



RUGBY FEAST ... Students (from left) Kayla Human, Chi Chi Xu, Siphokazi Mzini, Shalom Khandanisa, Clare Rieger and Karen Dorfling are among the cheerleaders and a warrior who are leading supporters during this year's Varsity Cup rugby series which kicked off on 6 February. Entry to the games is free. See page 7.

Implementation of design will make NMMU a 'role model'

Master plan to guide way

A GREAT hall, new entrances, a focus on pedestrian walkways and the need to put nature first are among the many features of a new Urban Design Framework for the university.

The Urban Design Framework Concept, colloquially known as the master plan, was approved by executive management late last year.

The plan, completed by DLMM Urban Design Association in consultation with key staff at NMMU, forms part of Vision 2020, the university's overriding strategic guide for the institution it wishes to be.

It forms part of the university's efforts to provide an overall spatial plan, as opposed to a reactive approach which has caused the university to be "sprawling, fragmented and inefficient" in terms of design.

► In this edition

The plan, which includes all campuses, is presently focused on North and South campuses which will be known as Summerstrand Campus, the focal home of NMMU and takes its cue from the university's academic direction – that of a medium-sized, comprehensive university offering a full range of activities. Consultants acknowledged that the plan must be flexible because of obvious uncertainties, particularly around funding.

The new consolidated and integrated Summerstrand Campus, however, will include the following:

- A great hall for graduation and other major events (close to the present South Campus tower block);
- University Way will include a pedestrian and cycling boulevard starting at the present Gomery Avenue turn-off;

- New entrances to provide a sense of place;
- New academic facilities of three or four-storeys high flanking both sides of University Way;
- New roads skirting the perimeter of the merged campus to allow for improved traffic flow;
- Better quality public open spaces;
- An alumni house alongside the lake on South Campus;
- New student villages offering a variety of accommodation to suit all students;
- Clustering of like-minded disciplines (sport; sciences; arts)

The consultants found that despite NMMU's present lack of a social and spatial heart, as expressed through infrastructure, it has many positives. It is part of a nature reserve, is close to the sea, has much undeveloped land

and offers some good structures built in the modernist tradition.

They further believe it important for NMMU "to assume a leadership role" in its sustainability strategies by maximizing resource efficiency and finding ecologically responsibly productive solutions for recycling and reuse. Putting nature first is recognised as a key design principle which means a "greener" NMMU and will become a role model among institutions of higher learning.

View the master plan under "photos" on: <http://www.nmmu.ac.za/marketing>



POPULAR
Student growth

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CAMPAIGN
Driving force

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GREEN
Solar car

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STAFF
Long service

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A PEDESTRIAN walkway for the new Summerstrand Campus (South and North Campuses), a cheerleading warrior, a solar car and a hotel school are just a few of the ideas and innovations marking the beginning of the new academic year.

In addition, leadership and values training form the core of our orientation programme, a number of conferences had interesting outcomes and we have made our mark by attracting almost 60% of applicants to Eastern Cape

New beginnings

universities.

We have also decided to renew our talk@nmmu look with a new masthead and page design. We hope you like it. Later this year we will do a survey for you to share what you like or dislike about talk@nmmu.

In line with Vision 2020 the urban design framework or master plan strives to regroup our buildings

and study areas to contribute to a coherent holistic and green approach.

It is then very fitting to profile the new NMMU Trust Chief Executive Officer as the driving force behind the R1-billion Endowment Campaign of which half would be used towards building projects.

We also share the findings of a survey on the NMMU Staff Associa-

tion which last year introduced its first social responsibility drive with members donating gifts for the aged.

Remember to share your thoughts about issues at NMMU anonymously on SOAPBOX.

These are followed up with relevant staff and answers also posted.

Send us your stories and photographs.

Kind regards

Elma de Koker



Next edition: New Health Sciences Dean ▶ Four research chairs

SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE ... Staff members on the Future Leaders Programme **Prof Reuben Masango** (left) and **Dr Tulsī Morar** (third from left) were joined by mentors **Prof Thoko Mayekiso** (second from left) and **Prof Niekie Dorfling** to assist and support them in the second year of the programme.



Mentors for future leaders

THE six staff members on the Future Leaders Programme have now been joined by mentors to assist and support them in their second year.

The candidates have successfully completed their first year of the Business School's Advanced Leadership Certificate, says Human Resources **Leo Doria**.

The candidates and their mentors are: Marketing and Corporate Relations' **Debbie Derry**, mentored by Strategic Planning

and Institutional Analysis Senior Director **Prof Heather Nel**, Library's **Desiree dos Santos** by **Prof Cheryl Foxcroft**, Campus Health Services' **Antoinette Goosen** by DVC: Institutional Support **Dr Sibongile Muthwa**, Political and Governmental Studies' **Prof Reuben Masango** by DVC: Research and Engagement **Prof Thoko Mayekiso**, Education's **Dr Tulsī Morar** by Business and Economic Science's Dean **Prof Niekie Dorfling** and **Dr Janina Wozniak**

by Academic Planning and Quality Advancement Senior Director **Prof Christo van Loggerenberg**.

An action plan was developed with mentors to provide support and reinforcement, assist in improving performance and productivity and increase confidence and self-reliance.

It also enhances a better understanding of the total organisation and facilitate greater awareness of the individual's strengths and weaknesses.

Briefs

Top 40 under 40

NMMU Business School's Marketing and Stakeholder Relations Head **JP Roodt** (right) who is also an alumnus and Zoology's **Dr Kwezi Mzilikazi** (below) were both included in the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber Top 40 Under 40 list.



Altogether 23 of the 40 leaders in business, commerce and industry are NMMU alumni. JP is also studying for his master's degree while Kwezi is a Fulbright Scholar and honorary ambassador scientist for the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

In parliament

ZOOLOGY'S **Prof Graham Kerley** represented the Board of SANParks at the recent Parliamentary Portfolio Committee Public hearing on rhino poaching.

Employee award

HUMAN Resources **Buli Nokwe** (right) received her department's 2011 Employee of the Year award for her sparkling personality, her willingness to learn as well as her endeavours towards excellence making her a favourite amongst her colleagues and clients.



Another accolade

OUR flash mob was one of the top 10 South African YouTube videos of 2011 and was voted by women's magazine, Fair Lady, as their favourite.

Top position

ALUMNUS Dan Hugo (UPE BCom 1987) has been promoted to director and CEO of PSG Konsult.

"WOW! That was a nice surprise. I didn't even know we were getting it!" a colleague commented when staff were informed about the payout of a Once-Off Institutional Gratuity Bonus added to the February 2012 salary.

The Gratuity Bonus is calculated on 1.5% of employees' Annual Basic Salary as at 31 December 2011 and will be paid to Council Funded Permanent Full-day and Half-day (5/8) employees, as well as Council Funded Fixed Term Contract Employees, with contracts longer than 1 year's uninterrupted service.

"The Institutional Gratuity Bonus is a demon-

Welcome bonus

stration that NMMU remains committed to rewarding performance. Although not as a consequence of the EDS-related achievements at this stage, employees have shown commitment to delivering their best efforts in support of achieving the Vision 2020 objectives, Human Resources Executive Director **Gary Paul** told talk@nmmu.

Education's **Prof Hugh Glover** said: "It is thoughtfulness like this that confirms the feelings – we are on the path to becoming a more caring and humane organisation".

Madiba magic Orientation initiative

NMMU has been hailed as a global pioneer for embracing an initiative aimed at transforming a generation to emulate the values of its namesake, Nelson Mandela.

Speakers at the launch of Nelson Mandela – The Champion Within at Missionvale Campus saluted NMMU's leadership for "making history" by introducing 1 800 first-year students to a new programme that enables them to discover the "champion within" themselves.

"This programme can mobilise a nation. The NMMU students are the pioneers," Professor Njabulo Ndebele, of the Nelson Mandela Foundation which has given its blessing to the Life College programme, told the 600-plus attendees of the launch at the Indoor Centre.

UCT, Fort Hare University, the University of the Free State and Wits have also committed to the ground-breaking project that hopes to reach a million young people by 2020.

The day-long programme, which formed part of Orientation and was facilitated by NMMU staff, uses the example of Nelson Mandela to provide insight into leadership, values and one's purpose in life.

The round-table discussions are structured to enable students to nurture, discover and actively develop the



We will only succeed if each one of us lives the changes we want to see in the world

LEADING FUTURE LEADERS ... Vice-Chancellor **Prof Derrick Swartz** is credited with taking the bold step of embracing a ground-breaking programme that gives all first years the opportunity of thinking and behaving like Madiba.

champion within themselves.

"The launch of this programme confirms our belief that we will only succeed in making our country and world a better place if each one of us

lives the changes we want to see in the world," Vice-Chancellor **Prof Derrick Swartz** said.

Senior students and staff were also invited to attend the free initiative

at which each participant received a copy of *Nelson Mandela – Conversations with myself*, valued at R300.

Feedback from participants was very positive.

NMMU attracting most students among EC institutions

Popular student choice

APPROXIMATELY 60% (35 000) of prospective students applying to study at Eastern Cape institutions, applied to NMMU.

About 6 530 of these students were admitted for first-year studies prior to registration in February.

By and large some 80% of these students register in the end.

Initial figures on 13 February after a smooth registration process indicate an overall growth of 5.9% in student numbers.

The large number of applications processed can be attributed to sound internal processes as well as early and firm deadlines for applicants; a major expansion in school marketing campaigns, a new online, digital application system; integration of all back-office services; and a brand new Contact Centre for the public.

Other interesting statistics that Vice-Chancellor **Prof Derrick Swartz** shared with parents and first-year students at the packed welcoming ceremony are

that we retain an average of 85% of new first-year undergraduate students compared to the system average of 70% and that 49% of our students are from the metropole.

Final registration figures will be published at a later stage.

Furthermore, a total of 28 top learners from seven provinces were selected for the Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship of R60 000 a year, the biggest bursary given by a public university in South Africa. Altogether 230

candidates applied for the bursary.

The final 28 consists of 17 women and 11 men with candidates coming from as far afield as Roodepoort, Gauteng, and Kokstad in KwaZulu-Natal.

The most popular choice among recipients has always been Chartered Accounting, but this year Science is on par.

The recipients will be acknowledged at a gala event on 28 February.

Pooling resources important for R1m billion campaign success

New driving force

BORN and raised in the Karoo town of Cradock, the newly-appointed Chief Executive Officer of the NMMU Trust, Dr Garth van Gensen, has come home.

Tasked with driving NMMU's R1 billion capital campaign, Dr Van Gensen brings with him a wealth of skills and expertise having been involved in the advancement and development of higher education for more than ten years.

Because sustainable development is the imperative of the twenty-first century, building sustainability for the university's future is central for the NMMU Trust, taking into account, amongst others, the so-called Green Economy and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), he says.

Dr Van Gensen is not overwhelmed by the task ahead, but upbeat about the challenge.

"I am excited and look forward to the new position. Raising R1 billion may seem a daunting task. However, I believe that when we pool our resources and work towards a common goal, the target is achievable.

"When we break down the campaign in digestible chunks; identify various resources and strategies, then people will realise that it is not that daunting."

To this end the NMMU Trust will leverage on all opportunities – locally and abroad - to champion the endowment and capital campaign in enabling the achievement of the NMMU's Vision

2020 in very close collaboration with internal and external stakeholders.

The Business Development Unit, targeting Public and Private Sectors, the Legacies Programme, the Commercial Enterprise and Alumni Programme are some of the key strategic drivers for the Trust's Capital and Endowment Campaign.

The establishment of the Commercial Enterprise unit was approved by the NMMU Board of Trustees and will customise the principles of the Entrepreneurial University without losing focus of the university's core mandate, i.e. teaching and learning, research and community engagement.

Dr Van Gensen says NMMU alumni and individuals will play a huge part in achieving the campaign goals. "I am impressed with the staff and a structure that will make this possible."

He joins NMMU from the Cape Peninsula University of Technology where he was the Advancement Director.

Prior to this, he had been the Senior Director: Advancement & Marketing at the Central University of Technology (CUT) for four years. Before that he worked as Senior Director: Corporate Relations at the same institution.

In addition, Dr Van Gensen was the Regional Manager of Prestasi Brokers (now Indwe Risk Services). His region covered the Free State, Northern Cape and Eastern Cape.

Dr Van Gensen holds a doctoral degree in Busi-



CHALLENGE ... Newly-appointed Chief Executive Officer of the NMMU Trust, Dr Garth van Gensen, is upbeat about the challenge of driving NMMU's R1 billion capital campaign.

ness Administration from CUT, an MBA from the University of Wales, and a BA (Hons) as well as a teacher's diploma from the University of the Western Cape. After matriculating from the Holy Rosary Convent in Cradock and graduating from UWC, he worked as a teacher in Cape Town.

He is married to Dr Dawn van Gensen, Director of Staff Development at CUT. The couple has two children, Megan, a second-year medical student at the University of Stellenbosch, and Gareth, who completed his honours degree in Accounting at the University of the Free State.

Dr Van Gensen loves travelling to "not-so-exotic" places, is keen on photography, a rugby supporter and enjoys running in the morning.

“When we break down the campaign in digestible chunks ... it is not that daunting”

Large growth for University Shop

THE University Shop's turnover has grown by 170% over the past three years - a good indicator of staff and students' interest and development of the NMMU brand, says Alumni Relations Director Paul Geswindt.

"We seem to have entered our Vision 2020 phase where more staff and students are showing interest in wearing, using and promoting university branded items."

A recent intranet snap survey completed by 430 staff members indicated that 68% of them visited the shop.

Debit and credit card facilities are available and the shop is working on an online shopping platform to go live within a few months for alumni, out-of-town students and friends.

Mobile stores also sell items at the Welcoming Ceremony and Graduation while a satellite shop was recently opened on the Missionvale Campus.

Retail arrangements are made for the George Campus.

The top three best sellers include corporate golf shirts, an A5 journal and an inexpensive pencil set bringing the brand to conferences. Apart from clothing and bags the shop also sells memorabilia such as NMMU ties, lapel pins, Choir DVDs, ceramics and greeting cards.

The shop at the Sanlam Student Village is a "value" driven venture which should generate enough income to cover its expenses whilst ensuring that as many possible people support the brand, says Paul.

The Alumni Association and Shop team thank all staff, students, alumni and friends for their support which ensures continued growth. Contact Shop Manager **Baakier Abrahams** with any suggestions or requests for products and services on x4371 or email shop@nmmu.ac.za.



Leading Vision 2020

THE NMMU Council boosted the R1-billion Endowment Campaign with R2m in December last year to kick-start the fundraising effort.

"New investments are going to be required in a new generation of academic programmes to help South Africans cope with the challenges of sustainability in global climate change and resource limits – a new economy, new industries, cities and towns, building materials, food production, banking systems and civics, Vice-Chancellor **Prof Derrick Swartz** said.

R500m will be used for long-term reserves, and R500m to fund specific projects such as a new Engineering Mechatronics Research Innovation and Technology Centre, new student residences, a high performance sport centre, a Science Centre and an Alumni House.

Educational innovations

“A rigorous interrogation of our own assumptions, theoretical stances and approaches to research” the organisers said about the recent Education Association of South Africa (EASA) conference.

Hosted by NMMU the conference theme attempted to dig beneath the surface of educational worlds with themes such as action research, developing principals’ self-motivation, HIV and Aids Education and parental involvement forming part of papers presented by a number of NMMU colleagues.

The conference, attended by 120 delegates, took place at Mpekweni Sun Beach Resort near Port Alfred in late January.

Leading educationalists, DVC: Academic Affairs **Prof Piet Naud**, basic education and lifelong learning

expert UNISA’s Professor Catherine Odora Hoppers, and University of Johannesburg’s education rights expert, Dr Salim Vally, were the keynote speakers.

Topics discussed included providing quality literacy to reduce poverty and ensuring sustainability, first-year pre-service students’ prior mathematics experience and perceptions of teaching mathematics, empowering principals to conduct and present action research projects, mentoring and teaching practice of student teachers in SA township schools and critical connections with district offices towards excellence in education

Education’s **Prof Naydene de Lange** who was also convenor of the conference received a medal of honour from the association while **Prof Lesley Wood** is the incoming chairperson.



POSITIVE INFLUENCE ... Fulbright specialist from Chicago Dr Sharon Silverman (left) motivated staff including CTLM’s Thoko Batyi at her public workshop and seminar on Missionvale Campus last month to focus on students’ abilities rather than what they lack. Her workshop on teaching and learning for success emphasised guidance on the sideline and making them share responsibility for their own learning. Sharing personal experiences in learning contributes to self-reliance.

Change in education

SPEAKERS at the Heltasa Crossing Borders for Change in Southern African Higher Education conference on the Missionvale Campus included Free State University’s Prof Jonathan Jansen, University of Wisconsin-Madison’s Prof Donald Hanna and Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic Affairs Prof Piet Naud .

Extended Studies’ **Prof Maritz Snyders** was the convenor with other organisers including **Prof Cheryl Foxcroft** and **Dr Alethea de Villiers**. Applied Language colleagues **Dr Maureen Klos** and **Lee Kemp** were included in the group whose papers



PAPERS ... Applied Language Studies’ colleagues (back from left) Dr Ruby Zauka, Eileen Scheckle and Dr Hilda Israel and (front) Jacqui L. ck, David Blignaut, Dr Marcelle Harran and Sharon Rudman were among our staff who presented papers at the Heltasa conference in early December.

centred around the literacy interventions and language practices of their department to improve student lit-

eracy rates at NMMU. Conference delegates also donated books to the Elizabeth Zamboni Library of Hope.

Positive SAHARA conference

DELEGATES at the 6th SAHARA conference hosted by NMMU in December agreed that based on evidence the tide on HIV/AIDS is indeed turning.

Much additional effort, however, needs to be done to intensify the UN-AIDS international campaign for zero aids related deaths, new infections and discrimination. Facilitated by DVC Research and Engagement **Prof Thoko Mayekiso** and Executive Dean of Arts **Prof Velile Notshulwana**, the conference was attended by 561 delegates from 36 countries worldwide.

Various top level local and international speakers at the conference included the International AIDS Society Executive Director Bertrand Audion and representatives from the HSRC, SAHARA, SADC, USAID UNICEF and SAFAIDS.

The conference consisted of a number of pre-conference workshops, plenary presentations, capacity building workshops, satellite sessions and round table discussions, oral presentations and poster sessions.

A GROUP of 34 Environmental Health students recently realised it is not so easy to apply health regulations in the real situation as it is learning about them in the classroom.

The group saw how sheep are slaughtered and drinking water tested for bacteria during a five-

On-site experience

day study tour in the Kouga area organised in partnership with the Kouga municipality.

“The tour has been taking place for the past 15 years and is an annual highlight” says Environmental

Health’s **Willem Michau**.

The municipality provides free accommodation and organises the visits to large role players such as the Woodlands dairy in Humansdorp and the Patensie prison.

Fracking impact to be explored

THE first national debate around fracking in the Karoo hosted by NMMU late last year reached a clear conclusion, namely that more research still has to be done.

“Globally we stand before a very important decision to either explore a radical vision of renewable energy resources or we need go for a compromise where we move away from highly polluted energies like fossil fuels, to use shale gas reserves, extracted through fracking, which according to scientists is 50% cleaner than coal, but still not a sustainable solution,” said debate leader and DVC Academic Affairs **Prof Piet Naud**.

The debate’s outcome was that the moratorium on the fracking licenses should be retained for a period until independent monitoring of exploration companies, such as Shell, is properly put in place and monitored, and the public at large, including people

from poor rural communities, is assured that fracking will not have an irreversible negative impact on their surroundings and future generations.

Naudé said the debate formed part of the university’s mission of making a critical and constructive contribution to regional, national and global sustainability. It was presented through the NMMU Business School’s Strategic Conversations platform, a series of public debates and open lectures that focus on current and newsworthy issues affecting regional and national business, launched earlier last year.

The panel of participants including Shell South Africa Upstream General Manager Jan Willem Eggink, Treasure Karoo Action Group’s chairman Jonathan Deal, NMMU geology & mineralogy expert **Prof Maarten De Wit**, and Andrew Muir representing the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber.



IN ACTION ... Panel member Treasure Karoo Action Group Chairperson Jonathan Deal in action at the debate on fracking in the Karoo hosted by NMMU’s Business School late last year.

WELLNESS among students is important for them to reach their maximum learning potential says Student Counselling’s Dalray Gradidge.

Dalray is one of the development team members of the South African wellness questionnaire for a student population; the first for any Student Counselling Centre in the country.

The other members are Student Counselling’s **Dr Hanna van Lingen** and retired head **Dr Andr de Jager**.

Work on the questionnaire started in 2000 at the former UPE and the current version has been used at NMMU since 2005.

The Wellness Questionnaire for

First wellness questionnaire

Higher Education (WQHE) test targeted at psychologists and registered counsellors working with university students has now been classified by the Psychometrics Committee of the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and is ready for sale to practitioners.

So far Vaal University of Technology, North-West, Western Cape and Venda have shown interest in the test which the centre will now start marketing in partnership with our Innovation Support and Technology Department.

The team together with Missionvale Campus’ **Dr Iona Wannenburg** published two articles in the SA Journal of Psychology on the research.

The team will also be working on a version adapted for international students.

Meanwhile registered

Educational Psychologist **Dr Maud Ntanjana** (below) has joined the Student Counselling, Career and Development Centre as Director from the beginning of the month. Dr Ntanjana is from UNISA and has also experience in community engagement, learning barriers and teacher development.



SUPPORT ... Student Counselling’s Dalray Gradidge (from left) and Drs Andre de Jager and Hanna van Lingen have developed the first Higher Education Wellness Questionnaire in the country which are now ready to be sold to institutions and private practitioners.

Outstanding citizens

WELL-KNOWN pharmacist Clive Stanton, blind physiotherapist, Hazel Marshall and local musician Feya Faku received the NMMU Council annual Prestige Awards at the end of last year.

Mr Stanton (top right) received the award for his contribution in ensuring that the standards of pharmaceutical practice are not compromised, the role which he played in initiating the HIV and Aids programme through all sectors of the profession and his tireless efforts to raise the level of Higher Education in our province and nationally.

Ms Marshall (centre) was recognised for her contribution to the blindness and disability sectors - enriched by her passionate commitment, boundless courage, commendable grit and a fervent sense of purpose.

Mr Faku received his Council Prestige Award for his contribution to society through his music and educational workshops.



Res, u20s games, warrior add to atmosphere

A feast of rugby

THE Varsity Cup rugby series has been boosted this season by the addition of a residence and an under-20 format of the game, along with various other fun events for student spectators.

The residence competition, or Koshuise, and the under-20 contest, known as the Young Guns, will happen prior to the main Cup games, to extend the fun and also as a means of developing rugby at all levels.

The organisers have also introduced a Shield section for universities that do not make the top eight. Fort Hare and Wits University, for example, will play in this section.

This season a "warrior" will also be part of the off-the-field activities. Lutho Jolobe, a final-year BCom (LLB) student, is NMMU's warrior. He will be joined by about ten cheerleaders, all kitted out in Xhosa-inspired outfits designed and made by alumnus Laduma Ngxokolo and his BTech fashion design student sister, Tina.



GIVING BACK... Alumnus Laduma Ngxokolo whose Xhosa knitwear is making waves on fashion catwalks around the globe, has given back of his time and expertise by designing the cheerleaders and warrior outfits for this year's Varsity Cup

"We designed something to showcase us as a dynamic African university, and since we carry the name of Nelson Mandela, we wanted something that was Xhosa-inspired," said

Laduma, who is presently setting up his own business, MaXhosa, to supply boutiques in Cape Town, Johannesburg and London.

NMMU home games:

- 6 Feb – NMMU vs NWU-Pukke
- 27 Feb – NMMU vs UCT (televised). The main game starts at 17:00.
- 5 March – NMMU vs Maties (only one game starting at 19:00).

Design Hat-trick

A BLANKET convertible into a poncho, made from recycled hotel room linen and aimed at Aids orphans, resulted in BTech Textile student Shannon Daniell becoming the third consecutive NMMU winner in an international design competition.

As part of her prize in the Bradford-based Society of Dyers and Colourists' (SDC) Annual International Design Competition with her project titled "Beautifully bleeding", Shannon spent three days in Hong Kong at workshops on textile techniques and technologies.

The last two winners were Laduma Ngxokolo and Moipone Qekisi.

Fashion design lecturer **Gina Esterhuizen** said Shannon had a very strong narrative behind her design according to the theme "reduce, recycle, reuse".



TWO of only three recipients of bursaries from the Southern African Association for Energy Efficiency (SAEE) are both third-year NMMU Architecture students.

Brian Saunders attained 11 distinctions in his first year and was also named the 2010 Student with the Best Overall

Energy efficiency vision

Performance in the First Year of Study in Bachelor of Architectural Studies' Award.

Brian's vision is to reduce the country's dependence on coal and use the many renewable energy resources in South Africa, in spite of the global skills shortage

in the renewable energy field as well as the high cost of harnessing it.

Recipient Sheree Anne Marinus' biggest dream is to contribute towards affordable, durable township family homes through architectural innovation.

Briefs

International papers

LANGUAGE and Literature's **Dr Hilda Thomas** (right) and Journalism, Media and Philosophy's **Bianca Wright** (below) both presented papers at the 10th Annual



Hawaii Conference on Arts and Humanities in Honolulu, Hawaii in January.

Dr Thomas's paper focused on "Incorporating media into the French curriculum" while Bianca's was entitled "Using Online Games to 'Sell' Causes in South Africa."

Fashion alumnus excels

FASHION design alumnus Kelly Esterhuyse is hot fashion property.

The 22-year-old, who will graduate with her BTech this year, was chosen to exhibit her mohair fashion at the Cape Town Design Indaba.

French fashion designer Vanessa Bruno is interested in hiring Kelly, who recently spent two weeks in Durban designing her own range of clothing for Mr Price, part of her prize as the 2011 Elle Young Fashion Designer of the Year.



VISITORS ... SA Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Derek Hanekom (centre) visited the joint congress of the South African Mathematical Society (SAMS) and American Mathematical Society (AMS) hosted by NMMU in December. Altogether 314 delegates from countries around the world including a large number of masters and doctoral students attended the congress which promoted excellence in mathematical research. Co-funded by the London Mathematical Society, the congress included eight keynote talks by distinguished mathematicians and maths educators from all the associations. Minister Hanekom is joined by (from left) Mathematics' **Flip Potgieter** and First Rand Foundation Mathematics Chair **Prof Werner Olivier** with local organising committee chairperson Mathematics' **Prof Geoff Booth** (back).

FOLLOWING the success of 280 maths and science teachers from 140 schools countrywide, the Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Unit has now extended its project to include 120 mathematical literacy teachers and subject advisors in the Free State.

Both groups are exposed to a unique technology-based teaching and learning model, using electronic media to teach the Grade 10 to 12 NCS maths syllabus. The model is shared via a DVD series, which teachers can also use in the classroom.

"The DVD series takes into account the skills levels of teachers, and is an affordable, practically implementable and sustainable model that can be replicated in various school environments. It also facilitates own-space learning.

It is like a personal tutor," said Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Unit Head **Prof Werner Olivier**.

All these teachers have passed matric mathematics, and will this year also receive skills training to assist with the teaching of National Curriculum Statement (NCS) mathematics in

Boost for Maths teaching skills

the Free State.

"It will change my own way of teaching, for the better of the children we are teaching," said one teacher commenting on the science DVD-

It will change my own way of teaching, for the better of the children we are teaching

series after attending one of two four-day skills upgrade sessions in July and October last year in Pretoria.

These sessions used two DVD series for maths and science for the Grade 11 syllabi while the same teachers will this year be trained for Grade 12.

The teachers were mostly from Dinaledi project schools (a countrywide project increasing access to maths and science at higher-grade level in

underprivileged schools).

The unit has teamed up with partner, the SA Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA), to advance educational research and training for maths and science.

SAASTA might also get involved with career guidance and bursary support for learners who have completed the unit's incubator schools for maths and science with possible assistance from the Department of Education.

The unit recently also ran a maths skills upgrade programme for teachers in the Somerset East area, while the Department of Education will offer the same programme in the Graaff-Reinet and Cradock areas.

The unit GMMDU also uses a Casio DVD series to teach educators how calculators can be used to solve a range of problems linked to the learning outcomes of the syllabus.

Prizewinning presentations

ZOOLOGY'S Dr Ronel Nel (below) and her students won three prizes for their research presentations at the Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association Scientific Symposium in Mombasa, Kenya.



"Ambient light intensities on loggerhead nesting beaches in South Africa" won student Wayne Brazier and Ronel the overall third prize. Ronel and Dave Schoeman together with student Linda Harris won a second prize (day three) and with student Melissa Boonzaaier, a third prize (day one).

The topics included conservation planning techniques to save sandy beaches, loggerhead sea turtle hatching and climate change implications.



NEW INVENTORS ... Formulation Science BSc Honours students Hassan Dawjee (from left) Nomakwezi Moyikwa, Anthony Muwanga, Zikhona Tsholo, Asanda Bukula, Ejesieme Vitus and Chemistry's **Dr Nicole Vorster** at the final-year product showcase where the students presented their products to academics and industry.

Improved 'homegrown' products

CHEMISTRY students have created and developed their own homegrown, mostly environmentally friendly products upstaging current products on the market.

Ten BSc Honours in Formulation Science students, completing the course last year, showcased their products with oral presentations, business and commercialisation plans, and prototypes.

These part-time students work in diverse industries such as Sasol, Aspen Pharmacare, BASF and Corning.

Their products included:

- ▶ An environmentally-friendly modified bitumen for tar roads which uses recycled rubber
- ▶ Ant repellent / insecticide made from chrysanthemum extracts which is not harmful to people or animals
- ▶ A hot-plate coating to stop rusting which can withstand up to 350 degrees
- ▶ A user-friendly clear coating for cars with optimised viscosity which does not solidify as quickly as other products

- ▶ A high stress polymer for industrial water treatment for boiler and cooling systems, replacing imported products
- ▶ A water-based whiteboard cleaner which is more environmentally friendly than solvent-based ones
- ▶ Heat-reflecting paint for roofs
- ▶ A cosmetic sunscreen
- ▶ A car wax containing UV absorbing ingredients.

"One of the main objectives of this course is to get the students to think like entrepreneurs and to get creative with science", **Dr Nicole Vorster** said.

New Mxit Application attracts 1000s

COMPUTING Sciences **Mxit App Version 2** assisting **CAT (Computer Application Technology)** learners has already had more than **200 000 requests since its launch on 1 October last year.**

The application also won a national Big Idea competition on the web which focuses on projects that positively contribute to society.

"What is pleasing, is that the application was especially popular in the days before matriculants wrote their final CAT papers at the end of last year, says Computing Sciences Department Head **Prof Jean Greyling.**

The most popular component of the new version is one that runs as a quiz. Users answer multiple-choice

questions related to the subject, and this component has had over 125 000 requests.

"It's also exciting that there has been 11 000 requests regarding computing careers and possible studies at NMMU.

Version 1 had around 34 000 requests from March to September.

The department is ready to launch Version 3 soon, which will form part of a research study into the effectiveness of the application.

Some new first-year students, who have done programming at school, have started writing similar applications for platforms like Blackberry and Android! The group is also considering providing the same service for other school subjects.



HAPPY HOME ... It's not only on our nature reserve campus where we have a large variety of animals, but the Chemical Technology Institute, InnoVenton, in Comery Road seems to be a popular home too. The wild rabbit in the photograph has befriended two dikkop birds and follows them wherever he can. In addition, one tree seems to be the home of most of the birds with a nest of hadeda chicks joined by the majority of weavers building their nests there, even though there are many other trees available.

Students will design, build solar-powered DibaTwo

Driving into a greener future



NMMU Racing is building a car for tomorrow – a solar vehicle that will boast both the metro and university’s research capabilities into renewable energy.

The new DibaTwo follows the success of DibaOne, a racing car built from scratch by NMMU students which successfully competed against 100 other international teams in Germany last year.

“To further challenge ourselves, we have targeted two areas which have a direct impact on the environment – renewable energy and renewable ma-

terials,” says Mechanical Engineering lecturer **Trevor Stroud**, who manages the Formula Student project.

As a result, the team has devised a new “green technology” strategy, dubbed GT for short.

The new car, powered by the sun, will be a plug-in electric Formula Student car.

Trevor says they are aggressively recruiting electrical and mechatronic students to boost the project’s capacity in these areas.

“Again we want to be the first team in Africa to

We want to be the first team in Africa to compete in the electric-powered category ”

compete in the electric-powered Formula Student category,” he says. This will hopefully be in 2013.

The team already has excellent relations with local automotive companies, and is also growing its collaborative links with Warwick University in the United Kingdom in order to learn more about renewable materials on racing vehicles.

Research together

SCHOOL of ICT’s Prof Darelle van Greunen and the High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscopy Centre’s Prof Mike Lee recently joined a Department of Science and Technology (DST) mission to Germany, the UK, France and the Netherlands for research collaboration.

Expert researchers, programme owners and other stakeholders from South Africa discussed cooperation opportunities and

strengthened SA research in specific fields.

Key research areas identified by the DST are energy, climate change, Nanotechnology and ICT for sustainability, health and environment. International research institutes, universities, government and industry were represented.

Both Profs Van Greunen and Lee said new opportunities for collaboration were created across disciplines.



Prof Darelle van Greunen



Prof Mike Lee

Improved skills

SKILLED employees contribute to productivity and optimum usage of products results in shorter start-up times, reduced downtimes and faster trouble shooting.

These are just a few of the benefits for seven Ford Motor Company of Southern Africa (FMCSA) employees who recently participated in a Service and Maintenance 1 course at the Siemens Training Centre in our Advanced Mechatronics Technology Centre (AMTC).

All training provided is accredited by Siemens, with a number of the courses also registered with the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA).

*ACHIEVERS ... As runners-up in the Jessup International Moot Court competition in Johannesburg, Law students Tina Terblanche (from left) Andriza Liebenberg and Tshepiso Bogatsu have been invited to Washington DC. They are joined by lecturer **David Abrahams** (back) and the Law Faculty Dean **Prof Vivienne Lawack-Davids**.*



Law students to Washington

THREE Law students showcasing their oral advocacy and strong research skills and the ability to think on their feet have been invited to participate in a moot court competition in America.

The students were invited as runners-up in the recent Jessup International Moot Court competition in Johannesburg.

“The faculty is immensely proud of our students’ achievement” said Law Dean **Prof Vivienne Lawack-Davids** who added that the students do moot court as part of their formal assessment, thereby combining substantive legal knowledge with practical skills.

IN ACTION ... George Campus Accountant, Stacey Swigelaar (left) and Senior Finance Officer, Enid Rhode, with first-year BCom Accounting student, Andr Verwey and his mother, Alta, during registration.



Driving innovation

GRADUATES need to be educated and trained to have the expertise to become the future entrepreneurs driving innovation in the rural environment.

These are among the conclusions of the 7th World Conference of the Global Consortium of Higher Education and Research for Agriculture in Beauvais, France, at the end of last year where Agricultural Management lecturer **Johan Jordaan** (above) presented a paper to representatives of 62 countries.



New economic, societal and environmental challenges such as food safety, food security, climate change, biodiversity, bio-renewable resource use, technological innovation and the protection of natural resources should be researched and addressed by universities, Jordaan said.

Curricula should be developed across different academic disciplines and wider than the traditional agricultural sciences.

THE first George Campus student to receive the Abe Bailey Travel Bursary, Forestry Master's student Muedanyi Ramantswana, joined students from 16 other SA universities on a three and a half week tour to the United Kingdom.

"For me the tour, as a whole, opened a whole new perspective on how diverse people are in the world and the importance of understanding that past actions - whether good or bad - shape future societies".

Students with exceptional

Travel experience

leadership qualities and a strong service ethic participate in educational tours promoting an understanding and appreciation of British history, institutions and culture; while promoting South African unity.

"The live theatre performances were a first for me personally and it was an amazing experience," says



Muedanyi who attended no less than six classic theatre performances – War Horse, Les Misérables, 39 Steps, Measure for Measure, the Lion King and The Messiah in the Royal Albert Hall.

The bursars also had to discuss issues of special interest, such as development, education, social issues, economics and politics.



Natural Resource Management's Tiaan Pool (right) congratulates third-year Forestry student Bongani Finiza who won first prize in the UK-based Institute of Fire Prevention Officers' (IFPO) Technical Trophy Competition 2011. The winning paper focused on the ecological role of fire. Bongani could not travel to the UK for the ceremony, but received his unique glass trophy and certificate at a function on the George Campus.

Briefs

Film shooting

SPORT facilities on our George Campus were used for the shooting of a feature film called "The Little Kings".

The script is based on a disgraced cricketer arriving in George to take a coaching job at a school where there isn't a cricket team.

The film then focuses on the young cricketers growing as individuals and how they eventually perform as a team under the guidance of the coach.

The project boasts a star-studded cast, with Oscar nominated director Darrell Roodt as Director, Anton Ernst (Producer) and actors Justin Strydom, Deon Lotz, Lisa Marie Schneider and Christina Storm.

Forestry degree

FORESTRY'S **Andrew McEwan** was awarded his MSc Forestry degree in forest engineering with distinction from the University of Pretoria.



Reaching out

NINE first-year Natural Resource Management students assisted by Wood Technology's **Richard M Iler** made 500 candle-holders for the annual Carols by Candlelight initiative of the local SPCA. The wood for the project - grey and black ironbark - was sourced from natural regenerated trees at the arboretum on campus.

Internship

THIRD-YEAR Public Relations student **Alicia Maclean** has joined Marketing and Corporate Relations at George Campus assisting with marketing, public relations and communication.

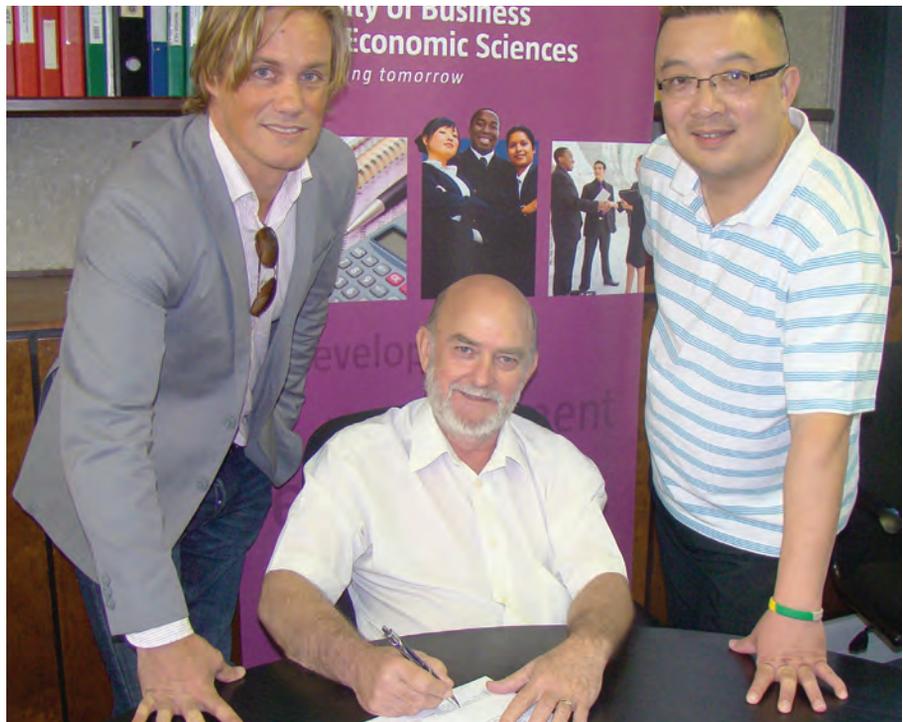


Boost for entrepreneurs

STUDENT exchange programmes, an entrepreneurship workshop, community projects and lecturer exchanges are but a few of the collaborative projects ahead in an official agreement between NMMU and Germany's Münster University of Applied Sciences.

The exchange of ideas and knowledge will also improve the marketability of our students, says Management and Entrepreneurship's Paul Tai-Hing.

Management and Entrepreneurship together with the Science-to-Business Marketing Research Centre (S2BMRC) and the Finnish Entrepreneurship and Innovation Network for Higher Education, FINPIN, will also host a conference on "Entrepreneurial Universities" in Münster in April this year.



COLLABORATION ... Münster University's Todd Davey (left) and Management and Entrepreneurship's Paul Tai-Hing look on as Department Head Prof Norman Kemp (seated) signs the Memorandum of Understanding between the two universities.

Reaching out

FIRST-YEAR Management students under the leadership of lecturer Paul Tai-Hing used their marketing skills to raise R 22 500 for the Laphumlanga Home for children in Zwide at the end of last year.

As part of their course the students formed busi-

nesses and marketed a calendar designed by third-year Management students to industries and corporates.

The money was used for food, electricity and Christmas treats for the children. Mr Tai-Hing drove the initiative; teaching the students entrepreneurship, as well as the concepts of Business Management and social responsibility.

Catering for growing hospitality needs

A NEW BCom degree programme in Hospitality Management introduced in 2013 will cater to the rapidly growing needs of the hospitality and tourism industry.

Coupled with this programme a fully-fledged hotel school will be established on our Second Avenue Campus.

Economics Development and Tourism School director Prof Hendrik Lloyd says the

infrastructure of the hotel school will include both academic and commercial facilities.

"This comprehensive access to a state-of-the-art commercial hotel will substantially increase the learning experience of hospitality students," says Prof Lloyd.

The curriculum for the programme cultivating specialist hospitality managers has been developed in collaboration with a wide range of role-players in

the hospitality industry, both nationally and internationally.

Students will receive comprehensive education in aspects of economics, business management, financial accounting, information systems and logistics, operations and marketing management, focusing

on hospitality and tourism establishments.

"In addition, students will be familiarised with hospitality facilities and the more practical aspects of hospitality operations management, including food and beverage management, front office, housekeeping, events management and various legislation," says Prof Lloyd.

Development of the four-star boutique hotel will be outsourced.

Prof Lloyd says the degree programme will start even if the hotel facility is not fully operational.

"This comprehensive access to a state-of-the-art commercial hotel will substantially increase the learning experience of hospitality students"

You can win

LUCKY readers can win three R100 Greenacres Shopping Centre vouchers and two R100 University Shop vouchers. Just read your talk@nmmu!

Answer the following questions (from articles in this edition):

1. A focus on **p.....n (10 letter word)** walkways and the need to put nature first are among the many features of a new Urban Design Framework for the university.
2. The NMMU Council boosted the R1-billion **E.....t (9 letter word)** Campaign with R2m in December last year to kick-start the fundraising effort.
3. Computing Sciences MXit App Version 2 assisting **CAT (C.....r (8 letter word)** Application Technology) learners has already had more than 200 000 requests since its launch on 1 October last year.

Correct answers, along with your name, surname, staff number, department and telephone number, can be e-mailed to elma.dekoker@nmmu.ac.za by **10 March**.

Schuinvilla Pharmacy, Newton Park, charges no additional fees. Deliveries daily to NMMU. Clinic now available. Tel: 0413642109; Fax: 041- 652474. Online orders: www.schuinvilla.co.za.

Rules ► Only NMMU employees may take part in this competition. ► Only e-mail entries qualify for this competition. ► Staff who do not have access to e-mail may ask a colleague to submit their entry – just include the correct name, department and phone number of the person entering the competition. ► Your full details must appear on the e-mail entry. ► Only one entry per person is allowed. ► The judges' decision is final.



ALUMNI BENEFITS ... Alumni Relations and Career Jump have signed an agreement whereby the company will provide alumni with the opportunity to upload their personal profiles to be considered for employment placement by Career Jump and its affiliated companies. At the signing were (front from left) Alumni Director **Paul Geswindt** and Career Jump CEO Dr Deon Van Wyk and (back) Alumni President Randall Jonas and Career Jump's Attie Uys.



JUMPING IN THE LINES ... Using simple painted games, Human Movement Science students promoted physical activity and school sport at three primary schools in Port Elizabeth late last year. The students obtained sponsorships and together with the teachers created physical activity-friendly environments at Sapphire Road, Charles Duna and Machiu Primary schools, using simple painted games, play circuits and small equipment. The students also conducted leadership camps for prefects and facilitated sports coaching. All these activities form part of the Passport to Health project initiated by Human Movement Science's **Dr Cheryl Walter** in 2010.



SPECIAL TRAINING ... Some 22 peer helpers from all the PE campuses recently attended the South African Business Coalition on HIV & AIDS Bridges of Hope HIV & AIDS Training together with their peer help coordinator, Student Counselling's **Lungsi Ntlokwana** (centre front), joined by facilitators Wendy Lupuwana (left) and Linda Maye (right).



RECOGNITION ... Alumni Achiever Award recipient Eben Venter (centre) is congratulated by DVC Academic Affairs **Prof Piet Naud** (left) and Alumni Association President Randall Jonas at the public lecture presented on campus in February where he read from his books. Currently living in Australia, Venter is a master's degree alumnus and born and bred in the Eastern Cape. He has won numerous awards for his Afrikaans books of which many have been translated into English. He has always tackled difficult socio-political issues in his writing such as Aids, immigration, the country's future, multi-racial relationships and integration and land ownership.



TRAVEL PRIZE ... Technical Services' **Vuyani Ndita** is congratulated by Vice-Chancellor **Prof Derrick Swartz** after winning the R15 000 travel voucher drawn at the end-of-year and long service staff function on 6 December in the Indoor Sports Centre.



LONGEST SERVING ... Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz (centre) congratulates 40 and 35 year recipients Chemistry's Harold Marchand (from left), Finance's Denise du Preez, Chemistry's Kulukazi Maqoko, Physics' Prof Japie Engelbrecht, Student Systems' Miemie Nel and Chemistry's Raymond Venter at the staff year-end long service award function.

Our long service recipients

40 years

► Japie Engelbrecht ► Chris Nel ►
Miemie Nel ► Raymond Venter

35 years

► Michiel Ackermann ► Denise du
Preez ► Rosa du Randt ► Kulukazi
Maqoko ► Harold Marchand

30 years

► Xoliswa Adams ► John Burger ►
Peter Butlion ► Lester Cowley ► Mary
Duker ► Cheryl Foxcroft ► David Gola
► Riaan Knoesen ► Nomatansanqa
Laxa ► Lindiwe Mani ► Mhlangabezi
Matshobongwana ► Gavin McLachlan
► Zwelinzima Mgcokoca ► Mluleki Mt-
sila ► André Nagel ► Thobile Ndimeni
► Sarel Schoombie ► Charmaine Sea-
man ► Rob Snelgar ► Bukelwa Sofute
► Hentie van Eck ► Danie Venter ►
Nontobeko Williams ► Tris Wooldridge
► Nomhle Zako

25 years

► Gordon Abrahams ► Di Ayliff ► Dave
Berry ► Magda Bosch ► Mike Cameron
► George de Lange ► Cecile de Wet ►
Renee Ferreira ► Myriam Chenne
► Thomas Hilmer ► Lynette Heck ►
Patricia-Joan Hector ► Willie Louw
► Nomsa Madalane ► Nondumiso
Mlambo ► Katazile Mpuzi ► Nontobeko
Nobe ► Werner Olivier ► Ina Roux ►
Cheryl Schroder ► Reinette Strydom

► Robert van den Berg ► Helene van
der Sandt

20 years

► Naomi Bain ► George Beer ► Yolisa
Beta ► Kolie Brandt ► Mariana Braun
► Charmaine Button ► Maxie Calitz ►
Lindi Coetzee ► Larry de Klerk ► Jackie
Elliott-Gentry ► John Gonsalves ► Hugo
Grimbeek ► Danie Jordaan ► Norman
Kemp ► Hazel Kendrick ► Ian Kleyn ►
Susan Kolver ► Wanda Kritzinger ►
Theresa Le Roux ► Hannalie Lombard
► Ockert Lombard ► Henri Maarschalk
► Phumla Malahle ► Vaughan
Marlow ► Noxolo Mazibuko ► Kuselo
Mduduma ► Glenn Meyer ► Pippa Nell
► Russell Phillips ► Sandy Potgieter ►
Deon Raubenheimer ► Daniel Rayners
► Sandra Roux ► Gletwyn Rubidge ►
Ken Scholtz ► Hein Smith ► Neville
Smith ► Mncedisi Stafaans ► Madéle
Tait ► Sanet Teubes ► Hennie van As
► Denise van der Merwe ► Glynis van
der Walt ► Ernest van Dyk ► Liezel
van Willing ► Riaan van Zyl ► Deanne
Webb ► Xoliswa Xaluva ► SJP Zeelie ►
Lungisile Zomba ► Mzwakhe Zomba

15 years

► Thina Balakistnen ► Paul Baldwin ►
Charmaine Barnardo ► Hugh Bartis
► Leonie Beckett ► Quinten Booysen
► Narnia Bohler-Muller ► Reinhardt
Botha ► Erika Bothma ► Thandile
Charlie ► Desiree David ► Lorelle de
Villiers ► Tracey Dissel ► Leo Doria ►
Mario du Preez ► Noluntu Dyubhele
► Tracy Ebel ► Kim Elliott ► Helena

Fourie ► Nolutando Gumede ► Delia
Hambury ► Shayne Hardiman ►
Mark Hardman ► Rudi Harmse ►
Michelle Harrison ► Bill Holderness ►
Johan Hoon ► Sonwabo Hoyi ► Dave
Jenkins ► Kevan Johnson ► Them-
beka Jonono ► Graham Kerley ► Gert
Kiewietz ► Pieter Kolver ► Fikile Konza
► Annette Kriga ► Ruby-Ann Levendal ►
Tania Litvine ► Xola Mafana ► Lindela
Mahlanyana ► Michelle Mey ► Yiota
Moutzouris ► André Mukheibir ► No-
bathembu Ngcayisa ► Shirley Ngcosini
► Mongezi Ngwane ► Rudi Page ► No-
matemba Pangwa ► Romella Pather
► Sandra Perks ► Quentin Petersen ►
Christo Pienaar ► Kishore Raga ► David
Ransley ► Lynette Roodt ► Ridaa Salie ►
Gregory Saunders ► Eldon September
► Joey Staphorst ► Mike Swanepoel
► Nicolette Terblanche ► Pieter van
Breda ► André van Eck ► Carmen van
Leeve ► Johan van Niekerk ► Charles
van Renen ► Boban Varghese ► Nicole
Vorster ► Patrick Vrancken ► Wendy
Wilde ► Krish Williamson

10 years

► Danielle Barnes ► Drucilla Blaauw
► Jennifer Bowler ► Lusanda Cain ►
Sydney Campbell ► Henrico Claassen
► Ruth Connelly ► Caroline Davies ►
Ntobeko Dyira ► Rachel du Plessis ►
Clyde Felix ► Derek Forsyth ► Cheslyn
Gie ► Beverley Gray ► Raymond Harris
► Devereux Hickman-Davis ► Gideon
Horn ► Cynthia Hustler ► Gordon
Jacobs ► David Joubert ► Anette
Knight ► Hendrik Lloyd ► Nadia Liberty
► Sandiswa Maswana ► Thembinkosi
Mbata ► Ignis McLaren ► Victor Meyer

► Nompandolo Mfene ► Nandipha
Mintoli ► Linda Mostert ► Shawn Olivier
► Letchemie Padayachee ► Krishnavani
Pillay ► Deidre Potgieter ► Brenda
Scholtz ► Cynthia Sibanda-Chitengu ►
Zoleka Soji ► Dieter Steenberg ► Steven
Thomas ► Charl van der Merwe ► Carol
van Onselen ► Dieter Vogts ► Merle
Walters ► Lynn Weelson ► Ena Wessels ►
Jacques Wessels ► Sharon Whitehouse
► Bianca Wright ► Nomalungelo
Xokozela

5 years

► Rafiekah Abrahams ► Linda Adams
► Ranchia Arends ► Lucinda Baatjies
► Candice Bezuidenhout ► Lizl Blom
► Sgo Boniwe ► Linda Botha ► Beverly
Brikkels ► Fadlie Bruce ► Nomthandaza
Busakwe ► Charlene Castelyn ►
Candice Chetty ► Tanya de Lange ►
Olwetu Dhladhla ► Abigail Fortuin ►
Maria Hansford ► Bashlique Hayes ►
Jean Howell ► Tracey Jegels ► Cheryl
Jewnarain ► Linda Kapp ► Shereene
Knipp ► Chantel Koekemoer ► Louise
Lamprecht ► Thabisa Makolota ►
Msondeszi Matyila ► Khasayi Mayiyana
► Bongiwé Mkuhlu ► Ronel Nel ►
Ncedile Ngcape ► Asanda Ngeva ►
Zeenat Nordien ► Elizabeth Oakes
► Jackie Palframan ► Gary Paul ►
Bernard Piater ► Lizelle Pienaar ►
Fundiswa Qangule ► Alida Sandison ►
Christelle Scholtz ► Ursula Serfontein
► Suzette Share ► Johan Steyn ► Ilze
Strydom ► Nicola Taylor ► Amanda
van den Berg ► Marilies van Rooyen
► Thulani Vena ► Rae Vincent ►
Sheralyn Watkiss ► Nicolas Wickens
► Mark Young

▶ **Healthtalk**

Are you a blood donor?

EVERYDAY people could be victims of a motor car accident or a horror attack; a new born baby may need a life-saving operation. Only people who donate blood can save these people from dying. Please donate blood and give someone a second chance to live.

Did you know that?

- ▶ Last year 721 staff and students donated blood on our various campuses in Port Elizabeth.
- ▶ Only 5% of donated blood is used as whole blood. The rest is separated into red cells (for operations, accident victims, anaemia, certain cancer patients and rhesus babies), plasma (to restore blood volumes and for cancer patients, treatment of burns and blood disorders) and platelets (used for blood clotting, blood disorders, internal bleeding and cancer patients)
- ▶ People can donate blood every 56 days.
- ▶ Eight out of ten people need blood at some time in their lives.
- ▶ One out of every ten patients in hospital requires blood transfusion.

Tips and information

Eat a balanced meal at least two to four hours before donating. Information about safe blood transfusion and risk behaviour is shared with donors who complete a form before donating their blood. Iron levels and blood pressure are

measured before the donation. The entire process takes approximately 30 minutes.

Afterwards donors are given something to eat and some juice to replenish lost fluids. For 24 hours after the donation more fluids should be taken. Donors can go on with their normal activities with no side effects.

Donors have to weigh 50kg or more, be between 16 and 65 years of age and lead a sexually safe lifestyle.

You cannot donate blood if you have low or high blood pressure, a low iron level, are pregnant, had an operation or are taking certain medication.

Your blood will be considered unsafe if you have HIV or AIDS, had sex with or worked as a commercial sex worker in the past six months, have been treated for a sexually transmitted infection in the past 12 months, had casual sex or multiple partners in the past six months or have ever injected with drugs not prescribed by a doctor.

Weidy Padayachee, Campus Health Services.

Blood Drives @ NMMU

South Campus (Foyer Biokinetics Centre): 12 & 13 March, 14 & 15 May, 13 & 14 August, 16 October

North Campus (mobile van next to library): 19 March, 23 May, 31 July, 11 October

Second Avenue Campus (next to cafeteria): 19 March, 23 May, 31 July, 11 October 2012

Missionvale Campus (Mobile van, main parking area: 14 March, 16 May, 8 August, 10 October 2012.



*UBUNTU ... NMMU Staff Association Chairperson **Shayne Hardiman** (right) and secretary **Anneke Botha** (left) delivered gifts donated by staff at the association's year-end function in December to Algoa Bay Council for the Aged's Alta van der Merwe. The gifts were distributed to the elderly all over the metropole.*

Socialising and meeting colleagues important

STAFF say the NMMU Staff Association functions are key to meet and socialise with colleagues they rarely see.

This is but one of the findings in a survey conducted last year by the association in which 161 respondents participated.

The results of the survey showed that members are happy with the association's role and especially enjoy the year-end function and gift as well as the staff loans as benefits.

Most respondents agreed on the need for a charity drive in line with NMMU's value of *Ubuntu*. The committee implemented this at the function in December where staff donated gifts for the elderly. Altogether 179

gifts were handed over to the Algoa Bay Council for the Aged who distributed them all over the metropole.

For lunch time functions staff preferred a fun walk around the campus or an adventure event such as a treasure hunt or an amazing race.

The survey also highlighted the importance of regular feedback and marketing of the association.

Other benefits for staff include a gift fund paying out when staff retire or resign from NMMU and lucky draw prizes at all functions. To join the association obtain an application form from the Staff Portal ▶ Old Portal ▶ Social Stuff ▶ NMMU Staff Association ▶ Shared Documents ▶ Staff Association Membership Application Form.

Condolences

THE university extends condolences to the family and friends of the following staff and students who passed away recently:

- ▶ ICT Services' **Patrick Jakuja**
- ▶ Language, Media and Culture's **Prof Danie Jordaan**
- ▶ Applied Design's **Lynette Kommer**

- ▶ Third-year Education student Nocwaka Tungata
 - ▶ Retired Executive Director: Operations Prof Eugene du Preez
 - ▶ Former UPE Council member Jan Allen
- We also extend our condolences to the following staff members whose family members passed away.
- ▶ Reprographics' **Thozamile Bokolo** (his wife)
 - ▶ Physics' **Prof Japie Engelbrecht** (his mother)

- ▶ NMMU Trust's **Prof Kotie Grov** (his father)
- ▶ Writing Centre's **Anne Knott** (her mother)
- ▶ Strategic Planning and Information Systems' **Marian Neale-Shutte** (her mother)
- ▶ Natural Resource Management's **Sonia Roets** (her husband)
- ▶ Human Resource Management's **Dr Amanda Werner** (her father)

Soccer, cricket, rugby and tennis victories at USSA Top performances



NMMU did us proud at the annual University Sport South Africa championships with a number of codes and teams bringing in the accolades.

Soccer

OUR ABSA NMMU Madibaz Soccer team (above) made history in December by winning the USSA National Football Club Championship trophy for the first time, beating the Cape Peninsula University of Technology 3 – 0.

Goals were scored by LeRoy van Rensburg (1) and Siseko Pupa (2). It's also the first time an Eastern Cape University has won the Male Section of the USSA Football Championships.

At the awards ceremony, the Madibaz cleaned up with Manager, Coach, Goalkeeper and Player of the Tournament being Cawekazi Daka, Luyanda Nwadi, Lindsay Jennings and Achuma Klaas.

Rugby sevens victory

BEATING North West University's Vaal Campus 17 – 12 in a tense final that went into sudden death overtime, NMMU George won the Bowl Competition at the USSA Rugby Sevens tournament on their home campus.

At the end of full-time the score was tied at 12 points each. An additional five minutes were added to the time and Abdul-Gasiep Jappie finally

crossed the line to score for NMMU – handing them the Bowl Trophy.

Luyanda Tshemese scored two tries for NMMU with Neil Treurnicht adding the extra two points with the conversion.

Cricket

THE NMMU George cricket team won the D-section of the annual USSA Cricket Week at the end of last year

and was promoted to the C-section for this year.

NMMU George remained unbeaten throughout the tournament hosted by Vaal University of Technology in Vanderbijlpark after four convincing victories and one no-result due to rain.

The victories came against the Medunsa Campus of the University of Limpopo, Fort Hare B, Vaal University of Technology Invitational and North West University Invitational. The match against the University of Zululand was abandoned due to inclement weather after Zululand's innings.

Sean Smith received the award for

the best batsman of the tournament after a tally of 189 runs off only 162 balls in his four innings. His highest score of the week was 109 not out off 77 balls against the VUT Invitational side.

Other stellar performances came from batsman Patrick Hancock with 145 not out off 96 balls against Fort Hare B; stand-in bowler Brendan Louw with 5 for 14 against the University of Zululand; and bowler Arnold Eshmade with 4 for 19 against Limpopo's the Medunsa Campus.

Tennis

BROTHERS Eric and David Fisher were selected for the USSA national tennis team at the USSA tournament in Stellenbosch in December. They will compete in the African Student Games later this year.



WINNERS ... Enjoying their home victory were NMMU George Rugby Sevens team JP Deschamps (front from left), Phaezelle August, Abdul-Gasiep Jappie, Neil Treurnicht and sport manager **Hugo Loubser** and (back) Marnus de Klerk (team manager), Louis Hamman, Luyanda Tshemese, Etienne Janse van Rensburg, Francois Kemp (captain), Joseph Juries, Kutelani Tshivhase, Dailin Moos and assistant team manager Chris Liebenberg. (Photograph Kelvin Saunders)

Strong man

MICROBIOLOGY honours student **Eugene Nolan** won a gold medal in his category with a bench press of 235kg improving his Eastern Cape and South African records at the Commonwealth Powerlifting Championships in Bournemouth, England in December last year.

