background at the time. One of my hobbies is genealogy, and, through this, I have discovered that I am part Native American through my mother. Another hobby is computers. I was one of the early adopters of computers and the Internet, which is why distance learning is interesting to me, as are communities of practice. In fact, another UFS student (Johan Siphco Coetzee) and I created a LinkedIn group for PhD students of the UFS Business School.

**Your future plans?** I would like to go back to part-time teaching online. In the past, I taught at one of the first large online for profit universities, at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

**Where do you work/study/lecture?** I am a contract employee to the US Marine Corps at the Pentagon. I have also held part-time employment as an online professor for several online universities.

**Impressions of the UFS?** The UFS is a good, solid institution, with wonderful staff members, who are very flexible and helpful. I appreciate the bricks and mortar aspect of the school, but would like to see it venture into online communities a little more. It is starting to happen. I was thrilled to see the involvement of the UFS in the subject of doctoral education in SA.

**Impressions of South Africa?** Although I have not yet been to SA, I hope to attend graduation. My political impression of SA is that it is similar to the US in terms of income disparity and racial tensions. There is much that SA can learn from the US in this regard, but we can also learn from you. **B**

# PhD student receives more than R5, 5 million to take agricultural research to African farmers

By Leonie Bolleers



The development of nutrient- dense cassava cultivars needs attention to eliminate the ramifications of malnutrition among the poor in an inexpensive and more sustainable way.

Bright Peprah, a Plant Breeding PhD student from Ghana in the Department of Plant Sciences at the university, received an award from the competitive Program for Emerging Agricultural Research Leaders (PEARL) of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) for a project of his to improve the beta-carotene content in cassava.

The project is being led by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) / Crops Research Institute (CRI) and has the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) as international partners with Peprah as the principal investigator.

Peprah decided on this project because the populations of underdeveloped and developing countries, such as Ghana, commonly suffer undernourishment and/or hidden hunger, predisposing them to diseases from micronutrients deficiencies.



Prof Maryke Labuschagne and Bright Peprah.

"Vitamin A deficiency constitutes an endemic public health problem which affects women and children largely," he says.

"In Africa, cassava is widely consumed by the populace. Unfortunately, in these areas, malnutrition is endemic to a significant extent, partly due to the low micronutrients in this tuberous root crop, which is a major component of most household diets. It is for this reason that the development of nutrient- dense cassava cultivars needs much attention to eliminate the ramifications of malnutrition among the poor in an inexpensive and more sustainable way.

"My projects seek to develop new cassava varieties that will have both high dry matter and beta carotene which has been reported to be negatively correlated (as one increase, the other decreases). The breeding method will be crossing varieties that are high in beta carotene with those with high dry matter, and checking the performance of the seedlings later. Developing such new varieties (yellow flesh cassava) will increase their adoption rate by Ghanaian farmers," he said.

Prof Maryke Labuschagne, Professor in Plant Breeding in the Department of Plant Sciences and Peprah's study leader, said: "This project has the potential to alleviate vitamin A deficiency in the West African region, where this deficiency is rampant, causing blindness in many people, especially children." **B**



# Pekanneutbedryf sal by hulle navorsing baat

Deur Leatitia Pienaar



Die pekanneutbedryf in Suid-Afrika groei, en sal na verwagting in die volgende paar jaar nog meer groei. Dit is nie so riskant soos sommige van die ander gewasse in die droër gebiede van die land nie, maar die genetiese samestelling van die plantmateriaal wat gebruik word, is somtyds onder verdenking, sê dr Gesine Coetzer en dr Elmarie van der Watt van die Departement Grond- en Gewas- en Klimaatwetenskappe aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat (UV).

“Daar bestaan geen beheermaatreëls vir die kweek van pekanneutbome in Suid-Afrika nie. Enigeen kan ’n boom kweek. Dit kan lei tot laer opbrengste, met swak gehalte neutte en die uiteindelijke verlies aan gevestigde uitvoermarkte, terwyl dit produsente kan verhoed om nuwe markte oorsee te bekom,” sê hulle.

Die groeiende belangstelling in pekanneutproduksie het gelei tot ’n vraag na gehalte-bome. “Een van die grootste uitdagings in die volgende paar jaar sal wees om genoeg gehalte-bome te produseer om in die vraag te voorsien. Dit sal slegs moontlik wees indien ander kweektegnieke, soos mikrokweeking, gebruik kan word. Hierdie tegnieke sal die kweektyd verkort en dit moontlik maak om ’n groot aantal gekloonde bome, wat terselfdertyd raseg is, te kweek.

“Daar is gevolglik ’n dringende behoefte om ’n genetiese verwysingsdatabasis vir pekankultivars te vestig, vir telers sowel as vir produsente van pekanneute. Die doel van hierdie navorsing is dus om gehalte-, rasegte pekanneutbome in die



Foto's: Charl Devenish

kortste moontlike tyd te kweek en om filogenetiese bome – ’n vertakkingsdiagram – van die verskillende kultivars te konstrueer as ’n verwysingsdatabasis wat gebruik kan word om die genetiese samestelling van enige boom te vergelyk,” sê die navorsers.

Die gekloonde plante wat met behulp van weefselkultuur gekweek is, sal in die navorsingskwekery verhard word voordat dit in die boorde uitgeplant en vir ’n aantal jare geëvalueer word.

Metodes en tegnieke wat ontwikkel word, sal gepatenteer word en kan help met die toekomstige opleiding van studente vir die bedryf, terwyl klein plantjies gekommersialiseer kan word.

Die groeiende belangstelling in pekanneutproduksie het gelei tot ’n vraag na gehalte-bome. **B**

# Kundige oor mensehandel

## werp lig op hierdie ernstige misdaad

Deur Mamosa Makaya

Beatri Kruger, adjunk-professor in Publiekreg aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat, se passie is om mensehandel te beveg. Sy het onlangs 'n lesing oor mensehandel gegee aan Maatskaplike Werk-magistergraadstudente van die Universiteit van Wisconsin in die VS. Die aanbieding was oor onlangse navorsing oor mensehandel, met die klem op die behoefte aan multidissiplinêre samewerking ten einde hierdie ernstige misdaad meer doeltreffend te bekamp.

Prof Kruger het die feit beklemtoon dat die regsprofessie nie mensehandel op hulle eie kan aanpak nie. "Ander professies, soos sielkundiges, maatskaplike werkers en verpleegkundiges moet ons daarmee help." Sy het bygevoeg dat die verskillende dissiplines moet saamwerk om sodoende hulle kennis en kundigheid met mekaar te deel. Kruger bestuur die projek oor mensehandel, *Toka* (Sotho vir "geregtigheid"). Sy werk saam met die Universiteit van die Vrystaat se Departemente Maatskaplike Werk, Sielkunde, Beeldende Kunste en Drama- en Teaterkuns om sowel studente as die breër publiek bewus te maak van die gevare van mensehandel. Sy het ook by 'n onlangse internasionale kongres in Brasilië 'n referaat oor mensehandel gelewer.

Prof Kruger was baie opgewonde oor die feit dat die Wet op die Voorkoming en Bestryding van Mensehandel, no. 7 van 2013 op Vrouedag in werking getree het. Sy sê dat 'n groot voordeel van die Wet is dat enige vorm van mensehandel nou vervolgt kan word. Vantevore waar die slagoffer 'n volwassene was, kon slegs mensehandel vir seksuele uitbuiting vervolgt.

Nog 'n fokus van haar navorsing is oor hoe die handelaars hulle slagoffers beheer. "Ek word dikwels gevra – waarom hardloop die slagoffers nie weg nie? Die antwoord is dat handelaars hul slagoffers op verskeie maniere beheer. Slagoffers word byvoorbeeld opgesluit of opgepas, vrees word by hulle aangewakker deur middel van aanranding of bendeverkragting, die slagoffer of die slagoffer se familie word gedreig, of daar ontwikkel 'n beheerverhouding tussen die handelaar en die slagoffer, waarna dikwels verwys word as die Stockholm-sindroom/gevangenhouding-binding." Handelaars beheer dus slagoffers dikwels met metodes wat nie vir buitestaanders sigbaar is nie.



Foto: Verskaf

Prof Beatri Kruger.

Kruger het uitgebrei oor hoe Nigeriese handelaars in mensehandel hulle slagoffers onder hulle beheer hou. "Hulle maak gebruik van Juju-seremonies, wat verwant is aan hulle inheemse godsdiens. Die slagoffers word na Juju-priesters geneem wat insnydings op hulle liggame maak en bese geeste oproep om van die slagoffers se liggame besit te neem. Die slagoffers glo dan dat, indien hulle weghardloop, hierdie bese geeste hulle en hul geliefdes sal doodmaak." Sy voeg by dat daar reeds vir baie jare verwysings is na die gebruik van Juju in mensehandel, maar verdere intensiewe navorsing word nou onderneem om hierdie metode van beheer oor slagoffers te ondersoek.

Volgens haar kan "enigiemand die slagoffer van mensehandel word – jou ma, vriend, kind, jyself. Handelaars hou jou dop, identifiseer wat jou droom is, en lok jou dan deur te belowe dat hulle daardie droom kan bewaarheid. Die handelaars word gewoonlik maklik vertrou, omdat hulle dikwels uit dieselfde gemeenskap as die slagoffer kom, of omdat hulle vroue is. Sodra hulle hul slagoffers gewerf het, vervoer hulle gewoonlik die slagoffers na hul finale bestemming met slegs een doel voor oë – uitbuiting. Die uitbuiting kan verskeie vorme aanneem. Behalwe seksuele uitbuiting, kan die uitbuiting ook slawerny, dwangarbeid, onwettige aanneming, die verwydering van organe, gedwonge huwelike, of misdaadpleging wees. Slagoffers strewe na 'n droom en skrik dan wakker in wat waarlik 'n nagmerrie is." **B**



# Mountain people to benefit from montane studies

By Thabo Kessah

**E**arlier this year, Qwaqwa Campus launched the Afromontane Research Unit (ARU), whose primary focus is to harness interdisciplinary expertise in an attempt to address the sustainable development of the mountain people.

Mountain people are among the world's poorest and most disadvantaged, because they face harsh climatic and environmental conditions. Remoteness and difficult access often hamper development in mountain regions. The ARU consists of three research clusters: "Conservation and sustainable usage of Afromontane biodiversity", "Living and doing business in Afromontane environments", and "Sustainable futures for the people of the Afromontane" which are coordinated by Dr Dipane Hlalele, Assistant Dean: Faculty of Education.

Dr Hlalele is very passionate about bettering the conditions of montane populations.

"Mountain communities live far from the centres of commerce and power, so they have little influence on the

policies and decisions that affect their lives, and their voices often go unheard," he said.

"Current global challenges, such as climate change, economic developments, and population growth exacerbate the hardships they face. Urbanisation and migration processes have a significant impact on mountain environments and societies. These areas are characterised by high degrees of fragility, marginality, limited accessibility, diversity, specific niche resources/products, and specific human adaptation mechanisms," added Dr Hlalele, an NRF rated researcher.

He revealed further that his cluster is currently working on a number of research projects that focus on family life, vulnerable school learners, changing gender patterns, and the role of women.

"Some of our current study projects go beyond our own borders into our SADC neighbours. Our cluster strives to explore the understanding and interpretations the people of the Afromontane have created about how they may navigate vulnerabilities they encounter. Our research will also suggest a framework for navigating vulnerabilities, building resilience, and creating sustainable futures for, and by, the people of the Afromontane," Dr Hlalele said.

The other two clusters are coordinated by Drs Aliza Le Roux and Geoffrey Mukwada. **B**

Photo: Thabo Kessah



"Current global challenges, such as climate change, economic developments, and population growth exacerbate the hardships they face."

Dr Dipane Hlalele.

# “Hy’s nie **vet** nie, hy’s net **mollig** ...”

Deur René-Jean van der Berg

## UV-navorsers wys die gevare in obesiteit by kinders uit.

Obesiteit onder kinders raak al hoe meer algemeen in die moderne samelewing, en oorgewigkinders is geneig om oorgewig te bly wanneer hulle opgroei en volwassenes word.

’n UV-navorsers in die Departement Voeding en Dieetkunde, dr Louise van den Berg, waarsku dat, indien ’n kind oorgewig is teen die tyd wat hy of sy skool toe gaan, alle aanduidings daar is dat hulle oorgewigtieners gaan wees, tensy ouers op daardie stadium reeds iets daaromtrent doen.

Obesiteit is ’n globale pandemie wat besig is om vinnig onder volwassenes en kinders in ontwikkelde sowel as ontwikkelende lande te versprei. Afgesien van die terger wat ’n oorgewigkind op skool moet verduur, loop oorgewigkinders en -tieners ’n groter risiko om later in hulle lewens leefstylsiektes soos tipe 2 diabetes, hipertensie en kardiiovaskulêre siektes te ontwikkel, asook om voortydig te sterf.

’n Onlangse studie in die Departement Voeding en Dieetkunde het bevind dat een uit vier kinders reeds oorgewig of vetsugtig is teen die tyd wat hulle skool toe gaan. Hierdie studie het sesjarige in hoër sosio-ekonomiese skole in Bloemfontein geteiken.

Dr Van den Berg verduidelik dat, terwyl baie ouers die term “babavet” gebruik as ’n ekskuus en glo dat dit vanself sal weggaan, gebeur die teenoorgestelde in werklikheid.

“In ’n normale lewensiklus maak die liggaam nuwe vetselle in die uterus en rondom die ouderdom van ses jaar. Die tweede fase duur vanaf die ouderdom van ses tot by puberteit. By skaal kleuters krimp hulle vetselle geleidelik deur die loop van hulle vroeë kinderjare. By vetsugtige kleuters begin die tweede fase egter reeds voordat hulle ses word, en hulle liggame maak opmerklik meer vetselle as skaal kinders se liggame. Die gevolg is dat vetsugtige kleuters vetsugtige adolessente word met veel meer vetselle as die kind wat teen die ouderdom van ses ’n normale gewig gehad het.”

Die studie het die voorkoms van obesiteit onder sesjarige ondersoek as deel van ’n veldtog in Suid-Afrika om ’n bewussyn van die probleem onder ouers en opvoeders te kweek.

’n Totaal van 99 kinders is uit sewe skole in Mangaung, gekies. Die skole is uit kwintiel-vier en -vyf-skole gekies, wat



Foto: Charl Devenish

Dr Louise van den Berg.

oor goeie hulpbronne beskik en grotendeels middelklas- en welgestelde gemeenskappe bedien, wanneer hulle gemeet word aan hulle eie hulpbronne en ekonomiese omstandighede.

Die enigste ander Suid-Afrikaanse studie wat obesiteit onder kinders bestudeer, is die Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Gesondheid- en Voedingopname. Dit het opnames onder kinders tussen die ouderdomme van ses en nege gedoen. Die 2012-resultate het ’n laer nasionale gemiddeld getoon as die Mangaung-opname, wat net opnames onder sesjarige gedoen het.

“Die hoë voorkoms van gewigsprobleme onder sesjarige wat in hierdie studie aangetref is, is ’n dringende oproep op professionele gesondheidsorgwerkers om op te tree en ouers, opvoeders en kinders met die nodige vaardighede vir gesonde dieetpraktyke en toereikende fisiese aktiwiteit toe te rus.” **B**



A photograph of a well-maintained garden. A brick path leads through a dense bed of low-lying green plants. In the background, a building with a red roof and a white pillar is visible, surrounded by trees and shrubs. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

# Staff | Personeel



# International Broadcast Project generates a worldwide impact

By Michelle Nothling



Photos: Supplied

Mr Kamalesh Sharma, Secretary General of the Commonwealth Secretariat, presenting the second-place prize for the Commonwealth Good Practice Awards to Saretjie Musgrave, Head: ICTISE (ICT in School Education) on behalf of ICTISE.

Twenty countries entered the 2015 Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards. A total of 89 entries were submitted. Only 21 submissions were shortlisted. A mere 10 made it to the finals. And the UFS's Internet Broadcast Project (IBP) was the immensely-proud winner of second place overall. This is

the project's second international award this year, since it was the winner of the 2015 Enterprise Video Award (EVA) in the category Video in Education Scholarship earlier this year.

The Commonwealth Education Good Practice Awards is a competition among Commonwealth ministries of education, civil society organisations (CSOs), and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working in the field of education. The award offers the opportunity to highlight the resourcefulness and creativity of educators in the Commonwealth, who very often work with minimal resources and under difficult circumstances. Sharing these good practices provides an essential mechanism which those working in the field of education can adapt and apply to enhance teaching and learning significantly throughout the Commonwealth.

The IBP – presented from the UFS South Campus – makes use of the best teachers to broadcast lessons to school learners who do not have access to quality education. More than 10 subjects are broadcast live, via VSAT Internet Access, to 70 centres across the province. The technology provided at each school allows learners to communicate with the presenter in the studio during broadcast at no cost to the school or learner.

"Through the IBP," said Saretjie Musgrave, Head: ICTISE (ICT in School Education), "we aim to bring quality education to each and every learner, regardless of their socio-economic status or geographical location, while delivering cost-effective continuous teacher professional development directly relevant to the Free State community we serve."

"Having received this international award," Musgrave said, "shows that we are having an impact worldwide; it pays tribute to everyone involved." **B**

"Through the IBP, we aim to bring quality education to each and every learner, regardless of their socio-economic status or geographical location ..."





# Drie minute vir navorsing

Deur René-Jean van der Berg

**A**s jy slegs drie minute het om 'n tesis van 80 000 woorde te verduidelik, tel elke sekonde. So het navorsers van oor die land heen besef tydens die eerste nasionale ronde in Suid-Afrika se Drie-minuut-tesis-kompetisie.



Die Universiteit van die Vrystaat (UV) se Nagraadse Skool het dié internasionale kompetisie, waaraan magister- en doktorale studente van 12 universiteite deelgeneem het, op die Bloemfontein-kampus aangebied. Tydens die kompetisie moes elke navorser 'n voordrag van drie minute oor sy/haar navorsing lewer.

Dr Henriëtte van den Berg, Direkteur van die UV se Nagraadse Skool, en ook aanbieder van die tweedaagse kompetisie, het gesê die kompetisie is die ideale platform om navorsers te leer hoe om effektiewe navorsingskommunikeerders te wees.

“Dit is belangrik dat navorsers leer om die essensie van hulle navorsing aan 'n gehoor, wat nie noodwendig vakspesialiste is nie, te kommunikeer. Hulle moet ook kan beklemtoon hoe dit tot die voorspoed en welstand van gemeenskappe bydra. Navorsers moet dikwels met persone wat nie spesialiste op hul spesifieke navorsingsterrein is nie, kan gesels oor hoekom dit belangrik is om byvoorbeeld die navorsing te finansier, of



om 'n werksonderhoud te doen. Hulle moet hulle boodskap oortuigend in 'n kort tydjie kan oordra.”

Die 3MT-kompetisie, wat sy oorsprong by die Universiteit van Queensland in Australië gehad het, het sedert sy ontstaan in 2010 tot 'n internasionale tendens ontwikkel. Tans word die 3MT in Australië, die VSA en die Verenigde Koninkryk aangebied.

Vir die kompetisie word deelnemers slegs drie minute gegun om hul navorsing te verduidelik. In hierdie kort tydjie moet hulle die probleem en die metodologie verduidelik, asook hoekom dié navorsing belangrik is. Deelnemers mag ook slegs een stuk statiese beeldmateriaal as hulpmiddel gebruik.

'n Paneel beoordelaars van die deelnemende universiteite is gekies om elke voordrag te beoordeel op grond van hoe goed deelnemers hulself in so 'n kort tyd kon uitdruk, asook hul keuse van beeldmateriaal.

Gavin Robinson van die Universiteit van Johannesburg, Cameron McIntosh en Ingrid Alleman, albei van die UV, is onderskeidelik as wenner in die kategorieë vir doktorale en magisterstudente aangewys. **B**

# Kovsies se eie Storieman

Deur Cindé Greyling


Chris Vorster is 'n bekende gesig. Deur middel van verskeie karakters en as dramaturg het hy stories na gehore gebring. Vandag leer hy studente om dieselfde te doen.

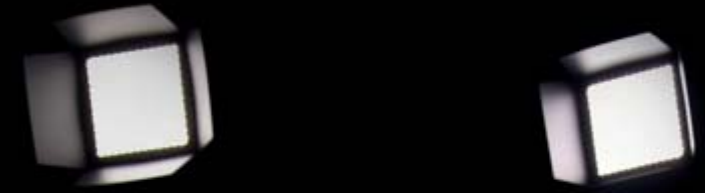
Die studio ruik splinternuut. Agter varsgeverfde deure is wêreldklas toerusting waarmee studente leer om audiovisuele wêreld te skep. "Ek leer eintlik saam met hulle!" lag Chris wat sy 7de Laan-karakter, Ryno, gegroet het om vanaf Februarie 2015 'n personeellid op kampus te wees. Hier, in die palm van die Vrystaat se hand, is hy sielsgelukkig en opgewonde oor al die moontlikhede wat wag.

Die honneurs in Film en Media is 'n nuwe en opwindende kursus, verduidelik Chris. "Wat ons kursus uniek maak, is die interaktiewe karakter daarvan – 75% is teorie en 25% is prakties. Maar die twee komponente is onlosmaaklik van mekaar." Aan die einde van die kursus word die studente se films en 'n teoretiese aanbieding van hulle navorsing geëksamineer. Hierdie films sal die eerste toevoeging tot 'n audiovisuele biblioteek by die studio wees.

"As jy goed wil wees in iets," verduidelik Chris, "het jy 'n ongelooflike hoeveelheid kennis nodig. Kreatiewe mense moet hulself gedurig voed met nuwe kennis. Om kreatief te kan wees, moet jy uiters ingelig wees. Terwyl ek in die industrie was, het ek gedink dat ek redelik baie weet. Maar hierdie jaar het ek besef dat dit maar 'n druppel in die emmer is. Dit inligting is bykans onbeprek. En dis goeie nuus vir kreatiewe mense – inspirasie sal nooit opdroog nie!"

Dis 'n stywe kursus, verduidelik Chris, en elkeen van die agt honneursstudente het hierdie jaar hulle eie grense verskuif. Só word hulle opgelei om 'n gaping in die industrie te vul. "Ek lei nie kameramane en redigeerders op nie; dit óók, ja, maar primêr leer die studente om storievertellers te wees. Die grootste leemte in die mark is goeie, oorspronklike stories. En elke goeie film begin by 'n goeie storie."

As daar een ding is wat Chris graag by die studente wil tuisbring, is dat daar nie kortpaaie is nie. Kreatiwiteit verg kennis, en goeie films neem tyd. 



"Kreatiewe mense moet hulself gedurig voed met nuwe kennis."

Chris Vorster.





A student wearing a black jacket and a yellow headband is sitting on a green lawn, facing away from the camera. An open book and some papers are on the grass next to them. In the background, there is a large, modern building with a blue roof, surrounded by many trees and a paved walkway. The scene is bright and sunny.

# Students and Sport | Studente en Sport





Photo: Johan Roux

# Global Leadership Summit: perspective of a visitor

By Mamosa Makaya

**T**his year, the university hosted the second Global Leadership Summit. More than 103 international delegates from various universities in Asia, the United States, and Europe were welcomed on both the Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa Campuses of the university.

Keynote speakers included local and international academics, thought leaders, and local celebrities, such as Prof Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela, Zelda le Grange, Prof Joel Samoff from Stanford University in the US and Donna Walker-Kuhne.

This year, panel discussions and workshops focused on gender issues, citizenship and leadership, race relations, and interfaith leadership. The summit strengthened formal and informal international academic partnerships, sharing the emerging UFS international network with its partner organisations. The summit also expanded opportunities for new cooperative initiatives, and enhanced international exposure of UFS staff and students by creating opportunities for vibrant intercultural interaction and exchange on campus.

One of the mentors at the summit, Dr Terry Ross, diversity director at University of Washington, Bothell in the USA, summarised his experience this way:

“Not only did I get to experience the Global Leadership Summit for myself, but I also got to hear what the students felt.

“My biggest takeaway is a strong admiration for the South African people. I found everyone to be kind, respectful,

and genuinely interested in making sure we had a good time. I was impressed with the South African students and the depth of their questions. The summit was extremely well-organised, and just about everything went exactly as planned. The university had a lot more security than I’m used to, and it’s the first time I’ve been on a gated campus.

“I was surprised at the lack of inter-racial relationships in South Africa, and that most blacks and Afrikaners do not interact very much after hours, even though apartheid has been abolished for over 20 years. I think the country would be better served if everyone saw themselves as South Africans first, and their race second. I’d like to see a sense of urgency about racial healing and reconciliation because you have such beautiful people and such a beautiful country that can’t afford to wait for a few more generations. Figure out a way to step beyond the box you’ve all been put into, and your country will reap unimaginable blessings,” he said.

More than 103 international delegates from various universities in Asia, the United States, and Europe attended the Global Leadership Summit. **B**



# I simply try my best, says Coach Godfrey

By Ruan Bruwer

**G**odfrey Tenoff, head coach of the Kopsie first soccer team, believes whatever he achieves as a coach is not due to him, but to the team.

For him, the feats lay rather in the development and growth of the player.

The 36-year-old coached the USSA U21 team to a third place at the national under-21 championship, where they competed against the rest of the country's provincial U21 teams at the beginning of July.

Six Kopsies – Gauta Mokati, Themba Zimo, Dylan O' Brien, Sabelo Mkhonto, Nthuthuzeko Mgwaba and, Thembisile Mlonyeni – were members of that team.

Some of Tenoff's other coaching accomplishments include being named the head coach of the South African Intellectually-Impaired soccer team who won the silver medal in Brazil.

"Every time I take on a coaching job, I don't see it as an achievement. I simply try my best. That would be my highlight at the time," Tenoff said, who previously played professional soccer in America.

He is also the soccer manager at KopsieSport. He has ambitions to coach at a higher level one day, even if it's only as an assistant coach.

"But for now, I see myself in my current spot for some time to come. I'm in a good position from where I can develop my own coaching style."

Although Kopsies did not qualify for this year's Varsity series, Tenoff is keen to help them do so at the USSA champs from 30 November to 4 December 2015 in Bloemfontein. **B**

"Every time I take on a coaching job, I don't see it as an achievement. I simply try my best."

Godfrey Tenoff.



Photo: Charl Devenish



Nicole Walraven.



Karla Mostert.



Wayde van Niekerk.

Foto's: Verskaf

2015

## een van die héél bestes vir KovsieSport

Deur Ruan Bruwer

**I**n die toekoms gaan daar op 2015 teruggekyk word as een van die héél bestes vir KovsieSport. En dít na slegs twee derdes van die jaar.

Die skouspelagtige wyse waarop die Shimlas die Varsitybeker verower het, tel natuurlik as een van die hoogtepunte, maar individueel staan die atleet Wayde van Niekerk kop en skouers bo almal uit.

Hy het 'n goue medalje op die Wêreldkampioenskap losgehardloop en vir 'n tweede keer in 2015 die Suid-Afrikaanse en Afrika-rekord na 43.48 s in die 400 m verbeter. Dit word as een van die beste wedlope nóg deur 'n Suid-Afrikaanse atleet op 'n wêreldverhoog gereken.

Hoewel die universiteit se vrouehokkiespan oor die laaste hekkie gestruik het, was die span se vertoning in die Varsity-hokkierieks baie suksesvol. Hulle was onoorwonne tot die eindstryd waarin hulle vir die eerste keer vasgeval het.

Cornelle Botha, Liné Malan en Nicole Walraven se buiging vir die Proteas het die UV se span met vyf Proteas gelaai; die ander twee was Tanya Britz en Izelle Lategan.

Walraven was die nasionale o.21-reeks se Speler van die Toernooi en later ook speler van die Jaar.

Britz, Walraven en Botha is ook in die Proteas se vrouehokkiespan ingesluit wat aan die kwalifiserende Afrika-toernooi vir die Olimpiese Spele gaan deelneem.

Lauren-Lee Christians het die 12de speler sedert 2003 geword om vir die nasionale netbalspan te speel. Sy was ook 'n nie-reisende reserwe vir die Wêreldbekertoernooi waarin Karla Mostert uitstaande spel gelewer het.

Mostert was die Brutal Fruit-netbalreeks, die land se voorste kompetisie, se Speler van die Reeks waarvan Burta de Kock die Afrigter van die Reeks was.

### Ander vername prestasies in 2015, bondig saamgevat:

- Die UV wen die Varsity-sewestedel.
- Die atlete Rynardt van Rensburg, Gideon Trotter en Bevin Smith het die Suid-Afrikaanse studentespan op die Wêreldstudentespele verteenwoordig. Eersgenoemde was ook na die Wêreldkampioenskap.
- Ox Nche is vir die Jong Bokkies gekies.
- Elomé de Villiers en Sandra le Grange het die nasionale pluimbalspan verteenwoordig.
- Marco Markgraaff, Kovsie se swembreier, is as die nasionale junior afrigter aangewys. **B**



# What makes Jarred Meyer 1 in 40 000?

By Valentino Ndaba



**T**he former UFS and Kovsies Defender was appointed vice-captain of the Nedbank Ke Yona team out of more than 40 000 aspiring footballers from six provinces.

One lesson Jarred Meyer has learnt is that hard work pays off. En route to the biggest game of his life against Mamelodi Soundowns, which takes place on 6 September 2015, Jarred reflects on his journey as a Nedbank Ke Yona Team Search contender. "The camps were intense and not easy in terms of physical work but being coached by the four best coaches in the country made it all worth it."

Tuesday 11 August 2015 marked the day when Jarred's dream came true. He made it through the first elimination round and subsequently to the final squad of 18, this proving to be the best centre-back among 40 000 aspiring footballers from across the country.

Prominent South African coaches Shakes Mashaba, Owen Da Gama, Khabo Zondo, and Mike Mangena vouched for him

officially when they appointed the former university footballer as the vice-captain.

Godfrey Tenoff, soccer manager at KovsieSport, described Jarred as a versatile player who can play with both his feet, and has the ability to score goals in set pieces and field play.

"Jarred is an ambitious and intelligent player who is always interested in improving on technique and skill. He has played in different roles on the team such as center back, left back, and central midfield," said Tenoff.

Some of the 2014 Nedbank Ke Yona team graduates were scouted by professional soccer clubs in South Africa. They include Sydney Masana, who now plays for Free State Stars, Maphosa Modiba for Maritzburg United FC, Morgan Van Rooyen for Santos FC, and Khanya Gwala for Orlando Pirates.

The third edition of the Nedbank Ke Yona cup bodes well for Jarred in his aspiration to compete in the Premier Soccer League in the Bidvest Wits side. **B**

# The growing rumblings of something great

By Michelle Notthling

First, he studied philosophy, law, and medicine. He then proceeded to excel in the intellectual and philosophical scene in Europe. Who is this remarkable Ghana-born man? His name is Anton Wilhelm Amo, and he is considered to be the first African philosopher in Europe during the 18th Century.

This article is not about Anton Amo, though. This article is about the man who based his Master's degree in Theology on Amo – and where it took him.

Victor Emma-Adamah's childhood meandered through Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, and Togo until war forced his family back to his native country. Unable to afford studies at a university, Victor worked at various jobs for almost five years until he succeeded in pushing through the doors of tertiary education in South Africa. It was during his Honours studies in Theology at North-West University that Victor's path crossed that of the then-directors of the Jonathan Edwards Centre Africa at the University of the Free State – and that of Anton Amo. "I was most surprised that Amo was operating at the level he did: lecturing, interacting with big names such as Descartes, Leibniz, and Wolff, etc, and being proficient in Greek, Hebrew, Latin, German, Dutch, and French!" Victor says.

**"I feel that Africa as a continent is at the cusp of something fresh."**

Now, in step with Amo, Victor's compass is also set for Europe. While considering his options for his PhD studies, Victor made up a dream-list of institutions where he would like to go. He whittled them down to five names: Glasgow, Nottingham, Durham, Yale, and Cambridge. From every single one of them, he received an acceptance letter. In the end, the choice was easy, though. Cambridge. "I guess like many students, we all



Photo: Supplied

Victor Emma-Adamah.

want that opportunity to study at the best institutions; but, for a student with a high historical sensitivity, one wants to study at the old, illustrious places," Victor says. "The University of Cambridge really is a dream-come-true."

Victor left for Cambridge in September 2015. "During my research, I will explore the philosophical dimensions of theological discourse relating to the revelation of God and religious experience in the context of 19th and 20th century modernity. Of particular interest to me are the philosophical-theological movements often described as 'ressourcement'."

On his return, Victor plans to help build the intellectual capacity on the African continent. "I feel that Africa as a continent is at the cusp of something fresh. I'm excited by the growing rumblings of something great about to happen." **B**





Alumni



# Kovsies in the

Photo: Supplied



## Sankie Morata

**Course:** LLB and LLM in Mercantile Law plus a Postgraduate Diploma in financial planning from the Stellenbosch University (1998 – 2003).

**Current position:** National Head of Legal, Risk and Compliance for Nedgroup Trust. Chairperson of (i) Nedgroup Beneficiary Funds Board, (ii) Financial Planning Institute of Southern Africa, (iii) Developing Countries for the Financial Planning Standards Board (International)

**Biggest career obstacle:** Becoming acquainted with economics and finances. I tackled every challenge in my career with: "A scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties." Doing the right thing never goes out of fashion. One should maintain a sense of Ubuntu in all difficulties.

**Best career advice:** Follow your passion and dreams. Never be afraid to tap into unfamiliar territory. Also be flexible in providing solutions to the constantly-changing global needs.

**Fondest memory of UFS:** Studying at, and working for, the Faculty of Law was a wonderful opportunity. I enjoyed residing in Khayalami hostel and appreciated the Law Jaw initiative, easing first years into their studies. I'm a proud Kovsie!

**W**e recognise some prominent South African individuals who studied law at the university. These people are working towards a better country for us all, by looking after our safety and security, and promoting peace. They are the epitome of dedication and perseverance. Some have reached the heights of the legal profession in our country, while others have shown how pliable and diverse a legal degree can be. The University of the Free State is proud to have played a part in their lives.

Photo: Supplied



## Elize Steyn

**Course:** B Juris, LLB (1971 – 1975)

**Current position:** Judge of the High Court: Cape Town

**Biggest career obstacle:** I experienced challenges, such as convincing legal practitioners and clients that I was committed to a career in law; and balancing work and family/private life.

**Best career advice:** Enjoy what you do, work hard, be patient, keep a sense of humour, and don't neglect family and friends.

**Fondest memory of UFS:** Being motivated by inspiring lecturers, meeting my husband of 40 years, and making wonderful friends. I also had a lot of fun as rag queen!



# the judiciary

By Cindé Greyling

Photo: Stephen Collett



## Ian van der Merwe

**Course:** B Juris LLB (1974 – 1978)

**Current position:** Judge of the High Court: Free State Division; Acting Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal

**Biggest career obstacle:** I was fortunate to have had no real obstacles in my career.

**Best career advice:** You cannot always be right, the best you can do is to always put in an honest effort.

**Fondest memory of UFS:** What comes to mind when I think back to my time as a student at the UFS, is living a carefree life, forming life-long friendships, and meeting the love of my life.

Photo: Charl Devenish



## Roelf Meyer

**Course:** B.Comm (1966 – 1998), and LLB (1969 – 1971)

**Current position:** Director of companies and international advisor in peace processes

**Biggest career obstacle:** I was an active politician for 21 years, and the transition from apartheid to democracy provided the biggest challenges of my career. But, at the same time, it also offered the biggest rewards in ensuring a peaceful result for the whole nation.

**Best career advice:** Do not hesitate to risk challenges, and be prepared to engage in changes that could fundamentally effect your own view of the world.

**Fondest memory of UFS:** Grinding my own leadership ability, and developing skills that enabled me to make the right decisions during my career. Fundamentally, learning to distinguish between what matters in life and what does not.

Photo: Supplied




## Violet Phatsoane

**Course:** LLB and LLM (1995 – 1998)

**Current position:** Judge of the High Court: Northern Cape Division

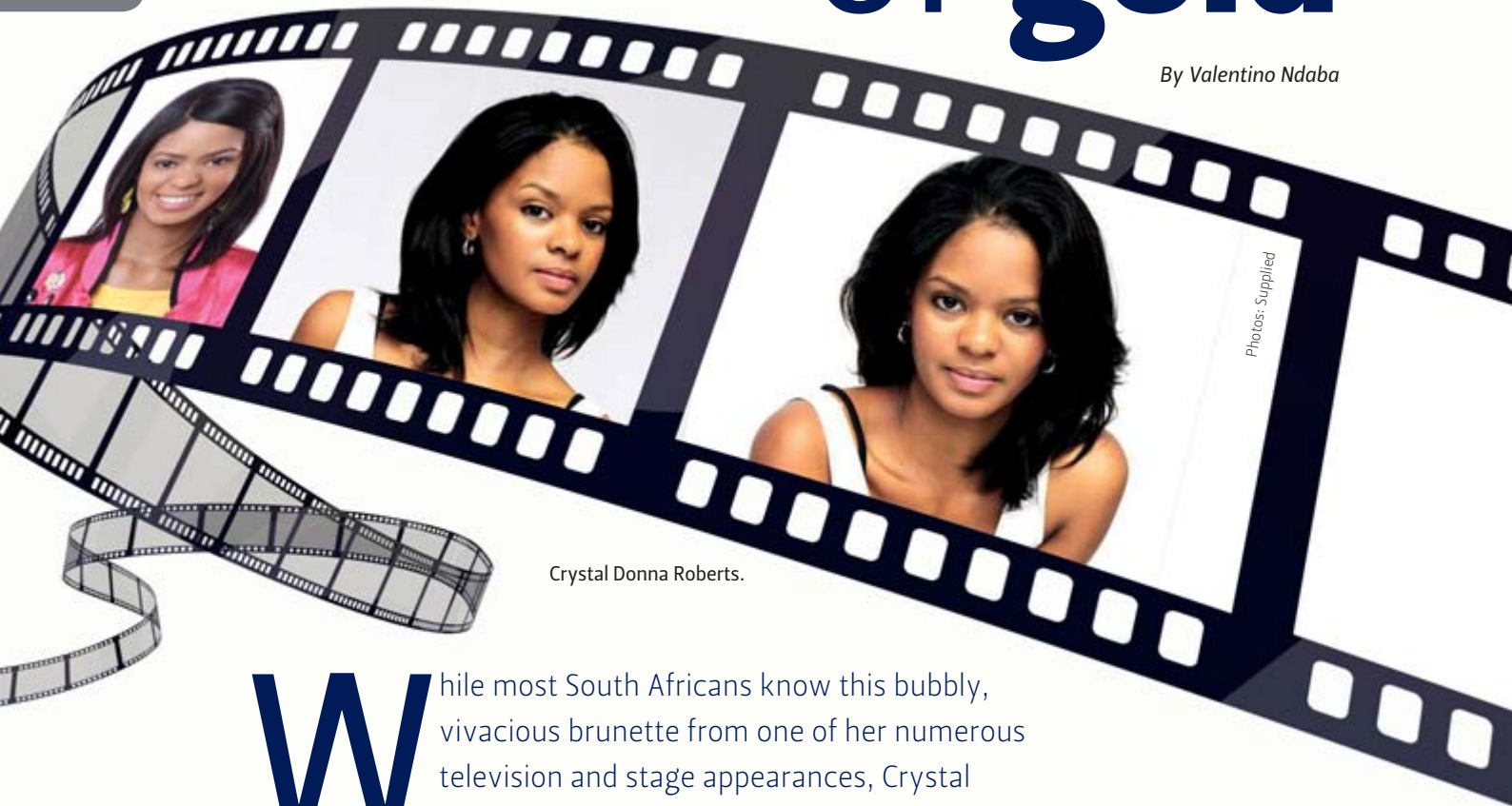
**Biggest career obstacle:** None.

**Best career advice:** I believe that true success is knowing your purpose, growing to reach your maximum potential, and sowing seeds to benefit others. Dr Munroe, internationally renowned preacher and transformational leader expands by saying: "What you have done is no longer your potential. What you have successfully accomplished is no longer potential. It is said that unless you do something beyond what you have done, you will never grow or experience your full potential. Potential demands that you never settle for what you have accomplished."

**Fondest memory of UFS:** My LLB Class of 1995-1996, and, most importantly, I will always cherish the University of the Free State for the Alumni Cum Laude Award I was honoured with in 2012. 

# Crystal dreams of gold

By Valentino Ndaba



Crystal Donna Roberts.

While most South Africans know this bubbly, vivacious brunette from one of her numerous television and stage appearances, Crystal Donna Roberts may soon be known by a much wider audience for her latest big screen performance.

This former Kopsie drama student has been nominated for Best Actress at the Venice International Film Festival (the world's oldest film festival) for her role in the Oliver Hermanus-directed movie, *The Endless River*. The film itself has been nominated for the Golden Lion Award.

In the film Crystal plays the role of a small-town waitress alongside French actor, Nicolas Duvauchelle, who plays a French expatriate. He forms an unlikely bond with her after the brutal murder of his family on a farm.

Crystal says the nomination is a "great thing" to have happened to her. "It feels weird, but good. I'm freaking out," is how this ebullient beauty puts it. She attended the premiere of the film (looking resplendent, no doubt, in a glitzy designer gown) on 7 September 2015.

Although she will not turn her back on the worlds of the small screen and stage, Crystal says that while filming *The Endless*

*River*, she learnt all the "amazing aspects of film" and became "really excited about exploring more of the medium".

"I love film. So I would definitely like to do more film. However, I also feel that whether it be film, television or stage, it is always fun to be able to portray a really interesting character in an interesting situation with a great script."

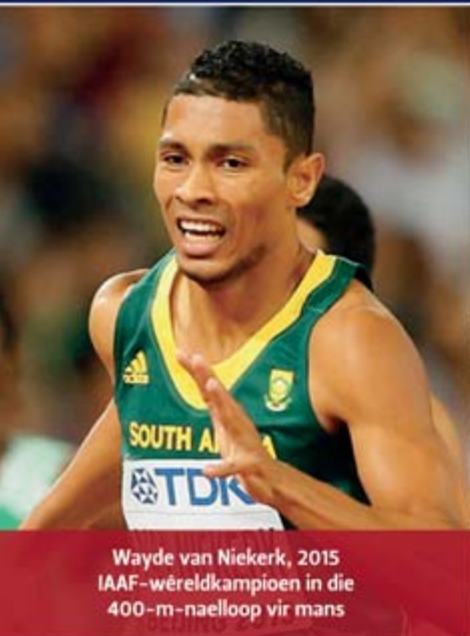
With one international nomination under her belt, Crystal says she does have dreams of future Golden Globe or Oscar nominations. "I would be lying through my teeth if I said I don't dream of it. Let's not kid around... It would be insanely awesome!"

Talking about her time at Kopsies, she says it was "all a whirlwind of books, plays, Traumerei, Mystic Boer and just an all-round great time". Crystal adds that one's varsity years are really important and a place where one can meet "great people who became lifelong friends". **B**



# Kovsie-studente verower nie net Suid-Afrika nie, maar ook die res van die wêreld.

Gedurende 2014 en 2015 het studente van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat op verskeie gebiede presteer. Die UV-gemeenskap is baie trots op hierdie uitnemende prestasies.



Wayde van Niekerk, 2015 IAAF-wêreldkampioen in die 400-m-naelloop vir mans



Nicole Walraven, 2015 SA onder-21 Vrouehokkiespeler van die jaar



Relebohile Kobeli, Mej Lesotho 2015



2014 Varsity Netbal-kampioen en wenner van 2014 Nasionale Premierliga



Shimlas, 2015 Varsitybeker-kampioene



Rolene Strauss, Mej Wêreld 2014



Veritas, 2015 Nasionale Sêrkampioen in die ATKV Universiteite Sêrkompetisie



Andricia Hinckemann, Mej Aarde 2015, Tweede Prinses



UV se Debatsvereniging aangewys as 2015 Suid-Afrikaanse Nasionale Universiteite Debatkampioene



Marjolein, tweede plek in die 2015 ATKV Universiteite Sêrkompetisie



Varsity Sewes-kampioene 2015



Elzane van der Bergh, Dowe Mej Suid-Afrika 2014



KovsieTennis, 2014 USSA-kampioene

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