

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



Official staff newsletter of the UFS Amptelike personeelnuusblad van die UV

AUGUST | ISSUE FOUR/2014 · AUGUSTUS | UITGAWE VIER/2014



## Managing risk ensuring success University management tasked with creating a more risk aware environment.

The risk management unit has been tasked with bringing risk management to life within all faculties and departments. The unit has the responsibility to build a risk-aware culture around campus until risk management is understood and embedded into the daily operations of each department and faculty.

Risk management has become very important in the dynamic environment in which universities operate and is a very important part of managing an institution well.

The UFS has both an Academic and a Support Services Risk Management Committee that report to the Audit and Risk Management Committee of Council to ensure that assurance can be given to Council that risk is managed properly at the institution.

The risk management system was implemented to get managers like deans and heads of support service departments started on the process of implementing risk management. Risk management is the responsibility of every manager and every staff member within the university. The newly appointed Risk Officer, Manneheng Selaledi, has engagements with staff on a daily basis to assist them in their risk management responsibilities.

Manneheng is available to provide support and attends department/faculty management meetings upon invitation to promote the concept of risk management and to assist with the registers and possible measures that can be put in place to manage the risks identified.

Specialists have been engaged to present risk management training programmes

which will be communicated to the university community through the various communication channels.

Documents that assist with risk management will also be made available on the intranet and there are interesting plans ahead such as revising the current risk policy and the risk management system to make it more user-friendly.

Updated information will be posted on the digest and circulated to departments and managers regularly. For more information on risk management contact the Finance office.

-by Mamosa Makaya 🛛 🛛

# Editor's note

We have moved into the last quarter of the year, a time of great excitement and high spirits as we host various events around the campuses. August has been especially exciting as the month to celebrate women – sisters, mothers, daughters and friends. We also celebrated the South African athletes who brought home numerous medals from the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, some of whom were our very own Kovsies students and alumni. We also take a look at the various projects under way on the Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa and South Campuses, from the construction of new facilities and energy-saving and self-sustainability projects to student talent shows. What would we be without our exceptional researchers, inventors and incredibly talented colleagues? We celebrate them all.

I would like to thank all the writers, language editors and contributors who make our magazine so exciting. Dumela is available on the website in PDF format. - By Mamosa Makaya



Blinker of the year improves invoicing system

**dumela** is compiled by the Department of Communication and Brand Management at the University of the Free State

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#### The dumela editorial team

consists of staff from the Department of Communication and Brand Management as well as representatives of all faculties, departments and campuses of the UFS.

All Facebook quotes are published as they appear on Facebook



You can't delete an **indiscreet** tweet!



here's a reason why most social media consultants often use this phrase. You might actually even know someone who was fired because of something they posted on their Facebook page.

Before clicking on that "Send" or "Post" or "Tweet" button, it might be wise to keep these legal minefields in mind:

**Libel:** Even if you think it's true, be careful when tarnishing someone's reputation online.

Harassment: Don't use social media to threaten others.

**Breach of contract:** Get a copy of your company's social media policy. Certain things about your job (like your opinion of your boss)

should NOT be tweeted.

**Privacy:** Posting private information about someone else could land you in hot water.

To play it safe, before posting anything ask yourself if you would put it on a billboard. If not, it probably shouldn't be on Facebook either.



o (like your opinion of your boss)

Source: PlagiarismToday (http://www.plagiarismtoday.com/2010/08/25/5easy-ways-to-get-sued-on-facebook/)

# Casual Day

"Bring out the Bling" is the theme for this year's Casual Day on **5 September**. Wear your best blinged-out clothes and raise funds for the disabled. Health and Wellness will host various activities to celebrate the day. **Contact Arina Otto**, **Health and Wellness, and Hetsie Veitch, Unit for Students with Disabilities.** 



– By Mamosa Makaya 🛛 🛽

ovsi

IMPORTANT DATES IN AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER

13 August –12 September	Photographic Exhibition by Peter Magubane
2 – 5 September	Community Indaba on Active Citizenship
5 September	Casual Day
6 September	Inaugural Mokhachane Paulus Mopeli Memorial Lecture
24 September	Heritage Day



## Spring collection

Kovsie Gear's spring collection will be available from the first week of September. Get new stock in corporate gifts, corporate wear and casual wear. Visit the shop at the Thakaneng Bridge, Bloemfontein Campus and look on the facebook page for dates when stock will be sold at the Qwaqwa Campus.

#### -By Jerry Mokoroane 🗹

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South Becomment, Barries

# Ons praat met **Elna van Pletzen**

## Elna wil net die beste vir studente doen

Ek kan regtig sê ek geniet my werk. Dit is nooit vervelig nie. Baie keer stap studente hier uit met 'n 'nee', maar jy weet jy het die beste vir daardie student gedoen.

So sê Elna van Pletzen, Adjunkregistrateur, wat studente se appèlle by die UV hanteer. Die appèlproses is vir menige student die laaste hoop om sy/haar studies te red.

Vir appèlle van akademiese aard moet studente eers alle moontlik opsies in die betrokke fakulteit, tot by die dekaan, uitput voordat hulle by haar kantoor kan aanklop. Na konsultasie met die rolspelers word die omstandighede ondersoek en beoordeel, en die toepaslike reëls bestudeer. Die uitslag word skriftelik aan die student gekommunikeer.

Sy ontvang appèlle oor 'n verskeidenheid sake, wat insluit die aflê van spesiale eksamens, toelatings, krediete nodig vir 'n graad, kwytskelding van modules en oorskryding van residensiële verblyf. Die hantering van die appèlle vorm 'n klein deel van haar daaglikse take, maar dit is 'n baie bevredigende deel. In 2013 is 800 appèlle hanteer, en alle aanduidings is daar dat hierdie getal vanjaar meer as verdubbel gaan word.

Dit is nie altyd vir studente maklik om die onvermydelike te hoor nie. "Dit is nie lekker om 'nee' te sê nie. Sommige studente dink dit is die einde van hulle pad, maar dit is net die einde van hulle pad by die UV."

Een van die studente wat 'n 'nee' ontvang het, het Elna só bedank: "... you provided guidance as a mother, professional and somebody who understood exactly what I was going through ... you granted me a full hour out of your busy schedule after I had requested 10 minutes."

–Deur Leatitia Pienaar 🗹

# My **ma** sê **ôk** so

# "Wat **kyk** jy weer in die **ewigheid** in?"

k sit voor my ouma se dress-kas met die
toevouspieëls aan die kante. My ouma se
naam is Mamma en my oupa is Dêrra.

Mamma sê as jy die spieël so toevou dat jy 'n klomp van jouself sien, dan kyk jy tot in die ewigheid in.

#### Vir ewig en ewig amen.

Ek kom sit baie hier en trek gesigte vir die ewigheid. Vandag het ek van Mamma se lekkerruikpoeier op my gesig gesmeer en nou het ek 'n wit gesig in die ewigheid.

Mamma het vir my een van die proe-tertjies gebring wat sy bak vir my verjaardag môre. Dan is ek ses jaar oud.

Een hand en 'n duim.

Ek kyk nie weg van my ewigheid af nie en soos Mamma nader kom met die bordjie, raak sy al groter in my ewigheid.

Sy sit die bordjie neer en kom sit langs my om in die ewigheid in te kyk.

Ek verlang na my ouma. Sy is nou 'n jaar dood. 'n Jaar na my oupa.

Tydens elke Desember se Kaapstad-vakansie het ek telkemale voor die dress-kas gaan sit om in die ewigheid te kyk. Selfs toe ek al groot was en weet dit is eintlik maar net die spieëls wat oor en weer weerkaats, was dit steeds vir my lekker om so in die spieël te kyk.

Aan Mamma se kant van die kassie was daar naaldwerkgoeters, gesigpoeiers, 'n ou leë parfuumbottel, vergeelde dokumente en haarnette in die laai. Dêrra se laai was soos 'n klein museumpie. Daar was ou salf- en snuifblikkies, botteltjies wat eens op 'n tyd haarolie bevat het, klein bruin botteltjies met kurkproppies, rum-and-maple tabakpakkies, 'n dooppapier en sterftepapier van 'n seun en talle gekraakte foto'tjies.

Maar dié dress-kas se laaie het nou ander mense se goed in.

Ouma kyk vir my wit gesig in die ewigheid.

"As dit maar so maklik was, nê. Dan kon ons almal saam bus gery het."

Sy draai my gesig na haar en kyk lank.

"Jy't jou Dêrra se neus. -Deur René-Jean van der Berg ◀

Drop to the ground

Take cover by getting under a sturdy desk or table.

n earthquake is caused by the breaking and shifting of rock beneath the earth's surface, which can make buildings and electrical lines collapse. With the recent earthquake that hit central South Africa at a magnitude of 5.3, most people want to be more prepared for an earthquake. Here are some quick facts on the earthquake of 5 August 2014.

## According to the US Geological Survey

- The earthquake was centred 6 km east of Orkney, a town in the North West province with a high concentration of gold mines and was felt as far away as Botswana and Lesotho.
- $\cdot$  ~ The epicentre of the earthquake was 10 km underground.
- $\cdot$   $\,$  This was the largest quake in the Southern Africa region since 2006.
- Mining towns of Welkom and Westonaria experience tremors regularly.
- A smaller tremor is expected to follow this recent earthquake in the coming weeks or months.

## What to do during an earthquake, according to ER24:

- · Stay calm.
- Try and stay where you are. Use large and sturdy objects such as a big desk to crawl under. If you are in a building, try and stand with your back against the wall near the centre of the building.
- $\cdot$  Stay away from windows and outside doors.
- Should you be outside at the time of an earthquake, look around you. Ensure that you are not under power cables or anything overhead that might fall on you. Do not stand near or against a building: debris might fall on top of you.
- Try and listen to your local radio station for emergency or news updates.
- $\cdot$   $\,$  If the area you are in has an evacuation or emergency plan, follow it.

-By Mamosa Makaya K Sources: News24, eNCA

Hold on until the shaking stops

dumela Augustus | uitgawe vier 2014

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#### Blinker of the year improves invoicing system



Student Affairs hosted the 2014 CSA Odyssey 20:20 Blink Awards on 21 July 2014, to celebrate the achievements of staff members who showed exceptional commitment, innovation and tenacity in performing their various roles. Pieter Badenhorst, Kovsie Rag officer, was the winner of the Trial-and-Error award for an innovator who solved a clearly defined problem with a reasonably good understanding of how to solve it, but who took a long time to do so.

A few years ago, Pieter created a concept to improve the manual invoicing system of the Rag CS office. This brilliant idea led to discussions with the ICT department, and in collaboration with IT, a new programme was designed where all manual invoices were converted to an electronic system.

Other staff members who won awards in the other four categories are as follows:

THERE-IS-NO-BOX AWARD - Out of the box thinking. Student Counselling and Development staff: Lize Wolmarans, Caroline Smit, Lineo Seselinyane, Dwayne Vorster, Siphesihle Mahlaba.

THERE-IS-NO-SPOON CATEGORY AWARD – Meaningful change support or inspiration created. Anisha Sewsanker (Office Manager: Office of the Dean of Student Affairs)

THERE-IS-NO-BUDGET CATEGORY AWARD: High achievements with few resources. Winner – Vicky Simpson (Coordinator – No Student Hungry Programme)

THERE-IS-NO-LIMIT CATEGORY AWARD - Visionary Winner - Pieter Calitz (Residence Head - Tswelopele)

Not surprisingly, the Blinker Award of the year went to Pieter Badenhorst. This is the highest award that goes to an employee whose achievements demonstrate all five categories of the awards.

-By Stefan Lotter 【



Staff of the Office of Student Affairs with their well deserved awards.

#### Persoonlike aandag en harde werk laat studente presteer



Die eerste groep studente wat die universiteitsvoorbereidingsprogram (UVP) op die Suid-kampus voltooi het, is nou vierdejaarstudente op die Bloemfonteinkampus. Twee van die studente het ook onderskeidings in hul hoofvakke behaal.

Dié suksesse is die resultaat van meer as net harde werk. Elzmarie Ooshuizen, Direkteur: Uitnemendheid in Onderrig en Leer in Wiskunde en Wetenskappe op die Bloemfontein-kampus, wat ook klasgee op die Suid-kampus in verlengde en die UVP-programme, is soos sy dit noem, ook 'n surrogaatma vir die studente. Met haar klasse word daar veel meer as net akademiese kennis aan studente oorgedra.

"Van die belangrikste wat ons vir studente leer, is om selfstandig te wees, om hul doelwitte te beplan, om balans in die lewe te hê, om 'n groter visie vir hulself te hê en ook dat hulle in hulself moet glo. Ons huil saam met hulle en ons is saam met hulle bly. Ons loop 'n baie intieme pad met hulle," sê Elzmarie.

Die Wiskunde-slaagsyfer het van 34% (2009) na 94% (2013) verbeter nadat Elzmarie die module nuut ontwikkel het.

Vir dié prestasies is Elzmarie twee jaar gelede beloon met die Patricia K Elder International Award van die National Association of Economic Educators en die Council for Economic Education vir buitengewone toewyding tot die bevordering van onderrig.

-Deur Leonie Bolleurs 🔇

# dumela Augustus | UITGAWE VIER 2014 —

#### Personeellid sing Wallis aan die brand

Die UV-personeel ken almal vir Lourens Erasmus. Die meeste van ons weet dat hy reeds vir twee jaar die hoof is van die telekommunikasie-afdeling. Min mense weet egter hoe talentvol hierdie telefoonman is.

Lourens verryk reeds vir vyf jaar die Bloemfontein Mannekoor met sy basstem. In Julie was hy deel van hierdie koor wat Suid-Afrika by die 68ste Liangallen internasionale Eisteddfod in Wallis verteenwoordig het. Dit is werklik 'n groot prestasie vir die koor, want om vir hierdie geleentheid te kon kwalifiseer, moes hulle aanvanklik 12 ander kore uitstof. Om hierdie spesiale geleentheid nog meer spesiaal te maak is die Bloemfontein Mannekoor uitgenooi om by die gala-aand van die Eisteddfod, wat aan Suid-Afrika opgedra is, op te tree.

Die Koor het 'n tweede plek behaal.

Hoe het dit gebeur dat die sing-gogga hom gebyt het?

"Ek het een aand by 'n kerk se talentaand gesing en daarna het iemand my genader vir 'n oudisie vir die Mannekoor.



Lourens Erasmus

Ons gesin hou baie van musiek. My dogter, Bianca, het onlangs haar eerste CD-opname gemaak."

'n Man met vele talente is Lourens beslis. Sy ander stokperdjies is ondermeer gholf, fietsry en veerpyltjies. Met sy 12 voorgee op die gholfbaan het hy al die UV in talle toernooie verteenwoordig. Hy het reeds sewe Argus-fietswedrenne voltooi en veerpyltjies vir die Vrystaatspan gespeel.

Welgedaan, Lourens.

-Deur Martie Nortje 【

#### UFS receives top honours at 10<sup>th</sup> Geography Conference

In June 2014, the Society of South African Geographers (SSAG) held its academic and student conferences at the University of Fort Hare's East London Campus. Five students and four members of staff from the UFS's Geography Department presented their research at several sessions during the week-long proceedings.

Both Physical and Human Geographers were represented at the conference. Presenters focused on various geographical themes including transport, environmental management, urban environments, informal settlements, Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and geomorphology. It was an excellent opportunity for feedback and networking.

Three field trips were held (urban, historical and physical), during which delegates visited various sites of geographical consequence in and around East London. The urban field trip traced the origin and expansion of East London as a river port, while the historical field trip took delegates to the Steve Biko Centre and Museum in King William's Town. The geomorphology team explored the dune systems.

At the conference Prof Gustav Visser from the UFS's Geography Department launched his new book (co-edited with Professor Sanette Ferreira) on *Crisis and Tourism* (Routledge, 2013). Prof Visser was awarded the prestigious SSAG Fellowship for his significant contribution to Geography in South Africa. The conference ended with a gala dinner at the Regent Hotel. The next SSAG conference in 2016 will herald the centenary of the society. A number of events and special publications have been planned to celebrate this important event.

-By Dr Ruth Massey 🗹



Kovsie alumnus recognised for his work in Canada

Dr Werner Oberholzer, a Canadian medical practitioner and Kovsie alumni, received a special award recently at a reunion dinner hosted by the university's Faculty of Health Sciences.

Dr Oberholzer, now living in Radville, Canada, was named the 2013 Family Doctor of the Year, an accolade handed out by the College of Family Physicians of Canada.



In 2009 he was honoured as Saskatchewan Physician of the Year by the Saskatchewan Medical Association. In 2012, he received the Saskatchewan Healthcare Excellence Award from the University of Saskatchewan, and the Dennis Kendall Distinguished Service Award from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan.

He currently serves as Medical Director of Emergency Medical Services of Sun Country Health Region, Chairman of the Joint Medical Professional Review Committee of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan, and expert member of the Chronic Disease Management Program with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Health.

He is also Associate Professor at the University of Saskatchewan, where he mentors students and graduates of family medicine.

-By René-Jean van der Berg 【

# Vroue van die UV, glo dat julle dit kan doen - sê Prof Corli

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**SAVE THIS PAGE** 

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eer as 400 vroue het vanjaar laat weet dat hulle die afdeling Personeelgesondheid en Welstand se jaarlikse vroueontbyt wil bywoon. Prof Corli Witthuhn, Viserektor: Navorsing, het die geleentheid geopen met 'n paar baie interessante statistieke, soos dat daar 55% vroue by die UV werk. "Groot vooruitgang is die afgelope 20 jaar met die aanstel van vroue gemaak ," het sy gesê. Vroue ondervind egter drie groot uitdagings in die werksplek, naamlik:

- hoe hulle hulself in die werksplek beoordeel;
- die kompleksiteit van vroueleierskap; en
- om beide persoonlike en werksverantwoordelikhede te bestuur.

Prof Corli het vroue by die UV aangespoor om te glo in hul vermoëns. 'n Paar ander riglyne wat sy met die vroue gedeel het, sluit in:

- Moenie te gereeld te skuldig voel oor jouself nie.
- Kom op vir jouself; moenie terugstaan dat iemand anders daardie posisie waarvoor jy werk, kry nie.
- As werk lekker en lonend is, is dit ook vervullend.

'n Verdere hoogtepunt van die oggend was die optrede deur Ilne Fourie met 'n stuk wat deur Jefferson Dirk-Korkee geskryf is. Die vroue het behoorlik geskaterlag vir Ilne se vertolking van die egte vrou. **– Leonie Bolleurs** 

By die Vroueontbyt was, van links voor: Jefferson Dirk-Korkee, Liesl Wessels; agter: Arina Otto, Ilne Fourie en Burneline Kaars.

-Deur Leonie Bolleurs 🗹



**SAVE THIS PAGE** 

# Visual activist presents dynamic women's day lecture

anele Muholi, the award-winning artist and LGBTI visual activist, was the guest speaker at the Centre for Gender Studies' 2014 Women's Day lecture at the Bloemfontein Campus. Muholi presented photographs and videos from her latest exhibition, entitled "Born frees", with each person featured talking about their lives at a time of violent hate crimes against lesbians in South Africa. The young lesbian women she portrays were born somewhere between 1990–1994 – the 'born frees'.

Muholi enchanted the audience of about 50 staff members and students with her witty and intriguing stories of hope, and the pride and passion she displays for her work and her LGBTI activism. She describes the images in her work as not "retouched or sanitised". Through her photography, she has helped many young lesbian women in difficult circumstances to express themselves and display their stories for the world to see.

"I'm not 'those women', I'm one of us," says Muholi, who features in her exhibitions as well. She spoke of the challenges and issues faced by same sex couples in South Africa and around the world, and talked about interracial relationships, religion, gender violence and cultural barriers.

Her work has been exhibited in South Africa, Nigeria and further afield in France, Germany and Canada. Muholi partners with organisations such as Human Rights Watch and plans to work on two new projects on lesbian mothers and mothers of lesbians and on what she terms "queerising sports".

-By Mamosa Makaya 【







d u m e l a

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# **VOX POP** – Women's month dedications









#### Sokhana Gawe - Student

"My understanding of women's month is that we should continue to raise awareness around women and children abuse in particular and also put a stop to injustices brought upon women. I feel we shouldn't just be celebrated in August but should be celebrated every day."

#### Penny Mokolokolo - Student

"Women's month is very critical in our dispensation; we need to acknowledge women and also respect them. I think this month should make us raise our eyebrows to how women are still treated in society and also ensure that we raise consciousness in people to say 'women are mortals who are equal and should be respected and appreciated'."

#### Keke Adoro – Janitress

"I feel honoured to be a woman and also to be respected. Women's month continues to raise issues about women's inequality and I think, in my opinion, that we are slowly conquering this enemy – I feel very hopeful."

#### Joy Maasdorp - DIRAP office

"I am really honoured to be a woman in this era. I also feel that every woman still has that little girl inside that cries to be cared for, loved and respected, despite the new era of women in pursuit of excellence – we still need to be told we are special and also be appreciated. Women's month commemorates that and also the victory of the women who marched for women's rights in 1956 – we also celebrate that victory as South African women."

# In the **media**

he annual Vryfees arts festival by Volksblad in partnership with the UFS was a huge success on our Bloemfontein Campus. Volksblad newspaper reported on the events and happenings at the festival.

In July, Prof Adam Habib, Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the University of the Witwatersrand, delivered a public lecture on the Bloemfontein Campus. He also used this opportunity to launch his latest book, *Africa's Suspended Revolution: Hopes and Prospects.* OFM, *Bloemfonteint Courant, Volksblad* and *The New Age* attended the event and reported on it.

Prof Oriel Thekisoe of our Qwaqwa Campus was named as the recipient of the prestigious TW Kambule NRF-NSTF Award. Prof Thekisoe is associate professor in the Department of Zoology. This was reported in Qwaqwa Express, Express Eastern Free State, Cape Times, Pretoria News and The Mercury.

Marlize Holtzhausen, an entrepreneur and student at our Business School, walked away with top honours with her emergency cellphone app, Rapid Response, at this year's Googlefest in Zürich, Switzerland. Business Report, SAfm and eTV reported on this.

#### WORD SEARCH

Supplied by XWord (Pty) Ltd



Find the 14 words hidden in the grid below. These words can be read up, down, forward, backward or diagonally and some can overlap; which means a letter can be part of two or more words. See if you can find them all.

Akasia Degree Education Health Humanities Kagiso Kleinser Kovsie Leadership Marjolein Qwaqwa Research South Campus UFS

## New water heating system for campus residences

The university has invested in a state-of-the-art water heating system that will serve various residences on both the Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa Campuses. The heat pump building project is well under way, says Maureen Khati, Chief Officer: Project Management and Facilities. On both campuses the heat pump building comprises the building itself, built as part of the student housing building programme and the mechanical installation. The mechanical installation of all four phases will cost roughly R5 million

## Om vir jou toekoms te beplan is makliker as wat jy dink.

Om seker te maak dat jy jou geldsake en finansiële beplanning agtermekaar het, kan na 'n onbegonne taak klink

Ben Opperman, senior onafhanklike finansiële beplanner, kan jou help met die volgende:

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

Hy is deeglik vertroud met die produkte en dienste van Sanlam, Ou Mutual, Liberty, PPS & Altrisk.



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



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### Facts:

According to South African National Standards SANS (10252-1:2004), hot water must be delivered at a temperature of between 55 °C and 60 °C at the point of usage. Temperatures above 60 °C are not recommended because of the detrimental effect on pipes, pipe fittings and pump components. It also requires more heating energy to heat water to that temperature. Temperatures lower than 55°C are not advisable either because of possible user discomfort. These reasons dictate that designs should ensure that the demand figures are met at all times during the year and that the distribution systems are properly insulated to keep heat losses to a minimum. Generally, the temperature difference between the point of supply and the point of usage should be no more than 3 °C.

-By Ruan Bruwer 🔇

## New multi-purpose residences unveiled

The residence to include hotel and conference facility

Nestled between the Conlaurês and Outeniqua residences on the western side of the Bloemfontein Campus is a new residence with a hotel and conference facility. It boasts 18 hotel-like suites and will serve visiting academics and other university visitors.

In line with international university accommodation trends, as with Yale's residential college system, this residence will house female first-years who will be mentored by postgraduate students. Postgraduate students representing all the faculties will be headhunted by the postgraduate committee of the Student Representative Council (SRC).

Guests will be able to make reservations and access the hotel desk 24 hours a day seven days a week. The dining room, accommodating up to 60 people, will not only be open for hotel guests but also for postgraduate students and UFS staff.

The residence adheres to modern standards of universal access for the disabled, with wheelchair access and signage in Braille. This futuristically designed building will stand the test of time to provide student accommodation until 2030.

> The project will be handed over at the end of October 2014, with the first intake planned for January 2015. -By Stefan Lotter 🗹

Conlaures residence one of the newly built residences on campus.

# Prof Maxim Finkelstein

Prof Finkelstein took questions from Dumela while abroad in Germany

The **foundation** of my career was laid during my schooling and at university, and was based on **hard work** and **dedication** 

# As Distinguished Professor in Mathematical Statistics at the UFS, what do you enjoy most about your position and your responsibility as one who teaches and mentors students and young professionals?

In essence, I am a research professor, as research is my main professional occupation. I teach only postgraduate courses, one per semester, which gives me the opportunity to concentrate on research. I supervise a number of PhD and MSc students. Since 1998 when I started at the UFS I have published around 100 papers and two monographs. I've also had the opportunity to attend conferences and two research visits per year, to the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany and the Elektropribor Institute in St Petersburg, Russia.

# Coming from the former USSR and having had your professional training there, what are the similarities and differences in terms of the approach to maths and science in South Africa as opposed to what you were exposed to in your youth?

After completing my studies at secondary school I attended university (St Petersburg Petersburg - former Leningrad - State University) in the 60s and early 70s. At that time the Soviet Union's system of education was probably one of the best in the world. Maths and science were taught at special schools at a very advanced level, with very good professors.

South Africa faces many challenges in school education for obvious reasons, but school programmes in mathematics at matric level are reasonable in my opinion. My observation is that more work needs to be put into training for analytical thinking and creativity at the school level.

I remember throughout my whole school life having a lot of homework and preparing it every day for several hours. Nowadays the tendency all over the world is to decrease homework, which seems odd if we want to cultivate aboveaverage students.

#### What best practices do you feel you brought with you that helped you excel at the UFS, and what has been the most fulfilling aspect of your work here?

The foundation of my career was laid during my schooling and at university, and was based on hard work and dedication. To become a professor in Russia, one must have two consecutive dissertations: the PhD and the habilitation (DSc). The latter is a lengthy work, where the candidate should be the author of 10-15 published papers, at least.

I brought with me the ability to work hard, but as I already mentioned, the working conditions in the Department of

Mathematical Statistics and Actuarial Science were excellent from the very start, which also contributed a lot to my research career and achievements.

South Africa is now part of the greater world business and scientific community; do you think the country is competitive enough, with the quality of young mathematicians and scientists and the quality of teaching of maths and science in schools?

For several years, I was a member of the National Research Foundation (NRF) committee for the evaluation of South African researchers with PhDs in mathematical sciences. I was impressed by the level of research performed in South Africa in mathematical sciences. Currently South Africa is approximately #34 in the world in terms of the publications output, which is not bad but can be improved. I know that the government and the NRF are doing a lot in terms of funding young researchers.

# With the exodus of mathematicians and scientists from the former USSR, what would your advice be to South Africa about a brain drain?

This is a tough question and very much depends on the government and political situation in both countries. In Russia, the brain drain was very high in the 90s and in 2000-2004, especially among mathematicians, who are both very mobile and competitive. Now the situation is much better. In South Africa, there have been negative trends in economic development for a number of years already. Brain drain can be seen in a number of ways, from academia to the private sector and industry, where the salaries are much higher. For instance, in our department, the best students are usually from the actuarial stream. Most of them do not want to proceed with PhD dissertations and instead look for work in various actuarial and financial institutions.

#### What book are you currently reading?

I am currently in Germany on a research visit and I am reading *The Glass Bead Game* by the great German writer Herman Hesse. I read it many years ago, but decided to reread it. It is very deep and philosophical – he won the Nobel prize in literature after its publication.

## When you are not teaching or researching, how do you spend your leisure time?

With my wife. We like to travel, see new places, and meet new people usually alongside my conferences and research visits. I swim nearly every day, and used to play tennis.

#### In one sentence define your philosophy of life:

To do what you love and hopefully to be useful to other people. -By Mamosa Makaya

**KNOW MORE ABOUT** 

# **Optometry** is one of the most important **health care**

## professions, says Prof Rasengane

SL-200

"Unfortunately, some patients only get to have their eyes tested too late, when there are already complications, thus putting optimal vision out of reach."

'Inability to process visual information equates to a bleak future '

The strength of a university lies with its lecturers and researchers. That is so true of Prof Tuwani Adel Rasengane. She was appointed as Head of the Department of Optometry after acting in the position.

The department also received full accreditation from the Professional Board of Optometry and Dispensing Opticians this year – recognition indeed for the quality work it is doing.

She grew up in Limpopo and obtained her Optometry degree from the University of the North (now University of Limpopo) in 1985, followed by a PhD in Physiological Optics from the University of Houston, USA. In the 1990s she tutored students in Psychology and Physiology/Biophysics at the University of Washington and supervised undergraduate and postgraduate students in the infant vision laboratory.

Before joining the UFS in 2004 she lectured at the then University of Durban-Westville and at Rand Afrikaans University.

There are many challenges in her department, of which staff and funds are the most important. The hands-on work of the department requires more staff. The equipment used in the training and also in examining patients is expensive. A lot of work goes into the teaching of modules and clinical sessions. Money constraints forced the department to cut back on its outreach programmes to rural areas and this increased the backlog. The department is working hard on reducing this. The department saw about 2 700 patients in the 2013/2014 financial year.

Another challenge is to get recognition for optometry as a health profession. "People see optometrists as 'shopkeepers' with outlets in shopping centres, but it is a profession that is an important part of primary eye health care," she says. Eye conditions and vision problems can be corrected with glasses, contact lenses or eye exercises. Unfortunately, some patients only get to have their eyes tested too late, when there are already complications, thus putting optimal vision out of reach.

Being the only optometry department in South Africa to be situated in an academic hospital, optometry students gain valuable clinical experience not available elsewhere. Here they see conditions and illnesses that optometrists in private practice rarely encounter. Working closely with ophthalmology in the same facilities brings a holistic approach to eye care.

Prof Rasengane represents Africa on the board of the World Council of Optometry. Optometry is her life, but in her spare time she is involved in teenage ministry. -By Leatitia Pienaar

Patogene giste en sjokolade laat prof Carlien se hart klop

rof Carlien Pohl-Albertyn is 'n medeprofessor in die Departement Mikrobiese, Biochemiese en Voedselbiotegnologie aan ons universiteit. Daagliks bestudeer sy patogene giste (dus dié wat siektes veroorsaak) en dan veral die lipiedhormone wat 'n rol speel in hulle vermoë om weefselskade aan te rig tydens infeksie. "Ek kyk ook na sekere vetsure wat 'n mens kan gebruik om die giste dood te maak of hulle groei te inhibeer," sê sy.

Prof Carlien het aan die UV studeer, en hier haar PhDgraad behaal. Dit het dan gegaan oor lipiede (vette) van fungi en die metabolisme daarvan.

Sy het altyd in wetenskap belanggestel en wou eers 'n ruimtevaarder word. "In graad 6 het ek 'n wonderlike biologie-onderwyseres gehad. Toe ons 'n taak vir biologie moes doen, het ek die wêreld van bakterieë en genetiese manipulasie van bakterieë ontdek. Ek het toe besluit om eerder mikrobiologie te gaan studeer.

Meer oor prof Carlien:

#### **My gunsteling breinkos is** sjokolade. **Om te ontspan,** eet ek sjokolade.

**Die beste advies wat ek al ontvang het** ... Ek het 'n wetenskaplike artikel gelees wat sê dat mense wat gereeld (soos in daagliks) sjokolade eet, gewig verloor. Nou volg ek daardie advies nougeset.

**Ek geniet my werk omdat** ek kreatief kan wees, aan nuwe projekte kan dink en kan sien hoe studente, veral nagraadse studente as wetenskaplikes ontwikkel. **Om my battery te herlaai** eet ek sjokolade.

Vir kollegas en studente beveel prof Carlien aan: hou van wat jy doen, dan is dit nie werk nie. Onthou egter net dat daar baie meer dinge in die lewe is as net werk.

**YOUR STORY** 

# **RUFORUM** provides capacity development for **MSc** and **PhD programmes**

he university recently joined the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM). The forum, consisting of a regional consortium of 42 African universities, is based at Makerere University in Uganda.

"Through competitive sub-grants, specialised training sessions and intensive knowledge sharing, the forum exposes universities to both demand and opportunities to produce more relevant graduates and research to serve poor rural communities," says Prof Corli Witthuhn, Vice-Rector: Research.

"RUFORUM's learning network has been able to impact on attitudes, curricula, pedagogical standards and university partnerships with smallholder farmers and with a wide assortment of agricultural development agencies," she says.

According to Prof Witthuhn, the UFS will work closely with RUFORUM to expand its many regional MSc and PhD programmes. "Based on RUFORUM's knowledge leadership, we want to share these approaches through modern communication and pedagogical techniques. These include new modes of knowledge management and exchange involving Open Education Resources (OER) and Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) adapted to local ICT and capacity constraints." -by Lacea Loader

Teach a man to fish and feed him for a **lifetime**  he Qwaqwa Campus recently launched the Food Security Crop Production Project, a UFS partnership with the local community aimed at supporting the Qwaqwa No Student Hungry programme (NSH) with fresh food.

"Our NSH students will play an active role in the actual crop production as we need them to learn how to manage self-sustainability projects," Moodi Matsoso, Community Engagement Coordinator, said, adding that the project would serve as an extramural activity that engaged students in the upliftment of the campus community, after a day of classes, practicals and tests.

Agricultural science academics on the campus are helping the crop production project to be successful. "We are partnering with the Department of Plant Sciences, who will help with soil evaluation and research, among others. This will enhance the viability of the project," Moodi said. The project has also engaged with local traditional leaders, the local business sector and is developing a wider network in the Qwaqwa community. *–By Thabo Kessah* 

**YOUR STORY** 

## Qwaqwa Health and Wellness Centre hosts staff and student talent show

"Laughter is the best medicine." This is the motto of the Qwaqwa Campus Health and Wellness Centre. The centre recently hosted the first-ever 'UFS Qwaqwa Campus Got Talent' show, where students and staff showcased their various talents.

Competing acts provided an excited crowd with a variety of performances from singing to electric dance moves, and smooth poetry and to stand-up comedy that left the audience in stitches.

The top 10 acts were selected by a panel of judges and are expected to compete for the ultimate crown in September. Topping these acts was a student modern dance trio called Happy Feet, who mesmerised the crowd with their excellently-choreographed moves that left everyone in a trance. *-By Thabo Kessah* 

## Franco Smith is nuwe Shimlas-breier

Jie Vrystaat Cheetahs se nuwe hulp-afrigter, Franco Smith, sal ook die Shimla-rugbyspan se hoofafrigter wees vir die 2015 Varsitybeker.

Smith het sy rugbyloopbaan in 1996 by die Griekwas begin. Hy het verder vir die Cheetahs, Bulle, Newport (Wallis), Bologna en Benetton Treviso (albei in Italië) gespeel. Smith het ook nege toetse vir die Springbokke gespeel.

Sy loopbaan as afrigter het in 2005 by die Cheetahs begin as 'n tegniese raadgewer, waarna hy in 2006 die leisels oor die agterlyn geneem het. Hy was vanaf 2007-2013 die hoofafrigter van Benetton Treviso.

Die Shimla-bestuur sal verder bestaan uit Hendro Scholtz, Barry Goods en André Tredoux (tegniese raadgewer). Hulle sal bygestaan word deur Jaco Swanepoel, terwyl Riaan Schoeman as spanbestuurder sal optree. -Deur Stefan Lotter <





# bultjie Pienk omies en dames van statuur!

n daar raak die waardige president Steyn en die ontspanne president C.R. Swart toe pienk tydens die heerlike Vryfees! 'n Heel prettige gesig wat die koue weer op die kampus sommer 'n warm hupstoot gegee het. Min standbeelde in ons land eer vroue vir hulle opofferings en heldedade. Behalwe natuurlik die Koeksistermonument by Orania en die pragtige Vrouemonument in Bloemfontein. 'n Paar jaar gelede ween Bultjie so erg by die hartverskeurende vroue- en kinderbeelde van die Tweede Wêreldoorlog Konsentrasiekamp se tuin van herinnering in Ravensbrück, noord van Berlyn soos by ons eie Vrouemonument.

Imagine the statues of the women and children at the Ravensbrück Concentration Camp Memorial site. Have a look at them on Internet. What a sad and moving place. Between 1939 and 1945, more than 130 000 female Polish and Jewish prisoners passed through the camp gates under SS leader Heinrich Himmler's watchful eyes. Between 15 000 and 32 000 of the total survived. It makes sense that women should be honoured, even if it means that our male statues on campus had to be turned pink for week or so. It was a great gender awareness arts project. Thanks go to Angela de Jesus, Ricardo Peach for the initiative and Aydemir for working in the cold to cover the presidents in pink. It makes one think. Op 'n vroliker noot – die antieke Grieke en Romeine het van hulle vroue lekker vet om die heupe gehou. Pure *saddle pockets* volgestop met mozzarella en olywe! In kontras is daar natuurlik die skrale jong koningin Beatrix al fietsend op haar brons fietsie in Nederland. Te oulik! Maar pasop vir Jeanne d'Arc! As sy met haar volle wapenrusting, soos in haar standbeeld in Chinon op haar perd op my afgejaag gekom het, sou jy net hakskene sien en Bultjie hom in 'n Geloof geskrik het! Daai antie het nie nonsens gevat nie! Die mooiste vrouestandbeeld van Justisie is verseker die pragtige vrou in Bern. Sy kan my maar enige dag vonnis tot huisarres! Nogal raar dat justisie-standbeelde altyd vroue is? Mammie reken dat vroue, ander as mans, altyd reg kan oordeel en uiteindelik reg is!

Die ware *queen* van standbeelde is natuurlik ou koningin Elizabeth II wat die wêreld op haar verskeie trone volsit of op 'n perd iewers heen rondtrippel om te kyk waar die Empire nog munt slaan! Ek het iewers gehoor dat sy die eerste persoon in Engeland was wat 'n watertroon in die Buckinghampaleis ook geïnstalleer het! Ai, Hoekom moet ek met so 'n visuele verbeeldingskrag geseën wees? Gaan loer 'n slag na die beroemde tannies op internet – dis beter as om skelm te sit en kaart speel op die rekenaar!

Soos die skilpad vir sy maat gesê het toe hy wou gaan swem: "Hou my dop!"

'n Bibberende Bultjie!