

dumela

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



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

March 2011

2011 Kicks off with a **blast**

Enormous milestones and achievements. This is a good summary of what the first term of this year has brought our university.

The first achievement happened during the very first week of the academic year when the World Universities Forum (WUF) awarded its Best Practice Award for 2010 to our university for Best Practice in Higher Education.

Welcoming our first-years to our university is always an exciting time. This year was no exception – especially because 147 of them achieved six or more A's in Grade 12. This is the largest number of first-year students with this quality qualifications that registered at our university in years.

Rag provided an equal amount of fun and excitement. This year the Rag procession took a turn through Heidedal for the first time. What an

enjoyment it was for the thousands of students and members of the public lining up to see a live performance of The Parlotones.

The first term also had its share of well-known people visiting our Main Campus, like for instance, Olympic swimmer Ryk Neethling, who opened our newly upgraded swimming pool. The first-year swimming gala, which followed the opening, provided great entertainment to all.

A milestone for our university happened on 27 January 2011, when an honorary doctorate in Theology was awarded to Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu. At the same event Archbishop Tutu launched our university's International Institute

for Studies in Race, Reconciliation and Social Justice. The events for the day also included the launch of our new corporate brand.

Another milestone took place on 25 February 2011 when a reconciliation ceremony – presented on our Main Campus – brought closure to the Reitz incident.

In the sports arena we hosted the women's hockey teams from South Africa, Belgium and China, who played on our hockey astro's. The Varsity Cup series have also encouraged our students to stand behind our Shimlas and support them to become the winners of the series. – **Lacea Loader**



Kovsie-lewe het vanjaar met kleur en geesdrif afgeskop. Vir ons eerstejaarstudente, en later ook senior studente, was elke geleentheid: Jool, die eerstejaarsverwelkoming, die eerstejaarsatletiek en -swemgala-byeenkomste, asook die Varsity Cup, feesbelaaide oomblikke gevul met saamwees, vriendskappe bou en omgee. Die Internasionale Instituut vir Studies in Ras, Versoening en Sosiale Geregtigheid is ook bekendgestel en emeritus-aartsbiskop Desmond Tutu het ook sy eredoktorsgraad van ons universiteit ontvang.

Van die redakteur



My skrywe hier gaan gepaard met die allergrootste geraas soos wat kontrakteurs gate in ons kantoor se plafon boor en sny. 'n Ongemaklike situasie maar, dink ek later, tog 'n eindresultaat waarna ek kan uitsien, want binnekort sal ons kantoor spog met 'n splinternuwe lugversorgingstelsel wat werk.

Hierdie werksaamhede gaan egter oor veel meer as net my en my kollegas se gerief, want ons universiteit is voortdurend besig met vernuwing. Al ons bouprojekte sowel as die gepaardgaande opgradering aan geboue en ander infrastruktuur op ons kampusse is maar een van die vele projekte waarmee ons universiteit besig is ter ondersteuning van sy strewe om geken te word as 'n instelling van uitnemendheid. Lees meer oor ons infrastruktuur projekte bl. 16 asook die vox pops op bl. 8 en kyk wat ons personeel en studente hieroor te sê het.

Ons universiteit sien ook anders daar uit in terme van sy personeelsamestelling. In sy missie om akademiese uitnemendheid

en kwaliteit te verseker, is prof. Jansen in die proses om 'n aantal kundiges in verskeie velde dwarsoor ons land en wyer aan te stel. Ons vryskutskrywers, Igno van Niekerk en Cindé Greyling, het onder meer met dr. Lis Lange en prof. Charles Dumas gaan gesels. Lees gerus meer oor hulle op bl. 5 and 7. Leer ken ook ons nuwe Registrateur, dr. Derek Swemmer en deel in sy onlangse reiswedervaringe soos deur hom vertel op bl. 4.

Dan het Kovsie-lewe ook verder vanjaar met 'n groot "bang" afgeskop. Nie net is ons besig met vernuwing nie; ons maak ook geskiedenis. Vir die vyfde keer in ons universiteit se bestaan, verander die universiteit sy handelsmerk. Die hele verhaal, met alles wat daartoe aanleiding gegee het, asook die bekendstelling van ons handelsmerk, word op bl. 17 uiteengesit.

'n Ander mylpaal in ons geskiedenis was die oorhandiging van 'n eredoktorsgraad aan emeritus-aartsbiskop Desmond Tutu. Foto's van hierdie geleentheid asook die amptelike bekendstelling van die Internasionale Instituut vir Studies in Ras,

Versoening en Sosiale Geregtheid, is saamgevat in 'n pragtige ontwerp op bl. 10 en 11. Sien ook die pragtige foto's van ander feestelikhede wat in die eerste maand op ons kampusse plaasgevind het, insluitende Kovsie Jool wat vir die eerste keer 'n draai in Heidedal gaan maak het, ons eerstejaar-atletiekbyeenkoms, ons eerstejaarverwelkoming en ook die amptelike opening van ons swemba(ai)djie wat nou in nuwe vereeniging en wat deur niemand anders nie as Olimpiese swemmer, Ryk Neethling, geopen is.

Of ons nou besig is met vernuwing, op welke manier ook al, of om mylpale te bereik of deurbraaknavorsing; daaglik is daar wonderwerke op ons kampus aan 't gebeur. Volgens die Britse skrywer, Elizabeth David, hou elke dag die moontlikheid van 'n wonderwerk in. Hier by ons universiteit is elke dag werklik met 'n wonderwerk vul.

Groete

Leonie

CONTENTS



4 | Time out with
Dr Derek Swemmer



9 | The shape of inspiration



7 | Prof. Charles Dumas
plays it real



11 | Center spread
Book on Reitz story closes

20 | Sparkie



Nomsa about her life-changing experience at Virginia Tech

A letter received from one of our students, Nomsa Zulu, after being an exchange student at Virginia Tech, Blacksburgh, USA – the result of an exchange student agreement between our university and Virginia Tech:

Dear Prof Jansen
I just want to express how grateful I am of the wonderful adventures I had while being an exchange student in America.

Thank you for making it possible for me to be an exchange student. It was definitely a life-changing experience. Both the academic and social experience has taught me so much; from meeting people of different backgrounds and cultures, learning to respect, tolerate and accommodate their differences and being exposed to advanced technology at school.

These experiences have taught me so much during the semester and I will forever cherish the friends I made while there. Because of this opportunity, I have been able to meet and network with people from China, Germany, France and New York.

Thank you once again for such an amazing experience.
Respectfully

Nomsa Zulu

Laat wegblyers betaal

Leatitia Pienaar, Strategiese Kommunikasie, skryf:

My hart krimp elke keer ineen as ek by 'n dinee of middagete op ons kampus aansit. Sonder uitsondering begroet 'n see van leë sitplekke by pragtige tafels my oog. Dit is van mense wat bevestig het dat hulle die geleentheid sal bywoon, maar dan óf daarvan vergeet het, óf besluit het om eerder weg te bly.

As ek dink wat die koste per persoon vir sulke etes is, en hoeveel honger mense daar buite dalk vir 'n hele week met die geld vir so 'n ete gevoed kan word, sal 'n dringende plan gemaak moet word. My voorstel is dat 'n rekening na die ete aan die afwesige persoon gestuur word en daardie geld gebruik word om in armoedige gemeenskappe verligting te bring. Die geld moenie uit 'n entiteit kom nie, maar uit mense se eie sakke.

Ek praat nie eens van die gebrek aan respek wat die leë sitplekke uitstraal nie.

Dumela is compiled by the Division: Strategic Communication at the University of the Free State

Editor:

Leonie Bolleurs
051 401 2707 or 0836455853
bolleursl@ufs.ac.za

Layout and printing:

Sun Media Bloemfontein

The task before us is clear

By JC van der Merwe

Allan Boesak argued in the 2010 CR Swart Memorial Lecture which he delivered at our university that we as a nation create amazing moments, but find it difficult to sustain those moments of greatness. I think that this is also true of our university community.

Since 2009 we have created some amazing moments, starting with the appointment of a new senior leadership for our university and, most recently, the launch of the International Institute for Studies in Race, Reconciliation and Social Justice by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu.

Various exciting initiatives have been introduced to help us achieve our two strategic goals, namely to raise the quality and competitiveness with regard to our academic mandate and the human project. Our Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Prof. Jonathan Jansen, described the latter as a project

“which is to make the UFS a beacon of hope for South Africa and beyond, by demonstrating how reconciliation and social justice can bring together formerly divided people as we discover and enjoy our common humanity”.

However, the question remains: can we sustain the momentum?

When I started teaching at this university in 2000, it felt as if the university had not yet embraced the values underlying the constitution with the same enthusiasm as other sectors in our society. At that

stage it felt as if some segments of the university community tried to accommodate the past in the future and that culminated in the Reitz incident.

Although much has changed in the last two years, we still have a long way to go. We still need to find a common language to talk about issues such as race, gender, reconciliation and social justice. Not everyone is convinced that real transformation implies much more than merely accommodating other people in an existing institutional culture.

We are beginning to realise just how complex these issues are and that they cannot be solved by an

“The task before us is clear: to use the small moments to sustain great momentum.”

individual, or institute or just one university. Because of these realities, the Institute has been set up as a critical space where engaged scholarship, public discussion, community engagement and teaching will be innovatively integrated towards exploring and finding solutions to the complex and challenging work of social transformation in South Africa.

The task before us is clear: to use the small moments to sustain great momentum.

JC van der Merwe.

Photo: Anja Aucamp

MY
VIEW

Studente sien die reg in praktyk

Tshepong beteken hoop. Dit is ook die naam van die eenstopsentrum waarheen slagoffers vir gesinsgeweld verwys word.

Hier kan slagoffers aansoek doen vir 'n beskermingsbevel (soortgelyk aan 'n interdik) waarin die ander party belet word om enige verdere handeling van gesinsgeweld teenoor die klaer te pleeg. By die sentrum is daar ook ander dienste beskikbaar vir die slagoffers, soos berading, en mediese dienste. In ernstige gevalle waar dit nie veilig vir die klaers is om terug te keer na hul huise nie, kan hulle by die Serobe-huis 'n tydelike heenkome vind.

Daar bestaan reeds vir etlike jare 'n samewerkingsooreenkoms tussen ons Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid en die Tshepong-sentrum by die Nasionale Hospitaal. Senior voorgraadse sowel as nagraadse studente in ons Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid besoek die sentrum waar hulle kennis oor die praktiese werking van die Wet op Gesinsgeweld uitgebrei word. Sodoende vind

studente eerstehands uit hoe om toekomstige kliënte te adviseer.

Tydens 'n besoek aan die sentrum onder leiding van adv. Beatri Kruger, 'n dosent in die Departement Strafreë, het landdroste Jackie Claassen en Nadia Nulia, asook die maatskaplike werker, Tsidi Ntsiwoa, studente se vrae oor knelpunte in die toepassing van die Wet op Gesinsgeweld beantwoord. “Om te sien hoe werk die reg in praktyk, is verrykend. Meer nog, om te sien hoe die personeel by die Tshepong-sentrum die ekstra myl loop om regsbeskerming en ander hulp aan slagoffers te verleen, is inspirerend,” sê adv. Beatri.

Soos wat die personeellede by Tshepong hul dagtaak aan ons studente verduidelik het, was dit duidelik dat dit nie slegs boeke kennis is wat sorg vir die suksesvolle afhandeling van gesinsgeweldsake nie. Praktiese ondervinding en inisiatief is ook twee deurslaggewende faktore. – Leonie Bolleurs

By die Tshepong-sentrum was, van links: adv. Beatri Kruger van ons Departement Strafreë, Zukiswa Mqakanya, regstudent, en landdros Nadia Nulia.



Foto: Leonie Bolleurs

The incredible *lightness* of international business travel

In October last year, Dr Derek Swemmer was appointed as our new Registrar. As part of his job our senior registrar, formerly from the University of the Witwatersrand, also have to travel. And according to Dr Derek, travelling, no matter where to, is not always what you expect it to be ...

“As I rush to meet deadlines before leaving on a trip, colleagues often reveal their enviousness at the thought of the destination – after all, the USA sounds attractive.

I left for a Golden Key Board meeting in Atlanta on Wednesday evening from Johannesburg, having already made the flight from Bloemfontein. The flight was almost perfectly on time. The 18-hour trip is in two legs: first stop Senegal, next stop Washington. We landed with a bang in Dakar – and popped a tyre. Once before this had happened to me and we had to spend three and a half hours on the ground without air-conditioning in tropical heat. This time nobody told us about the tyre. After more than two hours the pilot spoke to us.

Washington had closed because of heavy snowfalls and our flight was being abandoned. Each passenger had two options: stay in Senegal for 24 hours and board the next flight to Washington, or transfer to the New York flight arriving from Johannesburg shortly – I chose the transfer. Some 40 minutes later we disembarked and were taken by bus to the terminal. There we

waited for some 30 minutes before getting a transit card and being required to queue to check in for the new flight. An hour later having been body-searched by security, I was in a bus with the other passengers.

At dawn, some six hours after landing, we took off for JFK, New York. The flight was uneventful until we went into what is euphemistically called a holding pattern (meaning circling). After 45 minutes, the pilot advised that JFK had also been closed because of the snow. We had too little fuel to run the risk of circling until the airport was opened, so we were diverted to Boston. No-one was allowed to disembark as the airport was not open for international flights. Once refuelled, we would fly back to JFK when it opened. We sat in the plane after the flight and landing for about two hours ... then we flew to JFK.

As we landed, the pilot announced that the passengers bound initially for Washington had to clear immigration control, collect their luggage (mercifully mine was there), pass through customs control, then find the coach that would take us by road to Washington, where the airline would leave us to pick up the threads of our journeys.

The coach tour in daylight initially was picturesque. Floes of snow over a metre deep blanketed the city and the countryside. Manhattan was left behind as night began to fall. We reached Dulles International Airport, Washington at 20:20 and I rushed to seek a connecting flight with the airline that ought to have transported me 12 hours earlier.

There was one lady on duty and no flights out of Dulles on any airline were scheduled for that night. What about the domestic Ronald Reagan Airport on the opposite side of Washington?

I got the last seat to Atlanta, but had 50 minutes before check-in closed. I dashed for a taxi. The driver was unsure about traversing 28 miles in time: the previous day in the snow it had taken 8 hours! I arrived with 5 minutes to spare, but had to pay \$25 for my big case as most airlines now “discount” fares but charge for luggage separately. Luckily I got the flight and arrived in Atlanta at 23:30.

I now had too little cash for a taxi and I decided to take the train service to the other side of Atlanta – a trip I had done before in daylight. The cashiers for the trains go off duty at 23:00 and the automatic ticket dispensers required denominations of notes and coins that I did not have. A conman ushered me onto the correct platform and sold me a dud ticket for \$2 for the trip. The last trains run to 01:30, but on my line after 23:00, I had to transfer trains four stations short of my destination.

The wait on the platform for the shuttle train was an anxious one. Drunken men liked “my nice bags” (and didn’t like me). When the train came I was able to stop facing them down and escape on board. I reached my station. The dud ticket would

not let me out and the only people in the station were two police officers. They let me out, warning me about commotion!

I reached the hotel, but they had no record of me. My charm, persuasion and credentials left the desk clerk unmoved. I phoned the Golden Key organiser and woke her. She intervened and at last I was let in by the intransigent desk clerk.

After a quick shower, and my clothes hung up, I was in bed at 02:20 for a brief sleep before the 08:30 meeting on Friday morning for which I had travelled.

Not all trips are like this. I have experienced worse. This one took 45 hours of travelling and problem-solving, thanks to time-zone changes. My worst experience was taking three and a half days to fly from Johannesburg via Accra in Ghana to Lagos!

When next a colleague returns from an international trip, do not be surprised if you do not get the response you expect if you ask, “Did you have a good break?”



Dr Derek Swemmer.

Photo: Anja Aucamp

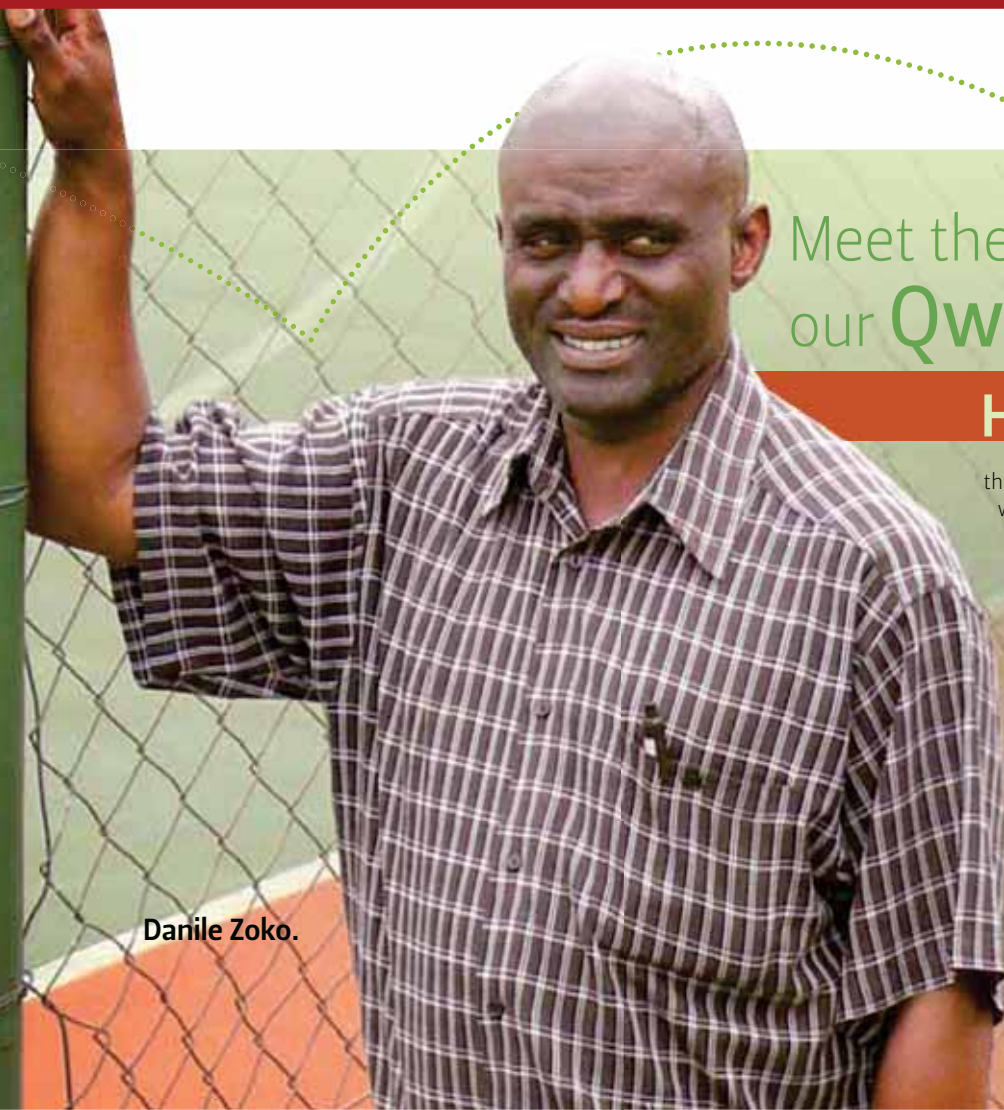
TIME OUT *with...*





Meet the **Danny Jordaan** of our **Qwaqwa Campus**

By Thabo Kessah



Danile Zoko.

He is the Danny Jordaan of our Qwaqwa Campus, for he is passionate about organised sport. He is sport personified and his name is Danile Zoko. Danile joined the University of the North back in 1998 as a Library Assistant, a post that he held for three years. He was then promoted to a more senior post just before the sport bug bit him in 2006 when he enrolled for an *ACE: Sport Development* at the Central University of Technology, Free State. “The course was an eye-opener as it awakened the sports administrator in me,” said Danile, a father of one. “Arming myself with that qualification literally opened doors for me here, but it was not just plain sailing, as there was no proper infrastructure back then. We were then fortunate to apply and get a R3 million funding from the National Lottery. This helped us finance the well-maintained facilities our campus is proud of today,” said Danile referring to the football, rugby, netball and basketball facilities that boost a state-of-the-art irrigation system and floodlights. “We are proud of these facilities as they are also accessible to our immediate community as part of our university community outreach programmes. We have had *Carara Kicks*, a local National First Division side using our facilities and our student football team is presently on top of the *Maluti-A-Phofung Local Football Association league*. Since we have an excellent partnership with the *Kagiso Trust-Beyers Naudé School Enrichment Programme*, we have been hosting their games for years now. We recently hosted the athletic cluster eliminations of local primary and secondary schools and it gave us enormous satisfaction seeing those young boys and girls competing on our grounds as the University of the Free State. “We expect 2011 to be even better as the world will be witnessing three world cups in cricket, netball and rugby respectively and this excitement will rub off on our students and staff like it happened with the football world cup last year. As it is, our rugby team is playing in the development league of the Griffons and we hope this will help us even further in developing rugby here,” concluded Danile, himself a former football and tennis player, with a chuckle.

Photo: Thabo Kessah

Dr Lis is **dreaming big**

By Igno van Niekerk

The first thing you note as you enter the office of Dr Lis Lange is the music. Soothing classical music, clearly conducive to deep thinking. The first question is an obvious one – Dr Lange, an Argentinean by birth, immigrated to South Africa twenty years ago, a few weeks after Nelson Mandela walked through the gates of Victor Verster. Her interest in South Africa was kindled whilst completing a Master’s degree in African Studies. For the past ten years she has been involved at national level in terms of quality assurance for higher education institutions at the Council on Higher Education. Hence the obvious question: “What brings her to Bloemfontein?”

The answer is straightforward. Dr Lange is a woman on a mission, well, actually three missions. In the first instance, she is here to assist the institution in the areas of quality assurance and academic planning. Then she would like to contribute to the development of deep intellectual debate at our university as conversations and openness are fundamental ingredients in the success recipes of great institutions for Higher Learning, and then, another important aspect, multi-disciplinary research. At the moment she is still settling in. She has just bought the first chair for her house in Bloemfontein. And yes, Bloemfontein has really friendly people. “Some people warned me against Bloemfontein; they said moving here would be a big lifestyle change ...” and then with a hint of a twinkle in her eyes: “It has been a change, I must confess – I’m running the risk of becoming a nice person.” The silver thread that runs through the conversation, as could be expected, is quality. But how do we assure quality? How does a university become globally competitive? Dr Lange takes a moment to think and then replies: “People need to know what’s cutting edge in their subjects. Once they are aware of that, they can start working on that level. It’s all about opening up and communicating – about learning from the best in the field.” So where does she see our university at the moment? The answer is well weighted and carefully worded. “If you look globally, our university is in the middle. And the middle means you can either go up or down. The Vice-Chancellor is serious about us going up, but it is going to take some work.” With the same rational insight that she uses to explain the position of our university, Dr Lange mentions that students should work really hard: “You see, if the students are not pushing the limits and ensuring quality, it’s not going to happen. And they owe it to themselves. In South Africa, if you have the opportunity to study at a university, it is a once-in-a-

lifetime opportunity.” Once-in-a-lifetime opportunities should be grabbed at all cost, I realise, when Dr Lange tells me how political unrest impacted on her while she was still studying. “In a time of political uncertainty in Argentina, we had the choice to listen to the nonsense we were taught, or we could ignore it and do nothing.” But there was a third choice: “We started an underground study group. We went away during weekends and studied. Sometimes we needed to work with photocopies only, but we kept on working. We were fighting for something.” Dr Lange does not believe in universities waiting for the government to make them great. They are autonomous institutions. Better funding and a more sophisticated funding framework will help, but the position of universities in the country is their responsibility, and I can sense that she is also talking about the quality of staff and students as an essential aspect of this autonomy. When I ask her whether she has any message for the students, she states quite clearly: “They must dream big. They must stretch their limits.” It’s when these words are spoken that I realise that, in essence, what she expects of the students is what she is currently seeing herself doing on behalf of the university – ensuring that our university remains at the cutting edge – going upwards in the echelons of excellence ... As she escorts me to the door, Dr Lange reminisces on our conversation – and as a parting shot she quotes herself with a twinkle in her eyes: “At this place, surely, I am running the risk of becoming a nice person.” I think she already is.

Dr Lis Lange.



Photo: Arja Aucamp

Faculty of Education taking leaps and bounds

By Ula van Zyl

In his mission to recruit the world's best professors, Prof. Jonathan Jansen, our Vice-Chancellor and Rector, recruited a jewel for our Faculty of Education. Prof. Sechaba Mahlomaholo, a well-renowned and esteemed academic, has joined the ranks at our Main Campus. He boasts an impressive résumé, which includes degrees from the University of Western Cape, Harvard University, where he completed his M.Ed. in Counselling and Consulting Psychology, and the University of the North.

Prof. Sechaba has taught modules at the former Vista University and our Qwaqwa Campus, in the days when it was still a part of the University of the North. These modules include Psychology of Education, Philosophy of Education and Research in Education, to name but a few. He is also well-publicised, having contributed to journals such as the *Southern African Educational Review* and *Education with Production Journal* and the *Journal of the Southern African Association for Research Mathematics and Science Education*.

Furthermore, Prof. Sechaba belongs to many research bodies, including the UMALUSI Research Forum, the Education Association of South Africa (EASA) and the Southern African Association for Research Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (SAARMSTE). He has also been appointed as the coordinator of the South African chapter of the International Project for Mathematical attainment comprising 17 other countries across the globe, doing a longitudinal study on Mathematical Conceptualisation from

Grade 1 to 12, coordinated and hosted annually by Exeter University in England. Prof. Sechaba is also a founding member of the South African Research and Management Association.

He is very enthusiastic about his time on our campus: "I strongly believe that any university comes into its fullness when it can practically serve the community to which it belongs. I thus subscribe to this vision of our faculty. The strategic planning session where this were shared by our Dean, Prof. Dennis Francis, emphasised the need for a definite and coherent collective identity, the blurring of all divides among staff, students and various campuses, building learning communities of practice whose research and curriculum offering are located and responsive to community needs while being of high international quality."

Prof. Sechaba joins our Faculty of Education at a very exciting time; a time when the faculty is undergoing a complete restructuring. The principles, vision and the mission of the new Faculty of Education have been developed through an established process of summits and Faculty Board meetings. It has been decided that there should be a single, unified Faculty of Education with sites of delivery across all three our campuses. The faculty will be a leading site of knowledge production and educational responsiveness which will focus on the development of educational researchers and promotion of educational research within South Africa and globally. Our Faculty of Education also wants to cultivate the realisation that the scope of the field of education is wide and that we have to interrogate this field for responsiveness and

development. The faculty also aims to develop curricula and programmes that are appropriate, relevant and viable.

Clearly, our Faculty of Education is a force to be reckoned with, and this space will be watched. The faculty now also prides itself on two National Research Fund (NRF)-rated scientists. Prof. Dennis Francis, our Dean: Education, is NRF-rated in the field of Sociology and Prof. Corene de Wet is rated in the field of School Violence and Bullying.



Prof. Sechaba Mahlomaholo.

Vingerafdrukleser moniteer klasbywoning

Ons universiteit is gestel op die akademiese sukses van sy studente. As deel van die instelling se Akademiese Draaistrategie 2010, is ons tans in die proses om verpligte klasbywoning in te stel. Dit is alombekend dat daar 'n positiewe verband tussen klasbywoning en die student se akademiese prestasie bestaan. Die voorstel om studente akademies te ondersteun deur klasbywoning verpligtend te maak, is een van twintig kerninisiatiewe wat ons Visekanselier en Rector, Prof. Jonathan Jansen, onderneem met die oog daarop om studentesukseskoerse aan die universiteit te verhoog.

Gedurende die registrasieproses vir 2011 het talle studente hul na ons rekenaarlaboratorium gehaas om hul vingerafdrukke te laat registreer. Klasbywoning in ons Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid asook sekere modules in die ander fakulteite is van vanjaar af verpligtend gemaak. Deur die gebruik van 'n biometriese vingerafdrukleser word bywoning gemoniteer om studente sodoende aan te moedig om hul klasse getrou by te woon.

'n Paar modules se klasbywoning is reeds in die tweede semester van 2010 verpligtend gemaak om sodoende die mees gepaste moniteringstelsel te identifiseer. Klasse was soms stampvol, maar dit is duidelik dat so 'n stelsel vrugte sal afwerp, aangesien die vorderingsverslag aan die Rektorat oor die uitkoms van die 2010-projek daarop dui dat verpligte klasbywoning deelnemende modules se sukseskoers positief beïnvloed het. Die modules wat deelgeneem het, was juis modules wat 'n laesukseskoers oor die tydperk 2005-2009 gehad het.

Die besluit om klasse verpligtend te maak is nie iets wat ligtelik deur ons universiteit geneem is nie. Die keuse is gebaseer op talle faktore maar die belangrikste daarvan is die lae deurvloei-syfers. Deur klasbywoning te verplig hoop ons universiteit om akademiese prestasie te verbeter, studente se leerervaring te verbeter en meer effektiewe onderrig en leerpraktieke in plek te stel. Verpligte klasbywoning word ook gesien as 'n fondasie in die bou van 'n kultuur van leer by ons studente.

Gedurende die proeftyd in 2010 is verskillende tegnieke om klasbywoning te moniteer, getoets. Dit was belangrik om 'n effektiewe stelsel in plek te kry. Die biometriese vingerafdrukleser het na talle oorwegings as die beste opsie na vore gekom en word tans in sekere klasse gebruik. – **Ansone Venter**



Die biometriese vingerafdrukleser het bygedra tot 'n toename in studentesukseskoerse.




CAPE BUDGET ACCOMMODATION

**RIVERVIEW LODGE
(CAPE TOWN)**

**SPECIALISTS IN SPORTS TOURS
& LARGE GROUPS**

**5 star
budget accommodation
R120/night-breakfast incl.**

**Ideal for large/small groups
Conveniently close to UCT and
all that Cape Town offers
Holiday accommodation**

**Tel (021) 447 9056
Fax (021) 447 5192
email info@riverview.co.za
www.riverview.co.za**

Professor Charles Dumas plays it real

By Cindé Greyling

Before my interview with Prof. Charles Dumas, I jump on the internet... **Only to find that he has died?** On 5 January 2004. Is he such a good actor that he could fake his own death? It seems as if Google does not have all the answers then, because he did answer his phone!

Ironically, within the first minute, Prof. Charles mentions death. After complimenting him on his extensive CV, he replies: “Well, at my age you must have done something to get into heaven.” What’s this shiver down my spine?

Prof. Charles Dumas was appointed as extraordinary professor at our Department of Drama and Theatre Arts. He will be spending three months per year for the next three years in Central South Africa. However, this year he will be staying for six months to help develop filmmaking at this department.

Before Prof. Charles joined the Kovsie scene, he had been involved in many stage productions and movies like *Deep Impact* and *Die Hard III*. And even before that, he was a lawyer. “The first time I came to South Africa was as a lawyer in 1978,” he explains. Not that his first career prepared him for acting very much!

“Initially, I was not able to get cast for one single lawyer or judge role. Then I realised what I was doing wrong – I was playing a real lawyer; a lawyer who will never irritate the judge nor take centre stage in court! You must realise a real lawyer would, in the first place, try to avoid going to court. And once you are there, you will never ever pull a Hollywood stance! But after I understood what the directors were looking for, my dull courtroom days were forever over.”

Having said that, Prof. Charles reminds me that acting is not fake. “Many people think that acting is make believe. It is, however, very real. You are acting truthfully under imaginary circumstances. Only bad acting is pretending; good acting draws from something inside of you that makes it real – even if it requires you to be a fiery lawyer who won’t get far in a real court!” Actors, play it real then. Prof. Charles continues to explain that most good actors he knows are very shy and reserved. Therefore, when they do find themselves in real-life situations that require them not to be shy – like on the red carpet – they may take on a persona they create. Someone who can confidently deal with all the attention and flamboyancy.

On why he has chosen to make South Africa his second home for a while, Prof. Charles is very clear: “In my lifetime, South Africa has become the world’s primary melting pot for the future we’re trying to create in the world. I’m going to do everything I can to help make it work. Hopefully I can help you tell your story. Through film,” explains Prof. Charles, family man and grandfather of two.

- Please read about other distinguished professors that were appointed in future editions of *Dumela*.

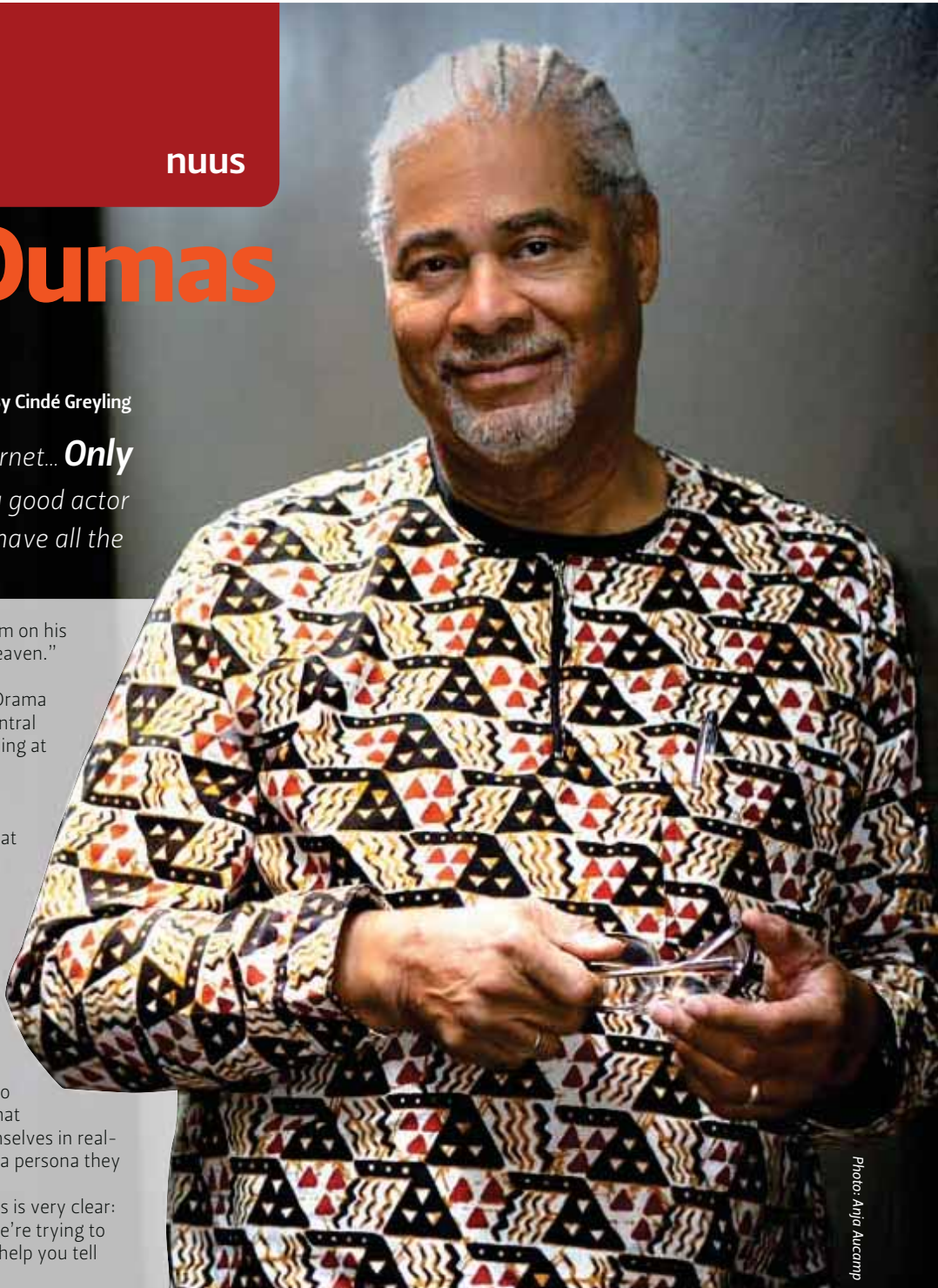


Photo: Anja Aucamp

Prof. Charles Dumas.

MISDAAD, ons hou jou dop

In sy strewe na gehalte en dienslewering het ons universiteit verseker nie afgeskeep toe dit by die veiligheid van sy studente en ook sy personeel gekom het nie. Die veiligheid van studente, dosente en personeel van ons universiteit is van die aller grootste belang vir die bestuur,” sê prof. Niel Viljoen, Viserektor: Bedryf.

Die sekuriteitsbeheerkamer wat ons vroeg vanjaar bekendgestel het, is nie net bewys hiervan nie, maar het in ’n groot mate daartoe bygedra dat misdaadbekamping beter daar uitsien. Die daling in misdaadstatistiek vir Januarie vanjaar (vyf sake) in vergelyking met die Januarie 2010-statistiek (51 sake) is bewys dat ons universiteit se nuwe benadering tot die bekamping van misdaad op die kampus ’n impak het.

Saam met die opgegradeerde sekuriteitsbeheerkamer vanwaar daar onder andere koshuise, wandelpaaie, kampusgeboue, parkeerareas, ingange by hekke, en rekenaarkamers by koshuise waargeneem kan word, is ’n aantal maatreëls in plek gestel om die uitvoering van misdaadbekamping te verbeter. Hierdie maatreëls sluit in:

- Sekuriteitskameras voor al die dameskoshuise. Ons universiteit is in die proses om ook voor die manskoshuise sekuriteitskameras aan te bring.
- Struik en bome wat obstruksie voor kameras veroorsaak het, is gesnoei.
- Sekuriteitsbeamptes wat die wandelpaaie

sowel as die Rooiplein vanaf 06:00–22:00 te voet patroleer.

- Daar is vir elke koshuis ’n sekuriteitsbeampte aangestel om vanaf 18:00 tot 06:00 by die koshuis diens te doen.
- Twee voertuie patroleer ons Hoofkampus op ’n 24-uur-basis.
- Ons universiteit is in die proses om alarms wat aan die sentrale sekuriteitsbeheerkamer gekoppel is in alle geboue te installeer.
- In sekere geboue is paniekstelsels op strategiese plekke aangebring.
- Waar moontlik, is beter toegangsbeheer tot geboue, veral kantoorblokke in werking gestel.
- Beter bestuur en integrering van die ingekontrakteerde sekuriteitswerkers. Daar is ook meer sekuriteitswerkers aangestel om by elke koshuis en ook die wandelpaaie diens te doen (volgens genoemde tye).
- ’n Opname is weer van alle sogenaamde “donker kolle” op ons Hoofkampus gemaak en daar word tans voortgegaan met die aanbring van beter beligting.

Volgens Dan Alexander van Beskermingsdienste aan ons universiteit, is die verkorte reaksietyd ’n direkte uitvloeisel van die werksproses tussen sekuriteitspersoneel in die beheerkamer met sekuriteitspersoneel wat die kampus te voet en per voertuig patroleer. – **Leonie Bolleurs**

Die sekuriteitsbeheerkamer.



Foto's: Dries Myburg.

Infrastructure development on our campuses

Staff and students have their say ...

Prof. Rian Venter



*East, west, north and south. Giants are rising and existing buildings on all our campuses are receiving a face lift. Then there are also talks of developments like a memorial park for women, a rock-climbing wall at the Student Centre and a botanical garden. **Lehlohnolo Mofokeng** spoke to some of our colleagues and students and here is what they had to say:*

Sarietjie Musgrave



Prof. Rian Venter, Faculty of Theology: I am excited about the infrastructural development at our Main and Qwaqwa Campuses. It is a sign of a new vitality at the university, and of dynamic, pro-active leadership. I am particularly happy that a variety of needs of several stakeholders are addressed. The underlying values to the spatial development – e.g. student and staff well-being, and environmental friendliness are commendable. These developments will contribute to an image of a university which can compete with the best in the world. We can all be very proud to be part of an institution which is not only well equipped, but also beautiful!

Sarietjie Musgrave van ons Suid-Kampus: Uit die lys van beplande opknappings en ontwikkeling van nuwe strukture blyk dit duidelik te wees dat die holistiese ontwikkeling van die student in gedagte gehou is. Dis altyd lekker om vooruitgang en visie vir die toekoms sigbaar om 'n mens te sien – dit skep 'n sekere verwagting vir die toekoms – vir my een van opgewondenheid, vooruitgang en optimisme. Wat egter vir my van veel meer belang is, is wat binne of as gevolg van hierdie nuwe fisiese strukture gebeur – iets wat baie moeiliker waarneembaar is, maar van veel meer waarde vir ons gemeenskap en land is.

Caefus Tladi



Caefus Tladik, a student: I believe that these developments happening on our three campuses are of paramount significance to our growth as an institution. The erection of the new commerce and education buildings will solve the problem of congested lecture halls. The new clinical research centre and refurbishment of the chemistry building will enable us to have a competitive edge in the country and the residences will draw more students closer to campus and thus allow them access the necessary resources. However, I feel that a security system that will enable only Kovsies to access the campus should be set in place. This will not only bring order, but also a sense of pride.

Jennie Masala



Jennie Masala, Physical Resources: Our university has successfully established itself as one of the leaders in the higher education landscape. These successes and breakthroughs can be attributed to achievements in the areas of teaching and learning, research, and social engagement. Sustained success is dependent on the availability of resources and an environment that advances and encourages the pursuance of excellence. The current and envisaged infrastructural developments not only add to the available physical resources and aesthetic value of the university but, through the ensuing favourable environment, also enhance the university's endeavours towards sustained academic opulence and social impact.

Patrick Tobias



Patrick Tobias from our Qwaqwa Campus: These developments on infrastructure are necessary to provide quality higher education and to revolutionise teaching and learning mechanisms at our university. Improved IT services and access that form part of the new residence on our campus will stimulate higher and better educational outcomes. This will further encourage residents to discover and acquire more, thus increasing the research capacity of the Qwaqwa Campus. The new Education Building will also increase the faculty's capacity to produce the world-class science and biology teachers which our region, province and the country so desperately need.



Dr Tony receiver of award

Dr Anthony Turton, Affiliated Professor in our Centre for Environmental Management has been named *SAB Environmentalist of the Year* and received the *Nick Steele Memorial Award* for his inspiring work. The award honours an environmentalist who has promoted the cause of conservation and whose work will leave a legacy for years to come. In terms of the *SAB Environmentalist of the Year Award*, Dr Tony has been gathering information about the risks facing our national watersheds for over 10 years. In November 2008, after his presentation of findings was withdrawn from a conference for being too sensational in content, Dr Tony took his story to the media where the alarming facts about the urgency of acid mine drainage finally reached the public domain. When suspended from his post at the CSIR, Dr Tony continued his efforts in his personal capacity, raising awareness about the urgent intervention needed to save our water resources from further degradation. – **Leonie Bolleurs**

Opvoedkunde moedig leerders aan om tot wetenskapverwante beroepe toe te tree

Dertien leerders van ons universiteit se Skool vir Voortgesette Onderwys (SVO) was suksesvol in hul aansoek vir skolebeurse by SANRAL (South African National Roads Agency). Dit verteenwoordig meer as 'n derde van die suksesvolle aansoek landswyd. Die SVO se IKT-laboratorium het dit ten doel om meer leerders in staat te stel en aan te moedig om tot wetenskapverwante studies en beroepe toe te tree. Dit word gedoen deur 180 geselekteerde graad 10-, 11- en 12-leerders op 'n jaarlikse basis aan aktiwiteite by die IKT-laboratorium bloot te stel. "Hierdeur word daar gepoog om nie net 'n positiewe gesindheid jeens Wetenskap en Wiskunde by leerders aan te kweek nie, maar ook om hul kennis en vaardigheidsvlakke deur middel van e-Onderwys in Wetenskap en Wiskunde op te skerp," sê Cobus van Breda, Projekbestuurder van die program. – **Lelanie de Wet**

BloemShelter, die hoop van haweloses

As deel van hulle opleiding in die vak Gesondheid en siekte in bevolkings, moet ons derdejaar M.B.Ch.B.-studente gemeenskapsprojekte aanpak. Elke groep ontvang 'n nie-regeringsorganisasie (NRO) wat hulle op enige moontlike manier moet help en bystaan. Hierdie spesifieke groep het BloemShelter for Men as hul NRO ontvang. Ons groep derdejaarstudente beplan om die skuiling uit te verf en wil ook graag 'n afdak oprig waaronder aandetes kan plaasvind. Die dak van die skuiling kort ook dringende aandag. Enige bystand in dié verband sal welkom wees. Verder sal die groep ook skenkings in die vorm van tandeborsels, tandepasta, seep, komberse, kussings, kos en donasies waardeur. Hulle daag ook ander fakulteite en departemente uit om op enige wyse betrokke te raak, hetsy borge of dienste. Skakel Neill Blair by 083 308 5667. – **Leatitia Pienaar**

Spesiale bundel aan prof. Johan oorhandig

'n Spesiale bundel opgedra aan prof. Johan Janse van Rensburg is tydens 'n Teologiese dag vroeër vanjaar aan hom oorhandig. Prof. Johan het in 2010 afgetree na 16 jaar diens in ons Departement Praktiese Teologie in die Fakulteit Teologie. Die bundel bestaan uit bydraes van vooraanstaande praktiese teoloë in Suid-Afrika. Aktuele artikels oor prediking, pastoraat en gemeentebediening kan hierin gelees word. Die artikels is opgeneem in *Acta Theologica* se Desember 2010-uitgawe. Met die bundel word dank aan prof. Johan uitgespreek vir sy belangrike bydrae tot ons Fakulteit Teologie en die breë teologiese terrein in Suid-Afrika en internasionaal. – **Lyzette Hoffman**

Kovsie Counselling presents best poster

Rudyard Kipling's poem, "I keep six honest serving-men (They taught me all I knew); Their names are What and Why and When And How and Where and Who", was the motivation behind our Kovsie Counselling team's success when they won the first prize for "Best conceptual poster" at the annual Southern African Association for Counselling and Development in Higher Education (SAACDHE) conference that was held in Stellenbosch. The content and execution of this project were illustrated by means of a conceptual poster, developed and presented by Melissa Barnaschone. Wynand Viljoen and Van Wyk Oosthuizen from our Department of Architecture did the design and construction of the poster. – **Leonie Bolleurs**



Moorivier
Makelaars/Brokers

SPECIALISEER IN KORTTERMYNVERSEKERING
SPECIALISING IN SHORT-TERM INSURANCE

Indien u nog nie deel is van die Moorivier Groep nie, skakel ons dadelik.

Vir u gerief en die beste persoonlike diens, sien ons gereeld op kampus.

MOORIVIER GROETE





Tel: (051) 447 6877 | Faks /Fax: (051) 447 57 | E-pos: bloem@moorivier.com

Spread the WORD...

Ons kampus pronk die afgelope tyd in die media, en met soveel goeie nuus om te deel is dit geen wonder nie.

- Die grootste nuus oor ons universiteit was die toekenning van 'n eredoktorsgraad aan emeritus-aartsbiskop Desmond Tutu en die bekendstelling van ons nuwe Internasionale Instituut vir Studies in Ras, Versoening en Sosiale Geregtigheid. Hierdie nuus het onder andere verskyn in: *Volksblad*, *City Press Online*, *e24*, *OFM*, *The Mercury*, *The New Age*, *Pretoria News*, *The Star*, *Business Day*, *Daily Dispatch*, *The Morning Star*, *Daily Sun*, *Die Burger*, *Lesedi FM*, *Carte Blanche*, *Fokus* en *RSG*.
- Nuus oor ons nuwe Study4Free-program, wat studente met slegs een of twee uitstaande modules toelaat om verniet te studeer, was in onder andere: *Sowetan*, *OFM*, *Yfm* en *The New Age*.
- Nuus oor 'n nuwe peiling wat in koshuise op ons Hoofkampus gedoen is en aangetoon het dat integrasie op ons kampus verbeter het, was in *Volksblad*, *Mail & Guardian*, *Fokus* en *SABC2*.
- Die nuus oor ons Hoofkampus se verlaagde misdaadsyfers nadat nuwe sekuriteitsmaatreëls in plek gestel is, was in *The New Age* te lese.
- Vir die eerste keer in ons universiteit se geskiedenis het

twee van ons studente Rhodes-beurse ontvang. Sannah Mokone en DW Bester ontvang dus volle beurse om by die Universiteit van Oxford te gaan studeer. Hierdie nuus was onder andere in: *Business Day*, *The New Age* en *Politicsweb*.

- Pierre de Lange, 'n argitektuurstudent, is as streekwenner in Corobrik se 24ste Argitektuurstudent van die Jaar kompetisie aangewys. Hierdie nuus het in *Volksblad* verskyn.
- Die nuus oor die internasionale prys wat ons universiteit van die Wêreld-universiteite-forum ontvang het vir die beste praktyk in hoër onderwys in 2010, was onder andere in *Volksblad*, *Business Day*, *e-TV*, *SABC2*, *RSG* en *The Times*.
- Nuus oor die Reitz-versoening is ook deur die plaaslike sowel as die internasionale media gedra, onder andere *Radio Motsweding*, *Pretoria News*, *Volksblad*, *BBC*, *The Times (Cape Town)*, *The Times (Kwa-Zulu Natal)*, *Beeld*, *The Star*, *Burger*, *Cape Argus Online*, *Sunday Independent Online*, *Sunday Tribune Online*, *The New Age*, *RSG*, *OFM*, *Lotus*, *City Press*, *Rapport*, *e-TV*, *kykNET*, *5FM*, *Lededi*, *Metro*, *e24*, *SAFM*, *SABC1*, *SABC2* and *News24 Online*. – **Ula van Zyl**

1. Emeritus-aartsbiskop Desmond Tutu.
2. Die beheerkamer wat 'n groot rol gespeel het in die afname van misdaad op ons kampus.
3. Integrasie het op ons kampus verbeter. Vishuis is een van die koshuise op ons Hoofkampus waar die peiling geloods is.



The shape of inspiration

By Ula van Zyl

We all have heard stories about inspirational people, who defy the odds, fight circumstance every day and never give up. And we have many such people on our campus. One of these persons is Sarah Shannon.

Sarah has cerebral palsy, an umbrella term encompassing a group of non-progressive, non-contagious motor conditions that cause physical disability in human development, mainly in the various areas of body movement.

This however, has not stopped Sarah from having dreams and achieving them; dreaming to become a teacher for learners with disabilities. Sarah is currently completing her postgraduate certificate in Education, Foundation Phase, through Unisa. She is also studying Sociology on our Main Campus.

"I have a deeper insight into their needs; I can associate with them." She is completing the practical part of her course at Martie du Plessis, a school in Bloemfontein for students with disabilities and special needs.

Sarah is also a competitive swimmer, and is currently ranked seventh in the world in her class of disabilities. This year she aims to be ranked second in the world. And she has the support to achieve this goal. An entire team of our campus staff work together on a special programme for Sarah, consisting of Colleen Jones, a biokineticist from our Department of Exercise and Sport Science, Shaun Jankielsohn, a physiotherapist from our Sports and Exercise Medicine Clinic, Dr Arina Meyer, a medical practitioner from Kopsie Health, Elmine du Toit, a dietician, and Dr Louis Holtzhausen and Arina Otto from our Sports and Exercise Medicine Clinic.

She is thankful for the support she receives from this team: "They are kind and supportive and are doing everything they can to help me achieve my goal. They have already helped me to improve my swimming, strength and control."

However, Sarah is not the only one who is thankful for her involvement. Arina feels that working with Sarah has changed many lives: "She inspires us to be thankful, work harder and appreciate our lifestyles. It is a blessing to be working with her."

“She inspires us to be thankful, work harder and appreciate our lifestyles. It is a blessing to be working with her.”

Sarah Shannon.

Photo: Lize-Marie Smit



Ruda Landman.



Pastor Zanele Mbokazi.

Prof. Teuns Verschoor, Vice-Rector:
Institutional Affairs.

Book on Reitz story closes

By Leatitia Pienaar

The last freeze-frame on the “Reitz” part of the history of our university was one of reconciliation. In an emotional ceremony, all parties involved in this heart-breaking episode could get together and offer apologies and acceptance.

Three long years have passed since the incident. It has changed not only the lives of the former Reitz students and the workers involved in the so-called Reitz video forever, but also that of our university. The incident ripped the heart out of everyone.

On Friday, 25 February 2011, closure came in a very emotional ceremony in the Centenary Complex. The finale in the story was met with joy and elation by the guests present.

The evening also brought closure to the Equality Court complaint against the four former students for their recording and dissemination of a video, which demeaned and humiliated five university workers in 2007.

Prof. Teuns Verschoor, as a senior member of management at the time of the Reitz-video incident, offered an unconditional apology on behalf of our university and asked that the university “be forgiven for its part in this terrible tragedy”.

Danie Grobler, speaking on behalf of himself,

RC Malherbe, Johnny Roberts and Schalk van der Merwe, said: “With true remorse and humility, we ask you to forgive us ... We deeply regret our conduct and the harm it caused the university, the workers of the university, and the broader community of South Africa.”

Rebecca Adams read the acceptance of the apology on behalf of herself and co-workers Emma Koko, Naomi Phororo, Mittah Ntlatseng and David Molote. She said: “We may come short of words to articulate the event to the nation; however, what is taking place here is of paramount significance to us as well as to the nation at large. It is of particular importance, especially when we address the issue of forgiveness. To those who do not know what it means: ‘forgiveness does not originate in man’. Since God bestowed love upon human beings it has become simple to deal with forgiveness and reconciliation,” she said.

The University of the Free State can now build a new future.



At the news conference were from the left: Prof. Jonathan Jansen, our Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Pregs Govender, Deputy Chairperson of the SA Human Rights Commission, Adv Mothusi Lepheane, Provincial Manager of the Human Rights Commission and Playfair Morule, Executive Mayor of Mangaung Local Municipality.



Dr Choice Makhetha.

Schalk van der Merwe,
Johnny Roberts,
RC Malherbe, Danie Grobler.

1

Emma Koko, Nkgapeng Adams,
Mankoe Phororo, Sebuseng
Ntlatseng and David Molote.

2

With **true remorse** and humility,
we ask you to **forgive us ...**



Danie Grobler.



1

Our **forgiveness** goes beyond racial borders.
Please demonstrate to your children that **God is impartial** to
creed and **embraces all mankind** as His children. He created
diverse nations from the same flesh and blood.



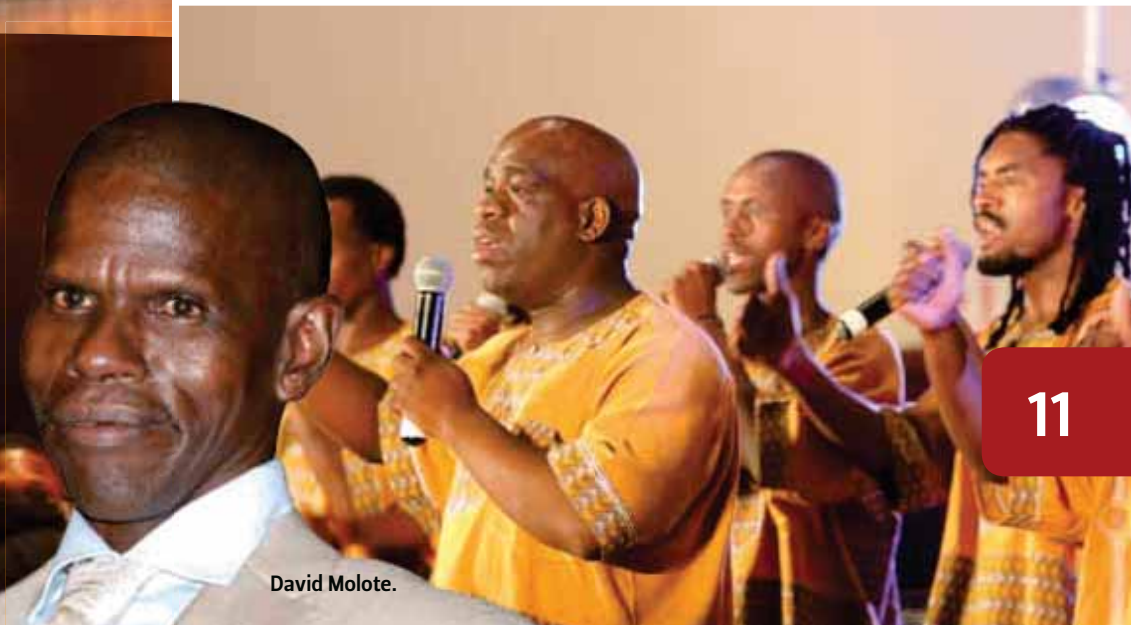
Rebecca Adams.



2



Kayum Achmed, Chief Executive Officer: HRC.



David Molote.

Dr Alexius represents UFS in Thailand

During a conference at Khon Kaen University in Thailand in November 2010, Dr Alexius Amtaika from our Department of Political Science was elected as Executive Director and Convener of the International Committee of Scholars of Local Government.

This honour was bestowed upon Dr Alexius during the first International Conference on Local Government at Khon Kaen University.

A total of 428 delegates from 52 countries attended the conference, where the talented Dr Alexius also presented a paper on "The Impact of Violent Service Delivery Protests on Democracy in South Africa". According to Dr Alexius, the Khon Kaen Conference dealt with a number of issues, cardinal among them devolution and corruption.

While representing our university in Thailand, Dr Alexius, who has been a staff member of our university since April 2010, met with the President of Khon Kaen University, Prof. Sumon Sakolchai, and the Dean of the College of Local Administration, Prof. Peerasit Kamnuansilpa. The three of them discussed the possibility of establishing links between our university

and Khon Kaen University. As one of the top four universities in Thailand, Khon Kaen University has links with 36 universities outside South Africa. Dr Alexius is hoping that this meeting might lead to their first link to a South African university.

Prof. Jonathan Jansen, our Vice-Chancellor and Rector, welcomed this initiative and he is currently looking at ways in which links can be established between the two universities.

The second International Conference on Local Government will be held in Durban in October this year, seeking amongst others to revisit the role of local government and contextualises contemporary debates over topical issues such as development, democracy, civic education, citizen participation and nation-building. The conference will seek to address questions such as the historical role of local government? How the demands of modern living styles and standards have changed this role? The role of local government today and what needs to be done to enhance its role in promoting democracy and improving the living standards of its citizens?

"We accepted the request to host this conference to offer our local scholars an opportunity to interact and network with international scholars on collaborative projects; to give our local scholar the much needed international exposure crucial for academic growth; and to reclaim our position in the international community of academics. As young academics, we never had these types of opportunities before. Our wish is keep up the pace with the international community on scholarly, academic and educational issues," he said. – Lize du Plessis

Dr Alex Amtaika.

Musiekteorie-uitblinker ontvang Hennie Joubert Merieteprys

En van drie bestes in die land – dis die ereposisie wat Kovsiestudent, Luzanne Eigelaar, se deelname aan verlede jaar se Unisa Musiekteorie Graad 7-eksamen haar besorg het. Sy verower met haar uitstaande prestasie die Hennie Joubert Merieteprys: 2010 – 'n landswye prys wat aan die drie topkandidate per graad toegeken word. Benewens die eer van die toekenning ontvang Luzanne ook 'n geldprys.

Luzanne is vanjaar 'n derdejaar B.Mus-student aan die UV se Departement Musiek en het voorberei vir die eksamen onder leiding van haar orreldosent, mnr. Jan Beukes. – Anri Bredenkamp



FACILITIES

Internet, Fax & Photocopy facilities • Playground for children
Tea & coffee facilities • Bar & lounge with fireplace
Lapa, braai area and swimming pool • Credit card facilities

AANDMUZIK GUEST HOUSE

Aandmuzik offers 5 luxury en-suite double bedrooms and two family rooms with private entrances overlooking the garden and swimming pool.

Each room has a Microwave, Fridge (honesty bar), Air-conditioning, TV with DSTV.

A traditional continental English breakfast is served.

Secure undercover parking with electric gate and electronic fencing.

Walking distance from University & Vodacom park

CONTACT: Stella Theron – 082 447 9053
18 Dreyer Street, Universitas

UFS partners with CTA Wageningen to publish **scholarly book**

A book on the *Role of Livestock in Developing Communities* has been co-published by our university and CTA Wageningen, The Netherlands. The Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA), financed by the European Union, develops and provides products and services to improve access to information for agricultural and rural development in African, Caribbean and Pacific countries.

The book was edited by Proff. Frans Swanepoel and Aldo Stroebel, affiliated to our Centre for Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development, and Dr Siboniso Moyo, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Mozambique. The book launch was attended by a number of international scholars, including Prof. Akke van der Zijpp, Wageningen University, The Netherlands, Prof. Luc D'Haese, University of Antwerp, Belgium, Prof. Alice Pell, Cornell University in the USA, as well as the President of the World Association of Animal Production, Prof. Norman Casey (University of Pretoria). – **Leatitia Pienaar**



Photo: Stephen Collett

At the launch of the book were Prof. Frans Swanepoel, Dr Siboniso Moyo and Prof. Aldo Stroebel.

UFS gives **deserving student** a chance to reach his dream



Foto: Leatitia de Wet

From the left are: Sigh Melaletsa, Community Engagement Coordinator; Khothatso Tsieane, learner; and Prof. Dennis Francis, our Dean of Education.

Khothatso Tsieane had a dream to study after school; however, his mother did not have the necessary funds to help him. Thanks to Sigh Melaletsa, Community Engagement Coordinator from our Faculty of Education, Khothatso's life-long dream is now a reality.

During a visit to the Umlamli Senior Primary School at Sterkspruit, Sigh, in an effort to broaden the faculty's community engagement relationship with the area, overheard a conversation between the principal of the school and one of the learners.

Never did he realise the big role our university would play in the life of this specific learner, Khothatso. Khothatso told Sigh that after his father had passed away a few years before, his mother had started to sell clothes to support him and his three siblings. His mother, however, did not have the necessary funds to offer him a tertiary education, even though he achieved high marks in difficult subjects like Mathematics, Physical Science and Agricultural Sciences.

Sigh was especially moved by Khothatso's potential and came back to the university with only one thing in mind: giving him the opportunity to study B.Ed FET at Kopsies.

Khothatso was recommended for the Funza Lushaka bursary this year, which includes his class fees, books and accommodation.

"I can see that the university has a passion to help other people and I am very thankful for that. I will work very hard not to disappoint the people who helped me to live my dream," said a very thankful Khothatso.

By helping Khothatso, Sigh saw an excellent opportunity to give something back to the underprivileged community where Khothatso grew up.

Prof. Dennis Francis, our Dean of Education, is delighted to have such a student in the programme, thanking all role players who opened doors to Khothatso's future.

- By the time of printing the faculty received an overwhelming response from the public; offering financial assistance to Khothatso.

"I can see that the university has a passion to help other people and I am very thankful for that."

Dr. Annette Prins.

news

dumela

Komaan, Kovsies! Kap dit uit!

Deur Cindé Greyling

Na 'n lang dag op kantoor val jy pootuit neer. Jy is gedaan en jou lyf is seer. Dan moet jy nog voorberei vir môre se aanbieding ... Stop! Jy maak jou lyf gedaan. Al is jy mal oor jou werk en gaande oor wat jy doen, móét jy jou lyf ook aan die gang hou. En om **net** heeldag by jou rekenaar te sit of voor h klas te staan, is beswaarlik gesond!

Buiten vir akademiese uitmuntendheid en leierskap kweek, wil Kovsies se Personeel Welstand graag hê dat die "breine" agter hierdie wonderlike werk ook gesond en gelukkig moet wees. En voor jy begin bekommerd raak, sê dr. Annette Prins, niemand gaan oor middagete by jou kantoor instorm om seker te maak dat jy jou 30 *sit-ups* doen nie! Ongelukkig veroorsaak die moderne manier van leef dat mense al ongesonder raak. Kovsies se personeel is geen uitsondering nie, het 'n onlangse opname getoon. Te veel werkstres en te min oefening veroorsaak chroniese siektes wat jy maklik met h beter leefstyl kan vermy. Navorsing het bewys dat oefening beslis die beste manier is om jou gesondheid op te knap.

Fotos: Anjo Aucamp

Ons gaan fiks word vir jou lekker maak. Jy sal dit geniet om deel te neem en mal wees oor hoe goed dit jou laat voel. Vir dié wat versigtig is vir sweet, gaan ons net lekker stap. Maar as jy meer van aksie hou, gaan die sokker, netbal, toutrek, *touchies* en vlugbal jou dalk beter pas. Vir die avontuurvrater is daar witwaterroei en 'n lekker bergklimuistappie!

Kyk, die dae van stilsit is beslis verby. Die Kovsiepersoneel gaan lekker swaai, lywe draai en sonder om dit eens te besef, 'n gesonde gloed op die wange kry. Jy kan tydens Mei-maand se gratis gesondheidsondersoeke sommer presies uitvind waar jy op die fiksheidskaal staan. Verder sal Discovery en Wits teen Junie-maand die uitslae van hulle navorsing bekendmaak. Het jy ook die vrae lys ingevul? Dit sal interessant wees om te sien wat hulle bevindinge oor gesondheid in die werkplek is.

Verby is die dae dat akademiese vaal en flou is. Op die UV-kampus gaan almal jolig fiks raak ... sodat jy gemaklik in jou lyf kan voel. Wêreldwyd word mense al hoe sieker, voller van figuur en somer net onfiks. Jy kan óf deel word van die sukkelende geheel, óf jy kan besluit om beheer te neem oor hoe jy leef. Sluk h handvol pille elke dag, of wend 'n poging aan om jou leefstyl op te knap! En omdat jy deel van die Kovsie-familie is, wil ons jou graag help. Hou jou oor op die grond ... groot genot wag!

So, wat sê jy? Gaan ons jou aan die beweeg kry?

Suidkampus maak leer moontlik

Deur Cindé Greyling

Die moderne samelewing se tyd raak al minder. En kennis raak al hoe nodiger. Maar min mense kan deesdae 'n jaar of drie vir studies opsyskuif. Daarom sou die perfekte oplossing wees: oop leer!

Oop leer is twee baie eenvoudige woorde wat verreikende implikasies het. Behalwe vir 'n gebrek aan tyd, is afstand in Suid-Afrika ook 'n probleem. Mense wat op verafgeleë plekkies bly, het selde die geleentheid om te studeer.

Op hierdie stadium bied ons Fakulteit Opvoedkunde se Sentrum vir Voorgesette Onderwys op ons Suidkampus reeds onderwyskwalifikasies deur middel van oop leer aan baie studente dwarsoor Suid-Afrika. "Dis wonderlike nuus," sê Charlene wat pas by die plaaslike skooltjie op die platteland waar sy woon se kleuterskool begin werk het. "Dit sal ideaal wees om 'n beter kwalifikasie te bekom sonder om op te hou met werk." En hoewel sy dit geniet om met die kleintjies te werk, sal sy graag mettertyd na hoër grade wou beweeg. "Ek hou van 'n uitdaging," verduidelik sy.

Volgens dr. Peet Venter, die Hoof van die Suidkampus, is dit presies wat hulle ingedagte het.

"Die doel met oop leer, is om meer leergeleenthede vir mense te skep, byvoorbeeld deur afstand en na-uurse onderrig. Uit die aard gaan dit nie in alle rigtings moontlik wees nie, soos wanneer 'n kursus baie laboratoriumwerk verg. Maar ons begin eersdaags om ook kursusse van ander fakulteite (bv. Regsgeleerdheid, ens.) op dié wyse aan te bied." Dr. Peet verduidelik dat wat kwaliteit aanbetref, kwalifikasies wat via die oopleerweg behaal word, op dieselfde vlak is as voltydse kwalifikasies. Ooreenkomste is reeds in plek om ook met ander hoëronderrig- en verdereonderrig-instansies saam te werk om die reikwydte van die oopleerprogramme wyd uit te brei.

Dis opwindend om te dink dat studente wat in Mpumalanga, Limpopo en selfs in Springbok bly, hulleself deesdae "Kovsies" kan noem. Oop leer gaan in die toekoms 'n groot rol speel in die uitbouing van ons universiteit se invloedseer. En waar ons universiteit van die Vrystaat se

hoofkampus meer op voltydse studente fokus, gaan oop leer die Suidkampus se forte raak.

Hoewel die onderrig meestal uit kontaksessies en korrespondensie bestaan, sê dr. Peet dat moderne inligting- en kommunikasietegnologie 'n belangrike rol sal speel om die studente die beste kwaliteit leerervaring te bied.

Suid-Afrika het beslis meer Kovsies nodig – wat 'n wonderlike inisiatief!

Dr. Peet Venter.

Foto's: Lize-Marie Smith en Anjo Aucamp

Studente op ons Suidkampus.

news

Sharpen your
writing skills

Masters and doctoral students can contact us
We offer workshops and consultations
Services are free of charge

Unit for the Development of Professional and Academic Writing

UDRAW

Contact: venteris@ufs.ac.za or smithms@ufs.ac.za

☺ 051-40135411

Taaldiens

• Vertaling uit Engels en Duits in Afrikaans

• Taalversorging. Slegs Afrikaans

Kontak **Betta van Huyssteen** vir nadere besonderhede:

051 522 2194 (h) | 072 876 9615 (s)



Scientists active in the field,
in the deep subsurface of the earth.

International experts discuss deep subsurface of Mother Earth

Some of the world's best scientists came together at our university to present research conducted on life in the deep subsurface of the earth's crust, to exchange ideas and to collaborate further with local scientists – especially those located at our university. The event for this gathering of international experts: a workshop on New Horizons for international investigations into carbon cycling in the deep crustal biosphere.

According to Proff. Esta van Heerden and Koos Albertyn from our Department of Microbial, Biochemical and Food Biotechnology, the purpose of the workshop was to discuss ongoing research

conducted in the microbiological, biochemical and geochemical fields related to the deep subsurface biosphere. Most of the international participants are world leaders in their respective fields of research. "The calibre of participants is illustrated by Prof. T.C. Onstott from Princeton University in the United States of America, who was selected as one of *Time* magazine's 100 most influential people in the world in 2007."

Topics covered during this workshop included the interactions between subsurface micro-organisms and their environment, the role of the subsurface in the biogeochemical cycling of carbon, protein structures from subsurface micro-

organisms, and bioremediation of toxic metals, carbon dioxide fixing, microbial membrane lipid biochemistry and specific methods to study the subsurface activity.

Another important goal of this workshop was to set the course for the next decade of subsurface biosphere studies, with the emphasis on international collaborations. "To this end the inauguration of the Network of Inner Space Observatories (NISO), an international research network dedicated to the development of underground laboratories in mines for microbial studies, will take place." – **Prof. Esta van Heerden**

Moenie skreeu nie, ek sien jou



'n Straattoneel in Melbourne met Kersversierings wat toe reeds aangebring is.
Argitektuur in Melbourne is 'n fees vir die oog.

“Ek is onmiddellik getref deur geboue wat skoon is van skreeuende advertensie- en kennisgewingborde – skoon van kommunikasie-besoedeling.”

Ek het aan die einde van 2010 die voorreg gehad om konferensies van die Association of Commonwealth Universities in Melbourne, Australië by te woon. Sosiale media was hoog op die agendalys en ek was verstom om te sien hoe ver universiteite in ander dele van die aardbol op hierdie terrein gevorder het.

Kommunikasie het beskrywings van onmiddellik, vinnig, direk en twee- of meer- rigting lankal gekry en universiteite moet skarrel om by te bly.

Maar in Melbourne se strate het ek besef dat ons so doof geraak het vir die boodskappe wat uitgaan, dat die een boodskap harder as die ander een moet skreeu om gesien of gehoor te word. Ek is onmiddellik getref deur geboue wat skoon is van skreeuende advertensie- en kennisgewingborde – skoon van kommunikasie-besoedeling.

Terug in Suid-Afrika was dit vir my nog meer opvallend hoe die een advertensiebord na die ander vir ons skreeu. Die een wil groter as die ander wees. Ry by een van ons skole verby en sien hoe die borde een na die ander lawaai maak en die eens pragtige terreine ontsier.

Dalk moet ons teruggaan na die basiese en kommunikasie herbedink. Kommunikasie-besoedeling en 'n geskreeu bring nie groter duidelikheid of begrip nie. – **Leatitia Pienaar**

Foto's: Rian Horn

Staal en sement verrys tot 'n belofte vir 'n beter more

Deur Leonie Bolleurs

Met die opknapping van bestaande geboue en die ontwikkeling van nuwe infrastruktuur rat ons bestuur hom om hierdie universiteit 'n instelling van uitnemendheid te maak. Binnekort sal ons nie net in statuur nie, maar ook met infrastruktuur kers kan vashou by die bestes in die wêreld.

Beide op ons Hoofkampus en ons Qwaqwa-kampusse verrys die reuse. Wat eers 'n mengelmoes van staal en sement is, sal later vanjaar en ook volgende jaar verrys tot geboue wat in meer as een van ons behoeftes gaan voorsien, waarvan die grootste een sitplek vir al ons studente in ons klasse is.

Een van die boupromeke wat binnekort voltooi sal wees, is die veranderinge aan die hoofingang op ons Hoofkampus. Ry jy ons mooi kampus binne, sal jy sommer met die eerste oogopslag die veranderinge aan die hoofhek sien om by ons nuwe korporatiewe handelsmerk aan te pas. Een van ons argitektuurstudente, Michael Cronjé het vorendag gekom met die oorspronklike ontwerp van die ingang.

'n Nuwe Opvoedkundegebou word ook oorkant die UV-Sasol-biblioteek opgerig. Hierdie gebou sal by voltooiing gebruik word vir die opleiding van wiskunde- en wetenskaponderwysers in die Grondslagfase. Dit sal drie klaskamers vir 100 studente elk en 'n auditorium vir 225 studente sowel as 'n kantoorblok insluit. Die auditorium sal ook as klaskamer gebruik word. Die gebou word omgewingsvriendelik ontwerp om water te bespaar en krag effektief te gebruik. Dit behoort later vanjaar voltooi te wees.

Van die bou-projekte op ons kampusse.

Hoop jy al jou harde werk bring jou iets in die sak?

Waarvoor jy ookal hoop, maak seker dat jy die regte plan daarvoor inspan. Ek kan jou deur die besluite lei wat jou finansiële toekoms sal beïnvloed. Met Sanlam se omvattende portefeulje oplossings kan ek voorstelle maak oor wat jy werklik nodig het.

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

Bel my vir deskundige advies, aangevul deur korttermynversekering en selfs belastingontleding as dit nodig is.



Ben Opperman
Senior Onafhanklike Finansiële Beplanner
051 407 8156
082 457 2240
benoprnm@intekom.co.za

Sanlam CIO011MS1082BPA

SANLAM LEWENS IS 'N GELISENSEEERDE VERSKAFFER VAN FINANSIËLE DIENSTE

Sanlam
Ons dink vooruit

Photo: Thabo Kessah



Daniel Mofokeng, flanked by Paul Tsotetsi, Samuel Lephoto and Veli Mokoena with some of the trees in the background.

Our Qwaqwa Campus goes green

The face of our Qwaqwa Campus is rapidly changing. This better and greener campus is a result of the major gift of 72 trees and an irrigation system from the Rectorate late last year.

Daniel Mofokeng, Assistant Manager, Physical Resources, commented: "This is one of several major projects earmarked to beautify our campus. This gift from the Rectorate will certainly go far towards making our campus more environmentally friendly."

"With the building of the new student residence as well as the Education Building, our campus is indeed changing its face. Other major projects in the pipeline include an upgrade of the campus entrance, a ventilation system in the Mandela Hall and the refurbishment of the ventilation system in the library as well as the offices for the Faculty of the Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

"We are also expecting 100 more trees before the end of this year and the ventilation system in the hall must also be fully operational by next summer," was Daniel's parting shot.

Meanwhile, a *Qwaqwa Campus Goes Green* Steering Committee was recently elected. The Chairperson is Merle Naidoo from our Department of Geography, who will be deputised by Elizabeth Motsei from Student Affairs. The committee is tasked with drawing and implementing a 'green programme' on campus that would include greening the campus through monthly themes and liaising with various stakeholders. – **Thabo Kessah**

Bouwerk aan 'n nuwe gebou vir die Fakulteit Gesondheidwetenskappe op die terrein waar die voertuigpoellokaal en Hertz vroeër was, vorder ook fluks. Hier kom 'n lesinglokaal vir 200 studente, vyf lokale vir 100 studente elk, asook kantore. Verder word daar ook 'n Vaardighedslaboratorium vir hierdie fakulteit opgerig.

Die nuwe gebou vir die Fakulteit Ekonomiese en Bestuurswetenskappe tussen die Flippie Groenewoud-gebou en die Wynand Mouton-teater vorder ook goed.

'n Basiese behoefte, soos byvoorbeeld ons gesondheid, gaan aangespreek word met die bou van 'n Hoëprestasiesentrum en kommersiële gimnasium. Die sentrum met sy ingangsportaal en administratiewe kantore gaan verder bestaan uit 'n gesondheidstoonbank, universiteit-sportinstituut, sportverkope, 'n spin- en aërobiese sentrum en aantrekkamers. Die totale oppervlak gaan 2 114 m² beslaan en konstruksie sal ongeveer 18 maande duur. Hierdie ontwikkeling sal op die westelike deel van die UV se Hoofkampus plaasvind, regoor die Furstenburg-hek en langs die nuwe studentebhuising.

Dan word daar ook aandag geskenk aan ons behoefte om tegnologie binne bereik van Kovsiestudente te plaas en hulle só te bemagtig. Daar is rekenaarlokale by die onderskeie koshuise ingerig. Volgens mnr. Louis Badenhorst, Projekbestuurder: Fisiese Beplanning, sal die rekenaarlokale uiteindelik voorsiening maak vir ongeveer 185 rekenaars wat deur studente benut kan word. Behoorlike sekuriteit word ook beplan om die toerusting te beveilig.

Infrastruktuurontwikkeling op ons Qwaqwa-kampus geniet ook prioriteit. Op dié kampus word 'n nuwe Opvoedkundegebou opgerig. Dié gebou sal 'n 100-sitplek lesinglokaal, vier 50-sitplek lesinglokale, ses kantore, ablusiegeriewe, 'n biologie- en wetenskaplaboratorium, asook 'n inligtingstegnologie-laboratorium vir 60 studente insluit.

Op die Qwaqwa-kampus is ons besig met 'n bouprojek waar 'n koshuis met 200 beddens opgerig word. Dit sluit ook 'n rekenaarlaboratorium in. Volgens beplanning sal hierdie koshuis teen die einde van die eerste semester in 2011 klaar wees. Die koshuise bestaan uit een vir mans en een vir dames.

Beplanning vir die verdere oprigting van studente-akkommodasie het reeds ver gevorder op die Hoofkampus sowel as die Qwaqwa-kampus.

Intussen word bestaande geboue op al die kampusse opgeknip. Dit sluit onder meer verbeterings aangebring aan die Argitektuur-gebou, die Bioteegnologie-gebou en die 34 kwartiere vir dienswerkers op die Bloemfonteinkampus in. Ander verbeterings wat reeds afgehandel is, is die opknapping van die Odeion se voorportaal en die Callie Human-sentrum.

Ons studente, personeel en besoekers kan ook in die toekoms uitsien na 'n rotsklimmuur by die Studentesentrum op die Thakaneng-brug, 'n gedenkpark vir vroue, residensiële akkommodasie in 'n sportomgewing, en 'n botaniese tuin.



'n Argiteksvoorstelling van ons nuwe hoofingang op die Hoofkampus soos ontwerp deur Michael Cronjé.

Kovsies kry 'n splinter nuwe beeld

Vernuwing bring verandering – en vernuwing is 'n aanduiding dat 'n instelling relevant kan bly en by verandering kan aanpas. Dit is wat ons by Kovsies met ons splinternuwe beeld wou bereik. Die proses het in Februarie 2010 begin en amper 'n jaar later op 27 Januarie 2011 'n hoogtepunt bereik met die bekendstelling van ons nuwe handelsmerk – bestaande uit 'n bemarkings- en akademiese handelsmerk. Hierdie is die vyfde keer dat ons universiteit se handelsmerk verander (uitsluitend die kleurverandering wat in die laat 1990's plaasgevind het).

Die hernude beeld reflekteer ons 107-jaar-oue geskiedenis wat die verhaal van 'n lewendige, betrokke, toegepaste en getransformeerde universiteit vertel. Dit vertel die verhaal van 'n universiteit wat kan aanpas by veranderende tye – en dit vertel ook die verhaal van 'n universiteit wat waarde heg aan uitnemendheid en eenheid in diversiteit.

Met die nuwe handelsmerk word 'n monolitiese benadering geïmplementeer – wat beteken dat ons universiteit baie meer 'n eenheid sal vorm en dieselfde korporatiewe identiteit sal reflekteer. Hierdie identiteit word afgewentel tot op fakulteitsvlak en word ook weerspieël in die logo's wat fakulteite in die toekoms sal gebruik.

Die nuwe handelsmerk baan die weg vir 'n nuwe hoofstuk wat oor ons universiteit se trotse geskiedenis geskryf word. Hierdie hoofstuk sal vertel van 'n trotse universiteit wat sy merk in die gemeenskap maak – met 'n dinamiese en toepaslike beeld wat ons in die toekoms sal neem en ons sal onderskei van ander. – Lacea Loader

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



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

Fakulteitaffliasiehandelsmerk



ECONOMIC AND
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES
EKONOMIESE EN
BESTUURSWETENSKAPPE
UFS·UV



EDUCATION
OPVOEDKUNDE
UFS·UV



HEALTH SCIENCES
GESONDHEIDSWETENSKAI
UFS·UV



HUMANITIES
GEESTESWETENSKAPPE
UFS·UV



LAW
REGSGELEERDHEID
UFS·UV



NATURAL AND
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
NATUUR- EN
LANDBOUWETENSKAPPE
UFS·UV



THEOLOGY
TEOLOGIE
UFS·UV

tell us about it ...

Staff at our university is making a difference on a daily basis, whether it is by helping others, through their research, or with academic excellence. Nangamso Koza spoke to some of our staff and students and asked them to tell us about the difference they have made ...



Mpho Phahlo lends a helping hand

The passion Mpho exudes for his work is noticeable through the effort, time and energy he puts into raising awareness for student with disabilities. Mpho, who has no physical disabilities, is fluent in Sign Language. Currently, he is trying to find a balance between his postgraduate studies, work schedule at the unit and the practical teaching he is doing at Bartimea School for the Deaf and Blind, in Thaba 'Nchu where he grew up and also lives.

At the beginning of the year, our university honoured Mpho for the difference he made in the lives of students with disabilities. He received this prestigious award at both the first-year welcoming ceremonies in January. This postgraduate student in education describes the feeling of receiving such an honour as a humbling experience.

"As I walked onto the stage and towards Prof. Jansen, I was filled with emotions. We had won, the unit had won. Our hard work of raising awareness around the challenges we face on a daily basis has received the highest recognition in our institution. To receive an award of such calibre on behalf of the unit – because I don't see it as mine, but for the team – was victorious. What made it more special, was the impression it gave our first-years about the unit. I believe that now even first-years with disabilities know that they are at home at our university.

I strongly commend our Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Prof. Jansen for his exemplary leadership in ensuring that students remain united, irrespective of the different cultural backgrounds and physical challenges. The unit no longer feels segregated; it feels part of the institution. However, I still feel that more needs to be done, especially in empowering students with disabilities. Through adequate and quality education we can give our students the chance to acquire the same opportunities as other people in the corporate world.

"Helping our students with disabilities is not a job; for me it's a calling. I have been at Kovsies for more than three years and would not change it for anything."

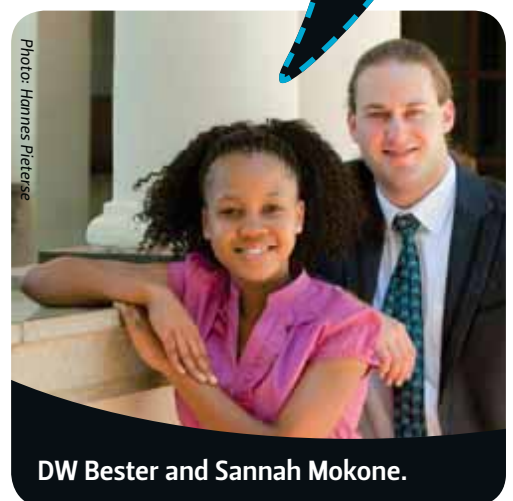


Prof. Arno Hugo and Ennet Moholisa do breakthrough research

Prof. Arno Hugo, an Associate Professor in our Department of Microbial, Biochemical and Food Biotechnology in our Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, is supervising Ennet Moholisa's MSc studies in Food Sciences, which have drawn a lot of media attention. Ennet is currently concluding her studies with an experiment where she looks at the effect of different brine injection levels on the tenderness, juiciness, consumer acceptability and chemical stability of frozen chicken portions. The title of her dissertation is: *Effect of brine injection on chicken meat quality: Implications for the South African consumer*.

"This study will help us to determine at what point quality improvement stops and weight gain becomes the motive for brine injection. The aim of this research was to compare the quality of commercially available individually quick-frozen (IQF) chicken portions with control chicken portions, known not to be injected with brine, in terms of moisture loss during processing and chemical composition.

When starting the project two years ago, I realised that the results might be controversial. I did, however, not expect the public outcry that followed the release of the findings. If necessary, I will get involved in research of similar nature in future, because it is our ethical and moral duty as scientists to use our research to the benefit of the community," Prof. Arno concluded.



DW Bester and Sannah Mokone receive a Rhodes Scholarship

The honour of a Rhodes scholarship to further their studies at the prestigious Oxford University, was bestowed on two postgraduate students from our institution. DW Bester, B.Sc. Hons. Actuarial Science student, and Sannah Mokone, B.Pub-cum laude student, will be jetting off to the United Kingdom to commence their studies in September.

"At the age of six, I was inspired and felt a distinct connection with a poster I once saw in a bookstore, not knowing that it was a university, but wanting to go there one day. I later found out that it was a picture of Oxford University.

The three-hour waiting period for the announcement, after the interviews in Johannesburg, was intense. All the candidates were rightfully deserving of the honour. I feel so privileged and honoured by this opportunity to become a Rhodes scholar.

"I hope to enrol for a PhD in Mathematical Statistics. My thesis will be on computationally intensive methods, Bayesian Inference and Monte Carlo Simulating," Bester concluded.

"I carry in me the joys of my family, my community and fellow Africans. This scholarship is a manifestation of my spiritual beliefs, my parent's dreams and legacy. What an honour to be named amongst legendary South Africans like Prof. Nongxa and Bram Fischer.

"I will use this victory to motivate fellow South Africans through my life story to work hard and persevere. Nothing is impossible. The opportunity will definitely put me on a strategic platform as my interactions with fellow stakeholders will enable me to build the solid structures I need to pursue my dream of developing an economically independent Africa.

"I will be reading for an M.Sc. in African Studies," said Sannah.



Wheels are turning to bring early detection in heart and lung diseases

The **Wheels of Hope** campaign aims to evaluate the frequency of heart and lung disease and to reduce the associated complications through early detection.

Our Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery, under the leadership of Prof. Francis Smit, in partnership with Life Rosepark Hospital and Barloworld Motors, aims to establish good practice and appropriate screening facilities to promote and protect the cardiac health of adults and children in South Africa.

Heart disease remains the most important cause of death worldwide. Obesity, Western diets, a reduction in exercise and high blood pressure are, amongst others, factors that contribute to the high incidence of deaths.

The majority of people affected by rheumatic heart disease (over 1 million), live in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Despite the staggering figures, no coordinated programme for the treatment of heart and lung disease exists in South Africa.

The **Wheels of Hope** screening initiative is a simple way to diagnose most cardiac abnormalities. The screening initiative will:

- identify most heart abnormalities
- raise awareness of rheumatic heart disease
- educate the public
- help identify potential heart problems
- provide information of the disease

The **Wheels of Hope** team visits hospitals and schools in various communities and rural areas, does ward rounds in various hospitals and gives lectures as part of the programme – rheumatic heart disease being the first in a series of heart and lung early detection and education programmes.

More information regarding the **Wheels of Hope** programme is available from our Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Tel 051-4053861/4053150 or www.heartcentre.info.

Prof. Niel, a Kovsky visionary, steps down

After his presence at our university for all together 26 years, Prof. Niel Viljoen, our Vice-Rector: Operations, has decided to step down this year. This Kovsky alumnus obtained his M Com (Economics) from our university in 1972.

Three years later, in 1975, Prof. Niel started working as lecturer at the Department of Economics for a number of years. After an absence of ten years, he joined our university again in 1989 as Director of the Centre for Management Development.

Another highlight of his career at Kovsky's was when he became the founding director of the UFS School of Management in 1998; an achievement of which he is very proud.

Prof. Niel continued to excel in his career at our university and in 1999 he was appointed Director: Budget, after which, in 2001, he accepted the appointment as Chief Director: Operations. Two years ago, in 2009 he became our Vice-Rector: Operations, assuming responsibility for the divisions Finances, Human Resources, Information and Communication Technology Services (ICT Services), Physical Resources (Maintenance and Planning), Security Services and Health and Wellness.

Prof. Niel has fond memories of his time at Kovsky's. "I was privileged to work with a number of competent colleagues with extraordinary talents," he said.

With Prof. Frederick Fourie, our former Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Prof. Niel formed part of the turnaround team that prevented our university from reaching dire financial straits.

Later, together with colleagues Lourens Geyer, Prof. Johan Grobbelaar and the rest of the salary negotiation teams, Prof. Niel played a key role in salary negotiations. "We managed to eliminate discrimination and inequality in the remuneration structure of the university," he said.

It was also Prof. Niel, with the valuable assistance of Arie van der Bijl, former Director: Finance and Emil Altona from Information and Communication Technology Services (ICT), who introduced the PeopleSoft system to our university by purchasing and implementing the programme. This strategic move allowed our university to, for the first time this year, introduce online registrations to our students; a milestone for a South African university. Colleagues Reg Hiscock, Ruan Ferreira (both from ICT) and Haumie Joubert from Student Academic Services played a significant role in this process.

Furthermore, Prof. Niel also played a big role in the implementation of a new security strategy, which was executed at our university last year. Our university already enjoys the benefits of this

system with a lower crime rate than last year. Prof. Niel was also involved in the expansion of our university's building programme from R30 million to R200 million a year.

Prof. Niel also made a big impact in terms of staff wellness. Together with Annette Prins the first programme for staff wellness was established at our university. Later Estelle Heideman and Riana Johnson came on board and Kovsky Health, Wellness and the Kovsky HIV and Aids Centre were consolidated into one division.

But this is only the tip of the proverbial iceberg. Prof. Niel is a true visionary, and his vision has guided and shaped Kovsky's for the better. He will truly be missed. – Ula van Zyl and Leonie Bolleus



Prof. Niel Viljoen.

Photo: Dries Myburg.

Our university makes dreams come true

Our university recently started yet another initiative to make a life-changing contribution to students' academic career.

With the help and cooperation of the St Patrick Anglican Church in Mangaung and their Reverend, Father Andile Mbutye, our university has succeeded in forming a closer connection with this community.

In December 2010, our Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Prof. Jonathan Jansen and Dr Choice Makhetha, acting Vice-Rector: External Relations, paid a visit to the church to initiate a bursary and make a commitment to working closely with the church.

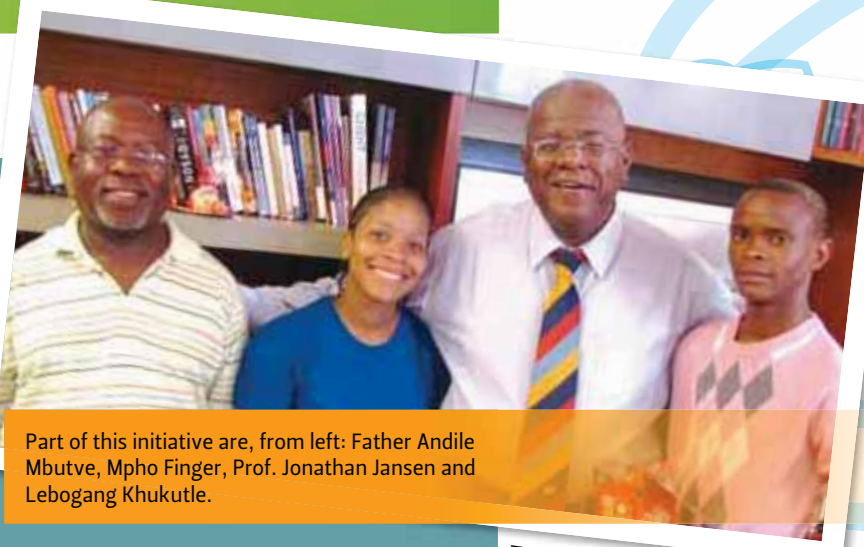
Because of this initiative, two needy students who qualify to study at university are given the

opportunity to realise their dreams of a tertiary education. The two students, Emmanuel Lebogang Khukutle and Mpho Martha Finger, registered for a University Preparation Programme and BA Media Studies degree, respectively.

Both students are already immersed in campus life. Mpho is a soccer fanatic and is playing in the hostel netball league. Lebogang wants to join the soccer league, and is planning on continuing his studies in Accounting when he has completed the preparation programme.

Father Andile is happy about his contribution to the futures of these two students: "It is something that they will never forget. It is only the start for them."

Prof. Jansen is also pleased with the results of



Part of this initiative are, from left: Father Andile Mbutye, Mpho Finger, Prof. Jonathan Jansen and Lebogang Khukutle.

this initiative: "Our university is honoured to be part of this project. Not only are we helping two students to achieve their goals; we have acquired two bright students that will most definitely benefit us." – Ula van Zyl

Photo: Ula van Zyl

vir oulaas ...

dumela



Swembad pronk nou met nuwe baadjie



Ryk Neethling.



Ons eerstejaarstudente wat kleur en gees aan die geleentheid verleen het.

“ Ek voel dat hierdie swembad, net soos die universiteit, ’n belangrike leerinstelling kan word, want die lesse wat ’n mens hier leer, kan jy na jou werk toe voer; lesse rakende harde werk, toewyding en om nooit op te gee nie. Hierdie was die woorde van die Olimpiese swemmer, Ryk Neethling, tydens die amptelike opening van ons swembad wat nou met ’n nuwe baadjie pronk.

Deur die geld (R4,6 miljoen) wat aan die einde van 2009 deur die Nasionale Lotto bewillig is, is die swembad nou ’n nasionale kompetisiebad (50 m in lengte) met verhitting. Verder is daar aan weerskante van die swembad oorlope aangebring. Wegspringblokke en baantoue is ook geïnstalleer. ’n Gedeelte van hierdie geld word ook aangewend vir navorsing wat lig sal werp op voedingsgewoontes en insidente wat swembeserings veroorsaak.

Dié feestelike, kleurvolle en geesbelaaide geleentheid het saamgeval met ons eerstejaarswemgala. – Leonie Bolleurs

bultjie

Action in Aberdeen!

Adresplakker

20

Welcome back on campus. I know you all had to stay inside the whole holiday because of rain and floods. What a lovely holiday with just me and Mommy at the seaside. There comes a time when the kids (they'll kill me – adults!) prefer their holidays with boyfriend, husband and fiancé. It was so relaxing and cheap! Food for two and an affordable restaurant bill! Mommy loved not washing dishes. Then I realised that to have one of them engaged means that there will be another wedding soon. *Oi. Oi, oi!* So for the rest of the holiday it was *'warme tjijs en wors!'*

It rained so much I could row us back to Bloem all the way next to the highway in a canoe if I wanted to. Well not all the way though. At Aberdeen the cute little restaurant called *Moertoe* was closed. It is situated next to graveyard, which says something about the place! In the center of the town is *Die Dorpsplein* with a statue of a very sad-looking Tommy leaning on his rifle and a Wall of Remembrance for Boer rebels who got hanged during the war. *Grillerig!* Not a green leaf or a brown leaf or any kind of leaf whatsoever on that *plain*. The ants, wearing green-tinted sunglasses, to avoid total depression, wander aimlessly over the sand looking

for the non-existing grass. And then I saw it! A green sign in the corner under the single dead tree read "KEEP OFF THE GRASS!" And next to it in bright red on an old STOP sign that was painted bright yellow "BLY UIT DIE BLOMME UIT! STAY OUT THE FLOWERS! OP LAS – STADSKLERK. Now that is positive thinking for me! I'm sure they got rain later in January and the ants were kicking away in their polka-dot bikinis and bright red Speedos. Imagine! The famous Uncle Blind Joe Cricket playing two violins at the same time and Serious Cyril Centipede drumming the beat on a set of beer bottle caps in the background. Action in Aberdeen! Emeritus-aartsbiskop Tutu doen die vastrap in sy tutu op die hotel se stoep! Hy het tog so 'n wonderlike humorsin.

Praat van vloede! Duisende eerstejaars het die kampus in Januarie oorstroom. Ek dag die 30 punte vir toelating gaan die kampus so leeg laat lyk soos Aberdeen se dorpsplein! Maar hoe meer eksklusief 'n ding mos word, hoe meer wil hom hê. So die strategie om die beter student te werf, kan dalk vrugte afwerp met beter uitslae. En dalk hoef die arme dosente daardie arme bloedjies wat maar net nie die plafon kan raak nie, nie heeljaar op hulle skouers te rond dra en hulle hande op te hou nie. Soos Blou Willem mos gesê het: "Ek kan nie onthou of ek drie jaar 'n tweedejaar was of twee jaar 'n derdejaar nie?"

On the occasion of the conferring of an honorary degree, Doctor of Theology, on Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, I recognised Charles Dumas, famous

American actor and playwright. Remember the cabdriver in *Hard to Get*? And in, among others, *Deep Impact*, *Die Hard* and *Law and Order*. Prof Dumas, from Penn State University, is currently teaching and directing at our Department of Drama and Theatre Arts. The Rector's programme of importing Senior Professors to spend some time here will surely benefit students and our university on its road to further excellence.

One thing our university must urgently give attention to, is to provide upmarket and modern accommodation on campus for these professors and Fullbright lecturers. I met two other visiting academics from America and they also had to stay off campus.

As we know, public transport is a bit of a problem in our dear city. To expect these visitors to walk to campus is really not 'n *lekker* thing! I've learned that all great persons, like Archbishop-Emeritus Tutu and these honoured guests, are often humble and won't speak out. One of them is leaving Bloemfontein on Wednesday and had nobody thought of showing her any wildlife? If it doesn't rain tonight, Bultjie will take them on a trip to see some animals. Next year that will be on my budget disguised as *Academic Field Research*. Be warned!

Let's rock the boat in 2011!

Bultjie (with snorkel)