JANUS

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NUUSBRIEF VAN DIE DEPARTEMENT JOERNALISTIEK / NEWSLETTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM

Our name's back!

The more things change...

The more things change, the more they remain the same. That is more or less how I felt the moment I realised we have won the battle to get our old nomenclature of "Honours" for our vocational honours level degree back. It was in one of several consecutive meetings (according to The Bureaucratic Calendar according to which universities are run) – in fact, the second last of that procedure to be exact – that I realised we have won the fight to get our old nomenclature back.

There was only one meeting left, and that was really just to rubberstamp the decision of the previous meeting, jumping just one last small bureaucratic hurdle. We have now steered past committees with long names such as the Centre for Academic Planning and Quality Assurance and committees with interesting acronyms such as the ABK and the AAK and the UK(S), and now it was onwards to the HEQC for the Final of the Final Rubberstamp procedure, the HEQSF.

What it means is that we may now call our honours level degree an Honours in Journalism again.

Where does the nomenclature story begin?

The older alumni, from 1978 up to 1999, have an honours degree in journalism called the Hons-B in Journalism (Honours Baccalaureus in Journalism). That was changed in 1998 when it was said an honours degree can only be called an honours degree if it is the fourth year of an undergraduate major. And, as we all know, journalism is a multi-disciplinary vocation calling for multi-disciplinarians. "Pretoria" thus proscribed that our qualification must be called a BPhil in Journalism, or a Baccalaureus Philosophiae in Journalism, although still an honours and on the National Qualification Framework 8 – thus on the same level as all other honours degrees. This nomenclature confused many people, and the "BPhils" struggled to convince would-be bursary sponsors that it is indeed on the same level as any other postgraduate honours degree.

What made things worse was that there were for ever warnings coming from Pretoria that it should actually be called a postgraduate diploma and not a degree. No ways, we said. And we had our arguments ready should we need to fight that battle. Besides, we knew of other universities where

Die Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns het vanjaar die Stalsprys vir Kommunikasie en Joernalistiek aan Lizette Rabe (klas van '78, oftewel die oer-klas soos wat Piet Cillié na sy eerste klas verwys het) toegeken. Hier ontvang sy dit van die voorsitter van die Akademie, prof Wessel Pienaar. Regs staan die Wes-Kaapse voorsitter en raadslid van die Universiteit Stellenbosch, dr George du Toit. Die Kanselierstoekenning vir Sosiale Impak, ter waarde van R100 000, is ook aan Lizette oorhandig by die Desember-gradeplegtigheid. Lizette skenk die totale bedrag aan die Ithemba Stigting, wat hom beywer vir die bewusmaking van depressie as biologiese siekte.

the same multi-disciplinary approach was used, where the programme offering was younger than that of Stellenbosch, and where there was no interference in terms of the Honours nomenclature of their qualification.

So we battled on to regain our old Honours name.

And yes, from 2016 onwards it will be almost the same as it used to be, although not exactly the same. The new nomenclature is BA Hons (Journ), or the Baccalaureus Artium Honours in Journalism.

Students who have the qualification called the BPhil in Journalism and who still have to explain exactly what that means can just put it this way on their CV's: BPhil Journalism (Honours degree, NQF level 8). And if any one enquires about its meaning, please refer them to Crozier Street.

By Lizette Rabe

Die ou benaming vir ons honneursgraad is terug, hoewel in 'n effens ander gewaad. Van 1978 tot 1999 is ons kwalifikasie die Hons-B in Joernalistiek, of die Honneurs Baccalaureus in Joernalistiek genoem. Daarna het die Hoër Onderwysdepartement voorgeskryf dit moet 'n BPhil in Joernalistiek, of Baccalaureus Philosophiae in Joernalistiek wees, maar vanaf 2016 is die amptelike benaming die BA Hons in Joernalistiek, of die Baccalaureus Artium Honneurs in Joernalistiek. Die "BPhille" wat oor die jare met hul kwalifikasie se benaming moes stoei en verduidelik wat presies dit is, kan op hul CV's die volgende skryf: BPhil Joernalistiek (Honneursgraad, NKR 8). En as enigiemand vra wat 'n BPhil presies is, verwys hulle gerus maar na Crozierstraat – ons verduidelik graag dat Stellenbosch se Joernalistiekskool se Honneursgraad eintlik véél meer is as net 'n honneursgraad. Die vele vertoë om dus ons ou naam terug te kry, het uiteindelik vrugte afgewerp, en ons bedank graag die Sentrum vir Akademiese Beplanning en Gehalteversekering en die Sentrum vir Institusionele Registrateursfunksie vir hul hulp.

Dis nou PROF TON vir jou!

Ton Vosloo is in Mei vanjaar, nadat hy in April as voorsitter van Naspers uitgetree het, aangestel as ereprofessor in ons departement.

Die kategorie van 'n ereprofessoraat aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch vereer individue met bewese gespesialiseerde kundigheid of met 'n hoë professionele en vakkundige status. Dieselfde kriteria wat geld vir die aanstelling van professore word in die beoordeling van kandidate vir 'n ereprofessoraat gebruik. Die titel van professor word ook vir die aanstelling gebruik.

Prof. Vosloo het sedert sy aanstelling kwartaallikse interaktiewe sessies met die studente gehad om só 'n nuwe geslag joernaliste te inspireer. Met sy aanstelling het hy gesê "dit sal 'n voorreg wees om as oer-joernalis gedagtes te wissel met die nuwe geslag voornemende mediapraktisyns in 'n vinnig-veranderende wêreld". En bygevoeg: "Dit sal 'n mens op jou tone hou."

Die Departement Joernalistiek beskou sy aanstelling as 'n erkenning van 'n loopbaan gebou op uitmuntendheid, en dis vir die departement 'n groot eer dat prof. Vosloo die professoraat aanvaar het. "Sy ervaring in sowel die joernalistiekpraktyk as mediabestuur beteken hy kan waardevolle insigte deel met ons studente. As joernalis en sakeleier het hy Suid-Afrika se mediawêreld ingrypend verander," het Lizette Rabe met sy aanstelling gesê.

Prof. Vosloo, beskou as paterfamilias van 'n hele generasie joernaliste, se uittrede as voorsitter van Naspers se direksie is beskryf as die einde van 'n era. Hy was sedert Mei 1956 deel van Naspers toe hy by *Die Oosterlig*, vandag *Die Burger-Oos*, begin werk het. Hy was 'n stigter-redaksielid van die Sondagblad *Die Beeld* in 1965 (voorloper van *Rapport* in 1970), en ook 'n stigter-redaksielid en later redakteur van die dagblad *Beeld*, in 1974 gestig. In 1984 is hy aangestel as besturende direkteur van Naspers en hy was van 1992 tot 1997 uitvoerende voorsitter. Prof Vosloo was instrumenteel in die stig van M-Net in 1985. Daaruit het verskeie ander maatskappye gespruit.

Onder sy leiding is na die res van Afrika, Europa, die Midde-Ooste, Asië en Amerika uitgebrei. Naspers is daarmee omvorm van drukmediamaatskappy tot 'n internasionale digitale tegnologiereus.

Met die aanstelling van Koos Bekker in 1997 as besturende direkteur, en met prof. Vosloo toe as nie-uitvoerende voorsitter, het Naspers onder dié dinamiese leierskapsduo 'n multinasionale groep geword wat in meer as 130 lande opereer. Bekker het prof Vosloo opgevolg as nie-uitvoerende voorsitter van Naspers.

Prof. Vosloo was in 1970-'71 'n Nieman-genoot aan Harvard, en onder sy drie eredoktorsgrade tel 'n eredoktorsgraad van die US in 2001. Hy was voorsitter van verskeie Naspers-filiale, asook nie-uitvoerende voorsitter van Sanlam, voorsitter van die Wêreld-Natuurfonds SA (WWF SA) en van die Kaapse Filharmoniese Orkes, en stigter-trustee van die Stigting vir Bemagtiging deur Afrikaans. In 1992 het hy as president van die Nuusblad-Persunie die Suid-Afrikaanse afvaardiging gelei na die beraad van die World Association of Newspapers in Praag waar Suid-Afrika weer lidmaatskap verkry het.

CENSCOM

It just makes so much sense

A long-cherished ideal has just been reached by the Department, namely the establishment of its Centre for Science and Technology Mass Communication, or CENSCOM for short.

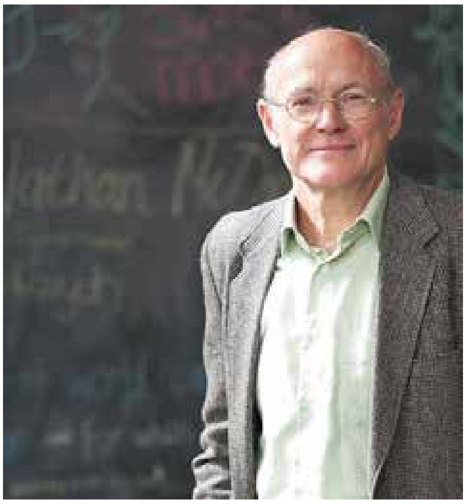
The director is a previous head of our department, Prof George Claassen, a pioneer in science communication, not only in South Africa, but on our continent, and globally recognised, as primus inter pares in the field of science communication. He has, e.g., been asked by UNESCO to write its Science Communication textbook for use in Africa.

This is besides his leadership role in the Organisation for News Ombuds, and still being the ombud of almost 100 community newspapers in South Africa.

The Centre will be an interdisciplinary research, service, education and training institution for Stellenbosch University.

Its aims are to further science and technology mass communication (STMC) skills in the media industry for journalists, as well as science communicators at research institutions, universities and similar organisations.

It will also further the public understanding of science and technology through a dedicated focus on such issues by traditional, online and social media, and identify and analyse the problems surrounding the practise of STMC in the media industry.



> “...to further science and technology mass communication skills in the media industry...

Another aim is to support STMC in the media industry through specific interventions such as short courses, seminars, conferences, workshops and research projects as well as to raise public awareness of the difference between science and pseudoscience, thus empowering the public to make responsible decisions regarding claims about science.

The so important media-science interface in mass communication will also get dedicated attention to ensure a free flow of information and freedom of expression regarding scientific research, policy issues, controversies and news events.

And it will of course also provide supervision for higher degrees regarding research into various aspects of the STMC fields.

Besides hosting the third Science meets the Media conference in 2016, sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology thanks to Prof Claassen's standing in the science communication field, he has also already delivered 34 students on the Master's level focusing on STMC, as well as one PhD.

Met die Vyfde Rykie-seminaardag was prof Ton Vosloo die hoofspreker. Die Rykie-seminaar word die afgelope paar jaar op die laaste klasdag van die Honneursstudente aangebied deur Rykie van Reenen-genote wat 'n "laaste boodskap" as inspirasie aan die beginner-joernaliste op die drumpel van hul loopbaan lewer. Ná die oggendseminaar kom die Rykie-genote die middag bymekaar om die honneurskurrikulum te bespreek sodat die beplanning vir die volgende jaar die dinamika van die beroep en mediabedryf in ag kan neem. By die Rykie-dag van 2015 was voor van links Hannelie Booyens (Rykie 2011), Marenet Jordaan (dosent), en Corli van der Merwe (Rykie 2016). Agter sit Tobie Wiese (Rykie 2002-2004), Gawie Botma (Rykie 2005 en dosent), Jacolette Kloppers (Rykie 2007), Jeanne van der Merwe (Rykie 2015), Ton Vosloo, Lizette Rabe (voorsitter) en Gert Coetzee (Rykie 2008).

Our Mundusian *in Hamburg*

Nabila Hátimy (left), Master's exchange student for the first semester in the University of Hamburg's Erasmus Mundus programme, or a "Mundusian", followed in the footsteps of a number of Stellenbosch Journalism Master's students who used this wonderful exchange opportunity of spending one whole semester at the University of Hamburg. Here's her experience in her words:

The programme I chose to study here at Hamburg is one where journalism Master's students study at different universities in Europe within the Erasmus Mundus programme. When the "Mundusians" finish the first part of their programme in Denmark, they go to the University of Hamburg as the second partner, where the specialisation of Media and Globalisation is offered. This is similar to the Master's course Global Media in Stellenbosch. The programme, however, is extra intensive since it is designed for Mundusians.

I picked a few courses out of the entire programme because I needed about half the credits. The subjects are fascinating because we get to look at journalism from a whole different perspective. We learn how to "break" the media system and test different ways of creating a media system that is perfect – of course it doesn't exist, but we try. We get to compare journalism cultural practices from around the world and critically analyse how migration influences the audiences' identity.

The work is more practical than I am used to, but it allows me to put the theories to test and also pick up on empirical research methods which would be essential for my thesis. The courses also include different field trips to media houses and press centres. I believe this year we will be going to Berlin to visit Deutsche Welle, the Foreign Press Club and more.

The experience I am getting is more than I could have ever imagined. Hamburg is a beautiful and culturally diverse city, and there is just as much to learn in the classroom as well as outside the classroom.

GMJ:AE nou geakkrediteer

Goeie nuus vir die akademiese publikasiebedrywighede van die Departement is dat die aanlyn-tydskrif *Global Media Journal: African Edition* (GMJ:AE) van volgende jaar geakkrediteer is vir staatsubsidie-doeleindes. Dié statusverhoging spruit uit nuwe riglyne aan universiteite wat die Departement van Onderwys pas bekend gemaak het. Daarvolgens word tydskrifte op die amptelike Noorweegse lys van goedgekeurde publikasies, soos *GMJ:AE*, nou ook deur die DvO erken. Goedgekeurde publikasies moet aan sekere gehalte-kriteria voldoen en word gereeld herevalueer.

GMJ:AE (http://globalmedia.journals.ac.za) is in 2007 op inisiatief van Arrie de Beer, buitengewone professor, en onder die redakteurskap van Gawie Botma, nuutaangestelde lektor en alumnus van 1988, begin. Dié akademiese publikasie is gratis aanlyn beskikbaar in vennootskap met die Amerikaanse moedertydskrif *Global Media Journal*. Dit publiseer hoofsaaklik navorsingsartikels wat die proses van eweknie-beoordeling geslaag het, asook periodieke bydraes deur nagraadse studente en joernaliste.

Dr Gawie Botma

In 2011 het die joernaal deel geword van die SUNJournals Ooptoegang wetenskaplike tydskrifte, gehuisves deur Stellenbosch Universiteit (sien http://library.sun.ac.za/Afrikaans/search/Pages/sunjournals.aspx). In 2012 is dr. Ibrahim Saleh van die Universiteit van Kaapstad as redakteur aangestel, terwyl dr. Botma as uitgewer funksioneer. Die tydskrif verskyn twee maal per jaar en het reeds die werk van van die voorste media- en kommunikasiespesialiste wat op Afrika fokus, gepubliseer.

My PhD *journey*

By Anthony Gunde (right), who was awarded his PhD on 9 December 2015

I was fortunate to be awarded a full-time Graduate School Scholarship from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Stellenbosch University, towards the end of 2012.

The scholarship is through the Faculty's flagship project, the Partnership for Africa's Next Generation of Academics and Professionals (PANGeA) in conjunction with selected African institutions of higher learning, including the University of Malawi where I am employed.

When I embarked on my PhD journey in January 2013, I was unsure exactly what to expect, especially as a new student in South Africa. However, my arrival at the Journalism Department saw me discover a close family-like working relationship between the members of staff and the students. This was critical because leaving your family for three years to focus on a doctoral research project can be quite challenging.

Throughout my PhD study, which was on the political role of the media in the democratisation of Malawi, there was regular contact with my supervisor and the entire academic team in the department. Although my supervisor was the first point of contact with regards to my research, all the academics in the department were readily available to provide support and guidance on matters related to my study.

I had great experiences of presenting at two international conferences and writing peer reviewed journal articles which were accepted for publication.

This was due to the tremendous support I received from the academics within the Journalism Department and fellow colleagues in research. Besides the provision of excellent working facilities, there were also many stimulating seminars and workshops organised by the department and the faculty, which provided me with a structure that helped me to stay on track.

Going back to the University of Malawi as a lecturer, I feel proud of having gone through an excellent grounding in conducting a sociological research project that will allow me as well as my students to contribute to the theories of the media and communications, specifically with respect to Africa's democracy and good governance.

My doctoral studies were an invaluable apprenticeship and I can only recommend the Journalism Department for the kindness and support of its academic and administrative staff.

> ...my arrival at the Journalism Department saw me discover a close family-like working relationship between the members of staff and the students

My Finnish *adventure*

By Irene Wamae, MA student

"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page" (St. Augustine).

My enthusiastic response to this quote sent me on my three week adventure to Helsinki, Finland, for the first three weeks of August as the SU's Postgraduate and International Office awarded me a full fee, travel and accommodation bursary to the 2015 Helsinki Summer School (HSS), hosted by the Helsinki University.

I attended the popular Gender, Culture and Politics module, which discussed how issues of gender and feminism relate to governance, equality, art, fashion and corporate affairs. Each day contained a mixture of lectures, class excursions and entertainment.

Noteworthy was the trip to the design museum, an impressive display of Finnish fashion and interior design. The class also visited the Multicultural Women's Association which assists immigrant and refugee women to adjust to living in Helsinki.

The vibrant Helsinki nightlife and afternoon excursions made my weekends eventful and exciting. The HSS organised hiking, canoeing and sauna activities. We also toured the island of Suomenlinna, a heritage site showcasing Finnish performance art and traditional architecture. On my last Sunday in Finland we sailed to Tallinn, the capital of Estonia, a neighbouring country two hours away by ship. The 15th century Old City, built with narrow cobblestone roads and boundary walls, is a popular weekend getaway for Finns and tourists and a haven for good food, drink and affordable souvenirs. The HSS was brief but memorable, I made friends for life and intend to return to Helsinki in future.

Irene (middle) with two fellow students in Helsinki.

Die stad van lig word tydelik donker

Deur Shané Barnard, klas van 2011, tans in Parys, skryf oor die dag ná die terreuraanvalle in Parys.

Parys het op Saterdagoggend, ná die terreuraanvalle van 13 November, onder 'n grys wolkkombers wakker geword. Die skril sirenes van ambulanse en polisievoertuie wat die vorige aand oral deur die stad gehoor kon word, het plek gemaak vir gedempte praatjies tussen bure en nuuslesers wat in die agtergrond die jongste oor die terreuraanvalle oordra.

In die woonstelblok oorkant ons het 'n ou tannie 'n Franse vlag oor haar balkon gehang. Skole, museums en ander openbare plekke soos gimnasiums, swembaddens en fliekteaters is onder die landswye noodstoestand wat president François Hollande ingestel is, gesluit.

Ons word aangeraai om liewer tuis te bly.

Strate wat gewoonlik dag en nag wriemel met mense wat inkopies doen, toeriste-aantreklikhede besoek of in restaurante eet, is byna heeltemal verlate. Tot die bakkery op die hoek het die staaldeur voor sy ingang toegetrek.

By Place de la Republique, net 'n klipgooi van die Bataclan-teater waar die gyselaarsdrama afgespeel het, het mense hier en daar blomme kom neersit of 'n kers aangesteek.

Maar daar was geen teken van die honderde duisende mense wat ná die Charlie Hebdo-skietery tien maande gelede in samesyn hier gestap het nie.

Die 20 000 ligte wat gewoonlik saans die Eiffeltoring verlig, is Saterdagaand afgeskakel uit empatie met die slagoffers en hul families. Die stad van lig het tydelik donker geword.

Teen Sondagaand het dinge weer plekplek begin verhelder deur die geflikker van duisende kersligte wat in vensters die hele stad oor gesien kon word.

Maar byna twee weke later is die aanval steeds in almal se gedagtes. Soldate met yslike gewere hou wag op metro-haltes, voor skole en in ander openbare ruimtes. Dit is bedoel om ons gerus te stel, tog is dit asof die stad steeds haar asem inhou vir die volgende skok.

Maar ons kan nie in ons woonstelle wegkruip nie. Die Franse, wat wéét hoe om elke klein plesier in die lewe te vier, glo nie in laer trek nie. Die lewe moet geniet word: vriende ontmoet mekaar weer in kafees, paartjies eet saans in restaurante en honde-eienaars gaan stap saam met hul viervoetige vriende.

En die Eiffeltoring word saans in rooi, wit, en blou gedrapeer. En ons lag. Sosiale netwerke bars uit hul nate met grappies, 'n uitlaatklep vir die angs, frustrasie, en hartseer wat ons tot nou maak huil het.

Shané Barnard, wat saam met haar man Francois (hier by sy gradeplegtigheid) in Parys is, het in hul eerste jaar daar net Frans geleer en vryskut-skryfwerk gedoen vir *Huisgenoot* se skole-bladsye. In September het sy haar by 'n tweetalige aanlyn-publikasie, www.happening.media, aangesluit wat fokus op die kontemporêre kunsmark.

Roné by die
"Beep"

Roné McFarlane (klas van 2011) skryf oor haar vier maande lange internskap by die BBC in Londen (tot einde Januarie) nadat sy die MSc Comparative and International Education aan die Universiteit van Oxford se Green Templeton College voltooi het.

Prof Rabe het eenmaal gesê: " 'n Mens kan Crozierstraat verlaat, maar Crozierstraat verlaat jou nooit." En in my geval was sy beslis reg. My terugkeer na die joernalistiek ná twee jaar van studies in onderwysbeleid (ek kom uit 'n onderwysfamilie en het ook die NOS gedoen voor my jaar in Crozierstraat) was heeltemal onbeplan. Ná my M het die geleentheid vir 'n internskap by die BBC hom voorgedoen, en ek dag: Hoekom nie?

As 'n Suid-Afrikaanse nuuskantoor 'n mens se enigste verwysingsraamwerk is, voel 'n skuif na die BBC effens soos wat 'n trippie Johannesburg toe vir 'n Kapenaar voel: Die blote skaal waarop dinge hier gebeur, is werklik verbysterend.

Die BBC se hoofkantoor in Londen, BBC Broadcasting House, is eintlik meer soos 'n kasteel as 'n nuuskantoor. En dis maar net één deel van die BBC (of "the Beep", soos die Engelse daarna verwys). Die hoeveelheid buro's wat die BBC het, om nie te praat van die klomp korrespondente regoor die wêreld nie, is ongelooflik.

Hier in Londen is die TV-, radio-, en aanlynspanne almal in een gebou, saam met streeksafdelings wat spesialiseer in bv. Europa, Asië, Afrika, ens., en boonop nog taaldienste wat nuus in omtrent 30 tale lewer.

Hier is 'n hele regsafdeling wat na die regsaspekte van stories kyk; 'n hele "User Generated Content" (UGC)-afdeling wat video- en fotobydraes van lesers verifieer; 'n hele veiligheidsafdeling wat omsien na joernaliste se veiligheid – toegerus met enige iets van "hard hats" tot koëlvastebaadjies.

Dié afdeling is ook verantwoordelik vir "unfavourable circumstances"-opleiding waar joernaliste na een of ander verlate plek geneem word en allerhande beproewinge moet oorleef (onder meer 'n skyn-ontvoering).

Maar die skaal waarop dinge gebeur het ook sy nadele. Korrespondentposte is baie gesog en hoofsaaklik gereserveer vir mense wat al 'n paar klippe gekou het by die BBC. As jy nie 'n korrespondent is nie, verlaat jy selde die gebou, veral ons by die aanlynspan.

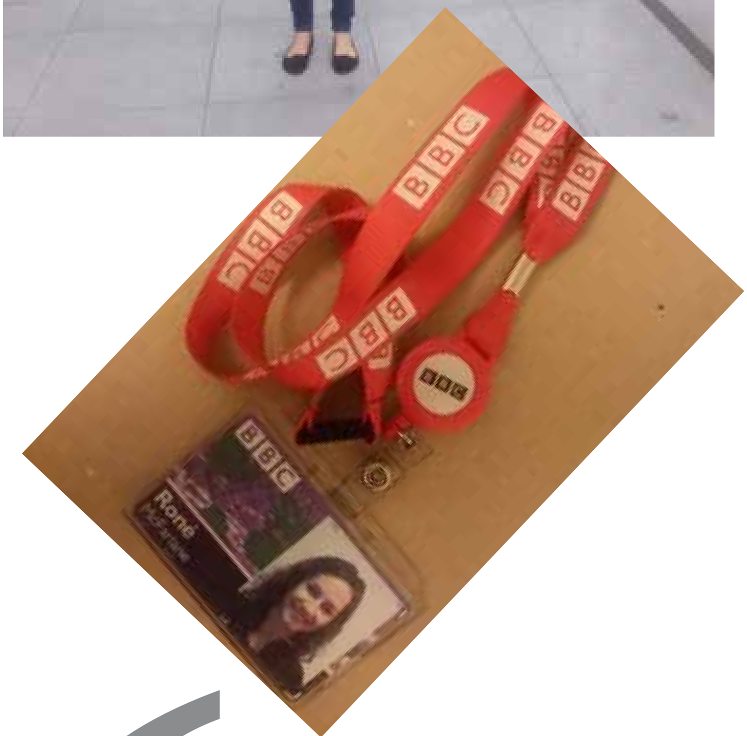
In daardie opsig mis 'n mens eintlik die Suid-Afrikaanse nuuskantoor waar jy darem nog soms in 'n motor klim en iewers heen ry (of minstens toe ek laas in een was). Ek het ook weer nuwe waardering gekry vir wat Suid-Afrikaanse publikasies en uitsaaiers met soveel minder tot hulle beskikking regkry.

Die World Online-span waar ek werk, is hoofsaaklik verantwoordelik vir internasionale nuus en ek geniet die wye geografiese fokus. Waar het ek nou al ooit die kans gekry om oor Burma en Turkye se verkiesings, Thailand se persvryheid of manewales in die Italiaanse parlement verslag te doen?

Dit was veral opwindend om hier te wees in die tyd van die studenteproteste in Suid-Afrika. Ek het toevallig 'n hele paar studente geken wat betrokke was en kon sorg dat hul stemme ingesluit word. Ek kon agtergrond verskaf oor dieper uitdagings in die land en ook help waar die Britte bietjie kopgekrap het: "What is TUKS?", "Are the Union Buildings like the White House?" en "What is a Nyala?"

Dit was ook ongelooflik om te kon waarneem hoe die BBC-masjien reageer op 'n enorme nuusstorie soos die tragiese gebeure in Parys. Dit was 'n rowwe naweek – 'n goeie (en uitputtende) leerervaring.

Ek verlaat die Beep aan die einde van Januarie en sal nog moet sien wat volgende op my wag. Dalk "bly" Crozierstraat maar by 'n mens.



Die blote skaal waarop dinge hier gebeur, is werklik verbysterend.

FROM CROZIER TO COLUMBIA

a Matie's Empire State of Mind

By Sieraaj Ahmed, class of 2003
(and if you plan such an adventure, read on…)

Hanging out at the J-School with my Stellenbosch Journ 2003 classmate, Pia Nänny, who visited New York at the end of September.

Through some happy (actually getting in) and other not-so-happy (divorce) accidents I've found myself, after 11 years at South African magazines, resuming my studies at the Journalism School at Columbia University in the City of New York.

It's the end of November, the end of month three, and the end of the first semester in mid-December is, to the immense relief of myself and my classmates – and our lecturers, from what I can tell – rapidly zooming into view. Three months into what could be anything from a nine-month to two-year adventure, anyone who pays any attention to my social media feeds can tell it's been a stressful ride for me so far. Those who are a bit closer to me regularly ask, "But are you enjoying yourself?" and my answer is generally, "Ask me on 19 May." (Classes started on 8 September 2015, graduation is 18 May 2016.)

Of course, if you're adventure-seeking and curious by nature – as most Crozier Street alumni probably are – then it's a no-brainer: Yes, studying can be very stressful, but this is New York City we're talking about, along with the particular school that's generally regarded as the "best journalism school in the world" (after Crozier Street, naturally).

I arrived in New York City with the romantic (and naïve, I see now) idea that I would be out exploring a different part of the city every weekend. Unless you're a much calmer, more organised (or daring) person than I am, that is not going to happen. I spent the first two months floundering in a sea of readings (in week two I had 250 pages to read for one class… and I had three other classes with three other sets of readings that week).

By the end of month two there was a period where I realised I hadn't used my subway card in three weeks – which meant I had been wandering around New York's Upper West Side (which Columbia University's campus dominates) without exploring much of *anything* for all that time.

"WTF, Sieraaj?!? Three weeks?! You seriously need to correct this ship, or this adventure will be over and all you will have seen of New York is the Upper West Side."

Thankfully, that was the slap I needed to find a better balance in month three, start managing the readings better (ie: learn to skim better in defence of clinging to some semblance of a life) and get out and explore a bit (which instantly made the adventure a lot more enjoyable).

Though I'd daydreamed about Columbia on and off for years, I was inspired to explore the option more seriously by a fellow Crozier Street alumni, André-Pierre du Plessis (Stellenbosch mid-00s, Columbia 2013). "Appel" and I had 80 Facebook friends in common but had never had a conversation until I wrote to him in mid-2014 to ask for a coffee date to discuss this mad idea I was brewing. With his encouragement, I decided I had to roll the dice. "If you get in and get a full scholarship, you can go," I told myself. Applications for September of the following year close around mid-December, and on 11 March 2015 my knees went weak under me when I opened my email. I'd been accepted, and received a part-scholarship. *Part*. As in $20,000 of a total estimated cost (including tuition, rent and food) of $85,000 for nine months in New York. The shortfall was daunting, and over the next six weeks the soul-searching intense as I debated whether I was really brave (/ crazy) enough to cash in all my chips to go off on a mad adventure as 40 approaches. In the end, I realised I'm not as risk-averse as I used to think I am, and had to admit to myself there was no way I could walk away from this without spending the rest of my life thinking back to "that time I got into an Ivy League school".

So if you're thinking about it, my first tip would be to – if possible – be more organised than I was. There is money out there for overseas study, but for South Africans that money is generally concentrated on UK universities. The scholarships offered through the American embassy are the best bet for major financial assistance for US universities, but those had closed long before I became serious about applying. (If, for example, you're considering the academic year starting September 2018, the Fulbright and Humphrey scholarships administered by the US embassy for that year close by mid-2017).

On the other hand, the entire adventure is so labour-, form- and admin-intense that if you're going to jump… then just jump and make it up as you go. Commit yourself to jumping through every hoop the university and the State Department (for your visa) throw at you. They can be daunting, but if you soldier on and tick them off one by one over the space of about six months, you'll find yourself on a plane at the end of it all.

Oh, and ask for help: Appel and the various colleagues, Maties and Crozier Street lecturers who helped me out along the way kept my spirits up and made all the red tape seem just "worth it" enough.

At the "Welcome BBQ" at the end of week one, I tracked down the two other South Africans (both in the more practical MS programme) for a #ProudlySA shot. Nokuthula Manyathi (left) and Shandukani Mulaudzi met at Wits Journ honours, both spent some time at Media24, and somehow ended up here together.

Columbia's J-School (as everyone at Columbia calls it) is a graduate (ie: post-graduate in SA talk) school that accepts about 300 students a year. The bulk of those are MS students straight out of undergrad, who do a skills-based Master's programme similar to the course we survived at Stellenbosch. Ten years ago the school developed an MA programme, aimed at journalists with at least three years' experience who want to "specialize" in one of four fields: Politics and Global Affairs, Arts and Culture, Business or Health. The MA programme is knowledge-based, which means you do less writing and more reading related to what you've chosen to specialise in (politics, in my case). Each year the school accepts around 80 people spread between those four specialisations.

I was quite pleased to discover I am not the oldest person at the school – everyone who made it here has an interesting story to tell about why now and the road that led to NYC, and though I'm at the older edge of the age curve, there are a few MA students closer to 50 or just beyond. You're never too old for an adventure – of hoe?!*

** That said, if you're thinking about it and want more tips, I can be reached at* sieraaj@gmail.com

'n BEER van 'n storie oor ontberinge, 'n band en die bullshit detector

Deur Cobus (Beer) Adriaanse (klas van 2007),
skrywer van (onder meer) die TV-reeks *Buurtwag*

Toe ek in Februarie 2007 by Crozierstraat aanland, was ek die toonbeeld van 'n BA Geesteswetenskaplike. Ek het daai tyd nog 'n kop vol *dreadlocks* gehad, aangedring om kaalvoet te loop, en het 'n semi-permanente tafel by Bohemia gehad.

Ná die eerste dag was dit duidelik dat my *band*, Zinkplaat, se toerskedule en Prof. Rabe se jaarplan binnekort 'n kop-aan-kop botsing gaan hê. Ek was toe in elk geval reeds oortuig daarvan dat die keurpaneel die vorige jaar voedselvergiftiging gehad het die dag toe hulle my tot die kursus toegelaat én my 'n *Volksblad*-beurs in die hand gestop het. Die feit dat die beurs behels het dat ek vir twee jaar in Bloemfontein sou gaan werk, het ek vir eers nie met my *band*-lede gedeel nie.

Die BPhil klas van 2007 was 'n moeilike groep om van deel te wees. Die hele lot van hulle was tóé al oorpresteerders. Dit was asof die statistieke wat gewoonlik vir so 'n uiteenlopende groep mense geld, bloot nie van toepassing was nie. Niemand het uitgeval nie, niemand het 'n blywende dwelmgewoonte ontwikkel nie en sover ek weet het niemand vir 'n ponie-koerant gaan werk nie. My klasmaats se ambisie het 'n BA-luiaard soos ek geforseer om uit te *zoom* en my loopbaan van 'n ander perspektief te bekyk, al was dit net om die jaar te probeer oorleef.

En wat 'n jaar was dit.

Die hele medialandskap het gedurende ons jaar 'n gedaanteverwisseling ondergaan. Dis nou moeilik om te glo, maar toe André-Pierre du Plessis vir die eerste keer 'n *Youtube*-video in 'n *Powerpoint*-voorlegging gebruik het, was dit baanbrekend. Teen Junie was daar 'n nuwe ding op die internet, *Facebook*, en ons moes almal aansluit – vir joernalistieke redes natuurlik. Ons het die hele eerste maand van Facebook basies net mekaar ge-poke.

En ek onthou hoe prof. Arrie de Beer my in klas uitgevang het dat ek Richard Dawkins se *God Delusion* lees, netjies weggesteek binne in ons handboek. Hy't die boek opgetel, gesien wat dit is en gesê as ek kwaliteit-leesstof soos dit bring, mag ek maar in sy klas lees. Enige iets wat die *bullshit detector* laat biep.

Ek was nie 'n wafferse joernalis nie. Ek het gesukkel om met mense te praat oor wat ook al aaklige ding hulle in die nuus laat beland het en het in koue sweet uitgeslaan as ek *cold calls* moes maak. Ek het selfs een keer minus 15 vir 'n berig gekry. Maar ek het in rubriekskryf, radiowerk en uiteindelik, dokumentêre film, kursusse gevind wat my op allerhande maniere gekielie het, en ek kon die jaar, dalk nie met vlieënde nie maar darem met 'n paar wapperende vaandels slaag.

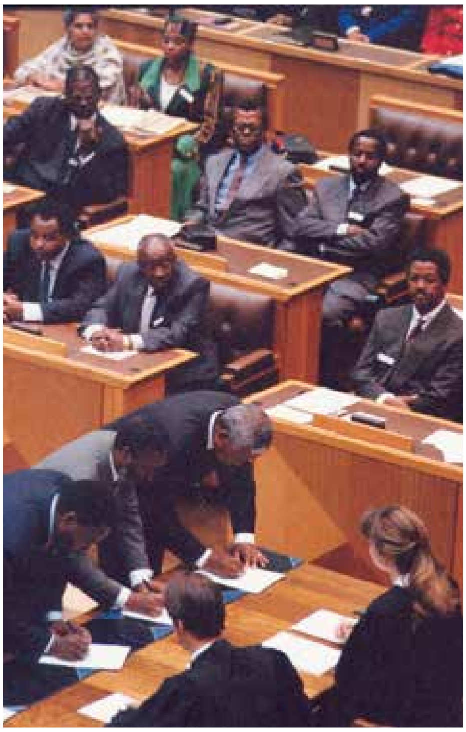
Die jaar ná BPhil was veral moeilik, nie omdat ek teruggegaan het musiek toe en op gratis pizzas moes oorleef nadat ek myself uit my *Volksblad*-beurs gekoop het nie, maar omdat my klasmaats almal uit die wegspringblokke die wêreld verower het. Ek's trots om te kan sê ek was saam met sulkes in 'n klas. Terwyl my klasmaats onderhoude op CNBC Africa gevoer het, reuse-stories in nasionale media gebreek het, vir 5FM gewerk het, of hul meestersgrade in die VSA gaan doen het, was ek 'n agtergrond-ekstra in 'n Sweedse babadoek-advertensie, 'n CD-smous in die Neelsie, en het ek vir 'n tyd gedink my onsinnige wetenskapsfiksie-romanvoorlegging gaan die Jan Rabie Marjorie Wallace-Beurs wen. Ek was nog altyd beter met fiksie as die werklikheid. Gelukkig was my uitkyk op die lewe onherroeplik verbreed, my netwerk van kennisse groter as ooit en my bullshit detector aan't skrou.

In die agt jaar sedertdien was ek 'n rubriekskrywer, 'n dokumentêre filmmaker, 'n rock 'n roll-toer se ambiance-bestuurder, 'n advertensie-maker, 'n akteur, 'n draaiboekskrywer, 'n regstreekse televisieregisseur, 'n kontinuïteitsbeampte, 'n laataand-komedieskrywer en 'n gay boer-parodie. En vandag, terwyl my klasmaats uitstekende boeke uitgee, vir oorsese nuuskanale werk en in al wat 'n besigheid is aan die toppunt sit, het ek my eerste dramareeks geskryf en die regie behartig.

Dit was een helse uitdaging, maar ek kon dit doen omdat ek in 2007 in Crozierstraat geleer het hoe om deurnag te werk, wat solidariteit in 'n span beteken en dat vier lepels kitskoffie twaalf keer 'n dag jou nie dadelik doodmaak nie. Ek sien uit na die volgende agt jaar.

Lila oor DIE TAFEL IN DIE PARLEMENT

Deur Lila Horn(-Komnick) (klas van 1979)



HEELBO: Lila in die middel agter.
BO: Lila heel regs op die foto.

Direk ná my 1979-joernalistiekjaar het ek as Afrikaanse kopieskrywer ingeval by die advertensiemaatskappy Rightford, Searle-Tripp & Makin. David Kramer was aan die begin van sy musiekloopbaan, en het met sy ghitaar en vellies die nuwe Volksiebus bemark. Ons het radiodeuntjies en slagspreuke uitgedink vir brood-en-botter kliënte soos Lion-vuurhoutjies, Jungle-hawermout en All Gold-tamatiesous.

Daarvandaan is ek vir 'n kort rukkie na Truworths as kopieskrywer, waar die toe nog jong model Janice Dickinson spesiaal ingevoer is vir die nuwe somerbrosjures.

Ná my derde werk, by Tafelberg-uitgewers in die nie-fiksieafdeling, het ek 'n jaar lank oorsee gaan reis, onder andere met ou klasmaats Rachelle Greeff en Irna van Zyl.

Terug in Suid-Afrika het ek einde 1984 by die Parlement begin as Hansard-verslaggewer en later senior vertaler. Ek het laagtepunte soos PW se Rubikon-toespraak en hoogtepunte soos FW se 1990-ontbanningstoespraak meegemaak.

Kort daarna is ek bevorder tot die Tafel – wat beteken het ek was die eerste vrou in die Suid-Afrikaanse Parlement wat as prosedure-adviseur aangestel is. Destyds was dit iets besonders, en *Die Burger* het dit aangekondig met "Vrou wys haar staal in die parlement". Vandag is vroue in hierdie posisie iets algemeens. Ek het 'n hele paar keer president Mandela se hand kon skud, en was onder meer betrokke by sy inswering as parlementslid.

Die goue jare van ons demokratiese Parlement was vir my, soos vir baie ander, die eerste dekade ná 1994. Die nuwe Grondwet is aangeneem, apartheidswetgewing is herroep, en dr Frene Ginwala was 'n sterk en gerespekteerde Speaker, bygestaan deur die wyse mnr Sindiso Mfenyana, Sekretaris van die Parlement.

Ná 31 jaar is ek nog steeds hier en naby aftrede. Die afgelope 15 jaar, ná 'n nagraadse diploma in erfenisbestuur aan die Universiteit Kaapstad, is ek en twee kollegas verantwoordelik vir die Parlement se groot en kosbare Africana-versameling van kunswerke en historiese foto's.

Die uitdaging is natuurlik om hierdie koloniale versameling relevant te maak vir vandag, sowel as om dit te bewaar vir die volgende geslag. Baie aspekte van die huidige politiek krap, maar ek probeer vorentoe kyk en positief bly – en dit bly 'n voorreg om in ons Parlement te kan werk.

JOERNALISTE, *taal* en gelaaide boodskappe

As 'n televisievervaardiger in Kaapstad, New York en nou Istanboel, het André-Pierre du Plessis (klas van 2007) gesien wat 'n verskil dit kan maak as joernaliste meer bewustelik met taal omgaan.

Op die boonste vloer van die Neelsie aan die punt van 'n donker gang hang 'n wit bord wat taalfoute en uitlegreëls uitwys. Dit was *Die Matie* se manier om sy joernaliste te herinner dat ALT 0146 gebruik word vir die afkappingsteken vir 'n regte 'n en dat ons van vroue praat maar nooit dames nie: "Nie alle vroue is dames nie."

Vir iemand onbekend met "dameskoshuiskultuur" en ander Stellenbosse tradisies, was *Die Matie* se wit bord 'n deur tot 'n nuwe wêreld. Waar ek nou werk, in Istanboel, is daar 'n soortgelyke wit muur wat styl- en taalreëls uitwys. Die een wat almal raaksien, ongeag waar jy in die kantoor sit, lees: *air strikes two words*.

Met die oorloggeteisterde Sirië en Irak wat aan Turkye grens, gebruik ons nuuskantoor in Istanboel die woorde "air strikes" bykans daagliks. Ons bou 'n nuwe nuuskanaal hier op die grens tussen Europa en Asië op, een wat ook probeer om met nuwe styl- en taalreëls veralgemening te vermy, veral in 'n tyd waar Islam en terreur so maklik as dieselfde ding beskou word.

Vroeër vanjaar het Al Jazeera die besluit geneem om woorde soos "terroris", "militant", "Islamis" en "jihad" te verban in hul nuuskantoor. "Een persoon se terroris is 'n ander se vryheidsvegter," het een van die redakteurs in 'n e-pos aan sy span gesê – iets wat natuurlik ook in Suid-Afrika eens op 'n tyd oor Nelson Mandela gesê is.

Vir Al Jazeera was dit belangrik dat individue in hul nuusdekking nie gekoppel word aan woorde wat reeds gelaai is nie. Jihad beteken 'n spirituele stryd eerder as 'n "gelowige oorlog".

In die Afrikaanse media word gelaaide terme soos "Moslem-ekstremiste" en "Moslem-radikaliste" steeds gebruik om die misdadigers in die onlangse aanvalle in Parys te beskryf.

Dat hierdie koppelwoorde probeer om 'n enkele idee weer te gee, is problematies.

En nes *Die Matie* nooit "dames" gebruik het nie, kan in die Afrikaanse media besin word om ook meer bewustelik met hierdie soort terme om te gaan.

Charlene's life motto:

THE ONLY CONSTANT IS CHANGE

Charlene Lackay (Truter)
(Class of 1999)

As a parent, *Child Magazine* is a staple ingredient of my monthly read. In the most recent issue, futurists and career experts declared Jack-of-all-trades as the rulers of the professional world in a decade or so. The age of the specialist is gone, they say. Already, these days, people who survive in a challenging economic environment are those able to adapt and deal with the discomfort of change.

I couldn't agree more. Having changed career paths a number of times, the one thing I would credit Crozier Street with, is cultivating this ability to adapt.

In 2000 I started at *Sarie* magazine as junior feature writer following my Naspers-bursary. Thanks to the support of the editor at the time, I could concurrently pursue a television career as field presenter for an arts programme on kykNET. In my working life there has been two definitive, life changing moments that came about as the result of somone's generosity of spirit. This was one of them.

Two years later I joined *Die Burger*'s night office as sub-editor before moving to the lifestyle programme, *Pasella* on SABC2. For close to thirteen years I experienced the most breathtaking landscapes and sat, to my eternal irritation, at closing out scenes of travellogs with everyone – a happy rainbow nation – as if it was an everyday occurrence for the *veldwagter* and lodge owner to be eating and drinking around the same table. I asked the executive producer Amor Engelbrecht about this. Her answer? "We have to show people a vision of what we could be. If we show them, they might have the courage to reach out." I stopped moaning.

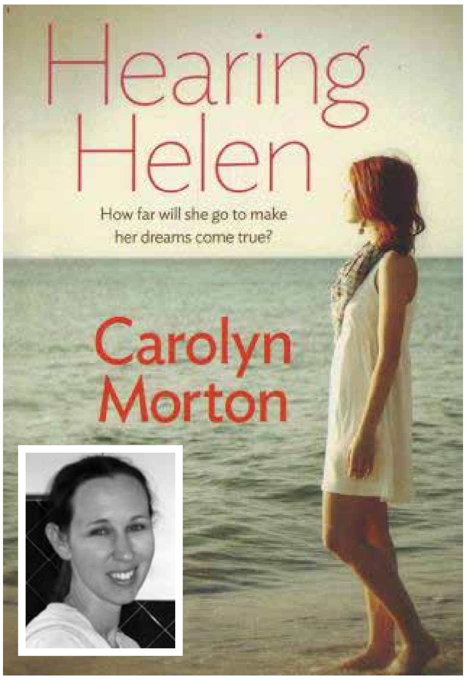
To my relief, I found there is life and meaning after television. In 2013 I joined financial services provider Momentum in communications and CSI, and am currently Group CSI Manager for its holdings company MMI. In CSI in particular, we are asked to adapt our response to a changing social context if we don't want to tender ourselves out of relevance. Personally, I am thankful to institutions like my alma mater, who instill this habit.

Photo: Kuier

Carolyn's book selected as prescribed book

Carolyn Weir (married Morton), member of the class of 2001, has had her first book, *Hearing Helen*, published by Human & Rousseau. It was Carolyn's own experience of hearing loss, which resulted in her needing hearing aids in her early twenties, which led both to the topic of her MA thesis and to her decision to write *Hearing Helen*. She hopes that her writing will help teenagers to realise that those with disabilities are no different to anyone else and that her writing may encourage them to value all others as equals.

Hearing Helen was selected as a finalist in the Sanlam Prize for Youth Literature, run in conjunction with Tafelberg Publishers. After its publication in 2013, the book was selected in 2015 as a Second Additional Language (SAL) English setwork book in government schools.



Hearing Helen focuses on the experiences of Helen, a teenage girl who feels unnoticed and unheard by her family and her schoolmates, especially the gorgeous Kean, who goes to the same high school. Helen is desperate both to be noticed and to escape the poverty of her environment by winning a music competition that will enable her to attend the prestigious Music Academy. The only person who seems to value Helen is her school friend June, who is sickeningly perfect, besides being beautiful and a favourite with Kean. Helen and June's relationship is tested, however, when June becomes seriously ill and develops hearing loss. Helen is not only forced to look honestly at the way she responds to those with disabilities, but she also has to re-examine her priorities and the way she pursues her goals if she is to have a chance of salvaging her friendship with June.

Carolyn grew up in Cape Town and completed a BA in English and Latin and thereafter a BPhil in Journalism at Stellenbosch University. In 2010, she completed a Master's degree at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) in Applied Linguistics, which focused on the writing of deaf children.

Carolyn has also been involved in teaching English to foreign students, doing online reviewing and quality control for an American-based group and some freelance book editing plus academic coaching and lecturing. She is married and currently lives in Port Elizabeth.

Alumna Anneli wins major prize

Anneli Groenewald's (class of 2005) novel, *Die skaalmodel*, was announced as the winner in the debut division of the Groot Afrikaanse Romanwedstryd (Big Afrikaans Novel Competition). The prize money amounts to R40 000. Anneli wrote her novel as part of her MA studies in Creative Writing at the University of Pretoria (UP), which she completed under the guidance of Prof Willie Burger and passed *cum laude*.

Die skaalmodel is a surprising debut novel which, in a somewhat offbeat way, looks at the controversial history of Skipskop, near Bredasdorp in the Southern Overberg region of the Western Cape. Groenewald's novel offers many hilariously funny scenes emanating from a somewhat obdurate and conservative museum official's attempt to construct a scale model of Skipskop and the surrounding area, with which she eventually receives assistance from the community. Even though the official's efforts are actually doomed from the outset, the process does have a remarkable effect on individuals and the community in general.

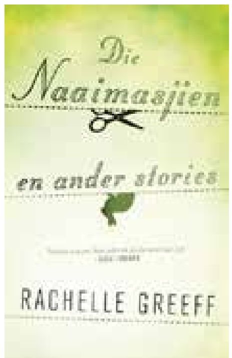
Groenewald finds herself in esteemed company: The first prize in the competition was awarded to Dan Sleigh, and the second and third prizes to Etienne van Heerden and Alexander Strachan, respectively.

The UP Department of Afrikaans rewarded Groenewald's exceptional talent earlier this year with the NB Publisher's prize for a meritable Master's dissertation in Creative Writing and the Marius Jooste Prize for the best Master's student in the department.

(With acknowledgement to Tercia Klopper, http://www.up.ac.za/en/faculty-of-humanities/news/post_2086273-up-creative-writing-student-wins-major-prize)

Annie Olivier (klas van 2000) is steeds wild en wakker aan't boeke uitgee by Tafelberg. Dit was 'n besonder goeie jaar vir haar met 'n hele paar topverkopers, waaronder die Eugene de Kock-boek, Niël Barnard se *Geheime Revolusie* en nou *Recce* deur Koos Stadler. Sy het in Oktober die Frankfurtse Boekeskou bygewoon waar sy NB-Uitgewers se niefiksie-afdeling verteenwoordig het. Dié skou is een van die belangrikse jaarlikse gebeure in die boekebedryf. Duisende uitgewers kom daar byeen om boekregte aan te koop en te verkoop. NB-Uitgewers, wat die drukname Tafelberg en Human & Rousseau insluit, se aktuele sake en geskiedenisboeke, asook hul gesondheidsboeke, het heelwat aandag getrek by die skou.

Vryskutjoernalis en bekroonde skrywer **Rachelle Greeff (klas van 1979)** se vyfde bundel kortverhale, *Die Naaimasjien en ander stories*, het onlangs by Tafelberg Uitgewers verskyn. Dis 'n versameling nuwe stories, buiten een, "Die naaimasjien". Dié storie was 'n kortverhaal in *BY* (genoem "Naaimasjien") en toe het sy dit vir die verhoog aangepas, met Sandra Prinsloo in die hoofrol. Haar laaste toneelstuk, "Rondomskrik", het in 2014 verskeie pryse en nominasies ingepalm.



'n Konstante revolusie: Naspers, Media24 en oorgange oor die geskiedenis van Naspers het vroeër vanjaar verskyn met Lizette Rabe as samesteller van die bundel. Onder die bekende joernaliste wat bydraes gelewer het, is Tim du Plessis, Ruda Landman, Ferial Haffajee en Martie Meiring Retief. Bydraes is ook gelewer deur akademici soos proff Sampie Terreblanche en Willie Esterhuyse en drr Gawie Botma en Leopold Scholtz wat die geskiedenis van dié maatskappy oor sy eeu en die "revolusies" wat oor sy tien dekades plaasgevind het – sommige stadiger, sommige vinnige – belig. Twee resensies van die boek kan gelees word by: http://www.netwerk24.com/Vermaak/Boeke/Het-Naspers-sy-eie-storie-gemis-20150920?mobile=true en http://www.netwerk24.com/Vermaak/Boeke/Eerder-n-stadige-dog-blink-evolusie-van-die-joernalistiek-20150817

Kristen van Schie (class of 2009) says her BPhil year at Stellenbosch made her eager – desperate, even – to dive into her career as quickly and deeply as possible. "Immediately after completing my degree, I packed my bags, moved to Johannesburg and began an internship at the city's premier daily newspaper, *The Star*. It would become my home for the next five years, and take me as far afield as Syria, Vietnam and Antarctica. In 2013, I was named the inaugural Rising Star of the Year at the Standard Bank Sikuvile Journalism Awards, and a year later won in the enterprise journalism category for my work on the aftermath of the coup in the Central African Republic. After a brief hiatus in Cape Town – during which I ran a small blog on the region's top news stories – I found myself back in Johannesburg in November 2014, this time as Southern Africa foreign correspondent and video journalist for the international news agency Agence France-Presse." This photo was taken during the filming of Swaziland's annual Reed Dance, August 2015.

Lizelle van Jaarsveld (klas van 2003) skryf: "Nege jaar. Dis hoe lank ek al by *Die Burger* se bedryfsredaksie werk. Toe ek destyds hier begin het, het ek aanvanklik nie gedink ek gaan lank bly nie, maar hier is ek steeds. Die bedryfsredaksie is 'n afdeling waar jy baie leer en ervaar, aangesien jy so 'n groot verskeidenheid werk doen. Ons skryf promosies en advertensie-artikels vir Die Burger Wes-, Suid- en Oos-Kaap asook bylaes en spesiale projekte. Dit sluit advertensiebylaes in, maar ook spesiale projekte soos *Blomme*, *Namibië*, *Wimbledon*, *Feestyd*, *Jou Troudag* en *Ons Kinders*. Laasgenoemde drie word uitgegee in tydskrifformaat. Dit was 'n voorreg om vanjaar deel te wees van *Die Burger* se 100 jaar-vieringe. Dis nie almal wat kan sê hulle werk vir 'n maatskappy wat al so lank aan die gang is nie. In 2008 was ek bevoorreg om na Namibië te gaan. Ons afdeling publiseer elke jaar 'n bylae oor die land en ons maak beurte om te gaan toer. Een van my grootste hoogtepunte was om redakteur van ons dekorbylae, *In en Om die Huis*, te wees."

Mokgadi Seabi (class of 2004) is now the Head of Public Relations for MultiChoice Africa. Her job function is mostly outside South Africa. She still freelances as a journalist here.

James Styan (klas van 2007), skryf: "Die lewe loop 'n pad met 'n mens en dié pad is vol afdraaie. Die beste besluit wat ek kon neem was om in 2007 af te draai van 'n beroep as rekenmeester en op 27 in die banke van Crozierstraat in te skuif. 'n Wonderlike leerskool het gevolg wat my geïnspireer en gemotiveer het om my passies na te jaag. Die joernalistiek was vir my net goed. Ek het saam met wonderlike mense gewerk – eers as finansiële joernalis by *Sake24* – en later as *Beeld* se parlementêre verslaggewer. In dié tyd kon ek my agtergrond met syfers goed gebruik. As skrywer spesialiseer ek met die skryf van staatsbeheerde entiteite soos Eskom en die Suid-Afrikaanse Lugdiens. Ek het ook 'n draai gemaak as kontrakteur by die SAUK se televisienuusdiens tussen 2008 en 2010 en gereelde bydraes gelewer vir *Finweek* en Forbes se finansiële tydskrifte. Ná agt jaar in die beroep het ek weer afgedraai en 'n geleentheid aanvaar om vir die Wes-Kaapse regering te gaan werk. Ek het 'n boek geskryf oor my ervarings met Eskom getiteld *Blackout: The Eskom Crisis*. Die passie om te skryf gaan my nog na interessante bestemmings neem. Ek sien uit na die reis."

Willemien Calitz (class of 2010): Since obtaining the BPhil degree she initially launched her career in environmental journalism and later in non-profit communications. In 2011 a California-based NGO, 5 Gyres, invited Willemien to use her communication skills to contribute to a global plastic pollution research project. She sailed from Walvis Bay to Uruguay for 33 days in her effort to shed light on our polluted oceans. In 2012 she went on to do her Master's degree in Media Studies at the University of Oregon in Oregon, USA. Here, she focused primarily on identity and the media. With a 4.0 GPA, she completed her thesis on white identity in post-apartheid South Africa. She has since been selected as a PhD candidate in Media Studies at the University of Cape Town. Her doctoral thesis, under supervisor Herman Wasserman (alumnus of 1993), focuses on China-Africa relations and the media. Willemien currently also tutors at UCT, in the hopes of strengthening her lecturing skills for the future.

Alumni ryg pryse by *Die Burger* in

Johnn-Grant Munro (klas van 2003), ontwerphoof, het die afdeling vir uitleg-subredakteur van die jaar gewen.

Willemien Brümmer (klas van 1998) is aangewys as leefstyljoernalis van die jaar. "Haar portefeulje sluit in 'n reeks interessante en goed nagevorste artikels oor mediese welstand-onderwerpe."

Marnus Hattingh (klas van 1998) is aangewys as rubriekskrywer van die jaar.

Jurg Slabbert (klas van 2002) is aangewys as multimedia-joernalis van die jaar.

Irna ontvang die Orde van Tafelberg

Irna van Zyl (klas van 1979) het in Augustus vanjaar die Orde van Tafelberg by Naspers se Jaarvergadering-ete ontvang. In die commendatio is gesê sy het in haar grensverskuiwende loopbaan baie van haar baanbrekerswerk saam met Media24 behaal. Sy het die toekenning as voormalige redakteur en media-entrepreneur en as uitnemende sakevennoot van Media24 ontvang. In haar jare as joernalis/media-entrepreneur het sy baie eerstes behaal, het Esmaré Weideman (klas van 1984), uitvoerende hoof van Media24, in haar commendatio gesê. "In elke aspek van haar loopbaan – as redakteur, uitgewer en sakevrou – was Irna 'n opvoeder en mentor. Sy is beslis 'n ikoon van die uitgewery."

Pieter van Zyl, klas van 1998 en senior joernalis by *Huisgenoot*, was een van die wenners by vanjaar se Pfizer Mental Health Journalism-toekennings wat deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Depressie-en-Angsgroep (SADAG) en Pfizer aangekondig is. Die pryse steun bewusmaking van psigiese gesondheid en om die stigma rondom psigiese gesondheid te verbreek. Joernaliste is genooi om voorbeelde van hul werk en 'n voorstel vir 'n projek vir die toekenningsjaar in te stuur. Pieter se projek sal uit 'n reeks artikels oor verskillende psigiese siektes bestaan en fokus op die geliefdes van mense met psigiese siektes. Hy sal ook die mag en invloed van tegnologie op psigiese gesondheid ondersoek. Buiten Pieter is daar nog twee pryswenners wat elk R25 000 ontvang om die navorsing en ontwikkeling van hul artikels te befonds.

Drie generasies Crozierstraters woon deesdae in Londen. Van links na regs is Nielen (Bottomley) de Klerk (BPhil 2011), wat as vryskutjoernalis werk, Roné McFarlane (BPhil 2012), wat 'n internskap by die BBC doen ná haar studies aan Oxford, en Emma (de Villiers) van der Merwe (BPhil 2006), wat kommunikasiebestuurder by die Fairtrade Stigting is. Die drie het onlangs gekuier om 'n paar stories (in Afrikaans natuurlik) uit te ruil en (soos mede-Londeners) oor die weer te gesels.

Martin Viljoen (klas van 1994), skryf: Ek het die onvergeeflike gedoen. Kort ná my Crozier-jaar maak ek die skuif "PR" toe – min wetend dat die joernalistiek my soos ŉ honger wolf sou agtervolg. Ek is darem nie alleen nie – in my afdeling by die Universiteit Stellenbosch waar ek as mediaskakelpraktisyn werk is ons vier wat oor drie dekades Danie Williams, eertydse algemene assistent van die Departement Joernalistiek, se tee gedrink het.

Ek skryf steeds baie – wel met 'n skakelhoed op – maar die beginsels van 'n gewone berig bly tot 'n groot mate dieselfde. Dit wat ingedril is deur die meesterlike George Claassen, die deurwinterde Johannes Grosskopf, die nimlike dr T (Billy Trengove), die vaardige Jeanne Els en die knap en die strenge Leona Amoraal, vergeet mens nooit nie.

("Mens spreek net 'n mens of ŉ hond aan, nie 'n saak nie"; dis 'tans' en nie 'huidiglik' nie; 'Vertel 'n storie'; 'skryf asof aan jou ouma'; 'as net jou intro gelees word moet die leser weet waaroor dit gaan', ensovoorts – en dat sinne wat eindig met 'ensovoorts' taboe is.)

In my werk put ek steeds diep en ruim uit die joernalistieke vaardighede wat ek in die klas van '94 opgedoen het. En wat 'n jaar was dit nie met onder meer die geboorte van die Suid-Afrikaanse demokrasie.

Terselfdertyd is ek pynlik bewus van die gruwelikhede wat gepleeg word deur joernaliste wat nie 'n Crozierstraat as deel van hul DNS het nie. Dit bly 'n nimmereindigende opvoedingsproses!

Ek is steeds diep dankbaar vir daardie ongelooflike jaar in Protea-huis!

Jason Boswell (Class of 2008) writes: "I am a Video journalist with BBC News in Johannesburg, but my job takes me all over the continent and beyond. I have covered massive news stories for the BBC including the passing of former president Nelson Mandela, the kidnap of the Chibok girls in Nigeria and stories across the continent from Nigeria, Ghana, Ethiopia, Madagascar, The Gambia and Sierra Leone to name but a few. As a video journalist we do everything: research stories; produce – not only setting up the stories and interview, but also logistics; present; film and edit our own television packages.

After graduating from Stellenbosch University in 2008 I was lucky enough to be given an internship at the BBC in 2009, and the long hours and strict deadlines I had learnt to work through in my course definitely stood me in good stead during this internship.

This lead to me being employed as a freelance producer during the 2009 South African General Elections, my first taste of live TV journalism. However, it would take another four years before I managed to get back to the BBC.

After travelling to the United Kingdom on a working holiday I began life as a journalist with a trade publication writing features on mining, engineering, machinery and, my personal favourite, 2500-word articles for a title called *Water, Sewage and Effluent*. If it wasn't for the feature-writing and science journalism courses I definitely would've struggled.

I went on to multimedia journalism positions at Times Media and was made Multimedia Editor at eNCA when they launched their online platform in 2012. It was a new field and by and large still is, but by amalgamating and honing the skills I had learnt in photojournalism, radio and documentary journalism I helped define what a multimedia journalist could potentially look like."

Gerda-Marie van Rooyen (Viviers – klas van 2011) se grootste mylpaal vanjaar was die geboorte van hul seun, Hendré Robert. Verlede jaar het Gerda-Marie 'n redigeringskursus voltooi en 'n diploma in Skakelwese deur Unisa ge-cum. Sy hoop om in 2016 deur middel van haar kerk en Helpende Hand besig te bly met gemeenskapsprojekte in Barberton en, as beplanning suksesvol is, om volgende jaar die Laeveldstreek se Helpende Hand-nuusbrief te doen.

Mia Spies (klas van 2011) skryf: "Soos dekades vantevore, moes die voornemende joernaliste aan die begin van 2011 in Crozierstraat 26 hul loopbaandoelwitte met 'n stampvol klaskamer deel. Ná groot drome van redakteursposte en Pulitzer-pryse, is ek laaste aan die beurt: "Ek gaan 'n radiojoernalis, radionuusleser, televisiejoernalis en uiteindelik televisienuusleser word. Ek gaan dit binne tien jaar doen."

Dit is nou byna vyf jaar later, en ná 'n internskap by Eyewitness News en eNuus, begin ek as radiojoernalis by Eyewitness News in Kaapstad, danksy my dosent en nou mentor, Tessa van Staden. Daar het ek ook die geleentheid gekry om my debuut te maak op regstreekse radio as nuusleser.

Daarna volg kykNET Verslag, 'n aktuele nuusprogram, waar ek tans sy aan sy met alumnus Tim du Plessis (klas van 1978) en die nuuslegende Riaan Cruywagen werk. Hoewel dit net die eerste van vele mylpale is, glo ek dit was bereikbaar danksy die kennis en kontakte wat ek in my BPhil-jaar gekry het. Die persoonlike groei en professionele ontwikkeling wat Crozier 26 bied, was uitstekende wegspringblokke, en vir honderde voor my óók 'n wenresep vir 'n suksesvolle loopbaan in die media."

DRIE IN KLAS VAN 2015 MET ALUMNI-OUERS

Heléne Booyens by haar ouers, Suzette Truter en Bun Booyens, lede van die klas van 1987. Suzette is assistent-redakteur by *Sarie* en Bun redakteur van *Die Burger*.

Simon Sonnekus by sy pa, Deon Sonnekus, lid van die klas van 1986. Deon is 'n motorjoernalis.

Mila de Villiers (heel links), by haar ma, Erika Oosthuysen, lid van die klas van 1984, en haar pa, Charl de Villiers, lid van die klas van 1987. By hulle is Mila se sus Klara.