

# dumela

UNIVERSITY OF THE  
FREE STATE  
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE  
VRYSTAAT  
YUNIVESITHI YA  
FREISTATA



MAY - JUNE 2017 - ISSUE TWO







In this edition, we turn the spotlight on our achievements as a community, one of which is giving to those in need, something that we strive to do year after year. Read about how the Student Bursary Fund Campaign performed in 2016, supported by staff, parents and corporates around the country and the plans in place for its growth as the year progresses.

Focusing on research, we speak to our plant breeding expert to learn about the advantages of growing indigenous protein-rich plants in a food insecure environment. We also learn more about Space research and how it can enhance our understanding of climate change, and the important material properties of metal in the field of Physics.

Let's explore together, what happens behind the scenes to bring about UFS excellence.

By Mamosa Makaya



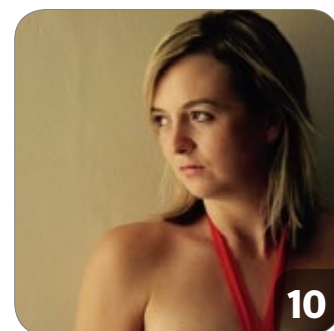
We speak to Dr Prunariu



The Experts Say - Dr Ntjapa Lebaka



Historic Moments at the UFS



Odeion School of Music represented at the University of Iowa

## SOCIAL MEDIA



## Fun facts about Instagram

If you've just joined Instagram and are following a few friends and celebrities, but they haven't followed you back, no worries ... here are some interesting facts that will keep you going:

- 1 Instagram currently has 300 million monthly active users.
- 2 75 million of those use it every day.
- 3 41% of Instagram's audience are aged between 16 and 24.
- 4 47% of adult users access Instagram from a smartphone while 53% use a tablet.

- 5 Since its launch in October 2010, more than 20 billion photographs have been shared on the site. Each day 70 million new photos are shared.
- 6 There are around 2.5 billion Instagram likes every day, or 8 500 new likes each second, while 1 000 comments are left each second.
- 7 70% of Instagram users log in at least once a day and 35% check Instagram multiple times per day.
- 8 Only 23% of Instagram users utilise the direct messaging feature.
- 9 Around 25% of Fortune 500 companies use Instagram actively. They usually post on Thursdays.
- 10 Instagram photos featuring faces get 32% more likes.

### SOURCE

<http://nilssmith.com/blog/15-interesting-facts-about-instagram>

dumela is compiled by the Department of Communication and Brand Management at the University of the Free State

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## Important dates in MAY and JUNE 2017

Welcoming of  
**Prof Francis Petersen,**  
Vice-Chancellor and Rector  
**11 May** – Qwaqwa Campus  
**18 May** – South Campus  
**19 May** – Bloemfontein Campus

**Graduations**  
**19 – 26 June** Bloemfontein Campus

## The do's & don'ts of Overtime

Working overtime might be a good idea if you want to meet tight deadlines. However, employers and employees need to know the dos and don'ts of working overtime and who qualifies for overtime compensation.

According to the overtime compensation procedure, provided by the University of the Free State Human Resource Department, all permanent and contract-based employees are eligible for overtime compensation. A staff member may not be required or be permitted to work more than three hours' overtime in one day, or ten hours' overtime in one week.

The Basic Conditions of Employment Act stipulates that the overtime rate is one and a half times the normal hourly rate of pay (excluding benefits).

### An employee can be compensated in one of three ways:

- Cash pay-out at one and a half times the normal hourly rate. This means that employees will receive one and a half times their regular rate of pay for all hours worked in addition to 40 hours in one workweek.
- An hour off for every hour of overtime worked.
- Half an hour off on full pay and a cash pay-out for each hour of overtime worked.

However, Chapter 2 of the Act is not applicable to senior managerial employees (employees on Post level 1 to Post level 7), employees appointed as sales staff and employees who work fewer than 24 hours per month.

Working time, including overtime, is regulated by Chapter 2 of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act.



We speak to  
**Dr Prunariu**

# on life in space and climate change

**C**osmonaut Dr Dumitriu Dorin Prunariu, President of the Association of Space Explorers Europe, recently was at the UFS delivering the keynote address at the Disaster Management Training and Education Centre for Africa (DiMTEC) symposium on climate resilience and water.

The symposium was attended by representatives from Liberia, Nigeria, Kenya, Ghana, Namibia, and Zimbabwe, with several international scientists from Europe imparting their expert knowledge on water and global resilience.

Dr Prunariu went on a space mission as part of his work, as his research and investigations focus on space observation and its usefulness in monitoring climate change and natural disasters.

**dumela | How long were you in outer space?**

**Dr Prunariu |** In May 1981 I completed an eight-day space mission on board Soyuz 40 and the Salyut 6 space laboratory.

**dumela | What is a space lab like?**

**Dr Prunariu |** It's very similar to working in a lab on earth. When we were in space, we completed scientific experiments in Astrophysics, Space Radiation, Space Technology, Space Medicine and Biology.

Dr Prunariu was the first Romanian and the 103rd human being to travel to outer space. Having obtained the highest rank during a three-year preparation programme, he and Leonid Popov were selected from a group of 150 candidates for a joint space flight.

Access a video recording with Dr Prunariu through the QR Code.

By Leonie Bolleurs



Dr Dumitriu Dorin Prunariu,  
President of the Association of  
Space Explorers Europe.



## Loving and hating being busy

**O**f all the things that I find energising and motivating, a sense of purpose ranks high on the list. Knowing there's work waiting, people to see and places to go gets me moving and operating. I love making to-do lists and ticking off tasks accomplished. I feel lucky and grateful for the opportunity to earn a living, and love doing it.



Of course, I also realise that a list can never really be cleared. And every day, when I write the date at the top of a new page, I feel a bit like a pet hamster on a treadmill. So what if I cross off one item, because there's always another that demands attention. Some unpleasant tasks never seem to go away permanently – my personal albatross is a municipal account that has required my attention every couple of months for the past four years.

So, I sometimes dream of going away for a weekend and not taking my laptop along; I imagine an empty inbox; I consider cleaning out the fridge, or sewing something. And then I wake up, and I remember that having nothing to do leaves me demotivated, grumpy and lazy. If I had nothing to do, I wouldn't do any of those things that I never have time for. Instead, I'd binge watch TV programmes that irritate me, eat far too much and probably end up arguing with people I love. If you've figured out how to achieve a balance between working and resting, don't hesitate to share your secret!

By Hettie Human

## What I won't do for love – is *run!*



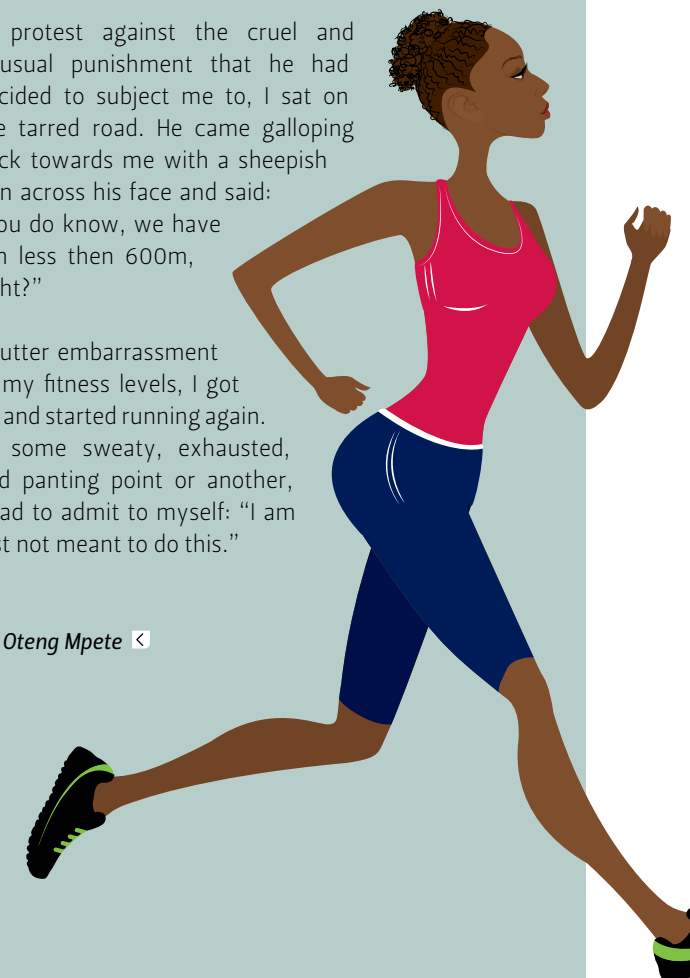
**A**fter an amazing holiday, my partner decided to nag me into running with him. Unfortunately, I was still dizzy from our romantic getaway and I naively accepted his proposal.

All should have been fine, I mean, I am a healthy young woman – or so I thought. I will never forget that fateful summer afternoon. I can almost feel that sharp pain in my chest again. I have never been more convinced that I was experiencing a heart attack.

In protest against the cruel and unusual punishment that he had decided to subject me to, I sat on the tarred road. He came galloping back towards me with a sheepish grin across his face and said: "You do know, we have run less than 600m, right?"

In utter embarrassment at my fitness levels, I got up and started running again. At some sweaty, exhausted, and panting point or another, I had to admit to myself: "I am just not meant to do this."

By Oteng Mpete





# Research is the solution to societal problems, says plant sciences lecturer

It is projected that the world population will surpass 9 billion people by the year 2050. Crop and animal food production has to improve at a pace to match this population growth.

Dr Ntjapa Lebaka, senior lecturer in the Department of Plant Sciences, who one day would like to have a farm of his own, believes that research is meant to provide important solutions to some of the challenges we experience in real life.

As a plant breeder his research includes genetic improvement of leguminous crops for high yield and enhanced nutritional quality (crop biofortification through breeding). He focuses on indigenous pulse crops (grain legumes) that include Bambara groundnuts with an envisaged extension to include cowpeas and pigeon peas.

Dr Lebaka said: “diversification of food is very key in ensuring availability of varied foods especially in the face of the ever-increasing prices of animal product-based foods. The legumes are a good source of protein and various important micronutrients, and they can serve as a plant protein source for the resource-poor and the vegetarians.

“These indigenous crops have persisted within the farming systems of our smallholder farmers for a long time and they have a wealth of genetic resource in the form of landraces that need research attention to improve them not only for better yields but high quality produce endowed with high nutritional quality as well.”

By Leonie Bolleurs

Dr Ntjapa Lebaka,  
senior lecturer in the  
Department of Plant  
Sciences.

**“Diversification of food is very key to ensure availability of varied foods especially in the face of the ever-increasing prices of animal product-based foods.”**

Photo | Eugene Seegers



Tshegofatso (centre) with Setlogane Manchidi, Head: Investec Corporate Social Investment (left) and Francois Marais, Director: Access Programmes, South Campus (right).

## TSHEGOFATSO is a student whisperer and history-maker

**T**shegofatso Setilo is infectively enthusiastic. It seems the youthful energy she is surrounded by has rubbed off on her. “I love interacting with students and I sympathise with a lot of them.”

After finishing matric with only 17 points, “I was very disappointed and my future didn’t look very bright at the time,” she said. However, with her mother’s encouragement, Tshego decided to turn things around.

First, she enrolled in an IT course. Then, when she heard about the Career Preparation Programme (CPP) at South Campus, she says, “I began to see the light.” She couldn’t let this opportunity slip away, so she applied for the CPP and was admitted, and graduated in 2008. In 2011, she completed her Honours in Sociology while working full-time. She later enrolled in the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship programme in 2011, and was accepted into Jagiellonian University (Poland) for her master’s.

**“I learned so much about what drives me to be a history-maker.”**

“I realise that were it not for the CPP, I would never have had such an opportunity. I learned so much about what drives me to be a history-maker. The people I met and the lessons I learned in Poland will forever stay with me.”

Upon her return to South Africa, Tshego applied for her current position as Manager: Access Programmes at South Campus; she is now responsible for the same project that opened doors for her more than a decade ago. “Whenever I can, I tell students my life story, trusting that it will give them hope and the confidence to believe in themselves and, most importantly, to work hard,” she said.

By Eugene Seegers



# Qwaqwa Campus welcomes DR JARED MCDONALD

**D**r Jared McDonald, subject head in the Department of History on the Qwaqwa Campus, is now the editor-in-chief of one of South Africa's leading accredited history journals, *Historia*.

In acknowledging his appointment to this position, Dr McDonald said it was an honour for him to be appointed, as it would enable him to further encourage the critical engagement of historians. "I have served as the journal's review editor for the past four years, so I am incredibly grateful for this appointment, which will further enable historians to engage with one another as well as with scholars from other disciplines interested in grappling with the past," he said.

He added that his role will be to deepen the legacy of presenting historical themes to the broader public and the academic community, as well as enabling the delivery of quality research, while also strengthening *Historia*'s profile as a journal of choice for historians and scholars from related disciplines.

His appointment to this portfolio will boost the research profile of the Qwaqwa Campus and the UFS as a whole.

By Thabo Kessah

Dr Jared McDonald

## New truck replaces old warhorse

**T**he previous garbage removal truck has been a warhorse for the past 14 years, but Facilities Management now has a brand-new truck to do the rounds on the Bloemfontein Campus. Great excitement accompanied the arrival of the new addition.

Staff members from the Division Grounds, Refuse Removal and Recycling Programmes in Facilities Management were also very pleased with the new acquisition. Workers and board members stared at the white Isuzu truck with great amazement and broad smiles.

The new truck follows in the footsteps of its predecessor which has been in use for many years. "The previous truck did a very good job. It has rendered excellent service for 14 years. The normal lifespan of these trucks are usually 10 years," says Ria Deyssel, Director: Facilities Management.

According to Deyssel, refuse are picked up daily at 63 pick-up points on the Bloemfontein Campus. "When there are additional requests, this is also catered for."

The handover ceremony took place on Thursday 2 March 2017 at Facilities Management on the Bloemfontein Campus. Prof Nicky Morgan, Acting Rector, also attended the event.

By Rulanzen Martin

Gerard Hoogendoorn, Ria Deyssel, Mariette van Biljon (Isuzu Trucks), and Prof Nicky Morgan with the new truck.



Photo | Rulanzen Martin

Photo | Supplied

## Career DEVELOPMENT

**A** career development office on a university campus should play a pivotal role in addressing the past and current socio-economic challenges, according to Motlogelwa Moema, newly-appointed career development officer on the Qwaqwa Campus.

Dumela spoke to Moema Motlogelwa, a former Qwaqwa Campus SRC President (2013-2014) and former career guidance intern in the Office of the Executive Mayor at Maluti-a-Phofung.

**dumela** | What is the role of a career development office?

**Moema** | The fundamental role of the career development office is to bridge the gap between students, graduates and the ever-dynamic world of work. We offer day-to-day services that include hosting career fairs, and workshops on CV writing skills and interview tips as well as networking and job hunting skills.

**dumela** | Why is this service important considering the socio-economic conditions of our student population and the country in general?

**Moema** | The skills we impart prepare students holistically for the world of work. Most importantly, the student must be able to speak the language the employer wants to hear, since it is an open secret that our economy still rests in the hands of the few.

**dumela** | What will be at the top of your agenda for the current academic year?

**Moema** | This has to be the inaugural Career Fair later this year. The aim here will be to provide a unique opportunity for potential employers to interact with our final-year students mainly, and pave the way for future employment opportunities.

Motlogelwa Moema

Photo | Thanduxolo Zulu



The Kovsie Fencing Club won a first and third place in the men's epee at the Free State Closed competition. From the left, are Jurgen Schröder (bronze, VASK), Renier Veitch (silver, VASK), Willem Brink (gold, Kovsies), and Albertus Barkhuizen (bronze, Kovsies). Photo: Mariet Schröder

## Foursome shine in fencing

**T**hey all have different roles to play as staff members on the Bloemfontein Campus, but not many people probably know that they are also members and stars of the Kovsie Fencing Club.

Altogether four staff members took part in the Free State Closed Fencing competition in the Callie Human Cente at the Bloemfontein Campus on 25 February 2017, with all of them securing podium positions.

They are Willem Brink (part-time lecturer in German), Wilhelm Odendaal (Senior Assistant Officer in Finance), Albertus Barkhuizen (lecturer in French), and Wanda Verster (Assistant Officer: Professional Services Architecture). Brink (gold – men's epee; silver – mixed sabre), Odendaal (bronze – mixed sabre), Barkhuizen (bronze – men's epee), and Verster (gold – ladies' epee) competed in the senior divisions. Renier Veitch, son of James Veitch (Senior Officer: Centre for Accounting), also won a silver medal in the men's epee.

Epee is derived from the weapons used by the musketeers, and sabre comes from the cavalry. Thus, the events each have its own style, targets, and rules.

"We are extremely proud of Wanda, Willem, Albertus, and Wilhelm, who excelled in the epee and sabre events," said Mariet Schröder, coach at the Kovsie Fencing Club. "Wanda, Willem, and Albertus are also balancing fencing between their master's and PhD studies."

She says the fencers are training at the club in the Callie Human Centre three days a week, and their commitment is something to admire.

The Free State Closed competition is aimed at the two fencing clubs in the province – the Free State Amateur Fencing Club (VASK) and the Kovsie Fencing Club.

By Jóhann Thormählen



# Historic moments at the UFS



In September 1986 Simon Mdluli was the first black student to graduate with a PhD from the UFS. He was then Chief Education Planner of KwaZulu-Natal Province.

**Caption:** Dr Simon Mdluli.



The launch of the first MBA programme at the UFS was in July 1999.

**Caption:** (From left) Prof Frederick Fourie (Dean, Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences), Abrie de Wet, Frans Buys, Marie Bruwer and Camille de Koker (MBA students), and Prof Niel Viljoen, Director of the School of Management.

Sello Mokotjo was the first black undergraduate student at the UFS. He graduated with a BA in History and Political Science in 1990, and later obtained a Master's in History, with Distinction, in 2004.

**Caption:** Sello Mokotjo at the UFS Centenary celebrations in 2004 at Grey College.

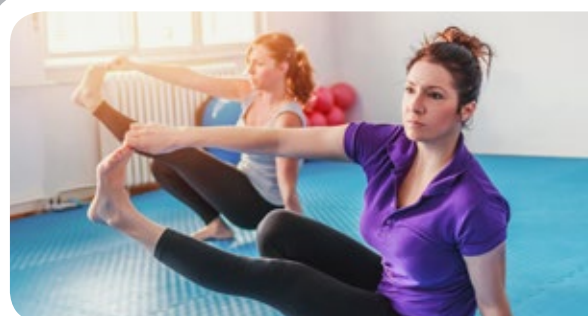


Source: From Grey to Gold – the first 100 years of the University of the Free State

# Jump-start your healthy lifestyle

## PROGRAMME

Below is the schedule for Health and Wellness activities in 2017.



## PILATES

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

12:50 – 13:30

Monday – Thursday 12:00 – 12:45

## WORKSHOPS IN COLLABORATION WITH STAFF DEVELOPMENT

Dates and venues to be communicated (look out for Digest and Health and Wellness emails)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HEALTH AND WELLNESS ACTIVITIES CONTACT

Lizet Holtzhausen:  
grimbeekl@ufs.ac.za or on X2529

# PROF WALUBO: a pharmacologist with a penchant for story-telling

With the South African higher education sector struggling to come to grips with the student fee protests, wouldn't a handbook on protest action be great? Prof Andrew Walubo, Head of Pharmacology in the Faculty of Health Sciences, is not only a scientist but is a writer and storyteller too, who feels student protest action in South Africa is quite déjà-vu for him. He says that all that students need is a little bit of education.

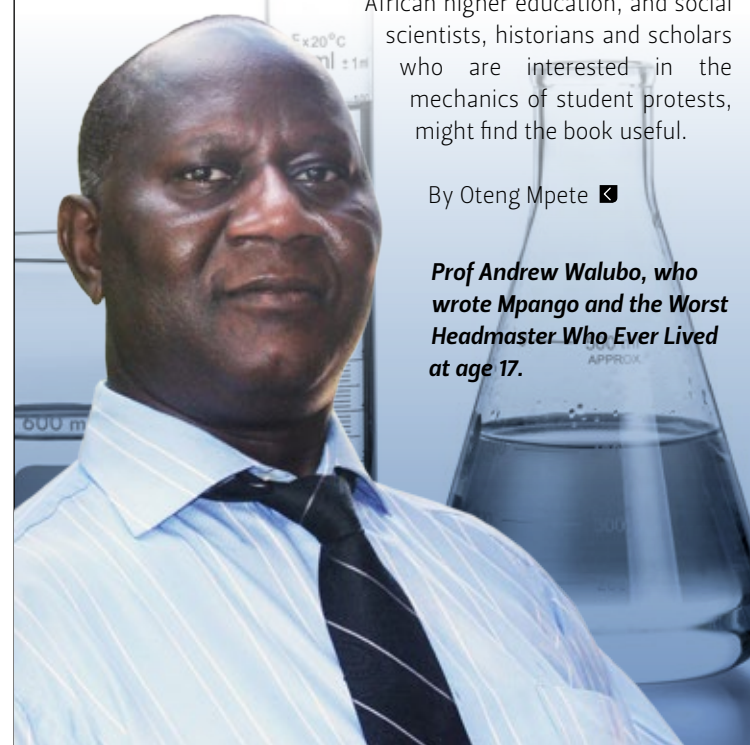
He wrote a novel, *Mpango and the Worst Headmaster Who Ever Lived*, at the age of 17, during post-liberation student protests in Uganda during the late 1960s. His book was self-published in 1999, almost 35 years later, and has recently been made available in e-book format on Amazon.

Prof Walubo says that the student protests in South Africa are a post-liberation symptom, such as happened in Uganda and many other African countries. Although the book is fiction, it does offer valuable lessons and is based on historic experiences. "The lessons contained in the book are relevant to the challenges confronting higher education in most parts of Africa today," he said.

Researchers investigating challenges in African higher education, and social scientists, historians and scholars who are interested in the mechanics of student protests, might find the book useful.

By Oteng Mpete

**Prof Andrew Walubo, who wrote *Mpango and the Worst Headmaster Who Ever Lived* at age 17.**



# ODEION SCHOOL OF MUSIC represented at grand opening at the University of IOWA

Dr Grethe Nöthling was awarded a teaching assistantship and performed with the University of Iowa (UI) New Music Ensemble when she studied there.

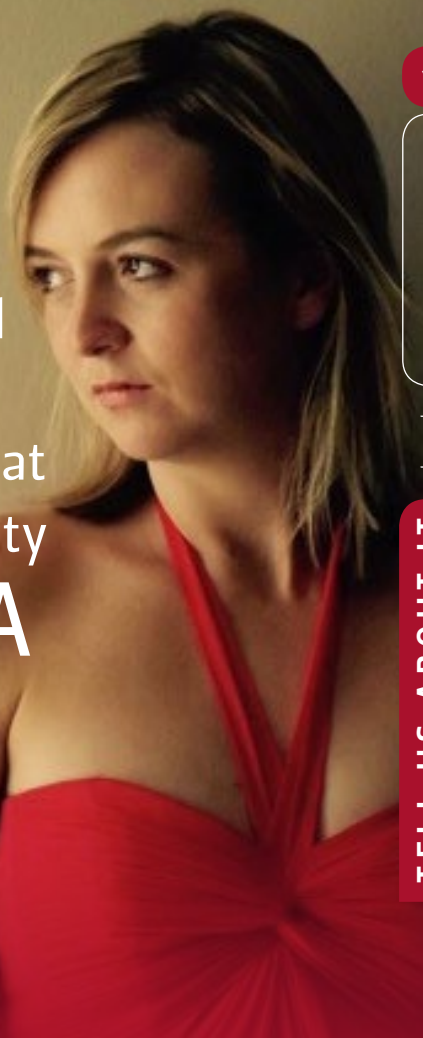
Dr Grethe Nöthling of the Odeion School of Music (OSM) recently recently performed at the grand opening of the brand new premises of the University of Iowa's (UI's) School of Music in the USA.

Dr Nöthling is a piano lecturer at the OSM and is an alumna of the UI School of Music, where she obtained a Doctorate of Musical Arts in 2014, under the tutelage of Prof Uriel Tsachor. She was appointed as a member of the OSM performance faculty at the start of 2016, and participated in the Coming Home Concert Programme at UI from 8 to 10 March 2017. The series of events and concerts, featuring alumni and emeritus and former faculty members, were to celebrate the opening of the new building.

The new premises, known as the Voxman Music Building, cost \$189 million (approximately R2 481 550 911) and were built after tremendous damage was caused by floods to the previous complex in the summer of 2008. "Some people have called this the most complex building to ever be built on the University of Iowa campus, and that has a lot to do with how it functions acoustically," said David Gier, UI School of Music Director.

At the concert, Dr Nöthling played Arnold van Wyk: *Pastorale e capriccio*, L. van Beethoven: Sonata no. 26 in E flat major, Op. 81a (*Les Adieux*), M. Ravel: *Miroirs*, S. Rachmaninoff: *Études-tableaux* Op. 33: No. 9 in C sharp Minor Op. 39, and the Preludes, Op. 23, which were well received.

By Marius Coetzee





The **student bursary fund** helps students reach their dreams

## A word of thanks to all who lent a helping hand to our talented students to succeed

**UFS STUDENT BURSARY FUND CAMPAIGN (SBFC)**

**fund**

**A future**

**If you would like to donate**

to the

**Student Bursary Fund** or to the **No Student Hungry** programme,

please contact Vicky Simpson at [simpsonvz@ufs.ac.za](mailto:simpsonvz@ufs.ac.za)

**T**he Student Bursary Fund Campaign was initiated in 2016 by Prof Jonathan Jansen, former Vice-Chancellor and Rector, in collaboration with the office of Institutional Advancement and Communication and Brand Management, to raise funds for students who need financial aid to complete their studies at the UFS.

More than 40 staff, parents and alumni assisted in raising R39 397 in 2016, alongside big companies such as ABSA and FNB, and private organisations in the Free State and trusts, who together raised R22 million in total in 2016 alone.

More than 632 students were sponsored in 2016, across all faculties. The bursary fund campaign has been a great success, securing more funds for students in 2017 from some of the same organisations.

The office of Institutional Advancement is coordinating the programme, and continues to lobby donors and demonstrate the need and value of giving to UFS students. The campaign comes at a crucial time when there is an ongoing national crisis in student funding coupled with ever dwindling resources.

The campaign's results brings to life the old adage "unity is power". Annamia van der Heever, the Director: Institutional Advancement, said, "It really is a joint effort of staff, alumni, corporates, foundations – and students themselves. Last year was a difficult year. It is heart-warming to see the difference bursaries are making not only to individual students, but to their families as well. The financial support truly changes their lives.

"Thank you to all our donors. You are really making a difference!"

Annamia says the campaign started slowly but has gathered momentum. More companies and Setas are donating in 2017.

"We hope more staff members and alumni will come on board this year. Those who are giving tell us how enormously satisfying it is to know they are making a positive change."

The university continues to raise funds for students and it is hoped that this will gain more momentum over the coming months. The effort of the UFS community and donors remains a beacon of hope for the many students who will one day graduate from the UFS thanks to this funding.

By Mamosa Makaya

Photo | Johan Roux



From left, Dr Daniel Spence, Eleanor van der Westhuizen, Prof Francis Petersen, Prof Fanie Snyman and Prof Corli Witthuhn.

## RESEARCHERS celebrated for outstanding achievements

**P**rof Corli Witthuhn, Vice-Rector: Research at the UFS, recently hosted an event to celebrate the achievements of UFS researchers, at which the new NRF ratings, presentation of the UFS Book Prize and the research support award were announced.

Prof Francis Petersen, UFS Vice-Chancellor and Rector, made the opening remarks. He congratulated all researchers and prize recipients on behalf of the rectorate. He applauded all researchers who had put their best foot forward and had elevated the UFS as an academic institution.

Prof Fanie Snyman, Dean of the Faculty of Theology,

walked away with the most sought-after award, the UFS Book Prize for Distinguished Scholarship, for his book about Malachi, the last book of the Old Testament. His book was published in Germany and can be used by Theology scholars and other academics.

The university's new NRF ratings include 27 new rated researchers, with seven researchers' ratings renewed. Prof Jonathan Jansen's NRF A-rating and Dr Daniel Spence's NRF P-rating were highlighted.

Eleanor van der Westhuizen, from the Directorate of Research Development, was awarded the Research Support Award, which acknowledges those who accelerate and propel research and/or researchers.

By Oteng Mpete



## Dr Cronje investigates the role of impurities in metals

**M**etals play an important role in our everyday life. Whether it is the frying pan used to make breakfast, the vehicle we drive, the medical instruments used by a surgeon or the satellites used by the GPS that guides us to a business meeting, we are highly dependent every day on the use of metals.

Dr Shaun Cronjé, lecturer in the Department of Physics, is doing research on the material properties of metals and, specifically, the role played by impurities.

"The search for metals with better material properties such as strength, wear and corrosion resistance will not only lead to a reduction in

Dr Shaun Cronje

manufacturing cost and time but will increase the usability of various industrial goods and increase the safety of such goods for the user," said Dr Cronjé.

Like most of us, Dr Cronjé faces challenges in his work. "I believe that research results can only be as good as the sample that is used. The process to prepare a decent sample in order to determine the diffusion parameters of a metal system can be extremely frustrating," he said.

However, there are also some outstanding moments in his career. "While I have met many noted researchers in my career, I always stand in awe of the skilled artisans and technicians who make my work possible, whether it is a toolmaker constructing a custom heater system or an electronic specialist who assists with faulty research equipment. Without the back-up of these professionals, all my efforts as a researcher would be futile," he said.

By Leonie Bolleurs

"Research results can only be as good as the sample used."

Photo | Rulanzien Martin

Photo | Jóhann Thormählen

The Governance and Political Transformation team, from the left: Dr Tania Coetzee, Programme Director and Senior Lecturer; Dr Ina Gouws, Senior Lecturer; Juanita Potgieter, Officer; and Cathy de Lange, Officer.

## Dr Gouws joins Governance and Political Transformation

**T**he Governance and Political Transformation team is one more expert richer since Dr Ina Gouws, well-known radio and television political analyst, recently joined the team as senior lecturer in the programme.

Dr Gouws, previously from the Department of Political Science at the Vaal Triangle Campus of the North-West University, joined the UFS in November 2016 as an expert in South African politics and international relations.

"Governance has been recognised nationally and internationally as one of the most dynamic and vibrant academic research areas."

The Governance and Political Transformation programme focuses on shaping governance and politically-orientated management skills in the context of a continuously and rapidly changing environment. One of the goals of the programme is the empowerment of decision-makers with good governance skills. The approach is based on the premise that the programme aims to assist in the pursuit of a successful liberal democracy in South Africa. The programme is proud of its graduandi, including 230 BA, 196 postgraduate diploma, 242 master's, and 5 PhD students.

Governance has been recognised nationally and internationally as becoming one of the most dynamic and vibrant academic research areas. The Governance and Political Transformation niche programme is located firmly within the country-wide and rapidly growing need to establish a value system that promotes sound governance practices that expand institutional capacity and political leadership development. –

By Dr Tania Coetzee

## "Higher education needs well-trained student leaders," says newly appointed Student Affairs Director

**M**eet Temba Hlasho. He is the newly-elected President of the National Association of Student Development Practitioners (NASDEV), President of Judo South Africa, member of the African Judo Union Refereeing Commission, Assistant Director of the Commonwealth Judo Federation and more.

This Port Elizabeth-born student developer is also now the new Student Affairs Director on the Qwaqwa Campus. He strongly believes in creative methods of handling student issues in this ever-changing higher education landscape.

"Dealing with the current student issues should go beyond just ticking the right boxes. It should be about ensuring student leadership is well-trained and groomed so that when conditions demand, positive outcomes result from mutually beneficial engagements," he said, referring to the #FeesMustFall campaign.

This view is supported by the values that he espouses. "My involvement in international judo has taught me the following ethics that I now use in my dealings with students. These were developed by the founder of judo martial art, Professor Kano Jigoro. They are courtesy, courage, honesty, honour and friendship. I always strive to achieve any goal I set with the best possible calmness and these values are helpful in that regard."

He added that former President Thabo Mbeki and his approach to global politics and socio-economic sentiments offered many lessons too.

'Director', as he is affectionately known on the campus, says he would be the happiest person on campus if there were a harmonisation of resources between campuses to ensure equity so that all students had a fulfilling UFS experience'.

When asked about what most people don't know about him, the soft-spoken Hlasho said: "I have had the privilege of sharing a VIP lounge with the President of the Russian Federation, President Vladimir Putin, during the 2012 London Olympics. He was there as the guest of the President of International Judo Federation, Marius Vizer."

By Thabo Kessah

Temba Hlasho

Photo | Thabo Kessah



# New blood makes things happen in Kovsie Tennis

**W**hen five of the twelve players in a big tennis tournament are newcomers, it isn't so bad if the team is floundering a little.

However, Kovies hasn't been the leading university team in the country without reason.

Although a few stalwarts have left, it seems like the new blood in the team could still give their opponents a hard time. This became clear after the Kovies' performance in the Egalite Invitation Challenge tournament, which was held at Sun City from 24 to 26 March 2017.

Our first team defended its title by beating the Puk's first team in the finals. The second team was fifth overall among 14 teams. The second team managed to beat most other universities' second teams, as well as the first team from Ikeys. The tournament was played in the World Team Tennis format.

Lienke de Kock (first team), Handré Hoffman, JC Conradie, Brieta Pienaar, and Daniel de Villiers (all second team) were newcomers. Stars like Janine Erasmus, Mareli Bojé, Verushka van Wyk, and Susan Basson are no longer available.

"The reason why we wanted the second team to be there as well was because we have quite a lot of first-years," says Janine de Kock, team manager of the Kovies tennis team. "We wanted to expose them to a university tournament, since it is completely different from junior tennis."

Our tennis team boasts nine consecutive gold medals at the USSA tournament "By this time, we are used to other teams saying: Even if we don't win the tournament, as long as we beat Kovies," says De Kock.

She believes their success lies in the fact that players are not only functioning in a team setting, but are managed as individuals as well.

By Jóhann Thormählen

*Reze Opperman was one of the stars of the Kovies' first tennis team that won at Sun City.*

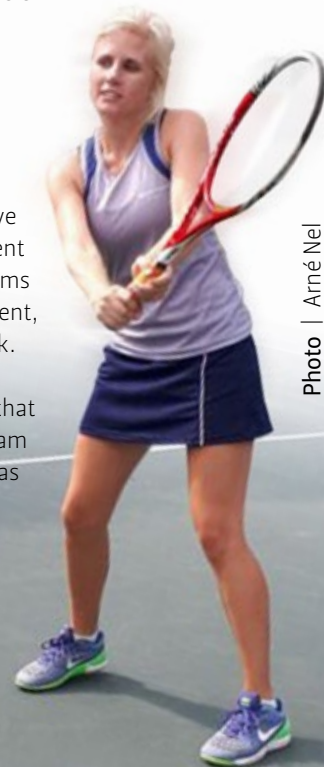


Photo | Arné Nel

## bultjie < The heart – is it just a pump?

**O**rgan transplantation has quite an interesting history. The famous Dr Thomas Earl Starzl, who died on 4 March this year, saved 150 patients' lives with kidney transplants from 1958 to 1961. After transplantation of 150 dog livers he transplanted five human livers in 1963. Nowadays liver transplants do not even hit the headlines. But a heart transplant? Unthinkable in those days.

Dr James D. Hardy (1918 – 2003) took the first step with a xenotransplant in which he inserted a chimpanzee's heart in a human in 1964. The patient never regained consciousness. In 1967 our famous Dr Chris Barnard (1922 – 2001) undertook the first successful human heart transplant in Cape Town.

Our famous Kovie Dr Susan Vosloo became South Africa's first female heart surgeon. She joined the heart team at Groote Schuur hospital in 1984, after completing her training in 1988. She did her first heart transplant when she was 33 years old, and

still works at the Christiaan Barnard Memorial Hospital, focusing on paediatric heart surgery.

Remember Dr Chris Barnard's words? "The heart is just a pump." Bultjie begs to differ. I watched a DVD documentary, *Ure (Hours)*, about a heart transplant executed by the same Dr Susan Vosloo. The receiver was a young African boy, Phalo, and the donor a young white girl, Zonica. What made this documentary exceptional is that Phalo's parents met the late Zonica's parents and family. Can you imagine the emotions and memories shared by the two families on that day? A heart-rending story, but also a day filled with gratitude, love and reconciliation on a level that I have not seen in my life.

Then it struck me. Are we all not, without realising it, important transplanters every moment in our daily lives? Not organs per se, but ideas, thoughts, attitudes, knowledge, wisdom, love, etc. But the human heart will have to be in the right place. Without a change of heart the world can be a sad place. Time for a heart transplant? Why not? Just do it!

**Love  
Bultjie**