



POKKEL-WOEMA VIR DIE VARSITYBEKER-KAMPIOENE! Hy mag dalk nie 'n wollerige stert soos die regte egte eekhorning in die natuur hê nie, maar hy het 'n groot aandeel daarin gehad om die Maties aan te spoor om vir die tweede agtereenvolgende jaar die FNB Varsitybeker te verower! Die Maties het die Pukke in die finaal van die Varsitybeker in die Danie Cravenstadion met 11-6 verslaan. Pokkel, Maties se gelukbringer, was by elke wedstryd om sy span aan te moedig en het self 'n groepie ondersteuners – hier is hy saam met die vyfjarige Coena Basson, kleinseun van mnr Belius Potgieter, Bestuurder: Rugby, aan die Universiteit.

(Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

Kampus gaan binnekort wemel van PLakkers!

Die kampus sal binnekort wemel van PLakkers – en dit het niks met informele nedersettings te doen nie! Die Rektor se Bestuurspan (RBS) het onlangs die ontwikkeling van blogs goedgekeur om op 'n nuwe, vindingryke manier met verskillende teiken-groepe te kommunikeer.

Die blogtegnologie sal eerste op die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se elektroniese nuusareas toegepas word. Die US-nuusartikels op die korporatiewe webtuiste en webportale sal binnekort ook afsonderlik na 'n splinter-nuwe nuusblog deurskakel. Die nuutjie met dié nuusblog is dat 'n mens sal

kan kommentaar lewer op die artikels, debatte voer en inligting uitruil.

'n Ander beoogde aanwending van dié tegnologie is 'n blog getiteld *PLakker*, waar eerstejaarstudente eersdaags sal kan inteken. Dié naam is deur die Studenteraad gekies, en is 'n kombinasie van die woorde *personal login* (PL) en die bekende 'akker' van Matieland. Matie-eerstejaars word dus as't ware kuberplakkers.

Die nuwe blogtegnologie sal mettertyd gratis aan departemente, huidige nagraadse studente en personeel

(blaaï na bladsy 6)

New improved campus health service launched

The newly renovated building that houses the Campus Health Service (CHS) of Stellenbosch University (SU) is not the only thing to have undergone a face-lift at the CHS – it now also boasts a better, faster, more effective service for its clients. While CHS catered mainly to students in the past, the expanded service will cater to all staff members at the University.

According to Dr Pierre Viviers, Head of CHS and Senior Executive of the SU Sports Performance Institute, the CHS offers an integrated campus health service where staff members and students can go to get assistance with a range of primary health concerns.

“A lot of effort has gone into renovating the building that houses the CHS and a large amount of money has been spent by SU to improve the consultation rooms, buy new equipment, train existing staff members and to appoint new staff. We also received a grant from the European Union to expand our services focused on sexual and reproductive health,” said Dr Viviers.

From the beginning of May, the CHS will also offer an online booking service that will make it easier for staff and students to make an appointment.

The online system will work as follows: Once clients have logged in via the staff or the student portal, they will be able to choose from available appointment slots. They will then be asked to specify the nature of their complaint. Those who require attention regarding sexual or reproductive health – from contraception to HIV testing – will also be asked to complete a pre-consultation questionnaire.

The questionnaire, said Dr Viviers, is based on the standard questions that form part of any consultation where

sexual and reproductive health concerns are raised. The questionnaire was developed in conjunction with the CHS's new guidelines regarding assistance with sexual and reproductive health issues. These guidelines are aimed at providing CHS clients with the highest standard of care and assisting them in gaining access to

other services – like psychological support or specialist treatment – where appropriate. “The clinician will continually be able to refer to a summary of your responses from the pre-consultation questionnaire and advise you accordingly.”

(turn to page 6)



Dr Pierre Viviers stands in front of the CHS building that is currently being renovated

(Hennie Rudman (SSFD))

Staff invited to CHS launch on 14 May

All staff members at Stellenbosch University are invited to come and toast the opening of the new Campus Health Service with a cooldrink and a boerewors roll on 14 May. Festivities will start at 11:00 and run until 15:00.

“This is our open day. It's an opportunity for us to showcase our new services and to take people on guided tours through the newly renovated building,” said Dr Viviers.

During the tours, staff members will have an opportunity to meet the health service team and ask any questions that they may have about the service.

The Rector, Prof Russel Botman, and members of management will also be there to celebrate the opening of the service.

Slag gereed vir toekomsuitdagings

Taalsentrumdienste beïndruk eksterne kenners

“Alle eer aan die Taalsentrum vir sy omvangryke en eerlike selfevalueringsproses en sy ongelooflike prestasies om 'n wêreldklastaalsentrum op die been te bring ten einde in die taalbehoefes van 'n baie komplekse en dinamiese veeltalige omgewing te voorsien.” Só het 'n eksterne evalueringspaneel die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se Taalsentrum lof toegeswaai nadat hulle onlangs die Sentrum se dienste beoordeel het.

Ooreenkomstig die Universiteit se beleid om ook alle steundienste-omgewings te laat evalueer, het die Taalsentrum vanaf 27 tot 31 Oktober

2008 aan hierdie eksterne evaluering deelgeneem.

Volgens prof Leon de Stadler, Direkteur van die Sentrum, het die paneel met die Sentrum se eie beoordeling van sy sterk- en swakpunte saamgestem, en die Sentrum gelooft vir sy toekomsplanne om in 'n veranderende omgewing steeds nuwe geleenthede vir verdere ontwikkeling te skep.

Hy wys egter ook vinnig daarop dat daar in die kommentaar van die paneel nie alleen komplimente opgesluit lê nie, maar ongetwyfeld ook

baie groot uitdagings.

“Die Universiteit Stellenbosch is in wese 'n meertalige universiteit met 'n besondere verbintenis tot Afrikaans, en om hierdie visie te verwezenlik, vra 'n fyn genuanseerde taalbeleid en -plan wat uiteindelik 'n beduidende impak op die werksaamhede van die Taalsentrum móét hê. Hierdie konteks word duidelik in die verslag van die eksterne paneel verrek,“ verduidelik prof De Stadler. Die paneel het hulle ook deeglik van die taalbeplannings-konteks van die Universiteit vergewis deur onder andere met rolspeleers soos die Viserektor: Onderrig, prof Magda

Fourie, die Senior Direkteur: Akademiese Steun, dr Ludolph Botha, en dekane van fakulteite onderhoude te voer.

Die kundiges in die paneel is almal verbonde aan universiteite in Suid-Afrika en Europa, en het elkeen 'n bepaalde spesialiteitsgebied verteenwoordig. Die Taalsentrum het 'n uitgebreide selfevalueringsproses gevolg, waarna 'n uitvoerige selfevaluerings-verslag saamgestel is. Die paneel het hierdie verslag bestudeer en die Sentrum se personeel in 'n week lange sessie na letterlik elke klein onderdeeljie van hulle werksaamhede uit-

gevra. Daarna het die paneel die eksterne evalueringsverslag saamgestel.

Aangesien dit die Taalsentrum se eerste eksterne evaluering was, was die paneel veral beïndruk met wat die Sentrum in die kort tydperk sedert sy ontstaan al vermag het. “In 2008 byvoorbeeld, het die Taalsentrum 8 650 kliënte bedien, waarvan ruim 6 252 studente was wat deur middel van taalkursusse en konsultasiedienste bygestaan is. Die aanduiding is dat hierdie getalle nog in die nabye toekomstige skerp sal toeneem,” het prof De Stadler gesê.

(blaaï na bladsy 6)

Op die Web / On the Web: <http://www.sun.ac.za/kampusnuus>



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VAN DIE REDAKTEUR SE LESSENAAR



Die jaar het sommer op 'n drafstap begin met die interne bekendstelling van die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se Oorhoofse Strategiese Plan (OSP). Die OSP dien as rigtingwyser vir die Universiteit se toekomstige posisionering, met 21 spesiale projekte wat sal seker maak die US bereik sy einddoel. Dié reis die toekoms in belofte nog baie opwindende veranderinge vir sowel personeel as studente in te hou. Vir meer hieroor, hou *Kampusnuus* en ander kampusmedia oor die volgende paar maande dop.

Toekomsposisionering is egter nie al waarmee dié akademiese reus hom besig hou nie. Die kampus is in rep en roer, en vra jy enigeen hoe dit gaan, is die standaardantwoord: "Goed, net baie besig." Vandeesmaand se *Kampusnuus* is propvol bewys hiervan.

Op bladsy 1 berig ons oor die ooreenkoms wat die Rektor, prof Russel Botman, en dr Shirley Ann Jackson, die President van Amerika se oudste tegnologiese navorsingsuniversiteit, die *Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*, onlangs onderteken het. Blaai gerus ook na bladsy 4 vir ons onderhoud met dr Jackson, 'n teoretiese fisikus, en vind meer uit oor hierdie merkwaardige mens wat die eerste swart vrou was om 'n PhD aan die *Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)* te verwerf.

Ook op bladsy 1 vertel ons van die US se Menseregte-dagviering met 'n praatjie deur me Ntsaki Mashele, 'n gesiggestremde magisterstudent in Arbeidsterapie (Pediatrie), en prof Geo Quinot van die Departement Publiekreg. Moet ook nie die meningsartikel hieronder deur Tatjana Metzger misloop oor hoekom toeganklikheid vir mense met gestremdhede 'n menseregtekwestie is nie.

Die *International Research Training Group (IRTG)*, 'n formidabele vennootskap tussen die Universiteit van Würtzburg, die US en die

Universiteit van Kaapstad, se beplande fokus op MIV/Vigs en ander aansteeklike siektes in Suider-Afrika kom op bladsy 3 in die soeklig. Op dieselfde bladsy kan jy ook meer lees oor prof Theo Neethling van die Fakulteit Krygskunde wat die US binnekort vir die Universiteit van die Vrystaat se Departement Politieke Wetenskap verruil.

Ontmoet op bladsy 5 die nuwe Direkteur van Interaktiewe Telematiese Dienste (iTD), dr Antoinette van der Merwe, wat met ons gesels oor haar rol by iTD, en hoe dié Afdeling dit vir nagraadse studente wat weg van die kampus studeer moontlik maak om deur middel van 'n virtuele leer-omgewing steeds deel te wees van die US. Lees ook hier oor die US-professor wie se familie altesaam 'n eeu se studie aan die US voltooi het – sien is glo!

Sit goeie musiek of 'n boeiende boek 'n huppel in jou stap, is bladsy 7 die een vir jou, en as sokker jou spel is, kan jy meer lees oor die Matie Sokkerklub se onlangse prestasies op bladsy 8.

Die jaar staan nog in sy kinderskoene, en *Kampusnuus* kan nie wag om al 2009 se nuuswaardighede met jou te deel nie. As jy dus nie jou maandelikse uitgawe ontvang nie, stuur onmiddellik 'n e-pos na kampusnuus@sun.ac.za, en bly ingelig, bly in voeling en bly by!

hynne

Accessibility is a human rights issue

Accessibility. It's such a simple word, yet its implications are far-reaching for a person with a disability. In my case, living with cerebral palsy often makes many places and spaces around me inaccessible.

The University recently celebrated Human Rights Day by focusing on voters' rights and disability. This got me thinking that, while South Africa has made many inroads in terms of the promotion of human rights, there are still many preventable challenges that people with disabilities continue to face.

Living with cerebral palsy is a major challenge. While I try to remain positive on most days, there are days that I don't feel brave at all and ask myself the inevitable questions: "Why?" or "Why me?"

One of the major human rights issues when it comes to disability is accessibility. In my case, distance as well. Let me give you an example: It's 07:50 and my lecture starts at 08:00. The automatic accessible (to people with disabilities) back door to the Faculty of Education is supposed to open – but it doesn't.

As all the other students use the inaccessible (to people with disabilities) front door, there's no one to help me open it. So I wait. There's nothing else to do.

Here's another example: Throughout last year, my 11:00 lecture on a Monday is held in the Schumann Building, Lecture Hall 104. While the Schumann Building itself is accessible to me (there's a useable ramp), Lecture Hall 104 is only semi-accessible. The back of the lecture hall is accessible to me but, if I want to sit closer to the lecturer to participate fully, I have to move down the stairs to the front of the lecture hall. Luckily, the stairs in 104 don't make it impossible for me to do so, *but* it's a long and somewhat dangerous undertaking for someone with cerebral palsy – which means that I can't do so at 10:50 when 150 students are entering the lecture hall.

To make it to all my classes – which are spread between the Schumann and the GG Cillie buildings – I've had to split my programme to create room in my timetable for me to make it to all my classes on time

and in one piece. This means having to extend the time that it would usually take a student to complete a degree at Stellenbosch University (SU).

As we move beyond Human Rights Day, it's important to touch on the issue of accessibility at SU, as this impacts on the ability of disabled people to participate fully in academic and student life.

Over the last two years, suggestions that I've made to the University have helped to make the GG Cillie building more accessible to people with disabilities. However, this is one of only a few buildings on this campus that are accessible to us.

If it's difficult for you to understand what 'accessible' means to people with disabilities, here are a few pointers:

- If a building doesn't have a lift and proper ramp leading up to it, it's not accessible.
- If you can't reach a lecture hall without climbing steps or stairs, it's not accessible.
- If you have to enter a lecture hall

from the back and there are steps leading to the front, it's not accessible.

Issues of accessibility have greatly influenced my studies and my ability to progress in the way that I'd like. Each year I have been forced to decrease my subject load in order to keep up with able-bodied students and this inevitably means that the years that I spend completing my degree get longer and longer each year. This also means that it is impossible to determine when I will finally graduate from SU.

I hear that awareness is the basis of change. Now that I've shared my basic human right to be fully part of this University, I hope that – somewhere along the line – major change will come too.

– Tatjana Metzger
is studying General Education in the Foundation Phase (Grades R to 3) at Stellenbosch University and hopes to obtain an honours degree in Special Needs Education to empower other disabled children and to integrate them into the able-bodied world as far as possible.

Kampusnuus wil graag 'n platform skep vir gesprekvoering op die kampus. Menings in artikels, briewe en Kampusklets oppie Rooiplein is dié van die betrokke individu en nie noodwendig die standpunt van die Kampusnuus-redaksie of die Universiteit Stellenbosch nie.

E-POS AAN KAMPUSNUUS@SUN.AC.ZA

Aanbiedings was voortreflik

Ek het onlangs die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se Menseregte-dagviering bygewoon nadat ek in die *Boschtelegram* van die interessante sprekers gelees het wat daar sal optree.

Was ek nou bly dat ek my etensuur opgeoffer het om na prof Geo Quinot van die Departement Publiekreg, en me Ntsaki Mashele, 'n magisterstudent in Arbeidsterapie, te gaan luister! Hulle aanbiedings was sowaar voortreflik.

Prof Quinot se praatjie oor stemreg en politieke betrokkenheid was baie insiggewend. Buiten sy klem op elkeen se reg om aan vrye en regverdige verkiesings deel te neem, het hy ook aan die hand van voorbeelde leemtes in die regstelsel uitgewys wat ons verhoed om demokrasie ten volle uit te leef.

Briewe kan gerig word aan die Redakteur: *Kampusnuus*, per e-pos aan kampusnuus@sun.ac.za, of met die binnepos aan Kamer B1223, Admin B-gebou, of per faks aan (021) 808-3800. Hoewel briewe op versoek anoniem of met skuilname geplaas kan word, moet skrywers se name en kontakbesonderhede asseblief by die brief ingesluit word. Briewe moet duidelik KAMPUSNUUS BRIEWEBLAD gemerk word. Die beste brief wen 'n prys.

Kampusnuus apologises for 'typo'

In a recent article, *GIT will help SU realise research goals*, which was published in the *Kampusnuus* of 5 March 2009, it was incorrectly reported that: "The GIT facility is a joint project of the Departments of Geology, Geography and Environmental Studies (DGGES)."

The DGGES refers to the Department of Geology, Geography and Environmental Studies, which is in fact one department. The *Kampusnuus* apologises for any inconvenience or confusion that this typing error might have caused.

BRIEWE

Health Sciences involved in forming first German-SA research training group

The International Research Training Group (IRTG) on HIV/Aids and associated infectious diseases in Southern Africa was launched at the Wallenberg Centre in Stellenbosch recently. The IRTG is the first of its kind in Africa and is a collaboration between the University of Würzburg and South African partners Stellenbosch University (SU) and the University of Cape Town (UCT).

Prof Wolfgang Preiser, Head of the Virology Division at the Faculty of Health Sciences, played a pivotal role in establishing the IRTG.

The IRTG comprises 12 research groups for SU and UCT. The research training groups comprise university training programmes established for a specific period to support young researchers in their pursuit of a doctorate.

The IRTG concept was developed in Germany, where so-called *Graduiertenkollegs* are funded by the German Research Foundation. They provide doctoral students with the opportunity to work within a coordinated research programme run by lecturers from participating universities. The study programme is incor-

porated into the overall research programmes of the participating universities and aims to complement and extend the individual specialisations of the doctoral candidates involved and provide a structure for cooperation. The research and study programmes are designed to have an interdisciplinary focus.

The scholarships for the first 12 South African PhD candidates are funded by the National Research Foundation. Through the IRTG, the students will be exposed to unprecedented joint training opportunities with their German partner group at the University of Würzburg. The research and study programmes are jointly developed and supervised by the three partner institutions. The students in

the programme will spend six months at the respective partner institutions to do research and will also be given opportunities to attend retreats and summer schools.

Prof Preiser and his colleagues from Germany and UCT point out that HIV and infectious diseases present a huge challenge to South Africa and the rest of the world. Consequently, the focus of the new German-South African IRTG is particularly significant, since 22 million people in sub-Saharan Africa carry the HIV virus.

■ For further information on scholarships offered by the IRTG, please contact Prof Wolfgang Preiser at 021 938 9353 or 021 939 9354 or at preiser@sun.ac.za.



Speakers at the launch were, from left, Prof Arnold van Zyl, Vice-Rector: Research, SU; Dr Jürgen Breitkopf, Programme Officer: Research Careers Division, German Research Foundation; Prof Wolfgang Preiser, Head: Division of Medical Virology, SU; Mr Christof Mühlberg, Director: International Affairs Division, German Research Foundation; Mr Robert Kriger, Director: International Relations, National Research Foundation; and Prof Axel Rethwilm, Head: Institute for Virology and Immune Biology, Würzburg University. In front is Prof Heidrun Moll, Vice-President of Würzburg University

Tripartite TB partnership established with Germany and Russia

Stellenbosch University (SU) and the Berlin-based Koch-Metchnikov-Forum (KMF) recently laid the foundations for a partnership to fight tuberculosis (TB) and other infectious diseases.

The KMF was founded in terms of an official collaboration agreement between the governments of Germany and Russia with the aim of improving TB research and treatment in Russia, where the TB mortality rate is the highest in Europe. Like South Africa, Russia has been identified by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as one of the 22 countries that account for about 80% of all TB cases in the world. South Africa has the 7th highest incidence of TB in the world and Russia has the 11th highest incidence.

Cooperation among researchers working in the TB field in these two countries was initiated at a workshop at the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) organised by Prof Bernd

Rosenkranz, Head of the Pharmacology Division. The KMF was represented by Dr Florian Marx and his Russian partner, Dr George Kosmiadi. A strong contingent of researchers from the FHS and Tygerberg Hospital involved in TB research, management and public health attended the workshop.

According to Prof Rosenkranz, the primary purpose of the workshop was to introduce the KMF and its Russian partners to the Stellenbosch group, to discuss projects and possible cooperation and to find areas of common interest. "A specific objective was to conclude the workshop with a letter of intent regarding more formalised cooperation in various fields of interest in TB."

In an interview with *Gesprek*, Dr Marx, who works all over Russia, said that 80 out of every 100 000 people in Russia were affected by TB, but the

disease was more prevalent in rural areas like Siberia than in European Russia. Dr Kosmiadi points to many similarities in the epidemiology of TB in Russia and South Africa. "The incidence of multiple drug-resistant TB is growing and, according to the latest WHO estimates, almost 50% of

One of the main objectives of the working group is to recruit leading researchers and experts from South Africa, Russia and Germany for TB research.

registered TB cases are multi-drug resistant. At the same time, the number of TB/HIV co-infection cases is growing, especially in populations such as intravenous-drug users and prisoners. In fact, TB is much more prevalent in Russian prisons than in

civilian life."

As in South Africa, factors that play a role in TB in Russia include poverty, unemployment and excessive alcohol use, says Dr Kosmiadi. Unlike South Africa, however, intravenous-drug use plays a more central role in TB and HIV co-infections than the sexual transmission of the HI virus.

Both Dr Marx and Kosmiadi point out that 80 million Russians undergo X-ray screening for TB annually. They regard this as an excellent opportunity for joint research studies, such as ascertaining whether case screening – as it is done in South Africa – is more effective than the Russian approach.

The agreement between SU and the KMF provides for long-term scientific cooperation among the three countries in various areas of TB and states that SU institutions responsible for TB

control will be members of the TB working group of experts at the KMF. It also provides for the exchange of students, teachers, doctors and scientists with the aim of training them to become highly qualified scientific experts and teaching staff. One of the main objectives of the working group is to recruit leading researchers and experts from South Africa, Russia and Germany for TB research.

South African-German cooperation will be aimed at improving access to effective diagnosis, treatment and cure, at stopping the transmission of TB, at reducing the social and economic toll of TB and at assisting in the development and implementation of new preventative, diagnostic and therapeutic tools and strategies to stop TB.

Prof Rosenkranz says that the partners expect the first joint projects to commence soon and hope to follow up the first workshop with further workshops in future.

International Office gives vital support to post-docs

"The International Office plays a vital role in the post-doc portfolio because over half of the people who are doing post-docs at SU are international visitors."

These were the words of Ms Fran Ritchie, the outgoing Post-Doctoral Coordinator at the Research Office at Stellenbosch University (SU), at the first function of the Post-Doctoral Society (PDS) this year. Organised by Ms Lidia du Plessis, who is responsible for post-doctorates at the International Office (IO), this welcoming function was sadly also a farewell for Ms Ritchie.

Over the years Ms Ritchie revitalised the PDS on the Stellenbosch campus and intensified her involvement with post-docs. This, she says, was because she felt that they needed a support base on campus that looked after their individual interests.

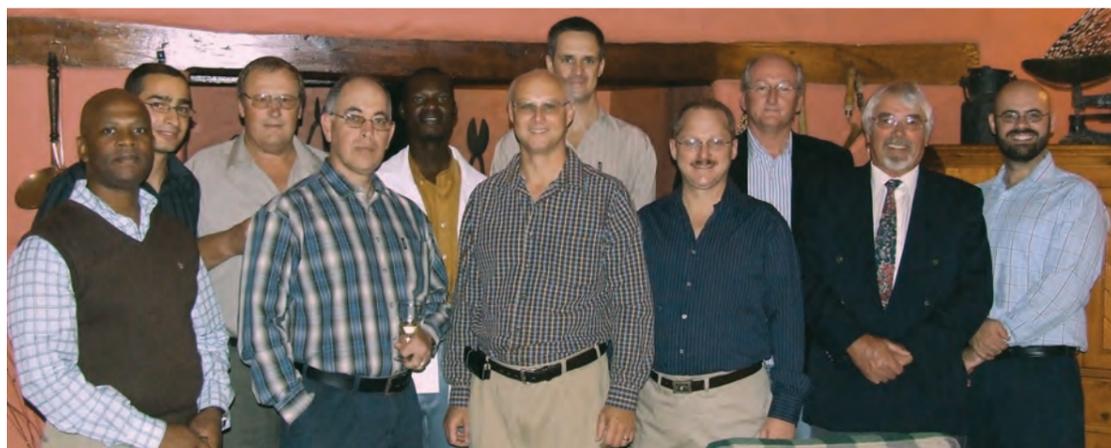
Through her work with the society she has found that most post-docs come to further their research in the natural sciences, medicine and engineering due to the bilateral agreements that the University has. However, she says, she has also seen an increase in business and social-

science post-docs in recent years.

According to Ms Ritchie, SU received a record number of post-docs in 2009 – approximately 120. She attributes the large number of international post-docs in this group to the fact that South Africa and Stellenbosch, in particular, are such interesting places to do research. "SU is at the cutting edge of a lot of new research and this, combined with the bursary opportunities the University offers, attracts candidates from all over the world to do their post-doctoral research here," says Ms Ritchie.

"The International Office is the post-docs' greatest ally," says Ms Ritchie, since it offers invaluable logistical support by way of advice on visa requirements, on the coordination of post-doc accommodation and on medical and orientation needs. "In conclusion, I would like to thank the International Office for taking a huge weight off my shoulders. I wouldn't have been able to provide this service without them and without Lidia, in particular," she said.

- PENI DODO



Prof Theo Neethling (front row, third from the left) says goodbye to some of his colleagues at the Military Science Faculty. Prof Neethling is leaving for the University of the Free State, where he has been appointed Head of the Department of Political Science

Prof Neethling bids Military Science farewell

Prof Theo Neethling from the Faculty of Military Science recently bid farewell to Stellenbosch University. He is leaving Maties for the University of the Free State, where he has been appointed Head of the Department of Political Science with effect from 1 April 2009.

Prof Neethling joined the Faculty of Military Science on 1 April 1997 as a Senior Researcher at the Centre for Military Studies. He was appointed Associate Professor of Political Science in 2002 and promoted to Professor in 2005. For some time

he was the only full Professor to represent the Faculty of Military Science on the University Senate.

Prof Neethling served as Chair of the Department of Political Science at the Military Academy from January 2003. He also served as Editor of *Scientia militaria: South African journal of military studies* from 2004 to 2006. Over the years, despite the many academic and other claims upon his time, he gave unstinting service as a member of the editorial board. Prolific and scientifically rigorous, he

also became the first researcher rated by the National Research Foundation at the Faculty.

"He will be sorely missed: in the passages of the Military Academy, at meetings of the School for Security and Africa Studies, by the Faculty Council and by his students in the lecture halls and seminar rooms. Although we lose a solid colleague, we know we shall retain a good friend and one who will facilitate new links and opportunities," said Prof Ian van der Waag, Chair of the School for Security and Africa Studies.



Dr Shirley Ann Jackson

(Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

President of America's oldest research university visits SU

Dr Shirley Ann Jackson, the 18th president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, may come from humble beginnings, but this has never stopped her from setting her sights high and attaining her goals. She was, after all, the first African-American woman to graduate with a PhD in theoretical physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and to head the United States (US) Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Today, she leads the oldest technological research university in the US.

Dr Jackson, one of four children, grew up in Washington DC. Her father worked for the postal service and her mother was a teacher. Her parents, she says, inspired her to reach for the impossible. It was her mother who taught her to deal with isolation. Her father was a soldier in the US Army during World War II, which meant that her mother was often forced to spend long periods of time on her own. "She had already spent many of her teenage years alone, because her parents had passed away, and her older siblings, who also worked full time, had taken over her care," explains Dr Jackson. Her mother's tenacity, she says, is what inspired her in later years to seek her own counsel and to become comfortable with studying in isolation at a time in the US when segregation was no longer enforced by law but was still

entrenched in human race relations.

"My father was not a high-school graduate but he was very good with mechanical things and mathematics," says Dr Jackson.

During World War II, Dr Jackson's father was able to fashion an immediate solution for the many landing vehicles which had lost their rudder mechanism during the Normandy landing.

"He taught us that – relative to any abilities that one may have – it is important always to aim high," explains Dr Jackson.

This, she says, has been her motto, too. And aim high she did. Dr Jackson was one of only three of the five African-Americans in her entry class to graduate from MIT.

"I always aim to do something important and something hard and – while I might not know where I will end up – the journey has always been interesting."

"Being the first African-American woman to graduate from MIT with a PhD in theoretical physics was less about me than about the evolution of our society after the Brown vs. the Board of Education decision and other key events opened doors (and led to the desegregation of education) for African-Americans. This achievement is important in that it opened doors for others who were to follow."

While she admits that, historically, the sciences have been viewed as "hard and as a profession that has been slow to evolve in terms of the entry of minorities" – and women – Dr Jackson is actively seeking, via her current po-

sition, to increase the number of women and minorities studying and graduating in the sciences and engineering. This goal ties in with the Institute's own strategic Rensselaer Plan, which is the driving force behind the Institute's \$1.4 billion fundraising campaign dubbed *the Renaissance at Rensselaer: The Campaign for Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*. The campaign ends on 30 June 2009, but already the Institute has managed to exceed its \$1.4-billion target.

When asked about her decision to leave the high-profile job of Chairman of the NRC for the position of President of Rensselaer, Dr Jackson says that it is her commitment to the education of young people that partly drove that decision. "I had done many major things at the NRC in a fairly compressed period of time, so, when the Rensselaer Board of Trustees approached me and said that they needed a change agent to head the Institute, I felt it was a unique opportunity."

Nearly nine years later and this "change agent" is living up to Rensselaer's motto: "Why not change the world?" Under Dr Jackson's leadership, Rensselaer established the Centre for Biotechnology and Interdisciplinary Studies in 2004, which has the capacity to house 400 researchers within the biotechnology and interdisciplinary arenas, the Computational Centre for Nanotechnology Innovations in 2007, which is ranked among the top five most powerful university-based supercomputing centres in the world, and the Experimental Media and Performing Arts Centre, which allows for the intersection of research among the arts,

technology, the sciences and a number of other research disciplines. Together, these centres cost more than \$450 million!

Dr Jackson's visit to South Africa (read more about this on page 1) and the agreement signed with Stellenbosch University (SU) earlier this month link with Rensselaer's goal of creating cross-cultural collaborations in science and engineering research, education and development in Africa.

According to Dr Jackson, part of the reason that Rensselaer was attracted to SU is the University's focus on engineering and science, which are important in the development of South African society. The Institute was also impressed with how the University is transforming itself and increasingly focusing on issues relevant to South Africa and the rest of Africa. "Stellenbosch University seemed to have a natural resonance for us because of the Rector's vision and aspirations for this University, and because we also have a phase-match in terms of our curriculum. We have a particular interest in parts of the world where societies are transforming and developing, and where institutions in these societies are trying to improve the lives of the people around them," she explains.

So what does the President of a prestigious university who serves as a director for companies such as IBM, FedEx and Marathon Oil do to relax? "I enjoy serving on various boards and taking on challenges but – when I am not doing that – I enjoy reading and hiking with my sisters, a bit of golfing, and spending time with my husband and son."

Who is Dr Jackson?

Dr Jackson is a renowned theoretical physicist who has held several senior leadership and advisory positions in research, academe, industry and government. She is also the former Chairman of the United States (US) Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). She is an alumna of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, becoming the first African-American woman to obtain a doctorate from this institution in any subject.

She conducted basic research at the former AT&T Bell Laboratories for 15 years, and was a professor of theoretical physics at Rutgers University for four years. Dr Jackson is a member of several honorific and professional organisations, such as the US National Academy of Engineering, the American Philosophical Society, and the Council on Foreign Relations. She was described by Time magazine in 2005 as "perhaps the ultimate role model for women in science".

Dr Jackson is also a director of several internationally known companies, such as IBM, FedEx, Marathon Oil, Medtronic and PSEG. In 2007, describing her as "a national treasure", the National Science Board bestowed on her its Vannevar Bush Award for a "lifetime of achievements in scientific research, education and senior statesman-like contributions to public policy". Dr Jackson holds 44 honorary doctorates from various academic institutions.

Gedenkbundel ter viering van 150 jaar bekendgestel

'n Gedenkbundel met die omvattende geskiedenis van 150 jaar se teologiese opleiding op Stellenbosch is hierdie maand deur Bybel-Media bekend gestel. Dié eerlike terug- en toekomstblik op die Fakulteit Teologie – aanvanklik die Nederduits Gereformeerde (NG) Kweekskool – fokus, soos die hele feesjaar, op die tema van herinnering en hoop.

'n Kopie van die boek is ook aan die Rektor, Prof Russel Botman, tydens die gedenkbundel-bekendstellingsceremonie op 17 Maart oorhandig. Prof Botman was sedert 2002 'n dosent aan die Fakulteit Teologie.

Hy het gesê dat die Fakulteit met die uitreik van hierdie boek "150 jaar se vensters oopmaak op verskeie stukies van ons geskiedenis".

"Ons weet hoe weerloos 'n mens kan voel as jy eers jou vensters oopgemaak het en toelaat dat almal daardeur inloer. Ons weet dus dat vele mense hierdie gedenkbundel sal lees en ons sien vir wat ons was en vir waarop ons trots is. Wanneer 'n mens die vensters van jou geskiedenis oopmaak, gebeur dit ook soms dat nuwe winde die geleentheid kry om daardeur te waai. Ons verwelkom dit ook," het hy gesê.

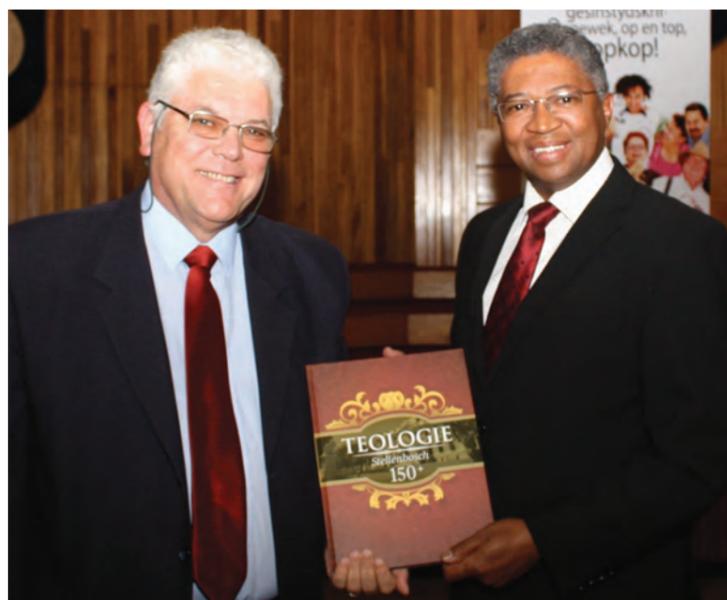
"Ons verwag dat hierdie feesjaar wat saamval met die US se posisioneringsplan, oftewel die Oorhoofse Strategiese Plan (OSP), 'n belangrike krag van vernuwing sal wees. Juis

daarom is die gedenkbundel meer as net 'n terugblik. Dit gaan oor 150 jaar plus," het hy bygevoeg.

Dr Pieter Fourie, Uitvoerende Hoof van Bybel-Media (BM) en ook 'n oudstudent van die Fakulteit, het sy trots uitgespreek oor die finale gedenkbundel wat danksy samewerking tussen die kerklike vennote (wat die projek help finansier het) en BM moontlik gemaak is.

Hy het het gesê dat die bekendstellingsaand vir hom "diep simbolies" is om verskeie redes, waarvan die feit dat die "verhaal van teologie binne die NG kerk én die VGK vertel word" baie belangrik is.

Die gedenkbundel bied 'n uitvoerige uitbeelding van die ontstaan en ontwikkeling van die Kweekskool/Fakulteit uit die perspektief van sowel binne- as buitestaanders; die betrokkenheid van kerklike vennote; die rol wat personeel en studente in die breë kerk in Suid-Afrika gespeel het en steeds speel; die uitdagings vir teologiese opleiding vandag, en die ge-



Dr Pieter Fourie, Direkteur: Bybel-Media oorhandig die eerste eksemplaar van die gedenkbundel aan prof Russel Botman (Iain Stephans)

leenthede van die toekoms.

Sowat 16 vakkundige skrywers het tot dié boek onder redaksie van prof Pieter Coertzen bygedra.

Prof Elna Mouton, Dekaan van die Fakulteit, het gesê dat die feesjaar 'n "buitengewone geleentheid" is om saam te groei en te onthou. "Dit is belangrik dat al die stories wat nie vertel is nie, vertel word, en dat ons 'n gesamentlike geskiedenis vorentoe kan dra".

Op 1 November 2009 sal dit presies 150 jaar wees sedert die ou Dorpsstraat as teologiese kweekskool vir die opleiding van NG predikante in gebruik geneem is. Hierdie groot mylpaal sal regdeur 2009 gevier word met verskeie seminare, aanbiedinge, konferensies en werksinkels wat inhaak by die werk van die Fakulteit

Teologie. Die uitreik van die gedenkbundel vorm deel van die program wat vir 2009 beplan is.

Die teologiese kweekskool het in 1963 die Fakulteit Teologie van die Universiteit Stellenbosch geword. Sedert 2000 lei die Fakulteit ook predikante vir die Verenigde Gereformeerde Kerk in Suider-Afrika op, en sedert 2002 vir die Uniting Presbyterian Church of Southern Africa. Vandag is die Fakulteit ekumenies en 'n tuiste vir 'n wye verskeidenheid studente, kerkverbande en standpunte.

■ Die publikasie van 224 bladsye bevat ook sowat 200 unieke foto's, sketse en argiefmateriaal, en kos R184,95. Die bundel is te koop by Ontvangs, Fakulteit Teologie, Dorpsstraat 171, Stellenbosch. Navrae: 021 808 3255.

Vorige uitgawes van Science Direct nou beskikbaar

Die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se Biblioteek- en Inligtingsdiens het onlangs in samewerking met die Fakulteit Natuurwetenskappe en die Fakulteit Agriwetenskappe die volledige stel vorige uitgawes van vier Elsevier-vakversamelings aangekoop. Dit beteken dat die volledige tydskrifversamelings vir die vakke Fisiologie en Analiitiese Chemie, Anorganiese Chemie, Landbou- en Biologiese Wetenskappe, en Immunititeitsleer en Mikrobiologie nou deur middel van ScienceDirect beskikbaar is.

ScienceDirect word alreë as die wêreld se omvattendste verskaffer van wetenskaplike, tegniese en mediese inligting in webformaat beskikbaar. Die verkryging van die vorige uitgawes verbreed US-navorsers se toegang tot wetenskaplike inligting aansienlik.

"Dit is 'n realiteit dat die meeste navorsers deesdae net aanlyn-inhoud lees omdat dit onmiddellik beskikbaar is. Die wagtyd van twee dae vir 'n interleningsbestelling het doodeenvoudig te lank geword. Dié tydskrif-argief gee akademici nou onmiddellike toegang tot 'n magdom artikels op hulle bepaalde vakgebied, wat ongetwyfeld tot ons navorsingsvermoë bydra," sê dr Philip Young van die Departement Wingerd- en Wynkonde.

ScienceDirect is beskikbaar onder "Databasisse" op die JS Gerieke Biblioteek se tuisblad (www.sun.ac.za/library). Toegang tot die individuele uitgawes kan via die Biblioteek se lys e-tydskrifte op dieselfde webtuiste bekom word. Skakel gerus met jou fakulteits- of takbibliotekaris vir verdere inligting.

iTD-direkteur passievol oor tegnologietoepassing

'n Passie vir tegnologietoepassing – dit is wat dr Antoinette van der Merwe in haar nuwe pos as Direkteur van die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se Afdeling Interaktiewe Telematiese Dienste (iTD) aanspoor. Dr Van der Merwe was voorheen verbonde aan die Sentrum vir Onderrig en Leer (SOL) waar sy Adjunkdirekteur was.

“By SOL was ek altyd betrokke by tegnologie en webgebaseerde leer- en onderrigaktiwiteite, studentet terugvoer en die Eerstejaarsakademie. Ek was ook meer spesifiek gemoed in hoe 'n mens tegnologie doeltreffend in 'n hoëronderrigomgewing gebruik,” verduidelik sy.

In haar nuwe pos sal sy veral as lid van die iTD personeel op die sinvolle integrasie van web-, satelliet- en mobiele tegnologie konsentreer “om spesifiek vir nagraadse studente wat nie voltyds op kampus studeer nie, 'n virtuele leeromgewing te skep”. Daar is reeds ver gevorder in hierdie verband en sy sien uit daarna om saam met prof Tom Park, Senior Direkteur van die Afdeling, hierdie omgewing uit te bou.

By iTD, voeg dr Van der Merwe by, is almal voorstaanders van 'n sogenaamde ‘vermengde onderrig en leerbenadering’ (*blended approach*) wat insluit die intelligente vermenging van residensiële metodologieë en moderne tegnologie.

Volgens haar gebruik iTD sowel asinkroon- as sinkroontegnologie om 'n ondersteunende leeromgewing vir nagraadse studente te skep. Asinkroontegnologie behels die gebruik van Webstudies, wiki's, blogs of die studenteportaal – daardie tegnologietoepassings waar alle kommunikeerders nie noodwendig tegelyk teenwoordig hoef te wees nie. Sinkroontegnologie daarenteen verwys na satelliet- en mobiele tegnologie waar die verskillende kommunikeerders op dieselfde tyd teenwoordig is en aan

die gesprek deelneem.

Haar passie vir tegnologietoepassing het gedurende haar derde jaar as Matie posgevat. Prof Rainer Kussler se navorsingsfokus op tegnologie-ondersteunde taalonderrig het haar geboei, en sy het begin soek na maniere waarop tegnologie doeltreffend in 'n hoëronderrigomgewing toegepas kon word.

“Ek is nie 'n ‘techie’ of 'n programmeerder nie,” verduidelik sy. “Ek werk meer aan die toepassingskant, en kyk na hoe 'n mens tegnologie kan gebruik om dinge beter te doen.”

Dr Van der Merwe het in 1991 'n BA-graad (cum laude) aan die US verwerf, gevolg deur 'n BA (summa cum laude) aan die Texas A&M-universiteit in Amerika in 1994. 'n Jaar later het sy, steeds aan Texas A&M, 'n meestersgraad in Geskiedenis verwerf. In 2004 ontvang sy die graad DPhil in Wetenskap- en Tegnologiestudie aan die US. Dr Van der Merwe kan benevens Afrikaans en Engels ook Duits praat en Frans lees.

Sy het verlede jaar die Rektors-toekenning vir Uitnemende Diens ontvang, en het in 2003 deur HERS-SA 'n vier week lange bestuursprogram in Amerika voltooi. In 1995 ontvang sy die Harry Crossley-beurs om nagraadse studie aan Texas A&M te voltooi. Dr Van der Merwe het al in verskeie panele gedien, wat die CENTAL-beoordelingspaneel van die Universiteit van Johannesburg in 2008, die Durbanse Universiteit van Tegnologie (DUT) se Hoëronderriggehalte-



Hier is die nuwe Direkteur van iTD, dr Antoinette van der Merwe, in die ateljee vanwaar die Universiteit na 20 leersentrums oor Suid-Afrika uitsaai (Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

komitee (HOGK) in 2007, en die HOGK-ouditpaneel van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat insluit. Sy het ook as eksterne eksaminator vir verskeie universiteite, waaronder die universiteite van die Vrystaat, Kaapstad en Potchefstroom, gedien.

Volgens dr Van der Merwe strewes sy daarna om saam met die ander rolspelers by die US die gehalte, sukses en virtuele beweeglikheid (sogenaamde “virtual mobility”) van studente te verhoog om die deelnamekoers van alle Suid-Afrikaners aan hoër onderrig te verbeter.

“ITD kan 'n belangrike bydrae lewer om die Rektor se visie om die US deur die gebruik van eiesoortige tegnologieplatforms meer toeganklik te maak, te realiseer.”

As sy nie werk en groot drome vir iTD droom nie, wat doen sy om te ontspan? Sy glimlag breed en sê: “Ek speel met my drie-en-'n-halfjarige seun, Alex. Hy is my lewe.”

Het jy geweet...

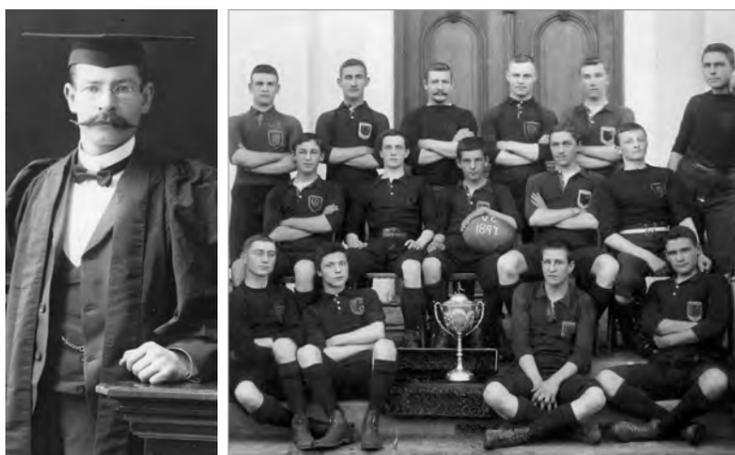
Die US is die enigste universiteit in Suid-Afrika wat die unieke kombinasie van web-, satelliet- en mobiele tegnologie gebruik om nagraadse studente wat nie voltyds op kampus studeer nie, toegang tot hoër onderrig te bied. 'n Uitsending gaan via satelliet van iTD se ateljee na 20 leersentrums oor Suid-Afrika uit en die interaktiwiteit tydens die sessie word met behulp van mobiele tegnologie moontlik gemaak.

Elke leersentrum het 'n kaartleser en studente kan met hulle studentekaarte of selfone aantekene. Die name van al die studente wat vir die betrokke module geregistreer is verskyn op 'n dosent se rekenaarconsole in die ateljee. Soos die studente aantekene, verskyn daar dan 'n groen blokkie langs elk van die studente se name wat wel aangeteken het.

Interaktiwiteit gedurende sessies word met behulp van mobiele selfoon-tegnologie bewerkstellig. Studente word aangemoedig om met hulle eie selfone of die leersentrum selfone aan die besprekings deel te neem. Studente kan of 'n SMS boodskap met 'n vraag of opmerking of net die letter H vir help stuur. Die SMS boodskappe verskyn op die dosent se rekenaarconsole en 'n dosent kan reageer soos benodig. Indien die student slegs 'n H deurstuur, verskyn 'n oranje blokkie langs die student se naam op die rekenaarconsole. Die student word dan op die selfoon gebel en die student vra sy/haar vraag wat deur al die ander deelnemers gehoor word. Die dosent se reaksie kan dan ook via satelietegnologie binne al die leersentrums gehoor word.



Dr Ed Jacobs (staande regs) se dogter Tia (staande links) is die tweede persoon in die vierde geslag Jacobse wat aan die US studeer het. Ed en sy pa Edmund (middel) het ook destyds aan die US studeer. Tia het onlangs 'n PhD in Chemie verwerf (Anton Jordaan, SSFD)



Jacobus Petrus Jacobs (links), wat vanaf 1896 tot 1897 vir 'n diploma in Onderwys aan Victoria Kollege (later die US) studeer het. Op die foto regs is hy derde van links agter as lid van Victoria Kollege se rugbyspan van 1897

'n Familie vol Maties, dis die Jacobse!

Min families het altesaam 'n eeu se studie aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) op hulle kerfstok. Die Jacobse van Stellenbosch kan egter daarop aanspraak maak. Tia Jacobs (26), dogter van prof Ed Jacobs van die Departement Chemie en Polimeerwetenskap, het op 17 Maart vir 'n geskiedkundige oomblik gesorg toe sy die tweede persoon in die vierde geslag Jacobse geword het om aan die US te gradueer. *Kampusnuus* het met Ed, Tia en Tia se oupa, Edmund – almal Oudmaties – gesels.

“Ek het op Stellenbosch grootgeword, en het eers onlangs besef dat ons hele familie hier gestudeer het,” vertel Tia glimlaggend. Sy is boonop die derde geslag natuurwetenskaplike, en nou, ná voltooiing van haar PhD in Chemie, ook die tweede geslag dokter in die familie. Ook haar broer, Edmund-Douw, het in 1999 sy BRek-grad, en in 2000 'n Hons BRek-grad in Matieland verwerf.

“Hoewel die kinders verskillende rigtings ingeslaan het, is dit steeds 'n wonderlike voorreg dat hulle albei op hulle tuisdorp en aan die US kon studeer,” vertel Ed.

Ed en sy broer, Johan, is ook albei US-alumni. Ed het die graad BSc-BIng (Chemiese Ingenieurswese) in 1976 aan die US ontvang, en het ná 'n MIng (Chemie) aan die voormalige Potchefstroomse Universiteit in 1980, terugkeer om in 1988 sy PhD in Polimeerwetenskap hier te verwerf. In 2003 vorder hy van Hoofnavorsers aan die Instituut vir Polimeerwetenskap tot Medeprofessor in die Departement Chemie en Polimeerwetenskap. Johan het weer in 1977 die graad BAdm voltooi, en ook in 1992 vir 'n PhD in Publieke Administrasie na sy alma

mater teruggekeer.

“Ek moes hard studeer om kop bo water te hou,” sê Ed. “Net so nou en dan het ons 'n bietjie gaan duik of hokkie speel. Vakansietye het ek by die Departement Waterwese gewerk.”

Vra jy Ed hoekom hy en sy kinders in hulle voorouers se Matie-voetspore gevolg het, sê hy: “Matiwees het ek saam met moedersmelk, of sal ek eerder sê vadersmelk, ingekry.”

Ed se oupa, Jacobus Petrus Jacobs, het dié tradisie begin toe hy vanaf 1896 tot 1897 vir 'n diploma in Onderwys aan Victoria Kollege (later die US) studeer het. “My oupa se storie is aangrypend. Nieteenstaande moeilike finansiële omstandighede, het hy albei sy seuns hier laat studeer. Op daardie tradisie kón ons net voortbou.”

Jacobus se twee seuns, Jan en Edmund (Ed se pa), het onderskeidelik 'n BA- en 'n BSc-grad aan die US verwerf.

Sy hoofvakke was Chemie en Geologie, verduidelik Edmund. Ná sy studie het hy eers as geoloog in tuinontwikkeling in die destydse Transvaal gewerk, en toe in 1946 vir 'n diploma in Senior Onderwys na Matieland

teruggekeer.

Volgens Edmund het die Stellenbosch-kampus in sy studentejare heel anders gelyk. Daar was min geboue en net 1 600 studente. Hy vertel nostalgies van sy na-uurse vioollesse by die musikdosent Herr Endler. Later kon hy self die fynere kunsies van vioolspel aan eerstejaars oordra, en het hy sy sakgeld verder aangevul deur foto's van eerstejaars te neem en dit aan hulle te verkoop. “Geld was skaars,” skerts hy. Net soos vandag, was blyplek op kampus toe ook skaars, en moes Edmund maar in 'n kamer in Dorpsstraat loseer. Die kampus was dalk klein, maar allermins stil. Dit was die dae van die Black Sash-beweging en studente-protes teen die apartheidsregering.

Volgens Ed was die Stellenbosch van sy studentejare ook 'n gans ander plek. “Die strate was nouer, daar was minder karre en geen verkeersligte nie. Die kampus was destyds omhein, en Coetzburg was 'n grasbedekte droommyl. Waar die Neelsie nou staan, was daar net 'n groot gat.”

Verandering is oënskynlik 'n konstante; vir die Jacobse is Matiewees ook.

Rensselaer and SU sign MOU

(from page 1)

a highly skilled workforce with the multicultural sophistication and intellectual agility to thrive in the global economy," said Dr Jackson.

The new partnership will enable:

- Student exchange – Opportunities for students to register for programmes at the partner university.
- Joint student projects focused on key development issues – Each year, students from the partner institutions will be engaged in interdisciplinary teams, assigned to identify and solve problems related to a range of development issues including energy and the environment, transportation, safe water, and infectious and chronic-disease control. Initially the students will work from their respective institutions, linked by new technologies. The programme will culminate in the short-term exchange of students and staff from the partnering institutions.
- Summer Research Institute – Rensselaer will host an intensive two-week research session on its campus for science and engineering faculty teaching staff and adminis-

trators. The session will include on-campus research seminars, meetings with research groups at Rensselaer and site visits to major government, academic, and/or business research facilities in the United States.

To broaden scientific and engineering capacity beyond the host organisations, the two universities will also explore innovative teaching methods and the use of technology to increase their reach to a larger community of science, technology, engineering and mathematics educators.

Rensselaer is embarking on a five-year programme of cross-cultural collaboration in science and engineering research, education and development in Africa. The Institute will bring its hallmark experiential learning programmes to African universities through cooperative student projects, student exchanges and research education initiatives for faculty teaching staff and administrators. This emerging partnership will also enhance the Rensselaer Engineering Education Across Cultural Horizons (REACH) programme, a new initiative that will ultimately require all of its students to have an international experience as a

requirement for graduation.

President Jackson secured a gift of \$1.25 million from Rensselaer alumnus Sean O'Sullivan as the initial funding for this new programme to assist in building engineering and science capacity through partnerships with key universities in Africa, while promoting cross-cultural communication and cooperation.

President Jackson, who was in South Africa to meet with academic, business, government and non-governmental organisation leaders in Stellenbosch, Cape Town and Pretoria to discuss scientific and technological collaborations, was accompanied by a high-level delegation from Rensselaer. The delegation included Provost Robert Palazzo; Vice-President for Information Services and Technology and Chief Information Officer John E Kolb; Vice-President for Student Life Eddie Ade Knowles; Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education Prabhat Hajela; and Chief of Staff Laban Coblenz. Some members of the Rensselaer delegation also travelled to Kumasi, Ghana, where they visited the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology to discuss future collaborations.



Konferensiegangers is deur die US se Internasionale Kantoor onthaal. Op die foto van links na regs is dr Rudolf Ficker, Hoof: EED-beursafdeling; me Virginia Kainamula van Tanzanië; mnr Robert Kotzé, Direkteur: Internasionale Kantoor; prof Patrick Bakengela Shamba van die Demokratiese Republiek Kongo; prof Elna Mouton, Dekaan: Fakulteit Teologie; en prof Naas Swart, Uitvoerende Direkteur: Akademie en Navorsing, Hugenote Kollege

Teologie en EED fokus op konflik, vrede en volhoubare ontwikkeling

Die Fakulteit Teologie van die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) het vroeër vanjaar in samewerking met die Duitse Evangelischer Entwicklungsdienst (EED) 'n driedaagse konferensie met die tema *Conflict, Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa: The Role of Universities, NGOs, People Movements and Actors of Faith* aangebied.

Sewe-en-twintig oud-EED-studente uit Afrika is gekeur om referate tydens die konferensie te lewer. 'n Verdere hoogtepunt was die deelname van drie geleentheidsprekers, naamlik prof Danny Titus, Uitvoerende Hoof van die Afrikaanse Taal- en Kultuurvereniging (ATKV) en self 'n EED-alumnus; dr Gertrude Fester, Buitengewone Professor in Vroue- en Genderstudie aan die Universiteit van die Wes-Kaap,

en prof Gerrie ter Haar van die Instituut vir Sosiale Studie in Den Haag, Nederland.

Die EED is 'n organisasie van die Protestante Kerk in Duitsland, en is verbind tot die Bybelse opdrag om 'n regverdige en vreedsame wêreld na te streef waarin alle vorme van lewe gerespekteer word. Die EED ondersteun die ontwikkelingswerk van kerke, Christelike organisasies en die privaat sektor deur finansiële bydraes, persoonlike betrokkenheid, beurse en konsultasiedienste. Gemeenskappe word aangemoedig om op te tree om nood, armoede, vervolging en geweld die stryd aan te sê.

Die konferensie het deel uitgemaak van die vieringe van die Fakulteit Teologie se 150ste bestaansjaar.

Spotlight on disability and political engagement

(from page 1)

Ntsaki shared snapshots of growing up as a black woman with a disability. She was born in 1984 at the height of Apartheid and had to deal with discrimination not only because of the colour of her skin, but also due to her disability. When she turned four, her mother realised she had to enrol her in a school for children with disabilities, but it was difficult to find a school at that time that would accommodate a disabled black child. Eventually, she found a Catholic boarding school that was willing to accommodate Ntsaki. When she turned nine, she went to Pioneer School in Worcester. After matriculating there, she registered at Stellenbosch University. Even though the journey was hard at times, she is now a qualified occupational therapist.

"I want everyone to realise that people with disabilities have a right to be treated as equal and have a right to

be reasonably accommodated and have a right to respect," she said.

Prof Quinot focused on voting rights and political engagement. He said that "at a time when national and provincial elections again dominate public attention," it is appropriate to reflect on core political rights such as the right to vote.

According to Prof Quinot, human rights such as the right to vote, to make political choices, to engage in free, fair and regular elections, to freedom of assembly, picketing and petition are only some of the "provisions that form the bedrock of democracy in South Africa".

An issue that must be addressed, said Prof Quinot, is that the "Constitutional Court's notion of participatory democracy guarantees citizens the right to engage elected representatives in their public decision-making following elections" but beyond this, the law is

not clear on what it guarantees citizens regarding "political party conduct prior to and underlying elections and subsequent public office".

He also touched on political party finances and said that this played a major role in election outcomes. "For participation in national elections, the deposit is currently R150 000, which is no small amount. Add to this the fact that public funding of political parties is restricted to incumbent parties – parties already represented in the legislature – and the hurdle for new entrants to the political arena becomes quite apparent."

Prof Quinot concluded by saying that the "entrenchment of the right to vote" and "to participate in free and fair elections" is only a starting point. "What needs to follow is critical interrogation of every aspect of political life in the light of the constitutional vision of participatory democracy."

Students focus on renewable energy



Master's students at Stellenbosch University recently met with the Stellenbosch Mayor, Mr Patrick Swartz, and the Rector, Prof Russel Botman to discuss their research, which will focus on future renewable energy solutions for Stellenbosch. The Sustainable Stellenbosch Research Group, based at the Sustainability Institute at Lynedoch Eco Village near Stellenbosch, is made up of a number of MPhil students whose research focuses on promoting sustainability in Stellenbosch. Their research deals with topics ranging from animal traction and local food economies to solar water heaters and solar roof tiles. From the left are Masters students Jaco du Toit and Ben Mokheseng, the Rector, Prof Botman, Mayor Swartz and another Master's student, Thumakele Gosa. (Jess Schulschen)

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TE KOOP / FOR SALE

For Sale: 3-bedroom town house in security complex in De Tjiger. 5km from Tygerberg hospital. Contact 084 608 4632

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 Splinternuwe 3-slaapkamerhuis in veiligheidskompleks vir huurders 55 jaar en ouer. 2 Badkamers – hoofslaapkamer en

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VERBLYF / ACCOMMODATION

Strand Pavilion: A week's timeshare during June school holidays (03/07/09 – 10/07/09) at the Strand Pavilion right on the beachfront. Sleeps 6. R3 500. Call 084 608 4632

Stellenbosch: Luukse woonstel vir

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SAAMRYKLUBS / LIFT CLUBS

Strand – Stellenbosch: Bestaande ryklub benodig twee persone om in te skakel vir ryklub vanaf Strand na Stellenbosch. Werksure: 08:00 – 16:30. Navrae: Marieta van Wyk by 021 808 4611 (werk); 083 634 9860 (sel) of mvw@su.ac.za

US hou eerste internasionale koordirigeersimposium

Die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se eerste internasionale koordirigeersimposium, "Voices of South Africa", vind vanaf 31 Maart tot 4 April in die Konservatorium plaas.

Aspekte van dirigeerkuns, sang, administrasie en koormusiek sal in lesings en werksessies deur vooraanstaande nasionale en internasionale koorleiers, soos Kåre Hanken, Romans Vanags, Philip Brunelle, Branko Stark, Mzilikazi Khumalo, Richard Cock, Barry Smith, Acáma Fick, Péter Louis van Dijk en Johann van der Sandt, bespreek word.

Lede van die publiek word boonop die geleentheid gebied om die eerste Suid-Afrikaanse kompetisie vir jong koordirigende en verskeie meestersklasse by te woon.

"Nog nooit in Suid-Afrika was soveel internasionaal-bekende name in een week bymekaar as met die *Voices of South Africa* konferensie nie. Verder kry die publiek nie aldag die kans om soveel verskillende kore in die bestek van 5 dae te sien optree nie – en dit alles in die Konservatorium aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch!" sê dr Rudolf de Beer, die Simposiumdirekteur.

Optredes

Die volgende kore sal om 20:00 op die aangeduide datums in die Endersaal optree:

- Openingskonsert, 31 Maart: Kensington Chorale, Verenigde Gereformeerde Kerk Stellenbosch, Kaapse Skiereilandse Universiteit van Tegnologie, Oos-Randse Jeugkoor
- Wes-Kaapse kore, 1 April: Tygerberg Kinderkoor, Stellenbosch Madrigaalsangers, Universiteit van die Wes-Kaap, Pro Cantu
- *Messias* (hoogtepunte), 2 April: Canticum Novum en die Universiteit Stellenbosch Simfonie-orkes
- Skool- en jeugkore, 3 April: Hoër Tegniese Skool Louis Botha, Hoërskool Florida, Bloemhof Accelerando, Siyacula Jeugkoor
- Finale konsert, 4 April: Schola Cantorum Stellenbosch, Metrorail Wes-Kaap, Drakensberg Seunskoor

Bladmusiek en CD's deur die Duitse uitgewer Carus-Verlag sal te koop aangebied word.

Besprekings kan by Computicket gedoen word. Vir verdere inligting, skakel met dr De Beer by 021 808 2384 of rudolf@sun.ac.za.

Choral-conducting music students excel

Two music students in choral conducting who are also singers in the academic chamber choir of Stellenbosch University (SU), *Schola Cantorum*, were recently honoured for their academic excellence by being accepted into two different music programmes.

After having received a scholarship from the International Office at SU for his academic achievements, Byron-Mahieu van der Linde, a graduate student at the Conservatorium, was accepted by the University of Oslo in Norway to complete the first semester of his final year of studies in this country.

"He will complete several modules through the University of Oslo, as well as the prestigious Norwegian Academy of Music. After auditioning he was accepted to sing in the renowned *Schola Cantorum* – Oslo, the choir of the University of Oslo, where he will be working closely with the celebrated Prof Tone Bianca Dahl," says Dr Rudolf de Beer, a lecturer in Choral

Conducting at the Music Department.

Byron-Mahieu will also participate in numerous master classes and workshops in choral conducting and singing by, among others, renowned Scandinavian musicians, such as Prof Grete Pedersen and Kåre Hanken of the Norwegian Choral Association. He recently had the privilege of attending seminars led by the pre-eminent 20th-century composer Krzysztof Penderecki and will be meeting with several resident Norwegian composers, including B. Morten Christophersen.

Eugene Gouws auditioned for the Chamber Choir of the 2009 session of Europa Cantat and was accepted as the only South African applicant and one of only nine tenors selected. The Europa Cantat Festival will take place in Utrecht from 17 to 26 July. About 32 chorists from across the world will work with Kaspars Putniņš, the conductor of the Latvian Radio Choir and the Latvian Radio Chamber Singers. "This



The two students singing in *Schola Cantorum* are Byron-Mahieu van der Linde (back row, far left) and Eugene Gouws (back row, far right)

Chamber Choir forms an integral part of the Festival and is working on some of the most challenging contemporary repertoires, as well as the world premiere of a piece by Joost Kleppe, a Dutch composer," says Dr De Beer.

The Festival takes place every three years and is open to all amateur choirs, singers and conductors to come and sing, listen and learn about contemporary music with some of the world's top conductors.



Louis van der Watt will be the conductor

Highlights from *Messiah* to be performed

The *Canticum Novum* Choir and Stellenbosch University Symphony Orchestra, along with soloists Vanessa Tait-Jones, Minette du Toit-Pearce, Willem Bester and Barend van der Westhuizen, will be performing highlights from Handel's sacred oratorio, *Messiah*, in the Enders Hall of the Stellenbosch University Conservatorium, on Thursday, 2 April, at 20:00. Louis van der Watt will be the conductor. This performance will be presented as part of the 150-year celebrations of the Faculty of Theology.

Canticum Novum is the student church choir of the Stellenbosch Moedergemeente and one of the oldest choirs (it has been in existence for 50 years) in the country. The choir

consists mainly of young adults and focuses on a repertoire of classical and sacred music. The name of the choir means "new song".

Handel composed *Messiah* during a 24-day creative spurt in 1741. He himself would later remark that the work was the product of divine inspiration, a period during which he "saw all Heaven ... and the great God himself". Along with his *Water Music* (1717) and *Music for the Royal Fireworks* (1749), it has remained one of his most popular and enduring works.

As with all oratorios (a dramatic composition for solo singers, chorus and orchestra, most often performed without scenery or costumes in a

concert hall or church and usually based on a biblical or religious subject), *Messiah* is divided into three parts. In *Messiah*, these three parts represent Christ's birth, life and death and, ultimately, His resurrection and triumph over death, each part consisting of a series of arias and choruses. While *Messiah* has a purely scriptural text, it is unlike any of Handel's other oratorios in that it tells no story but is rather a series of contemplations on the Christian idea of redemption.

Tickets are R50 and are available at the reception of the Faculty of Theology at 171 Dorp Street in Stellenbosch. You can also phone Brenda at 021 808 3255 or send an e-mail to bchord@sun.ac.za for further details.

UNIVERSITEIT STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY
DEPARTEMENT MUSIEK | DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC
KONSERVATORIUM

SUNDAY 5 APRIL
20:00
CHRISTOPHER DUIGAN
PIANO RECITAL

Award winning South African pianist Christopher Duigan will be presenting a piano recital of works by Ravel and Beethoven.

FRIDAY 17 APRIL
20:00
DOUGLAS MASEK –
SAXOPHONE &
ELNA VAN DER MERWE – PIANO

Always captivating, Douglas Masek, accompanied by Elna van der Merwe, will present an interesting programme of works for saxophone and piano. He will also be joined by the Stellenbosch Cello Quartet for a performance of a new commission by Alan Stephenson: A Tango for Saxophone Solo and Cello Quartet.

For tickets from Computicket contact 083 915 8000.

For more information contact the Konservatorium on 021 808 2343 or e-mail music@sun.ac.za.

You can also visit www.sun.ac.za/music

BOEKE / BOOKS

STRATEGIC CHALLENGES FOR AFRICAN ARMED FORCES FOR THE NEXT DECADE

Edited by Dr GAJ van Dyk

The first 'scramble for Africa' left indelible footprints on all aspects of the lives of people from the cradle of humankind. This is nowhere more evident than in the fact that Africa is as well known for her humanitarian crises as she is for producing people of such calibre as Phillip Emeagwali, Kwame Nkrumah and Nelson Mandela.

It is therefore extremely apt and timely that academics and professionals of this continent – and some of their cousins from other parts of the world who also carry Africa's interests at heart – should meet at the south-western tip of Africa's shores to deliberate the strategic challenges for African armed forces for the next decade.

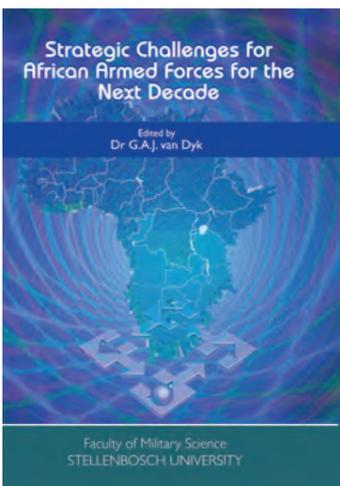
This book contains 19 articles written by specialists who made a contribution to the discussion on the strategic challenges for Africa.



VAN VOLKSMOEDER TOT FOKOPOLISIEKAR

Kritiese opstelle oor Afrikaanse herinneringsplekke
Albert M Grundlingh & Siegfried Huigen

Enige samelewing in transisie word gedwing om te herbesin oor dit wat as ankerpunte van die verlede beskou is. Terselfdertyd is daar 'n soeke na 'n breër herwaardering van die prosesse wat meewerk in die daarstelling van 'n historiese geheue. Die boek *Van Volksmoeder tot Fokopolisiekar* bevat 'n reeks opstelle oor 'n aantal Afrikaanse kollektiewe herinneringe. Dit betrek herinneringe wat al amper koud is, asook meer onlangses, soos die *De la Rey*-lied en die rol wat *bands* tans speel in die vaslegging van 'n bepaalde bewussyn onder die jeug – 'n bewussyn wat in die afsienbare toekoms ook as "histories" sal kwalifiseer.





Maties Sokker presteer!

Die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se eerste sokkerspan (foto) het onlangs geskiedenis gemaak toe hulle die eerste ligatitel in Maties Sokker se 62 jaar lange bestaan verower het. Die span is boonop ná voortrefflike spel in 'n uit-speeltoernooi in Mosselbaai tot die volgende vlak in die Suid-Afrikaanse sokkerligastruktuur bevorder.

Hierdie uitslae lui 'n semiprofessionele era vir Maties Sokker in, aangesien die eerste span vanaf volgende seisoen in die Vodacom-liga – die derde vlak in Suid-Afrikaanse sokker – sal kragte meet.

Hulle het die 2008/9-seisoen in die SAB-streeksliga afgeskop met strawwe mededinging teen verskeie spanne in die Stellenbosch-streek. Met 'n deurlopende goeie vertoning het Maties stelselmatig die punteleer geklim, maar moes in die laaste weke van die seisoen 'n sterk aanslag van Mighty Five Star van Kayamandi afweer. Ná 'n naelbystryd, en ten spyte van 'n rooi kaart in die 60ste minuut, het die eindfluitjie vir groot vreugde gesorg toe die gelykoptelling 1-1 Maties se status as nuwe ligakam-

pioene bekragtig het.

Hoofafriqter Phillip Luiters en sy span het boonop met twee uitmuntende oorwinnings in die Mosselbaai-uitspeeltoernooi Maties se plek in die Vodacom-liga verseker. Dié segetog is met 'n 3-1-oorwinning oor Black Tigers afgeskop, waarna 'n welverdiende 1-0-triomf oor Salem United die kroon gespan het.

Volgens me Jackie Wiese, Sportdirekteur van die US, verteenwoordig hierdie prestasie 'n historiese mylpaal vir die klub, die US, en inderdaad vir die groter Stellenbosch. "Dié nuwe verwikkeling sal stellig binnekort groot eise aan sokkergeriewe en -hulpbronne begin stel. Ons hoop daarom dat dit die nodige stukrag sal verleen vir die totstandkoming van die beoogde Lentelus-sokkersentrum," sê me Wiese.

Mnr Garth le Roux, Maties Sokker-bestuurder, het hom hierby aangesluit. "Die spelers, tegniese personeel en bestuurskomitee verdien voorwaar al dié eerbewyse. Dit het baie dissipline en toewyding geveer om tot hier te kom."

Portuuroopvoeders maak 'n verskil

Daar is 'n groep Universiteitspersoneel wat nie bereid is om hulle oë te sluit vir iets wat ons land se toekoms in gevaar stel nie; 'n groep wat nie van sensitiewe kwessies wegskram nie, en nie skroom om hulle kollegas uit te daag om hulle voorbeeld te volg nie.

Hulle is almal ondersteuners van die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) se institusionele MIV-program. Dié program se mikpunt is om teen 2012 geen nuwe MIV-infeksies op kampus te hê nie. Waar menige persoon voor só 'n uitdaging sou stuit, som mnr Lester King van die afdeling Instandhouding sy en sy medegroepelers se ingesteldheid in die woorde van Amerikaanse president Barack Obama op: "Yes, we can!"

Aan die einde van 2008 het 14 personele van die US opleiding ontvang om as portuuroopvoeders in hulle onderskeie departemente of fakulteite sowel as hulle gemeenskappe op te tree. Mnr Francis Meyer van die Universiteit van Stellenbosch Bestuurskool (USB) verduidelik: "As ouers, gemeenskapsleiers en professionele diensverskaffers vervul personele verskeie rolle by die werk én tuis, en onderskat hulle gereeld die impak wat hulle op hulle gesinne, kollegas en die gemeenskap het."

Die portuuroopvoeders is outuig dat die kleinste kopskuif oor MIV/Vigs onder die personeel van die US tot 'n deurbraak op nasionale vlak kan bydra. Baie personele verkeer volgens die opvoeders nog onder die wanindruk dat Vigs hulle nie raak nie. Een van die nuwe opvoeders, mnr Dirkie Willems van die USB, beklemtoon egter dat dié siekte niemand onaangeraak laat nie: "Dit raak ons hele land. Dit raak ons hele toekoms."

Die ongegronde stigma wat steeds aan Vigs kleef, maak ook dat baie



Dié groep mense is hard besig om bewusmaking oor MIV/Vigs op kampus te bewerkstellig. Agter van links is mnr Reynold Heneke, mnr Harold Siebritz, mnr Mervin Koopman, me Nadia Goliath, mnr Dirkie Willems, me Denile Samuels, mnr Arthur Pohl, me Nellie Snyman, mnr Lester King en me Maureen Kennedy. Voor van links is me Francis Meyer, me Irene Isaacs, me Crystal Hendricks en me Belinda Coetzee

(Anri van der Spuy)

mense bang is om daarvoor te praat. "Noem jy die woord Vigs, staan almal skielik terug," verduidelik mnr Harold Siebritz van die Universiteit van Stellenbosch Beskermingsdienste. Mnr Arthur Pohl van die Sportburo meen baie personeel is uiters onkundig oor MIV/Vigs, en spot selfs ander wat dit waag om daarvoor te praat.

Deur hulleself met soveel moontlik MIV/Vigs-inligting toe te rus, kan die portuuroopvoeders ook ander inlig. Me Irene Isaacs, ook van MHB, reken mense weet heeltemal te min van die siekte, en daarom kan ingeligte personele studente en die groter

gemeenskap meer daarvan leer. Volgens me Maureen Kennedy, Koördineerder: Welwees, wil die Kantoor vir Institusionele MIV-koördinering en die Welweesprogram vanjaar ook akademiese personeel aanmoedig om MIV/Vigs-inligtingsbeampies te word. Die volgende opleidingsessies vir portuuroopvoeders vind in April en Mei plaas. Meer inligting sowel as aansoekvorms is vanaf 23 Maart 2009 op sun-e-HR beskikbaar. Skakel ook gerus met me Maureen Kennedy (021 808 4824) of me Monica du Toit (021 808 2864) vir meer besonderhede.

- ANRI VAN DER SPUY

WIE, WAT EN WAAR?



SIELKUNDE NOEM NUWE BOEKPRYS NA ONTSLAPE STUDENT

Die Departement Sielkunde het onlangs 'n nuut ingestelde boekprys aan een van sy honneursstudente, me Anneke Goosen (tweede links) vir die beste navorsingswerkstuk in 2008 oorhandig. Dié nuwe jaarlikse toekenning heet na Werner van Tonder wat op 20 Junie 2008 tussen Paarl en Stellenbosch in 'n motorongeluk gesterf het. Werner was besig met sy honneursgraad in Sielkunde. "As een van 'n groep uitgesoekte nagraadse Sielkundestudente was hy akademies toegewyd en sosiaal gebalanseerd, en dus geliefd onder sowel dosente as klasmaats. As 'n blyk van erkenning vir die mens wat hy was, het ons besluit om voortaan 'n prys wat sy naam dra aan die honneursstudent met die beste navorsingswerkstuk in 'n betrokke jaar toe te ken," het prof Awie Greeff, die Koördineerder van die honneursprogram, gesê. Op die foto verskyn van links Werner se pa, Wessel; Anneke; sy ma, Wilna; sy vriendin, Rudelle; en prof Greeff.

(Marieanna le Roux)



LYDIA-GENANTE ALMAL OP 'N RY!

Op 6 Maart met Lydia-dameskoshuis se Lydia van Niekerk-dag op die Rooiplein (ter ere van die dame na wie die koshuis heet), het die inwonende hoof, me Lydia Willems, verskeie naamgenote genooi om saam 'n piekniek te geniet. Van die Lydia-genante wat die geleentheid bygewoon het, is van links me Lydia Willems van die Departement Plant- en Dierkunde; me Lidia du Plessis van die Internasionale Kantoor; me Lydia Meier van die US-Koor; me Lydia de Waal van die Sasol Kunsmuseum; me Lydia-Mari Beukes, 'n student van Lydia-dameskoshuis; en me Lidia Auret, 'n MSc-student in Prosesingenieurswese.



INTREEREDE BY TEOLOGIE

Prof Nico Koopman (middel) van die Departement Sistematiese Teologie en Eklesiologie het onlangs sy intreerede getiteld *For God so loved the world... Some contours for Public Theology in South Africa* gelewer. Saam met prof Koopman is die Rektor en Visekanselier, prof Russel Botman, en die Dekaan van die Fakulteit Teologie, prof Elna Mouton.

(Martin Viljoen)



WAT HOU WEER WOORDPRET

Johan Bakkes, bekende avonturier, wêreldreisiger, skrywer en professor by die Departement Rekeningkunde van die Universiteit van die Wes-Kaap, was die gasspreker by vanjaar se eerste Woordpret van die Woordeboek van die Afrikaanse Taal (WAT). Hy het die gaste met talle staaltjies oor sy buitengewone ervarings op ongewone plekke vermaak. Prof Bakkes het ook oor sy werksmetodes as skrywer gesels, en onder meer vertel dat 'n mens nie 'n storie hoef te gaan soek nie – dit kom na jou toe as jou ingesteldheid reg is. Hier verskyn hy saam met mnr Leon en me Helène Loxton.

(Frik Lombard)

Die volgende uitgawe van *Kampusnuus* verskyn op 28 April 2009

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