

# CENTRE FOR APPLIED ETHICS

## ANNUAL REPORT 2007

### 1. GOVERNING BODY

Proff. P. van der P. du Toit (Representative of the Centre for International and Comparative Politics<sup>1</sup>, *Chair*), HJ Kotzé (Dean), A.A. van Niekerk (Director of the Centre and Head: Unit for Bioethics), J. Kinghorn (Representative of the Centre for Knowledge Management and Decision-making), J.P. Hattingh (Head: Unit for Environmental Ethics), S. van der Berg (Representative of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences) W.P. Pienaar (Representative of the Faculty of Health Sciences), C. Walker (Representative of the Depts. of Psychology, Sociology, Geography and Environmental Studies, and Social Work), K. Moodley (Head: Unit for Bioethics – Tygerberg Division), ms. M Vrba (Representative: Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity), and dr. Deon Moulder, representative of the Medi-Clinic Corporation<sup>2</sup>, a key sponsor of the Centre.

### 2. RESEARCH

*(NB Only activities are here reported that are not dealt with in the reports of the different Units of the Centre. See also reports of the Units)*

#### 2.1 Publications and other research outputs

##### 2.1.1 Journal Articles

(Accredited journal articles are indicated with an asterisk\*)

1. Van Niekerk, AA: “Oor tradisie, hermeneutiek en wetenskap: mistastings in Sakkie Spangenberg se lesing van *Geloof sonder sekerhede*”. *Ned. Geref. Teologiese Tydskrif*\*, 48 (3&4), September en Desember 2007: 674-685.

##### 2.1.2 Book Chapters

1. Van Niekerk, AA: “Om Stellenbosch nie net te interpreteer nie, maar te verander”, in: Amanda Botha (ed.): *Chris Brink: anatomy of a reformer*. Stellenbosch: Sun Press, 2007: 210-212. (ISBN 978-1-920109-78-3) [To not only interpret Stellenbosch, but to change it]
2. Van Niekerk, AA: “Wat is ‘n universiteit?”. In: J Fourie (ed.): *Uniwrstyt: wat jy moet weet*. Paarl: Gabbema Books, 2007: 25-36.

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<sup>1</sup> To be replaced as representative of this Centre in 2008 by prof. A. Gouws

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Moulder has retired at the end of 2007 and will be replaced by dr. Hannes Loots of Medi-Clinic Corporation

3. Van Niekerk, AA: "Sosiale wetenskappe, filosofie en teologie". In: J Fourie (ed.): *Uniwersityt: wat jy moet weet*. Paarl: Gabbema Books, 2007: 65-70.

### **2.1.3 Other Publications (indicative of community service/interaction rendered by the Centre)**

1. Van Niekerk, AA: "Monumentaal, maar politieke implikasies nie uiteengesit". Review of Danie Goosen: *Die Nihilisme: Notas oor ons tyd*. Pretoria: Praag, 2007. *Beeld*, 19 November 2007.
2. Van Niekerk, AA: "Bybel is nie 'papierpous': nie elke letter heilig en onfeilbaar", *Die Burger* (Forumartikel), 9 Januarie 2007: 7.
3. Van Niekerk, AA: "Die filosoof wat 'te veel Heidegger geles het' (Richard Rorty 1931-2007)", *Bylae tot Die Burger* (Skoppensboer Rubriek), 23 Junie 2007: 7.
4. Van Niekerk, AA: "'n Verbeeldingsvlug verby identiteitspolitiek", *Bylae tot Die Burger* (Intrapslag Rubriek), 1 September 2007: 4.

### **2.1.4 Presentations**

1. The Director was invited by the Senior Director: Research of the US to give a presentation on basic research ethics to all new lecturers and researchers at the US. This took place on 31 January 2007.
2. Prof. van Niekerk delivered a well attended lecture, on special invitation, about the debate between Jürgen Habermas and Richard Rorty at the University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands on 21 May 2007.
3. Prof van Niekerk was also invited to deliver the key note address on the UNESCO International Philosophy Day, 4 October 2007, at the University of Namibia in Windhoek. The lecture was an appraisal of the work of the well known philosopher Richard Rorty, who died earlier in the year.

## **3. OTHER GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRE**

**4.1 Teaching:** In 2007, the Centre accommodated the specialization groups (in Biomedical, Environmental and Business Ethics) of the two year MPhil Program in Applied Ethics. A number of students also completed their programs – see reports of the Units. The teaching of this postgraduate program constitutes the main teaching activity of the Centre at Stellenbosch, and requires a very significant time investment from an already over-stretched personnel of the Philosophy Department (which is also the personnel of the Centre). The teaching of undergraduate students in the Health Sciences at Tygerberg is also becoming ever more burdensome on a non-expanding staff. Nevertheless, the feed-back from the students is indicative of the fact that they enjoy the course and are learning a lot. Most of the students do the MPhil program part-time and are in full

time occupations. This hampers the progress of some, but it is inspiring to observe how others, in spite of their full working days in their jobs, find the time to produce excellent work in this program.

**4.2 Achievements of graduate students of the Centre:** A number of the Centre's ex-students and ex-researchers are making their mark in the academic sphere. Donna Knapp van Bogaert, who completed the MPhil and DPhil some years ago, has in 2007 been appointed as professor in bioethics at Wits University. Prof. Marianna Kruger, who at the time of her registration for the MPhil was head of pediatric oncology at the University of Pretoria, now takes full responsibility for the teaching of bioethics at that institution, and is ably supported by dr. Theresa Rossouw, who also did our MPhil and is currently registered for the DPhil. Willem Moore, a current DPhil student, has, besides teaching philosophy and ethics at the University of Namibia, also created an imaginative bioethics consulting and information therapeutic service in Windhoek. Dr. Liezl van Zyl, who did her MA and DPhil in bioethics in the Centre, has been teaching bioethics at the University of Waikato since 2000. Stuart Rennie, who was a researcher in the Centre in 1997, has been appointed as associate professor in bioethics at Chapel Hill, the most prestigious campus of the University of North-Carolina. And last, but by no means least, prof. Keymanthri Moodley, who completed both her MPhil and DPhil with us, currently heads the Tygerberg Division of the Centre's Unit for Bioethics, and, together with other MPhil graduates of the Centre such as prof. Willie Pienaar and dr. Sharon Kling and Daniel Sidler, are taking full responsibility for the undergraduate teaching of bioethics to all students in the Health Sciences Faculty at Stellenbosch University. Dr. Lyn Horn, an MPhil graduate and current DPhil student in bioethics, is currently Manager: Research Ethics and Administration in the Faculty of Health Sciences, Division for Research Development and Support. This portfolio means that she is responsible for the smooth functioning of the Faculty's three research ethics committees, sits on all three committees as a full member, is responsible for the expedited review of all masters research projects submitted to the Committee for Human Research, as well as the review of all project amendments. We are proud of all these graduates of the Centre; their current work in the field is ample proof that our program has been meritorious, influential and successful.

**4.3 Participation in Erasmus Mundus Program in Applied Ethics of Utrecht, Linköping and Trondheim:** The year 2007 saw the Director of the Centre, prof. Anton van Niekerk, spending almost three months in Europe as special guest professor in the Erasmus Mundus Program of the Universities of Utrecht (Netherlands), Linköping (Sweden) and Trondheim (Norway). This follows the creation of formal ties between the Centre and this European Union sponsored prestige program in the course of 2006, as reported about last year. Prof. van Niekerk was also appointed on the Management Committee of the Consortium. He spent most of his time in Utrecht, but also visited the Universities of Linköping and Nijmegen for guest lectures and consultations with postgraduate students. In Utrecht and Linköping, he assisted, besides lecturing, in the supervision of the dissertations of about 12 students. The agreement with the Erasmus Mundus Consortium was extended to also make allowance for some of the European and international students in that program to visit and study at Stellenbosch, without any costs incurred by us. The first group of such students was set to arrive in

January 2008, and will be reported on next year. The Consortium's generous source of funding (the European Union) also enables a number of academics from the participating institutions to visit Stellenbosch annually without any added costs for the Centre. In 2008, prof. Markus Duewelle (Research Director of the Ethics Institute at Utrecht), as well as prof. Robert Heger of the same institution will visit our Centre and assist in the lecturing. A flat rate grant of about R30 000 was paid to the Centre by the Consortium to finance any non-foreseen costs that these visits may have for the Centre.

**4.4 Ties with Makerere University in Uganda:** The Centre does not only have ties with European institutions, but also with an institution in Africa. On 21 June 2007 the Centre for Applied Ethics (represented by prof. Hattingh) signed a memorandum of Cooperation with the Makerere Centre for Applied Ethics (MACAE). MACAE is administered from the Department of Philosophy at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, but functions as a non-governmental organization independent from Makerere University. This agreement is the first of its kind for the Centre for Applied Ethics in the sense of establishing links with a sister institution in Africa, and thus promises to be a fruitful channel through which future activities in Africa can be launched. MACAE is currently led by Dr. Byaruanga Rokooko of the Department of Philosophy at Makerere University.

**4.5 Visitors in 2007:** The Centre was visited in 2007 by prof. Bert van den Abeele of the University of Louvain and prof. Vincent Brümmer, emeritus professor of the University of Utrecht. Both delivered lectures and/or seminars, expertly arranged by prof. van der Merwe.

**4.6 Relationship with the Ethics Institute of South Africa:** (EthicSA): A very fruitful and mutually rewarding relationship exists between the Centre and the Ethics Institute of South Africa (EthicSA). Its CEO, prof. Willem Landman, is a professor extraordinaire in the Centre, and very involved in our post-graduate work. The Director is currently Chairperson of the Institute's Board of Directors. In that capacity he is very closely involved with the planning, management and evaluation of EthicSA's activities.

**4.7 Relationship with the Unit for Corporate Governance:** The Centre took notice of and was consulted in the process of creating a new Unit for Corporate Governance in the Business School of the University of Stellenbosch. It was agreed that the two institutions will respect each other's identity and integrity, and that optimal co-operation between the two will be sought. It was also agreed that the two structures will have mutual representation in each other's governing bodies. For that purpose, mr. Daniel Malan of the Unit will henceforth be a member of the Centre's governing body. The Director appointed prof. Hattingh to represent the Centre in the Unit's governing body.

**4.8 Personnel matters:** Since the retirement of prof. Esterhuysen almost a decade ago (he temporarily assisted in the postgraduate teaching until recently), the Centre has not had the benefit of stability and continuity in terms of expertise in business ethics. Consequently, ms. Marianne Camerer was, in 2005, appointed on a contract basis (1 July 2005 – 30 June 2008) as a part-time senior lecturer to handle business ethics teaching and supervision and to rekindle the Unit for

Business Ethics. Ms Camerer, however, was never in a position to exert all her time and energy to the task, even though she gave the lectures for the specialization group in 2007 and supervised a significant number of students' theses (two of which were completed in 2007; see report of the Unit). In the latter part of 2007, ms. Camerer indicated to the Director that, because of personal circumstances and commitments, she does not wish her contract to be renewed after it expires on 30 June 2008. In the mean time, ms Minka Vrba, who at this point held a temporary lectureship for teaching, with prof. Hattingh, the business ethics service courses to (for us) massive numbers of undergraduate students in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences, has been proving all along how invaluable her services are. She also participated in the World Bank Research Project of the Unit for Business Ethics, driven by prof. Hattingh and ms. Camerer (see report of Unit), and which was completed at the end of 2007. Consequently, after a productive consultation with the Dean, ms Vrba was offered a lectureship for a (renewable) contract of three years (2008-2010) with the explicit task of teaching under- and post-graduate business ethics courses and facilitating the activities of the Unit for Business Ethics. This contract, as the one of Ms Camerer, is funded by the Philosophy Department's "ad hoc fund", and not by the Centre as such, although the Centre benefits directly from this arrangement. Ms Sue Hall, who very proficiently assisted the Director in the Unit for Bioethics for the period 2006-2007, indicated that she wishes to work abroad in 2008, also having completed a ground-breaking masters thesis in 2007 (to be awarded March 2008). She will, in 2008, be replaced by ms Cara van der Merwe, whereas mr. Werner Schoeman will become prof. Hattingh's assistant.

## **5. Representation on Ethics Committees**

Personnel of the Centre serve as members of a variety of ethics committees/institutional review boards at Stellenbosch University and elsewhere.

These committees, and the relevant representatives, are the following:

- The Ethics Committee of the Medical Research Council (MRC) (AA van Niekerk)
- The Committee for Research on Human Subjects of the Faculty of Health Sciences (AA van Niekerk, up to end of 2007)
- The Ethics Committee for Research on Animals of the MRC (JP Hattingh)
- The Ethics Committee of Subcommittee A (Humanities & Social Sciences) of Stellenbosch University's Research Committee (JP Hattingh, chair)
- The Committee for Pharmaceutical Trials in the Health Sciences Faculty (K Moodley, vice-chair)

### **Unit for Bio-Ethics: Stellenbosch Division**

See attached report (pp. 6-12 )

### **Unit for Bioethics: Tygerberg Division**

See attached report (pp. 13-21)

## **Unit for Environmental Ethics**

See attached report (pp. 22-27)

## **Unit for Business Ethics and Public Integrity** (pp. 28-29)

## **FINANCES**

The financial statements of the Centre for 2007 have been approved by the Governing Body and are recommended to the Faculty Committee and Board.

Prof. A Gouws  
Chair: Governing Body  
13 June 2008

Prof. AA van Niekerk  
Director: Centre for Applied Ethics  
13 June 2008

# UNIT FOR BIOETHICS: STELLENBOSCH DIVISION

## Annual Report 2007

### GENERAL REMARKS

1. **Sponsorship:** The Unit greatly benefits from the generous grant (R100 000 per year for two years) of the Medi-Clinic Corporation to the Unit. This significant occurrence underscores and maintains the very fruitful mutual co-operation between the Unit and that organization. The year 2007 saw the end of the second two year period of support for the Unit, and the Director has recently (March 2008) been informed that the same support will continue in the years 2008-2009. This is highly appreciated; we thank Medi-Clinic not only for their generosity, but for their proven commitment to ethics in the complex field of health care.
2. Because of prof. van Niekerk's absence from Stellenbosch for almost three months in 2007, during which time he was guest professor at the Universities of Utrecht and Linköping, activities at Stellenbosch were somewhat diminished. The Unit nevertheless had an active year filled with a number of activities and producing substantial research outputs.

### 1. RESEARCH

#### 1.1 Completed and current research projects

- 1.1.1 *Bioethics and public health in South Africa, with special reference to moral problems related to HIV/AIDS and new genetic technologies.* Prof. Van Niekerk held a comprehensive NRF research grant of about R800 000 for four years for research on this general topic. Some of the research projects mentioned below form part of this bigger program. The program lasted until the end of 2007. Prof. van Niekerk's report on this project was delivered to and accepted by the NRF, and is available for anyone interested.
- 1.1.2 *Undue inducements within the framework of concern about benefit sharing in terms of research outputs in the developing world.* Prof. van Niekerk was invited by UNESCO's international research group on benefit sharing to participate in their activities. A workshop of the group, with a complete international make-up, was held at the end on November in Cape Town. He delivered a paper on undue inducements that will be published, together with the other contributions to this project, in a special edition of the ISI accredited journal *Cambridge Quarterly of Healthcare Ethics*, in the course of 2008. This group has also been invited to deliver a special plenary panel session at the 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Bioethics, to be held in Rijeka, Croatia, in September 2008.

- 1.1.3** *Ethical problems related to newer developments in genetic reproductive technologies* (AA van Niekerk, S Hall, N Nortjé & L Dick – ongoing; cf. publications and dissertations below).
- 1.1.4** *Lewenskwaliteit in biomediese konteks: 'n filosofies-etiese studie* (AA van Niekerk and M Breitenbach. See outputs below.)
- 1.1.5** *Anthropological models that influence the training of medical students.* (Jan Kuehne. Completed – see thesis details below)
- 1.1.6** *The reconcilability of the free-market system and the provision of a just minimum health care* (JH Loots. Completed – see thesis details below)
- 1.1.7** *HIV in the paediatric intensive care unit: a discussion of the ethical; issues* (S Kling. Completed – see thesis details below.)
- 1.1.8** *Philosophical and ethical dimensions of pain* (A Olivier & AA van Niekerk). This project has been completed a number of years ago, but outputs are still coming out of it. The main researcher in this project, dr. Braam Olivier, who worked as a post-doc with prof. van Niekerk for three years, has now, in 2007, published a comprehensive book about the project, *Being in Pain*. See details below.
- 1.1.9** *The concept of futility in medical ethics.* (D Sidler & AA van Niekerk). This project has been completed, and an article in an accredited journal has been accepted for publication early in 2008.

## 1.2 Research outputs

### 1.2.1 Article in scientific journal (\*asterisk indicates subsidy accreditation)

Van Niekerk, AA: “Response to GR McLean’s review of *Ethics and AIDS in Africa: the challenge to our thinking*” (with Loretta M Kopelman), *Developing World Bioethics\**, 7 (3), 2007: 163-165

### 1.2.2 Books

1. Olivier, A: *Being in Pain*. Frankfurt am Mein: Peter Lang, 2007. 212 pp. ISBN-10: 363156225-X
2. Landman, WA (ed., with R Chadwick H Kuhse, U Schüklenk & P Singer): *The Bioethics Reader: Editors’ choice*. Oxford: Blackwell Publishing, 2007, xvi + 602 pp.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> An interesting review of this book is available on [http://metapsychology.mentalhelp.net/poc/view\\_doc.php?type=book&id=4071](http://metapsychology.mentalhelp.net/poc/view_doc.php?type=book&id=4071)



### 1.2.3 Book Chapter

Van Niekerk, AA: "Health, culture, knowledge and society: in- and exclusion" (with Henk van Rinsum). In: A Vermeer & H Tempelman (eds.): *Health care in rural South Africa: an innovative approach*. Amsterdam: Vrije Universiteit (VU) University Press, 2007: 273 e.v.

### 1.2.4 Papers read at international conferences and meetings

1. Van Niekerk, AA: *Is die sorg om lewenskwaliteit die moeite werd?* Tweede Simposium van die Nederlands-Afrikaanse Wysgerige Genootskap, Mont Fleur, Stellenbosch, 14-16 Januarie 2007. [Is the concern about quality of life worth our while?]
2. Van Niekerk, AA: *Reproductive cloning: sorting out the arguments pro and contra*. Ethics of reproduction workshop at XIX World Congress on Fertility and Sterility. 29 April -3 May 2007, International Convention Centre, Durban.
3. Van Niekerk, AA: *The morality of stem cell research and its clinical applications*. Ethics of reproduction workshop at XIX World Congress on Fertility and Sterility. 29 April -3 May 2007, International Convention Centre, Durban.
4. Van Niekerk, AA: *The right to reproduction and cloning: what is the moral issue?*. Second International Conference on Applied Ethics, Sapporo, Japan, 22-25 November 2007.
5. Van Niekerk, AA: *The Centre for Applied Ethics at Stellenbosch University: nature, work and challenges*. Invited contribution to panel-discussion at Second International Conference on Applied Ethics, Sapporo, Japan, 22-25 November 2007.
6. Van Niekerk, AA: *Undue inducements in clinical research*. GenBenefit International Vulnerability Workshop, Cape Town, 28-30 November 2007.

### 1.2.2 Papers delivered at national scientific conferences

1. Van Niekerk, AA: *Moral Perspectives on stem cell research*. Annual Conference of the Philosophical Society of Southern Africa, Stellenbosch, 17-19 January 2007.
2. Van Niekerk, AA: *Values in research ethics*. Opening address at Enhancing Research Ethics Capacity & Compliance in Africa (ERECCA) Conference, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Stellenbosch, Bellville, 30 July 2007
3. Van Niekerk, AA: *Etical challenges in (plastic) surgery*. Jack Penn Memorial Lecture, Association of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeons of Southern Africa, 22 October 2007, Spier, Stellenbosch (Key Note Speaker at Plenary Session).

## 2. TEACHING

- 2.1 The Unit takes, first and foremost, responsibility for the post-graduate teaching of bioethics in the MPhil (Applied Ethics) Program, as well as for the doctoral program in bioethics. The year 2007 was the second year of the 2006 intake in the MPhil program. The second year entails the work of the specialization groups, and the Unit engages intensively with the specialization group for bioethics. A diligent group of about eight students were thus engaged, of which some have completed the program (see below), and others are in the final phases of their research theses. In order to submit the students to multi-disciplinary expertise, as is required in bioethics training, some lectures in the bioethics specialization program were offered by prof. Solly Benatar and Terri Fleischer of UCT, prof. Moodley of the Unit's Tygerberg Division and prof. Willem Landman, CEO of EthicSA and professor extraordinaire in the Centre. Prof. Landman also supervises one MA (Bioethics) student's thesis.
- 2.2 In the second semester of 2007, no less than two doctoral students and seven masters' students in bioethics (one a student of Utrecht University) were in the final stages of completing their dissertations. This places an immense burden on the supervisor (which was the same person for all of them), and took up most of the Unit's work in the second semester.
- 2.3 Prof. Van Niekerk is closely involved in IRENSA (International Research Ethics Network for South Africa) and serves on the Executive Committee of this organisation, which is internationally funded by the Fogarty Foundation of the National Institutes of Health in the USA. In that capacity he also acts as regular lecturer (and external examiner) in the presentation of the Postgraduate Diploma in Research Ethics at the University of Cape Town. In 2007, he offered three day long seminars: consequentialism, virtue ethics and justice in medical research in the developing world. This program had a reunion of its students in August 2007 where a range of seminars and lectures were offered, and in which prof. van Niekerk also took part.
- 2.4 Prof. van Niekerk also acts as external examiner for the masters students in the SARETI (South African Research Ethics Training Initiative) program of the Universities of Kwazulu-Natal and Pretoria. This is also a Fogarty Foundation funded program that trains potential and current members of research ethics committees in Africa.
- 2.5 Prof. Van Niekerk annually teaches a module on ethical issues relating to HIV/AIDS in the Postgraduate Diploma and MPhil programmes of the Centre for AIDS Management in the Workplace in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. The lectures for this program are currently offered at a summer and/or winter school, as well as via satellite transmission.
- 2.6 In the general report of the Centre, mention was made of prof. van Niekerk's teaching and supervising activities in the Erasmus Mundus Program of Utrecht, Linköping and Trondheim in the first semester of 2007. (See 4.3 on p. 3)

### 3. POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION

Several postgraduate students were involved in, or are still conducting research on topics that are of direct interest to the activities of this Unit. The details are as follows:

#### 3.1 Completed Doctoral Dissertation

Nortjé, N: *The moral status of embryonic stem cell research in the South African context*. DPhil, 275 pp. (December 2007). Promotor: Prof. AA van Niekerk

#### 3.2 Completed Masters Theses

1. Kuehne, J: *The impact of materialistic monism and suffering on medical students – a critique of the biomedical and biopsychosocial models*. MPhil, December 2007. 70 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
2. Loots, JH: *Die versoenbaarheid van 'n vryemarkstelsel met die voorsiening van 'n regverdige minimum gesondheidsorg: 'n filosofies-etiese beskouing*. MPhil, December 2007. 87 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
3. Kling, S: *HIV in the paediatric intensive care unit: a discussion of the ethical issues*. MPhil, December 2007, 112 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
4. Stolper, K: *Genetic human enhancement and the natural limits of our subjective reality*. MA, University of Utrecht, 2007, 85 pp. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk
5. Thembela, B: Two research essays: 1. *Effective healthcare and hospitals – a relation of mutual implication*; 2. *Is there a case for routine HIV testing in SA?*, December 2007. Supervisor: Prof. AA van Niekerk

#### 3.3 Doctoral projects in progress

1. Gerber, B: *Identity and discourse: a critical philosophical investigation of the influence of the intellectual self-image of the medical profession on communicatively effective care to patients*. DPhil
2. Horn, L: *Virtue ethics and public health policy for HIV/AIDS in South Africa: a critical exploration*. DPhil.
3. Mahlali, MP: *Altruism and self-interest in medical practice: ethical perspectives on the South African situation*. DPhil.
4. Moore, WJ: *Consumer health informatics and patient autonomy: philosophical and ethical perspectives*. DPhil.
5. Rossouw, T: *Identity, personhood and power: a critical analysis of the principle of respect for Autonomy and the idea of informed consent, and their implementation in an androgynous and multicultural society*. DPhil.

6. Stein, D: *Philosophy and psychopharmacology: a naturalist approach*. DPhil.
7. Tlhapane, MS: *Principlism and AIDS: a study in applied ethics*. DPhil.
8. Venter, M: *Abduction in clinical diagnosis: an epistemological assessment of medical reasoning*

(Prof. AA van Niekerk is acting as promotor in all of the above cases.)

### **3.4 Masters projects in progress**

1. Coetzee, H-K. *Mediese etiek in privaatsektor-geneeskunde in Suid-Afrika*. MA.
2. Dick, L. *Responsibility and the new genetics: Philosophical perspectives on the idea of "an ethics of responsibility" in relation to moral problems raised by new genetic technologies in the African context*. MA.
3. Hall, S: *Difference, disability and discrimination: a philosophical critique of selective abortion*. MA.
4. Hendricks, M. *Confidentiality in clinical psychology*. MPhil.
5. Loselo, R. *HIV/AIDS: access to care in view of the SA constitution*. MPhil.
6. Mafanya, A. *Informed consent and the practice of medicine in the Eastern Cape*.
7. Photo, M. *The effects of the SA Choice of Termination of Pregnancy Act on health care workers in South Africa*. MPhil.
8. Schoeman, L. *Die praktyk van aktiewe genadedood: 'n krities-vergelykende studie*. MPhil.
9. Van der Walt, SJ: *Research essay: Male circumcision as HIV transmission strategy: a public health ethics perspective* MPhil.
10. Van Heerden, C. *Moral perspectives on the exploitation of children in Africa*. MPhil.

(Prof. AA van Niekerk is acting as supervisor in all of the above cases.)

## **2. SERVICE DELIVERY**

2.1 Prof. van Niekerk was, in May 2007, elected as a director (one of 25) of the International Association of Bioethics (IAB), the largest and best known bioethics academic association in the world. He was the only person from Africa to be thus elected by the members from all over the world. In this capacity, he also attended the IAB directors' meeting in Zürich, Switzerland from 13 to 16 September 2007. As a director, he automatically became one of the organizers of the IAB's 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Bioethics that will take place in Rijeka, Croatia, in September 2008. Prof. van Niekerk was subsequently also elected as a member of the

scientific committee that will plan and review the scientific merit of all contributions to the 10<sup>th</sup> IAB World Congress that will take place in Singapore in 2010.

2.2 Members of the Unit participate regularly in the fortnightly meetings of the multidisciplinary discussion group on bioethical issues of Prof. Solly Benatar (head of Internal Medicine, UCT) at Groote Schuur Hospital. At these meetings the latest literature is discussed and a case study from experience in practice during the preceding week is highlighted. Similar, very fruitful meetings are also held by a significantly growing group of academics and students of the Health Sciences Faculty at Tygerberg Hospital, organized by the Tygerberg Division of the Unit. See the report of that Division for more details of the deliberations.

2.3 Prof. van Niekerk was invited to be one of the organizers of a special workshop on the ethics of reproduction at the *XIX World Congress on Fertility and Sterility* that took place on 29 April - 3 May 2007 at the International Convention Centre, Durban. He also read two papers at this event. This world congress was presented by the International Federation of Fertility Societies (IFFS), one of the largest societies for Obstetrics and Gynecology in the world.

2.4 Prof. van Niekerk continues to be a director of Stellenbosch Hospice and to serve on the ethics committee of the Hospice's Board of Directors. Very fruitful interaction that has been of much value to both parties has since taken place.

2.5 The Director is regularly consulted by the media, either to comment on issues or to write popular articles. He participated in a number of radio programmes (e.g. Jerome Topley's "Praat saam" on RSG, dealing with a range of bioethical issues), as well as in the TV Program *The Big Question* (transmitted on 28 January 2007) which dealt with the morality of stem cell research

2.6 Prof. Van Niekerk is a member of and participates in the activities of the following (ethics) committees and boards:

- The Ethics Committee of the Medical Research Council
- Editorial Boards of the *SA Journal of Philosophy*, *Developing World Bioethics*, the *SA Journal for Higher Education* and *Philosophy, Ethics and Humanities in Medicine*.
- He has also, in the course of 2007, been appointed as associate editor (for Africa and the developing world) of a new ISI accredited journal *Public Health Ethics*, published by Oxford University Press.

2.7 Prof. Landman is a co-editor of *Developing World Bioethics*, an ISI accredited, highly visibly journal for bioethics in the developing world, published by Blackwell in Oxford.

AA van Niekerk  
(Head: Unit for Bioethics)

# BIOETHICS UNIT – TYGERBERG DIVISION

## Annual Report: 2007

### 1. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Prof. Moodley, the Head of this division of the Unit for Bioethics, was in 2007, in the manner indicated, involved with the following research projects:

- 1.1 Principal investigator: Comprehension of Informed Consent on a Tuberculosis Prevention Study in the Western Cape  
Co investigators: Professor Nulda Beyers, Dr Landon Myer, Dr Sharon Kling, Katherine Lawrence  
Data collection, data entry and data analysis complete. Findings presented to the MRC Article in preparation for publication.  
Feedback to Zamstar team – 12 October 2007, Feedback to community and CAB – 13 December 2007
- 1.2. Principal Investigator: A Phase II, Multicentre, Randomised, Double Mask, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of intramuscular Peramivir in Subjects with Uncomplicated Acute Influenza. Study completed.  
Co-investigator: Dr Michael Pather.
- 1.3. Principal Investigator: A Randomised, open label, controlled phase II study to evaluate safety, tolerability and immunogenicity after two different 13-valent pneumococcal conjugate vaccine formulations with or without aluminium phosphate as adjuvant, and after 23-valent pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine in ambulatory, elderly subjects aged 65 years and older who are naïve to previous 23vps immunisation. Study completed.  
Co-investigator: Professor PJT de Villiers
- 1.4. Principal Investigator: Paediatric HIV Disclosure Study – Tygerberg  
Co investigators: Landon Myer and Des Fransman – School of Public Health, UCT, Prof Mark Cotton, dept of Paediatrics and Kidcru paediatric HIV Clinic Tygerberg, Prof Leslie Swartz and Prof SA Kagee, Dept of Psychology, University of Stellenbosch.  
Phase 1 complete – Paediatric Disclosure in South Africa: Perspectives of Caregivers on discussing HIV with infected children – presented at the international AIDS conference in Bangkok July 2004. Published.  
Phase 2 –complete – interviews with health care providers to elicit their perspectives on disclosure. Published.  
Phase 3 – ethics approval granted August 2006 – to be conducted in conjunction with Dept of Psychology – will involve interviews with HIV infected children and parents and will culminate in a package to aid disclosure to children. Funding is being solicited.

Ethnographic study completed. Article on ethnographic study conducted by Chris Colvin in preparation for publication.  
Articles on model for disclosure in preparation.  
Harry Crossley funding (R15 000) and Interfaculty funding secured (R100 000).  
Planning of study with Kidcru – 2 and 5 October 2007. Interviewer training mid-October 2007. Data collection planned for November 2007.

## **2. PUBLICATIONS**

### **2.1 International journals (accredited journals indicated with asterisk\*):**

- Moodley K, Myer L. Health Research Ethics Committees in South Africa 12 years into democracy. *BMC Medical Ethics* 2007, 8:1.
- Lesch A, Swartz L, Kagee A, Moodley K, Kafaar Z, Myer LM, Cotton M. Paediatric HIV/AIDS disclosure: towards a developmental and process-oriented approach. *AIDS Care\** 2007, 19:811-816.
- Moodley K Microbicide research in developing countries: have we given the ethical issues due consideration? *BMC Medical Ethics* 2007. 8 10.
- Moodley K. Teaching ethics to medical undergraduate students in post-apartheid South Africa. Accepted for publication *Journal of Medical Ethics\** 2007, 33(11).

### **2.2 Book chapter**

- Moodley, K: Ethics in Gynaecology In: TF Kruger & HM Botha (EDS.): *Clinical Gynaecology*: Cape Town: Juta, 2007: 638-647.

## **3. SUPERVISION**

### **3.1 Senior undergraduate students**

- 2007 – John-Randel Vermaak - 6<sup>th</sup> year project– *Impact of MBChB 5 Ethics Module on Student Knowledge of HIV Ethics*.
- 2007 – Stephan Schoeman - 5<sup>th</sup> year elective – *Privacy and Confidentiality in hospitals in Paarl and Mossel Bay*.
- 2007 – Arno Kitshoff - 5<sup>th</sup> year elective – *Clinical Ethics Committees at hospitals in Paarl and Mossel Bay*.

### **3.2 Postgraduate Supervision**

#### **3.2.1 Masters in Family Medicine – University of Stellenbosch**

Thesis: *Informed Consent - are patients adequately informed pre-operatively? Empirical research at a district hospital in Mpumalanga, South Africa.*

Dr Clive Mogajane – MFam Med student, Dept of Family Medicine and Primary Care, School of Public Health, University of Stellenbosch. (In Progress)

- 3.2.2 Masters in Human Nutrition – University of Stellenbosch  
Thesis: *Knowledge, beliefs and practices of dieticians and doctors in South Africa on the use of the internet in healthcare – A pilot study*  
Baheya Najaar, Dept of Human Nutrition, Faculty of Health Sciences,  
University of Stellenbosch

## **4. TEACHING**

### **4.1 Undergraduate Programs**

#### **4.1.1 Ethics Module for MBChB V**

The undergraduate teaching program in medical ethics was offered to 5<sup>th</sup> year medical students in March 2007 for the fifth time since its inception. Based on feedback from an external review of the module in 2006, changes were implemented to the course for 2007. 169 students enjoyed 2 stimulating weeks of interactive problem based ethics. The tutors on the module were Keymanthri Moodley, Willie Pienaar, Sharon Kling, Daniel Sidler. Two additional lecturers were invited to assist with tutorials and marking – Dr A Bawoodien and Mrs Hannelie Kirkaldy. The invited lecturer on Medical Law was Anita Kleinsmidt, University of Witwatersrand. Professor Leslie London was invited from UCT to present a special lecture on Health and Human Rights.

The module test was presented using **WEB CT** for the first time this year. Mr Gordon Payne assisted with development and presentation of the WEB CT test. Apart from serious technical problems in the connection between the main campus and Tygerberg, this new mode employed for the test produced instantaneous results.

#### **4.1.2 Medical Ethics Lectures for MB ChB 1**

July 2007: MBChB 1 (200 students):  
1. Lecture 1: Medical Ethics – An Introduction  
2. Lecture 2: Medical Law – An Introduction  
3. Lecture 3: Scientific Integrity

### **4.2 Postgraduate Program**

#### **Postgraduate teaching**

4.2.1 BSc(Hons) Morphological Sciences – first intake on this program – Dept of Anatomical Pathology

Dr Carol Chase requested a short ethics module with the first 2 students incorporating research ethics. 1 student completed the module with an excellent poster on animal rights and research – for display in the animal research unit at the MRC.

4.2.2 MPhil (Family Med) UCT – Ethics module course consultant - capacity development of 2 tutors at UCT – Dr Mariam Navsa and Dr Beverley Schweitzer –



assistance with curriculum development and module presentation over 12 weeks to 10 postgraduate students.

4.2.3 MPhil (Applied Ethics) – 2 lectures were delivered on Research Ethics Committees in SA and HIV Preventive Research and Ethics over 3 hours.

4.2.4 MCur (Nursing) Introduction to Research Ethics, Dept of Nursing, University of Stellenbosch

4.2.5 BSc (Hons) Underwater Medicine – An Introduction to Research Ethics, Dept of Community Health, University of Stellenbosch

4.2.6 Short Course in Research Methodology – Research Ethics - An Introduction, Dept of Pathology, University of Stellenbosch

## **5. PRESENTATIONS**

### **5.1 International Presentations**

- 16 - 17 March – *HIV Ethics* – Namibian HIV Clinicians Society Annual Meeting, Windhoek, Namibia.
- 29 April – 2 May – *HIV and Assisted Reproduction: Ethical Dilemmas* - IFFS – Fertility and Sterility Conference, Durban, South Africa.
- 26 October – *GCP Training in Africa* – African Organisation for Research and Training in Cancer (AORTIC), ICC, Cape Town

### **5.2 National Presentations**

- 2,3 August - SACCCRA Annual Clinical Trial Conference. Johannesburg, *Clinical Trial Litigation*
- 13 August –International Research Ethics Network of SA IRENSA – UCT – *Post-Trial Treatment: A Case Study*
- 29 October – FIDSSA( Federation of Infectious Diseases in South Africa) Conference, Spier, Cape Town. Drug Resistant *TB – ethical and legal challenges*

### **5.3 Local Presentations**

- 2-4 February – *HIV Prevention Research: Ethical Conflicts* – Fogarty International Program – CAPRISA – University of KZN
- 27 February – *Hinduism and Business Ethics*, BAcc students, University of Stellenbosch
- 2 March – *Influences on ethical decision-making in the health sciences*, Occupational Therapists Oath Taking Ceremony, JN De Villiers Hall, University of Stellenbosch
- 20 March - *Whistleblowing & Telling Tales*, Department of Psychiatry, Valkenberg Hospital.

- 3 May – *Disclosure in the Health Care Environment*, CPD Program PGWC, Jooste Hospital
- 11, 12 May - MDR TB – *Ethical Issues*, Physicians’s Refresher Course, Spier, Stellenbosch
- 26 July – *Distributive Justice & Influenza Pandemics*, Medical Advisors Group, Western Cape
- 26 July – *Bioethics – An Introduction*, Philosophy Society, Diocesan College, Cape Town
- 27 September – *Ethics and Integrative Medicine*, Integrative Medicine Conference, Business School, University of Stellenbosch
- 25 October – *The Olivieri Symposium*, Tygerberg Ethics Discussion Group, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Stellenbosch
- 16 November – *The Ethics of Choice*, Dept of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Tygerberg.

## **6. SERVICE DELIVERY**

### **6.1 Newsletter**

The *SAREC Newsletter* Vol. 4, No 1&2 was circulated to all Research Ethics Committees in SA in June and November 2007.

### **6.2 Editorial Board Membership**

Prof. Moodley is the Academic Editor of *PLoS Clinical Trials*

### **6.3 Research Ethics Committee Work**

Prof. Moodley is the vice-chairperson of the Committee for Pharmaceutical Trials in the Health Sciences Faculty

### **6.5 Conference Organisation**

#### **ERECCA REC Seminar**

This seminar was presented in July 2007 as part of the EDCTP project – ERECCA – Enhancing Research Ethics Capacity and Compliance in Africa. The seminar was aimed at providing an update on current issues in research ethics. Based on a request from EDCTP at their visit in February 2007, it was hoped that the seminar would create the impetus for a collaboration between RECs and the MCC. 52 REC delegates attended from several national institutions – UCT, UWC, US, Wits, Tswana University of Technology, Nelson Mandela School of Medicine, University of Pretoria, SAMA, Pharmaceutics and the Medicines Control Council (MCC). Course material was prepared for all delegates.

The speakers represented all universities in the Western Cape involved in health science and socio-behavioral research – UCT, University of Stellenbosch – Tygerberg and Main Campus.

**6.6 Ethics Hotmail and Ethics Hotline** – queries on ethical issues from general practitioners and other health care providers are answered either via e-mail or telephonically by the Unit. The number of queries received increased substantially over the past year. Details available on request within the limits of confidentiality.

**6.7** To promote the teaching of medical ethics as a “golden thread” throughout all disciplines in the faculty, a capacity development program: TRAIN-THE-TRAINERS was continued during 2006/7. Faculty members from a wide range of different disciplines attended monthly meetings where case studies were discussed and formal lectures were also presented. With the new HPCSA regulations of 5/30 CPD points for Ethics these talks are gaining in popularity.

#### **Topics for 2007:**

- Whistleblowing - Prof Willie Pienaar
- The Jehovah’s Witness Patient & Blood Transfusions - MBChB 5 Students
- Forensic Anthropology and the TRC (UCT) - Prof Alan Morris
- Distributive Justice in Paediatrics - Dr Sharon Kling
- The Ethics of Stem Cell Research - Prof AA van Niekerk
- The Oliveiri Case - Prof K Moodley

## **8. SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND THIRD INCOME STREAM AWARDS**

### **8.1 Third Income Stream**

44% of Bioethics Unit’s personnel costs is funded by third income streams.

### **8.2 Grants awarded**

#### **8.2.1 Harry Crossley Foundation**

Grant of R15 000 awarded for Paediatric HIV Disclosure Study.

#### **8.2.2 Interfaculty Research Collaboration Grant from Subcommittee A, University of Stellenbosch**

Grant of R100 000 awarded to Bioethics Unit and Department of Psychology for research collaboration across faculties.

#### **8.2.3 Research Assistance Grant – R20 000 – Paediatric HIV Disclosure Project**

#### **8.2.4 Good Clinical Practice (GCP) Training Courses.**

Both basic and refresher courses were presented. These courses in responsible research and technical issues related to research are deemed compulsory by the Medicines Control Council (MCC) for all investigators involved in clinical trial

research. Five courses were offered and 148 investigators, site co-ordinators and research ethics committee members were trained. There are 2 more courses for this year. Income from this course supports the salary of the unit secretary, Ms Dawn Kolbe.

The Unit also received a EDCTP grant of 35 000 Euro for 2007 for work on the ERECCA project. This grant supports salaries of personnel in the Tygerberg Division of the Bioethics Unit, as well as the Internet development of the ERECCA project by Mr Gordon Payne, and the extension of GCP training to other institutions in South Africa.

The following individuals have received fully funded GCP training as a result of the grant:

1. Dr Jimmy Chandia ( HIV Vaccine Trials – PI) – Walter Sisulu University. Mthatha
2. Prof Gboyega Ogunbanjo ( Dean of Research and PI clinical trials) – University of Limpopo
3. Ms Nisha Govender ( Research Pharmacist) – Groote Schuur Hospital & UCT
4. Ms Ilana Theron - Research Pharmacist – Tygerberg Hospital & University of Stellenbosch
5. Prof Jack Moodley (Chair REC) – Nelson Mandela School of Medicine

The conversion of the REFRESHER GCP course to an internet based course that can be accessed from around Africa and South Africa is progressing well. The project consumes 28% of my time daily. About 3 modules will be completed in the next few months. Org Groenewald prepares the financial statements and oversees the grant.

The ERECCA REC SEMINAR mentioned above is a component of this project.

Prof. K Moodley  
Head: Tygerberg Division of Unit for Bioethics

# UNIT FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS

## ANNUAL REPORT 2007

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### 1. RESEARCH

#### 1.1 Research Outputs

##### 1.1.1 Publications

HATTINGH JP. Environmental ethics: history, context, and international action. *Proceedings of the Fifth Ordinary Session of COMEST*, Dakar, Senagal, December 2006 (in press; will be published during 2008).

AUDOUIN, MA. and HATTINGH, JP. Moving beyond modernism in environmental assessment and management. Book Chapter (ch. 7) in Michael Burns and Alex Weaver (eds.), *Exploring sustainability Science: A Southern African perspective*, SUN Press, Stellenbosch (in press, to be published in August 2008).

##### 1.1.2 Papers and presentations

HATTINGH, JP. Mapping the terrain of environmental ethics: A critical reflection. Paper presented at Learning in a Changing World: 4<sup>th</sup> World Environmental Education Congress, Durban, 2-6 July 2007.

HATTINGH, JP. Demonstrating a methodology to do a case study in environmental ethics. A workshop presented at Learning in a Changing World: 4<sup>th</sup> World Environmental Education Congress, Durban, 2-6 July 2007.

HATTINGH, JP. On the land ethic of Aldo Leopold. Guest lecture in the Master's Programme of the South African Research Ethics Training Initiative (SARETI) of the Universities of Pretoria and Kwazulu-Natal, University of Pretoria, 31 May 2007.

HATTINGH, JP. On the radical, transformative environmental ethics of ecofeminism. Guest lecture in the Master's Programme of the South African Research Ethics Training Initiative (SARETI) of the Universities of Pretoria and Kwazulu-Natal, University of Pretoria, 31 May 2007.

HATTINGH, JP. Environmental ethics and climate change. Popular presentation to the "University of the Third Age", Hermanus, 4 September 2008.

HATTINGH, JP. Environmental ethics and health: A global perspective. Paper read at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Joint Congress of the Federation of Infectious Disease Societies of South Africa (FIDDSA) that was held at Spier, 28 – 31 October 2007, Stellenbosch.

HATTINGH, JP. Ethical dimensions of the challenge to mitigate or adapt to climate change. Presentation at the Regional Seminar of the Advanced International Training Programme of SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency) and the SMHI (Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute), University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg, 22 November 2007.

HATTINGH, JP. Articulating science and education to face the challenges of global climate change: the contribution of the social and human sciences. Paper read at a UNESCO dialogue, presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, 14 December 2008, Bali, Indonesia.

## **1.2 Current Research**

### **1.2.1 NRF project**

The NRF Focus Area research project of Prof. Hattingh on the topic of Refining Sustainable Development came to an end in December 2007. The aims of this project was to establish why there is such a lack of implementation in the policy goals of sustainable development, and to make recommendations to overcome problems in this regard. The point of departure of this research is the hypothesis that there are serious problems in conceptualizing the goal of sustainable development, and that a good understanding of these problems can help to address the lack of implementation. The NRF extended limited funding for this project to round it off in 2008.

### **1.2.2 Research proposals submitted in 2007**

#### **(a) Green Budget Initiative**

A research proposal on the theme of The Green Budget Initiative (GBI) was submitted to SANPAD but was unsuccessful. The Green Budget Initiative was an attempt to develop research strategies that could provide government with research support on how best to integrate environmental issues into budget decision-making on a policy and budgetary level. It proposed to achieve this in three ways. Firstly by developing a methodology with which to measure government expenditure on the environment and comparing it with implementation performance. Secondly, by developing information mechanisms, like indicators and ecological footprints, to measure departmental and interdepartmental environmental impact. Thirdly by providing capacity building and training within government to make use of this information within budgetary spending and in the funding of departmental programmes. Three stakeholders outside the Unit for Environmental Ethics that were identified as partners included the national treasury and all budgeted-for government departments, the International Budget Project, the Radboud University in Nijmegen and a data management company.

**(b) Towards new strategies to implement ecologically sustainable development in the public and private sector.**

The research proposal, which was submitted to Subcommittee A of the University of Stellenbosch's Collaborative Research Programme, was successful. Funding of R200 000 for two years (2008 and 2009) was allocated to this project. The research proposal was aimed at developing a management approach, based on the insights of Norton's concept of adaptive management, that was able to ensure that the public and private sector could implement sustainable development successfully. Its interdisciplinary focus also aimed to promote interdepartmental and inter-university research capacity in environmental management philosophy. The third aim of this research was to develop environmental management capacity within local and provincial public institutions. The Unit for Environmental Ethics's identified the Cape Peninsula University of Technology as a research partner and they decided to focus their research on private sector companies as well as local, provincial and national government.

## **2. OTHER ACTIVITIES**

### **2.1 Ongoing Doctoral Projects**

AUDOIN MA. *A Transdisciplinary Model for Sustainability in South Africa*. D. Phil. Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh. Co-supervisor: Prof. A Weaver, CSIR and Extraordinary Professor, Department of Geology, Geography and Environmental Studies of Stellenbosch University.

BAUGHAN H. *Technology and practical reason in technology education policy - a philosophical study*. D.Phil. Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh.

LONG SS. *The formulation of an environmental ethic for civil engineers in South Africa*. D.Phil. Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh.

MOKWENA BO. *Corporate citizenship and business profitability: A post-apartheid critique*. D.Phil. Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh.

SEELIGER L. *Developing an environmental ethic for economic policy in South Africa*. D.Phil. Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh. Co-supervisor: Prof. S van den Berg, Economics.

### **2.2 Ongoing Master's Projects**

GUBANCA AA. *Should corporate social responsibility extend to alleviation of poverty?* M.A. (Applied Ethics). Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh.

NAUDE P. *The use and management of the Olifants River System. An ethical perspective, with special focus on the Mpumalanga and Northern Province Lowveld Region.* M.Phil. (Applied Ethics). Supervisor: Prof. JP Hattingh.

### **2.3 Teaching at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology**

During 2007, Unit for Environmental Ethics consultant Ms Leanne Seeliger started designing a course in environmental ethics for students in environmental management at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (Btech Students) in the Department of Environmental Management and Occupational Studies.

Ms Seeliger also taught first year environmental management students Critical Thinking and Logic for the first semester and first year environmental management extended programme students the same course for the entire year.

### **2.4 M.Phil in Environmental Management**

Prof. Hattingh is member of an interfaculty Programme Committee that has launched a MPhil Programme in Environmental Management in January 2001. Departments participating in the programme are Philosophy (Environmental Ethics), Geology, Geography and Environmental Studies, Public and Development Administration, Public Law, and Conservation Ecology. Since December 2002 a steady stream of students graduated from this program.

Within the framework of this programme Prof. Hattingh takes responsibility for a module in Environmental Ethics. He also supervises students doing their research projects on themes in environmental Ethics.

### **2.5 M.Phil in Sustainable Development**

In February 2003 the Sustainability Institute under the leadership of Prof. Mark Swilling and Ms. Eve Annecke launched an innovative MPhil Programme in Sustainable Development in collaboration with the Department of Public and Development Management of the University of Stellenbosch. Having been part of the team planning the Programme, Prof. Hattingh is currently one of the co-teachers in the module on Leadership and Ethics for Sustainable Development.

### **2.6 Activities around UNESCO's COMEST**

1. COMEST is The World Commission on the Ethics of Science and Technology, and falls under UNESCO's Division for the Ethics of Science.



COMEST consists of 18 members that are selected to be representative of the world community on the one hand, and expertise in the ethics of various fields on the other hand. Members are appointed to COMEST in collaboration with the official delegations of member countries of UNESCO and their countries' Ministries of Science and Technology. COMEST advises the General Assembly of UNESCO on ethical issues, and conduct, on request, research for the General Assembly on ethical issues. At the beginning of 2004, Prof. Hattingh was appointed as member of COMEST for a period of 4 years. On the recommendation of the South African Government, Prof. Hattingh has been invited by COMEST to serve for another term of four years, i.e. from 2008 – 2011.

2. During 2005 Prof. Hattingh was appointed as Rapporteur in the Executive Board of COMEST. He is currently still serving in this capacity.
3. During December 2007 Prof. Hattingh was invited by the IOC (Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission) to deliver a paper at a UNESCO side event at the 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, that was held in December 2007 in, Bali, Indonesia. [See entry under Research above.]

## **2.7 Networks and related activities**

1. Close collaboration between the Unit for Environmental Ethics and the Division for Cross Cutting Technologies of the CSIR, especially on environmental issues, was continued in 2007.
2. Close collaboration with Prof. Willem Landman, Director of the Ethics Institute of South Africa located in Pretoria, was continued during 2007, particularly on joint projects and service on the terrain of applied ethics.
3. Close cooperation with Dr. Workineh Kelbessa of the Department of Philosophy at University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia continued during 2007. Dr. Kelbessa collaborated in the research for Prof. Hattingh's NRF project on the concept of sustainability.

## **2.8 Roundtables on themes in Environmental Ethics**

In this context, a roundtable entails a small closed meeting of about 4 to 6 invited speakers from industry, government and civil society who are invited to present and debate practical ethical issues in their fields. The purpose of a roundtable is to stimulate both academic and public debate on current environmental affairs. Comments are invited from interested parties through our e-group. One such roundtable was arranged on 18 April 2008 on the theme of tradeable emissions, and took place at the Volkskombuis restaurant in Stellenbosch over a stimulating interaction during a meal.

Each participant contributed a short paper illustrating a particular ethical issue, or issues, regarding emissions trading that they were aware of, or had encountered in the course of their work. Each participant had 15 minutes to present, which left ample time for discussion and debate. Papers were not meant to be rigorously academic in nature, but rather leaning toward a more reflective exercise.

Participants included: Ms Marba Visagie, Department of Trade and Industry, Mr Lester Malgas, South South North Non-Governmental Organisation, Mr Albert van der Merwe, Department of Economics, Stellenbosch University, Mr Raymond Ellis from Datacash, Prof Johan Hattingh, Unit for Environmental Ethics, Mr Peter Esser, Unit for Environmental Ethics and Ms Leanne Seeliger, Unit for Environmental Ethics.

## **2.9. Green drinks**

In 2007, the Unit for Environmental Ethics facilitated the Stellenbosch chapter of Green Drinks – an international informal network of people interested in discussing environmental issues. For more than seven months last year, people who worked in the environmental field or those who wanted to know more about environmental issues met up at a pub called Fundangos in Stellenbosch. The meeting was advertised on the website [www.greendrinks.org](http://www.greendrinks.org) and posters were placed at the venue to encourage people to attend. An column was written in the Eikestadnuus newspaper on one of the meetings.

Speakers were arranged to speak at the meeting on a particular topic to stimulate discussion. These included Mr Richard Weeden from Greenclippings on Global Warming, Mr Albert van der Merwe, from the University of Stellenbosch's Economics Department on Environmental Economics, Dr Sandra Swart, from Stellenbosch University's History Department on Environmental History, Ms Elma Pollard, an environmental journalist on Waste Management in Stellenbosch, a Stellenbosch University engineering lecturer on Waste Management and an environmental activist on Canned Lion Hunting. Environmental Ethics Unit researcher, Mr Peter Esser, also held a session where people were invited to measure their ecological footprint on a computer programme.

## **2.10 Marketing**

### **2.10.1 Marketing of Workshop to the City of Cape Town**

The Unit marketed a workshop in environmental ethics to the City of Cape Town. Ms Leanne Seeliger and Mr Peter Esser delivered a presentation to the Environmental Management department of the City of Cape Town. The Unit aimed to assist environmental decision-makers with the complexities of environmental decision-making. It was planned to address the following topics: defining ethics; analysing moral problems and making moral decisions; the nature of environmental ethics as well as environmental ethics in the professional domain. However, the Unit did not succeed in being commissioned for a workshop.

### **2.10.2 Redesigning of the Unit for Environmental Ethics Website**

In 2007, Mr Peter Esser was tasked with overseeing the redesigning of the Unit's website. He hired an in-house University of Stellenbosch web designer to complete the technical work. The information was repackaged, the logo redesigned and the website made more user-friendly. The environmental ethics workshops were advertised on the site, as well as the consultancy work of the Unit, the roundtables and Green Drinks. The aim was to use the website as a marketing tool for the Unit.

Towards, the end of the year, an IT specialist from the University of Stellenbosch IT department also initiated a process whereby the existing website could eventually be linked to a blog site. This blog was installed towards the beginning of 2008.

### **2.11 Membership of Editorial Boards**

Prof. Hattingh currently serves on the Editorial Board of the following journals:

1. Southern African Journal of Environmental Education (co-editor of the section on Environmental Ethics)
2. Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics (member of Editorial Board, since 2007).

### **2.12 Ethics Committee for Research on Animals (ECRA)**

Prof. Hattingh is member of the Ethics Committee for Research on Animals of the Medical Research Council (MRC) and helps this committee to review research proposals in which experimental animals are involved. This committee has about four meetings per year.

Johan Hattingh

June 2008

# **THE UNIT FOR BUSINESS ETHICS AND PUBLIC INTEGRITY**

## **Annual Report 2007**

### **1. RESEARCH PROJECTS**

#### **1.1 World Bank Research Project**

The Centre for Applied Ethic's project team (under the guidance of the lead consultant, Dr Stephen Schwenke) embarked on, and completed, the second phase of the World Bank Project during 2007. The second phase of the project entailed the preparation of an integrity guidebook for the selection and use of consultants. This Guidebook built upon the findings generated during the first phase of the project (and incorporated in the report: 'The preparation of Guidelines on how to promote integrity and prevent corruption in the procurement of professional consulting services'), as well as on the finding reported in another World Bank document entitled 'World Bank Policy on Selection and Employment of Consultants: Study of its Effectiveness'. The guidebook seeks to interpret present World Bank guidelines on the procurement of consultants, as well as offer recommendations for improving upon these guidelines. The Guidebook was compiled by Schwenke, and the last details of the Guidebook were finalised at a workshop held in June in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop was led by Schwenke, and attended by Prof Johan Hattingh, as well as by procurement experts from Uganda and Kenya. At the end of July, Schwenke presented the Guidebook to the World Bank. Thereafter, revisions and suggestions were incorporated and the project was concluded.

#### **1.2 Effective Teaching of Applied Ethics to Accounting Students**

Prof Johan Hattingh and Ms Minka Vrba also conducted research for their FIRLT<sup>4</sup>-funded project, administered by the Centre of Teaching and Learning. The project is aimed at improving the teaching of applied ethics to accounting students. As part of the research, Hattingh and Vrba visited two other South African universities in order to interview lecturers who teach applied ethics to accounting students, as well as to conduct focus groups with accounting students who follow(ed) the applied ethics course. Students were also asked to fill-out questionnaires, in order to gauge their attitude towards the various aspects of the applied ethics course. Further interviews were also conducted with members of EthicSA, and representatives from the South African Institute of Chartered Accounting (SAICA). A lot of data was obtained, which will be analysed and written up for a possible publication during 2008.

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<sup>4</sup> Fund for Research and Innovation in Learning and Teaching

## **2. RESEARCH OUTPUTS**

2.1 Prof Johan Hattingh and Ms Minka Vrba again delivered a presentation at the annual Business Ethics Network Africa (BEN-Africa) conference held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The presentation, entitled 'Answering the call of Integrity in Business Ethics', provoked a lot of discussion and enriched the lively interdisciplinary debate regarding the goals of business ethics, which took place at the conference. The presentation delivered by Hattingh and Vrba at the 2006 BEN-Africa conference, was submitted to the African Journal of Business Ethics and accepted for publication in 2008.

2.2 The following article was prepared in the course of 2007 and has been accepted for publication in 2008:

Hattingh, JP and Vrba, ML: They are all lies. Even Mother Theresa did it for herself..., *African Journal of Business Ethics\**, 2008.

## **3. UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING**

The undergraduate modules in Business and Professional Ethics were presented for the third time this year. The number of students who are required to (or who choose to) enroll for these modules has increased significantly with each consecutive year. Currently, approximately 380 accounting students and 280 business students enrolled for the business ethics course, which took place in the first semester; and, 380 accounting students enrolled for the professional ethics course, which took place in the second semester. Up until the end of 2007, these courses have been fairly writing-intensive in terms of evaluation. However, due to limited human resources, staff will investigate the option of introducing multiple-choice questions in the future in order to evaluate certain aspects of the work.

## **4. POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION AND OUTPUTS**

The following two MPhil theses were completed in the course of 2007; the degrees are to be awarded in March 2008:

1. Griffiths, MA: *Poverty and the role of business*. MPhil., 101 pp. Supervisor: Ms M Camerer.
2. Scott, LJ: *Meaningful work in the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace*. MPhil., 110 pp. Supervisor: Ms. M Camerer.

## **5. SERVICE DELIVERY/COMMUNITY INTERACTION**

### **5.1 Contributions to the Hondeklip Bay Project of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences**

The Unit's main activity for the second half of 2007 was to contribute to a community interaction project of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences which will culminate in

the compilation of a social responsibility plan for a proposed abalone farm in Hondeklip Bay.

The project – coordinated by Prof Johan Hattingh – was instigated by Section Aquaculture (Genetics Department, Stellenbosch University (SU)). Section Aquaculture has been running an abalone pilot study in Hondeklip Bay for the last year-and-a-half, and the pilot project is now ready for commercial takeover. However, before securing shareholding for such an initiative, the socio-economic and developmental factors of the Hondeklip Bay community need to be taken into consideration in order to identify certain risks and strengths that may affect the viability of the venture. The social responsibility plan must, therefore, address these unique conditions so as to ensure that: both business and the community benefit from the proposed abalone farm; and, a mutual understanding exists regarding the abalone farm's operation, goals, community inputs etc.

The project is still in its initial phase and work done thus far consists of establishing a primary task team of interested parties within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (Prof Johan Hattingh, Prof Sulina Green, Dr Sanette Ferreria, Ms Minka Vrba); as well as consulting with stakeholders, including: the community forum members of Hondeklip Bay, Section Aquaculture (Genetics Department), New Farmers (an investment firm in agribusiness), and representatives from the mining companies active in the region. As part of the consultations, the SU task team visited Hondeklip Bay in order to engage with some of the stakeholders and gain a better understanding of the project's dynamics.

Future work for this project includes: conducting a quantitative household survey in order to collect data of Hondeklip Bay's socio-economic situation (with input from Department Sociology and Social Anthropology); conducting a qualitative survey to explore certain prevalent issues and tendencies identified in the household survey in more depth (with input from Department Social Work); and, using these research outputs to write-up a report which will be distributed for stakeholder commentary. Once all the research has been collated and discussed, work on the social responsibility plan can begin. It is foreseen that key stakeholders will also be incorporated in the compilation of the social responsibility plan in order to ensure maximum buy-in from the affected parties. These steps will be completed during 2008.

## **5.2 Greening of the International Conference for Business Economics and Ethics (ISBEE)**

During 2007, Hattingh and Vrba prepared an introductory document, budget and project plan for the greening of the International Conference for Business Economics and Ethics (ISBEE), which will be held in Cape Town in 2008. At this stage, feedback from the organising committee is still awaited in order to ascertain the proposed extent of the greening initiative.

Minka Vrba