



News Report 2015

Centre for Health Systems
Research & Development

Sentrum vir
Gesondheidsisteemnavorsing &
Ontwikkeling

UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
VRYSTAAT
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News Report 2015

Centre for Health Systems Research & Development

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2015 – Year in retrospect

2015 heralded a change in leadership for the CHSR&D. Dr Asta Rau was appointed as director with Dr Michelle Engelbrecht as deputy director. Dr Rau joined the CHSR&D in 2011 before which she worked as a research consultant in other research organisations and universities in South Africa. Dr Engelbrecht has deep institutional knowledge of and embeddedness in the UFS, derived over 18 years at the CHSR&D.

New beginnings took a more concrete form when the CHSR&D moved premises to a light and modern top floor in the Steyn Annex building on the UFS main campus.

The year was off to a good start when we were notified that—together with our longstanding Antwerp University partner—we secured R4.3 million from VLIR-UOS to fund a 4-year research project focusing on reducing HIV and TB stigma among healthcare workers. The proposal for this randomised control trial (RCT) was a culmination of several years of research work and pilot studies.

In terms of research outputs CHSR&D staff and research associates produced no fewer than twelve research publications in peer-reviewed journals, and four international conference papers.

The CHSR&D has not traditionally been a teaching unit. However, we recognize the need to pass on our research expertise, and so all researchers supervise postgraduate theses and dissertations in collaboration with other UFS faculties and departments. In 2015 we submitted an application to offer our own degree — a Master's in Health Systems Studies (MHSysStud) by dissertation. We plan to bring Master's candidates into our projects with a view to producing young health systems researchers with a solid grounding in the health industry.

As always, we are most thankful to everyone who contributed to our new growth in 2015



2015 – Terugblik op die Jaar

2015 het 'n verandering in leierskap vir die SGSN&O ingelui. Dr Asta Rau is as direkteur aangestel met Dr Michelle Engelbrecht as adjunk-direkteur. Dr Rau het in 2011 by die SGSN&O aangesluit na verskeie jare as navorsingskonsultant in ander navorsingsorganisasies en universiteite in Suid-Afrika. Dr Engelbrecht het gegronde institusionele kennis van en vestiging in die UV, verkry oor 'n periode van 18 jaar by die SGSN&O.

Die nuwe begin het meer konkreet gestalte gekry toe die SGSN&O na die ligte en moderne boonste verdieping van die Steyn Annex gebou verhuis het.

Die jaar het goed afgeskop toe ons in kennis gestel is dat ons—tesame met ons Universiteit Antwerpen vennoot—R4.3 miljoen van die VLIR-UOS losgeslaan het vir die befondsing van 'n 4-jaar navorsingsprojek wat op die vermindering van MIV en TB stigma onder gesondheidsorgwerkers fokus. Die voorstel vir hierdie ewekansige, gekontroleerde proefloop was die eindproduk van verskeie jare se navorsingswerk en loodsstudies.

In terme van navorsingsuitsette het die SGSN&O personeel en navorsingsgenote nie minder nie as twaalf navorsingspublikasies in portuurbeoordeelde joernale, en vier internasionale konferensiereferate gelewer.

Die SGSN&O is nie tradisioneel 'n onderrig-eenheid nie. Ons erken egter die behoefte om ons navorsingskundigheid oor te dra. Daarom gee alle navorsers in samewerking met ander UV fakulteite en departemente studieleiding vir nagraadse proefskrifte en verhandelings. In 2015 het ons 'n aansoek om ons eie graad aan te bied, ingedien—'n Meesters in Gesondheidsstelselstudies (MHSysStud) deur middel van 'n verhandeling. Met die oog op die lewering van jong gesondheidsstelselnavorsers met 'n goeie grondslag in die bedryf, beplan ons om Meesterskandidate by ons projekte te betrek.

Soos altyd, is ons baie dankbaar teenoor almal wat tot ons nuwe groei in 2015 bygedra het.

Background, Mission, Focus Areas and Aims

Established at the University of the Free State (UFS) in 1993, the CHSR&D stems from a rich tradition of research and training in medical sociology and sociology of health and healthcare. The Centre was founded specifically to address the need for bio-social scientific enquiry, operational research, and the development of research skills in the field of health systems. It has accumulated commendable experience and expertise in key methodological approaches: quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods, as well as monitoring and evaluation.

The Centre's mission is to generate and disseminate scientific knowledge on health systems at the local, provincial and national levels, and to use this knowledge to improve and inform new and existing policies, strategies and practices. The Centre also commits to developing capacity for health systems via implementation science, and postgraduate research training.

Specific aims for realising this mission are to:

1. Meet the need for multidisciplinary research and development in the domain of health, health systems and healthcare.
2. Generate and disseminate research findings and information in respect of health and health systems, and promote the translation of research findings into policy and practice.
3. Inform the strengthening of health systems with a view to greater equity, effectiveness and efficiency.
4. Provide postgraduate training and expand expertise in health, health systems and healthcare-related research and development.

Our main focus areas are:

1. Health and health systems research
 - Public health in South Africa (includes public health policies and strategies, and studies on operational functioning).
2. Priority programmes:
 - Tuberculosis (TB) prevention and control
 - HIV & AIDS
 - TB-HIV co-epidemic
 - Sexual and reproductive health
 - Occupational health.

CHRS&D Staff



*Back row (left to right): Michelle Engelbrecht, André Janse van Rensburg, Belinda Jacobs, Gladys Kigozi
Front row (left to right): Asta Rau, Christo Heunis, Bridget Smit*

Senior research associates

Professor Extraordinary Dingie van Rensburg (CHSR&D)

Professor Herman Meulemans (Department of Sociology, University of Antwerp)

Research associates

Prof Edwin Wouters (Research Centre for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (CELLO), Department of Sociology, University of Antwerp)

Prof Noddy Jinabhai (School of Family & Public Health Medicine, University of KwaZulu-Natal)

Dr Francois Steyn (Department of Social Work and Criminology, University of Pretoria)

Dr Kerry Uebel (Free State Department of Health; Department of Internal Medicine, UFS)

Ms Letshego Nophale (Free State Department of Health; Department of Community Health, UFS)

Staff Achievements

Dr Gladys Kigozi was promoted from Researcher to Senior Researcher in January 2015. She is also in her third year of the Vice-Chancellor's Prestige Scholars Programme (PSP) which is geared towards mentoring young scholars as well as helping to them to establish and sustain networks with leading scholars at institutions of higher learning globally.

Staff Development

André Janse van Rensburg attended a postgraduate workshop on *Advanced Qualitative Methodology* at the University of Antwerp in Belgium on 4 February 2014

André Janse van Rensburg attended a workshop entitled *Building a Critical Health Social Sciences in Southern Africa*, hosted by The British Council at Goedgedacht in Malmesbury on 8–13 March 2015.

André Janse van Rensburg attended a *Manuscript Development Workshop* facilitated by Prof Elias Mpofu, Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Psychology in Africa, from 25 to 27 November. The workshop was organised by the UFS Postgraduate School.

Prof Christo Heunis attended the Research Africa Funding Platform's presentation: *Opportunities: Identification, Dissemination and Academic Engagement*, organised by UFS Research Development and held on the Bloemfontein campus on 6 March 2015.

Dr Asta Rau and Dr Michelle Engelbrecht attended a *NRF Rating* workshop held at the UFS on 16 September 2015.

Belinda Jacobs and Bridget Smit completed a *FET Certificate in Generic Management of Business Administration*. The course was presented for the UFS by the Batho Pele Development Institute.

Completed Projects

Tool, weapon or white elephant? Assessing the application of a state-of-the-art information system created for use in occupational health in South Africa

Project leader: Prof Jerry Spiegel (UBC)

UBC staff: Prof Annalee Yassi, Dr Elizabeth Bryce, Lyndsay O'Hara, Steve Barker

CHSR&D staff: Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Dr Asta Rau, André Janse van Rensburg, Belinda Jacobs, Bridget Smit

FSDoH staff: Lucky Nophale (Provincial Occupational Health Unit)

This longitudinal study evaluated the perceived usefulness, utilisation, and impact of an occupational health information system (OHASIS – Occupational Health and Safety Information System) which was introduced into selected Free State hospitals with the aim of improving the health, safety and well-being of healthcare workers. As a last step in the project interviews and focus group discussions were held at Universitas, Pelonomi and Bongani hospitals to identify 1) the purposes for which the information system was used; 2) the perceptions of stakeholders on using OHASIS; and 3) processes in the flow of Occupational Health (OH) information.

By the end of the study, two of the three hospitals where OHASIS had been introduced, were using the system. Technological concerns, such as the systems being too slow and not always accessible, were raised. Furthermore, occupational health nurses wanted OHASIS to generate reports that would be useful for them, and would also be informative for management. Based on the lessons learnt from of this initial implementation phase, improvements have already been undertaken by the National Institute for Occupational Health (NIOH)/National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS), and a new, faster version of OHASIS is in the process of being developed.

Funding: Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) via the University of British Columbia (UBC). Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center, and the National Research Foundation (NRF).

Ongoing Projects

Assessing the implementation of the Integrated School Health Programme (ISHP) in Maluti-a-Phofung

Project leader: André J van Rensburg (CHSR&D)

CHSR&D staff: Dr Asta Rau, Prof Christo Heunis, Bridget Smit

In 2012, the *Integrated School Health Programme* (ISHP) and accompanying *Implementation Guidelines* were released in South Africa. This policy forms part of government's Primary Health Care (PHC) Re-engineering Programme and is designed to offer a comprehensive and integrated package of health services to all learners across all educational phases (i.e. Foundation, Intermediate and Senior Phases). Different sections of the ISHP are currently being piloted in different areas throughout the Free State Province.

The research is being conducted in Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality and aims to explore and describe implementation of the ISHP in the municipal area. More specifically the objectives are to: 1) assess the capacity and resources available for implementation; 2) identify barriers that hamper implementation; 3) detect enabling factors and successful aspects of implementation; and 4) disseminate best practices in, and barriers to, ISHP implementation with relevant recommendations to policymakers, managers and practitioners. The study is rooted in a qualitative approach, relying on in-depth interviews and focus group sessions with key stakeholders. Fieldwork was completed from March to April, and transcription of the interview data was completed at the end of July. Data analysis and write-up is on-going, and a final report is expected at the beginning of 2016.

Funding: Strategic Academic Cluster on Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation (UFS).



New Projects

Towards a health-enabling working environment: developing and testing interventions to decrease HIV- and TB-stigma among healthcare workers in the Free State, South Africa

Project leader: Prof Edwin Wouters (University of Antwerp), Dr Asta Rau & Dr Michelle Engelbrecht (CHSR&D)

CHSR&D staff: Dr Gladys Kigozi, André Janse van Rensburg, Belinda Jacobs, Bridget Smit

In the context of a devastating HIV-TB co-epidemic and severe human resource shortages in the health sector, HIV and TB stigma among healthcare workers not only threatens the health of the workforce, it also threatens the health of the broader population visiting health facilities. In response, the project aims to 1) scientifically assess the extent and sources of HIV and TB stigma among the healthcare workforce in the Free State Province and 2) refine and test innovative stigma-reduction interventions.

The design applies a combination prevention approach by focusing on clinical, behavioural and structural factors that influence HIV and TB stigma in the workplace. In addition, stigma reduction activities are designed to target three social-ecology levels (individual, community, and structural).

The research is structured as a classic Randomised Control Trial (RCT). A baseline study measures HIV and TB stigma in randomly selected hospitals in the Free State among randomly selected respondents—using a self-administered questionnaire with validated stigma scales to measure stigma and other key variables.

HIV and TB stigma-reduction interventions are then rolled out. Post-intervention, all respondents from the baseline will be followed up using the same questionnaire. Implementation will be assessed midway through the trial. Qualitative data will also be collected to explore if and how interventions influence HIV and TB stigma in the workplace and to uncover the processes through which change happens.

By early 2015 all the groundwork was completed for this 4 year study including obtaining authorisation from the Free State Department of Health, obtaining ethical clearance, visiting all the sites, piloting the questionnaire, collecting all baseline data, and designing intervention processes and materials.



Funding: VLIR-UOS (Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad; Flemish Interuniversity Council)

Student funding: 2 x PhD bursaries for students registered at Antwerp University: 1 funded by FWO (Flanders Research Foundation) and 1 funded by BOF (Special research fund of Antwerp University).

Tuberculosis prevention through systematic household contact investigation in the Free State, South Africa

Project leader: Dr Gladys Kigozi (CHSR&D)

CHSR&D staff: Prof Christo Heunis, Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Bridget Smit, Belinda Jacobs

FSDoH staff: Dr Perpetual Chikobvu (Health Information, Research and Training Directorate)

University of Western Cape staff: Dr Jeannine Uwimana

The rationale for this project is five-fold: 1) diagnostic delay is increasingly recognised as an impediment to effective TB control;

2) the national and provincial TB programmes are performing sub-optimally; 3) contact investigation minimises the impact of TB in people living with HIV; 4) because of the high risk of children <5 years for TB, contact investigation may lead to early detection of disease; and 5) systematic investigation of contacts of known or suspected multi-drug-resistant cases may be effective in reducing ongoing transmission of drug-resistant disease/strains of the disease.

The study seeks to assess systematic household contact investigation in order to inform a larger multifaceted intervention to improve TB prevention and infection control in the Free State. The objectives are to measure and analyse the status and yield of systematic household contact investigation, and to make recommendations on how to improve systematic contact investigation as part of a multifaceted intervention.

Data have been gathered through record reviews, interviews with TB index cases, community health workers, professional nurses, programme managers, and consultation with domain experts. Analysis is in process. Results will be used to inform the development of interventions to address TB prevention and infection control challenges in PHC facilities.

Funding: 1) African Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship of the African Population and Health Research Center in partnership with the International Development Research Centre; 2) NRF: Thuthuka.



Situational analysis of the implementation of TB prevention and infection control strategies in Mangaung Metropolitan District



Project leader: Dr Michelle Engelbrecht

CHSR&D staff: Dr Gladys Kigozi, André Janse van Rensburg, Prof Dingie van Rensburg, Belinda Jacobs, Bridget Smit

Despite an intensified focus on curbing the tuberculosis (TB) epidemic in South Africa, the disease remains a challenge to the country's health system and overall population health outcomes. The high incidence of TB can partly be attributed to poor TB prevention and infection control in public health-care facilities in South Africa. A situational analysis was undertaken in Manguang Metro to investigate the extent of implementation of TB prevention and infection control strategies in primary health care (PHC) facilities. Specifically, the study sought to explore: 1) TB and HIV/AIDS integration in terms of intensified case finding, isoniazid preventive treatment (IPT) and antiretroviral treatment (ART) coverage; 2) TB infection control; 3) healthcare worker uptake of TB and HIV testing; and 4) patients, nurses and facility-based Community Health Workers (CHWs) TB prevention and infection control-related knowledge, attitudes and practices.

All 41 PHC facilities in the Metro were included in the study. Fieldwork was conducted during September and October 2015 and entailed the following activities at each PHC facility: interviews with the TB nurse (n=41); observations (n=41); interviews with TB patients (n=300) and general patients (n=600); a self-administered knowledge, attitude and practice questionnaire was also distributed to all nurses and facility-based CHWs (202 nurses and 34 CHWs completed the questionnaires). The data are in the process of being analysed. Feedback sessions are planned for Free State Department of Health managers, as well as the PHC facilities that participated in the study.

The goal is to utilise the findings from the situational analysis to secure additional funding for a phase 2 study to implement and test a multifaceted intervention strategy to enhance TB prevention and infection control in PHC facilities. We envisage such a multifaceted intervention including: education and awareness campaigns for PHC staff and patients; nominating persons to be responsible for TB infection control at the facilities; and promoting health care worker access to TB screening and treatment and HIV counselling and testing.

Funding: Internal seed funding, CHSR&D

New Proposals



Improving TB outcomes by modifying life-style behaviours through a brief motivational intervention (PROLIFE)

Principal Investigators: Prof Olalekan Ayo-Yusuf (Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University); Dr Kamran Siddiqi (University of York)

Project leaders: Dr Goedeke Louwagie (University of Pretoria); Prof Neo Morojele (Medical Research Council); Prof Steve Parrot; Dr Mona Kanaan; Noreen Medge (University of York); Prof Max O Bachmann (University of East Anglia); Dr Tolullah Oni (University of Cape Town); Dr Michelle Engelbrecht; Dr Asta Rau; Dr Gladys Kigozi, Andre Janse van Rensburg (University of the Free State); Dr Olu Omole (University of Witwatersrand); Prof John Tumbo (Sefatho Makgatho University)

Smoking and alcohol abuse among TB patients are associated with poor drug adherence and low treatment success. Addressing these risky lifestyle behaviours in an integrated way could improve TB treatment outcomes. This project aims to develop a complex behavioural intervention, the PROLIFE model, comprised of a brief motivational interviewing (MI) counselling strategy augmented with subsequent text messaging. The MI intervention will target several areas: tobacco smoking; alcohol use; and TB and ART adherence or ART initiation. The PROLIFE model will be evaluated through a pragmatic, prospective, two-arm cluster randomised control trial (cRCT) conducted in primary health care (PHC) clinics located in high TB burden communities in three provinces in South Africa. We aim to achieve the following:

- Goal 1: To develop the PROLIFE model consisting of brief MI augmented with text messaging for promoting improved PTB outcomes through the Tobacco-Alcohol-TB treatment and ART package.
- Goal 2: To estimate the effectiveness of the PROLIFE model.

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles co-published by CHSR&D staff

Engelbrecht MC, Yassi A, Spiegel JM, Van Rensburg AJ, O'Hara LM, Bryce EA, Nophale LE & Rau A.

Tuberculosis and blood-borne infectious diseases: workplace conditions and practices of healthcare workers at three public hospitals in the Free State. *Southern African Journal of Epidemiology and Infection*, 30(1): 23-28.

Khan R, Yassi A, Engelbrecht MC, Nophale L, Janse van Rensburg AJ & Spiegel J.

Barriers to HIV counselling and testing uptake by health workers in three public hospitals in Free State Province, South Africa. *AIDS Care - Psychological and Socio-medical Aspects of AIDS/HIV*, 27(2): 198-205.

Peters JA, Heunis C, Kigozi G, Osoba T & Van der Walt M.

Integration of TB-HIV services at an ANC facility in Frances Baard District, Northern Cape, South Africa. *Public Health Action*, 5(1): 30-35.

Rose, A & Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E.

The factors that attract healthcare professionals to and retain them in rural areas in South Africa. *South African Family Practice*, 57(1): 44-49.

Siegel J, Yassi A, Rau A, Buxton JA, Wouters E, Engelbrecht MC, Uebel K & Nophale LE.

Workplace interventions to reduce HIV and TB stigma among healthcare workers – Where do we go from here? *Global Public Health: An International Journal for Research, Policy and Practice*, [Online, doi: 10.1080/17441692.2015.1021365].

Peer-reviewed journal articles co-published by CHSR&D research associates

Capurchande RD, Coene G, Roelens K & Meulemans H.

Between compliance and resistance: exploring discourses on family planning in Community Health Committees in Mozambique. *BMJ Open*, [Online, doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2014-006529].

Gopichandran V, Wouters E & Chetlapalli SK.

Development and validation of a socioculturally competent trust in physician scale for a developing country setting. *BMJ Open*, [Online, doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2014-007305].

Maimela E, Van Geertruyden JP, Alberts M, Modjadji SEP, Meulemans H, Fraeyman J & Bastiaens H.

The perceptions and perspectives of patients and health care providers on chronic diseases management in rural South Africa: a qualitative study. *BMC Health Services Research*, [Online, doi: 10.1186/s12913-015-0812-5].

Martins-Fonteyn E, Loquiha O, Wouters E, Raimundo I, Hens N, Aerts M & Meulemans H.

HIV susceptibility among migrant miners in Chokwe: a case study. *International Journal of Health Services*, [Online, doi: 10.1177/0020731415585988].

Masquillier C, Wouters E, Mortelmans D & van Wyk B.

On the road to HIV/AIDS competence in the household: building a health-enabling environment for people living with HIV/AIDS. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 12(3): 3264-3292.

Pappin M, Wouters E, Booyesen FLR & Lund C.

Public sector antiretroviral treatment programme in South Africa: health care workers' attention to mental health problems. *AIDS Care*, 27(4): 458-465.

Tsakitzidis G, Timmermans O, Callewaert N, Truijzen S, Meuleman H & Van Royen P.

Participant evaluation of an education module on interprofessional collaboration for students in healthcare studies. *BMC Medical Education*, [Online, doi: 10.1186/s12909-015-0477-0].

Conferences

International conference papers presented

Kigozi NG, Heunis JC & van Rensburg HCJ.

Manifestations of global and local inequalities in tuberculosis control and treatment outcomes. World Social Science Forum 2015 on “Transforming global relations for a just world”, Durban, 13–16 September.

Rau A.

Emotions and belonging—from individual experience to organisational functioning. Exploring the process. 12th Conference of the European Sociological Association (ESA), Prague, 25–28 August 2015.

International conferences attended

Kigozi NG.

Operational research skills in one day. The 46th Union World Conference on lung health, Cape Town, 2 – 6 December 2015.

Strengthening TB case finding and prevention in high-risk populations. The 46th Union World Conference on lung health, Cape Town, 2 – 6 December 2015.

National and local conferences

Engelbrecht MC, Kigozi NG, Chikobvu P & van der Merwe S.

Risk factors for unsuccessful TB treatment outcomes in the Free State: a retrospective record review. 4th Annual Free State Provincial Health Research Day on “Showcase of health research and evidence towards universal health coverage and optimal care”, UFS, Bloemfontein, South Africa, 12–13 November.

Heunis JC, Kigozi NG & van Rensburg HCJ.

Does inequality in TB burden and treatment outcomes translate to inequity in health care in South Africa? 4th Annual Free State Provincial Health Research Day on “Showcase of health research and evidence towards universal health coverage and optimal care”, UFS, Bloemfontein, South Africa, 12–13 November.

Janse van Rensburg A.

Governance, power and mental health care integration: Conceptual links and empirical prospects. Social Science for Development Conference, Stellenbosch University, 9–11 September.

Kigozi NG, Heunis JC, Chikobvu P, van der Merwe S & van Rensburg HCJ.

Risk factors for tuberculosis treatment default among adult patients in the Free State Province, South Africa. PHASA Conference, Durban, 7 – 9 October 2015.

A photograph of a graduation ceremony. Several black graduation caps with blue tassels are flying through the air against a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a person's hands are visible, holding a rolled-up white diploma. The person is wearing a blue graduation gown.

Teaching and Postgraduate Supervision

Completed Master's degree studies

Chamuka, Takura, Mr

Master of Development Studies. *Dissertation title Barriers to exclusive breastfeeding: an exploratory case study of women attending Sophiatown Clinic in the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality.* Supervised by Dr NG Kigozi.

Chipangura, Sheila, Ms

Master of Development Studies. *Dissertation title: Gender based violence in Bikita district, Zimbabwe: an exploratory study.* Supervised by Prof JC Heunis.

Khomani, Flora Ntonya, Ms

Master of Development Studies. *Dissertation title: Perspectives of male residents on facility- versus home-based approaches to HIV testing and counseling in Traditional Authority Kadewere, Malawi.* Supervised by Dr NG Kigozi.

Mhite, Sibongile, Ms

Master of Development Studies. *Dissertation title: Exploring the availability and perceived usefulness of community psychosocial support interventions for orphaned and vulnerable children in Harare, Zimbabwe.* Supervised by Dr M Engelbrecht.

Pule, Mathabo C, Ms

Master of Development Studies. *Dissertation title: A qualitative assessment of capacity building to support Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Lesotho: The Building Local Capacity (BLC) Project.* Supervised by Prof JC Heunis

Sampa, Barbara, Ms

Master of Development Studies. *Dissertation title: Factors associated with male participation in antenatal care in Kankumba area, Chongwe District, Zambia.* Supervised by Dr M Engelbrecht & co-supervised by Prof JC Heunis.

Sibhensana, Bertha, Ms

Master of Development Studies. *Dissertation title: The influence of social protection programmes on the livelihoods of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Daveyton Area: Gauteng East.* Supervised by André Janse van Rensburg.

Postgraduate teaching

All CHSR&D research staff contributed to the design and delivery of our Health and Development module (EDSL7900) for the Master of Development Studies (Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences: Centre for Development Support).

Dr Asta Rau presented a seminar on *Arranging, managing and conducting focus group discussions* to UFS postgraduate students in the Department of Political Studies & Governance on 30 – 31 July.

Undergraduate teaching

Dr Asta Rau played an integral role in the design, roll-out and leadership of the Community Service Learning module—a capstone module for final year students in the Bachelor of Social Sciences programme. The module requires students to integrate and extend their academic competence in the disciplines of Sociology, Criminology, Psychology, and to deepen their social awareness and sense of civic responsibility via an action-research project undertaken in partnership with local community partners.

Community engagement

Dr Gladys Kigozi served on the Free State Provincial Department of Health's Protocol Review Committee—a sub-committee of the Provincial Health Research Committee

Prof Christo Heunis served as vice-chairperson of the Free State Provincial Health Research Committee.

Dr Asta Rau served as the programme director for the Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSc) programme for the first six months of the year.

Visitors to the CHSR&D

Prof Piet Bracke Professor in the Department of Sociology, Ghent University, Belgium visited on the 16th February 2015 to speak about his work in a presentation entitled: *Public mental health and comparative health research: Between social theory and psychiatric epidemiology.*



George Khut and David Doyle, Australian artists and art practitioners visited on 18 February to discuss their research in the Programme for Innovation in Artform Development (PIAD/PIKO). George Khut is one of the world's leaders in biofeedback-interactive art. Amongst many other projects, he developed "BrightHearts Research" — a relaxation app for children undergoing painful procedures. David Doyle is the Executive of DADAA (Disability in the Arts, Disadvantage in the Arts Western Australia). He hopes to develop a project around art, health and community.

Prof Jerry Spiegel (School of Population and Public Health, University of British Columbia) visited the Centre from 9-12 March to collaborate on and conclude a long-standing research project: *Tool, weapon or white elephant? Assessing the application of a state-of-the-art information system created for use in occupational health in South Africa.*

On 7 September 2015, the **Department of Political Studies and Governance** and the **CHSR&D** co-hosted a guest lecture by **Prof Pieter Fourie**, Chair of the Department of Political Science at Stellenbosch University. The lecture was entitled: *The epistemology of AIDS in South Africa: lessons from three scenario projects.*

Ms Caroline Masquillier, a PhD student from the Medical Sociology stream of CELLO (Research Centre for Longitudinal & Life Course Studies) in the Department of Sociology at the University of Antwerp visited in November 2015 to collaborate on the project: *Towards a health-enabling working environment: developing and testing interventions to decrease HIV- and TB-stigma among healthcare workers in the Free State, South Africa*

Visits of CHSR&D staff to institutions abroad

Dr Asta Rau visited Prof Edwin Wouters at the Research Centre for Longitudinal & Life Course Studies (CELLO) at the University of Antwerp on 18 September 2015, to collaborate on the research project: *Towards a health-enabling working environment: developing and testing interventions to decrease HIV- and TB-stigma among healthcare workers in the Free State, South Africa.*



Thank You

With this News Report, we express our sincere thanks to all those funders who in recent years, and especially during 2015, so generously supported the efforts of the CHSR&D:

- African-Asian Society (AAS)
- American International Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center funded by CDC through PEPFAR
- Andrew Mellon Foundation
- Atlantic Philanthropies
- Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)
- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC USA, South Africa)
- Department of Community Health, UFS
- Department for International Development (DfID, UK) via HLSP
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) via Health Focus GmbH
- Desmond Tutu TB Centre (DTTC), Stellenbosch University
- Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI)
- Development Economics Research Group (DERG), World Bank
- Directorate Research Development, UFS
- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF)
- European Union (EU)
- Flanders International Cooperation Agency (FICA)
- Ford Foundation

- Free State Department of Health (FSDoH)
- Global Health Research Initiative (GHRI)
- Health Systems Trust (HST)
- HIVCare (an operating division of Medicross Healthcare Group)
- Infectious Disease Epidemiology Unit (IDEU, University of Cape Town)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC, Canada)
- International Projects Advisory Service (Ipas)
- International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease ("The Union")
- Joint Economics, Aids and Poverty Programme (JEAPP)
- Medical Research Council of South Africa (MRC)
- National Research Foundation of South Africa (NRF)
- Netherlands Support Programme, World Bank
- Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA)
- Programme to Support Pro-Poor Policy Development (PSPPD)
- Research Matters (IDRC)
- Save the Children (UK)
- South African-Flemish Bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation Programme
- South African Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU)
- State University of New York Downstate Medical Center (SUNY-DMC)
- Strategic Academic Cluster for New Frontiers in Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development, UFS
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- Technology, Research, Education and Technical Assistance for Tuberculosis (TREAT TB)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- University of British Columbia (UBC)
- University of the Free State (UFS)
- VLIR-UOS (Vlaamse Interuniversitaire Raad / Flemish Interuniversity Council)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- WK Kellogg Foundation

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