



INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM ... The NMMU choir is again riding on a global wave of acclaim after representing Africa at the 11th China International Chorus Festival and IFCM World Choral Summit in Beijing and Singapore last month where they performed before audiences of up to 18 000 and appeared on national Chinese television. Their vocal tribute to Nelson Mandela on his 94th birthday on YouTube also received more than 10 000 hits within days of its release. Go to NMMUontube to watch it.

## Staff and students take time to support others

# Celebrating Mandela Day

**“DOING something as little as donating 67 minutes of your time to help those who cannot help themselves is really nothing compared to the selfless things which Mr Mandela did for us.”**

So says BA Psych student Alet Swart, one of hundreds of staff and students from our university who gave of their time and talents on 18 July, Nelson Mandela’s 94th birthday.

The response to the annual national call to support Nelson Mandela Day was unbelievable as evidenced by the feedback received from the NMMU community.

“I am volunteering at my local hospital in Jansenville. Assisting and helping the medical staff of SAWAS Memorial to brighten up the day of the patients and staff members. Happy Birthday, Mr Mandela!” Alet said.

From visits to primary schools by top management to the launch of a video gift to our namesake by our choir – our staff and students really went the extra mile in living out our value of *Ubuntu* on Madiba’s birthday.

The video of our choir singing Johnny Clegg’s moving “Asimbonanga” (“We haven’t seen him yet” which called for the release of Mandela in 1987) was posted on YouTube on his birthday and had been viewed by more than 10 000 people within the first 10 days. SABC 1’s *Morning Live* and KykNet’s *Kwela* also aired the video as part of their birthday tribute programmes.



Much positive feedback has been posted on YouTube expressing pride in the NMMU choir such as “Happy Birthday Madiba. Awesome video. I am so proud to be part of NMMU.”

Our campus libraries also collected books from staff and students to donate to schools and public libraries.

This year there seemed to be a focus on helping children and, as always, a number of life-changing moments were experienced by the NMMU community.

► **Prof Andre Mukheibir** and others from the Law Faculty joined forces with Institutional Planning

and Audit and Risk Management to distribute food parcels for children at the school run by the Missionvale Care Centre under the Ubuntu Outreach Programme.

► Third-year George Campus Wood Technology student Pam Tshikalange planted indigenous trees at Dam View.

► Student Candice Lewis and friends handed out free soup, bread and clothes to the children in their area, and learned about the lifestyles of young, needy kids.

**Thank you!**  
Your cooperation during our recent “dry” spell due to the city water crisis is much appreciated. Special thanks go to Technical Services staff.



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# Awards galore



LOOKING at this edition, we seem to be doing very well on the award front. Our Business School has won an international award, our students have shown their excellence at the academic awards evening, our flash mob has won yet another award and in sport our surfing team is the top university team in the country.

We can also pat ourselves on the back for doing our bit for the less privileged – from staff and students who did their 67 minutes for Mandela Day through to our soccer league assisting schools with soccer kits.

The NMMU choir has just returned from China as one of five choirs worldwide and the only one from Africa to be invited to a festival and summit there. Their beautiful voices have also been recorded on YouTube viewed by more than

10 000 people worldwide with their song for Madiba's birthday.

Many staff also put in extra time over the school holidays to present three winter schools in Accounting, Engineering and Science assisting prospective learners' with their studies and sharing NMMU with them.

We are proud of 18 staff members who put in extra time to qualify as African language translators and interpreters.

Don't forget to support the various Diversity Month events this August and our Casual Day project on 7 September supporting persons with disabilities.

Please send us your stories and photographs.

Kind regards

Elma de Koker



ROLE MODEL ... Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Engagement **Prof Thoko Mayekiso** interacted with learners at Charles Duna Primary School as part of NMMU management's 67 minutes support to others. See page 1.

## Briefs

### Change catalyst

CTLM'S **Alexis Pillay** (right) is the only South African and one of 12 successful applicants from 300 to be selected for a full University Cooperation for Development grant to participate in the Human Rights for Development (HR4DEV) programme in Belgium from 30 July to 25 August.



The candidates were selected based on their expertise, motivation, and social impact. Altogether 35 participants - mostly from developing countries in the southern hemisphere and eastern Europe - are taking part in the programme to become catalysts for change in their region.

### Service to our students

NMMU is among the top three universities for Best Careers Service and top seven for Best Careers Fair according to the South African Graduate Recruitment Association survey feedback.

Our Graduate and Student Placement Unit assists students in finding employment and acts as a link between students and industry.

### National presence

PHARMACY graduates Sibabini Khatsha, Raydon Juta and Sim Pembuka attended the national conference of the Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa in Durban together with Pharmacy's **Shirley-Anne Boschmans**.

Both Sibabini and Raydon also made presentations at the conference.

### Debating finalists

THREE Debating Society members reached the finals in the National Debating Competition in July at the University of Limpopo. Khanyisa Nogaya and Mmeli Notsh excelled in public speaking and Lwandile Lupondwana in adjudication.

Earlier this year, the Debating Society and the Department of the Arts & Culture hosted a debating extravaganza among NMMU, Walter Sisulu and Fort Hare Universities won by Fort Hare University (East London).

### Alumni on campus

THE architects on the new Engineering Building on North Campus are both NMMU alumni and from local firms: Hubert Sieg of Imbono FJA Architects and Laurinda Rheeder of Architectural Design Associates.

## Diary

**1 - 31 August**

Diversity Month

**29 August**

Research & Teaching Awards

**7 September**

Staff Association Spring Walk,

South Campus Sport Stadium

**August - January**

Honorary Doctorates Exhibition

Archives Centre - 2nd Avenue Campus

## Casual Day 2012

Friday, 7 September is national Casual Day when NMMU will, with the rest of the country, "get on board" dressed as a sailor, captain or pirate with our R10 sticker donation towards persons with disabilities. Our donations will benefit Cheshire Homes, PE Mental Health and Cerebral Palsy Association.



**ACADEMIC STARS** ... Taking top honours at the academic awards function in June were Natalie Kerr (back) for "best master's degree by coursework in Social Sciences and Humanities", Riaan van de Venter (left) as the top diploma student, Alysha Transell as the top degree student and Adriaan Grobler as the best master's degree student in Science and Technology. Adriaan also received the Rupert Family Trust award of R100 000!

# Building boost for campuses

**BUILDING activities on campus are continuing with new projects valued more than R250m soon to begin.**

Plans are now advanced for the construction of the R116m Business School and a 200-seater lecture venue, both on Second Avenue Campus. In addition, the Second Avenue Campus library will receive an R8m upgrade.

A construction tender for the 75-bed George Campus residence closed in May.

According to Projects and Planning Director Greg Ducie construction on

an expanded aquatics centre at the South Campus sport centre will start while the contractor for a new Human Movement Sciences (HMS) building near the postgraduate village on South Campus and a 312-bed residence, alongside the Sanlam Student Village, are already on site.

"It is exciting that NMMU is embarking on these big projects which will go a long way in improving our quality of

teaching and learning.

"The Business School project which has integrated sustainability principles in its design is a pioneering project of its kind in the higher education sector in South Africa, and we are very proud of this achievement," says Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Institutional Support

**Dr Sibongile Muthwa** (above).

When staff move out of the old

HMS block, the revamping of the block and the adjacent Education Faculty facilities can start.

Meantime, completion of the new R34m Engineering building is expected soon.

The completed projects include:

- ▶ The refurbishment of the second and third floors of the Health Sciences building on South Campus
- ▶ The upgrading of offices in the Heinz Betz Centre
- ▶ The one-stop administrative hub for students in the Embizweni building on South Campus.



## Social media award

**NMMU has won an international award for "best use of social media" thanks to the flash mob by our choir.**

NMMU took a silver award behind American higher education giants Johns Hopkins University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Circle of Excellence awards honouring outstanding work in communications, alumni relations, marketing and advancement services.

The flash mob - an impromptu performance in a public place - which was staged almost a year ago by NMMU's international award-winning choir at Greenacres Shopping Centre was part of a campaign to highlight the closing date for applications to study at NMMU and to raise awareness of the institution. See page 1.



**NEW RESEARCH** ... Oxford University's Dr Jamie Warner (from left) and his wife Frewyeni Kidane with Physics' Prof Jan Neethling (back) and Dr Jaco Olivier (front right) witnessed Africa's first good images for single iron atoms in graphene on our High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope. NMMU and Oxford have been working together to produce a technique to identify high-quality graphene used in the electronics industry.

South Africa's oldest art school has staying power

# Award-winning graduates testimony of excellence

**THERE is nothing "old school" about South Africa's oldest art school.**

It would be understandable if Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University's School of Music, Art and Design with a heritage that goes all the way back to 1882, followed a traditional, safe and sound approach. But it does not, nor does it frantically scramble to be "contemporary cutting-edge".

"We are not trend-obsessed," says school director **Mary Duker**. "We make space for our students to find their own creative voices."

That they do is evident in the school's many triumphs.

*We make space for our students to find their own creative voices*

Among the most recent is 2010 textile design and technology graduate Laduma Ngxokolo, whose trendy men's Xhosa knitwear range with beading and patterns, brought an African flavour to the catwalks of Paris, Milan and London last year. Ngxokolo has won a string of awards, including the 2011 Marie Claire Prix d'Excellence de la Mode Best Emerging Designer award.

Then there is 1995 fine art graduate Stuart Forrest, managing director and film producer at Africa's biggest animation studio Triggerfish. The studio recently completed its first feature film, *Zambezia*, which sold to 26 distributors worldwide. Triggerfish's second feature film *Khumba* will be completed by the end of the year.

Forrest says his time at the art school taught him to "appreciate colour, composition and form, which are the basis of our animation".

"Our films are always praised for their sheer visual beauty, colour consistency and great character design – often lacking in independent



*TOP ANIMATION FILM ... NMMU Fine Art graduate Stuart Forrest is the managing director and a film producer at Africa's biggest animation studio Triggerfish, which recently completed its first feature film, Zambezia.*

animated films."

Several of the school's photography graduates who went on to specialise in advertising have won international acclaim, including Jillian Lochner, who works between London and New York, and David Prior, who works in Johannesburg and Cape Town. They have both been included in the prestigious Lürzer's Archive 200 best photographers.

Lochner, who graduated in 1990, says the art school gave her a "very good foundation". "For the first time in my life, I created art and expressed myself fully. I felt I could do that because I had a strong grounding and many times, when all else fails, I have had that to come back to. I strongly believe that in order to abstract something, you need to have a good understanding of the form beneath."

Among the many top brands she has worked on, she is most proud of shooting the iconic Absolut

Vodka bottle.

Prior too has worked on a number of leading brands, including Amstel, Castle, KFC, Steers, BMW and Mercedes, and has won a string of awards, many gold, at Cannes Lions International Festival of Creativity, D&AD (Design & Art Direction) Awards, One Show, Europe's premier creative awards Epica and the Loerie awards.

Transkei-born Andile Dyalvane runs Imiso Ceramics Studio in Cape Town, and is making his name here and abroad with his ceramic interpretations of the city's industrial skyline viewed from his studio window.

Last year the school had eight students among the top 100 of the prestigious Sasol New Signatures national art competition, and 16 among the top 100 in the Absa Atelier competition, in which photography graduate and lecturer Gerhardt Coetzee was placed among the top 10.

The list goes on.

So what is the secret to the school's success?

"We run a small school," says Duker. "There is constant engagement and interconnectedness between the students studying fine art, photography and design."

From the painting and drawing classes offered at the school's inception 130 years ago the school's programmes have expanded to include photography, graphic design, textile design, fashion design and ceramic design, and a full range of fine art programmes, including both traditional and new media components. - **NW**

*INTERNATIONAL FASHION ... NMMU Photography graduate Jillian Lochner, who works between London and New York, has been included in prestigious Lürzer's Archive 200 best photographers.*



# Learning beyond classroom

**STUDENTS will, in future, also possess an official, verified record of their co-curricular involvement, awards and recognitions after their years of study at NMMU in addition to their academic record.**

In line with our values as well as desired graduate attributes, complementary learning experiences outside the classroom which prepares students for work and life are emphasised and documented in this way and contribute to employability.

The interdisciplinary team lead by ICT's **Lynette Williams**, with the support of Student Governance and Development's **Kim Elliott**, CTLM's **Dr Jennifer Winstead** and Teaching and Learning Dean **Prof Cheryl Foxcroft**, worked hard over the past few months to develop the software for the Co-curricular Record on ITS.

The record will be going live in the second semester with students on four programmes forming part of the pilot project.

"The co-curricular activities and recognition will be verified by the relevant departments or entities and the document can be used when applying for jobs and further studies. It will also assist students to review their co-curricular involvement from their first year onwards assisting with their holistic development," says Kim.



**NEW PROJECT ...** Teaching and Learning Dean **Prof Cheryl Foxcroft** (front left) recently signed off on the Co-Curricular Record project which will document students' activities beyond their academic record. Student Governance and Development's **Kim Elliott** (back from left), CTLM's **Dr Jennifer Winstead** and ICT's **Lynette Williams** join Prof Foxcroft.



**ASPIRING PRESENTER ...** Kayla Draai (right) from Alexander Road High School, joined by advertising agency Boomtown's Jared Louw, recently spent her dream come true opportunity at the SABC 3 Expresso show and presented the weather report.

## Making dreams come true

**FOUR learners are spending a day in their dream job thanks to NMMU's Open Day dream wall where some 1 000 learners wrote down their dream career. In addition they are getting a R5 000 bursary to study at NMMU.**

Alexander Road High School's Kayla Draai spent a morning at the SABC3 Expresso show where she also got a chance to present the weather report.

Noluvuyo Nkodo from

Masiphathifane Secondary School in Motherwell presented the popular *Morning Show* from 6am to 9am on Algoa FM with Daron Mann, Carol-Ann Kelleher and Charlton Tobias.

Another dream came true when Prayleen Laminie from Chatty Senior Secondary School spent her day with three Freshlyground band members at a jam session at our Music Department, while the fourth learner will spend a day in following a career in nature conservation.

## Equity discussions ongoing

**SOCIOLOGICAL and organisational behavioural perspectives were discussed at the second Equity Indaba attended by 67 leaders and managers at NMMU in June.**

After the first indaba in September last year focusing on the legal aspects of employment equity in general and at a university environment in particular, the HR Equity Office organised a second event.

Law's **Prof Andr Mukheibir**, Library and Information Systems' **Robert Pearce** and Academic

Engagement's **Johan Steyn** were speakers at the event sharing their experiences regarding equity. Johan gave a profound account of the issues people living with disabilities face each day.

The unions also presented their understanding of equity and made suggestions about various issues.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Engagement **Prof Thoko Mayekiso** provided examples within her own directorate of how difficulties and barriers can be overcome.



**HIGH PROFILE EXPERTS ...** FNB Chief Economist Cees Bruggemans (left) former Economics lecturer Greig Menzies, BCom Advisory Committee Chairperson Prof Peet Strydom, Deputy CEO of Business Unity South Africa, NMMU Council member Prof Raymond Parsons and BCom lecturer **Pieter Wicht** concluded that nationalisation was not a feasible solution to the problems of the country and alternative solutions were needed to create a more equitable and productive economy at the recent debate on George Campus attended by staff, students and interested persons.

# Touch pad tutors for learners

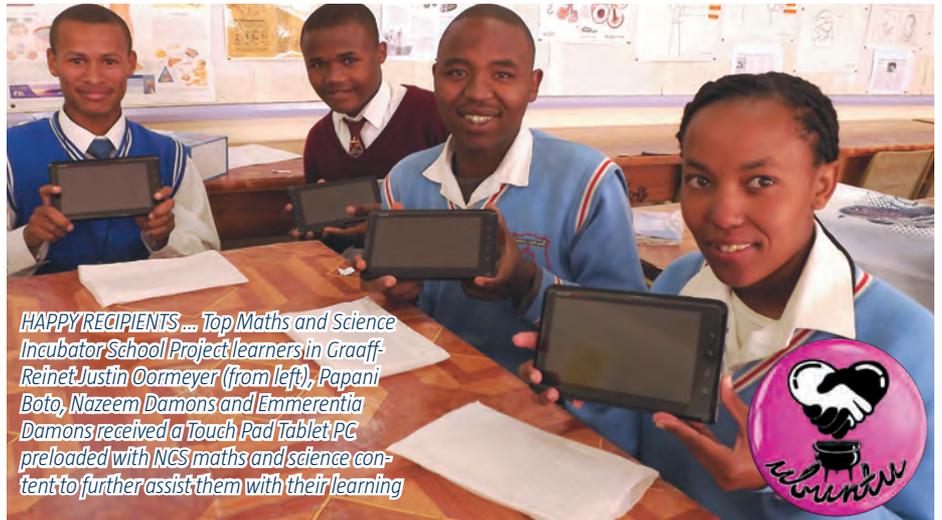
**TOP** grade 11 and 12 learners attending NMMU's Maths and Science Incubator School Project in Port Elizabeth, Somerset-East, Cradock and Graaff-Reinet received a Touch Pad Tablet PC, preloaded with NCS maths and science content.

The Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Unit (GMMDU) is currently running a pilot project with maths and science teaching and learning material on Touch Pad devices as part of on-going research into innovative methods to address the crisis in maths and science education. A wider roll-out of these devices may follow if the project proves successful.

More than 500 learners from 35 disadvantaged schools recently successfully completed their 14-week programme supported by technology-based teaching and learning.

Volunteer educators trained by the unit's staff run the project, which has been in existence for six years.

Learners received maths and science content



**HAPPY RECIPIENTS ...** Top Maths and Science Incubator School Project learners in Graaff-Reinet Justin Oormeyer (from left), Papani Boto, Nazeem Damons and Emmerentia Damons received a Touch Pad Tablet PC preloaded with NCS maths and science content to further assist them with their learning



lessons on DVDs covering the full school curriculum, Casio calculators, integrated training in the use of the DVDs, as well as additional teaching and learning resources. Learners also write tests every week to

track their understanding and improvement.

An examination preparation programme for learners in the third term will end the project for the year.



**PROUDLY AFRICAN ...** Organiser Applied Languages Studies' **Dr Hilda Israel** (from left) is joined by Translation and Interpretation course participants Faculty Admin and Timetabling's **Tammy Bulembu**, Admissions' **Hombakazi Mzingelwa**, Faculty Admin and Timetabling's **Noxolo Mngonyama**, Media Services' **Sipho Sam**, Faculty Admin and Timetabling's **Juliet Kakembo**, **Lungi Thoba** and **Thembeke Jonono**, Admissions **Ntombomzi Draai** and retired Dean of Arts **Prof Henry Thipa** who presented the course.

## Translation skills

**SOME 18 staff members attended the third isiXhosa, isiZulu and Sotho Translation and Interpretation short course presented by the Translation and Interpretation Office in the Applied Language Studies Department.**

The course is the result of The African Project that started five years ago with NMMU, the only university in South Africa participating with Applied Language Studies' **Dr Hilda Israel** as the driver.

There is a dire need for suitably-qualified interpreters in courts. As part of Vision 2020, and Transformation and Equity goals, the importance of African languages in curricula was also emphasised by Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Engagement **Prof Thoko Mayekiso**.



## Discussions on anti-racism and education

**OUR** Centre for the Advancement of Non-Racialism and Democracy (CANRAD) recently hosted the 2012 Anti-Racism in Higher Education Colloquium themed "Innovative Anti-Racism Initiatives and Interventions in the classroom".

Speakers from all over the country included NMMU Education's **Dr Shervani Pillay**, Teaching and Learning Dean **Prof Cheryl Foxcroft** and CANRAD's **Prof Enver Motala**. The network examines the ongoing impact of racism on teaching, learning, and research in the higher education sector.

The Centre for the Community

School (CCS) and the Centre for Integrated Post-School Education and Training (CIPSET) also joined CANRAD in hosting political sociologist of education Prof Carlos Torres of California University, Los Angeles, and his wife, Ana.

Prof Torres focused on the challenge of neoliberal common sense to South African universities and Brazilian educationalist Paulo Freire's thoughts on educators creating a free, safe and open space to develop critical thinking.

Prof Ana Torres shared her work in early childhood education with the Faculty of Education.



**NEW IDEAS ...** Los Angeles California University's Prof Carlos Torres (front far right) and his wife Prof Ana (third from right) recently gave input on education at various dialogues on campus. The visitors are joined by CANRAD's Director **Allan Zinn** (back from left), Research Capacity Development's **Elize Koch**, Community School Centre Director **Dr Al Witten** and Education's **Anathi Jindela** and CANRAD **Prof Enver Motala** (front) and CIPSET's **Ivor Baatjes**.

# Social issues explored

**APPLIED Design's Dr Heidi Saayman Hattingh (below), Nina Joubert (right) and Inge Economou all reflected on social issues in papers presented at recent conferences.**

Dr Saayman Hattingh's paper at the Cumulus Helsinki Conference in May focused on photographers actively commenting on social issues in a democratic South Africa and how the social documentary photography activist tradition is continued in the work of photographers Gideon Mendel, Zanele Maholi and Damien Schumann.

Cumulus is an international association of universities and colleges of art, design and media with more than 176 member universities representing 44 countries worldwide.

The theme of the conference attended by more than 500 delegates was "Open, participative cities: how design knowledge can support public services in the development of open, participative human environment".

Nina's paper, co-authored by Dr Saayman Hattingh, focused on the female figure as representational character within the autobiographical picture narrative as well as the narrator-photographer's perception of South African society and especially issues of the Eastern Cape



Karoo area. She presented the paper at the sixth national conference of the South African Journal of Art History in Pretoria.

At the same conference, Inge shared her paper

on the media's sexualised and objectified portrayal of the body as visual resource in the service of consumer culture, particularly the vulnerable South African youth market.



*EXPOSURE ... Some 25 American social science and history teachers recently visited NMMU to obtain information about South Africa and democracy for curriculum development for their schools thanks to Applied Language Studies' Prof Liesl Hibbert (far right) who previously hosted such groups at her former employer, University of the Western Cape. She is joined by (from left) Kay Grant, Arkansas University's Dr Richard Corby and International Education Office Director Dr Nico Jooste, whose office facilitated the week-long lectures.*

## Literature festivals

**LANGUAGE and Literature's Prof Helize van Vuuren and Dr Marius Crous both presented lectures at the JM Coetzee literary festival at Richmond, South Africa's book town in the Karoo in May.**

Prof Van Vuuren discussed Wilma Stockenström's "Die kremartekspedisie" as answer to JM Coetzee's *Waiting for the Barbarians* while Dr Crous focused on Coetzee's translation of "Die kremartekspedisie" which appeared in 1983 as *The journey to the Baobab Tree*.

Prof Van Vuuren also presented the keynote address, an overview of Breyten Breytenbach's poetry, at the first Breytenbach festival in Montagu in July.

Other speakers included Western Cape University's Prof Ampie Coetzee, KwaZulu-Natal University's Prof Fanie Olivier and Pretoria University's Prof Francis Galloway.

## Leigh makes it four for NMMU

**AN idea to use leftover dyed yarns in a variety of colourful stripes to make up fashionable women's clothing is having huge benefits for NMMU fashion student Leigh Helliwell.**

Leigh, 22, a BTech student, is the fourth consecutive student to win the South African leg of the Society for Dyers and Colourists (SDC) competition and will represent the country internationally later this year.

By minimising waste in creating tubular knits and encouraging sustainable design, Leigh now follows the success stories of Moipone Qekisi, Laduma Ngxokolo and Shannon Daniell. Her predecessors all went on to win the global competition.

Leigh wins a trip to Hong Kong to enter and attend the final judging of the international competition later this year.



*ANOTHER WINNER ... BTech Fashion Design student Leigh Helliwell is the fourth consecutive NMMU student to win the SA leg of the Society for Dyers and Colourists.*



*EXPERIENCE ... BTECH IT students (from left) Hlalanathi Bakada, Eugene van Niekerk, Tyron Kemp, Daryl Trollip, Kevin Draai and Willie-John Booyen together with Institute for ICTA Advancement Director **Prof Rossouw von Solms** at the airport before departing for a three-week working stint at the South African National Research Network (SANReN) in Pretoria.*

## Postgraduate bursaries, work opportunities IT student support

**STUDENTS in the field of communication networks and IT governance can in future receive postgraduate scholarships and do work at the South African National Research Network (SANReN), a part of the CSIR (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research).**

Our Institute for ICT Advancement (IICTA) recently signed a memorandum of understanding with the network to conduct research and develop a high-level work force in these fields.

The first postgraduate research students receiving scholarships

will enrol next year, says IICTA director **Prof Rossouw von Solms**.

Prof Von Solms and six BTECH students recently worked for three weeks at SANReN in Pretoria on the national communications network that links almost all universities.

## Future engineers in training

**WITH a focus on the Automotive Industry, the Automotive Experiential Career Development Programme (AECDP) Engineering Winter School provided 30 Grade 12 learners from 16 schools in the metro with various skills and a visit to the Volkswagen SA factory.**

The programme which has been running for the past seven years has received national recognition and endorsement from several bodies, including the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA).

Learners are exposed to basic End-user training, mechanical design, manufacturing processing, networking and programming as well as Physical Science theory and practical sessions over two weeks. Workshops in diversity, HIV/Aids and life skills, learning styles, study skills and time management also form part of the holistic programme.

Learners also worked on a Learning Potential Computerised Adaptive Test (LPCAT) together with exposure to Career Mentor, an interactive computer-based interest programme.

This year supported by Transvelop learners experienced a factory tour and visited the Autopavilion at Volkswagen SA in Uitenhage.



*PRACTICAL ... Grade 12 learners (from left) Msindisi Qalinge of Ndzondelelo High, and Tinashé Mushosho and Enrique Gallant of Bethelsdorp High show their skills at the recent Engineering Winter School on campus.*

At the end of the programme learners received participatory certificates. The top academic achiever and the best leader were also recognised with awards, while learners voted for their top or favourite peer helper.

## Briefs

### National winners

TOP Networking ICT students Zynn Webster (right) and Sivulyile Ntinde (below) took first and third places in the national leg of the Eastern Europe, Middle East, and Africa section of the CISCO Certified Network Association Netriders competition.



They also represented South Africa in the international leg against 147 international competitors finishing 64th and 84th respectively.

### Quantity Surveying award

BSc HONOURS (Quantity Surveying) graduate Janita Petzer (right) won the Association of South African Quantity Surveyors' Gold Medal Award for 2011 for her outstanding academic performance as well as her community involvement.



She received the award at the recent International Cost Engineering Council conference in Durban.

### Internet evolution

TOPICS ranging from the ethics of pirated music and the assessment of students in blended learning environments to the role of bandwidth pricing in the socio-economic development of rural Africa were recently discussed during a visit by Prof Gerard van Oortmerssen from Tilburg University in the Netherlands.



*GO-GETTERS ... School of ICT's **Dr Lynn Futcher** (left) and master's student Noluxolo Kortjan, were among those to present papers at the 27th annual International Information Security and Privacy Conference in Crete, Greece, in June. They also attended the Human Aspects of Information Security and Assurance Symposium directly after the conference where Dr Futcher presented her paper entitled SecSDM: A Usable Tool to Support IT Undergraduate Students in Secure Software Development.*

# Research across disciplines for leading botanist New Fynbos book



**BOTANY'S Prof Richard Cowling is a busy man. In recent weeks he initiated a new version of the 1992 book Ecology of Fynbos and facilitated an interdisciplinary workshop involving researchers from four continents.**

The book, edited by Cowling and published by Oxford University Press, received highly favourable reviews and has been cited more than 1 000 times.

The new book entitled *Fynbos 2: Ecology and Evolution of Megadiversity* with Prof Cowling as consulting editor will again be published by Oxford University Press.

The lead authors of the new book are young, emerging fynbos researchers, including Nicky Allsopp of SAEON Fynbos Node, Kirstenbosch, Jonathan Colville (SANBI, Kirstenbosch) and Tony Verboom (University of Cape Town).

The book comprises 15 chapters and

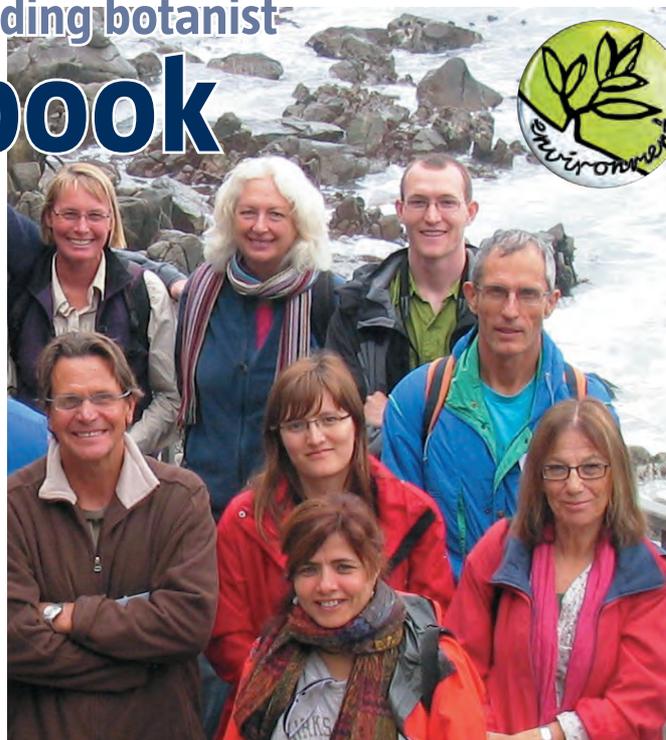
will include about 50 contributors.

Prof Cowling also, together with Stellenbosch University's Prof Karen Esler, facilitated a workshop on reconstructing the paleoscape present in the southern Cape coast to some 160 – 200 000 years ago when modern humans evolved there.

Prof Cowling is a co-principal investigator for a National Science Foundation-funded project on this topic.

He has also been awarded funding by the National Research Foundation to research the spatial and temporal availability, harvesting efficiency and nutritional value of bulbs on the Cape south coast supporting the research of postgraduate student Jan de Vyneck.

Altogether 23 participants from 11 institutions worldwide and eight disciplines attended the workshop at Stellenbosch and three-day field trip to Barrydale and Gansbaai.



*MANY DISCIPLINES ... Paleoscape workshop participants from four continents joined workshop facilitator Botany's Prof Richard Cowling (front left) on a field trip to Barrydale and Gansbaai, including (back from left) Prof Janet Franklin (Arizona State University), Dr Shirley Pierce (field trip leader), Thomas Kraft (Dartmouth College) and Dr Antoni Milewski (University of Cape Town), (middle) Kerstin Braun (Hebrew University) and Dr Mira Bar-Matthews (Geological Survey of Israel) and (front) Dr Rosa Alberts (University of Barcelona).*



*WATCH THIS ... Student assistant Danielle Deyzel (right) assists Victoria Park learner Sarah Rautenbach at a microscope during the Science Faculty Discovery Week attended by more than 200 learners at the end of June.*

## Minquiz national winners

**EASTERN Cape school team Selborne College's Febin Korula, Masiphatisane's Mbsa Khunge, Framesby's Riccardo Swanepoel and Lungisa High's Tabiso Busani took top honours at Minquiz, South Africa's national Science competition for grade 12 learners.**

NMMU's Computing Science Department organised the Eastern Cape competition with 35 schools

taking part.

"I am always very encouraged to see so many brilliant young minds on campus! We are very proud of the team," says Computing Science's Department Head Prof Jean Greyling.

"It's important to be engaged in our community. Hosting the regional Minquiz annually is one of our department's highlights," he said.

## Making a splash

**IN LINE with the recently awarded South African Research Chair in Shallow Water Ecosystems for NMMU, aquatic sciences are thriving as evidenced at the recent Southern African Society of Aquatic Scientists conference at Cape St Francis.**

A total of 20 staff, students and research associates attended the conference themed "Aquatic ecosystems; conservation and connectivity" and organised by Botany's Prof Janine Adams (right).

Botany PhD student Dimitri Veldkornet won the best student poster award, Prof Adams was elected society president for the next three years and research associate Dr Denise Schael-Gama was elected as the society's secretary.



The 125 delegates enjoyed field trips, discussions about local coastal management issues and networking opportunities with scientists and environmental managers.



*IN TOUCH ... Third-year Computer Science student Clint Lee (left) won third prize in the national Microsoft Hackathon in Gauteng for his remote downloader app that makes use of Microsoft's Azure and allows you to browse the web on your phone and select files to be downloaded to your remote storage rather than the phone. First-year student Michael McQuirk also took part.*

# Award for Business School

**"WE have embarked on a journey to build a new model of a business school that is alive to the realities of business leadership in Africa and the Indian Ocean rim," says NMMU Business School Director Prof Steve Burgess.**

It seems to be working because our Business School has just received a "Business School Leadership Award" at the third annual Asia's Best Business School Awards in Singapore, organised by CMO Asia and the World Brand Congress.

The award also coincides with the beginning of construction of Africa's first 4-Star Green Star rated business school building, says Prof Burgess.

The award "pays tribute to leading business schools that are shaping the destinies of the future leaders who will make this world a better place to live," according to CMO Asia.

NMMU was the only African business school receiving an award, sharing the spotlight with well-known business schools, such as Indian Institute of Management, Singapore Management University,



**WINNERS ... NMMU Business School's Prof Cecil Arnolds, Joey Staphorst, Prof Kobus Jonker and Dr Margie Cullen celebrate Africa's only Best Business School Award recently received from Asia's Best Business School Awards in Singapore.**

Nanyang Business School and Seoul National University.

The award was based on interviews with professionals and scholars in 20 countries, vision

and mission and indicators of quality outputs such as graduate placement and teaching staff accomplishments. Fifteen Asian business leaders and industry representatives selected the winners.

**PENCIL TO PAPER ... Riebeek College matric learners Kaylan Damons (from left), Bianca le Roux, and Rethabile Lottie Bothole, attended NMMU's first accounting winter school. Picture: Nicky Willemse**



## Accounting winter school for matrics

**IN A bid to improve their matric accounting marks, nearly 400 grade 12 learners from 40 schools across Nelson Mandela Bay attended NMMU's first accounting winter school.**

The intensive week-long school, covered the more challenging topics in the grade 12 syllabus and also gave learners a taste of accounting at tertiary level, including large group lectures, small group tutorials and homework assignments.

"It's only been two days and I already feel like I've learned more than we do at high school," said St Thomas High learner Theo Ngqono.

"The pace is fast, but the lecturers keep it interesting. The winter school is a lot of work, but we have the manuals and there is a lot of explanation."

Pearson High's Alisha Kleinhans, said the notes had been "very helpful".

Organiser Accounting lecturer **Ansulene Stone**, said she had been assisting grade 12 learners on an informal basis for many years, which had sparked the idea for the winter school.

"Our primary job is to educate chartered

accountants, but we have the expertise to help these learners improve their accounting marks."

Stone together with fellow Accounting lecturers, **Lorelle de Villiers** and **Beryl Prinsloo**, have won awards for their lectures.

"I have found that learners often battle to understand the basics. We start assuming they know nothing about a concept and we then build on that," said Stone.

While lectures are in English, one of the tutorial groups catered specifically for Afrikaans-speaking learners.

Many of the 14 tutors are Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship recipients.

Accounting honours graduate and Thuthuka Bursary Fund candidate Sitembele James said the teaching model at the winter school was the same one used by the School of Accounting.

Everything is centred on the learners. The winter school will be an annual fixture on the School of Accounting's calendar.

Last year, Accounting also ran a teachers' enrichment programme. - **NW**

## Participation in Defence Review

**NMMU's Development Studies Department organised the Eastern Cape Private Public Participation Process for the draft Defence Review as part of the series of national meetings on the matter.**

Department Head **Prof Richard Haines** was approached by the Secretary of Defence to organise the event in Port Elizabeth in July.

"The new Defence Review which will replace the 1996 Defence Review is a particularly strategic policy document with its specific focus on defence, development and security, and has significant potential spin-offs especially in training, for NMMU," Prof Haines says.

The event drew in a range of stakeholder and specialist input, including academic evaluations, state and parastatal agencies, business, labour, civil society and third sector organisations. A national team from the Department of Defence including Roelf Meyer, one of the chief architects of this policy document, also attended the event in Port Elizabeth.

This request acknowledges Prof Haines' research in defence economics and policy, as well as the success of the Development Studies Department's coordination of the 2009 International Conference on Countertrade, Offsets and Industrial Participation.

It also represents a recognition of NMMU's growing involvement in regional and national policy formulation and debate, Prof Haines says.



EXPERIENCE ... Third-year Marketing National Diploma students, accompanied by lecturer **Adele Potgieter** (front second from left), recently visited Cape Town to learn more about the advertising and print industry. The students experienced the printing process at Naspers first-hand and also visited advertising agency Jupiter Drawing Room, witnessing the process from pitching for an idea to final production of an advert. They also visited Media 24 where they saw newspapers being put together and had this photograph of themselves published in "Die Burger" the next day.

## Green Campus Forum internationally recognised Project in Shanghai

**THE NMMU George Campus Student Mobilisation Change project was selected as one of five top projects from Africa and Asia to be showcased in Shanghai, China, during the recent launch of the RIO +20 Global Universities Partnership on Environment and Sustainability.**

The initiative forms part of the Swedish International Development Agency International Training Programme.

Submissions were captured in poster format with NMMU's entry entitled Student Mobilisation for Green Campus Development. The poster will be included in a publication of the United Nations Environment Programme.

The George Campus Change Project originated with the Green Campus Forum student-driven

society which promotes student involvement with sustainability issues on campus. The student membership of the forum has grown substantially and students actively support sustainability efforts.

The Green Campus Forum also joined hands with Datadot Technologies and the Lions (District 410D) to plant trees on campus. The trees form part of the green corridors that connect various forest patches, enabling smaller animals easier and safer access.

Datadot Technologies are planning to plant 250 trees this year to offset their carbon footprint while the Lions have a global target to plant a million trees in South Africa this year. Their organisation has already planted 8.6 million trees worldwide.

## Briefs



### Exposure

FORESTRY and Wood Technology lecturers coupled their annual advisory committee meeting with a visit to Kwa-Zulu/Natal's forest industry including the largest privately owned sawmill-group in South Africa.

Two lecturers and 18 students from the Texas A&M University's Ecosystem Science and Management Department also learnt about the Southern Cape landscape visiting the campus.

### Ecotourism expert

TOURISM Management lecturer **Dr Leonie de Witt** (right) recently received her PhD Tourism Management specialising in ecotourism from North-West University.



### Studies in Germany

NATURE Conservation alumnus Sunel Esbach (right) is one of only 30 students from across the globe to be admitted to the MSc Environmental Governance programme at Freiburg University, Germany.



The programme is ranked among the top ten international study programmes in sustainability, society, and environment. Currently students from 29 countries contribute to the cultural experience.



INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE ... Forestry's **Willie Louw** and **Tiaan Pool** (fourth and fifth from left) attended two forestry symposiums in Australia and visited the Creswick School of Forestry and Timber Training Creswick Centre as well as New Zealand's Wairiki Polytechnic. Australia often recruits foresters from South Africa because they do not have formal forestry qualifications on par with those of George Campus. Willie and Tiaan rounded off their trip visiting Tasmania where approximately 33% (1.5 million ha) of natural forests are managed for commercial use. Here they are joined by Forestry alumni now working in Tasmania (from left) Gary Button, Jacky and Murray Kirkwood and Wayne Shaw-Johnston.

# Returning to work for people with disabilities

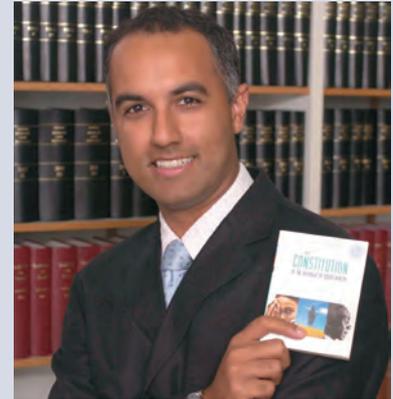
**INTERNATIONALLY the number of people injured at work has increased and many people do not return to work after being injured because they receive compensation or disability benefits.**

Following his book on the Malaysian Return-to-Work story, the Malaysian government invited Law's **Prof Avinash Govindjee** (right) to address their Return to Work conference in June in Kuala Lumpur. The book, "The Return to Work Programme in Malaysia: A Handbook 2012" was co-authored by Johannesburg University's Prof Marius Olivier and was launched at the conference.

Prof Govindjee addressed the conference on strategies to create a sustainable social system. He argues that greater employer responsibility for job retention, a supportive work environment, and successful return-to-work intervention are important for a sustainable approach.

Employee morale and self-perceived work ability are also crucial psychosocial factors for a lasting return to work.

The role of inter-governmental policy collaboration and implementation, particularly in large countries, is a key component of positive intervention, says Prof Govindjee.



## Applying new diverse skills

**NEWLY appointed School of Language, Media and Culture Director Dr Janina Wozniak (below) says she has learnt that, although academics are specialists in their own areas, diverse situations require diverse skills and approaches.**

Dr Wozniak is one of six Future Leaders Programme participants over the past 18 months.

"The programme was carefully crafted by various stakeholders, including the VC, top management and HR to provide eligible employees with leadership potential at NMMU, with the opportunity to develop and enhance their ability to do so," says Human Resources' **Leo Doria** who drives the programme.

Leo says Human Resources is proud that one of the participants has been promoted to a leadership role.

Dr Wozniak told *talk@nmmu* that the programme presented by the NMMU Business School has enabled her "to look at daily processes from a managerial angle, rather than merely being subject to routines and processes.

"Most of all, I feel motivated and empowered by many practical examples of both managers and their staff members that we had to role-play or analyse. I have become more aware of the strong shift in management styles from authoritative seniority to motivational leadership, where management relies on thorough cooperation of all staff and through which the energy of all team members becomes activated," she said.



*VOLUNTEERS ... Nursing Science students Loriston Petrus (back) and Sharane Prins assist a patient on the Phelophepa Healthcare Train which was recently stationed at Swartkops station.*

## More volunteers for health train

**NURSING Science has reason to be proud of its second-year students who, for the first time, joined final-year students volunteering on the Phelophepa Healthcare Train.**

The train travels through rural areas to bring primary health care to many underprivileged people.

Nine final-year students are annually selected to volunteer on the train and assist with the clinical assessment, diagnoses and treatment of patients seeking health care services on the train.

The students were stationed at the Swartkops train station where they serviced areas such as

Zwide, KwaZakhele and KwaMagxaki. The nine second-years assessed the patients' vital signs in preparation for screening by the professional nurses

*Being on the train gave me a greater love for the community*

and senior students and also took part in outreach programmes to schools.

In the words of one of the students: "Being on the train gave me a greater love for the community, to see the joy of the kids and the joyful singing of the staff and patients was a highlight."



**INTERNATIONAL FOOD ...** The Rendezvous Campus Café on South Campus has recently gone Chinese as well as American and Mexican, hosting cultural food days for staff and students to experience and celebrate different cultures, music and food. The café serves cappuccinos, gourmet sandwiches and a wide variety of self-service buffet meals creating a “cultural hub” for staff, students and international visitors.



**BROTHERS ...** Music’s **Lionel van Zyl** (left) attended the inauguration ceremony of his brother, Prof Arnold van Zyl, former Stellenbosch University Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Technology in Chemnitz, Germany, in May.



**TOP MUSICIANS ...** Voice student Liske Potgieter (right) won first place at the Charles Bryars Scholarship Concert in June against five other finalists. All full-time music students above Grade 7 practical level auditioned for the concert. The runners-up were Christaan Uys (centre) on clarinet and voice student Zikona Njani third. The other finalists were Grant Snyman on clarinet, Paulo Putigna on trumpet and Elanie Kok on recorder.



**KEY PLAYERS ...** Among those who were instrumental in the establishment of the new Ford Engine Research Unit are (from left) Ford’s CEO and President Jeff Nemeth, Mechanical Engineering head **Prof Pat McGrath**, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic **Prof Piet Naude** and outgoing Engineering, the Built Environment and IT Dean **Prof Henk de Jager**.



**SUPPORT ...** Deputy Minister of Women, Children and Persons with disabilities Hendrietta Bogopane-Zulu (right) recently visited NMMU as part of a national engagement with all higher education institutions. She applauded NMMU as the only institution dedicating its own resourcing to upgrading infrastructure to make it more accessible for the disabled and for its good progress over the past number of years. Joining Minister Bogopane-Zulu are FUSION society for students with disabilities chairperson Duncan Monks (left) and Disability Office Manager **Ruth Sauls**.



**NEW INPUT ...** Circulation Services Deputy Director **Bonga Makrwede** (right) recently visited four university libraries in Kenya - Kenyatta, Nairobi, United States International and Daystar - for benchmarking purposes. Here she is joined by Nairobi University’s Systems Librarian Agatha Kabugu.



WELLNESS TEAM ... Institutional Planning's **Marian Neale-Shutte** (from left), **Theresa Webb** and **Mari Voges** were sponsored by WellnessatWork to take part in the Investec Night Relay in July and came second in the walk relay.

# Health and fitness

**STAFF can now improve their health and energy levels by following the fitness and exercise guidelines provided by the WellnessatWork and Human Resources project.**

One just needs to register on-line on the wellness-programme. Interested staff were invited to a presentation at the Biokinetics Centre where all who attended were offered a free fitness and exercise assessment.

Infrastructure Projects' **Tracy Ebel** went for her assessment and received an exercise programme to do at home which takes into account her knee problems.

"I have lost four kilograms already. I like the fact that I can exercise at home in my own time.

I also go back to the Biokinetics Centre for regular checkups,"she says.

Education's **Tobeka Mapasa** is exercising at the Biokinetics Centre too. She has lost 2 kgs and says "people are noticing". She says the presentations have been a wake-up call to her. Tobeka also learnt to swim this year.

WellnessatWork also sponsored two teams to participate in the Investec Night Relay in July.

Institutional Planning's **Mari Voges**, **Theresa Webb** and **Marian Neale-Shutte** came second in the walk relay while **Derrick Hoshe**, **Bernard Petersen**, **Prof Sylan Blignaut**, **Hansie Minnaar**, **Linton Harmse** and **Anton Jonas** came sixth in the first leg and tenth in the second leg.

## Healthtalk

# TB - an SA epidemic and killer

**ACCORDING to the World Health Organisation Tuberculosis (TB) is second only to HIV/Aids as the greatest killer worldwide due to a single infectious agent. Good news is that the estimated number of people falling ill with tuberculosis each year is declining slowly. The TB death rate dropped 40% between 1990 and 2010.**

Tuberculosis is transmitted from person to person when someone with an infection coughs, sneezes, shouts, or spits and infected air is breathed in during close contact.

You don't get TB by just touching the clothes or shaking the hands of someone who is infected. There is no strong evidence that TB can be inherited.

When the inhaled tuberculosis bacteria enters the lungs, it can multiply and cause pneumonia. TB can also spread to other parts of the body.

The body's immune (defence) system, however, can fight off the infection and stop the bacteria from spreading. Such a person has no symptoms and cannot spread TB to other people.

When the body's immune system is weak the TB bacteria can cause an active disease, called

secondary TB. This can again cause pneumonia to and spread TB to other part of the body such as the kidneys, bone, and lining of the brain and spinal cord.

The symptoms and signs of TB are: coughing producing thick mucus; coughing up blood; excessive sweating, especially at night; fatigue and fever

### Treatment

Patients need to take many different pills at different times of the day for six months or longer. It's very important to take pills in the way the healthcare provider has instructed.

When patients don't take their TB medications as prescribed, the TB bacteria may become resistant to the treatment, and the medication no longer cures the infection.

Patients may need to be admitted to hospital for two to four weeks to avoid spreading the disease to others.

Health care workers are required by law to report TB cases to the local health department.

At NMMU 23 staff and students infected with TB are treated daily by our Campus Health Services.

## You can win

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

Congratulations to our June/July competition winners: **Theresa Cunliffe** of Music, **Sheila Entress** of Geosciences, **Letchiemie Padayachee** and **Salome van der Riet** of Finance and **Eric Mgqolozana** of Technical Services.

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

1. According to the Mandela Day project feedback the focus seemed to be on helping c.....n (8 letter word).

2. Students will, in future, also possess an official, verified record of their co-curricular i.....t (11 letter word), awards, and recognitions after their years of study at NMMU in addition to their academic record.

3. Altogether 18 staff members attended the first Xhosa, Zulu and Sotho T.....n (11 letter word) and Interpretation short course presented by the Applied Language Department.

Correct answers, along with your name, surname, staff number, department and telephone number, can be e-mailed to [elma.dekoker@mmu.ac.za](mailto:elma.dekoker@mmu.ac.za) by **31 August**.

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](http://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.

## Condolences

THE university staff and students extend their condolences to the family and friends of third-year Logistics student Nomphele Quntu who passed away recently.

We also extend our condolences to the following staff members whose family members recently passed away:

- Pharmacy's **Elizabeth Boltina** and Technical Services **Stanley Mantile** (their daughter)
- Alumni Relations' **Paul Geswindt** (his brother)
- Alumni Relations' **Santosh Ramadu** (her father)
- Education's **Prof Dalene Swanson** (her mother)

NMMU staff live out value of ubuntu

# Investing in others



**STAFF** at NMMU are walking the talk, especially when it comes to the value of *Ubuntu*. From appeals for clothing to talent sharing initiatives, those employed at the university, along with a number of students, are actively involved in reaching out to the community it serves.

The Sport Bureau in particular has a number of projects, both formal and informal, that benefits the greater NMMU community like its outreach to two schools in Zwide and Motherwell.

The university's Campus Football League, for example, donates soccer kits. This year they identified Loyiso High School and James Jolobe Secondary School.

According to Zuko Nakasa, NMMU administrator of the league established in 2008 in remembrance of players who lost their lives while pursuing their passion for soccer, at Loyiso both boys and girls had been sharing the same kit.

Staying with soccer, NMMU soccer manager **Mark Tommy** and his young charges have been working hard to develop the sport, especially since NMMU is the top university side in South Africa.

They have linked hands with semi-professional club Bay Stars to maximise development of the sport, especially through study bursaries. The university's present players also feature in advertising material – on bus shelters in the Bay – as part of a drive to increase awareness around soccer at NMMU.

Elsewhere, the Finance Department, for example, came to work in slops and open sandals in a show of commitment to those less fortunate than themselves. They also collected clothing, blankets and shoes to forward to St Columba's Church to be distributed among the needy.

Many more similar initiatives were undertaken as part of Nelson Mandela Day (see page 1).



**RIGHT FOOT FORWARD ...** NMMU soccer players (from left) Susan Wells, Leroy van Rensburg, Vuyolwethu Marele, Kurt Duff and their sport manager Mark Tommy (centre) are involved in a great new soccer partnership to grow the sport.



**WRAPPED UP ...** Finance Department colleagues (above from left) **Wayne Leander**, organiser **Gerda Baard**, **Ignis McLaren**, **Liesel van Willing** and **Mike Monaghan** were among those to collect warm clothing, blankets and shoes for the needy through a church initiative.

**GIVING BACK ...** Sport Director **Dr Richard Stretch** (right) recently handed over a cheque to NMMU Trust Legacies Managing Executive **Prof Kotie Grove** (left) and Legacies Manager **Sheree van Rooyen** for bursaries for five legacy sport programmes, namely cricket, rugby, hockey, athletics and soccer.



# Overall surfing winners

**NMMU snapped up the overall trophy at the SA University Student surfing championships hosted the third time in a row by our George Campus at Victoria Bay.**

George Campus Sport Manager **Hugo Loubser** was the organiser.

The NMMU combined men's and women's team scored 43 492 points, followed by UCT with 37 000 points and Varsity College in the third place with 33 928 points.

The championship at the end of June also had NMMU taking the honours as best team in the Men's division, while the women's team clinched third position.

NMMU's Clinton Gravett came third in the individual finals while 2011's defending champion, Brad Beck came fourth. Josh Saunders joins Gravett and Beck in the USSA team.

George Campus participated for the first time this year, with newcomer Juan Reynierse, who made it through to the third round.



*TOP OF THE TOPS ... NMMU was the overall winner in the combined men's and ladies' divisions at the SA University Student surfing championships hosted by George Campus at Victoria Bay. Team Manager Bruce Campbell holds the trophy with Brad Beck (front) holding the men's trophy. The winners were Jacques du Plooy (back from left), Josh Saunders, Bruce Campbell, Simon Paton, Merrick Fairall, Christopher Collins and Clinton Gravett and (front) Tandy van Thiel, Leani Horne, Tish van Thiel, Kim Denton and Dane Cox. Photograph: Kelvin Saunders*

## Pentathlon Sportsman of the Year

FINANCIAL Planning postgraduate student Jon-Paul Raper (right) has for the third consecutive year been crowned national Sportsman of the Year during a Modern Pentathlon gala function. Jon-Paul is ranked number one Modern Pentathlete in South Africa and fifth in Africa. Modern Pentathlon consists of fencing, swimming, show jumping, pistol shooting and running.



He also competed in the National Fencing championships as well as at University Sport South Africa championships where he was ranked sixth in épée fencing.

## Student Cricketer of the Year

NMMU's Simon Harmer is Cricket South Africa's Student Cricketer of the Year for the second successive year. Simon was recently rewarded for sustained performances for the Mecer NMMU Madibaz as well as for the Chevrolet Warriors franchise by being named for the SA "A" team to take on Sri Lanka "A" in Durban, a triangular series in Zimbabwe and a tour of Ireland.

## Super athletes

ABSA NMMU athletics club pole vault athlete Jeannie van Dyk (right) was the only EP athlete selected to represent South Africa at the CAA Africa Senior Championships in Porto Novo, Benin at the end of June.



Jeannie won the pole vault for woman at the EP Senior Championships and the Yellow

Pages Interprovincial championships with a height of 3.50m.

She also qualified for the national team by finishing second at the SA Senior Championships.

NMMU's Magdalen Louw (right) broke a new SA Student Championship record at the SA Student Championships (USSA's) in Johannesburg when she won the gold medal with a distance of 51.86m in the hammer throw.



She was consequently selected for the national Federation of African University Sports Athletics team.

Ischke Senekal (right) was selected to represent the South African Junior Athletics team to Barcelona in Spain in July.



She won the gold medal for discus at the SA Junior Championships in Germiston with a distance of 49.80, the silver medal for discus at the SA Student Championships in Johannesburg and a bronze medal in shot put.

She also was selected for the Federation of African University Sports team as well as for the SA Junior Athletics team to the World Junior Championships.

## Cricket awards

THE NMMU Cricket Club dominated the EP Cricket Awards evening with NMMU Solomzi Nqweni winning the EP U/19 Cricketer of the Year, Sisanda Magala the EP Amateur Bowler of the Year, Colin Ackermann the EP Amateur Cricketer of the Year and cricket manager **Riaan Osman** the EP Provincial Administrator of the Year. Aldre Nel won the EP Super League Batsman of the Year Award.

## Rugby players to France

INTENSE training and challenging matches have proven to be worthwhile for NMMU Madibaz rugby players Xolani Mnisi (right) and Gerrit Smith who were selected for the South Africa student sevens team to play in France in the World Students Sevens Tournament.



## SA netball players

NMMU Netball Vice-Captain Sport Bureau's **Zanele Mdozana** has just been named our new Proteas captain. Zanele and player Mampho Tsoetsi were selected in the senior side for the three-test series against Jamaica in June, while the Spar NMMU first team captain Zanele Vimbela has been drafted for the South African student team.

## Comrades participants

**STAFF members Education's Prof Sylvan Blignaut, Sport's Derrick Hoshe, and Accounting's Johnathan Dillon ran this year's Comrades Marathon over 89 km between Pietermaritzburg and Durban.**

It was Sylvan's 16th Comrades. The race coincided with the 50th anniversary of Gelvandale High School where he matriculated. Sylvan consequently invited people to sponsor him so that he could donate all proceeds to the school advancing education in that way. Derrick also matriculated at Gelvandale and supported Sylvan in his quest.

The fastest NMMU staff member was Johnathan with a time of 10 hours 54 minutes followed by Sylvan 11hrs 38min, Derrick 11hrs 59 min.