dumela

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Amptelike nuusblad van die personeel van die UV
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Strategiese plan sal UV van ander onderskei

"'n Universiteit wat regoor die wêreld gehuldig word vir uitnemendheid in akademiese prestasie en die versoening van mense."

– Visie van die UV, 2012-2016

Die Universiteit van die Vrystaat (UV) se Strategiese Plan vir 2012-2016 is vandeesmaand bekend gestel. Die plan sal die instelling se werksaamhede vir die volgende vyf jaar rig en lei. **Lacea Loader** gee 'n breë oorsig van die plan.

"Ons het die afgelope twee jaar lank en hard op alle vlakke gedink oor wie die universiteit wil wees en waar ons in die 21ste eeu as 'n globale universiteit wil wees. Daarom is konsultasies met 'n wye groep belanghebbendes binne en buite die universiteit gedoen," sê prof. Jonathan Jansen, Visekanselier en Rektor.

Die konsultasies het daartoe gelei dat 'n Strategiese Plan ontwerp is wat nie lyk en klink soos dié van enige ander tersiêre instelling in die land nie. "Hiermee wil die UV 'n duidelike boodskap aan die land uitdra dat ons ernstig is oor akademiese standaarde en wil uitstaan in 'n kompeterende wêreld," sê prof. Jansen.

Volgens hom is die Strategiese Plan op die inisiatiewe gegrond wat die UV reeds begin vorm het en sal voortgaan om oor die volgende vyf jaar te vorm. "Die plan bied 'n oorsig van die transformasie wat hier aan die gang is en verskaf 'n raamwerk vir die betrokkenes om hul eie bydraes te kontekstualiseer, te prioritiseer en na waarde te skat," sê hy.

Die Strategiese Plan het ten doel om die breedte en die diepte van die inisiatiewe wat onderneem word, vas te vang binne die konteks van die instelling se nuwe strategiese koers. Die inisiatiewe word onder twee hooftemas gegroepeer, naamlik die Akademiese Projek en die Menseprojek.

Met die Akademiese Projek word na akademiese uitnemendheid gestreef; om hoë akademiese standaarde te stel en die rigting in onder meer die onderwysstelsel aan te wys. Die Akademiese Projek is in vier klusters gegroepeer, naamlik prestasie van student, prestasie van akademici, akademiese onderskeiding, en die akademiese kultuur van die kampus.

Met die Menseprojek word gefokus op hoe ons mekaar hanteer en met mekaar kommunikeer; – ten spyte van die grense wat ons in die verlede van mekaar geskei het. Die Menseprojek is ook in vier klusters gegroepeer, naamlik konfrontasie met vooroordeel, die kultuur van insluiting, billikheid, openheid en toeganklikheid, en gemeenskapsdiens en -betrok¬kenheid.

"Die plan is dus nie net 'n uitbeelding van ons trotse verlede as universiteit nie, maar ook 'n aanduiding van waar ons oor vyf jaar as 'n universiteit van uitnemendheid wil wees," sê prof. Jansen.

- The English version of this article is available on the university's website at the following link: http://www.ufs.ac.za/content.aspx?uid=201

It all happened at Kovsies; two colourful events buzzing with excitement. During a very successful Open Day more than 5 000 learners and their parents visited our Bloemfontein Campus to make informed choices about their futures. Forming the backdrop to the intravarsity weekend between our Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa Campuses was a weekend filled with sport, arts and culture.

From the Editor

The year is flying past like a runaway train. However, with a programme filled with projects that make a difference on an academic as well as a human level, we have a beautiful landscape to admire in passing.

In this edition of *Dumela* we are introduced to colleagues who have joined us recently, like Prof. Philippa Tumubweinee in the Department of Architecture and Prof. Loyiso Jita in the School for Mathematics, Natural Science and Technology Education. We also talk to other colleagues, each of whom has a passion for his or her specific area. Karen Ehlers is doing her share in combating crime with her research about forensic genetics and Prof. Stephen Brown and Dr Danie Buys add value to people's health on a daily basis through their contributions in the medical field. With her passion for the subject Commercial Law, Bella Rametse from the Department of Mercantile Law has an impact on her classes by inspiring students to give their best.

We also say farewell to a colleague who has played a major role in the academic environment of the university, particularly with regard to research; Prof. Frans Swanepoel.

In addition, we get to know a few of our colleagues in Support Services, like Susan van Jaarsveld from Human Resources. Pura Mgolombane, Assistant-Dean at Student Life and Leadership, is also introduced to us as a task-driven person with a mission. Read more about his experience of the students at Kovsies.

With the human project we cover two of the initiatives managed by the university to improve lives for people in our communities and here on the campus. With Project Inspire as well as the Culture of Reading Project, teachers have identified learners need motivation. Tessa Ndlovu, Coordinator of Projects at the university's 25 schools that form part of the schools project, then approached the deans of the faculties to identify their top students to act as motivational ambassadors at the schools. Read how these projects bring out the best in learners as well as students.

Something new in this edition is the cellphone tags. Not only can you now read the story and view one or more photos of the event, but you can also view a short YouTube byte. In this snippet below about Facebook entries for the past term is a tag about the Open Day and in our sports division you can copy the tag about intravarsity in order to view the YouTube byte about this sporting event between the Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa Campuses.

Until next time.

Leonie

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All Facebook quotes are published as they appear on Facebook.

Prof. Jansen one of the top 10 political tweeters in South Africa

Prof. Jonathan Jansen was announced as one of South Africa's 10 most influential political tweeters. That is according to a list compiled by PR and communications company Burson-Marsteller.

"South Africa is rated as the 10th-largest user of Twitter in the world and the most avid Twitter user on the continent," said Hemant Lala, Managing Director at Arcay Burson-Marsteller.

You can read the full article on http://memeburn.com/2012/04/south-africas-10-most-influential-political-tweeters-inforgraphic/

Dié maand op Facebook ...

Deur Lelanie de Wet

Opedag kommentaar

39 jaar gelede eerstejaar gewees. Ai hoe laat hulle my terug verlang ... – **Suzette Roos**

What a masterpiece, i enjoyed everything and i was well informed, thnx 4 everything – **Lebohang Tlaba**

Regtig amazing!! Wel gedaan, Kovsies, wel gedaan!! – **Chanell Delport**

FANTASTIESE Ope Dag Kovsies!!! Julle het my hart gesteel!! Sien julle volgende jaar!! (Fingers Crossed) AMAZING!! Regtig!! Kovsies all the way!! – **Chanell Delport**

I just want to say thank you to Kovsies for a great open day. WELL DONE !!! Hope to see you next year – **Raymond Taylor**

Dankie vir 'n wonderlike opedag by Kovsies! Julle is verseker ander een stappie voor en dit gee ons soveel hoop vir ons kinders se toekoms! Ek wens dit is ek wat weer by Kovsies kan kom swot soos amper 25 jaar terug! – **Riana Terblanche**

Algemene kommentaar

Thanks to UOFS I managed to get my application forms and next year I will be able to say, ONLY A KOVSIE KNOWS THE FEELING – **Mokete Mokoena**

i just realised how lucky i am or how lucky we are as Kovsies, regarding deregistration issues ... i am not part of it, but the compassion and love we got from Kovsies with the extension of the due date ... there is no other university that will do that. thanks to everyone who was involved with helping those students ... proud to be a KOVSIES!!!!!!!!!!!! – **Mojaki Motariana Mothibi**

like · comment · share 3249

Get the free mobile app at
http://gettag.mobi
Watch the Open Day video

Adopt a healthy lifestyle for a better life

Photo: Anja Aucamp

Prof. Willie Molentzé.

MY VIEW

By René-Jean van der Berg

"You are in good health, but ..."

This remark from your GP will make you think twice before taking another helping of deep-fried chicken and spending hours in front of your television set.

Being diagnosed with a chronic disease of lifestyle (CDL) may be alarming, but it is still possible to lead a normal life and look forward to normal life expectancy.

CDL are diseases closely associated with lifestyle, lack of exercise and being overweight or obese. Because most CDL are asymptomatic (showing no noticeable symptoms), a diagnosis is often only made when complications are already present.

High blood pressure is one of the commonest CDLs. It affects about 30% of adults in South Africa, but only half are actually aware of it. Other common CDLs are diabetes, elevated blood cholesterol levels, excessive weight and obesity.

Most of these conditions can be prevented and treated, but if left undiagnosed and untreated, they are collectively responsible for the largest proportion of deaths in South Africa.

Since complications of CDLs (strokes, heart disease and kidney failure) are so prevalent and costly to manage, the Medical Schemes Act makes it compulsory for all medical schemes to cover in full the cost of the diagnosis and treatment of these conditions.

Health-care workers in both the public and private health-care sector are encouraged to scan high-risk patients routinely for these conditions. After being diagnosed with a CDL, you will be encouraged to adapt to a healthy lifestyle. Regular exercise is highly effective in reducing blood pressure, controlling weight and improving blood sugar control.

Restricting the intake of salt and saturated fats and limiting your kilojoule intake if you are overweight is essential for the effective management of these conditions. It is recommended that you consult a dietician to assist you in this.

Patients are also encouraged to know what their blood pressure, blood sugar and cholesterol levels are and what to aim for.

Complying with your doctor's prescription is always challenging. Skipping doses or taking medication later is not advised and may lead to unpleasant side effects. Always plan ahead and make sure you have a sufficient supply of medication at all times.

My ma sê ôk so

Deur René-Jean van der Berg

Baie mense dink my ouma is hoogmoedig, want as haar mond oopgaan, praat sy van haar geleerde dogters.

Maar dit is eintlik net van trotsgeit dat sy van hulle praat. Want vir 'n enkelouer in die Kaapse Vlakte was dit in die jare 60 seker nie maklik om drie meisiekinders te laat skool en kollege en met die laaste een – universiteit – nie.

My H'amma (dit is nou hoe ons my ouma noem) was 'n skoonmaker in die Kasteel in Kaapstad. En dit was dié geldjies wat haar dogters se geleerdheid betaal het.

Nou, antie Nancy is H'amma se vriendin. So lekker soos die twee kan kuier, kos dit net een om te spog van haar dogters, dan is daar weer 'n weeklange onmin.

So nooi antie Nancy een jaar my H'amma uit vir Krismis-lunch. Want siestog, my H'amma is alleen daar in haar munisipale Kaapse Vlakte-huisie. H'amma se dogters het nie daai jaar gaan kuier nie en H'amma het al klaar gesien hoe eet sy twee hoene'boudjies en 'n bak *rum-en-raisin ice cream* vir Krismis.

Nee, antie Nancy se hele ses dogters en hulle manne en hulle manne se kinders is almal daar vir die dag, so H'amma moet ook kom.

"Oe, djy wiet hoe daai kinnes kan kook," sê my H'amma nog so op die foon. Want sien, al kan my ma en tannies almal lekker kos kook, is kennis eintlik meer hul ding. Maar kennis op 'n Krismis is nie baie smaaklik nie.

En kyk, H'amma likes nou nie eintlik as antie Nancy so aangaan oor haar dogters wat dié *pie* en daai koek kan bak nie. Nee, besluit H'amma. Sy sal maar net haar trots saam met antie Nancy se dogters se lekker kos moet sluk.

Rossie, Mella, Tiesie, Niccy, Hilla én Nessa staan in trappe van vergelyking (wat die breedte bepaal) langs mekaar.

Hulle bedien.
Antie Nancy spog
H'amma eet.
Antie Nancy spog.

Haai, sowaar, met die laaste skeppie poeding het my H'amma seker nou genoeg gehad en sê: "Nee, ek het lekker geëet. Maar my eie dogters het nou nooit meer gemaak van kos as gelerentheid nie."

René-Jean van der Berg is Senior Beampte: Mediaskakeling by ons Afdeling Strategiese Kommunikasie.

René-Jean van der Berg.

Champion for a vibrant student life

Photo: Anja Aucamp

Pura Mgolombane.

Time out with...

For our Assistant Dean: Student Life and Leadership, Pura Mgolombane, the building of a vibrant student life at Kovsies is what he has eaten, slept and breathed since joining our university in September 2011. Margaret Linström spoke to him.

When I enter Pura's office in the Student Centre, my first impression is of a task-driven, focused individual, but his yellow tie and friendly smile balance out the picture.

When I ask what his title means, he says one of his main tasks is to be the conduit between our students and the university systems, and to be an advocate for the co-curricular-curricular interface. For Pura it boils down to "balancing the energy of the students with the university's bureaucracy". However, he is quick to point out that the students understand that there are processes that must be followed. "The exuberance of student life is often perceived to be on a collision course with the curricular side of the university. Student-driven activities could easily be considered a nuisance for curricular activities, but I'm happy to note that there is a radical shift to embrace co-curricular activities as having a critical role to play in increasing the throughput rate of the university and towards the achievement of the human project." The energy and innovation displayed by Kovsie students keeps him going as "the vibrancy of a university emanates from its student life".

Pura has high praise for our students. "I'm fascinated by the prevailing culture of respect among our students. You must understand that we're sometimes involved in robust interaction, but even in these situations there is a sense of humaneness. This is something we should appreciate."

From our conversation it becomes obvious that Pura's first six months at our university have been extremely busy ones. "Since coming to Kovsies, things have changed drastically – no gym, no movies. Student life often means early mornings and late nights. For now my only spare time is used to get home to Jozi to spend time with my family."

'Architecture is fashion'

By René-Jean van der Berg

She loves how fashion and architecture come together and will NOT compromise on coffee. "I come from coffee country and my mom must send me good coffee ever so often," laughs the Ugandan-born architect, Phillippa Tumubweinee.

She is one of the latest appointments at the university and has just arrived in Bloemfontein, but has already made a few interesting architectural discoveries about this town. "Did you know that three iconic Bloemfontein monuments are built in one straight line from west to east?" she asks, referring to the university's Main Building, NALN (National Afrikaans Literary Museum and Research Centre) and Hoffman Square. Was this intentional? Phillippa's passion for architecture will make her find out.

Talking to Phillippa about architecture, it is hard to believe that architecture was not her first choice of study. She actually wanted to go into the field of fashion, "... but my parents did not consider fashion as a proper career". She decided to work at an architectural company in Uganda for a while before starting her studies.

"Just to see if I like it."

And she did.

Today Phillippa has her own practice in Johannesburg and she was a lecturer at the University of Johannesburg before joining our university. Besides this, she did not have to give up her ideas of fashion.

"Fashion is just another form of architecture. Clothes are made up of different pieces – just like buildings. But the nice thing about fashion and architecture is how the two influence each other."

Phillippa points out how buildings are designed and made to accommodate the fashion of the day. "As ladies' dresses got smaller, arches and doorways were also built narrower. In many European cities where cycling is more of a habit than here, you'll find cycling lanes as part of their roads."

Taking a stroll on the Bloemfontein Campus, Phillippa discusses how she "reads" buildings. "By just looking at a building, one can actually see the whole philosophy behind it. I sometimes amuse myself by what I can see from a building's design."

Before reaching one of her favourite structures on campus, she utters a quick sound of irritation.

"I sometimes feel architects think that when they do an African design, there is not much thinking needed for the design. They neglect on this and there is pretty much planning and thinking needed for an African design as you would use in a European design."

Photo: René-Jean van der Berg

Phillippa Tumubweinee.

"I sometimes feel architects think that when they do an African design, there is not much thinking needed for the design. They neglect on this and there is pretty much planning and thinking needed for an African design as you would use in a European design."

Foto: Anja Aucamp

Susan van Jaarsveld.

Baie verrassings in die pakkie Susan van Jaarsveld

Deur Amanda Tongha

Sy hou nie van vuurwapens nie maar weet darem hoe om een te gebruik. Gelukkig hoef Susan van Jaarsveld, Adjunkdirekteur: Menslike Hulpbronne, nie 'n vuurwapen by ons universiteit te gebruik nie; anders as in haar vorige werk as 'n psigometris in die Veiligheidspolisie.

Toe sy in 1991 daar begin werk het, moes sy vir drie maande lank basiese polisie-opleiding ondergaan.

"Dit was 'n hengse skok op my gestel. Jy dink jy gaan doen menslike hulpbronne, maar dan is dit skiet en dril. As dit egter nie vir polisie was nie, sou ek nooit geleer het hoe om met 'n wapen te werk nie."

Sy is in 1994 weg by die Veiligheidspolisie en het by ons universiteit begin werk. Dit was net toe die universiteit internet en e-pos begin gebruik het, onthou sy. "Ons het nog fisies briewe geskryf en dit met 'n bode na departemente gestuur."

Agtien jaar later en ons universiteit is steeds vir haar een van die beste plekke om te werk. "Ons wat hier werk, besef nie dat alles in jou guns tel nie. Dis nie 'n harde omgewing om in te werk nie. Ook werk 'n mens saam met baie aangename mense."

Susan, 'n gekwalifiseerde bedryfsielkunde, sê om in menslike hulpbronne te werk is 'n groot verantwoordelikheid, omdat sy en haar kollegas met mense werk. "Daar is nie regte of verkeerde antwoorde nie, veral omdat dit om mense, hul emosies en belange gaan."

Buite die werk ontspan dié ma van twee tieners deur te lees. Bloot uit nuuskierigheid, vertel sy: "Ek is een van daai mense wat selfs die advertensies of die heengegaankolom in koerante lees."

Sy bly ook besig deur een keer 'n week saam met haar dogter Harriet bergfiets te ry. Harriet is 13 jaar oud en haar seun Ludwig is 16 jaar oud. Haar man, Cobus, is 'n navorser in die polisie se misdaadintelligensie-afdeling. Susan het hom in die tyd toe sy vir die Polisie gewerk het, ontmoet.

Photo: Anja Aucamp

Bella Rametse.

Getting to know Bella Rametse

By Jo Mbangata

The title of "Mother" is given to the women in our lives who nurture and care for us beyond what is asked of them. One such figure comes in the form of Commercial Law lecturer Bella Rametse, who has been on the staff of the university since December 2009, an environment she describes as completely different from the corporate one she came from. "When I was practising law, I would go to court and only had to speak facing a few people; as a lecturer I have classes of over two hundred. The thought was intimidating at first," she said.

Twelve years spent in a corporate legal atmosphere has the ability to depersonalise most practitioners, turning them into cold and removed individuals. Bella is a special case. She is using the shrewdness that she learnt in the corporate environment to help mould the "legal eagles" of tomorrow into sharp and smart novices. She does so, however, without compromising her belief that youth should be respectful towards their elders even at university level. "I am concerned by the manner in which some students approach lecturers; even though we are here to teach and serve their needs, they still need to give us the respect that we deserve as elders," she said.

The place where her impact is felt is the place where it matters most; the classroom. Tebogo Mosaka, a student in Bella's HRG214 class, writes in an e-mail to her. "Last year I failed HRG114, but this year it's a different story. After failing last year, I wanted to give up. I lost interest in the course, but because you taught it with such passion, knowledge and experience I began to like it and enjoy coming to class." He concludes: "Thank you for being patient with us and also being a mother figure to us; thank you for your love and warmth towards us when we ran to you for help." Bella says such e-mails from students keep her motivated and help to pick her up on bad days.

"As a lecturer there are challenges that I face daily." She lists communication with students from previously disadvantaged schools as one such challenge. Bella says these students find it difficult to communicate in English. "They would come to my office to ask questions about a lecture, rather than ask in a class full of students fluent in the language, for fear of being ridiculed. I sincerely hope that the university can find practical solutions to such problems," Bella says.

Her other passions include helping NGOs with community outreach projects. She is also currently working on starting a mentoring programme for young people. Bella works on the project with Dr Ilze Keevy, whom she admires as her own mentor. Other women that she admires include activist Mamphela Ramphele, Advocate Thuli Madonsela and the Head of a department in the Faculty of Law, Prof. Elizabeth Snyman-Van Deventer. She says these women inspire her in diverse ways and have helped her become the strong woman that she is today.

news

Foto: Leonie Bolleurs

Prof. Piet Strauss van die Departement Ekklesiologie en prof. Conrad Wethmar van die Universiteit van Pretoria.

Kan 'n universiteit teologie doseer?

Prof. Conrad Wethmar van die Universiteit van Pretoria het met breë penstrepe die pad wat teologie deur die eeue aan universiteite geloop het, geskets tydens 'n reeks lesings oor transformasie van kennis wat die Fakulteit Teologie vanjaar aanbied. Sedert die ontstaan van universiteite in die Middeleeue het die Christelike geloof 'n belangrike rol gespeel.

Sokrates se ideaal was dat studente nie net meer kennis bekom nie, maar ook moreel gevorm word. "Daar kan oor verskeie aspekte van die verhouding tussen teologie en 'n universiteit nagedink word," sê prof. Wethmar. Hy vra ook: "Kan 'n universiteit teologie doseer? Of, is daar ruimte vir teologie by 'n universiteit?"

"Die klassieke idee van die universiteit is ondermeer om die gemeenskap te dien deur persone vir hul beroep op te lei. Die universiteitsideaal was universaliteit, diversiteit en gemeenskapsdiens. Die moderne universiteitsidee het egter hiervan wegbeweeg. In hierdie universiteitsideaal kom die universiteit nie soseer die beste tot sy reg waar dit prakties bruikbare kennis bring nie, maar wanneer wetenskap beoefen word ter wille van die waarheid. John Henry Newman en Karl Jaspers is prominente denkers op hierdie gebied," sê prof. Wethmar.

Hy vervolg: "Die erflikheidseienskappe van die universiteits-idee kom ter sprake wanneer oor die plek van teologiese onderrig aan 'n universiteit besin word. Die verhouding tussen teologie en kerk speel egter ook 'n rol. Hoewel teologiese onderrig aan 'n universiteit nie die enigste onderrigopsie is nie, is daar tog verskeie redes waarom dit vir 'n kerk sinvol is om teologiese opleiding aan 'n universiteit te koppel. Om werklik "kerk-van-die-Woord" te wees, moet wetenskaplike insigte hieroor in ag geneem word. Dit is goed vir die samelewing dat 'n invloedryke saak soos die Christelike geloof aan die hoogste vlak van akademiese uitmuntendheid bestudeer word. Dit is ook goed vir die teologie om op 'n kritiese afstand van die amptelike strukture van die kerk te kan funksioneer."

"Teologie se noue verbondenheid tot samelewing, akademie en kerk kan juis die heel beste tot sy reg kom binne die universiteitskonteks," sê prof. Wethmar. – **dr. Lyzette Hoffman**

Prof. Jita is changing education

By Igno van Niekerk

Upon making an appointment with Prof. Loyiso Jita, one immediately senses a welcoming personality, a sense of confidence and a willingness to share. Then, upon entering his office in the new Education Building, you find Prof. Loyiso, and all your expectations are met. He is well-prepared, focused and present during our conversation.

So, what is his true academic passion?
The answer is straightforward: "Teacher change."

On the whiteboard in his office, Prof. Loyiso has scribbled down concepts which are the foundations of his research on teacher change. It is all about identity, leadership and professional growth. Teachers have to find within themselves the passion to teach, to develop their approach to teaching, to become accountable for what happens in the classroom. Prof. Loyiso becomes serious: "Change in education, especially the education of mathematics and science is crucial for the future of our country: It is now eighteen years after we founded our democracy. In these eighteen years there has been a lot to celebrate. Still, there are some things that are fundamentally wrong, especially if we look inside the classrooms in many of our schools. This is more so when we look specifically into the teaching of mathematics and science. Apartheid cannot be an excuse for what happens inside the classroom, after close to two decades of change. We need to move forward."

As he talks on, it becomes clear that Prof. Loyiso is a man on a mission. As someone who always saw Bloemfontein as a fuelling stop on the way from Pretoria to the Eastern Cape, he was convinced by Prof. Jonathan Jansen that the university was the place to be. After being excited by the Vice-Chancellor's vision, Prof. Loyiso seized the opportunity to come to Bloemfontein and live his dream. Convincing his wife, an instructional designer who had just taken up a position at an IT firm in Johannesburg, and his kids, who were quite happy at their schools to come to Bloemfontein must have taken some doing. Apparently the dream was sold really well as the whole family is now settled in the City of Roses; and Prof. Loyiso. Has he started working on his part of the dream?

Of course. He could not wait, and several initiatives have been launched already.

Recently, for example, role-players in science and mathematics education from the Free State Department of Education were invited to a work session at the university. "If we want to make a difference, we have to engage with the important stakeholders," Prof. Loyiso says, while shaking his head at the fact that this has not happened before at the university. Many of these role-players had never set foot on our campus, and were amazed at the new state-of-the-art building in which Mathematics, Science and Technology Education are housed. In terms of experience in higher education, he has been involved in education first at the Universities of Zululand, KwaZulu-Natal, Pretoria and, until recently, has been the director of the School of Education at UNISA. Now he is here at the university, ready to make a difference, ready to initiate change; to work on the dream, to change the teaching and learning of science and mathematics in our schools and thereby to build a positive and sustainable future for our children.

Photo: Igno van Niekerk

Prof. Loyiso Jita.

Avoid the **dreaded flu** this winter

As the winter season slowly creeps up, so does the thought of numbing cold nights, warm soup and, unfortunately, inevitable sickness. Secrets are shared to frantically avoid this or to recover faster. Much of the advice shared goes along the lines of: Sharing a bed with an ill person is strictly prohibited, regularly washing your hands is strictly recommended and always drink that precautionary glass of cold water before you venture off into the cold. Smoking and the drinking of red wine should be limited, as these activities cause you to lose excessive amounts of Vitamin C. The effervescent/fizzy tablets should be routinely taken or rather, 30 drops of that trusted homeopathic/herbal cure to cure yourself of any dreaded illnesses.

The question remains, exactly what is the cause of our illnesses in winter? Apparently it is upper-airway infections which are caused by local and sometimes global viruses. When the Free State nature sleeps, these viruses flourish around us, but despite this, we continue to create a warm working environment within the university that is attractive to our Free State friends, current and prospective students in South Africa as well as our international guests. Whatever you believe in – keep yourself warm, healthy and comfortable during the winter of 2012. **– Martie Nortjé**

Jamiėlee Simons

Ekaetee Benedict

Hanli Erasmus

Ruth Tsheisi

Tsamai Joshua Selebalo

Khosi Mohlakeng

Driven by **novelty** and known for **excellence**

To ensure quality standards of the institution at large, the university offers training opportunities to its diverse staff members. ***Thabo Motsoane*** *visited some of the staff and students on the Bloemfontein Campus to reflect on how training programmes made available to them have improved their work efficiency. This is how they responded:*

Jamiėlee Simons, Business Communication Lecturer at the Department of Communication Science: "The university does a great job in offering training opportunities to its staff, especially to lecturers. The training that I attended has helped me to manage my students and myself effectively and has given me a clear picture of what is expected of me as a lecturer.

"I have learned new lecturing methods and learnt tactics on how to interact effectively with people from different backgrounds. The way in which we received education is different from how the new generation is attaining it; therefore, it is important for us to keep on learning new methods."

Ekaetee Benedict, Business Management Lecturer in the Faculty of Economic and Management Science: "I think the university offers enough training opportunities, especially for academic staff. We learn how to conduct and teach large classes and how to use materials available to us such as Blackboard. We learn more on how to conduct research, therefore making my job more enjoyable. As an academic I would say that the training I have received is adequate, because my job has now become easier."

Hanli Erasmus, Secretary at the Faculty of Law: "There is enough training for the campus staff for various professions. I received training on conflict management, financial management and time management. As a secretary, I have also learned to get along with people in a better fashion and to prioritise my work effectively. I have even improved my computer skills through these programmes. I always say, even though it is not easy, one can never be too old to learn."

Ruth Tsheisi, Admission Officer at Student Academic Services: "Yes, training is available to the university's staff. I work a lot with students from all over the country and sometimes across the borders. The training that I attended has helped me with the strategy on how to detect forged certificates. This used to be a problem where you find people with fake qualifications. Fortunately, with the help of the training programmes offered by the university, there is an increased productivity in what I do and I can now detect landmines from miles away."

Tsamai Joshua Selebalo, Messenger at the Faculty of Health Sciences: "I think there is enough training, because I have received training in many things such as filing, computer programmes, record-keeping, and first-aid training. These training sessions have taught me to perform my duties effectively and my work has become much easier."

Khosi Mohlakeng, Student Assistant at the Department of Political Science: "The university has training opportunities for its staff. I am currently undergoing training as a Student Assistant in the Department of Political Science. The training that I have received has helped me to understand the importance of dealing with temper effectively better, because sometimes I deal with difficult students. I have learnt to put my differences aside and give people the benefit of the doubt."

Meningspeiling oor behuising toon verrassende uitslae

'n Meningspeiling op die Bloemfontein-kampus het getoon dat die behuisingsgeriewe hier baie goed daar uit sien.

Bykans 800 ouers en eerstejaars het tydens die Gateway-eerstejaarsweek en verwelkoming van die universiteit vraelyste voltooi waarin hulle moes aandui wat hul indrukke van geselekteerde koshuise was.

Vir bevrediging onder studente was die gemiddelde uitslag 84% en onder die ouers 93%. Hier is Wag-'n-Bietjie en Veritas die hoogste gereken, met sowat 95% studente en ouers wat die twee koshuise as bevredigend ervaar het. Alhoewel Vergeet-my-nie die laagste gereken is, is dit steeds 65% studente en bykans 90% ouers wat die koshuis as bevredigend beskou.

Vir die algemene atmosfeer in koshuise, netheid, verwelkoming het sowat 55% respondente dit as 'uitstekend' aangedui. Ander respondente het dit as 'goed' (sowat 33%) of 'aanvaarbaar' (9%) aangedui.

Bykans 60% respondente het aangedui dat die huiskomitee, koshuishoofde en mentors hulle veilig in die koshuise laat voel. Vir baie van die respondente was dit ook aangenaam om te weet dat hulle in bekwame hande gelaat is en het meer as 60% respondente hul koshuishoofde en komiteelede se bekwaamheid as uitstekend beskou.

"Al die koshuise is genooi om aan die meningspeiling deel te neem. Die uitslae wys vir ons dat die koshuisverwelkoming tydens die Gateway-eerstejaarsweek 'n groot sukses was. Hulle het baie moeite gedoen om studente welkom te laat voel en ouers op hul gerus te stel.
– René-Jean van der Berg

Prof. James Editor-in-Chief of international publication

Prof. James du Preez, Chairperson of the Department of Microbial, Biochemical and Food Biotechnology, has been appointed joint Editor-in-Chief of *Biotechnology for Biofuels*, as of 1 July 2012. This is an open-access, peer-reviewed online journal with an impact factor of 4.15, featuring high-quality research on technological and operational advances in the production of biofuels from renewable biomass. The other three joint Editors-in-Chief are all from the USA.
– Leatitia Pienaar

Prof. André Venter appointed to the Premier's Advisory Committee

Prof. André Venter was recently appointed by Mr Ace Magashule, Premier of the Free State, to serve on a special advisory committee in the Free State.

This committee has advisors in various categories and Prof. Venter will be tasked with policies on health matters of the province. – René-Jean van der Berg

Prof. Andries Stulting awarded for exceptional leadership skills

Prof. Andries Stulting, Chief Specialist at the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of the Free State, recently received an award of Excellence in Leadership by the South African Registrars Association.

"It is a huge honour to be nominated and receive this award," Prof. Stulting says.

He has been involved at the university for the past 33 years and also runs his ophthalmology practice in Bloemfontein. – René-Jean van der Berg

Versprei die WOORD...

Deur René-Jean van der Berg

Met die eerste semester wat nou einde se kant toe staan, het die universiteit weereens nie gehuiwer om die plaaslike, nasionale en internasionale nuus te haal nie. Nie net het ons kenners hul menings by verskeie geleenthede uitgespreek nie, maar is daar ook wyd berig oor ons navorsers wat die afgelope maande erkenning vir hul werk verkry het.

- Die No Student Hungry-veldtog het sekerlik die grootste aftrek gekry. Die program is daargestel om hulpbehoewende studente finansieel met hul daaglikse maaltye by te staan. Tydens die bekendstellingsgeleentheid is daar sowat R200 000 ingesamel. Daar is wyd in bykans al die plaaslike én nasionale blaaie, sowel as SABC- en etv-nuuskanale hieroor berig. *The Times*, *Public Eye KZN*, *The New Age*, *Pretoria News*, *The Star* en *Citizen* het oor die projek berig.
- Daar is berig dat die Herfsgradeplegtigheid in Maart een van die grootstes ooit was, met die meeste diplomas/sertifikate tot en met honneursgrade wat tydens een plegtigheid toegeken is. *Volksblad*, *Ons Stad*, OFM en *Bloemfontein Courant* het hieroor berig.
- Twee kinderkardioloë aan die UV het mediese geskiedenis gemaak toe hulle die eerste Melody-hartklep in 'n jong pasiënt uit Afrika ingeplant het. Dié inplanting skakel ingrypende chirurgie en selfs moontlike opvolgoperasies uit. SABC-radiostasies, verskeie gemeenskapsradiostasies, *Volksblad*, *Bloemfontein Courant*, OFM, *The Weekly*, *Free State Times* was van die plaaslike media wat hieroor berig het. Ander media soos *The New Age*, en die *SA cardiology and Stroke Journal* het ook hieroor berig.
- Die Openbare Beskermer, adv. Thuli Madonsela, het die UV besoek en 'n openbare lesing aangebied. Tydens haar lesing het sy gesê dat apartheid nie langer die blaam kan dra vir swak dienslewering nie, maar dat korrupsie hiervoor geblameer moet word. SABC radio- en tv-nuus, *Volksblad*, *City Press*, OFM en *Bloemfontein Courant* en *The New Age* het die storie gedra.
- Die Minister van Hoër Onderwys en Opleiding, dr. Blade Nzimande, het vir dr. Choice Makhetha, Viserektor: Eksterne Betrekkinge, as 'n lid van die raad van die Nasionale Instituut vir Hoër Onderwys (NIHE) in die Noord-Kaap aangestel. Dr. Makhetha sal vir 'n vierjaarperiode op die nuut aangestelde raad dien. Die raad se rol is om hoër onderwys in die provinsie te koördineer. Daar was meer oor die aanstelling in *The New Age* en *The Weekly*.
- Op Afrika-dag op Vrydag 25 Mei was die UV geëerd om die bekroonde Keniaanse skrywer, prof. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o, hier te ontvang om 'n openbare lesing aan te bied. Die besoek en media het baie mediabelangstelling geniet en is in *Sunday Times*, *Sunday Independent*, *Mail and Guardian*, *The New Age* en die *Free State Times* gebruik. Die televisiespan van *Kagiso TV* in Johannesburg het ook beeldmateriaal verfilm om in 'n latere dokumentêre program te gebruik.
- Prof. Jonathan Jansen, ons Rektor en Visekanselier, het sy mening oor verskeie sake op twee internasionale radiostasies gelug. Radio France International het sy mening oor die gerugte Brett Murray-skildery van pres. Zuma gevra. Die Australian Broadcasting Corporation het 'n program oor sy werksaamhede by die UV en rasseversoening uitgesaai. Die Amerikaanse nuuskanaal, CNN, het ook die afgelope maand 'n profiel oor sy geloof in die krag van kennis en sy passie om sy morele waarde - versoening teenoor vergelding - aan ander te leer.

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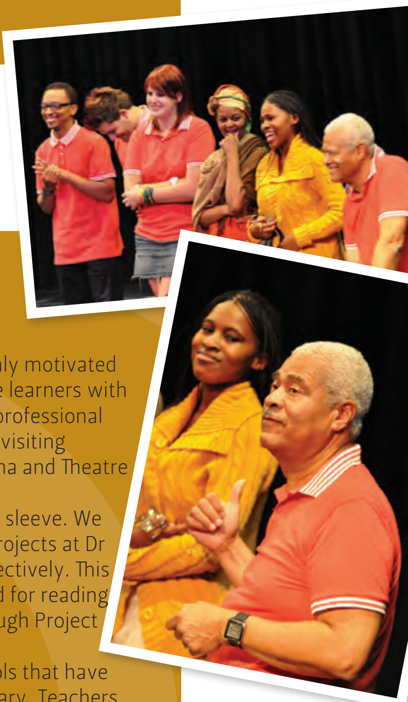
1. Adv. Thuli Madonsela.
2. Dr. Choice Makhetha.
3. Prof. Ngũgĩ wa Thiong'o.

We are not merely about academics, we are also about heart

Photo's: Stephen Collett



Tessa Ndlovu, one of our vibrant staff members, has arrived. She is making rapid strides in making the world a better place.

"One of the two most beautiful non-curricular programmes we are heading in the Office of the Vice-Rector: External Relations, are Project Inspire and the Culture of Reading Project.

"During school visits last year numerous principals identified that motivation was highly needed for learners as well as teachers. This is where we came in.

"We approached deans in our various faculties to identify top academic students to act as motivational ambassadors for our 25 schools in our Schools Partnership Programme. Faculties were thrilled to facilitate the process of students into this programme. We met with 26 learners who were more than happy to assist by giving back to their community.

"What makes the project special is that most of our students themselves have walked that road. They overcame their challenges and turned them around. They now work with Grade 10–12 learners by teaching them methods to face day-to-day challenges that have an effect on their studies.

"Project Inspire, on the other hand, brings out the best in all of us. We managed to host an Easter Play on 8 April 2012 during the Easter weekend. We took one of our schools in our Schools Partnership Programme and identified eight highly motivated learners in Grade 10. We linked these learners with our third-year drama students and professional actors such as Prof. Charles Dumas, visiting professor at the Department of Drama and Theatre Arts," said Tessa.

"We have so many tricks up our sleeve. We will soon start on one of our other projects at Dr Blok and Moroka High Schools, respectively. This is where we will instil an innate need for reading in learners. This will all be done through Project Culture of Reading.

"It is heartbreaking to see schools that have no reading resources or a ghost-library. Teachers are terribly overburdened, and to instil the passion of reading in them is another chore they do not get to.

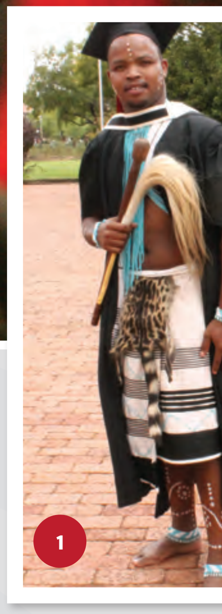
"The problem snowballs as learners come to institutions of higher learning. You will find students who can hardly read, write or analyse a written text. We have identified two of our students who are assisting us by designing a model for reading programmes for the schools we partner with. Andrew Westover is a Fulbright Scholar from the USA, doing his Master's degree in Second Language Acquisition and Talita Calitz is a Ph.D. student in Higher Education and Social Justice. The School Partnership Programme is open to everyone on campus," Tessa concluded. – **Phelekwa Mpono**

Grade 10 learners from the Schools Partnership Programme star in the Easter Play with third-year drama students and professional actors such as Prof. Charles Dumas.

Meeste diplomas, sertifikate en grade word by Herfsgradeplegtigheid toegeken

Deur René-Jean van der Berg

"Vanjaar is die meeste diplomas, sertifikate en grade ooit by agt verskillende geleenthede in die Callie Human-sentrum toegeken."



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Dit was die woorde van Potella Sibongile, 'n Xhosa *imbongi* (pryssanger) en self 'n graduandus, aan graduandi tydens vanjaar se Herfsgradeplegtigheid op die Bloemfontein-kampus. Tydens die talle verskillende gradeplegtighede kon ouers dikwels nie hulle trots inhou nie toe hul kinders oor die verhoog stap om hul nuwe "geboortesertifikate" te ontvang.

Baie van ons akademici het ook geswel van trots toe hul kinders oor die verhoog stap.

Prof. Francois Tolmie, Dekaan van die Fakulteit Teologie, se dogter, Carmien, het die graad B.Sc. Hons (cum laude) in Biotegnologie ontvang.

Vir die gesin van prof. Theo Du Plessis het die gradeplegtigheid dubbele vreugde gebring. Sy dogter, Mènan, het haar B-graad in Argitektuur ontvang, terwyl sy seun, Jean-Pierre, as beste honneursstudent in Rekenaarwetenskap aangewys is.

Marisan Nienkemper (B.Sc. Hons) het die Senaatsmedalje en -prys as die beste honneursstudent aan die universiteit, asook die Dekaansmedalje as beste honneursstudent in die Fakulteit Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe ontvang. Sy is die dogter van Dorothy Russell van die Departement Pediatrie en Kindergesondheid.

Vanjaar is die meeste diplomas, sertifikate en grade ooit by agt verskillende geleenthede in die Callie Human-sentrum toegeken.

Tydens die gradeplegtigheid op die Qwaqwa-kampus op 12 Mei vanjaar is 424 grade, diplomas en sertifikate toegeken.

In gelukwensinge aan die graduandi het beide die Viserektor: Institusionele Sake, prof. Teuns Verschoor, en die Kanselier, dr. Khotso Mokhele, die graduandi uitgedaag om hulle fokus verder as hulle gradeplegtigheid te rig op waarna hulle verwys het as die "regte wêreld".

1. Potella Sibongile.
2. Prof. Francois Tolmie en sy dogter, Carmien.
3. Hier is, van links: Jean-Pierre, Colleen du Plessis, prof. Theo du Plessis en Mènan. Prof. Du Plessis is die Hoof van die Departement Taalbestuur en Taalpraktyk, en Colleen is 'n dosent in die Departement Engels.
4. Marisan Nienkemper (B.Sc. Hons) (middel), haar suster, Johané, Nienkemper, en haar ma, Dorothy Russell van die Departement Pediatrie en Kindergesondheid.

Performance management **improves communication** between **service level workers** and **supervisors**

By Amanda Tongha

Photo: Anja Aucamp

Service workers signed performance plans in November 2011.

Once a week Evelyn Mabija meets with her team of workers to discuss what needs to be done for that week. At these meetings, the six employees who she supervises get the opportunity to discuss any problems they experience in the workplace. An important part of this is that everybody discusses what should be done to improve their job performance.

Evelyn, who works in our Residence and Housing Department, says they did not always meet like this. Since our university introduced performance management for service level workers, communication with the six women on her team has improved. The women are responsible for cleaning some of the residences on our Bloemfontein Campus.

Our university introduced performance management for service level workers in March last year, starting the process with three-hour workshops for supervisors of service level workers. Supervisors were taught how to communicate effectively with workers, help solve problems and assist employees to work according to required standards. They also learned skills like how to conduct meetings.

"The aim of Performance Management is to improve service delivery and coaching by supervisors creates a rewarding environment in which employees are empowered to solve problems and prevent mistakes themselves", says Dr Renalde Huysamen, Head of Performance Management and Staff Development.

Mamokete Ratsoane, Deputy Director of Human Resources, who facilitated the workshops, says those involved were very supportive of the process. She says performance management for service level workers gives supervisors the platform to act without fear. "It also assisted supervisors to have a deeper understanding of work related problems of the members of staff reporting to them". The roll-out of the performance management process continues in 2012.

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Geboue op Bloemfontein-kampus trek 'n nuwe baadjie aan

Deur Leonie Bolleurs

Ons universiteit sit met 'n institusionele geskiedenis en tradisies van meer as 100 jaar. Só ook is daar 'n paar geboue op die kampus wat ooggetuie was van die wel en wee van menige student en akademikus. Die universiteit beplan om vir sekere van hierdie ou geboue weer 'n nuwe baadjie aan te trek, asook om ander geboue nuut in te rig met 'n heeltemal nuwe funksie.

Só 'n gebou is die Noordblok, wat tans klaskamers huisves en na verwagting teen Oktober vanjaar in 12 kantore omskep sal word.

Onder die geboue wat opgeknap word, is die Albert Wessels-ouditorium en die CR Swart-gebou. Die AWO met sy 196 sitplekke word in 'n hoër-klas ouditorium omskep. Die projek is nog in die beplanningsfase, sê Louis Badenhorst van Fisiese Hulpbronne. Die CR Swart-gebou sal opgraderings ondergaan, wat onder meer verbeterings aan die ligte en plafonne in die ingangsportaal en veranderings aan die looproete na die gebou aan Justicia se kant insluit.

'n Opwindende toevoeging tot die fasiliteite van die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe in die Francois Retief-gebou is die inrigting van 'n wêreldklas simulasie-eenheid. Die projek sal na verwagting in November vanjaar voltooi wees.

In terme van studente-akkommodasie gaan bouwerk aan die twee koshuise op die Wes-kampus voort. Die koshuise saam sal aan 500 studente akkommodasie kan verskaf. Hierdie twee koshuise wat tans gebou word, sal in Januarie 2013 voltooi wees.

Studente op ons Qwaqwa-kampus kan ook uitsien na 'n addisionele koshuis op die kampus. Die koshuis is ook nog in die beplanningsfase. Verder word daar ook opgraderings vir die Hoofingang na die kampus en die moniteringsfasiliteite op die Qwaqwa-kampus beplan, soortgelyk aan dié van die Bloemfontein-kampus, deur kameras en rooipaaltjies aan te bring.

'n Ander spogprojek wat in sy beplanningsfase is, is die Alumni-gebou. Die fasiliteit sal tussen die George du Toit-gebou en die Benedictus Kok-gebou opgerig word.

Grafiese voorstellings van die koshuise wat in aanbouing is op die Wes-kampus in Bloemfontein.

University receives honour for contribution towards nanoresearch

Prof. Martin Ntwaeaborwa.

Our university is not only a sought-after destination for political, business and community leaders; this year it also played host to the 4th International Conference on Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (NanoAfrica 2012). The conference was attended by more than 200 scientists and exhibitors from across South Africa and countries such as Australia, Brazil, India, Germany, Pakistan and the United States of America, making it truly international.

Together with the South African Nanotechnology Initiative (SANi), our Department of Physics was the co-organisers of the conference under the chairmanship of Prof. Martin Ntwaeaborwa.

The theme of NanoAfrica 2012 was "Nanostructured materials for social and industrial development", which was realised by cutting-edge presentations on topics related to front-line areas of nanoscience and nanotechnology. After a warm Free State welcome by the Dean of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Prof. Neil Heidemann, Prof. Lodewyk Kock from the Department of Microbial, Biochemical and Food Biotechnology, gave an excellent opening lecture titled, "A new nanotechnology for Biology".

A feather in our university's cap was when Prof. Martin was elected as the new Chairperson of SANi. Two students, Jack Madito (Ph.D. Physics) and Leon Wessels (M.Sc. Physics), were elected to serve in the executive council of the SANi student chapter, and three other students, GH Ndlovu (Ph.D. Physics), MM Duvenhage (Ph.D. Physics) and K Dithebe (M.Sc. Microbiology), were among the winners of student prizes for best presentations at the conference.

Not only did the conference provide a wonderful opportunity for networking and interaction, but it also gave recognition to our university as one of the contributors to global research in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology. **– Prof. Martin Ntwaeaborwa**

Akademiese hoofde kry hulp en ondersteuning

Akademiese hoofde lê ten grondslag van die verwesenliking van die uitbou en uitleef van die visie en ideale van die universiteit, naamlik om wêreldwyd erken te word vir sy akademiese uitnemendheid en mense-versoening. 'n Vangnet is by die UV Sakeskool geskep om aan hierdie besondere groep mense aandag te gee.

Die totstandkoming van die inisiatief vir die ontwikkeling van akademiese departementshoofde is 'n lankgekoesterde ideaal van prof. Tienie Crous. Reeds voorheen as Dekaan van die Fakulteit Ekonomiese en Bestuurswetenskappe het hy die behoefte aan leiding, hulp en mentorskap by hierdie groep waargeneem. Uiteenlopende idees bestaan oor wat akademiese hoofde veronderstel is om te wees en te doen en daar het nie voorheen 'n gekoördineerde poging bestaan om hulle by te staan nie.

"Akademiese hoofde moet die universiteit se strategiese plan laat werk," sê prof. Crous.

Die geïdentifiseerde groep sluit in departementele voorsitters, departementshoofde, hoofde van skole, en kandidate wat vir toekomstige aanstellings oorweeg word. Leiding sal geskied in die vorm van aanbiedings, werkswinkels en gesprekke.

Prof. Crous sê universiteite het die afgelope paar jaar deur ongekende verandering gegaan. Ingesluit hierby is die verandering van studente se verwagtinge, 'n groeiende behoefte om onderrig en navorsing te balanseer, verandering in staatsbefondsing, groter maatskaplike verantwoordelikheid, druk om pasgemaakte mense-materiaal te lewer, die uitdagings wat tegnologie bring en globalisering.

Die inisiatief sal help om 'n nuwe geslag akademici aan die universiteit te slyp. **– Leatitia Pienaar**

Prof. Tienie Crous (links) staan hier by dr. Zacheus Matebesi wat aanbiedings bygewoon het (Departementshoof: Sosiologie), en dr. Justin Kennedy van die UV Sakeskool wat die aanbiedings gaan hanteer.

Spanwerk tooi Hoofgebou in blou vir outisme-bewusmaking

Foto: Stephen Collett

Koos van Straten, Anton Calitz, Ria Deysel en Craig Armstrong.

"Ten spyte van die hoë voorkoms van outisme in Suid-Afrika is daar steeds bitter min algemene kennis onder Suid-Afrikaners oor die siekte," sê dr. David Griessel, 'n kenner oor outisme aan die universiteit se Departement Pediatrie en Kindergesondheid. Só het dit gekom dat die universiteit saam met ander instansies vanjaar sy steun verleen het en aan die outisme-bewusmakingsveldtog in April deelgeneem het.

Op ons Bloemfontein-kampus was die Hoofgebou in April in blou lig gehul. Dit het egter meer as die druk van 'n knoppie gekos vir die universiteit om saam met verskeie ander landmerke wêreldwyd sy deel vir outisme-bewusmaking te doen. Die span van Fisiese Hulpbronne, wat Ria Deysel (Direkteur), Anton Calitz (elektriese ingenieur), Koos van Straten (senior elektrisiën), Casper du Plooy (werkswinkel superintendent), Craig Armstrong (elektrisiën) en sy assistent Elias Lehaba insluit, het hul kennis, vaardighede, kreatiwiteit en 'n bietjie geduld (want alles wou nie die eerste keer werk nie) saamgegooi om die Hoofgebou in blou te tooi.

Craig vertel hoe almal saamgewerk het: "Nadat Anton 'n versoek van dr. Griesel ontvang het om ook die Hoofgebou 'n blou skynsel te gee, het Ria en Piet Gouws, ook van Fisiese Hulpbronne, ons vriendelik versoek om dr. Griessel met sy versoek te help.

Nadat Koos die prys van ligte en gloeilampe wat die gewenste blou kleur sou gee, uitgevind het, het ons Douglas Merriman van ons Departement Drama en Teaterkuns genader vir blou "verhoogjellies". Hy het die jellies voorsien en dié is toe aan die bestaande ligte voor die Hoofgebou aangebring. Vir twee aande het die gebou pragtig daar uitgesien totdat die hitte van die ligte die jellies begin smelt het.

Ons was terug by die begin.

Weer het ons vir jellies begin soek, waarna ons na PACOFS verwys is, wat ons met groot velle jellies gehelp het. Ek het toe binne 'n oggend ses houtbokse gemaak waarin die jellies aangebring is sodat dit nie weer smelt nie. Ons kan nou selfs vir ander bewusmakingsveldtogte die blou jellies uithaal, met 'n ander kleur vervang en weer gebruik."

Met die gesamentlike poging het ons nie net ons steun vir diegene met outisme gewys nie; ons is nou ook gerat om in die toekoms aan ander bewusmakingsveldtogte deel te neem. – **Leonie Bolleurs**

Prof. Frans Swanepoel moves on, bidding farewell

Prof. Frans Swanepoel.

Research at our university has become synonymous with Prof. Frans Swanepoel who, after 10 years, is leaving our university to take up a post at Cornell University in the United States of America. The academic will join the Institute for African Development (IAD) at Cornell as a Senior Research Fellow.

After serving two five-year terms as a member of the senior leadership for research, he says it is time to move on and make way for new energy."At Cornell I will have the opportunity to re-establish my research career."

Prof. Frans is not getting into his new job right away. From August he takes a sabbatical for a few months to complete a book on the restructuring of agricultural education and training in Africa. The book is funded by the WK Kellogg and Rockefeller Foundations.

About the university he is leaving behind, he says he has been privileged to be part of the change process at our university.

"It was the most stimulating and rewarding part of my career thus far. When I was appointed as founding Director for Research in 2002, the research function was mainly administrative. We developed the first research strategy, and moved the focus from administration to a much more nuanced and strategic approach."

Emanating from the research strategy were recommendations to establish an International Office, a Innovation and Business Development office, and the Postgraduate School. All three now acknowledged units. Other significant highlights include the allocation of three SARChI Chairs to our university and the establishment of the Strategic Academic Clusters. This year is the first time in history the university hosts more than 100 NRF-rated researchers.

"I will look back on the past 10 years with pride and a sense of privilege at being given this extraordinary opportunity to serve the university and its community. It was both a personal and professional growth experience. The best years for the university are yet to come!"
– **Amanda Tongha**

Carin Buys, Grace Jansen, Louise Grantham from Bookstorm Publishers and Prof. Jonathan Jansen.

Invest in a meal, and see the difference

By Leatitia Pienaar

No army can march on an empty stomach, and no student can concentrate and perform without a balanced meal every day.

With its No Student Hungry (NSH) Programme our university makes sure those young minds who cannot afford such a meal do not fall out of the higher education system.

An investment in the NSH Programme equals an investment in the future of our country.

The NSH Programme, founded by Prof. Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector, got fresh momentum with solid donations of more than R200 000 this year. Prof. Jansen donated R100 000 of the proceeds of one of his books (*We Need to Talk*) for this worthy cause. The programme started in 2011 with the proceeds of his book, *KNOWLEDGE IN THE BLOOD*.

The programme raises funds to provide food bursaries for needy students and give them daily access to a balanced meal. More than a 100 students are assisted with these bursaries. The students are selected on the basis of their financial needs, academic achievements, participation in student-life programmes and commitment to give something back to the community.

It is estimated that between 10 to 20% of our students have insufficient nutrition on a daily basis. This means that quite a significant number of our future leaders cannot concentrate properly on their studies.

At a launch function at the beginning of 2012, Prof. Jansen said the NSH Programme is not only about creating a university campus that cares. "It is about creating a country where being human matters. Our students on the NSH project are amazing young people. They struggle to get by, but they have great potential and achieve good marks."

At the heart of the fundraising for the NSH Programme are Prof. Jansen's wife, Grace, and Dr Carin Buys, wife of Rudi Buys, Dean of Student Affairs. They are supported by René Pelser (as Programme Coordinator) and various divisions at our university.

If you want to help, please contact René on 051 401 9087 or e-mail pelserr@ufs.ac.za.

How does it work: Salary Advice

By Amanda Tongha

"At the end of my salary I always have a lot of month left."

Bottom-up. That is how most of us read our salary slips. Tearing it open the eyes goes straight to where it says net salary. That is the money reflecting in your bank account, money that has to settle accounts and stands between you and a couple of luxuries. But do you know what is further up on your salary slip? Do you know how they got to the amount at the bottom right?

Working through the salary slip this is the information you need to know.

A - That is where your name appears.

B - The date on which salaries will appear in employees' bank accounts. Pay days are normally the last work day of the month. In December salaries are paid in on the 20th. If the 20th is on a Saturday or Sunday, money will be paid into your account on the 18th.

C- Your bank e.g. Absa, Standard Bank.

D- Your bank account number.

E- Your tax number.

F- That is what you earn before deductions come off and includes allowances such as your housing subsidy.

G - This is the taxable medical aid benefit.

H- That is the amount deducted for your Pension or Provident Fund. It is calculated at 7,5%. The university contributes double the amount to your pension or provident fund (See copy of our March *Dumela*).

I – Discovery/BestMed. It is the difference between your medical aid allowance and total premium.

J – Group Life Insurance is calculated at 0,804192% of your salary notch (on the left of your salary slip).

K – Union fees. Uvpersu/Nehawu

L – PAYE – This is a statutory deduction and you pay according to the relevant tax year.

M – Unemployment Insurance is another statutory deduction. It is calculated at 1% of your income and you cannot pay more than R124,78 per month.

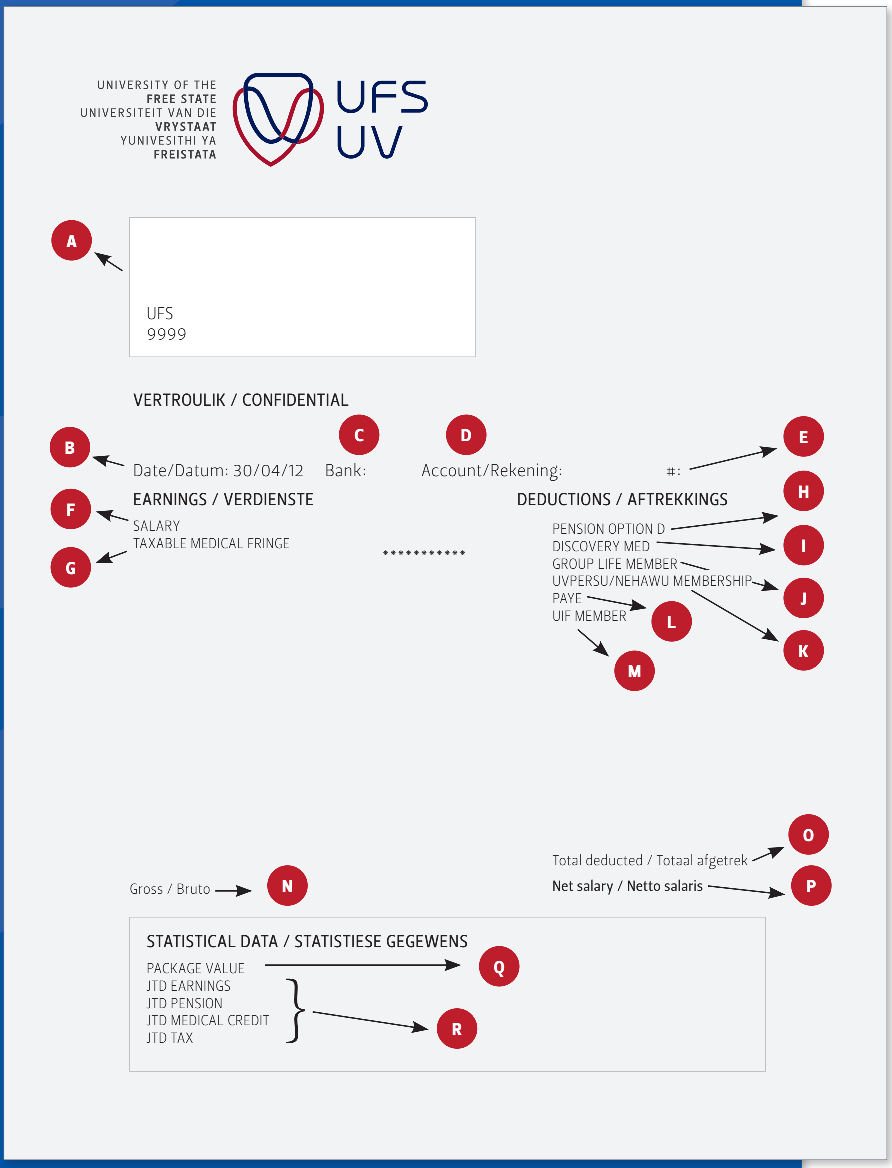
N – This is the total income before deductions are made.

O – The total deductions. Everything on the right adds up.

P – This is the amount after deductions.

Q- This is your total remuneration package. Employer contributions are included.

R- Accumulated totals for that specific tax year.



Studente kry wyer insigte in die UFS101-kursus

Deur Leatitia Pienaar

Dr. Ilze Keevy van die Departement Staatsreg en Regsfilosofie, regter Cagney Musi van die Vrystaatse Hooggeregshof, en dr. Mallory du Plooy, Projekbestuurder van UFS101.

Min studente sal ooit kan sê dat 'n regter al vir hulle klas gegee het, en dit vir 'n uur lank!

Eerstejaarstudente in die UFS101-kernkurrikulummodule het die voorreg om aan die voete van uitgelese leermeesters in verskeie velde te sit. Só het die studente in Mei vanjaar kans gehad om na regter Cagney Musi van die Vrystaatse Hooggeregshof te luister.

Met die UFS101-module kan hulle 'n beter visie en begrip van hul eie menswees en hul plek in die burgerlike samelewing kry. Hulle kan ook leer hoe al die ratte saamwerk om een groot diverse samelewing te vorm.

Dr. Mallory du Plooy, Projekbestuurder, sê die program is vanjaar vir alle nuwe eerstejaarstudente ingestel nadat dit in 2011 in 'n loodsprogram deeglik getoets is. Meer as 2 000 studente is vanjaar in die program opgeneem en dit sal in 2013 met meer as 'n duisend groei wanneer studente in verlengde kursusse ook die UFS101-module moet aanpak.

Onderwerpe wat in die UFS101-module hanteer word, is:

- Hoe hanteer ons ons gewelddadige verlede? (Geskiedenis, Opvoedkunde, Politieke Wetenskap)
- Wat behels regverdigheid? (Regte)
- Is ons alleen? (Astronomie, Fisika)
- Het God regtig gesê? (Teologie, Filosofie, Teksanalise)
- Hoe groen is groen? (Chemie, Fisika, Nanotegnologie)
- Hoekom is die finansiële krisis "globaal"? (Ekonomie)
- Hoe word ons Suid-Afrikaners? (Antropologie, Sosiale Sielkunde)

Die module behels massa-lesings in die Callie Human-sentrum, wat opgegradeer is met die nuutste oudiovisuele tegnologie. Blackboard is die primêre medium waardeur die studente en leerfasiliteerders kommunikeer. Afsprake kan ook met die span van sowat 70 leerfasiliteerders gemaak word. Die kursus word in 'n byna papierlose omgewing aangebied.

Mallory sê die gedagte dat die universiteit 'n meer afgeronde student aan die gemeenskap kan lewer, maak hom opgewonde. "Die module bring 'n wyer en dieper insig oor 'n breë spektrum van onderwerpe by die studente tuis."

Die UFS101-span, met kantore in die Ou KovsieSport-gebou, is verantwoordelik vir die koördinering van die projek, asook vir die saamstel en skryf van die studiegidse.

Studente moet die module met 'n gemiddeld van 50% in die sewe assesseringsgeleenthede slaag om hulle kwalifikasie te behaal.

Kernkurrikulum-modules word redelik algemeen by universiteite in die VSA aangebied, maar die universiteit is een van die min, indien nie die enigste nie, wat so 'n module in Suid-Afrika aanbied.

Dit kan jy wees 'daardie slim ou wat weet waaroor dit gaan'.

Jy soek gemoedsrus. Die gerusstelling dat selfs as iets met jou sou gebeur, jou gesin steeds die beste sal kry wat die lewe bied. En selfs al kan jy nie langer werk nie, sal daar vir 'n inkomste gesorg word.

Beplan dit só met 'n **Persoonlike Dekking-oplossing** van Sanlam.

- Jou dekking bly dieselfde, al verander jou lewenstyl.
- Buigsame opsies – kies slegs die dekking wat jy benodig.
- Een van die bedryf se mees standhoudende eise-uitbetalers.

Bel my vir deskundige advies indien nodig.
Begin met dit waarvoor jy hoop.

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Ons dink vooruit

Uplifting others means uplifting ourselves

By Phelekwa Mpono

At your service is the Staff Health and Wellness Centre. The dedicated staff of the centre currently manages two support groups on the Bloemfontein Campus, namely the Depression and Anxiety Support Group and the Single-Parent Support Group.

"We started the groups due to the relatively high numbers of people with depression (anxiety is the flip side of depression) according to our medical-aid statistics. There are also a lot of single parents as the statistics are also generally high in the population.

"Those who attend are generally positive about the support being offered by our office. They initially requested monthly meetings, but our capacity unfortunately allows only for quarterly meetings. Small numbers of staff attend the support groups due to the more sensitive nature of the issues at hand," said Dr Annette Prins from the centre.

A person should attempt to negotiate a balanced and fulfilling life, pursuing optimal health, thereby allowing both themselves and the university community to thrive.

Staff Wellness has a remedial office where free psychological services are offered to staff by Dr Annette. They also have a small employee assistance programme (EAP) fund which may be applied for referrals to outsides agencies according to set criteria. Some staff is also assisted with referrals related to financial problems and for legal advice. "We also manage a small emergency fund for staff that is experiencing severe financial problems in aid of either food or medical expenses.

"We as a team attempt to follow a healthy lifestyle; follow a developmental trajectory. Mostly we strive towards good time management and the competent support of one another," she concluded.

For further insight, visit the Wellness website. They are also available on Facebook.

Human project in action on Qwaqwa Campus

By Thabo Kessah

Photo: Thabo Kessah

Young and ambitious Sibongile Mlotywa shares her organisation's vision with the Thabo Mofutsanyana community during Prof. Jansen's visit to the area.

Sibongile Mlotjwa is a young woman with a passion for her studies and her beloved community. She is focused and ambitious and she finds pleasure in helping those who are less privileged. This final-year BA Psychology and Political Science student is the public relations officer of the organisation, National Youth Volunteer (NYV).

"Ours is a student structure aiming at adding value and giving back to the communities that we come from," says the 21-year old, who comes from the Dihlabeng town of Bethlehem.

"Despite our hectic studies, we had the opportunity to spend a day at the Leratong Children's Home and Bopanang Stimulation Centre, respectively. These visits were gratifying, as we helped with the cleaning of both centres on top of playing games with the children over there. We also prepared breakfast and cooked them lunch.

"As they say, charity begins at home and we have already hosted an exam dialogue on campus. Here we were sharing examination and study skills with our fellow students. We will soon be launching a book club as well as a 'pick-up-trash' week in the second semester," added a visibly excited Sibongile.

"We have also had the time to share our ideas and plans at two major events in recent weeks – the launch of the Department of Social Development's road-show that was held on campus as well as Prof. Jonathan Jansen's meeting with the Thabo Mofutsanyana community in May. At both these events we were afforded the opportunity to share our vision with various stakeholders that included NPOs, NGOs, government departments, business representatives, political structures, local government, religious and traditional leadership.

"We are making serious inroads into our communities and we plan to host an African awareness week in September as part of the heritage-month celebrations. We have bigger and better plans going forward as we aspire for partnerships with other structures in this part of the country and beyond.

"Watch this space," she said. Watching this space with anticipation is what we are all doing!

Wen 'n gewoonte by Kovsies se voorste tennisspelers

As dit pap reën, moet jy skep.

Dis presies wat die voorste tennisspelers aan die universiteit gedoen het deur onder meer vyf jaar agtereenvolgens die Universiteitsport Suid-Afrika (Ussa)-toernooi te wen.

Kovsies is dus sedert einde 2007 die koning van die tennisbaan onder die 18 tersiêre instellings in die land waar tennis gespeel word. Boonop is vier spelers van ons universiteit, Duke Munro, Christi Potgieter, Elizna Barnard en Este Potgieter in die wedloop om vir die Suid-Afrikaanse studentespan gekies te word.

Verlede jaar het drie Kovsies hul in dié span bevind.

Die span gaan moontlik in September aan die FASU-spele deelneem. Volgende jaar se wêreld-studentespele in Rusland is egter 'n gegewe.

Die afrigter en spanbestuurder van die Kovsiespan, Marnus Kleinhans en Janine de Kock, is ook in hierdie rolle vir die nasionale studentespan gekies – voorwaar 'n puik prestasie.

Janine beklee ook die posisie as voorsitter van tennis by Ussa. Volgens haar het 'n wenkultuur tot die sukses oor die afgelope vyf jaar bygedra. "Dis asof wen 'n gewoonte by die spelers geword het. Hul toewyding moet ook geprys word.

"Soms beskou spelers deelname aan 'n toernooi as 'n lekker kuiergeleentheid, maar ons het nie daardie probleem nie," sê sy.

Janine sê Marnus, wat die span met soveel sukses die laaste klompie jare gebrei het, verdien ook lof vir sy harde werk wat hy met die spelers insit.

Daar sal vanjaar ernstig spelers vir volgende jaar gewerf moet word, want aldus Janine verloor hulle meeste van die huidige groep spelers aan die einde van die jaar. Veral die mans maak omtrent almal klaar.

Só kan ons verwag dat van hierdie spelers dit verder kan neem in hul tennisloopbaan? "Nee, ek glo nie. Dis net nie moontlik in Suid-Afrika nie. Hier speel jy vir die liefde daarvan. Om werklik 'n loopbaan in tennis te volg, sal jy oorsee moet gaan om voltyds en professionele afrigting te ontvang," het sy verduidelik. – **Ruan Bruwer**

Bo: Este Potgieter, een van vier Kovsies wat in 'n oefengroep opgeneem is waaruit die nasionale studentespan gekies gaan word.
Onder: Duke Munro, Kovsies se voorste mansspeler.

Photo: Thabo Kessah

Colourful women of the Qwaqwa Campus.

Qwaqwa Campus **celebrates women** in style

The March edition of *Dumela* reported that the next "Celebrating Women" festivities would be held on the Qwaqwa Campus and indeed it happened. This campus celebrated the important role played by all university women and it was done in style.

Leading the celebrations was a former student and now a teacher and pastor, Moelo Mamosa Makhetha, who acknowledged the role played by women like Esther, Deborah and Mary from Biblical times.

"Women have always been at the forefront and there are so many such courageous women in the Bible, in the modern-day ministry, in politics, sports and in music, to mention but a few," said Pastor Mamosa.

"As a woman, never let anything put you down, irrespective of how you are perceived and irrespective of people's expectations.

"You are ambassadors of your own country in your own country where we need visionaries, men and women who will step out from the crowd, find a need and reach out to meet that need," she said.

Pastor Mamosa encouraged women to refuse to be bystanders, but to assume an active role of being players on the field. "Refuse to see yourself small in life. Function with an outstanding proficiency so that everyone around you may be inspired for excellence. Open your eyes to the cries of the helpless, displaced and destitute children in your environment. You are ordained to live a glorious and excellent life," she said.

In concluding her captivating talk, Pastor Mamosa advised women, young and old, to realise that children are the future and that they should always be good to them. "Consciously engage yourselves in activities that will uplift and improve your work areas and refuse to be victims of circumstances," was her parting shot.

Celebrating Women's Programme is part of an ongoing endeavour by the Vice-Rector: External Relations, Dr Choice Makhetha, to bring women from all walks of life as equal beings while taking men with them towards achieving this goal. It was launched in Bloemfontein in February and it is expected to culminate in the main event being held at the Qwaqwa Campus in August 2012. – **Thabo Kessah**

Vertel ons daarvan ...

Deur uiters sensitiewe optredes maak hulle 'n groot verskil in ander se lewens; of dit nou is om 'n reeksverkragter vas te trek, of om 'n jong man die geleentheid te gee om opeenvolgende opehartoperasies te vermy, of net om eenheid onder studente te bewerkstellig. Karen Ehlers, prof. Stephen Brown en sy kollega, dr. Danie Buys, asook Richard Chemaly vertel ons die een en ander van hul interessante dagtake.

Foto: Anja Aucamp

Karen Ehlers

Karen Ehlers is tans 'n dosent in die Departement Genetika, waar haar navorsingsveld forensies, wildforensies en bewaringsgenetika is. "My navorsing het begin toe ek in 1997 by die Landbounavorsingsraad (LNR) se Dieregenetika-afdeling in Pretoria gewerk het," sê Karen.

"Ek is met 'n staatsaanklaer getroud wat daagliks betrokke is in die oorlog teen misdaad. Deur met hom en ander aanklaers te gesels het die belang van DNS-bewyse sterk na vore gekom. Verkragters stop nie vanself nie, hulle moet gestop word. Die meeste verkragters is reeksverkragters en dikwels is DNS die enigste bewysstuk wat beskikbaar is. Skuldbevindings op verkragtingsake is maar ongeveer 10%, wat beteken dat vir die 90% wat los kom, daar nog 'n slagoffer gaan wees. By die 2de Interpol Suider-Afrikaanse Forensiese DNS-konferensie wat ek verlede jaar in Pretoria bygewoon het, is daar geskat dat daar tans oor 'n 1 000 reeksmoordenaars en verkragters in Suid Afrika aktief is. Dit is 'n syfer wat my bang maak en persoonlik voel ek dat dit elke mens se plig is om 'n bydrae te lewer om misdaad te bekamp," sê Karen.

Tans fokus haar navorsing op menslike forensies naamlik molekulêre fotopassing. "Molekulêre fotopassing is waar jy van DNS-merkers gebruik kan maak om 'n persoon se fenotipiese eienskappe soos byvoorbeeld oogkleur kan voorspel. As jy dus DNS op 'n misdaadtoneel kry en jy gebruik hierdie merkers, kan jy 'n idee kry van hoe die verdagte gaan lyk," vertel sy.

Verder vertel forensiese bewyse 'n "onsigbare" storie wat van groot waarde is, veral omdat ooggetuies baie keer getraumatiseer is en daar gevind is dat hulle getuienis nie baie betroubaar is nie.

Wat is die een deurbraak wat Karen hoop in dié veld gemaak word? Vir Suid Afrika het dit baie belangrik geword dat tersiêre instansies betrokke raak by die opleiding van forensiese analiste. Ons universiteit was die eerste instansie wat in 2010 'n forensiese kwalifikasie – B.Sc. Hons, M.Sc. en Ph.D. in Forensiese Genetika ingestel het. Ek hoop die ander universiteite raak ook meer betrokke by forensiese navorsingsvelde en dat ons forensiese opleiding by ons universiteit kan uitbrei. Indien meer mense by die bekamping van misdaad betrokke raak, sal ons hopelik 'n verskil in hierdie land kan maak. – Leonie Bolleurs

Photo: Evert Kleynhans

Prof. Stephen Brown and Dr Danie Buys

Prof. Stephen Brown and Dr Danie Buys from the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health implanted special pulmonary heart valves in two patients at the Universitas hospital earlier this year. This is the first time the procedure has been carried out in Africa.

The doctors both agreed that "it is a great honour and privilege to be part of a team, including the Department of Health and all the members in our team here at paediatric cardiology."

The Melody valve is a percutaneous valve, meaning it is implanted through a catheter from the groin of the person and then guided to the heart valve that goes to the lungs and then is implanted in the pulmonary position.

People who qualify for this type of procedure are usually children who were born with a specific group of inherited heart defects. This group of patients often needs recurrent open-heart surgery and this valve is implanted to avoid this. Dr Buys states: "One must remember that these patients need to weigh more than 30 kg and all of them had previous heart surgery."

The procedure can take up to four hours to perform and has several possible complications. Some of the procedural complications include dislodgement of the valve, coronary compression, rapture of homograft and haemothorax due to the pulmonary artery damages. Other complications could be due to operator inexperience and the early learning curve. This is however, "extremely rare, especially with pre-stenting and proper preparation of the landing site", Dr Buys said.

This is a rather new procedure in medical history. The first valve was implanted in 2000 and since then about 3 000 valves have been implanted worldwide. The development of the expertise and equipment needed to make this procedure a success may take some time. – Callie Hendricks

Photo: Hannes Pieterse

Richard Chemaly

Richard Chemaly, the SRC President 2011–2012, is a force to be reckoned with. He is affectionately known as Uncle Chem. It is something we all can relate to as we all have the odd uncle whom everybody loves and hates at the same time. The alter ego name takes after the United States of America's Uncle Sam. "I rather recruit my fellow students to buy into what we do and be more involved in campus activities," he said.

"I ran for the presidency because evil prevails when good people fail to act. For this reason, I put my discomfort aside to become the President that would make a change. The antagonistic English-Arabic kid is not what most outsiders would bet on to be President at a campus so recently polarised by racial and cultural tensions. The aura of knowing and seeing that things can be different keeps me going," he elaborated.

On life and being a student at Kovsies, he said that it was either he went to another institution and became a nobody, or came to the UFS and became the change he wanted to see. Richard is doing his final year in the LL.B. postgraduate programme. "Studying and working at the same time is not easy, I manage, as I am the sort of leader who wants to get things done. More than anything, I find it fulfilling. As a result, my philosophy is mixing business with pleasure," he said.

"My duty is to bring unity within the student body. Some of our students are not even aware what the SRC is all about, even who we are. As a team, we are making strides to make the SRC more visible; a daunting strategic task which I tackle with zeal, as I am a hands-on kind of leader," he elaborated.

"This year, the SRC tried to be innovative; we bought books for 30 students. The team also played a pivotal role in negotiating with the university management on behalf of the students to extend provisional registration. We are walking where our predecessor walked, but we want the outreach to infiltrate to more students.

"I am currently working on some projects, meaning I will be around next year to ensure they are doing well. My ultimate dream is the end of the ongoing war in the Middle East, which has claimed many lives," he concluded. – Phelekwa Mpono

First Women's Memorial Lecture takes place on campus

The university has established an initiative to recognise and reward women who made significant contributions to society. As a symbol of reward for the contributions and hard work of female role-models, the university unveiled the Women's Memorial Garden on the Bloemfontein Campus. The university also started with a Women's Memorial Lecture series that will regularly take place at this Women's Memorial Garden. On 23 April 2012 the first lecture of this series was held, where Martina Viljoen, from the Odeion School of Music, delivered a lecture on *Representations of Women in Music*.
- René-Jean van der Berg

Photo: Stephen Collett

Human project crucial in higher education

Photo: Thabo Kessah

The university is very proud of its academic achievements, but such achievements, without the human element, are as good as nothing. This was recently said by Prof. Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector, during a meeting with the Thabo Mofutsanyana community in the Eastern Free State.

Prof. Jansen pointed out that the university has two very important and interlinked projects - the academic and human projects. "Our university has ambitions to produce the best scholars in various fields, but this cannot be done if we neglect the human aspect of doing things in the right way. We want to produce academic giants as much as we want to produce graduates of life," said Prof. Jansen.

During the meeting he revealed that the memorandum of understanding that the university had signed with the Dihlabeng Local Municipality in 2010 was already yielding positive results.

"There has been enormous improvement in the matric results of the Dihlabeng schools that are part of our efforts to contribute towards building a brighter future for our children and we want to thank the municipality and the Honourable Mayor Mofokeng for being part of this partnership," added Prof. Jansen.

"We are grateful that the university is considerate of its stakeholders in developing this Maluti-A-Phofung area. I am also aware that this institution has contributed towards the building of a crèche in Mabolela village in Qwaqwa and for this we are very happy," said Linah Mnisi from Motlotlwane Projects and Consultants. – Thabo Kessah

Prof. Jansen addressed an audience with representatives from the traditional councils, business, religious and farming communities as well as the Maluti-A-Phofung and Dihlabeng local municipalities.

Science research equipment handed over

Photo: Thabo Kessah

M.Sc. students Khethiwe Mtshali and Lerato Mabe receive equipment that will add quality to their research from Thabiso Magodiri from Davies Diagnosis. With them is Dr Oriel Thekisoe, Head of the Department: Zoology and Entomology.

Earlier this year the Department of Zoology and Entomology at our Qwaqwa Campus received state-of-the-art research equipment valued at R296 400. The equipment was purchased under the national equipment programme of the National Research Foundation (NRF). It is called Loopamp Real-time Turbimeter and according to Dr Oriel Thekisoe, the Qwaqwa Campus is the only institution in the country with the equipment.

"This equipment enables us to use a DNA amplification technique called loop-mediated isothermal amplification. We will be able to develop lamp-assay techniques for diagnosis and application in epidemiological studies of various pathogens (bacterial, fungal, viral and parasitic)," said Dr Thekisoe, Head of the Department of Zoology and Entomology.

"Lamp technique can also be used for diagnosis of pathogens in plants, specific identification of organisms, for example, insect species in entomology," Dr Thekisoe concluded.

Two Master's of Science students at the Department of Zoology and Entomology are conducting lamp-based research for parasitic infections and will be able to improve the quality of their studies with this equipment. Researchers from other institutions are welcome to use the equipment at a low cost for maintenance purposes.
– Thabo Kessah

Organ inaugurated

The Odeion School for Music (OSM) presented a concert to inaugurate the organ in the Anglican Cathedral in Bloemfontein. A three-manual organ, recently bought by the university, will be housed in the cathedral. The organ will be used for concert purposes, as well as activities of the OSM pertaining to liturgical music. The organ will also be used during graduation ceremonies. – **Amanda Tongha**

Photo: Johan Roux

Prof. Nicol Viljoen, Head of the Odeion School for Music, in front of the organ.

bultjie

Nel cibo c'è forza! – om te knibbel gee krag en *In vino veritas!*

Bultjie was quite impressed with Adv. Thuli Madonsela who had the guts to state openly that Apartheid cannot be blamed for poor service delivery in the country and that corruption should get the blame. I was even more surprised to see hundreds of students, staff and members of public trying to push into the already overcrowded Wynand Mouton Theatre to hear what everybody knows in any case. The poor theatre managers and two security guards had their hands full to try and control the crowd trying to get in. Oi Oi! It seems that an open invitation to public and students can be unpredictable, especially if there is lovely food openly displayed in the beautiful foyer! One should remember that passing students, exiting from the new Economy Building, will notice this! One student actually exclaimed, "Wow! This must be part of the *No Hungry Student Campaign!*"

Bultjie onthou sy eie honger studentedae toe ons alle kunsuitstallings op kampus en in die stad bygewoon het – hoofsaaklik omdat daar altyd gratis wyn en snoepgoedjies beskikbaar was. So tussendeur die sluk en peusel het ons darem geleer om goeie wyn en kuns te waardeer! Die voggies laat koop my toe 'n Leon de Blique skildery vir R12,75. Vandag seker baie werd. Slim nê!

In retrospect, Bultjie agrees with old Pliny, the Elder (23-79 AD) who said, "In vino veritas." (In wine there is truth.) On the other side, old Homer warned in *The Odyssey*, "The wine urges me on, the bewitching wine, which sets even a wise man to singing and to laughing gently and rouses him up to dance and brings forth words which were better unspoken!" Ons mense praat mos van iemand "tarentaalsop ingee" as jy die waarheid uit iemand wil kry na die paar sopies begin trek het! Dan kwetter daai kêrel soos 'n opreggeteelde Langenhovenpark-tarentaal!

Die eksamen is weer op hande en ons slim studente sal ons weer vermaak met hulle slim antwoorde. Hier is 'n paar juweeltjies om die algemene welstand van personeel te bevorder. Die Engelsprekende student dring toe aan om die Afrikaanse vraestel te skryf want hy wil vroeg naweek gaan hou. Vraag: Noem die vier seisoene. Antwoord: Sout, mosterd, peper en asyn!

By Medies gaan dit blykbaar ook soms beroerd. Q: What is artificial respiration commonly known as? A: The kiss of death. Q. Name a major disease associated with smoking. A: Premature death. I love the following observations by young medical students. "The body consists of three parts – the brainium, the borax and the abominable cavity. The brainium contains the brain, the borax contains the heart and lungs, and the abominable cavity contains the bowels, of which there are five - a, e, i, o and u!" Heidi hier kom ons! En wees gewaarsku! "Before giving a blood transfusion, find out if the blood is affirmative or negative." "To remove dust from the eye, pull the eye down over the nose." Eina! "For a nosebleed: put the nose much lower than the body until the heart stops." "For drowning: climb on top of the person and move up and down to make Artificial Perspiration." "For Fainting: rub the person's chest or, if a lady, rub her arm above the hand instead. Or put the head between the knees of the nearest medical doctor." Oi Oi! Waar's Homer? "Words which had better be [left] unspoken!"

Ons kollegas by Natuurwetenskappe kan ook van die volgende belangrike observasies deur studente kennis neem. "Cows produce large amounts of methane, so the problem could be solved by fitting them with catalytic converters." "The process of flirtation makes water safe to drink because it removes large pollutants." The moon is a planet just like the earth; only, it is even deader." "Dew is formed on leaves when the sun shines down on them and makes them perspire." "A super-saturated solution is one that holds more than it can hold." "Mushrooms always grow in damp places and so they look like umbrellas." Nê! En dit, my liewe kollegas, is waarmee studente hulle besig hou.

Lekker bibber en groete van kombers tot kombers!

Bultjie

Adresplakker