

talk@nmmu

December 2010
The Staff Newsletter

One main welcoming ceremony, longer orientation for next year

New-look start to 2011

AS ACADEMIC staff look forward to a well-earned rest, many administrative staff are increasing their work rate in preparation for the class of 2011.

Hundreds of applications are still being processed, and dozens of prospective first year candidates are being tested, all in readiness for the start of the new academic year.

For first-years this will be at the welcoming ceremony on 24 January in Port Elizabeth and on 1 and 2 February in George.

The university is reverting to centralising this event in the Indoor Sports Centre so that Vice-Chancellor **Professor Derrick Swartz** can speak to the new students and their parents in one venue.

Use of the centre means that extra time has been given for Orientation Week, to give ICT Services time to set up their equipment for registration which starts on 31 January.

While the majority of newcomers will gather in the Indoor Centre at 9am for the official opening, the faculties of Education; Engineering, the Built Environment and IT and Health Sciences, will meet at various venues but will be receive live footage of Prof Swartz's speech.

Although it is too soon to predict student

Meet our first top alumni achievers ...



TOP ACHIEVERS ... First time awards for alumni top achievers were presented to (back from left), construction guru Arthur Coy, businessman and entrepreneur Royden Vice, Volkswagen Managing Director Dave Powells and international cricketer Dave Richardson and (front) businesswoman Almorie Maule, Advocate Gerald Farber and NMMU Choir conductor **Junita Lamprecht-Van Dijk**, at a prestige dineer at the Board-walk on 18 November organized by the Alumni Association. See page 10.

Online success

LESS than a minute of going live on 19 November, NMMU received its first application – and has received hundreds since. Nonthuthuzelo Mntuyedwa, of Mthatha, said: "It was so quick and easy. It only took me five minutes! It's much better than filling in a form manually."

numbers for 2011, there had been a substantial increase in applications year on year.

By the end of October, NMMU had received 14 620 applications from prospective students,

some 2 368 more than during the same time period in 2009. This figure was expected to increase before the final closing date of 6 December.

Lectures officially start on 14 February.

► **We wish staff a great break**

STAFF

New face in VC's office

3

PHYSICS

Novel invention

5

GALLERY

2010 visual highlights

8

GEORGE

Going green

13

WE can now look back at a good year and, in the spirit of the festive season, continue giving back where we can.

Just glancing at this edition of *talk@nmmu* alone we can pat ourselves on the back for producing quality work – both by staff and students. Inevitably with such good work there are stories behind the stories, including that of the sacrifices students have made to excel in their studies.

We showcase a number of such

About giving back

stories, like that of the award-winning master's degree student who teaches science to matrics at his old school every Saturday. Then there's the master's degree student from Uganda who is about to complete his second master's degree, while his wife and two



children are in Uganda. Our George Campus students joined staff to eradicate invasive alien plants, while Human Movement Science students sacrificed their September holidays to bring playground equipment and games to underprivileged children at three primary schools in

the Bay.

Female Farmer of the Year winner and Agricultural Management alumnus is ploughing her prize money back into the Emmanuel Haven to assist people affected and infected with HIV/Aids.

Such stories make us proud. Thank you for sharing them.

May you all have a wonderful rest and good festive season.

Kind regards

Elma de Koker

Editor: talk@nmmu.ac.za



Briefs

New president

Law Dean **Prof Vivienne Lawack-Davids** is the new President of the South African Law Deans Association (SALDA), an association of South African law faculty deans and heads of law schools.

"It is such an honour having received this vote of confidence from my fellow deans at other South African universities," said Prof Lawack-Davids.

Solutions architect

COMPUTING Sciences master's degree alumnus and Internet Solutions chief solutions architect Baxolile Mabinya has been interviewed in a supplement of IT Web Brainstorm magazine on the role of solutions architecture and clients' business.

Baxolile has been in this position since May after being technical team manager at Dimension Data for two years.

ON TARGET ... Construction of the new building to house NMMU's Centre for High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscopy (HRTEM) is on track. Physics PhD students have carried out vibration measurements on anti-vibration blocks to reveal that all is within specifications, says Science Executive Dean **Prof Andrew Leitch**. There can be no vibrations because of the ultra-sensitive HRTEM instrument that is currently being built in Japan. The handover of the first phase of the building is scheduled for 15 March next year, with relocation of the first two electron microscopes shortly thereafter. These instruments will be used to test the building under load (air flow, temperature and magnetic fields). The HRTEM instrument will arrive for installation in May. This will take three months. The R130m HRTEM Centre should be fully functional by the end of 2011.

Internet access for learning and teaching

SIX SCHOOLS now have access to the internet and computers, enhancing learning for both learners and teachers thanks to a project of our Centre for Research, Technology and Innovation (Certi).

Financed by the Hermann Ohlthaver Trust and assisted by the Radisson Blu Hotel, 120 connected computers were donated to Emafani, Emfundweni, KwaNnoxolo and Kama primary schools and Lungisa and KwaMmagxaki high schools.

Project co-ordinator Centre for Research, Technology and Innovation's (Certi) **Dr Andre du Plessis** said because of cable theft, schools needed to be connected "wirelessly" which was set up at Missionvale Campus.

Certi approached the Radisson Blu Hotel to assist with a site on their roof where equipment could be installed in line-of-sight with Kama Primary which could not be accessed from Missionvale Campus.

The hotel assisted with installing

the equipment free of charge.

The programme ensures that computer labs are used and Dr Du Plessis is educating some of the teachers on his "cyber hunt strategy", to help students find information relative to their abilities.

"Students are benefiting a lot and the programme caters for all learning areas. Teachers with limited resources can also now prepare effective lessons," said Emafani computer department head Brenda Thambo.



Switch off

Please remember to switch off all lights and appliances when leaving offices, rooms and other venues. Let's reduce our carbon footprint.

PURSuing a democracy and tirelessly campaigning for a just society are attributes of both NMMU Council 2010 Prestige Award recipients - Bobbie Melunsky and Sophia Williams-De Bruyn.

Ms Melunsky's deep compassion for humanity corresponds strongly to NMMU's values of respect for diversity and *ubuntu*. She was rec-

Towards a just society

ognised for her deep concern for, and commitment to, serving the down-trodden and in her quest for a fairer, just and equal society.

Similarly, Ms Williams-De Bruyn's life represents an extraordinary jour-

ney of courage, moral conviction and sacrifice in the pursuit of justice in South Africa. Her personal journey personifies all our core values. The trade union leader's exceptional contribution to working people and

humanity in general, along with her pursuance of gender equality, earned her this award.

Their contribution was recognised at the year-end Council dinner on 1 December.

Development Studies alumnus joins NMMU in VC's Office

Making Vision 2020 happen

THERE is a new face behind the Vice-Chancellor, a new Special Assistant, Laura Best, who comes straight from the Eastern Cape Premier's Office where she was General Manager in the Director-General's Office for the past five-and-a-half years.

The post of Special Assistant is a newly-defined post lending top level support to the Vice-Chancellor. Laura wishes to use her experience from the Office of the Premier for her new role.

An NMMU alumnus with a masters degree in Development Studies (1999) and an honours degree in Labour Relations (1987), Laura loves being back in Port Elizabeth where she previously worked in the NGO sector for paralegal advice offices.

Laura has spent more than 10 years working in different capacities in Bhisho.

At Fort Hare University, she was deputy head of the Institute for Governance for two years. The institute offers policy research and capacity building to the public sector. She also lectured Project Management in the Masters Programme in Public Administration.

Prior to this, she worked as Director: Procedural Support Services in the Provincial Legislature, managing the daily functioning of committees, parliamentary proceedings, public participation and legal



My role is to make the VC's ideas happen

NEW FACE ... Development Studies and Labour Relations alumnus **Laura Best** has taken up a new position as Special Assistant in the Vice-Chancellor's office.

advisory services.

About her new position, she told *talk@nmmu*: "I feel privileged to have been offered this opportunity, especially to identify with Vision 2020, which I see as part of this iconic and inspirational university. I believe my role is to make the VC's ideas happen."

She also thanked NMMU for its friendly welcome. Laura's passion is social transformation.

"We need to create greater equality, particularly

on the gender front, but also economically to create a more sustainable and just world".

One way in which she contributes to a more equal world, is to serve as a member of the National Consumer Tribunal, the adjudicatory body responsible for the National Credit and Consumer Protection Acts.

She hopes to integrate her expertise in this field with the work currently being spearheaded by the Law Faculty, to ensure that consumers know and are able to claim their rights.

Another further passion is travelling, especially to developing countries in Africa.

The biggest lesson she has learnt from these visits, is how entrepreneurial people are, each using their own skills to offer services to tourists, such as hand-sewn clothes or cooking traditional food and delicacies for restaurant menus.

Her preferred African destinations include Ghana, Sudan and Madagascar, with India and Sri Lanka in the East also among her favourite destinations.

South and Central America are also on her wish-list for their vibrancy in life and interesting food.

Her role models include Maya Angelou and Aung San Suu Kyi, for their passion and commitment to freedom and a better world.

Her hobbies include culture, music (especially jazz) and art appreciation.

Abe Bailey travel bursary for Mechatronics student

FINAL-year BEng Mechatronics student Dave Minne beat five other contestants in the final round of interviews as the local winner of this year's Abe Bailey Travel Bursary.

The travel bursary will take Dave on a three-week educational tour of England and Scotland. It is awarded to university with exceptional leadership qualities and a strong service ethic.

Dave was encouraged by his Mechatronics lecturer **Prof Theo van Niekerk** to apply for the bursary.

"I am really looking forward to the experience because I have never been

to the UK before," said Dave on the eve of his departure on 17 November.

Eighteen students from around the country joined Dave who will promote NMMU, as well as South Africa, as a popular choice for international education.

"We are thrilled that Dave was chosen to represent NMMU because of his passion for the university and the country. We know that he will gain valuable experience on this trip," said Prof Van Niekerk.

Dave is the son of Student Housings' **Rob** and **Barbara Minne**.



TOP LEADERS ... This year's Abe Bailey travel bursary recipient, final-year BEng Mechatronics student, **Dave Minne** (centre) was congratulated by former recipients Computing Sciences department head **Prof Jean Greyling** (left) and Deputy Vice-Chancellor **Christo van Loggerenberg** at a tea on the South Campus Main Building's 18th floor.

Photographs, videos bring a fresh approach to HIV/Aids education

Using art to beat Aids

EDUCATION's Prof Naydene de Lange, who runs a number of key research projects in the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal, is pioneering visual participatory methodology (VPM) – a new methodology in education in South Africa – whereby participants in research engage with issues relating to HIV/Aids by taking photographs or making videos.

She was one of the founding members of the Centre for Visual Methodologies for Social Change (CVMSC) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), where she lectured before taking up her post at NMMU late last year.

“There is a technique called photovoice, for example, where we give participants a prompt (for example around stigma or gender-based violence, which they themselves would have identified as a key issue) and a camera and they direct their own photographs to illustrate the issue, and then discuss solutions.

“It gives people a voice, an artefact over which they can engage in debate.

It gives people a voice, an artefact over which they can engage in debate

It works particularly well in marginalised and under-represented communities, and also when there are language barriers.

“We believe that this kind of ‘research as social change’ is necessary in South Africa and in work around HIV/Aids in particular,” said Prof De Lange, who has an educational psychology background and is a National Research Foundation (NRF)-rated researcher.

She has found the technique more effective than traditional interviews.

“We are drawing on participants’ expertise and knowledge – they are engaged in creating the knowledge. What’s more, there’s always an element of fun!”

Prof De Lange, who has since established a Visual Methodologies for Social Change unit within our Faculty of Education, was first introduced to the methodology by Canadian researcher Claudia Mitchell.

Mitchell in 2003 co-authored an article called “Sick of Aids”, which outlined how the constant teaching and talking about HIV/Aids tired people, and that a fresh approach was required to engage with people, especially youth, on a “real, but participatory level”, in order to address HIV/Aids.

Using photographs to explore issues had already been used by renowned late Brazilian educator Paulo Freire and others, but it was University of Michigan researcher Caroline Wang who coined the term “photovoice”, when she used the

With World Aids Day on 1 December it’s fitting to profile the person behind our HIV/Aids Chair in Education, Prof Naydene de Lange, who has just given her inaugural lecture as a professor.



CREATING KNOWLEDGE ... Prof Naydene de Lange believes in visual interaction as part of her research to tackle the spread of HIV/Aids in South African schools and communities.

methodology as a way of getting the voices of Chinese women farm labourers to policy makers, resulting in policy change and better working conditions.

Prof De Lange’s first VPM project, “Learning Together: Towards an integrated participatory approach to youth, gender and HIV/AIDS interventions in rural KwaZulu-Natal Schools”, a study in the rural Vulindlela district, along with a subsequent international symposium, provided material for a book she co-edited with Mitchell and Jean Stuart (of UKZN) called *Putting people in the picture: Visual Methodologies for social change*.

Prof De Lange who continues to work on projects in KwaZulu-Natal, believes it is important to engage with participants over a long period of time, building relationships and monitoring progress. “People say what is needed are large-scale projects, but I believe that masses of small projects add up to make a difference by creating a critical mass which may be enough to tip the scales. You can’t under-estimate the influence of small research projects or one person in a community.”

She introduced Education Faculty professors **Tilla Olivier** and **Lesley Wood**, to VPM to conduct HIV/Aids and other education-related research, which also led to the publication of a co-authored book, *Picturing Hope*, published last year.

“One of my roles as HIV/Aids Chair in Education is to strengthen and draw together the HIV/Aids re-

search that is already taking place within the faculty ... Much more needs to be done to engage students and staff in issues concerning HIV/Aids in education.”

Prof De Lange, in collaboration with the Higher Education HIV/AIDS Programme (**HEAIDS**), hosted a national symposium on HIV/Aids education and research in September where a community of practice was established.

Her work has extended to collaborative projects in Rwanda and Ethiopia, where the focus has mainly been on addressing gender-based violence as a means of addressing HIV/Aids.

Prof De Lange, who completed her studies at the former University of Port Elizabeth to doctoral level, worked as a primary school teacher and then a lecturer at Port Elizabeth Teachers’ Training College, the former Vista University and UKZN, before taking up her current position.

She has two sons Heinrich, 25, and Edrich, 21. - **NW**

Every month, talk@nmmu will focus on a particular individual, unit, support service or research project to grow our understanding and appreciation of the many facets of our university.

Optimal design of infrared detectors among benefits Semiconductor technology patented

SCIENTISTS in our Physics Department have developed a novel technology assisting in the characterisation of semiconductors, measuring the density of impurities essential for the control of specific design parameters during device manufacturing.

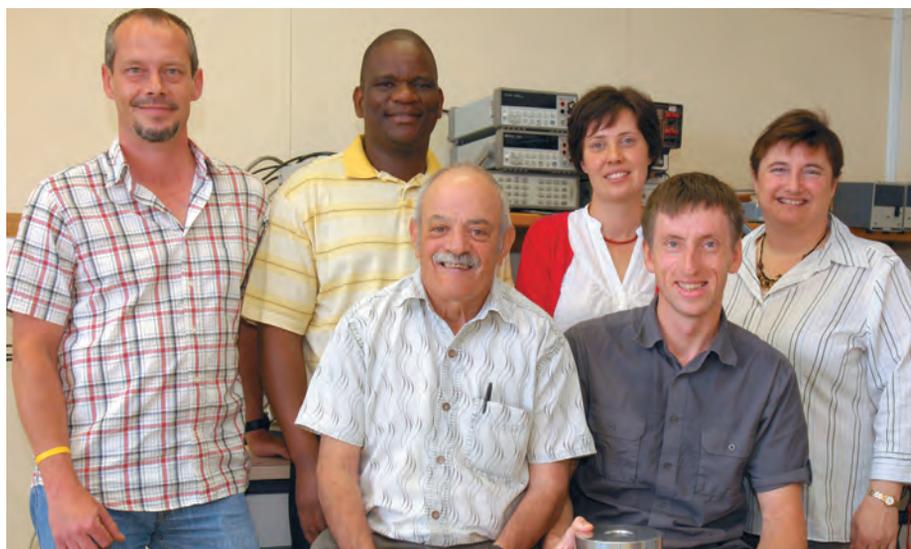
The technology could also in future be applied commercially, especially in connection with the optimal design of infrared detectors.

The Physics Department has been doing developmental work on semiconductors suitable for detection in the infrared part of the spectrum for a number of years, through NRF and Armscor grants held by **Prof JR Botha**.

This type of detector has numerous civilian and military applications, including pollution monitoring, analysis and control of pharmaceutical processes, thermo-photovoltaic cells (converting heat to electricity) and missile tracking.

"Very few patents we file are completely novel and inventive from the outset as there is usually so much prior technology. This shows the strength of the patent and the possibilities for future research," said Innovation Support & Technology Transfer Director **Jaci Barnett**.

The technology has been developed under the guidance of Physics professor **Magnus Wagener**, who specialises in the growth and characteristics of semiconductor materials. He worked at North Carolina State University and the French National Centre for Scientific Research before joining NMMU in 2008, when Prof Botha was seconded to a research



INNOVATORS ... Physics researchers and support staff including (back from left) Physics Department's **Prof JR Botha**, Innovation Support Manager **Stemmer Ndala**, Physics' **Dr Viera Wagener**, Innovation Support and Technology Transfer Director **Jaci Barnett** and (front) Physics' instrument maker **Len Compton** and **Prof Magnus Wagener** teamed up to develop, design and patent a new technology aimed at commercialisation.

chair in Nanophotonics.

The first prototype has been designed to determine the doping density of narrow band gap semiconductors using specific thermoelectric properties of the material.

This new technique is significantly easier to perform and interpret compared to more traditional methods used in the past.

The next phase of this project is the design and

development of an automated, computer controlled "black box" prototype by the researchers.

The commercial system will then be tested in the market place, after which further licensing/marketing of the technology will be pursued.

The Department of Innovation Support and Technology Transfer is at present assisting the team in securing funds for the development of the improved prototype for commercialisation.

Our first online application



THE FIRST ... The online application team, Admissions' **Maxie Calitz**, ICT Services developer **Shaun Meyer**, ICT Services project coordinator **Lynette Williams**, ICT Services developer **Koshala Terblanche** joined the first ever online applicant matric learner, **Chaylen Eland**, from McCarthy Comprehensive School in Uitenhage, as he completed his form. The launch of the online applications came in time to assist learners trying to meet the final closing date of 6 December for studies in 2011.

E-pal extended

OUR new electronic peer-assisted learning programme, ePal, will be extended to 22 modules in 2011, nine for each semester and one on Missionvale and George Campus each.

The more than 500 students taking part in the programme, make up 25% of the possible number of students in the modules.

"Twenty-five percent may not sound like a lot, but taking into account that the programme has only been running for eight weeks since its inception in August we are very surprised," says Supplemental Instruction's **Liesl Smith**.

Liesl says it has taken the Supplemental Instruction programme 17 years to reach 40% student participation, so 25% shows a very good start.

Students log on to ePal and download modules covered in class, then chat online to qualified leadership facilitators who are able to assist in areas of difficulty.

At present ePal focuses on seven qualification areas with courses in the fields of engineering, mathematics, business management, accounting and economics.

Feedback from facilitators included the advantage that discussions can be read afterwards which is not possible in a face-to-face programme.

Winning alumnus shows the way



Respect for the natural environment

AGRICULTURE alumnus and PE's Emmanuel Haven production manager Boniswa Dinga, 32, is the winner of the Eastern Cape Female Farmer of the Year award.

In addition, the haven won the overall award of R50 000, on top of Boniswa's own prize of R50 000 at a ceremony in East London in November.

She is also the best commercial farmer in the horticulture section.

Boniswa says all the money will be used for the centre which, apart from the farm, consists of a wellness centre providing day-care for adult HIV/Aids

patients; a crèche for HIV infected and affected children, and clinics.

The 1.6-hectare farm employs 30 people and houses a hydroponic tunnel (greenhouse) as well as a vegetable garden that uses recycled water and fertiliser.

Produce from the tunnel is sold to national supermarket chain stores and the income is used for the centre's needs, such as medication like anti-retrovirals.

Another Agriculture alumnus, Brad Turner of Queenstown, was announced Eastern Cape Farmer of the Year.



LABOUR OF LOVE ... NMMU alumnus Boniswa Dinga is the Eastern Cape Female Farmer of the Year winner.

Performing chemical reactions in continuous-flow

New reactor for higher performance

A NEW reactor at InnoVenton's Institute for Chemical Technology which optimises chemical reaction processes will be used as a research tool for several industrial projects involving masters' and doctoral students.

Internship training and in-service training of students on plant operation and experimental chemical process development will also benefit from this newcomer, which is the third reactor to arrive in the past two years.

Through "process intensification" the reactor optimises chemical reaction processes to elevated temperatures, pressures and high reactant

concentrations with much reduced safety risk.

The reactor will also provide improved mass and heat transfer compared to conventional process equipment.

The reactor has been designed in collaboration with the Catalysis Research Unit of University of Cape Town's Chemical Engineering Department.

The collaboration takes place under the Department of Science and Technology's (DST) programme for joint research between universities, the Centre of Excellence in Catalysis

(c*change) research programme.

The reactor can operate as a continuous-flow process, which offers potential chemical process advantages such as high production rates, improved selectivity, reduced risk of scaling up and inherent safety aspects when compared to conventional pilot or production plant reactors.

The first two processes to be tested using the new reactor unit include chemical processes for the production of trialkoxysilane, for application in renewable energy, and methyl isocyanate, a building block for chemical synthesis of agrichemicals.

Briefs

Projects presented

TWO senior Engineering students presented their final-year projects at this year's South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE) National Student Project Competition in November.

The competition at the University of Johannesburg offers companies and the government an ideal opportunity to scout for suitable employees.

BEng Mechatronics student Rian Swanepoel discussed pre-cooling measurement and control of an automotive vehicle involving solar energy while BTech Electrical Engineering student Clement Venter investigated voltage transformers for tariff metering of medium and high voltage loads and standard guidelines for its application.

Training course

THE Physics Department recently hosted two training courses on the new high-resolution electron microscopes to 15 research and development specialists.

The five-day courses presented by seven international industry experts, including one from Oxford University, trained participants from the CSIR, Mintek, Sasol and the SA Navy on various aspects of the microscopes which will be housed in our new centre on South Campus.



BEST TALK ... MSc Mathematics student David Ssevviiri (right) from Uganda won the best MSc student talk prize at the South African Mathematical Society (SAMS) 2010 annual conference in Pretoria. In addition, David will also graduate in 2011 with two MSc degrees, the one in January at Uganda's Makerere University in number theory and the other in April at NMMU in ring theory with supervisor Prof Nico Groenewald (left). David says he came to South Africa to get a "good grounding from the NMMU experts" before starting on his PhD. He has a passion for Mathematics and wants to become a leading researcher in abstract algebra.

Prizes for student research

RESEARCH attracting international attention and commercial implications has won two Physics students best prizes at the recent 48th Annual Conference of the Microscopy Society of Southern Africa at Warmbaths.

The ALS/Jeol prize of R25 000 for the Most Promising Microscopist was awarded to master's student Ettienne Minnaar, 22, for his talk on the beneficiation of zircon for the production of zirconium, used in nuclear reactors.

His prize includes a trip to Birmingham, England, where he will present his work at the Electron Microscopy and Analysis Group conference in September next year.

"We are very excited with Ettienne's achievement since this research has attracted international attention at a high temperature reactor conference in Prague during October this year," says Ettienne's promoter **Prof Jan Neethling**.

PhD student Jaco Olivier won the ANASPEC Best Paper prize of R1 000 dealing with industry problem-solving for his research on fission product transport in nuclear reactor fuel materials which, says Prof Neethling, has important commercial implications for South Africa.



NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS ... Physics students Ettienne Minnaar (second left) and Jaco Olivier (second right) recently won top prizes at the 48th Annual Conference of the Microscopy Society of Southern Africa at Warmbaths. They are joined by their promoter **Prof Jan Neethling** (left) and the co-promoter of Jaco, **Prof Mike Lee**.

Both papers used advanced electron microscopy techniques for the analyses of the materials.

"It's a huge honour and reward for my studies. I now realise the importance of this research for industry," says Ettienne, who wants to pursue his doctorate one day.

Ettienne's research starts with sand mined in Namaqualand, of which the metal crystal structures used in nuclear reactors are tested for impurities.

He also spends his Saturdays teaching matrics at his alma mater, Uitenhage Senior Secondary. He says he can't wait for his visit to England next year.



TOP STUDENTS ... The Agriculture and Game Management Department awarded 31 prizes to top students including (from left) Naudé Barnardt (best third-year student), Dayne Knight (best second year), Ilse Otto (best diploma student in Game Ranch Management over three years) and Terry Butcher (best first year) at Rangers near Addo on 4 November. Prizes were also awarded for shooting and professional hunting.

Woody browsers and a Polish bonfire braai

POLISH BONFIRE ... African Conservation Ecology Centre Director **Prof Graham Kerley** (second right) recently participated in an international workshop on the impact of browsers on woody vegetation at the Mammal Research Institute in Bialowieza, Poland. Browsers, such as goats, feed on high growing vegetation as opposed to sheep grazing on low vegetation. Enjoying a typical Polish "braai" are (from left) Cambridge University's Andrew Tanenzap, the Mammal Research Institute's Kasia Kubicka, Wageningen University's Herbert Prins, Oregon State University's Bob Beschta, UK Forestry Commission's Amy Eycott and Groningen University's Chris Smit.





RIGHT FOOT FORWARD ... Sport Bureau's (from left) **Aubrey Klaas, Zukiswa Henen, Diba Odwa Sebe, Petrus Boukes** and **Victoria Mrwebi** were among hundreds of staff and students to enjoy a diversity walk, as a fitting celebratory end to NMMU's successful Diversity Month.



FLEEING FUN ... Finance's **Erika Lambrechts** and **Denise van der Merwe** and Library's **Pamela Nyokwana** were among almost 400 staff members who enjoyed the Staff Association Spring Function on Casual Day on 3 September. The walk was followed by lunch and lucky draws.



CHEMISTRY MAGIC ... Chemistry laboratory technician **Harold Marchand** excited SDIscovery Week learners by showing them experiments they had never seen before.



IT'S OPEN ... George Campus Principal **Prof Christo Fabricius** (centre) was joined by the members of the Student Representative Council (from left), **Francois Kemp, Phephi Sondhlana, Lebogang Khoza, Philile Ngcobo, Pearl Mabuza, Mkgadi Maa-naso, Themba Mhlongo** and **Natascha Laing**, in symbolically cutting the ribbon at the opening of the new Student Recreation Centre.



WINNING OUTFIT ... Second-year Fashion Design student **Tina Ngxokolo** (left) won the Eastern Cape division of the Vodacom Durban July Young Designer Award with her outfit for model **Zipho Rapiya**.

BORN TO PERFORM ... Vice-Chancellor **Professor Derrick Swartz** is joined by some of the first recipients of the prestigious NMMU's VC Scholarship (back from left) **Matthew Nicholls, Anrich Geldenhuys, Timothy Olls, Michael Gossman, Deanne Nolte** and **Caitlyn Allen** (seated), who finished second in the province. The 24 students each receive R60 000 for each year of their studies.



IN ACTION ... **Gretchen Scholtz** (front from left), **Claricia Coeries** and **Nopinkie Mba** were among NMMU choir members to impress international audiences during a highly-successful trip to an Italian choir festival this year.



BIG SMILES ... The academic team responsible for the Diploma Architectural Technology, BTech Architectural Technology and BTech Applied Design (front to back) Department Head **Nicola Darke**, **Lucy Vosloo**, **Chanelle Edgar**, **Johan Pansegrouw**, **Hansie Vosloo** and **Heather Fouche** had reason to smile as the Department of Architectural Technology and Interior Design obtained unconditional national and international accreditation for the next four years from the South African Council for the Architectural Professional, and the Commonwealth Association of Architects (affiliated to the Royal Institute of British Architects).



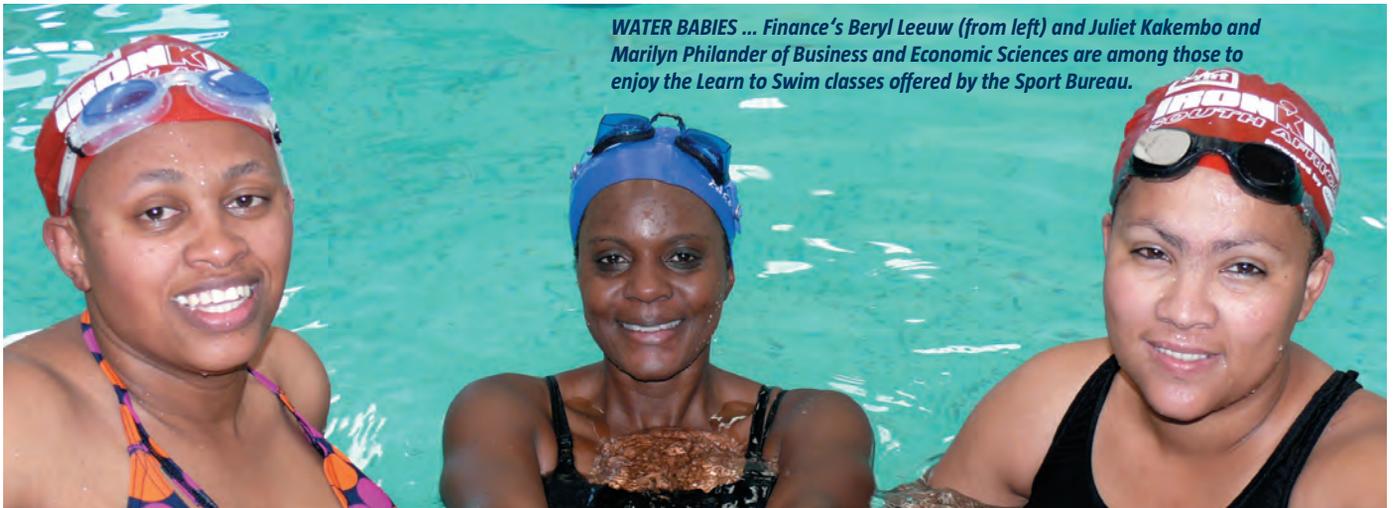
RAINBOW FLIER ... Architecture students (from left) **Ashleigh du Preez**, **Berdene Nagel** and **Frances van Jaarsveldt** try for lift-off during the ice-breaker project on the Donkin Reserve at the start of the academic year. Picture: Mike Holmes



MISSION ACCOMPLISHED ... The jubilant NMMU Racing team (back from left) **Neil Strydom**, **Ahsan Ahmed**, **Saleem Noorshib**, **Geoffrey Jones**, **Heinrich Kritzing**, **Alison Richter**, **Trevor Stroud**, (front) **Peter-Ben Johnson**, **Simon Adams**, **Hiten Parmar** and **Andre Labuschagne** after the racing car's first outing. The car will be officially launched in the new year.



CONTRIBUTIONS GALORE ... Students **Donna George** (from left) and **Lauren Coetzee** helped Marketing and Corporate Relations **Jo-Ann Daniels** to hang donated clothing as part of the Hanging out 4 Ubuntu campaign. Altogether 41 bags and boxes – or half a kilometre of clothing along University Way outside North Campus was collected for charity.



WATER BABIES ... Finance's **Beryl Leeuw** (from left) and **Juliet Kakembo** and **Marilyn Philander** of Business and Economic Sciences are among those to enjoy the Learn to Swim classes offered by the Sport Bureau.

NMMU recognises top contributors to society at gala event

Alumni award winners

ALUMNI who have made significant contributions to their specialist fields were recognised at the first Alumni Achiever Awards held at the Boardwalk last month.

Over 200 guests attended the prestigious awards ceremony in honour of alumni who have contributed to the development and well-being of society at local, provincial, national or international levels.

"These people (recipients) have raised the profile of NMMU. We are here to celebrate their achievements in their field," said Alumni Association president Randall Jonas.

The recipients of these awards for 2010 are:

- Chief examiner of the National Bar Examination Board Advocate Gerald Farber who graduated in 1969 and 1971 with a BJuris and an LLB.

- Old Mutual SA director Almorie Maule who graduated in 1969 with a BScHons in Mathematical Statistics and an MSc (*cum laude*) in 1979. She was the first woman to lead South Africa's largest oil company and the first female chairperson of the South African Petroleum Industry Association.

- Former Afrox chairman and CEO Royden Vice who graduated with his CTA in 1971. He has held numerous senior executive positions, including being the founder of Alfrox Health care (now Life Care), being their first CEO and Chairman. He 2002, he joined Waco International as a shareholder and CEO.

- CEO of Trans African Concessions Arthur Coy who graduated with a BSc in Construction Management in 1976. He worked his way up the

ranks of Murray and Roberts to become Chief Executive of Murray & Roberts' Contractors' international division.

- International Cricket Council general manager Dave Richardson who graduated in 1979 and 1982 with a BCom and LLB respectively. Dave played in 42 Tests and 122

at Volkswagen going from financial accountant through to Vice President Finance and Corporate Strategy in South Africa, Germany and Brazil. He is presently the MD at Volkswagen South Africa.

- NMMU choir founder **Junita Lamprecht-van Dijk** who graduated with a master's degree in choir conducting in 2002 is responsible for establishing the NMMU choir, which has won accolades around the world.

In his keynote address, Vice Chancellor **Professor Derrick Swartz** said he would like to see the achievers connecting with the institution and sharing their knowledge with the students.

Prof Christo van Loggerenberg was also presented a special alumni lifetime achievement award in honour of his 41-year association with the institution first as a student then later staff member.

These people have raised the profile of NMMU

One-Day Internationals for South Africa before taking his place in the international administration of the game.

- Volkswagen South Africa managing director David Powels who graduated in 1982 and 1983 with a BCom (*cum laude*) and a CTA respectively. Dave climbed the corporate ladder

Living up to the promise of the NMMU brand

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University has worked hard since its establishment in 2005 to ensure that it has a unique identity in the market place, especially with regard to the educational landscape in South Africa.

A powerful brand is one that resonates meaningfully in the public mind. From the outset MCR has endeavored to communicate and market a credible brand that delivers on the promises made to its stakeholders.

The strap line that underscores our brand, ... for tomorrow, shows that we are a university that is forward thinking and prepares our students to take their meaningful place and impact positively on the lives of others as they move into the world.

A brand is a multitude of aspects that is managed to show that NMMU cares and positively changes lives. It further brings people to the table in a way that they want to be part of the success. A brand

As a university that values integrity it is vital that NMMU lives up to the promise of its brand. Marketing and Corporate Relations (MCR) Director Pieter Swart explains ...

is not a single concept, but is built on all contact and experiences relating to all touch points and it rests on the established brand pillars. Looking at the brand the essence is found in the following:

- Brand as a symbol.
- Brand as a person.
- Brand as an organisation.
- Brand as a product.

The affinity that is established must develop into loyalty and ideally further into ambassadorial behaviour. Educational institutions sell one of the most memorable, life altering services in the world today. Not only should graduates complete the experience with a certificate that they are proud

to display on their walls, they must also feel enriched by the process they went through to receive it. This places the emphasis on the academics themselves, as they are the core component of that experience. This cannot stand alone as the services rendered by support services can often impact greatly on the total experience. The values of

an institution must be embodied by the people who represent it.

Marketing and Corporate Relations is the custodian of the NMMU brand. It is important that staff, students and stakeholders are continuously made aware of the brand, encouraged to live the values with integrity. It is the task of MCR to create awareness, share suc-



Integrity

cesses, communicate and market this in a credible way, thus building our brand and ensuring that we are seen to be a unique institution providing levels of satisfaction and sets of experiences that are superior to others.

The aim is to create a bond with internal and external stakeholders that will cause them to feel more affinity with NMMU and its offerings than any other.

Mail box

Win R100 for best letter

PUT yourself in line to win a R100 Greenacres gift voucher by sending us letters with your concerns, ideas and comments about life at NMMU.

Send your letters to: elma.dekoker@nmmu.ac.za

Design students continue to bring home accolades

Top honours for design

THE LION'S share of awards at the recent Institute of Packaging (IPSA) Goldpack Awards function went to three third-year NMMU Graphic Design students who have now also been entered into the international leg of the competition.

Jessica Pullen scooped the Sappi Silver Award plus R2 900 for the second-placed graphic design student entry overall. In addition, she was placed first in the coffee project section, with her friend Anke Weyers coming second. Lauren Haywood took top spot for the Mondi fruit packaging project.

Jessica also received the Nampak Award for best use of packaging as a branding tool and Lauren for pack construction technology.

Our students competed against 1 000 students from across the country,

proving that they have what it takes to make a splash for creativity in the Eastern Cape.

Student Goldpack Competition, run by the Institute of Packaging SA, and sponsored by SAPPI, is the most prestigious and the longest-running packaging design competition for students in South Africa. The competition challenges entrants regarding packaging material, surface graphics, branding,

“Our winners produced really professional, well-researched packaging”

construction and innovation.

“Our winners produced really professional, well-researched packaging that had the judges waxing lyrical,” said project supervisor Applied Design’s **Bruce Cadle**.



PACKING A PUNCH ... Third-year Graphic Design students Jessica Hulsman (from left), Lauren Haywood and Anke Weyers won several awards in the Institute of Packaging (IPSA) Goldpack competition, creating and developing packaging solutions based on specific briefs by the institute.



PLATFORM ... Music students Curtis Kettledas on saxophone (front) and guitarist Alex Mackay (in the background) shared their talents at the Music Department’s Soiree Musicale on 10 November in the South Campus Auditorium. Students and lecturers performed in duets on guitar, piano, woodwind and string instruments. A recorder quintet, a flute quartet, a voice and brass ensemble and voice and brass solos also performed the work of various classical and jazz composers, enchanting the audience.

Sought-after Pendoring award

BTECH Graphic Design alumnus Reiner Swanepoel (right) won a Silver Pendoring Award with his magazine, *Pronk*, sporting a careful satirical take on Afrikaner popular culture with parodies of Joost and Amor, Steve Hofmeyer and others in a Huisgenoot type format.

The Pendoring Awards are the Afrikaans equivalent to the Loeries – the South African Oscars of the advertising and design industry. This year the awards attracted more than 300 finalists.

“This is the realisation of a long-held dream,” said Reiner, who works for design agency Crackerjack in Richmond Hill.

Not only has Reiner’s dream been realised, but the award in the Truly South Africa – All Media student category, is a first for NMMU.



NATIONAL HONOURS ... Five students receiving their brass tuition from our Music Department - (from left) Dylan Barker (Grey High), Lincoln Adams, Frances Coetzer (Pearson), Kyle du Preez and Antonio Lottering - have been selected for the 2010 National Youth Orchestra and National Concert Orchestra. Dylan also won the 2010 SASMT (South African Society of Music Teachers) Music Competition while Antonio was the winner of the Charles Bryars Scholarship Competition. Kyle has been selected to tour Scandinavia in December with an international jazz ensemble.

Smart phone project

NURSING Science's Dr Esmeralda Ricks' (right) research has recently been highlighted in a pilot project providing 50 nurses with smart phones in the metro.

Dr Ricks spearheaded the US-based AED-Satellite funded project called Mobile Health Information System, enabling these nurses to access information (eg. on HIV/Aids or TB, for ex-

ample) via a smart phone at the point of care (the patient's bedside).

This is only the second of its kind in the world, the first being introduced in Uganda.

Dr Ricks conducted the research necessary to implement and evaluate the success of the project.

She says the concept will particularly be useful in deep rural areas.



Facilities, training development benefit from government payout Financial boost for Health Sciences

THE Faculty of Health Sciences is to benefit from an R11.2m payout from government over the next three years.

The financial boost by the Department of Higher Education and Training, will give the faculty the opportunity to upgrade its facilities and further develop its training.

"We are very grateful for the funding as it will assist us, among other things, in increasing student capacity," says Faculty Dean **Professor Raj Naidoo**.

The present expected intake of 60 pharmacy students for 2011, for example, can grow to at least 120 in the future.

Prof Naidoo says the money will

be distributed across several programmes including Pharmacy, Biomedical Technology, Radiography and Nursing Sciences.

The bulk of the money, however, will go to the latter to uplift its facilities in nursing.

We are very grateful ... it will assist us ... in increasing student capacity

With a huge shortage of professionals in the health sector in South Africa, government is investing in institutions

focused on addressing this shortfall.

Similarly, it is providing financial support to those institutions of higher education that have engineering, science and built environment programmes.

As a result, a new engineering block at North Campus is also on the cards for 2011.

Clinical training will further improve graduates

Faculty of Health Sciences students will soon benefit from improved clinical training initiatives.

Though NMMU students are already widely-acknowledged for their hands-on savvy, the faculty is intent on further improving the practical aspects of its tuition.

"We would like to recruit professionals who have

experience in their designated fields (eg nursing, pharmaceuticals etc) to accompany our students when they set off to do their practical training.

"By appointing such mentors we can access more sites allowing our students more experience in their specific fields," says Faculty Dean Professor Raj Naidoo.

Exclusive family business training

OUR Family Business Unit has secured the exclusive right to train all potential consultants wanting to operate in the family business sector, based on a memorandum of understanding between the unit and the national family business association, FABASA.

In addition, the unit recently trained its first 18 candidates in personal, business and interpersonal issues pertaining to growing up in, owning and managing a family business.

Characters and related challenges facing family business stakeholders, family dynamics, consulting, succession issues, governance, and estate planning principles were among the topics discussed during the three-day programme in Cape Town.

Candidates also learned how the personal dimension affects the conduct of business, and how to move between a personal and a business perspective.



FIRST PROGRAMME ... Presenting their first short learning programme for family business consultants in Cape Town, were psychologist Robin Farrington (from left) joined by the unit's founding members Drs Shelley Farrington and Margie Cullen and Prof Elmarie Venter.

Physical outreach

THREE primary schools received desperately needed physical activity equipment as a benefit of student and lecturer research.

Third-year Human Movement Science students put theory into practice, and gave up their September holidays to implement what they discovered from a needs analysis.

They painted markings for hopscotch, four-square and other games, built activity stations and provided soccer, rugby, netball and other equipment to classes at Booyens Park, Enkwenkwezi and Malabar primary schools..

Supervising lecturer **Dr Cheryl Walter** will now compare the physical activity levels of these children using accelerometers (motion sensors).



Green Campus Awareness Week involves staff and students

Challenging alien invasion

STAFF and students declared war on alien invasive plants, both on campus and its immediate surroundings, as part of the Green Campus Awareness Week.

They demonstrated their commitment to the environment by actively clearing the surrounding areas of invasive alien species, such as black wattle, blackwood, pine, and blue gum. This was followed by the release of biological agents to control the spread of invasive species.

"The Southern Cape is infected with invasive alien plants which have a negative impact on the region's economy, biodiversity, highly stressed water supply and its aesthetic value," says Natural Resource Management School Director **Dr Jos Louw**.

The campus and its two entrance routes were divided into five zones, with one zone tackled daily.

The Working-for-Water group and Eden District Municipality also joined the team and donated chemicals to prevent new growth.

On the final day Acacia seed weevils were released which predate on the seed of the invasive alien plants, including black wattle and blackwood.

Jos added that the entire operation served as an important awareness campaign among staff and students and also challenged schools, conservancies and businesses to become involved in the fight against invasive alien plants.

The process will be repeated early next year.



CLEAN UP ... These Agricultural Management students were among dozens of George Campus students to remove invasive alien plants from its Saasveld grounds. Pic: Kelvin Saunders.



*WORKSHOP ... Natural Resource Management School's **Prof Victor Mmbengwa** and former Free State University's Prof Jan Groenewald, who shared his knowledge on farming practice at a recent Thembalethu Peri-Urban Farmers' workshop hosted at George Campus.*

Assisting peri-urban farmers

AGRICULTURAL Management students will in future interact and assist farmers needing resources in an action research and development programme with peri-urban farmers in Thembalethu, a community on the outskirts of George.

About 26 farmers, students and young people were involved in the first Thembalethu Farmers' Workshop initiated by Agricultural Management's **Prof Victor Mmbengwa** to formalise the cooperative relationship between the university and farmers.

Speakers included former Free State University's Prof Jan Groenewald and former commercial farmer Jack Rubin.

In future, as part of the agreement, Agricultural Management students will visit and evaluate and compare various farming practices and challenges.

"This represents an excellent opportunity of learning and giving back to the community, optimising the best of both indigenous and modern approaches," says Prof Mmbengwa.

He says environmental and economic sustainability as well as social impacts are key considerations for the relationship between NMMU and the farmers who are currently using mostly communal ground for farming.

Through this ongoing partnership a value chain can, for example, assist the farmers to link up with local retailers and abattoirs. A mentorship programme can also be established supported by development agencies.

Lecturer and learner team up

GRADE 10 learner Peter Chantler, 17, has drawn the sketches for the South African edition of the Fire Manager's handbook on Veld and Forest Fires, edited by Forestry lecturer Tiaan Pool.

The talented Outeniqua High School art student hopes to make his career in the art world.

This authoritative book, the second edition written by William Teie who worked for the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) for 34 years, was adapted for South African circumstances and recently published by the Southern African Institute of Forestry (SAIF).

Teie had requested Tiaan, who lectures in Silviculture and Fire Management, to review the book as the "on scene" editor.

The book serves as valuable practical resource on strategy, tactics and safety for fire managers, fire protection association leadership, fire fighting supervisors and forestry students.



*TEAM ... Forestry's **Tiaan Pool**, editor of *The Fire Manager's handbook on Veld and Forest Fires*, presented talented young artist Peter Chantler, who illustrated the handbook, with a special copy of this authoritative, user-friendly resource on various aspects of fire management in South Africa.*

Thank you to retiring staff



SAYING GOODBYE ... Retirees from NMMU in 2010 included (from left) **Dr Tillie Jantjes, Dr John Burger, Gladys Bhanga, Potsi Mahlakahlaka and Marida Stenning.**



TEA FOR RETIREES ... Drs **Jeff Ilsley** (second from left) and **Johann McFarlane, Prof Tilla Olivier, Eve Purcell, Prof Christo van Loggerenberg and Sandra Olivier** attended the Retirement Tea on 9 November organised by Marketing and Corporate Relations. Executive Director Human Resources **Gary Paul** (right) was among senior management to join the farewell function.



RETIRING IN 2010 ... Vice-Chancellor **Prof Derrick Swartz** joined retirees (from left) **Johan Barnard, Christelle Strydom, Corrie van der Elst, Alastair Scott, Prof Ryno Naud and Andr Malherbe.**

Mail box

R100 winning letter

Why change to Bestmed?

MEMBERS of Compcare Medical Scheme were only notified about the change to Bestmed after the decision was already made by NMMU management.

No warning, no discussion, no input from current members of Compcare. Why? Even NTEU seems happy for once.

Since we are now **forced** to join another medical aid scheme, are we going to be re-imbursed for the additional costs by NMMU?

Personally, I have to pay an extra **R326** a month out of my pocket.

I was defaulted from Compcare Dynamix to Millenium Comprehensive on Bestmed, which is fine for members without children.

Because I have two children I had to join the most expensive, top-of-the-range option, Topcare, because their tariff for children is much less expensive than that of Millenium.

Topcare will cost me R241 (including a 13% annual increase) more a month than Compcare Dynamix with which I was very happy.

On top of that, I still have to add R85 for gap cover since Bestmed only covers specialists in hospital at 100% versus 150% for Dynamix.

I wonder what other Compcare members who are negatively influenced by this change think?

Devereux Hickman-Davis

Salary Division

Human Resources responds:

The NMMU Health Care Committee (HCC) continually assesses the landscape to ensure that medical aid scheme members receive value for money, competitive service, along with a stable and sustainable medical scheme environment.

After a thorough investigation involving all role players, including NTEU and NEHAWU, the committee recommended to Council to discontinue Compcare from 1 January 2011 based on affordability for both staff and the university, value for money, benefits in relation to contributions, general stability and membership numbers of Compcare and scheme reserves in relation to membership numbers (ie solvency ratio). Council agreed.

It is indeed true that a limited number of current Compcare members will pay higher contributions with Bestmed in 2011. The benefit ratios are however generally more favourable on the Bestmed options.

Healthtalk Don't get burnt

WITH the summer holidays around the corner, the South African tradition of braaing comes to mind. Falling coals, smouldering long after the braai are dangerous.

All can result in serious burns.

Treating burns is important because they are common, painful and can result in disfiguration and disabling scarring.

Furthermore, open burn wounds can get infected, if not properly cared for.

And **NO** you should never put butter, or other oily substances, on a burn wound. In fact, don't use any ointments on burns.

What can you do?

- **Be safe** – make sure that the person helping the victim does not also get burned.
- **Stop** the burning process at the source.
- **Rinse** the area under running water

for about 20 minutes and continue if necessary. If a large portion of the body is affected the patient can be placed in a cold running shower, but this is a last resort and the person must be closely monitored for hypothermia.

► **Shock** – Monitor for shock and treat if necessary.

► **Dress** – After rinsing the area and the burning sensation has passed, put a dry dressing on the area. Cover with gauze and apply a bandage lightly to the area.

► **Help** – Seek further medical help:
* For minor burns if the pain continues or the wound is open.

* If the victim complains or shows signs of shock, dizziness, light-headedness and shallow breathing immediate medical assistance should be obtained.

- **Ross Chambers, Campus Health Services**

Condolences

THE university staff and students extend their condolences to the following staff and students who recently passed away.

- Record Management's **Joey Smit.**
- First-year Social Work student Monwabisi Kusana.

Condolences also to:

- Student Housing's **Shirani Nhlanguwini** (her father).
- Academic Engagement and Collaboration's **Jean Williams** (her brother).



NETWORKING ... Library and Information Services' Senior Managers **Elna Burger** (front, centre) and **Hester Kritzinger** (back, right) recently visited Stellenbosch University and Cape Peninsula University of Technology Libraries to strengthen ties and share information. Elna (in charge of systems, electronic resources management and quality) and Hester (information services and training) were particularly grateful for the opportunity to renew contacts. They are joined by Stellenbosch's Hilton Gibson (back from left) and Ina Smith and (front) Dr Reggie Raju and Paulette Talliard.



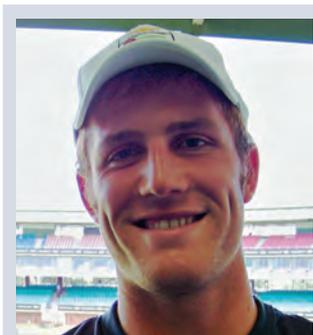
IN THE PINK ... NMMU Rag represented by (from left) RAG chairperson Lucia Mt-shake (centre), Student Governance's **Karen Snyman** (left) and **Jenine Damons** made a R1 000 cash donation to the YMCA towards building a crèche in Zwide, as well as a R250 cash donation to the Eastern Cape Cancer Association from donations collected during a tin drive for RAG. The money was handed over during the YMCA's pink party on 30 October in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



COLLABORATION ... An ANC delegation led by former Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister Aziz Pahad (centre) discussed possible NMMU participation in the party's 100 years of existence anniversary in 2012 with Arts Executive Dean **Prof Veile Notshulwana** (left), Library and Information Services Director **Robert Pearce** (right). Mr Pahad currently serves as Member of Parliament for Johannesburg West Highlands.



HARD HAT ... Never underestimate a woman wearing a hard hat! Marketing and Corporate Relations' **Ntosh Gwaqa** shared study programmes with Grade 11 learners from five local schools at a careers day organised by the Ford Struandale Engine Plant. Learners were informed about the different careers associated with motor manufacturing such as manufacturing operations, engineering, production, finance, quality, human resources and management and the educational requirements for them.



HOT PROPERTY ... BCom student Kelly Smuts not only made his debut for the Warriors but guided them to a thrilling MTN 40 victory against the Titans. Kelly, 20, a member of the Toshiba NMMU Cricket Club, showed tremendous composure and maturity as he smashed an unbeaten 22 from 21 balls in a pressurised situation. He hit the winning runs with just two balls to spare.



WINNERS ... The ABSA NMMU Madibaz Soccer Team won the USSA-EC Regional League on 31 October and qualified for the National Club Championships at Rhodes early in December. They also won the Discovery Algoa FM Corporate Soccer Challenge Fixtures where the final was contested between the ABSA NMMU Madibaz A team and the B team with the A team winning 4-3. Kurt Duff (vice-captain) (back, from left) Sikululwe Ndamase (captain), Matthew Carter, Kagan Assam, Jonathan Hop Hing and Mkhusele Saleni and (front) Andreas Bongani, Vuyolwethu Marele, Zukisani Mtendeni, Lindsay Stowman and Zandisile Mtebele.

Looking back on 2010

- A **R131-m boost from government** will be matched by NMMU to expand our infrastructure to meet the needs of the growing student body, especially in areas of national priority like engineering and education.
- The **new R38m “green” library** at Missionvale Campus is serving both students and the surrounding impoverished community. The building is among the first in the country to use digital sensors controlling lighting and carbon dioxide sensors to ensure energy efficient ventilation.
- The **R130m Centre for High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscopy (HRTEM)** is under construction and should be ready by late 2011. A highly-specialised microscope will enable scientists to analyse materials down to atomic level meaning NMMU will become the dedicated African centre for nanoscience research.
- **Our new values** of integrity, excellence, *ubuntu*, respect for the environment, a respect for diversity and responsibility were launched.
- George Campus took the lead with their **Green Campus initiative** measuring energy and water consumption of students in campus houses, recycling and sorting refuse, and clearing of alien vegetation. Business Management’s research indicated that we want to go green and recommend “green” education and research. Other “green” initiatives include the Centre for Energy Research’s concentrator photovoltaics project, a Green Campus Forum, the South East African Climate Consortium’s (SEACC) new student forum and a green project in Oceana Residence on Second Avenue Campus.
- The first 24 recipients of the largest single undergraduate bursary in the country, the **Vice-Chancellor’s Scholarship**, each received R60 000 for their first year of studies. This figure will be paid for each year of their undergraduate studies providing they maintain their excellent academic record. In line with academic excellence these candidates had to score at least 49 on the admission point score – the equivalent of seven distinctions – to qualify.
- **InnoVenton’s project** using marine algae to turn carbon dioxide into biofuels is housed on campus in a giant greenhouse. This innovative project converts through liquefaction the algae biomass into organic oil as well as sugar and protein solutions, to be used in various applications, such as human and animal feed supplements and chemical production.
- No fewer than 65 students have been **finalists and winners** in national and international competitions including the SASOL New Signatures competition, ABSA L’Atelier competition, Design Indaba, Bradford-based Society of Dyers and Col-

The Soccer World Cup may have taken centre stage in 2010, but NMMU also enjoyed a number of other highlights ...

- ourists’ (SDC) Annual International Design Competition, Eastern Cape division of the Vodacom Durban July Young Designer Award, the online Adobe Go Create competition, the Elle magazine fashion contest, Sappi Ideas that Matter competition, 32nd Annual Loerie Awards and the 2010 Marie Claire Prix de la Mode.
- The **new Kraal complex** was opened on South Campus with Madibaz Café, Madibaz Express, Cassies and Halaal caterers Flavours. New computer labs on Missionvale Campus and “intelligent” lifts in the South Campus Main Building were also completed during the year.
- A new Centre for the **Advancement of Non-Ra-**

designing, building and racing a Formula Student racing car. The team is now focused on international competition in 2011.

- Staff were united in celebrating **Football Fridays** before and during the 2010 Fifa World Cup when our stadium was used as a training ground for teams, 1 700 South African Police Services’ members stayed on campus and volunteer training took place at Missionvale Campus. We also hosted the Fifa/CIES University Network Seminar for delegates from 13 international universities as well as the 2nd World Conference on Science and Soccer.
- Sport Bureau’s **Sport Manager** and SA netball



*COLLEAGUES CELEBRATE ... Education Faculty staff specialising in science, maths and technology education (from left) **Raj Kurup, Lyn Webb, Andre du Plessis** and **Mary-Grace Villanueva** celebrated their graduation with promoter **Prof Paul Webb** (second left). The Education Faculty boasted the most staff members receiving doctorates in 2010.*

- cialism and Democracy (CANRAD)** was launched in March under the directorship of **Allan Zinn**. Events organised by the centre included a diversity walk in August, a series of discussion sessions on “Difficult dialogues”, and a talk on campus by Mahatma Ghandi’s granddaughter, Ela Gandhi.
- NMMU launched the only **TETRA (Terrestrial Trunked RAdio) Academy** in Africa in April. The R26.7m investment in the TETRA Academy in the Faculty of Engineering, the Built Environment and Information Technology includes equipment (hardware and software), staff training, fittings and furniture. TETRA is a standard or specification for mobile radios used by the police service.
- NMMU is the first South African university to successfully run a **Formula Student racing** project by

player, **Zanele Mdoana**, represented South Africa on a tour to New Zealand and Samoa and was included in the Commonwealth netball team. Zanele was also named NMMU Sport Woman of the Year. Other sporting highlights include weightlifter Mona Pretorius’ participation in the Commonwealth Games, our surfers hosting and winning the SA Universities Surfing Championship at Victoria Bay, outside George; **Warrick Fynn** named CSA Club Championships Player of the Tournament and **Pite van Biljon** receiving the CSA Student Cricketer of the Year Award. The Spar NMMU netball team was crowned second best student netball team in South Africa, with Dumisane Chauke receiving the trophy for the Best Shooter at a tournament held at Sun City.