

A time for new and fresh leadership

The Council has begun its search for a new rector and vice-chancellor following the announcement by Prof. Frederick Fourie that he is stepping down.

PEOPLE



GEBEURE



NEWS



"Applications will be invited through an open and targeted process of recruitment advertising, locally, nationally and internationally to broaden the pool of applicants," the Council said in its statement.

Within this process Council has expressed the view that applications from the designated groups in terms of Employment Equity must be encouraged. It is also Council's wish that this process be completed as soon as is possible, within the approved procedure.

In early September and 40 years since his association with the university began – first as a student, later as a lecturer, dean, vice-rector and finally as rector and vice-chancellor, Prof. Frederick announced that he is stepping down as rector and vice-Chancellor.

"Obviously this decision has not been taken lightly. After careful consideration I am, convinced that this is as far as I can take the university as vice-chancellor and rector. This flows primarily from the exhausting times that I have experienced during the past nine years in managing and implementing several complex strategic projects.

"I think it is time for new and fresh leadership, especially in the light of the transformation challenges of the university. I have thus decided to step down in the interest of transformation and the further dynamic development of the university," Prof. Frederick said.

The Council of the university expressed its heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Prof. Frederick for his contribution to building and developing the university. "We respect this decision and wish him success and everything of the best," Judge Faan Hancke, Chairperson of the UFS Council said.

Prof. Teuns Verschoor, Acting Rector, said the university is saddened that the high intensity of change management processes has taken its toll on Prof. Frederick, but is deeply thankful for the legacy that he leaves. "One cannot help but reflect on the momentous contribution Prof. Frederick has made to the development of the university.

"At the time of his appointment as vice-rector in 1999, the university was in a financial crisis. There had been three rounds of staff reductions, there were no funds for equipment or the maintenance of buildings and there was a general mood of despair amongst staff. With his unique style and talents, and against all odds, Prof. Frederick succeeded in bringing about a financial turnaround that once again brought hope to the staff.

"Research improved dramatically, inter alia due to the

refurbishment of laboratories and the acquisition of world-class research equipment. General campus infrastructure was significantly upgraded and aesthetically improved, making the physical appearance and quality of the campus an example to other universities.

"The university structure was critically analysed in all its dimensions and quality assurance projects were launched to improve the overall package of higher education offerings at the university. It was also under his leadership that a transformation plan, laying the basis for the years ahead, was compiled and adopted.

"Through these and countless other initiatives, Prof. Frederick has contributed significantly to the establishment of the university as a nationally and internationally recognised higher education institution. He has laid the foundations for the next period of academic growth and development, the value of which will only be appreciated in its full significance in historical perspective."

"We wish Prof. Frederick many productive years ahead and have faith that his remarkable intellect and capabilities will enable him to make many more contributions to the betterment of South African society," Prof. Teuns said.

In his statement Prof. Frederick said: "I am grateful for the opportunity to have been at the helm of the university and to help the institution cross several bridges. It has been a wonderful experience of thinking and working together in order to elevate the functioning of the university to new levels in several key areas.

"I wish to thank all those people with whom I could work during the past years in tackling large and complex challenges with mutual loyalty, shared wisdom and effort – from the Financial Turnaround Team to the Exco, the Executive Management, the Faculties, the Senate, support service divisions, the University Council and several committees and task teams." Prof. Frederick said.



Scenes from Doringrosie, a performance by the Department of Drama and Theatre Arts page...

from the editor



yes, it is the *Dumela*! Completely overhauled to make it bigger, brighter and better.

With all the soul-searching going on at the UFS, we in Strategic Communication did the same. The outcome – we want to use our communication channels to communicate more effectively, hence the rethinking and revamping of *Dumela*. The new 'look and feel' for *Dumela* is step one. From now on, our writing style will be more approachable and current – because we're talking to one another. Now.

Every edition will remind us about our university's dream, strategies, values, goals and roles. We need to see the bigger picture: be clear about what we stand for and where we want to go.

You will also notice some new angles in photographs (moving away from the neat five in a row), providing you with some visual variety. In another effort to add value to the publication we contracted Cindé Greyling, editor of *Passi* magazine and Ailsa Uys, a freelance writer to pick up a pen. An assortment of photos, a range of writing styles ... what more could you want!

We will also credit our writers and photographers alongside their work – so that you can get to know them too.

All this for a good cause: to remind you that it is your university. And if it is yours, talk about it. As you would talk about the new car you bought. Brag about it, tell about all its features and its great performance. And should it get a dent or scratch, fix it and keep on caring for it as it is your only.

And let your voice be heard. I invite you to communicate your news and opinions (via vox pop, letters, dialogue opportunities) to *Dumela* and also the newly established *e-Dumela*. *e-Dumela* is a once a week (Wednesdays) online communication channel that will keep you informed and up to date with university news and issues.

It is a given. The times they are a-changing. And you may wonder how change will affect you. King Whitney Jr, remembered for this specific quote must have also thought about the same thing when he once said: "Change has a considerable psychological impact on the human mind. To the fearful it is threatening because it means that things may get worse. To the hopeful it is encouraging because things may get better. To the confident it is inspiring because the challenge exists to make things better."

We have already greeted and said *Dumela*, now let's continue the conversation.

Yours in letters and listening.

Leonie

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When will we be able to say DUMELA to a new way of 'being or doing'?

August 2007 saw us arrive at the University of the Free State as a new Centre for Sesotho Language Research and Development. A cursory look at the demographics of the campus gives one a picture quite different from my old campus of UNIQWA, with the student population more heterogeneous than the staff. The youthful, vibrant student population is mixed in a way that the staff or the students' representative council is not.

The architecture is a combination of the institution's history and contemporary South Africa. Symbolically therefore one gets the impression of a transition period wherein the 'old' and the 'new' are unevenly mixed, albeit with a nostalgic leaning to the recent past.

Conversations on the effectiveness of the institution's transformation to the 'new order' are either muted or cloistered in language professing change, representativity and progressiveness. Peeling the onion layers of the professed change

becomes an education in learning how to 'be part of change without changing', as well as the art of camouflaging the inequality of access to various services, facilities or similar pertinent aspects of a university's business.

Both are evident in the lack of transformative curricula or courses, and ordinary daily interaction which unmasks the void of euphemisms such as 'inclusiveness', 'tolerance' and 'multilingualism'. Transformation should, after all, refer first to the core business, content, staffing and communication forms.

Were that the case, the 'included, accommodated, or tolerated' population would know and recognise that qualitative difference from their former 'open' exclusion. Should we therefore say 'quo vadis UFS' or settle for the adage: 'die agter os kom ook in die kraal' before saying DUMELA to a 'new way' of *being or doing*?

– Thato Bereng

Drama maak buiging in Londen

Liewe Drama Departement

Ons wou julle net laat weet dat ons die Drama Departement se naam hoog hou hier in verte. Die eerste Afrikaanse teaterstuk, *Dis nie my Baby nie*, deur Henrietta Gryffenberg is deur vier oud-dramastudente in Londen opgevoer (ons was in 2004 derdejaars). Ek en Astrid het die stuk in ons honneursjaar opgevoer. Die akteurs in die stuk was Sulene Swanepoel, Astrid Busckhe, Lee McCreedy en Anso van Eeden.

Groete
Anso



Techno versus chalk at the UFS

I am an Honours student in Media Studies at the UFS and would like to voice my concerns regarding the teaching methods which we seem to have at our university. My concern also springs from the fact that I am the tutorial co-ordinator in the Faculty of the Humanities.

The typical scenario one would find in a UFS lecture venue is a lecturer in front, students looking scared and a computer system which was installed – for a purpose – and yet, is not being used.

The student coming here as of 2003 – even earlier – is not attracted to big words or big books, the library nor to the lecturer's office. They want to see what they are being taught and they want it interactively! More young people have access to technology today than ever before. Cellphones, i-pods, digital-, video- and webcams as well as laptops are but a few of the digital devices used for communication, recreation and learning that have been accessed by young people in classrooms in South Africa.

A recent visit to the girls school, Eunice, in Bloemfontein struck me with awe when I saw what type of student is being produced there. A little girl in grade one at Eunice School, will receive "homework" that

instructs her to make use of a technological device, with the help of a parent, to send that homework piece to the teacher. What would happen if this little girl reached this university where our lecturers are still struggling to use an overhead projector?

My guess is that thousands of students are bored and frustrated in Kovsky classes. The student coming from neighboring Eunice and any other South African or foreign school, which makes use of technology at such a rate, should be catered for as much as the student coming from a previously disadvantaged background.

Dear lecturers: some of our lecture venues are equipped with good PC's – please use them. And yes by now, we expect it from you to know how to use Blackboard (not the blackboard – the programme, Blackboard).

The secret to your module getting a great success and throughput rate may be hidden in your ability to use technology wisely.

If your module is struggling – do give me a call on X9578, I would love to see where the New Academic Tutorial Programme can help. You would be surprised.

Six win the battle of the Bio-Kinetics

Two gold and four silver medals later and six honours students from the Department of Human Movement Sciences directly linked the values quality, excellence, winning and achieving to our university. This department participated in the student forum of SASReCon, the bi-annual sport and recreation research conference presented at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth. The theme of the conference was: "Mass participation and a winning nation". Our winning team is: Janka Fouché, silver medal winner in Children's Kinetics, Murry Capon, silver medal winner in Bio-Kinetics, prof. Johan Bloemhoff, Programme Director at the department, Morné Castelyn, silver medal winner in Sport Science, Coleen Jobes, silver medal winner in Sport Science, and Justin Oelofsen, gold medal winner in Bio-Kinetics. Jessica Bonstein, gold medal winner in Bio-Kinetics, was absent when the photo was taken.



CDS graduate excels

Ms Carol Mumba, a graduate of the Centre for Development Support (Masters in Development Studies, 2007) and an employee of the Catholic Relief Services in Zambia was awarded the opportunity of a lifetime when she was offered a prestigious scholarship to participate in the Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Programme in the United States. She will be hosted by the University of Washington in Seattle, where she will focus on Human Resources and Public Policy Analysis.



Government candidates complete leadership programme at UFS

The Programme: Public Sector Management in the Department of Public Management continues to play a leading role in capacity building in the public sector. 30 candidates from government successfully completed the Executive Management and Leadership Programme (EMLP). They celebrated their achievements during a certificate ceremony where the Premier of the Free State, Ms Beatrice Marshoff, presented the certificates to them. Prof. Teuns Verschoor, Acting Rector and **Ms Marshoff**.



Desmé honoured for exceptional article

Desmé Human, an honours student in Quantity Surveying at the Department of Quantity Surveying and Construction Management, received the Kenneth K. Humphreys Award, the most prestigious international award of its kind. She submitted the most outstanding Quantity Surveying article by a young member of the International Cost Engineering Council (ICEC) for the period 2006-2008. Her article "Implementation of affirmative action and black economic empowerment in the construction industry" was of such a good standard that an international referee judged it worthy to be presented at an international conference.

Desmé received the award at the 52nd annual meeting of the Association for the Advancement of Cost Engineering (AACE) International and a world conference of the ICEC held in Toronto, Canada.



Architecture student receives national award

Charles de Jager, honours student in Architecture, is one of three winners of the Carl and Emily Fuchs Foundation Prestigious Award for Architecture. Competitors' practical design work they did in their first degree were judged as well as a design they had to complete within a certain time during the competition.

Kuns ko



FOTOS: HANNES PIETERSE



Grepe uit Doringrosie



people

Kovsie-kampus is daar 'n plek waar niemand in besonder saak maak nie, behalwe jy. Waar niks spesifiek uitgesonder word nie, maar alles in ewewig lê. Daar is 'n plek waar drama kom en gaan. Maar dit wat belangrik is, stewig staan.

Soos lank reeds vermoed, is die Departement Drama en Toneelkunde aan ons universiteit een tree voor. Sonder om dit te beplan, spruit dit eenvoudig uit 'n gemene deler voort – 'n liefde vir dít wat hulle doen. Moeiteloos, kom hulle die kampus se missie, visie en waardes na. Bloot omdat hulle glo in wat hulle doen en

hier is iets om aan te kou:

lewers op

nooit fokus verloor nie. Tydens 'n informele gesprek, het lede van dié departement 'n paar gedagtes uitgeruil.

Die kuns van integrasie het hulle deur die jare so speel-speel vervolmaak op die verhoog. En sommer so ook toe uitvoering gegee aan ons universiteit se strategiese prioriteite naamlik billikheid, diversiteit en gelykberegtiging. "Jy moet jou medespelers volkome vertrou. Dis al manier hoe kuns op die planke tot sy reg kom. Hierdie vertroue spoel oor na die sosiale sfeer," som prof. Nico Luwes die verskynsel op.

Gerben Kamper, dosent by die departement, voel dat selfs produksies wat nie noodwendig multi-kultureel is nie, bydra tot wedersydse respek en begrip. "Die produksies wat in totaal bestaan uit swart spelers, word deur die wit studente bygewoon. En ook andersom. Ababemi wat begin Augustus op die planke

was, is 'n goeie voorbeeld. Dit het vir die wit studente 'n dieper insig gegee in die swart kinders se situasie in die vroeë tagtigerjare. Selfs die swart studente, wat onbewus was van die omstandighede destyds, het baie geleer. Sulke kommunikasie deur produksies is van groot waarde." Kuns vervul dus ook 'n belangrike rol in die herontdekking van jou eie kultuur.

Die algemene gevoel in die departement is dat wanneer jy 'n ander persoon se kuns verstaan, verstaan jy sy menswees. Elke dramaproduksie noodsaak deeglike voorafgaande navorsing. Nie net moet jy die karakter instudeer nie, maar ook die konteks begryp. So word ervaringe van geslag tot geslag oorgedra en gebeur 'n geskiedenisles sommer vanself. Dit is ook die ideale manier om dinge van die verlede in die hede te verwerk. En dit só regtig geskiedenis te maak.

ougom

reënboogproduksies vir 'n reënboogland



Daar is honderde voorbeelde van produksies wat deur die Departement Drama en Toneelkunde op die planke gebring is waar multi-kulturele vaardighede tussen spelers ontwikkel word – met die doel dat dit ook sal oorspoel na die gehoor. Só 'n tipe toneelstuk is die pas afgelope Sindiswa wat 'n Afrika verwerking van Aspoestertjie is. Prof. Nico meen dat hierdie kulturele kruisbestuiwing Suid-Afrikaanse teater uniek maak: reënboogproduksies vir 'n reënboogland. Dis ook interessant dat, sonder enige dwang, die swart studente begin belangstel in Afrikaans en die wit studente in Sotho en Xhosa. Engels is die meeste studente in die departement se tweede taal.

Wat veral vir Stephnie Brink (dosent) opval, is die gemak waarmee studente multi-kulturele situasies bespreek: "Dis dalk omrede ons klasse klein is. En die studente werklik vriende word." Die aantal wit en swart studente in die departement is redelik gelyk. Niemand

voel uitgesluit nie. En almal word dieselfde behandel. Daar is 'n gemoedelike interaksie, met geen onderwerp taboe nie. Dit het gewoonlik tot gevolg dat studente probleme buite die departement sal bespreek. Soms daaroor sal lag. En dit ander kere op die verhoog sal plaas – om dit vanuit 'n ander perspektief te aanskou.

Iemand noem dat "hulle toneelkunde 'n verpligte vak vir almal op kampus moet maak" – wat die res van die groep heerlik laat lag. En dan skielik stil laat raak. Dalk het 'iemand' 'n punt beet. Dis dalk glad nie so 'n slegte idee om improvisasie en rolspel deel te maak van die eerstejaars se oriënteringsweek nie. Miskien is dit die manier om brûe te bou. Met 'spelterapie'. En om waarlik 'n tree of twee in iemand anders skoene te loop.

Hier is nog iets om aan te kou: dalk is kuns baie meer werd as blote vermaak. – **Cindé Greyling**

Sadness and hope

The news about Prof. Frederick Fourie stepping down as Rector and Vice-chancellor is indeed a sad moment in the life of the UFS. He has contributed immensely to the national and international stature of this institution and I wish him well for the contributions he is still to make in other spheres.

But already the corridors are buzzing with talk about Prof Fourie's replacement. Who exactly it will be, is anyone's guess. Though judging from the statement by Council and the sentiments of leading members, a concerted effort will be made to find someone from the designated groups – a black person to be more specific.

This is a commendable position that has been adopted, though some would say long overdue. But it would be naïve in the extreme to imagine that all the ills of the UFS can be cured simply because of the colour of someone's skin. There is no magic cure for what the UFS has been through this past year and for what still lies ahead.

On the one hand, there are many reasons why a black person should be appointed. Chief among these is the fact that we need to signal a decisive break from the past. At the same time we need to entrench diversity from the highest to the lowest ranks of the UFS, and the office of the Rector is certainly not exempt. Of course, it must never be a case of diversity for diversity's sake, but rather an appointment that will help to propel us forward in our quest to be an excellent university.

On the other hand though, we need to learn from the experience of other historically white higher education institutions who have appointed black rectors. There may be valuable insights we can gain from how the appointment process was managed and how the successful candidate was able to fulfill the mandate he / she was given.

The selection panel of the UFS Council – as large as it is with just over 30 members – will need the wisdom of as many Solomons, for their task is an unenviable one. The panel must be satisfied that they have found the most suitable candidates to interview and then they must ultimately select the one they think offers the best package of knowledge, skills, experience, academic credibility and so on.

Yet how do you begin to reach consensus within a panel of 30-odd members (never mind a university community of close to 30 000 staff and students), about a matter as vital as this is to the UFS, and which is essentially about the leadership qualities we need to take us forward.

To paraphrase a colleague of mine, the essential ingredient in this mix of leadership qualities, must be the ability to provide hope for the future. Hope that the trauma and pain of the past can be overcome (without glossing over the difficult challenges of the present) and that the future will be better. Perhaps my colleague is absolutely spot on: this is really what the UFS needs right now – hope for the future. – **Anton Fisher**

From another angle



Nuwe direkteur is

hetsie Veitch, die nuwe Direkteur van die Eenheid vir Studente met Gestremdhede, het 'n passie vir mense met gestremdhede en kyk die uitdagings wat die eenheid haar bied vierkantig in die oë.

Al is sy nog skaars 'n maand in die pos, sê Hetsie dat sy maklik ingeskakel het. "Elke personeellid in die eenheid ken sy funksie en kon al my vrae baie goed beantwoord. Dit is voorwaar 'n pluimpie vir Ronel Ceronio, die voormalige direkteur van die eenheid. Dit was vir my 'n eer om by haar oor te neem. My visie vir die eenheid is om voort te bou op die fondasie wat deur Ronel gelê is."

"Die studente het my ook van die begin af welkom laat voel. Hulle is regtig merkwaardig. Hulle het hulle self aan my kom voorstel en die dowes het al klaar vir my 'n "sign"-naam gegee," sê Hetsie.

Haar werk behels die bestuur en koördinerings van alles wat by die eenheid plaasvind en sy sorg dat die dienste wat deur die eenheid gelewer word, glad verloop. 'n Groot deel van haar werk is ook om voortdurend die korporatiewe beeld van die eenheid te verbeter. "Ek sal graag wil sien dat die eenheid ook help om sy deel te doen om ons universiteit se beeld

uit te bou," sê Hetsie.

'n Ander belangrike deel van haar werk is om ander studente op kampus sowel as personeel bewus te maak van gestremde studente. "Buiten dat ons personeel sensitief wil maak teenoor mense met gestremdhede en vooropgestelde idees wil afbreek, is dit ook vir ons belangrik dat dosente ons rol op kampus verstaan en van ons gebruik maak.

"Die pos kom met 'n klomp uitdagings. Sommige geboue is byvoorbeeld ontoeganklik vir sekere van die studente met gestremdhede. Met die hulp van dosente moet ons dus toesien dat studente in die regte klasse geplaas word. Ons help ook die studente, soos byvoorbeeld die blinde studente, om hul leermateriaal in braille om te sit. Dit moet egter teen 'n sekere tyd gedoen word sodat die studente betyds met hul werk kan begin," sê Hetsie.

Hetsie is lank reeds betrokke by persone met gestremdhede en sport. Haar passie vir gestremde sport word op haar mure weerspieël met koerantuitknipsels van dié persone se prestasies. Sy is ook baie opgewonde oor die geleentheid wat sy gekry het om die span na die Paralimpiese Spele in Beijing te vergesel.



Estelle Heideman kry beurs vir MIV-voorkoming

Me. Estelle Heideman, MIV-/ Vigs-koördineerder van die Lengau Landbou-ontwikkelingsentrum, is deur 'n leierskapsinisiatief van die VSA, die M-A-C Aids Fund, gekies om verder opleiding te ontvang om die werk wat sy doen ten opsigte van MIV-voorkoming voort te sit.

Sy het die belangstelling van 'n paneel van beoordelaars van die M-A-C Aids Fund getrek met 'n voorkomingsprogram van agt weke – gesamentlike inisiatief van die Hoofdirektoraat Samelewingsdiens en die Free State Rural Development Programme – wat plaaswerkers in die Philippolis-distrik toerus om beheer oor hulle lewens te neem deur hulle MIV-status te ken en 'n gesonde lewenstyl te volg.

Estelle woon via 'n beurs van dié inisiatief 'n opleidingsprogram van agt weke by. Na voltooiing van die program, sal die leierskapsinisiatief, afgesien van ander voordele, fondse aan beurshouers voorsien om uitvoer aan hulle voorkomingsprogram in Suid-Afrika te gee.

Nthabeleng gives communi

at the young age of 30, Nthabeleng Rammile is already an elder in spirit and caring. For five years she has been lecturing marketing at our university and it has become her channel for the community work she excels at. For this Free State born and bred wife of a church minister, giving back to the world is her credo and she has her eyes firmly set on helping those in need.

Nthabeleng currently runs two community projects reaching approximately 500 people per term and the benefits for the participants are obvious: "They gain valuable confidence, presentation, negotiation and communication skills and have a unique opportunity to develop themselves before going into the work environment," says this mentor to many.

Education 1st is a grade 12 tutoring programme. Each Saturday morning in a church hall in Rocklands up to 120 learners gather to be assisted by students from our university in either mathematics or accounting. Our students set up tutorials with the high schools in the area and tutor those that need help in the week's chosen topic.

Part of the Education 1st programme is the career expo, where UFS students sell their faculty to the learners and this project also hosts an annual bursary fundraising event for grade 12 learners. Learners are advised how to choose the right career, develop much needed skills, apply for bursaries, fill in application forms and are told what the university can offer. The simplicity and effectiveness of the programme is astounding. Nthabeleng says that a lot of learners from the township are for various reasons, including financial, unable to attend the career days held at the university. Some don't attend out of ignorance of what

is on offer. A common complaint is that the university is an intimidating place for the first-timer. This programme is run on their home ground so they tend to be more proactive and get the info they need.

Operation Health is a highly successful clinic run on an *ad hoc* basis for the elderly in the same church hall. Medical students from our university run this one and perform basic medical tests for up to 250 pensioners each time. Three local doctors have also now come on board – inspired by the practicality of the arrangements set up by Nthabeleng. In a lot of cases, they end up referring people with serious problems like TB and heart and lung disease to the hospitals. "It shows that we are not just doing it for ourselves but have a success rate with the patients in mind," she says.

The university's commitment to community service specifically in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences where Nthabeleng lectures has been a fantastic support for her as they help with transport and meals for our students as well as a light snack for the patients. Basic medication is also provided.

But she also gets support from the church where a part-time secretary handles the admin work and where her husband is the counseling



passievol en opgewonde

Die spele wat op 6 September afgeskop het, het van dieselfde fasiliteite as die Olimpiese Spele gebruik gemaak. Hetsie het Tebogo Moklagadi en Nicolas Newman tydens hulle internasionale klassifisering vergesel en sy het ook deel uitgemaak van die span fisioterapeute wat saamgegaan het. Sy is self gekwalifiseerd as 'n mediese klassifiseerder wie se taak dit is om te verseker dat studente in die regte kategorie deelneem om so regverdigheid in gestremde sport te verseker.

Hetsie praat ook met groot lof van Sarah Shannon, 'n serebraalgestremde Kowsie-student wat ook aan die Paralimpiese Spele deelgeneem het. Shannon studeer Onderwys aan die UV en sy doen ook 'n paar Sielkunde-vakke aan ??? UNISA.

Hetsie noem dat sy baie graag 'n sportklub vir persone met gestremdes by Kowsies wil begin. Studente met gestremdhede wat ernstig is met hul sport moet by buiteklubs aansluit.

"Wat maak my opgewonde? Sommer 'n klomp goed," antwoord sy. "My hond, ek en my fiets in die veld, mense, maar die lekkerste in die hele wêreld is

om deel te neem aan 'n groot koorwerk op 'n verhoog met prof. Deon Lamprecht as dirigent. Ek sing al vir 21 jaar aan en af en is ook deel van die UV-Alumni-kamorkoor en het al die geleentheid gehad om deel te kon wees van die uitvoering van die Messias.

"Ek hou ook baie van lees. Tans lees ek sommer drie boeke; Women who run with wolves, Excuse me, your life is waiting en Daughters of Arabia," sê Hetsie.

Passievol, opgewonde oor die goeie dinge in die lewe en 'n mens mens. Dit is hoe jy die nuwe hoof van die Eenheid vir Studente met Gestremdhede kan beskryf. Wat is die oorsprong van haar lewensvreugde? "Die eerste antwoord wat by my opkom met die vraag is Jeremia 29:11; die Here se planne vir my. Die Here sê dat hy weet watter planne hy vir ons het. Dit is planne vir vooruitgang, hoop en 'n toekoms en nie om ons skade te doen nie," sê sy.

Ek loop met verwondering weg van die onderhoud en belowe myself dat ek elke dag met meer dankbaarheid en energie gaan aanpak – **Leonie Bolleurs**



Hetsie Veitch

ity service an EXTREME makeover

minister. He also helps her with the administration of all the community programmes.

"The church offers a support network, a computer and a printer to copy student identity documents for registration.

It's important to administer the programmes effectively, to ensure that the elderly are registered and the student's application forms are processed," she says, adding that "a lot of people want to volunteer, they just do not know how, so we show them." Of course she is one of those talented people who can inspire a

volunteering culture.

So how does this minister's wife, mother of two, full time lecturer and PhD student achieve what NGO's, government officials and private corporations try to do? "I delegate and build up very effective teams of people, making it everyone's responsibility to achieve. The students organise themselves. Being seriously organised helps too."

Nthabeleng puts her achievements down to her environment, which she says is the "best place to be to achieve her dreams. The research environment is flexible and is easily integrated into my love for community and lecturing." Her support network is vital to her. "The university offers as much as possible and I have a very supportive and flexible husband."

Nthabeleng has written three booklets and is hoping that her PhD on 'The influence of cultural diversity on the cellular telecoms industry' will also be published. I get the feeling that this dynamic lady is on her way to big things. She has the gift of realising practical solutions to huge problems. She pays tribute to her father, a teacher "who gave back all his life. We always had strangers sleeping on our floor. I never understood it then, but now I know we have to pass it on."

So what is next? Modestly Nthabeleng dreams, "Extending the programmes. I will be speaking to the Head of the Department of Health soon to talk about support and obviously trying to find more sponsors so that we can reach more people."

If this young academic is anything to go by – community service in the Free State is in for an extreme makeover. – **Ailsa Uys**



Nthabeleng Rammile



UFS students conducting community service with Mrs Nthabeleng Rammile.

Young academics have **their say...**

How can a university make academia more attractive for young academics?

Ailsa Uys had coffee with some of our bright young minds



Dr Martin Ntwaeaborwa

Lectures in the Department of Physics.

'The young are attracted by the corporate world so there should be programmes to attract them to academia. In partnership with government, opportunities should be created and advertised. The future of research in South Africa is not too positive. It is going to be limited to the private sector. There is a lack of black academics although I am in a good place now. Something has to be done to stimulate interest. Money is a big factor and then comes working environment.'



Dr Luis Schwalbach

Lectures in the Department of Animal Wildlife, Grassland Science.

'We need support in selling our knowledge, it is all we have. We need to develop business skills to make our research sustainable. Regarding our successes, those people who work in groups and build 'islands' of skills get support. Investments need to be made into structures, support staff and young blood to sustain the future of academia. As a country we need to invest in mentors. The university needs to retain young academics to grow academia as a career option.'



Thopelo Makae

Studied at UFS 2000-2007. Lectures in physiology in the Department Animal Wildlife, Grassland Science.

'As a student, staying in academia is not appealing, young people want to be in industry making money and climbing the ladder. As a young professional there are choices outside academia. Our problems in retaining skills are not unique – other universities have the same issues. South Africa and Africa have a challenge especially in agriculture, to retain the skills and improve research.'



Foch-Henri de Witt

Lectures in nutrition in the Department of Animal Wildlife, Grassland Science.

'As professionals, we have the skills and expertise; we can move on but are committed to the work, the students and research. Universities are independent so research work is done independently yet support is lacking. To increase research output and keep researchers, we need incentives; bursaries will attract the cream of the crop to become academics. The future for research is not rosy. There are however opportunities within SADC and South Africa. We need to develop the young to do scientific research. As young academics we feel an obligation to pass on knowledge.'



Nthabeleng Rammile

Lectures in marketing in the Department of Business Management.

'Research is my love, I get the support here and my working environment is good for me to do my research. The support is different for different departments. I can combine my love for research with community work to develop myself. The university supports you if you ask – you need to be proactive.'



Prof. Gustav Visser

Lectures in the Department of Geography

'Things have been good for me. A move from Wits to Kopsies was good for my career. I have had no problems with support for my research. The future of young researchers anywhere, is in their own hands. The same rules apply as for the private sector - excellence, hard work and strategic thinking. At the UFS there is a lack of support for full-time PhDs. The UFS thinks this can be done part-time; this is simply not the way it is done at truly successful universities. They first complete a well-funded PhD, and then move into full-time teaching and research. We need to reconsider that.'



Regter Harms gee intreerede

Regter Louis Harms, regter van die Hoogste Hof van Appèl en kenner op die gebied van die immaterieelgoederereg, het sy intreerede as buitengewone professor in die Departement Handelsreg in die Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid gelewer. Met die onderwerp "Waarheen Gehasi? Enkele tendense op die gebied van die immaterieelgoederereg (IG)" het hy gefokus op onder meer tendense in die ontwikkelde wêreld, asook in Suid-Afrikaanse.

Wynand betower tieners

Gedurende Augustus het die Wynand Mouton se gange geleef en gebeef van tienervoete. 'n Wonderwêreld het vir die leerders oopgegaan. Leerders kon kies watter werkwinkel hulle wou bywoon. Dié het ingesluit Making music, Theatre unleashed, Setting the stage, Sandscapes, Colour your identity en Make it up! Die Vrystaat/Noord-Kaap Skolefees 2008 is 'n projek van die Grahamstad-stigting. – Emmie van Wyk

Bekende landbou-ekonoom aan UV bied werkwinkel aan

Die Departement Landbou-ekonomie het 'n werkwinkel oor landboumarkvooruitsigte aangebied. 'n Bespreking oor mark tendense het vooruitsigte in markte vir graan sowel as die veebedryf ingesluit. Prof. Johan Willemse, Hoof van dié departement en bekende landbou-ekonoom, sê dat boere in die volgende jaar – waar marges skerp gekrimp het weens groot stygings in produksiekoste – besondere aandag aan kostebestuur moet gee.

Architects 'the theatre of life' inspired many

Inspired and in awe, about seven hundred architects, academics and students listen to the design leaders Macio Miszewski and Anya van der Merwe Miszewski from the well-known Cape Town firm Van der Merwe Miszewski Architects, expressing their passion for architecture. It is the 20th Sophia Gray Memorial Lecture of the Department of Architecture, a highlight on the architectural calendar, and the husband-and-wife team dazzles all while sharing their ideas and experiences on the spaces they designed.

Geleentheid was toonvenster vir gesondheidsnavorsing

Die jaarlikse AstraZeneca-fakulteitsforum van die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe was weer die toonvenster van personeel se navorsingsaktiwiteite. Gedurende die forum het gassprekers en navorsers aan die fakulteit aanbiedinge oor 'n wyse verskeidenheid van mediese navorsing gedoen.

Law offers in risk management programmes

The Faculty of Law will soon also offer short learning programmes, a diploma and a degree in Risk Management. This is a result of a partnership that was established between the Faculty of Law and IRCA Global, an international risk-management solution provider in the areas of safety, health, environment and quality.



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Sonder geite in 'n vlugtelingkamp



Die groep van die Afrika Onderrigsentrum in Ramprisikobestuur wat 'n vlugtelingkamp in Mosambiek besoek het.

Rampe, lewensverlies, vloed, vlugteling... vir tien dae was dit alles deel van my lewe gedurende 'n besoek aan 'n vlugtelingkamp in Mosambiek, 20 km suid van die Malawi-grens. Ek het 'n groep studente en personeel van die universiteit se Afrika Onderrigsentrum in Ramprisikobestuur tydens 'n studietoer vergesel.

"Engtevrees en ander geite laat jy agter die oomblik as die dubbelkajuitbakkie se deur langs jou toeslaan en jy agter op die bakkie sit tussen sewe medereisigers se rugsakke, gepak vir tien dae se trek die wildernis in, alles om getrou aan die ondersoekende gees van die wetenskaplike meer te gaan leer van nie-regeringsorganisasies soos Oxfam, UNICEF en die World Food Program se werksaamhede in 'n gebied waar vloed jaarliks menselewens eis en die natuur vir die moedswillige mens wys wie nou eintlik baas is.

Ons vertrek op 'n 1,500 km-tog Mosambiek in om na die rampverligtingswerk wat in die Caia distrik gelewer word te kyk en te leer. Ons het dikwels langs die teepad of wat daarvan oor was gery. Slaggate kan werklik so groot en diep soos 'n bad wees. Klein kindertjies toon hulle entrepreneursvaardighede om met emmertjies sand in die middel van die pad te staan en dan vol afwagting sand in die gat te gooi sodat jy 'n gladder rit kan hê, terwyl handjies gehou word vir kleingeld 'n want onthou die arbeider is sy loon werd!

Voor die ekskursie het ek hard en duidelik vir die wat ore het gesê, ek sien vir enigiets kans solank ek net kan was en die ander dingetjies in privaatheid kan doen. Helaas. Die eerste nag aan die Suid-Afrikaanse kant so tien kilometer van Swaziland se grens moes ons sonder water klaar kom.

Dis regtig moeilik in die lewe as jy dom is, maar niks kom by die onhandigheid as jy sukkel om tent op te slaan nie 'n al het jy 'n paar oefensessies met die stophorlosie in die een hand by die huis gehad. Nadat jy elke aand self tent opgeslaan het, was dit vuurmaak en kosmaak op gasbottels en dan het jy behoedsaam die ablusieblok genader met 'n flits in die hand. Soos ons dieper in Mosambiek in beweeg het, het dit meer primitief geraak. Snaaks genoeg so na die derde nag gee jy jou oor aan om 'net te wees'. Jy smeer nog al die roompies aan, sluk so tussendeur al jou vitamines en doen al die dinge soos jy geleer is. Daar is egter nie vulstasies en waskamers langs die pad soos ons gewoond is op die N1 nie, so jy is dikwels die bosse al springende en handklappende in vir ingeval – mamba of ander ongedierte dalk – idêe het om jou te pik, byt of op te vreet. Maar dis 'n mooi land.

Oxfam, 'n internasionale nie-regeringsorganisasie, werk hard om onder andere siektes soos cholera te bekamp. Wat vir my as maatskaplike werker vreemd is, is dat daar nie ook maatskaplike

opheffingsprogramme is nie. Die afwesigheid hiervan dra volgens my vakkundige mening daartoe by dat noodleningsorganisasies jaar na jaar reddingswerk moet doen.

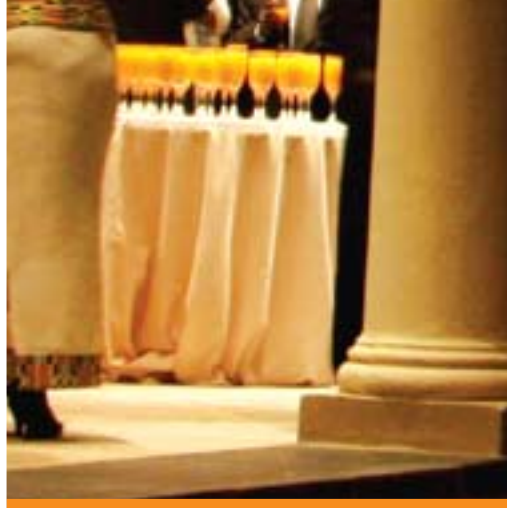
Die natuurskoon is asembernemend. Ek is seker as jy 'n mieliepit in een van die slaggate indruk dit sal groei. Die plaaslike inwoners is vriendelik en hulpvaardig. En oral kan jy selfoonkaarte koop waar ek baie seker is die enigste wat jy sal opvang 'n emmer vol water na 'n reën bui sal wees.

Ek het baie siek geword en teen die einde nie omgee of hulle my langs die pad los om dood te gaan nie. Vat genoeg maagmedisyne saam en skil selfs vrugte eerder af.

Ons het deur die Musina-grenspos na Suid-Afrika teruggekeer. Almal het al gehoor en gelees van die verwikkelinge in Zimbabwe, maar as grootmense jou om die bene val teen sterk skemer en by jou pleit dat jy enigiets kan vat van hulle handewerk inruil vir iets om tee eet 'n dan breek jou hart. Jy pak jou koskrat se laaste voorrade uit en jy gee tot die klipharde platgedrukte energiestafie. As jy wegry sien jy in jou truspieëltjie hoe baie mense naderstaan om aan die bietjie wat jy gegee het te eet. Jy ry sommer vinniger en vra verskoning vir die alewige hooikoors.

Ek is bly om terug te wees." – **dr. Sandra Ferreira**

Gradeplegtigheid weereens



e events

'n mylpaal

By vanjaar se lente-gradeplegtigheid op die hoofkampus het altesaam 595 van ons studente grade ontvang en 216 studente hul diplomas ontvang. Daar is ook 29 doktorsgrade toegeken.

'n Uitsonderlike graad is aan prof. Ivan Horak, buitengewone hoogleraar aan die Departement Dierkunde en Entomologie, toegeken. Hy is die derde persoon in die geskiedenis van ons universiteit om die D.Sc.-graad te verwerf.

Prof. Neil Heideman, Vise-dekaan in die Fakulteit Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe, het sy MBA-graad verwerf.



Harte klop weer gesond na Welstand se hartweek

Diensingesteldheid is een van die vyf kernwaardes van ons universiteit wat in alle handeling gereflekteer en te alle tye gerespekteer moet word. Hoe kan ons reg ingestel wees tot ons daaglikse dienslewering as ons nie gesond is nie?

Die Welstandskomitee het sommer vroeg in die nuwe seisoen gesorg dat personeel die geleentheid kry om al die

nodige toetse, onder meer cholesteroltoets, bloedglukosetoetse en oogtoetse te laat doen. En sou jy nie weet in watter bloedgroep jy val nie, kon my dit ook laat toets. En om die harte so bietjie vinniger te laat klop het die Welstandskomitee ook 'n pretstap gereël waaraan personeel kon deelneem.

Die hartweek het ook 'n aanbieding oor

koronêre hartvatsiektes deur dr. Makoali Makotoko, 'n kardioloog, ingesluit. Later die week het dr. Elmine du Toit, 'n dieetkundige, wenke gegee vir hoe om te eet vir 'n gesonde hart.

Hoe gesond is ek? Bestmed het gehelp om die vraag vir baie te beantwoord met hul gratis mediese siftingstoetse tydens die Welstandskomitee se hartweek.



Staff earns their grades

A group of 42 employees of the Qwaqwa Campus enthusiastically grabbed the opportunity to let a dream come true and enrolled for the Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET) level 4 programme, funded by the Education Training and Development Practices Sector Education and Training Authority. Through the programme, both employees and the campus are benefiting. The university better the quality of its staff and members of staff finish their basic education. – Jabulile Majozi



NUMERO UNO

Stella Heyns, 'n nagraadse student in Volhoubare Landbou, is die beste student in haar vakgebied in die wêreld. Sy is eertse in die enigste ware internasionale simulatie wat fokus op mededingende

besigheidstrategieë, GLO-BUS.

GLO-BUS word in die Sentrum vir Volhoubare Landbou en Landelike Ontwikkeling gebruik. Die GLO-BUS-oefening word aanlyn gedoen en die studente ding nie net in klasverband mee nie, maar ook internasionaal teen ander ingeskrewe studente. In Suid-Afrika neem ons universiteit, Stellenbosch Universiteit en die Wits Besigheidskool aan GLO-BUS deel.



Mnr. Ivan van Rooyen, Direkteur: UV-Bemarking en prof. Nico.

Kovsie Alumni-week vol "onthou jy nog's"

Oud-Kovsies van heinde en verre, sommige jonk en pas klaar gestudeer en ander al ryk in jare het saamgetrek om te help vier aan UV-Bemarking se Kovsie Alumni-week.

Eerste op die spyskaart was 'n damestee. Dié is aangebied in samewerking met die Departement Pediatrie en Kindergesondheid. Die volgende dag het die alumni in vervoering geraak toe die Departement Musiek, die Acapella-groep en Klitzgras hulle op die maat van onder meer Mozart se viool- en klaversonate bederf het.

Oud-Kovsies het ook geleentheid gekry om te wys wat nog in hulle steek toe hulle mekaar op die rolbalbaan aangevat het. Later die week was daar ook twee toneelstukke van die Departement Drama en Teaterkuns aangebied, Die Buffel en Jubileum.

Op Nasionale Kovsiedag is prof. Nico du Plessis vir sy besondere bydrae tot die uitbouing van die Alumni-vereniging asook die sleutelrol wat hy as stigter van die Nasionale Kovsie Alumni-dag vervul het, vereer.

'n Week van blye weersiens, baie onthou jy nog's en nuut uitgedinkte kattekwaad is afgesluit met 'n lekker ontbyt... en 'n wens om volgende jaar weer so te maak.

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Have you had your HIV/Aids test?

Our university is one of twenty-three institutions participated in the nation wide HIV/Aids testing and counseling survey. Staff and students participated in this voluntary weeklong campaign. They first went through a process of

pre-counseling, then the HIV test and afterwards post counseling. Dr Ezekiel Moraka, Vice-Rector: Student Affairs, and Prof. Sakkie Steyn Registrar: General, were also tested. They encouraged staff and students to do the same.



Dr Ezekiel and Ms Nomhle Senoamadi, Laboratory technician at New Start, the organisation that was responsible for the tests and counseling.



Mee. Maria Ramongalo, Wieda, Ansie Titus, en Susan Vergottini.

Klasgelde verbeter dienste met nuwe fone

Personeel van Finansies, Afdeling: Klasgelde werk hard aan hul kliëntediens. Een-en-twintig mobiele fone is aangekoop en aan personeel oorhandig. Volgens me. Wieda McCrae is dit geld wat goed bestee is, want die gehalte en standaard van hul dienslewering aan kliënte het al klaar verbeter. Wieda sê: "Die foon maak dit vir ons moonlik om inkomente oproepe te hanteer, ongeag van waar ons ons in die gebou bevind."

Sandra steps up to great expectations

Sandra Seitshiro, Labour Relations Officer in Human Resources, has been awarded an ACU Scholarship to study M.A. Human Resources Management and hereby also the opportunity to contribute to the university's dream of being an excellent and quality institution. Sandra is awarded the scholarship from 22 September 2008 until 30 August 2009 at the University of Westminster in London.



Prof. Albie leer jong musici in Oostenryk

Prof. Albie van Schalkwyk van die Departement Musiek lewer al vir die afgelope 20 jaar 'n bydrae as reparateur by die somerskool van die Neuburger Kulturtage. Die burgermeester van Neuberg, 'n dorpie in Oostenryk, het hom vir sy betrokkenheid vereer met 'n metaal-herdenkingsbord en sertifikaat. Prof. Albie se verbintenis by die somerskool is die langste musikale verbintenis met enige spesifieke instansie in sy loopbaan as uitvoerder.

Die Neuberg Kulturtage bestaan sedert 1978 en het begin as 'n koor- en kerkmusiekfees rondom 'n pragtige katedraal wat toe pas gerestoureer was. Die het mettertyd 'n somerskoolaspek bygekry wat aan studente die geleentheid bied om in pragtige natuurskoon ver weg van die naaste stadsliggies, intensiewe onderrig by personeellede met internasionale ondervinding te kry.

Prof. Albie het in 1988 betrokke geraak toe hy op 'n konserttoer in Oostenryk was. Toe die gereelde pianis siek was het hy daardie jaar op drie dae kennisgewing 'n nuwe konsertprogram ingeef en vir die eerste keer as reparateur gehelp om die somerskool aan te bied. Sedertdien is hy elke jaar genooi om deel van die somerskool te wees. As deel van sy pligte spandeer hy ses tot sewe ure per dag voor die klavier om aan jong violiste, altvioliste, tjelliste en fluitspelers die fynere kuns van samewerking met 'n pianis te leer.



Prof. Albie en Magdalena Roux, tjello-dosent aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, op hul fietse, die gebruiklike vervoermiddels in Neuberg.



Prof. Rian Venter, Medeprofessor in die Departement Dogmatologie, prof. Kees en sy vrou Magriet.

Kerk verloor sy invloed, maar geloof in God neem toe

Daar is 'n groeiende afhanklikheid van God, aldus prof. Kees van der Kooi, Sistematiese teoloog van die Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. "Al het die kerk as instansie se invloed verminder, word die belangrikheid van geloof deur meer mense as tien jaar gelede erken," sê hy. Prof. Kees het twee lesings in die Departement Dogmatologie aangebied. Sy ander lesing het gehandel oor die integrasie van gereformeerde en charismatiese kerke.

Two heads better than one

It was a proud day when Prof. Sue Walker, lecturer in the Department of Soil, Crop and Climate Sciences, could say "Our university and the University of Nottingham are making a good team because at the two institutions we have different skills that complement one another. Our university has hands on experience with countries in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region and has the facilities to do field trials whilst the University of

Nottingham has its experiences with countries in the rest of Africa as well as the European Union."

Prof. Sue said this as her department and scientists from the School of Biosciences from the University of Nottingham in the United Kingdom (UK) laid the groundwork for a project that will contribute to maintain food security under the change in climate conditions.

At the workshop "Water use by under-utilised crop in semi-arid areas" our university and the University of Nottingham combined their expertise and proposed two projects to address water stress on alternative crops.

One proposal is to develop and implement a system that will assist farmers to make a good crop selection for a specific area based on how these crops will cope with climate variations. "The system will also help us to bring in different crops and thus diversify the number of crops a farmer is growing," said Prof. Sue.

The second is an intervention that small-scale farmers could apply in cases where they know the rainfall. If a good rainfall is predicted, the product will advise on some simple and reasonable things that farmers could do to optimise their crops, for example to put more fertilizer into the ground," said Prof. Sue.

This proposal will be implemented in East and West Africa as well as the SADC region.



Delegates visiting a commercial farm under irrigation in the Jacobsdal district.

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At the school visit were, from the left: Ms Semakaleng Motaung, Free State Department of Education, Ms Svetlana Smerdinskaya, Assistant Director for Training and Exchange, Economics International Programme, Katleho Leputla, Andile Mbasane, both Grade 6 learners, and Mr Kevin Smith, East Providence High School, Rhode Island, USA.



Mr. Lorraine Botha besig om personeel van die Katete Boarding Secondary School uit te daag om 'n breinknoper aan te durf.



Eleanor Botha.

Jong wetenskaplikes wys hul blink idees

Eleanor Botha, Graad 7-leerling van die Laerskool Sentraal, se uitstalling wat die effek van musiek op babas uitbeeld, was een van 401 projekte wat by die jaarlikse Eskom Expo vir Jong Wetenskaplikes uitgestal is. Dié uitstalling het in samewerking met die Fakulteit Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe plaasgevind. Altesaam 523 primêre en sekondêre skole in Bloemfontein en die Suid-Vrystaat het aan die ekspo deelgeneem.

International Interaction

US teachers applaud local schools

The university sees itself as a national asset whose experts must play a role in their areas of expertise, nationally and internationally. One such international initiative that the university is actively involved in is a project of the National Council on Economic Education.

The NCEE aims to improve the quality of the training in Economics of teachers and lecturers across the world. The university has a four-year partnership with the NCEE, with Prof. Klopper Oosthuizen from the Department of Agricultural Economics as a leading agent in this project.

Prof. Klopper hosted a group of teachers from the United States who visited the Lourierpark Intermediate School and other schools in Bloemfontein to observe the effect of democratic transformation in South African Schools.

Darlene Ajavi from the Emerging Technologies Centre in Baltimore was inspired by the visits to the schools. "Your teachers and learners have truly inspired and rejuvenated me with their desire to achieve and be an integral part of the new South Africa," she said.

Ons daag Zambië uit om deur breinknopers te leer

Die groep van die universiteit het in Katete, 'n klein dorpje in die ooste van Zambië, hul Family Math en Trac-werkswinkels vir personeel van die Katete Boarding Secondary School aangebied. Dié skool verskaf opleiding aan ongeveer 900 meisies tussen graad 8-12. Die groep het bestaan uit prof. Gawie du Toit, dr. Jannie Pretorius, mev. Lorraine Botha, Elizna Prinsloo en mnr. Cobus van Breda. "Ons personeel het groot lof van die deelnemers vir dié werkswinkels ontvang," sê prof. Du Toit.

Hulle het ook bande met hul kollegas versterk en ooreengekom om hul vaardighede met mekaar te deel.

Goeiedag, dumela, buongiorno and...

Over and above hello, goeiedag, dumela, gutentag and buongiorno could one be greeted in a spectrum of languages at the conference of the International Society for Oral Literature in Africa (ISOLA) at the University of Salento, Lecce in Italy which both Ms Sara Motsei from the Department of African Languages and Prof. Hennie van Coller, Head of the Department of Afrikaans and Dutch, German and French, attended.

According to the rector of the University of Salento cultural property (property of great importance to the cultural heritage of people) should be seen as the key element for the cultural and social development of a society. "Cultural heritage should no longer be considered as an untouchable asset," he said.

They both delivered papers, contributing to the conference theme: Cross borders, orality, interculturality, memory archives and technology. Sara's paper about naming an African child today, with special reference to the Basotho, addressed the vital role a name plays in a Basotho's life. Her paper addressed the significance and the implication based on both mythical and historical legends according to incidents, places as well as personal experiences.

Prof. Hennie's paper focused on intertextuality based on Paravion, a novel of the Dutch author Hafid Bouazza's. Paravion tells the story of successive generations of migrant workers in a small Moroccan village. The title is derived from the words "par avion"

meaning by air mail. The workers receive letters from abroad that they cannot read because they are illiterate and uneducated and they take them into town where they are publicly read, thus again being transformed and integrated into oral tradition.



Ms Sara Motsei and Prof. Hennie van Coller in Lecce, Italy.

Holá Geology, holá Cantabria

Jannie Schabort and Alex Munro, two students in the Department of Geology were awarded the rare opportunity of working and learning with geology scholars from around the world during their geological fieldtrip to Cantabria in northern Spain.

Prof. Willem van der Westhuizen, Head of the Department of Geology, and the two students were invited by the Cardiff University in Spain. The fieldtrip gave them the exciting experience of learning more about mountain-forming mechanisms and the anatomy of a now eroded mountain range.

It also included a physically challenging geological mapping in the spectacular Cantabrian mountain range followed by an intensive week of assessed field-exercises on a traverse across the mountain range.

Jannie expressed his delight at being part of this fieldtrip. "It was incredible to work with students who think the same as us, but live in a different part of the world," he said.



Students attending lectures during the field trip to Cantabria in Spain.

Nuwe naam spel strewe na robuustheid

Vanaf 2009 sal die Departement Kommunikasie en Inligtingstudie herdoop word tot die Departement Kommunikasiewetenskap om sy fokus op menslike kommunikasie te beklemtoon. "Dié veranderings is gemotiveer deur lesse geleer en ervarings opgedoen oor verskeie dekades in die akademie, en deur 'n begeerte om aan die uitdagings van die kommunikasieteorie en -praktyk in ons multikulturele kontinentale omgewing te voldoen," sê prof. Johan de Wet, Hoof van Departement Kommunikasie en Inligtingstudie.

Prof. Johan sê: "Dié program wat deur die departement gerig word, sal volgende jaar bekend staan as die Program vir Kommunikasieprofessies en sal twee voorgaande (en drie honneurs- en magistergrade aanbied, sowel as 'n Ph.D. In die geval van die voorgaande kwalifikasies is Korporatiewe en Bemerkingskommunikasie uit die huidige Korporatiewe Kommunikasie en Geïntegreerde Bemerkingskommunikasie gestruktureer om dit meer robuus te maak, terwyl die huidige Mediastudie-kwalifikasie uitgebrei is om spesifiek die joernalistiek in te sluit, omdat daar 'n vraag daarvoor is."

Rainbow festival of sound



FOTO: HANNES PIETERSE



Prof. Philip en sy vrou Olivia.

Visionary of Africa Studies says good bye

After a distinguished 33 years of service to our university, Prof Philip Nel, Director of the Centre for Africa Studies (CAS), is bidding farewell.

Prof. Philip has decided that the time has come to scale down his involvement with the university and to spend more time with his wife, Olivia and doing more research.

The newly appointed Director of CAS, Prof. Anwar Osman, had only words of praise for the man whose big shoes he has to fill. "We should celebrate Prof. Philip not only for establishing CAS but also for the dynamic role he played and the enormous contributions he made to the development of the university", he says.

Although he will be leaving the full-time employ of the university, Prof. Philip is still involved in a number of active research projects.

He has had a distinguished career since joining the university in 1975 as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Semitic Languages in the Faculty of the Humanities. In 2003 the Department of Near Eastern Studies evolved into the Department of Afroasiatic Studies, Sign Language and Language Practice, a move in which Prof. Philip was instrumental. During this time he became the driving force behind the

establishment of the Africa Studies Programme and became the Programme Director at its inception in 2002.

Prof. Philip, displaying his usual foresight, recognised early on the importance for our university to cultivate an African focus in its academic offerings and research, a vision that came to fruition with the official launch of CAS on 5 November 2007.

He is one of the most dedicated and gifted study advisers for postgraduate students with more than 41 students who successfully completed their M.A. and Ph.D. studies. His publication record is exemplary with contributions to 11 books as well as 54 scientific articles to date. He has made numerous research visits abroad and participated in archaeological projects in Israel.

His successor Prof Anwar says: "My intention is to build on the groundwork done thus far and to broaden the teaching and research base of the centre to include the natural sciences as well, truly making CAS a beacon for multi-disciplinary study."

"The future success of this centre will be a lasting testament to Prof. Philip's visionary leadership".

Prof. Anwar, who was born in the Sudan, assumed the directorship of CAS on 1 September 2008. He has had a distinguished international career in academia that includes serving on the faculties of many international universities in Sudan, Italy, Spain and Norway amongst others. Prof. Anwar's area of expertise is ethno-botany and ethno-archaeology.

– Steffi Cawood



Major achievements

Did you know...

Our university produced the first black woman student to be awarded a gold medal for being an exceptional final-year student from the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors (ASAQS) in 2006.

und and talent



What could have been more fitting than a springtime musical celebration of ten years of academic achievement and excellent community service, free of charge and open to the general public? The series of three well-attended concerts presented by the staff and students of the Department of Music, testified to the appreciation felt by everyone for the university's past and present role in the Free State.

In the first concert, music from the early to the late Romantic Period was beautifully performed by Nicol Viljoen, Albie van Schalkwyk and a string quartet comprising Denise Sutton, Sharon de Kock, Jeanne-Louise Moolman, and Michael Haller. Nicol gave a sensitive rendition of Schubert's Sonata No. 21, while Albie's exquisitely played piano part perfectly dovetailed with the quartet's equally fine interpretation of César Franck's Piano Quintet, Op.14.

Two further highlights of the festival were the Jazz ensembles and the Free State Youth Symphony Orchestra. Noel Stockton organised a rainbow palette of items that reflected various styles of Jazz comprising American, African and Indian elements. He showcased promising young South African musicians, including the group Twelve Comma 5 who gave a rousing African flavour to the proceedings, eliciting an enthusiastic response from the multiracial audience. This, together with an item entitled "Mandela" composed by the South African artist Abdullah Ibrahim and an unusual jazz combination of piano, bass, percussion and the Indian flute played by Chats Devroop from UNISA reflected the

university's commitment to a new society. As usual, Noel compèred the proceedings in his inimitable way, and introduced two recent compositions of his own, including "Kea Hae" – I'm going home.

The sense of history was reflected in the final concert that presented works ranging from the 16th century to the present. Hans Huyssen's newly formed Collegium Fons Florum introduced secular and religious works from the 17th century on period instruments using gut strings. The highlight of this part of the programme was Claudio Monteverdi's "Lauda, Lauda Jerusalem" for soloists, choir and strings. Hans not only specialises in authentic period performance and in 20th century music, but also has a keen interest in African music. Since his arrival at the university, a number of Baroque instruments have been acquired.

The concert concluded with the Free State Youth Symphony Orchestra performing rousing renditions of works by Dukas, Tchaikovsky, Elgar and Holst, all requiring a considerable brass component. That was no surprise, given the appointment of Paul Loeb van Zuilenberg a year ago to the Department of Music as a senior lecturer in brass instruments. Since then he has built up an imposing brass ensemble, and is an enthusiastic and inspiring conductor of youthful orchestras, as became evident in the quality of the performance heard in these final works played at the close of a very successful Spring Festival. – Ninette Pretorius



Ms Marie Olivier from Human Resources modeling the many uses of a scarf.

Enhance your corporate value with the right impression

"What we wear does not only reflect our good taste but also our good judgment," said Christa Klink, a Chata Romano representative. She was called in by the Wellness Committee to present a workshop as part of a Women's Week initiative.

Christa provided helpful hints on making the right impression. There are a number of aspects to keep in mind when planning your "corporate confidence"

wardrobe. Some do's and don'ts that will help every lady to step out in style and confidence, are:

- Wear clear colours. Avoid dull and sludgy colours.
- Problem area: tummy and hips. Opt for longer jackets. A helpful hint is to take a measurement between your shoulder and your feet (standing bare feet), divide it in two and that should be the length of your jacket.
- Problem area: full busts. Avoid double breast jackets.
- Accessories: avoid carrying a handbag that is wider than the width of your body.
- Note that a briefcase looks more corporate than a handbag. Research showed that women with briefcases at airports received better treatment. It is also useful to have in the briefcase a notebook, a pen that works and some business cards.

Christa also reminded staff that a new look it is not about time and money but about knowledge and making the right choices when buying clothes. "Sometimes you could also look 5 kg lighter with the right choice of clothes," she said.

It is not only the clothes that we wear that make an impression. Our behaviour also counts. You will only benefit by being considerate of others. Also here Christa gave some helpful hints when introducing somebody: "Always mention the person with the highest rank first."

Impressions made electronically are just as important. It is important to know telephone and e-mail etiquette. Christa recommends that you reply within 24 hours, include a detailed and specific subject line, and avoid big attachments that will slow the system down.

The Women's Week also included presentations on women's health and women and spirituality.

Paintings, poetry and port bring staff together



Hans, Arie, Kingdom and Prof. Dave.

The creative Poetry, Paintings and Port initiative that was presented by the Wellness Committee was the result of a number of requests from staff members for an act of reconciliation after the Reitz incident on campus. Wellness took up the challenge and presented a culture evening with different South African perspectives, featuring our own respected and celebrated artists on campus. Prof. Dave Lubbe from the Centre for Accounting, Mr Kingdom Moshounyane from the Department of Drama and Theatre Arts, and Prof. Nicol Viljoen and Mr Hans Huyssen from the Department of Music ensured a delightful evening of appreciation of the arts. Mr Arie Kuijers, curator at our university's Johannes Stegmann and Centenary Complex art galleries, also gave a presentation on art for which he was positively commended by many staff members.

VOLGENS MY

Kom ons bly **parallelmedium**

1. Dit verg nie veel vindingrykheid om die besluit te neem om na enkelmedium oor te skakel nie. 'n Mens sou wou dink dat na alles 'n besluit rondom die taalkwessie 'n oorwoë een is wat darem ooglopend sal (probeer) verskil van populistiese opvattinge.
2. Een voertaal, een klas lyk ooglopend "geïntegreerd" maar verander nog glad nie aan die werklike vraagstukke rondom integrasie nie. Lesings is byvoorbeeld nie altyd die beste geleentheid vir interpersoonlike gesprek nie.
3. Ons wil sekerlik graag 'n multikulturele instelling bly waar ons nie ons "tradisionele" studentekorps sal vervreem en uiteindelik verskraal nie. Tensy alle tweetalige universiteite waar Afrikaans eens 'n prominente voertaal was, gelyktydig besluit om te verengels, het ons geen waarborg dat ons nog groot getalle Afrikaanstalige studente sal bly werf nie. En wil ons werklik uiteindelik 'n "swart" universiteit word? Nie dat daarmee per se iets fout mee is nie, maar is 'n "swart" universiteit verteenwoordigend van die groter Suid-Afrika?
4. Die enkelmediumopsie is wesenlik ongrondwetlik. Wat ons onself moet afvra, is of dit die uiteindelige bedoeling van die grondwetskrywers

- was om alle staatsinstellings te laat verengels?
5. Die enkelmediumopsie druis ook wesenlik in teen die ideale van die Taalbeleid vir Hoër Onderwys. Daarin staan onteenseglik dat Afrikaans as voertaal aan hoërondwysinstellings behou sal word.
6. Die parallelmediummodel (wat trouens in die Taalbeleid vir Hoër Onderwys voorsien word) word gebaseer op die veronderstelling dat studente uit een van twee onderriginstrumente kan kies (of selfs beide kan kies, soos wat reeds begin gebeur – een module in Afrikaans, 'n ander module in Engels). Dit word nie veronderstel dat studente 'n keuse oor identiteit uitoefen nie.
7. Enkelmedium maak nie noodwendig gelyk nie. Swart studente KIES om in hulle tweedetaal onderrig te word, dit is 'n keuse wat hulle reeds baie vroeg op skool maak. Die studente kom dus nie na die UV met die bedoeling of verwagting om in hulle moedertaal onderrig te word nie. Hulle skakel dus nie hier oor na hulle tweedetaal nie. Afrikaanse studente daarenteen verwerf meestal Engels as tweedetaal binne 'n model van moedertaalgebaseerde tweetaligheid. Die moedertaal word behou as voertaal. Die

- uiteenlopende tweetalige modelle bring mee dat daar nie gelykheid in emosionele en kognitiewe ontwikkeling by die twee stelle leerders was/is nie.
8. Deur enkelmediumonderrig faal die UV in haar groter onderrigtaak. Gegewe die ideale van 'n funksionele meertalige bestel, het die UV 'n onderrigverantwoordelikheid wat betref die taalbestel. Suid-Afrika se taalkompleksiteit word alermins opgelos met slagkrete en 'n aandrang op Engels elke keer wanneer die meertalige realiteit vir ons een te veel word.

Hierdie paar oorwegings bied sekerlik nie antwoorde op al die vrae rondom die taalkwessie wat tans die rondte doen nie. Ook probeer ek doelbewus die emosionele en sentimentele argumente (aan beide kante) te vermy. Debatte wat hierdeur geïnspireer word, val soveel kere vas in 'n warboel van perspepsies en etikettering. Ek laat dit maar aan andere oor.

Theodorus du Plessis
Eenheid vir Taalbestuur
Dplessit.hum@ufs.ac.za

Lees die volledige opinie-stuk op die web by:



Prof. Jan Smit.

Onvoorwaardelike akkreditasie vir Argitektuur

Die Departement Argitektuur het weereens bewys dat hulle 'n uitnemende bydrae lewer tot die opleiding van argitekte toe hulle onvoorwaardelike akkreditasie vir al drie programme wat aangebied word, van die Suid-Afrikaanse Raad vir die Argitektuurprofessie (SACAP) ontvang het.

Dié departement is sover die enigste van sy soort in die land wat akkreditasie ontvang het nadat SACAP reeds sewe uit 'n moontlike tien instellings in die land besoek het. "Dit is werklik 'n prestasie vir ons, veral as die hoë vlak van akkreditasie in ag geneem word. Die paneel van beoordelaars bestaan onder andere uit 'n verteenwoordiger van die Commonwealth Association of Architects (CAA), wat weer aan die Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) rapporteer," sê prof. Jan Smit, Hoof van die Departement Argitektuur.

"Die onvoorwaardelike akkreditasie is 'n bewys dat die kwalifikasies wat ons studente kry, van waarde is en dat dit plaaslik en internasionaal erken word. Dit is ook 'n aanduiding dat die studente se opleiding op standaard is," sê prof. Jan.

Prof Jan en span...ons is trots op julle!



Estelle Boshoff.

Estelle se referaat is beste op kongres in Duitsland

Me. Estelle Boshoff, Lektor in Bedryfsielkunde, het die beste referaat op die 2008 Business and Economics Conferences (EABR) and Teaching and Education Conferences (TLC) wat in Rothenburg, Duitsland aangebied is, gelewer. Sy het 'n toekenning van die Clute Institute for Academic Research daarvoor ontvang.

Maak jy die beste gebruik van jou geld?

Om die regte besluit te neem, is nooit maklik nie – veral nie as dit jou finansiële toekoms raak nie. Met die portefeulje oplossings wat Sanlam se Topaz-reëls bied, kan ek jou help om te beplan vir 'n finansiële toekoms met groter sekerheid. Topaz se oplossings kan jou help met:

- Finansiële beplanning
- Spaar en beleggings
- Persoonlike dekking
- Aftreevoorsiening
- Huislenings
- Voorsiening vir jou kinders se opvoeding
- Testamente en trusts

As 'n Sanlam-adviseur spesialiseer ek in doelspesifieke oplossings wat dit wat jy wil hê, balanseer met dit wat jy regtig nodig het. Vir jou beteken dit 'n finansiële plan wat saamgestel is uit Topaz se reëls finansiële oplossings – met insette van kundiges op die gebied van korttermyn-versekering en belastingontleding waar nodig.

Kontak my gerus vandag om die balans te vind tussen dit wat jy wil hê en dit wat jy regtig nodig het. Ons dink vooruit. En jy?



Ben Opperman
Senior Onafhanklike Finansiële Beplanner
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 **Sanlam**
Ons dink vooruit



Streamlined M.A. in Higher Education Studies on offer

As from 2009, the newly adapted and streamlined curriculum for the structured MA (Higher Education Studies) will be offered by CHESD to lecturing, non-lecturing and management colleagues. This is an opportunity for professional development focusing on the latest developments in the field of university education. An honours degree (or equivalent) and appropriate work experience at the university will serve as admission requirements (no previous teaching qualification is required). The variety of course work modules in the programme will have an interdisciplinary focus and will be offered by means of an active, but practical resource-based approach during limited, dispersed block contact sessions.

The two compulsory modules in the curriculum for the structured degree will not only lay a broad foundation regarding university education and the management thereof, but also in the context of the candidates' university work environment. Additionally, the elective course work modules will cover important fields such as quality assurance, adult learning, learning facilitation, assessment,

e-learning, community service learning, postgraduate supervision, the development of study material, as well as module and programme development at university level. An extended mini-dissertation on a topic related to the candidate's own work environment and/or interest will finally be completed during the second year of study by means of a well planned and structured group supervision programme.

The academic programme in Higher Education Studies of CHESD is viewed as a leader in its field. During the past four years nearly 40 graduates obtained the structured M.A. (HES) degree. The programme also hosts certain credit-bearing short learning programmes for academic and support staff of the UFS. With a view to personal enrichment, candidates sometimes also follow single modules in the curriculum as occasional study students.

For more information about the structured MA (HES), contact me at 051 4019174 or vtondersp.rd@ufs.ac.za or Ms Desi McCarthy at 051 4019286 or mcarthyd.rd@ufs.ac.za.

Ms Nelia Venter, one of the students who successfully completed her M.A. in Higher Education Studies. – **Dr Fanus van Tonder**

Lesing vereer een van SA se grootste vroueleiers

'n Lid van die nasionale uitvoerende komitee van die ANC-vroueliga, Yolanda Botha, het 'n beroep gedoen op alle Suid-Afrikaners om die nalatenskap van Charlotte Maxeke, een van Suid-Afrika se grootste vroueleiers, te koester.

Me. Botha het by die eerste Charlotte Maxeke-gedenklesing aan die universiteit 'n lesing gelever om die pioniersrol ter vereer wat Maxeke gespeel het in die stryd vir menseregte, demokrasie en vryheid.

Maxeke is op 7 April 1874 as Charlotte Makgomo Manye in Ramokgopa in die Polokwane-distrik van

Limpopo gebore. In 1905 het sy gegradueer aan die Wilberforce-universiteit in Ohio, VSA as die eerste swart Suid-Afrikaanse vrou wat 'n graad in die wetenskappe behaal het. Sy is getroud met ds. MM Maxeke, 'n prominente predikant in die African Methodist Episcopal-kerk (AME) wat ook oorsee studeer het. Hulle het gewerk aan die samestelling en publikasie van die eerste AME-kerkgesangeboek in Xhosa.

Later het sy die stigterslid en president van die Bantoe-vroueliga, voorloper van die ANC-vroueliga,

geword. Sy was 'n vroeë teenstander van die paswette vir swart vroue en 'n organiseerder van die antipasbeweging in Bloemfontein.

Charlotte Maxeke het in 1939 gesterf. Twee jaar later, by 'n ANC-konferensie, is besluit om die vroueliga te stig.

Ter uitbreiding op die uitdagings wat vroue nog in die gesig staar, het me. Botha gesê dat armoede een van die uitdagings is wat die meerderheid vroue beïnvloed. Die lesing is 'n vennootskap tussen die UV en die Vrystaatse provinsiale regering. – **Anton Fisher**

Zille speaks on opposition politics



The annual CR Swart Memorial Lecture was delivered by Ms Helen Zille, leader of the Democratic Alliance (DA). The topic was: "Opposition politics in South Africa: Past, present and future". At the lecture were, from the left: Prof. Gerhard de Klerk, Dean: Faculty of the Humanities, Prof. Teuns Verschoor, Acting Rector, and Ms Zille.



Prof. Hennie

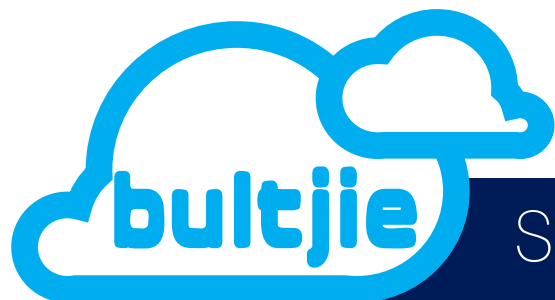
Prof. Hennie 30 keer na mekaar by kongres

Prof. Hennie Snyman van die Departement Vee-, Wild- en Weidingkunde is tydens die 43ste jaarlikse kongres van die Weidingsvereniging van Suidelike Afrika vereer vir uitstaande diens as weidingkundige. Hy het die besondere prestasie behaal deur 30 agtereenvolgende jaarlikse kongresse van die vereniging by te woon. Hy het verskeie kongresbydraes in hierdie tyd gelever en ook 28 publikasies in die geakkrediteerde joernaal African Journal of Range and Forage Science die lig laat sien sowel as 13 artikels in dié vereniging se kwartaalike nuusblad, Grassroots. Hy was in 1995 die president van die vereniging.



Design and layout of

- Logo's
- Flyers
- Books
- Posters
- Folders
- Banners
- Gazebo's
- Brochures
- Newsletters
- Annual Reports
- Rollout Banners
- Academic Posters



Sport, gender en annerlike politieke manewales

Dumela! Good day en dagsê!

Uiteindelik darem 'n paar warmer dae en as die blou rankplante begin blom en daar hang so 'n swaar soet reuk oor die kampus, dan kan julle maar weet die eksamens is op ons en die einde van die jaar storm nader! Ghries solank die Ventertjie! Ja-nee, een van die dae lê ons weer soos mak leeus op die sand en wonder waar is die jaar heen. Moet sê dit was 'n woeste jaar – ook met sportpolitiek! Die Bokke het eers behoorlik wakker geword teen die einde van die Drienasies en ons krieketmense wou al bolle rol onder mekaar! Hulle sal die oud-kovsie, Joubert Strydom moet terugroep as sameroeper, of krieket gaan ook soos die Olimpiese Spele een groot paartie word en die spelers sit met 'n Awerbuchs design in plaas van ordentlike klere en min finansiële steun. Hy moet die jong kapokkies se salaris net so 'n week terughou en 'n week lank in die Kalahari laat oefen. Nou kyk, vat jy 'n sportman se geld weg dan loop sy modelmeisie mos ook onmiddellik en dan kan hulle weer konsentreer op die regte game. Mammie sê reeds Ryk se spoed is 'n bietjie gebreek omdat hy te veel tyd voor die kameras deurbring en te veel aandag van vroue kry wat oor sy six-pack wil streel.

Sy reken al die aandag wat sy my gegee het, het my ook net so lui gemaak. Nou vra ek jou! Wanneer laas wou sy oor my six (one?)-pack streel? Wie van julle mans is nog so fluks soos voor die troue? Mens moes mos jou aanstaande en haar ouers oortuig dat jy 'n woekeraar is wat alles kan doen so in en om die huis. Maar moet 'n mens nou alles so oor en oor

bewys? Waarvoor het mens kinders? Wie se kinders was nog kar en sny die gras? Wie se kinders maak hulle eie beddens op? Welstand moet so 'n ondersoek doen. Ons bederf die jong bloedjies en dan kom haal Mammie dit op ons arme mans uit. Ek meen ons braai tog die vleis en gooi (soms) vir hulle ietsie in. Ons trek (soms) ons eie badprop uit en steek (soms) ons hande in die swembad se koue water om die filter skoon te maak. Ons haal (soms) die pakkies in die kar uit as ons nog Saterdag-oggend nege-uur die koerant in die bed wou lees! Mammie loer oor my skouer en sy gee my daai gluur! Ek het nie geweet Mammie kan binne 'n halfuur aanmekaar vertel wat vrouens alles moet doen sonder om asem te haal nie!

Bultjie doesn't want to stir about the language policy again, but is it really necessary to duplicate info on some documents like title registration? If the candidate and externals are of one language why can't info just be recorded like that? We can save half of our time, ink and paper in this way. I shudder to think what the account for paper and ink at the UFS must be. Every time I walk past waste paper boxes I wonder how many unread documents land in there. I've spotted a lecturer who actually cuts, pastes and prints his e-mails! There must be a death penalty for that! And for the students who litter in the library and in the hallway at the bridge. The state of toilets in the library is a shame! The same goes for outside organisers of events in the Callie. One million deposit for clean-up after events – finish en klaar! I must say it is always

a pleasure to see how fast the mess on campus is cleared after the Volksblad Festival. I hope I could say the same about political parties clearing posters after the student elections.

That reminds me! One of our staff members, who stood for the previous national elections, is still hanging on a lamp-post in my street. A bit bleek by now! Maybe political parties should be judged by how fast they remove their posters – it might give an indication of how active they will be after the elections. But as Mammie says, politicians are like balloons. There one day for the party and then whoossh! they're gone. Come next year there they are again! Full of wind and colour for a day or two and whoosssh! (I won't repeat the sound she made!) I must say I wish we could reconsider the role of external political parties on campus. It really makes me want to repeat that sound Mammie made! It divides and stirs unnecessary emotions. Politics on campus should be centred on student issues alone. After all, isn't the SRC supposed to look after student affairs, or what? Let's unite around that! All in support should wear no hats tomorrow.

Thanks, I win! I win! I win! Give me the money and the POWER!!

**Mooi loop
Bultjie**



Elgonda speaks out on safe motherhood

An estimated half a million women die each year from complications of pregnancy and childbirth. A further nine million women a year suffer complications while three million newborns die during the first week of life and another three million are stillborn. These statistics are revealed by the International Confederation of Midwives (ICM), an organisation that strives to globally help reduce the numbers of mothers and babies dying in and around childbirth by strengthening the midwifery profession.

Ms Elgonda Bekker, lecturer in the School of Nursing, is the only South African and one of only five midwives in the world who completed the Young

Midwifery Leaders' Programme of the ICM.

The ICM believes that it is important to develop the leadership capacity of midwives because it is midwives that are the most valuable resource in achieving better health for mothers and their newborns and their voice needs to be heard in decision-making. Successfully completing the programme means that Elgonda's role will extend beyond her position as lecturer at our university, influencing policy developers and decision makers in the field of maternal and child-health care. The programme enhances the skills of midwives in research-based decision and policy making; thus increasing the influence of the profession on national

government issues that relate to midwifery worldwide.

As part of the programme Elgonda had to complete certain projects, some on-going. She successfully contributed to the establishment of the White Ribbon Alliance for safe motherhood, a first for South Africa. This worldwide initiative unites individuals, organisations and communities who are working to increase public awareness about the needless loss of life and to promote safe motherhood.

Elgonda was also appointed as the regional representative for Africa on the Educational Standing Committee of the ICM.

