

## MSc Students

### Class of 2023

#### Kheya MOKOENA



**Email:** 23149108@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Science) and BSc Honours (Biochemistry)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project title:** Is mitochondrial dysfunction a putative marker of cardiometabolic disease in people living with HIV?

**Supervisor(s):** Prof. Hans Strijdom and co-supervisor Dr Ingrid Webster

#### Sesethu KETSE



**Email:** sketse@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Microbiology and Physiology) and BSc Honours (Molecular Biology)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA) and Biomedical Research and Innovation Platform (BRIP)

**Project title:** DNA methylation profiling for breast cancer diagnosis in South African women

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Tarryn Willmer (SAMRC) and co-supervisors Dr Lawrence Mabasa (SAMRC) and Prof. Hans Strijdom

### **Chloë Mc DONALD**



**Email:** 22272011@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences) and BSc Honours (Neuroscience)

**Research group:** Neuroscience Research Group

**Project title:** Does Maternal Exposure to Sexual Defeat and Prenatal Stress Result in a Predisposition to PTSD in Rat Offspring?

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Lihle Qulu and co-supervisor Dr Thando Shabangu

## Hannah MIDZUK



**Email:** 26748215@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BHSc (Biomedical Sciences) and BHSc Honours (Human Physiology - Cum Laude)

**Research group:** Neuroscience Research Group

**Project title:** The role of galanin on maternal behaviours in a female rat sexual defeat model

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Lihle Qulu and co-supervisor Dr Thando Shabangu

## Gemma KRAUSEY



**Email:** 19038313@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BHSc (Biomedical Sciences) and BHSc Honours (Human Physiology - Cum Laude)

**Research group:** Stellenbosch University Reproductive Research Group (SURRG)

**Project title:** An investigation into the effects of SSRI antidepressants on sperm parameters - an in vitro study

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Bongekile Skosana, Dr Marguerite Blignaut and co-supervisor: Ms Lisa Marie Ferguson

### **Jasmine ANDREWS**



**Email:** 26746328@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Medical Bioscience) and BSc Honours (Medical Physiology)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project title:** Investigating the links between Chronic stress and autophagy in female Wistar rats

**Supervisor(s):** Prof, Faadiel Essop and co-supervisor Miss Megan Cairns

## Amy PRETORIUS



**Email:** 22201831@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Medical Bioscience) and Honours (Medical Physiology)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project title:** Comparing the Effectiveness of Imatinib and Melatonin Against Endothelin-1-Induced Proliferation of Human Umbilical Vein Endothelial Cells

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Gerald Maarman

## Stephen SOUTHWAY



**Email:** 21214328@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences) and Honours (Medical Physiology)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)



**Project title:** Evaluating the biphasic effect of metformin in a 3-D cardiomyoblast model of insulin resistance

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Marguerite Blignaut

**Anique Wolmarans**



**Email:** 21785716@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Biochemistry and Physiology) and BSc Honours (Medical Physiology)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA) and the Neuroscience Research Group

**Project title:** Physiological effect of Cannabis and Psilocybin on the brain

**Supervisor(s):** Prof. Barbara Huisamen and co-supervisor Dr. Lihle Qulu

**Chrisstoffel JUMAAR**



**Email:** 27421309@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Medical Laboratory Science-Distinction)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project title:** Investigating the usefulness of a novel plasma 5-marker host biosignature to identify pulmonary hypertension in a post-tuberculosis context in a South African cohort

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Gerald Maarman

**Garth WENTLEY**



**Email:** 21670951@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences) and Honours (Medical Physiology)

**Research Group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project title:** Delineating the novel effects of melatonin in differentiated C2C12 myotubes in the presence and absence of pat

hology

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Gerald Maarman

**Sara SHABOODIEN**



**Email:** 21304637@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences) and BSc Honours (Medical Physiology-Cum Laude)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project title:** The novel effect of Aspalathus Linearis (Rooibos) on platelet derived growth factor-induced proliferation of rat pulmonary artery smooth muscle cells (RPASMC)

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Gerald Maarman and co-supervisor Dr Erna Marais

**Nokulunga MLABA**





**Email:** 24542415@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Microbiology and Biochemistry) and BSc Honours (Medical Microbiology)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project Title:** Establishment and characterization of novel AC16 human ventricular spheroid model

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Marguerite Blignaut

**Lindiwe MALEFANE**



**Email:** 27583708@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Physiology, Anatomy and Genetics) and BSc Honours (Medical Physiology - Cum Laude)

**group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CAMA)

**Project title:** Investigating the effects of Rooibos-enriched, Mitochondrial-targeted Chitosan-alginate Nanoparticles in an MCF-7 breast cancer cell line

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Gerald Maarman and Prof. Admire Dube

## Sharnah UYS



**Email:** 23947829@sunac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences with Psychology) and BSc Honours (Medical Physiology-Cum Laude)

**Research group:** Stellenbosch University Reproductive Research Group (SURRG)

**Project title:** Investigating the impact of obesity on the characteristics of testicular extracellular vesicles and their function in spermatogenesis

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Bongekile Skosana and co-supervisor Prof. Marais

## Anathi BURNS



**Email:** 24034304@sunac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Psychology) and BSc Honours (Medical Physiology)

**Research group:** Biomedical Research and Innovation Platform (BRIP)

**Project title:** Maternal micronutrients supplementation and DNA methylation regulation of mammary developmental genes in breast cancer

**Supervisors(s):** Dr Lawrence Mbasa (SAMRC)

## **Tamryne BRINK**



**Email:** 22555838@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc(Biological Sciences), BSc Honours (Medical Physiology- Cum Laude)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (C  
ARMA)

**Project title:** Investigating the effects of olanzapine on redox status and vascular function in male and female Wistar rats fed a high sucrose medium fat (HSMF) diet.

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Shantal. Windvogel, Dr Hanel Sadie- Van Gijzen and Prof. Erna Marais

## Natasha MARNEWICK



**Email:** 21617619@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences with Psychology-Cum Laude) and BSc Honours (Medical Physiology-Cum Laude)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project title:** Comparing the effects of the second-generation anti-psychotic drug olanzapine on adipose stem cell function between male and female Wistar rats against the background of high sugar feeding

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Hanel Sadie- Van Gijzen and co-supervisor Dr Gerald Maarman

## Suné GROVE



**Email:** 23627786@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences) and BSc Honours (Clinical Anatomy-Cum Laude)

**Research group:** Stellenbosch University Reproductive Research Group (SURRG)

**Project title:** Investigating the effects of Olanzapine on the reproductive system of male and female rat models fed a high-sugar diet.

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Bongekile Skosana and co-supervisor Dr Hanel Sadie- Van Gijzen

## **Tamera MOODLEY**



**Email:** 21675600@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences with Psychology) and BSc Honours (Clinical Pharmacology)

**Research group:** Biomedical Research and Innovation Platform (BRIP)

**Project title:** Proteomic assessment of trace amine metabolism dysregulation in autism spectrum disorder

**Supervisor(s):** Prof. Carine Smith and co-supervisors Dr Lesha Pretorius and Dr Gerald Maarman

## Jeffrey PIETERSE



**Email:** jjp1@sun.aza

**Qualifications:** BSc (Human Life Sciences with Psychology) and BSc Honours (Medical Physiology)

**Research group:** Centre for Cardio-metabolic Research in Africa (CARMA)

**Project title:** High throughput identification and localization of mitochondrial events using deep learning in an in vitro cardiomyoblast model.

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Marguerite Blignaut and co-supervisor Dr Theart

## Mpho MOKOAPE

**Email:** 25973924@sun.ac.za

**Qualifications:** BSc (Microbiology and Biochemistry) and BSc Honours (Molecular Biochemistry)

**Group:** Biomedical Research and Innovation Platform (BRIP)

**Project title:** The effect of diet composition on the intestinal barrier in models of metabolic disease development

**Supervisor(s):** Dr Sylvia Riedel (SAMRC) and co-supervisor Dr Hanél Sadie-van Gijzen