

Stakeholder perception audit indicates a substantial shift

Results from a stakeholder perception audit conducted in February this year indicate a substantial shift since the previous audit undertaken soon after the Reitz incident in 2008.

The primary goal was to model and implement a research process that would surface current stakeholder perceptions with regard to the university across both the best practices model in terms of academic excellence, as well as reputational indices across the board.

The project kicked off at the end of 2013 with the development of research modelling and methodologies by the Department of Communication and Brand Management in conjunction with an institutional project overview committee. Nineteen stakeholder groups were identified and quantitative and

qualitative methodology was used in survey construct.

The completed questionnaires numbered 2 381 in total, while more than 600 pages of open-ended comments were received and analysed.

Reporting has included recommendations as to broad-based strategy. Detailed action planning will now take place in a structured process at planned audit reporting sessions. Planned and targeted communication on findings will include all stakeholder groups that participated in the study.

A similar audit was also conducted in 2005. While a direct comparison of findings against indicators that surfaced in 2005 and 2008 would not be psychometrically rigorous due to different sampling, research modelling and methodology as well as administration techniques, an attempt was made to show findings for similar dimensions, wherever possible.

The prestigious Jack Whittmer Research Award of the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) was recently awarded to the UFS for this audit.

- Lacea Loader

Similar variable	2005 External Perception Audit	2008 Repositioning Study	2014 Stakeholder Perception Audit
Leadership	71.96%	47%	79.07%
Campus	63.63%		80.13%
Community service	65.15%	58%	78.25%
Academic excellence	64.51%	75.2 %	77.35%
Employability of UFS	71.21%		79.57%
Administration processes	66.66%		
Reputational indices	66%	42%	77.82%
Communication		51%	76.33%
Living the values	65.9%	53%	71.27%
Corporate identity/brand	56%	44%	84.6%
Trust/ethics	71.96%		77.82%





Photo: Rene-Jean Van Der Berg

Kovsies have made us proud: we start with Rolene Strauss who brought home the Miss South Africa crown; Karabo Moloantoa won the Fame Lab Science award; more awards were also received by students and staff in Architecture,

Communication and Brand Management, and of course, the Varsity Cup.

We highlight the work and interesting personalities of our colleagues Neil Roos, Sharon Paulse and Betsy Eister. Read about the recent launch of a staff training academy. The Qwaqwa CTL team explores "perceptions of learners in the learning process" and Dr Choice Makhetha leads the

Qwaqwa business community breakfast. I would like to thank all the writers and contributors whose articles and photography have made this edition so exciting. Dumela is also available in PDF format on the UFS website under *publications*.

Regards
Mamosa

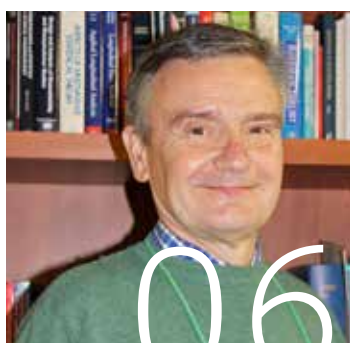
From the editor

Welcome to our second edition of Dumela of the year. It has been an exciting first quarter, full of activities from award ceremonies to prestigious lectures series. Congratulations to our first cohort of graduates for this academic year and to the unsung heroes behind the making of the numerous and successful Kovsie graduations.

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Erratum: In the March 2014 edition, issue one, the heading on page 6 should have read, 'Prof Gauert talks about gold fingerprinting.'

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

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The *Dumela* editorial team consists of staff from the Strategic Communication Division as well as representatives of all faculties, departments and campuses of the UFS.

All Facebook quotes are published as they appear on Facebook



Social Trend

Did you know that the UFS's Facebook fans are most active between 21:00 and 22:00? Not surprisingly, it looks as if most of our students are not early risers, with activity on our Facebook page only beginning to pick up after 9:00.



This of course keeps our Facebook admins on their toes, as they need to come up with interesting evening content, after a full day of work. Fortunately they all love their jobs!

What has been getting the most attention on our Facebook page, you ask? Well ... we just happened to mention in March that our beloved rector, Prof @JJ_UFS, had been appointed for a second term. The post reached 14 824 people, and our Facebook page exploded with congratulatory comments, hundreds of 'likes' and 47 'shares'. (Not nearly as many shares as when we gave away a free T-shirt last year, but still very impressive.)

In other news, our #UFS today photo of the Autumn Graduation procession also created quite a buzz on social media, with more than 1 000 likes, comments and shares.

To keep things interesting, we also uploaded a simple maths equation, and asked students to come up with the correct answer. Things got pretty heated pretty quickly as students started explaining why their solution was the right one.

Don't miss out on all the action. Find the UFS on Facebook. I'm sure you'll 'like' it! – **Duard Grobbelaar**

Kovsies get in shape

All work and no play will make Jack and Jill very dull, tired and out of shape.

This is why the university recently invested in fitness initiatives on the Bloemfontein Campus, specifically an Outdoor Gym and an upcoming Kovsie Gym to be situated in the basement of the Callie Human Hall. Kovsie staff and students can now easily live an active life without even leaving the campus.

The Outdoor Gym is located between the Exercise & Sport and Claerhout Buildings. Ten quality piece apparatuses were made by World Outdoor Fitness SA to create this fitness playground. It is free for all, user-friendly and will encourage people to utilise outdoor spaces for fitness more often. Along with this the Outdoor Gym is aimed at:

- Improving students' and staff's health and wellbeing
- Increasing physical activity
- Helping to address a range of lifestyle conditions
- Enabling people to socialise and enjoy the outdoors while exercising

If this is not enough and you are not keen on training outside in wet or cold conditions, the Kovsie Gym is to be opened in the basement of the Callie Human Hall in January 2015. The Kovsie Gym will offer recreational, lifetime leisure and wellness opportunities to a diverse population of students and staff members on Kovsie Campus.

The gym will be a commercial gym, open to students, staff and the broader community in Bloemfontein. Access to or membership of the Kovsie Gym will be managed in the same manner as the swimming pool and squash courts.

The gym will also be a rehabilitation gym. Our Biokinetics Sport Centre will be functional for rehabilitation and training in the Kovsie Gym. It will serve as a sports-specialised training centre, providing KovsieSport athletes the opportunity to enhance their performance as well.

Participation in sports on campus and exercising can enhance your educational experience. Involvement in competitive sports and recreational activities on campus has a positive impact student life. – **Stefan Lotter**

Student enjoys the new gym equipment.



Photo: Stefan Lotter

NOTICE BOARD

Dr Lis Lange, Senior Director, DIRAP.

Thirty year old journal turns a new leaf

Acta Academia is a well established Academic journal with new objectives: to increase its international visibility, refocus its outputs, position itself as the leading South African journal in the humanities and financially sustainable.

These were the challenges brought before Dr Lis Lange, Acting Vice Rector: Academic, when she was appointed as the new editor of , a UFS-based humanities journal, accredited by the Department of Higher Education and Training .

Dr Lange says although the focus on humanities is quite strong in this journal, an analysis of its contents in the last half-decade shows an ever increasing focus on education, tourism and taxation law.

As part of its new focus, has already redesigned its cover and added a subtitle, , to make its intellectual intent clearer to all readers.

"The main condition for the success of is its ability to attract a sufficient number of excellent quality articles from authors who are working at the cutting edge of their disciplines locally and internationally," says Dr Lange.

– **René-Jean Van der Berg**



We talk to ...

■ Prof Neil Roos

Even as a young graduate in History and Urban Geography, Neil Roos was always open-minded about politics, history, race and culture. “My first political influences were the Joe Slovos and Ruth Firsts of this world,” he says. His political and historical interests were captured in his book titled *Ordinary Springboks: White servicemen and social justice in South Africa* (2005). We talk to Prof Roos on his work with the Vice-Chancellor’s Prestige Scholars’ Programme (PSP) and the exciting new book he is working on.



Photo: Mamosa Makaya

Prof Neil Roos

Neil is one of three at the helm of identifying and nurturing the “next-generation” academics at the UFS. He is Associate Professor of History and Co-Director of The Vice-Chancellor’s Prestige Scholars’ Programme (PSP), a programme conceived in 2010 to support the accelerated scholarship of junior UFS faculty in the first five years post-PhD.

The PSP is an intensive programme of support that includes external evaluation and benchmarking against national peers, the preparation of a coherent and high-level research plan that spans five to eight years, intensive mentorship and international placement.

The programme has to date delivered one full professor and two associate professors. It has also produced two Fulbright scholars, one Association of Commonwealth Universities fellow, nine NRF-rated scholars, one NRF Blue Skies research project and 13 Thuthuka-funded projects for postdoctoral research. Neil is also involved in the selection of the most talented second-year students

for the Stanford Sophomore Residential Programme. These students are joined by Oxford University students at Stanford, USA on a three-week intensive academic study programme during the US summer recess.

Neil is currently working on a new book titled *Assembling the new republic: Essays on the history of apartheid culture and society*. This will be the first study to consider the material, ideological and moral conditions of white everyday life historically and widely in apartheid South Africa and will be the focal point of his next rating application. “I believe that academic work can’t be undertaken in any sort of vacuum ... that political questions, a sense for the ethical, the kind of research questions we pose and the teaching we undertake must be connected,” says Neil.

When he is not an author or historian, he is a humanitarian and open-water swimmer currently training to conquer the English Channel in July 2015. Like his earlier long-distance ocean swims, this swim will be in aid of a local charity. – **Mamosa Makaya**

The experts say ...

Kliniese Simulasiesentrum vier een jaar saam met die Sims-groep

'n Jaar het reeds verloop sedert die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe die Sims-groep in hulle midde verwelkom het en sodoende die Kliniese Simulasiesentrum tot stand gebring het.

Hierdie sentrum spog met die simulasiepoppe bestaande uit die jongste tegnologie, waarop mediese studente hul kliniese vaardighede in 'n beskermde en minder stresvolle omgewing kan oefen.

Dr Mathys Labuschagne, hoof van die sentrum, sê dat hierdie afgelope jaar 'n fantastiese jaar vol hoogtepunte was.

“Om te kan sien wat hierdie sentrum vir al die studente beteken en hoe hulle werklik baat by wat ons hier onderrig, maak dit alles die moeite werd,” sê hy.

“Al die kliniese departemente in die fakulteit het saam met die sentrum aan boord gekom en maak almal van die fasiliteite gebruik. Die studente is baie positief en kom en oefen gereeld hulle vaardighede.”

Die sentrum is die eerste van sy soort in Afrika wat 'n module aanbied wat uitsluitlik op simulatie fokus.

Hier word studente aan 'n gesimuleerde mediese noodgeval blootgestel waartydens hulle belangrike besluite moet neem en noodreddingsprosedures en

operasies moet uitvoer.

Hierdie fasiliteit is toegerus met 'n operasietheater, 'n Intensiewesorgseenheid, twee simulasielabors en drie privaatkamers.

Verder het die eenheid beheerkamers met kameras vir opnamedoeleindes en fasiliteite vir ondervragingsessies, laasgenoemde met videotoerusting vir die terugspeel van opgeneemde scenario's. – **Dr Mathys Labuschagne**



Photo: René - Jean van der Berg

My ma sê ôk so

My ma klink diep verontwaardig oor die telefoon. Ek het haar belowe ek sal die *pickled fish* maak soos sy my 'geleer' het.

Die ding is net dat soms wonder ek oor die asyn-en-suiker-kombinasie en wie onthou nou 'n jaar later 'n heilige maal soos ingelegde vis wat slegs op Goeie Vrydag geëet word.

“Mens proe mos. Dan wéét jy,” sê my ma. Soos wat ander meisies destyds 'n *Kook en Geniet* vir hul mondigwording gekry het, het baie van my vriendinne leer *pickled fish* maak nog voor hulle hoërskool toe is.

Maar ek was mos maar 'n annerster kind. In plaas leer kook, sou ek eerder vra.

“Hoekom juis vis vir Goeie Vrydag?”

“Want as jy vleis eet, eet jy Jesus se liggaam.”

“Maar is die nagmaal dan Jesus se liggaam nie?”

“Vat 'n mes en begin die ywe skoonmaak.”

Later, kom ek weer in die kombuis.

“Maar as hulle vir Liewe Jesus op die kruis gehang het, hoekom sê ons dit is Goeie Vrydag?”

“As jy nie nou ophou met jou neulery nie, gaan jy erger huil as die twee Marias.”

Toe ek uiteindelik genoeg belangstelling toon om te leer *pickled fish* maak, was my ma bly-kwaad.

“'n Meisiekind behoort in die *kitchen* as die ma kook. Maar nee. Vir jou het ek daar uitgegooi met al jou baie praterij op my kop. Gooi nou die *spices* in die pot. Vir wat meet jy die borrie af? Mens meet met jou oog.”

Ek staan nog so met my hartjievorm-maatlepels in die hand, toe my ma die borrie uit my hand gryp en stywe lippe dit in die pot uie strooi.

“Resepte en *mates* is soos plagiaat,” betig sy.

Ek kry die vis-besigheid deesdae mooi reg. Dit is net die asyn. Maar ek weet: Mens proe mos.



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



Foto: Stefan Lotter

Ons Gebaretaaltolke ken hulle storie

Net soos die kinders van ouds, word Gebaretaaltolke dikwels gesien, maar nie gehoor nie. By ons universiteit verrig Gebaretaaltolke 'n reuse diens en is hulle 'n kardinale hulpmiddel vir Dowe studente, personeel en die breër gemeenskap. Voorheen was Gebaretaal-tolkdienste deel van die Eenheid vir Studente met Gestremdhede, maar van verlede jaar af het die Eenheid vir Taalfasilitering en Bemagtiging die tolkdienste oorgeneem. Volgens Susan Lombaard van die Eenheid, ook 'n opgeleide Gebaretaaltolk, kan enigiemand nie 'n tolk wees nie.

"Ons sit nie net enigiemand in die klaskamers om te tolk nie," vertel Susan. "Hulle word eers getoets en dan opgelei. Nie almal wat Gebaretaal as vak gehad het, maak goeie tolke nie. Net so is alle goeie tolke nie noodwendig mense wat Gebaretaal formeel bestudeer het nie. "Een van ons tolke, Martie Miranda, is byvoorbeeld iemand wat kan hoor, maar haar ouers is doof. Haar huistaal is Gebaretaal en Afrikaans haar tweede taal. En sy is 'n baie goeie tolk."

Die Eenheid het tans een voltydse Gebaretaaltolk en drie vryskuttolke. Verder het die ETFB twee voltydse gesproketaaltolke en vier tolke wat op 'n vryskutbasis werk. Dertien tolke is tans besig met opleiding om as tolke gebruik te word. – **Stefan Lotter**

Kontak: Ms Mariolize Barnard - Gebaretaal-tolkdienste 051 401 2251



Photo: Mamose Makaya

DIRAP leads programme development

Of the current 450 programmes offered by the university, 255 will remain, while 80 new ones will be introduced. Sharon Paulse is the newly appointed Deputy Director for Programmes at the Directorate for Institutional Research and Academic Planning (DIRAP), and will be central to this process.

Sharon, who hails from Kimberley, is a former Kopsie and worked at the Central University of Technology (CUT) for two-and-a-half years in the same field before joining us at the beginning of the year.

Her role is to develop new programmes, in which she acts as the facilitator between the faculties and external bodies for registration of programmes.

"The process of conceptualisation to formalisation of programmes takes at least 18 months before it can be implemented. It does happen that programmes get phased out when they are redundant or have to be aligned to a new structure," she said.

DIRAP provides strategic leadership in academic planning, implementing high quality programmes across the university. Sharon's task is to ensure that all programmes are relevant for and responsive to the labour market as well as academically credible and internationally recognised. – **Ruan Brewer**

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Foto: Leonie Boleurs

Nuwe eenheid bied statistiese konsultasie-dienste aan navorsers

'n Statistiese Konsultasie-eenheid (SKE) het met ingang 1 Maart 2014 in die Departement Wiskundige Statistiek en Aktuariële Wetenskap tot stand gekom.

Die SKE bied statistiese konsultasiedienste aan navorsers – naamlik personeel en nagraadse studente – aan ons universiteit (met uitsluiting van die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe, waar daardie dienste deur die Departement Biostatistiek gelewer word). Die SKE kan regdeur die navorsingsproses 'n bydrae maak, vanaf die beplanning van die navorsingsprojek, deur die ontleding van navorsingsdata, tot by die publikasie van die bevindinge. Die eenheid sal ook, op aanvraag, kort lesings oor statistiese konsepte en navorsingsmetodes vir personeel en nagraadse studente aanbied. Deur te help met die beter versameling, ontleding van en verslagdoening oor navorsingsdata, sal die SKE na verwagting bydra tot 'n verhoging in die kwantiteit en kwaliteit van navorsingsuitsette aan die UV.

Konsultasiedienste sal gratis aan nagraadse studente (meesters en PhD) aan die UV verskaf word.

Die SKE is binne die Departement Wiskundige Statistiek en Aktuariële Wetenskap, in die Wesblok-gebou, geleë. – **Prof Robert Schall**

Kontak prof Robert Schall by:
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Photo: ICTISE Unit South Campus

ICTISE's Internet Broadcast Project makes global waves

The Internet Broadcast Project (IBP), run by ICTISE (ICT Innovation in School Education) from the UFS South Campus, is about to collect an international award.

This project, which has the Department of Basic Education as its partner, is one of the winners of the Enterprise Video Awards (EVA). Kovies' IBP walked away with the Innovation in Pedagogy Award in Madison, Wisconsin, USA on 28 April 2014.

"This award places the University of the Free State on the same playing field as some of the top universities worldwide," says Saretjie Musgrave, heading up the ICTISE programme at the South Campus.

"It raises awareness, not only for the work we do, but also the community work the university does. This is confirmation that we are, despite budget and network constraints, on the right path." A path that is making South Africa and Africa take notice.

The IBP is being recognised for outstanding innovation and unique accomplishments in video. "It is remarkable for a South African university to receive this international recognition," she says. "The future of this project looks bright," smiles Saretjie. "We have seen an interest in the project and in our results from across Africa." – **Michelle Nöthling**



Photo: Community Engagement

Students volunteer in aid of local communities

The University of the Free State, like many other universities across the country, plays an important role in community development and community sustainability. The Community Engagement Department (CED) has a mandate to ensure that the university is committed to responding to the challenges that face our communities – through research, community service learning, partnerships and the volunteer programmes.

The CED initiates, facilitates and coordinates programmes that involve students to help them learn the value of public service, creating platforms for them to learn about issues surrounding poverty, human diversity, negotiation, conflict resolution, compassion and service.

The Community Engagement Department is currently involved in the following projects:

- Community Engagement Day.
- The NRF Book, which will soon be launched.
- Wealth Creation Centre – having initiated, assisted and sustained 23 jobs.
- Resilience Network Project.
- Financial Support from the IDT, German Government and Kellogg Foundation.

"Together we can do more for our communities and this is why we as the CED call on staff and students to join hands to build healthier, wealthier and well-educated communities," Director of CED Mr. Ramahlele said.

For more information on the Community Engagement Department and the current projects, please visit this link <http://supportservices.ufs.ac.za/content.aspx?DCode=451>

Contact Mr Billyboy Ramahlele, Director of Community Engagement on 051 4013279 – **Jerry Mokoroane**



Photo: André Meyer

UFS Architect wins Carl and Emily Fuchs Foundation Prestige Prize

André Meyer, honours student in Architecture at the University of the Free State (UFS), was one of the three winners who received the Carl and Emily Fuchs Foundation Prestige Prize. Each of the three winners has received a prize to the value of R50 000. The prizes are equal and are not ranked. This followed after a rigorous selection process over a five-day period. The criteria take into account prior academic performance; a portfolio submission representative of all three years of the BAS degree; a 24-hour design task and an individual interview with the selection panel. The panel consisted of two architects: Fiona Garson and Mthulisi Msimang; two academics: Kobus du Preez (UFS) and Nico Botes (UP); and one representative of the Fuchs Foundation: Riaan Els.

Honours students in Architecture from eight of the accredited Schools of Architecture situated at the various universities and universities of technology in South Africa could enter for this competition. In seven years, the UFS has won this competition three times. Previous winners of the UFS were Charles de Jager (2008) and Wynand Viljoen (2012). – **André Meyer**



The making of a Graduation Ceremony

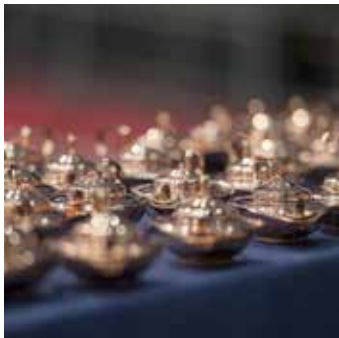
A Kvsie graduation is a wondrous occasion that entails a lot of hard work, from the preparation of programmes to the coordination of the rectoral procession, drummers, organisation of guest speakers, music, videography, photography and live streaming.

The unsung heroes of this grand affair are the various university staff and main coordinators of the graduation ceremonies such as the office of student academic services, events and protocol, communication and brand

management, and those who provide essential services such as ushering of guests and graduates, Sign Language interpreting and presentation of certificates.

This year the April graduations were marked by the presence of several celebrity speakers and guests including Miss South Africa Rolene Strauss, who graced the Callie Human on the first day of graduations, famous television personality and satirist Loyiso Gola, US Open Wheelchair Champion Lucas Sithole and Ruda Landman.

We celebrate in pictures the various moments of another great Kvsie graduation and the colleagues who have made it possible to produce an event of such high calibre, year after year. - Mamosa Makaya





Photos: Johan Roux and Sonia Small

Dumela asks ...

Text and photos by Jerry Mokoroane

Our university has finally launched its very first Bus Shuttle Service for our South Campus students. Here is what our students feel about the shuttle service.

Bradley Ludick – first-year student

"The shuttle service is really useful, although its timing leaves much to be desired. My classes usually end around 13:00 most days of the week and I have to wait until 17:00. I would appreciate it very much if there was a very flexible time to assist us to focus on academics when we get to our residences," said Bradley.



Lerato Motsoane – first-year student

"I was really worried at the beginning of the year, having to stay on campus and catch two taxis before I get to school, coupled with the expenses thereof, but after the UFS has taken on the shuttle system I am more at an advantage. I have no safety worries, and I am at ease with the sufficient time to study at the campus without any worry whatsoever," said Lerato.



Mbali Mashwanganyi

"A big up to the UFS for the great initiative. I was excited to know that there is the same shuttle system for students here as other universities. That really made me feel safer and less worried about being late for my lectures," said Mbali.



Palesa Mile

"I have been a commuter for a year, and I am happy that our University has eventually delivered to their long-time promise. I have no problems whatsoever, but to just congratulate the university for their efforts. I am now a UFS commuter, and I am at ease and at zero-stress," said Palesa.



Kovsies helps on the Phelophepa train

About 24 final-year students from the Department of Optometry will be working on the Phelophepa train this year. These students will be joining the Phelophepa team on the two separate routes the train will take during May and June.

The Phelophepa train, also dubbed the Train of Hope, is a non-governmental health service on an 18-coach train. This train travels through the country and stops over at stations in rural areas where medical staff renders their much-needed services to communities.

The train, which has been in service for 20 years, initially operated with only three eye clinic coaches. It now boasts six different on-board clinics, including optometry, dental care, psychology, pharmacy, basic health care and a health education clinic.

The Phelophepa initiative has won global recognition for the innovative way in which it brings the best of modern medicine to remote rural areas in South Africa. This mobile service is not a stand-alone project; it forms an integral part of local community structures, supplementing and supporting existing facilities. – **René-Jean Van der Berg**

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
- Testamente en trusts
- Persoonlike dekking
- Voorsiening vir opvoeding

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



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Ons dink vooruit

Photo: Johan Roux



In the headlines

Trotse Kowsie dra die kroon

"Ek is baie bly ek kon my universiteit trots maak."

So sê Rolene Strauss, die eerste Mej. Suid-Afrika in 40 jaar wat die Vrystaat opgelewer het. Vanuit die staanspoor is sy baie trots daarop om haarself 'n Kowsie te noem. Oorspronklik van Volksrust in Mpumalanga is Rolene die UV se eerste suksesvolle proefbuisbaba. Sy studeer sedert 2011 medies aan die UV en was tydens haar eerste jaar as Mej. Shimla-Varsity-beker gekroon. Om al haar verpligtinge as Mej. Suid-Afrika na te kom, moet sy egter haar studies staak. Sy benadruk dit egter dat dit net tydelik is. "Ek kan ongelukkig nie studeer én Mej. Suid-Afrika wees nie. Maar ek sal my mediese graad kry," sê sy vasberade. Dié motivering het sy van haar rolmodel Jo-Anne Strauss gekry wat in 2000 ook haar studies moes staak nadat sy as Mej. Suid-Afrika gekroon is. Jo-Ann, toe 'n student aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch, was besig met haar BCom-graad. "Sy het ná haar jaar in die tuig teruggegaan om haar studies te voltooi. Ek wil dieselfde doen." Rolene het op 22 April haar 22ste verjaardag gevier. In haar vrye tyd speel sy graag 'n potjie gholf. – **Ruan Bruwer**

UFS receives prestigious PRISM Award

The UFS has once again been recognised as a leading institution – this time by receiving one of Africa's most sought-after awards in the public relations industry. At this year's Prism Awards, the University won a bronze prize for our undergraduate recruitment publications.

Now in their 17th year, the PRISM Awards, under the auspices of the Public Relations Institute of South Africa (PRISA) are presented to public relations and communication professionals who have successfully incorporated strategy, creativity and professionalism into their public relations campaigns.

Business enterprises, associations and private institutions as well as government bodies are all eligible to enter this prestigious competition.

The publications that won us this award include:

- Prospectus
- Information flyer
- Information wall chart
- Seven faculty booklets
 - Economic and Management Sciences
 - Education
 - Health Sciences
 - Humanities
 - Natural and Agricultural Sciences
 - Law
 - Theology
- Qwaqwa Campus Prospectus

drawing the reader into the real campus experience, we established a conversation with Grade 11 and 12 learners and their parents." She explained that the campaign centred more on what the learners wanted to know, as opposed to what the university wanted to say.

The content of the publications was realigned to give our prospective students and their parents exactly what they wanted – packaged in a smart and attractive way.

These publications also won a Merit Award – recognising the campaign for its outstanding performance among practitioners in Higher and Further Education during the Marketing, Advancement and Communication in Education (MACE) Award ceremony in November 2013. – **Ilze Bakkes**



Photo: Johan Roux



Photo: Leonie Bolleurs

New microscope adds value to nanoresearch at the UFS

To improve research quality and output and also to encourage multidisciplinary research, the Department of Physics purchased a new Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (FE-SEM). What differentiates this microscope from other similar microscopes at the university is that it has by far a better resolution and it is specifically designed for research in nanoscience and nanotechnology.

According to Prof Martin Ntwaeaborwa from the Department of Physics, the FE-SEM has a resolution of 0.8 nm at 15 kV and 1.2 nm at 1 kV. "It is ideal for imaging nanostructured materials," he said.

"There are a number of similar machines in the country, but the resolution of this one is comparatively high and it can therefore produce high-quality images of nanomaterials. In addition, it is the first one in the country that incorporates the Cathodoluminescence (CL) spectrometer to do imaging and CL spectroscopy at the same time.

"The microscope is fitted with an Energy Dispersive X-ray spectrometer (EDS) to study the chemical composition of nanomaterials, and a (CL) spectrometer to study the properties of light emitted by these materials.

"This multidisciplinary piece of equipment that could be used in physics, chemistry, biology and geology has multifunctional abilities because it can be used to study particle morphology (shape and sizes of particles), chemical composition and cathodoluminescence properties of nanomaterials," said Prof Ntwaeaborwa.

Prof Ntwaeaborwa received R10 million funding from the National Nanotechnology Equipment Programme of the National Research Foundation.

The microscope has been installed in one of the laboratories of the Centre for Microscopy and can be used by our researchers from the Departments of Physics, Chemistry, Life sciences and Geology as well as collaborators from local and international universities, research institutes and science councils. – **Leonie Bolleurs**

KNOW MORE ABOUT ...

Getting to know Betsy Eister

One thing Betsy Eister, Director of the UFS Library and Information Services, knows for sure is that she was born to lead. This librarian and former teacher, who holds a Master's degree in Information Studies, says that, given the chance to live her life again, her career path would look the same.

"I would still land up as a manager, given the management principles that I believe in and live by," she said. Committed to building a professional, diverse and competent staff complement, she lists the qualities that make her stand out in her job. "I lead by example, I'm trustworthy, exercise transparency, am a woman of integrity, fair in treating all staff members, irrespective of their backgrounds and, most importantly, open up doors for staff to flourish and develop."

Betsy, who oversees library activities on all three campuses, says she will ensure that libraries play their critical role in providing access to information required in the academia. "It is my responsibility and mission to manage our university libraries in such a manner that they provide access to information resources that support

the university's teaching, learning and research needs."

We asked Betsy some random questions

This year ... I'm going to submit my PhD proposal while I take the university libraries to new heights.

A life without ... exercising is a "bad-air" life.

A perfect day is ... achieving my goals for the day, as I believe in "doing today what needs to be done today".

If you had asked me a couple of years ago ... I would not have dreamt of working at the University of the Free State, given its history.

Had it not been for ... my line manager in my early junior management years in the Provincial Library Services (Mrs

Schimper), I would not have gained the confidence that I have in managing a diverse staff complement.

Dreams are ... just that: dreams. I believe in coming up with a path to realise my worthwhile dreams. I like to quote the late Stephen Covey in his book, when he says, "The main thing is to keep the main thing, the main thing." I dream of being called Dr Eister one day and that is a dream that will come true.

– **Amanda Tongha**

Betsy Eister.



Photo: Anja Aucamp

UV Akademie vir die Ontwikkeling van Steundienspersoneel word geopen



Foto: Leonie Bolleurs

By die bekendstelling van die UV Akademie vir die Ontwikkeling van Steundienspersoneel, was van links Anita Lombard, Lourens Geyer, Prof Nicky Morgan, en Yuri Munsamy.

Onder leiding van prof Nicky Morgan, Viserektor: Bedryf, is die UV Akademie vir die Ontwikkeling van Steundienspersoneel onlangs deur die afdeling Personeelontwikkeling in die Departement Menslike Hulpbronne geopen. Die seremonie het saamgeval met die aanvang van die kursus Basiese Projekbestuur, wat die eerste kursus was wat onder die vaandel van die Akademie aangebied is.

Die doel van die Akademie is om vaardigheidsbehoefes aan te spreek wat krities is vir die effektiewe funksionering van steundienspersoneel. Wat differensieer die Akademie van ander opleiding? Volgens Corlia Janse van Rensburg beoog die akademie om hoofsaaklik kredietdraende programme aan te bied wat generiese, maar kritiese vaardigheidsbehoefes aanspreek soos deur die jaarlikse behoeftebepaling uitgewys. Die volgende aanbiedinge is onder meer vir 2014 geskeduleer:

- Junie tot Mei 2015: Suid-Afrikaanse Gebaretaal
- Julie: Risikobestuur vir Bestuurders
- Augustus: Afrigting en Mentorskap

Wat is die voordeel van kredietdraende programme? Kredietdraende programme is belyn met nasionale- of

sektorstandaarde, wat verseker dat die krediete oordraagbaar is en ook erkenning buite die UV verkry. Belangstellendes se lynbestuurders speel 'n belangrike rol om seker te maak dat oordrag van vaardigheid moet plaasvind. Daar is 'n direkte belyning met die Prestasiebestuurproses wat verseker dat die opleiding behoefte-gedrewe is en onmiddellike waarde bied aan beide die werknemer en die werkgewer.

Personeel wat belangstel om enige van die kursusse by te woon, kan so te werk gaan:

- Hou die *Digest* in die 24/7@Kovsies dop vir advertensies oor die kursusse, of
- Kontak die afdeling Menslike Hulpbronne Prestasiebestuur en Personeelontwikkeling (x2441) vir vooraf-bespreking op kursusse of vir verdere navrae rakende kursusse

Personeel wat tydens die jaarlikse behoeftebepalingsproses die spesifieke behoefte uitgewys het, sal ook individueel in kennis gestel word van die kursusse vir besprekingsdoeleindes.

Prof Morgan, wat die akademie bekendgestel het, het gesê dat die akademie sal poog om struktuur te skep wat die behoeftes van personeel op alle vlakke sal kan aanspreek. "As 'n universiteit moet ons vir ons personeel plek maak om te groei," het hy gesê.

Die akademie sal 'n baie groot rol speel waar personeel waarde kan toevoeg tot hul ontwikkeling. Opleiding is baie duur. Sodra ons geld bestee aan ons personeel se opleiding verwag ons dat dit waarde sal toevoeg, omdat ons die vaardigheidsvlakke van ons mense moet aanspreek sowel as hulle groei, het Lourens Geyer, Senior Direkteur van Menslike Hulpbronne, gesê.

– Leonie Bolleurs

UFS values partnerships

The University of the Free State fully understands the value of working together with various sectors to attain a common vision of empowering society through education, said Dr Choice Makhetha, Vice-Rector: External Relations, during the Business Breakfast she hosted at the Qwaqwa Campus earlier this year.

Dr Choice Makhetha with Busi Tshabalala, District Director: Thabo Mofutsanyana, and Lindiwe Mabaso, Chief Education Specialist: Curriculum, Thabo Mofutsanyana District.



Photo: Thabo Kessah

"Knowledge sharing is a crucial part of our mandate and we want to make sure that the UFS is more accessible and supportive to community initiatives," said Dr Makhetha.

"We also want to make sure that our Qwaqwa Campus has a truly diverse student body and staff – international, rural and urban backgrounds, racial balance and more. We want to provide solutions to

difficult societal challenges through high-quality research, learning from knowledge that is found within the community itself."

Dr Makhetha also made a plea to the business sector and the community at large to "support exceptionally performing students financially to ensure that the community and the university achieve great

heights in achieving unity and respect for humanity".

In attendance were alumni and representatives from various businesses, financial institutions and religious leaders. Civil structures like Legal Aid SA and government Departments of Education and Health were also represented. – Thabo Kessah



TL Scholars are on the move

TL Champs during one of their workshops.

The Qwaqwa Campus Teaching and Learning (TL) Champions recently launched their 2014 project with a day-long workshop by Prof David Pace from the University of Indiana in the US. The workshop was on this year's theme of TL research, *Decoding the Disciplines*.

Decoding the Disciplines focuses on thought processes, attitudes and perceptions of learners in order to assist them towards mastering academic content. Seven steps are followed, namely:

1. What is a **bottleneck** to learning in this class, a place where many learners consistently fail to master crucial material?
2. What do **specialists** do to get past this bottleneck?
3. How can I explicitly **model** these operations for my learners?
4. How can I give my learners the opportunity to **practise** and get feedback on each of these operations?
5. How can I **motivate** my learners and address the affective side of learning?

6. **How can I tell** whether learners have mastered these operations by the end of the process?

7. How can I **share** with others what I have learned?

The TL Champions also went on a working retreat at Clarens where our research guru, Prof Annette Wilkinson, lead a workshop on *Qualitative Research; Classroom Assessment Techniques and Publishing Teaching and Learning Research*. Enough time was allocated to practical sessions where the Champs had to apply the seven 'decoding steps' to their own disciplines.

Dr Elize Smuts, Qwaqwa Campus Centre for TL: Research Facilitator, says that TL scholars are on the move.

"They do TL research, implement improvements in their classes and share their knowledge and skills as far as possible. They continue to achieve outstanding results regarding improvement of their student success rates and they have also won numerous awards," she said. - **Thabo Kessah**

TV Star calls for dialogue on gender empowerment

TV star Jo-Anne Reyneke recently warned Qwaqwa Campus students to always be careful of the things they say. She was speaking during the launch of the Qwaqwa Campus Gender Forum.

"As young people, you must learn always to truly listen and understand what your friends say. You must also be careful of the things you say, as you might prevent or be the cause of your friend's suicide if you are not careful. What might seem like a small thing might have far-reaching results for you and your friend," she said.

"Respect those who are different from you, as all of us would like to be accepted as we are. Carry yourself in a manner that

shows you love yourself – and this starts with you respecting yourself and those who are different from you," said Jo-Anne. The Gender Forum is tasked with encouraging dialogue on matters that concern gender sensitivity and equality and has members with skills in counselling and mentorship. "It encourages both staff and students to break their silence and to create an environment of tolerance based on respect for human dignity and inclusiveness," Jack Vezi, chairperson of the forum, said. - **Thabo Kessah**



Jo-Anne Reyneke giving students and staff a talk from the heart.

Photo: Stefan Lotter



Karabelo Moloantoa.

Like Idols for scientists

Kovsie student and scientist Karabelo Moloantoa recently represented the Free State in the South African finals of the *FameLab* competition during the SciFest in Grahamstown.

Karabelo is a 24-year-old student doing his Master's in Biotechnology. He completed his Bachelor's degree in Medical Microbiology as well as his Honours degree in Biochemistry at Kovsies. His research is focused on bioremediation of mine waste waters.

"FameLab is like the scientists' Idols taking place annually ... in the competition we are given three minutes to explain a science aspect to a non-science audience," says Karabelo. Twenty five countries participate with South Africa being the only African one. "I was called by one of my lecturers an hour before the local competition took place at the National Museum in Bloemfontein. I was actually still tired from playing volleyball the night before," he explains. "I was unprepared and without slides, but I did my presentation." This was the first year Karabelo entered FameLab and, although he was somewhat unprepared for the local competition in Bloemfontein, he was nominated to represent the Free State in Grahamstown at the SciFest event. From the 18 semi-finalists, Karabelo qualified for the finals, at which the nine finalists were competing to represent South Africa in the United Kingdom at the international finals. "I did not win the UK trip, but I made it to the finals, which is an achievement, as half of the semi-finalists could not make it to the finals," says Karabelo.

"I feel I have done well to represent the university and the province as a whole. It was amazing to speak in front of more than 800 people, delivering my presentation. I learnt a lot and improved my skills of communicating scientific aspects. I will definitely enter again next year." – **Stefan Lotter**

Vier stap Kaapstad toe

Op Donderdag 1 Mei het Adéle van Aswegen en Ntokozo Nkabinde en twee ander Bloemfonteiners, Ronél Warner en Nico Piedt, te voet die lang pad Kaap toe aangepak om geld in te samel vir die UV se No Student Hungry (NSH-beurs).

Die NSH-beurs, in 2011 gestig deur prof Jonathan Jansen, Visekanselier en Rektor van die UV, en Rudi Buys, Dekaan: Studentesake, probeer honger UV-studente by te staan. Die R30 per student per dag is 'n klein bydrae wat 'n groot verskil in studente se lewens maak," sê Vicky Simpson, koördineerder van die program wat hulp aan meer as 100 studente verleen.

Adéle van Aswegen, gemoeid met die eksterne fondsinsameling vir die Rektor se beursfonds, kry daagliks te doen met die negatiewe uitwerking van geldnood op studente se akademiese prestasies.

"Die geldnood strek verder as net klas- en koshuisgelde. Beurse sluit dikwels nie geld vir etes in nie en daarom moes die UV 'n plan beraam."

– **René-Jean Van der Berg**

Stappers het aan 'n 5km pretstap deelgeneem om die vrywilligers, wat van Bloemfontein Kaapstad toe stap, af te sien en voorspoed toe te wens.



Important dates and things to do in May



- Golden Key International Honour Society: Corporate Breakfast – 14 May
- Qwaqwa graduations – 16 and 17 May
- Qwaqwa Campus Open Day – 24 May

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Twee UV rugbyspanne beste in die land

Twee uit die drie kompetisies van die Varsitybeker waaraan rugbyspanne van die UV deelgeneem het, is vanjaar deur hulle gewen. Dis die eerste keer dat die UV in een jaar twee kampioene in dié kompetisie oplewer.

Shimlas se o.20-span het met 'n bomenslike vertoning in die eindstryd van die o.20-reeks vir Tuks o.20 geklop. Kovsies se Jongspan moes vir 47 minute met 14 man speel en is as wenner ná 'n skopstryd gekroon, aangesien die telling steeds gelykop (17 elk) ná 20 minute se ekstra tyd was.

Dit was die eerste keer sedert die reeks in 2012 begin het

wat die magtige Pretoria-span 'n nederlaag toegedien is.

'n Week later het die UV sy oorheersing in die Varsitybeker se koshuiskompetisie voortgesit toe Heimat in die eindstryd met 20-12 oor Patria (Pukke) geseëvier het. Dit was die vyfde uit sewe keer wat 'n UV koshuisspan die titel buit. Armentum het dit in 2009 gewen en Vishuis in 2010, 2012 en 2013. Dit was so hittete of die UV het drie spanne in die halfeindronde gehad. 'n Drie in die doodsnikke deur NMMU teen Shimlas in die laaste rondte-wedstryd het eersgenoemde ten koste van Shimlas na die halfeindronde laat deurdring.

– Ruan Bruwer



SPORT

bultjie

The Beauty and some of the Best!

Slaan jy 'n koerant oop, kyk jy na televisieprogramme, gaan fliek of reis jy êrens heen, loop jy jou vas in oud-Kovsies wat presteer. Eerstens geluk aan Roline Strauss, ons nuwe Mejuffrou S.A. Tydens haar puik onderhoud met Dawie Roodt op *Ontbytsake* kon die hele land sien van watter stoffasie sy gemaak is. Intelligent, gevat en 'n pragtige Kovsie op wie ons universiteit en die hele land trots kan wees! Sy is voorwaar 'n voorbeeld van hoe innerlike skoonheid ook uiterlike skoonheid uitstraal.

Geluk, Nicol Viljoen, met jou oorsese solo-musiekuitvoering! Daai man sal vir Hitler kan kalm speel as hy eers daardie klawers tokkel. Ek sien Dap Louw en sy ewe mooi vrou se dogter, Antoinette, slaan toe sommer 'n SAMA los vir haar spel in oud-Kovsie Deon Meyer se *Tango*-film. Saam met haar was nog 'n talentvolle Kovsie, Lize-Marie Swart, ook in die fliek, wat by die Akademiese prysaand geskitter het. Hou haar dop! By Woordfees en KKNK woeker die oud-Kovsies en personeel met hul talente. Hulle speel vir vol sale en kry puik resensies. Carel Nel maak opslae in *Slaaf*, Gerben Kamper skitter in *Oorsee* en word genomineer vir 'n Kanna as beste akteur in die rol van die karakter wat in 'n gogga verander in die bekroonde

Samsamasjien. Peter Taljaard in *Die nag van die hiëna* by Woordfees word geprys met: "Nog nooit het ek 'n akteur gesien wat homself so "totally immerse" in 'n karakter as hy nie". *Die Buite-egtelike Oupa* het by KKNK sommer blitsvinnig uitverkoop en gehore aan die skater gehad. Crystal-Donna Roberts het geskitter in *Rondomskrik*. Ander Oud-Kovsies soos Lulu Botha, Wilhelm van der Walt, Theresca Muishond en talle ander was daar met puik nuwe en dikwels nuutgeskrewe eie toneelstukke! Bultjie lig julle maar in, want die Kaapse koerante skryf nou nie juis oor al die Vrystaatprestasies nie.

Darem snaaks hoe party provinsies se koerante eenogig kan wees. *Kanna hy ko' hystoe* open volgens *Die Burger* toe sommer by die Woordfees? Hallo! Dit was 'n Kovsie-/FACTS-opvoering wat hier by Vryfees in 2013 gedebuteer het en hier met groot akklamasie gespeel het. En dit nogal met die Hertzogpryswenner, Adam Small, se eie stem as verteller! Wat 'n vonds wat eintlik aan die groot klok gehang moet word: Dis geskiedenis, man! Maar wat – Kovsies is mos maar van nature nie te wintie nie en doen maar dinge so in die stilligheid – ook op akademiese gebied.

It was quite a good idea of the Dean of Humanities, Prof Lucius Botes, to present the *Personalia of Staff* at faculty meetings. This document reflects the activities of staff every term and I must say the hard work and dedication of academic staff is quite amazing. It might be worthwhile to read some of the CVs of academic staff on the UFS webpage. Last week we got the CV of Prof André Wessels in the post for his reappointment as head of history. I was stunned by what this man had achieved in his life. And very few know this, as he is one of those staff members who work in silence. I can mention quite a few more. Female staff will be lifted out in the next *Bultjie* due to lack of space! No! It's not what you think! I mean space, because they are so many!

Apart from all the sport, artistic and other achievements, Kovsies is an academic institution and that is what we should keep focusing on. Our core business should always be academic excellence in teaching and research excellence. Couple that with a healthy lifestyle, with sport, nurturing and enjoying the arts, plus respect for all and we will be an effective and happy campus. *Smeer 'n Jermolientjie aan en kom!*

Bultjie