

GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION

SECOND SEMESTER

2013

*We don't stop going to school when we graduate.
- Carol Burnett -*

The Programme was once again honored to have our students walk across the stage at this year's graduation ceremonies. Pictured on the right are Mr M.J. Makhetha and Ms. R.P. Kalaote - two of our Postgraduate Diploma graduates with Dr Tania Coetzee, Programme Director.

Other students who obtained their Postgraduate Diplomas at the ceremony in April are:

Ms. Y. Coetzee	Ms. B.D. Dichabe
Mr S.R. Magalefa	Ms. L.R. July
Mr Z.S. Mdunge	Ms. M.E. Maranda-Manong
Ms P.V. Molahloe	
Mr L.S. Mofokeng	
Mr T. Mongwe	
Mr T.Z. Tshoeu	
Mr S.S. Zulu	



Pictured on the left are some of the students who obtained their Masters degrees at the graduation ceremony in June this year with Dr Coetzee. The students who graduated are:

Mr L.S. Hlophe	Ms G.L. Phokontsi
Mr S. Khosa	Mr G.M.P. Pholo
Mr C.T. Matlhako	Mr D.M. Rader
Mr B.E. Mdluli	
Mr M.L. Mkhize	
Mr N.E. Mohapi	
Mr T.J. Mohlomi	
Mr S.J. Motsie	
Mr M.A.S. Nkhutshweu	
Mr C.B. Nkwanyana	
Mr M.P. Nonjola	
Mr B.B. Ntshona	

Some of the Research Topics of the graduates include:

Assessing citizens' perceptions on the interrelationship between poor service delivery and political instability in South Africa: 2000-2010

Xenophobia as an indication of political decay in South Africa: with specific attention to the incidents of xenophobia in 2008

Political and economic transformation of South Africa and United States of America: a comparative analysis

Political communication: an evaluation of the media communication of political parties in South Africa

The fourth Ph.D. Graduate of the Program Governance and Political Transformation

Dr. Pringle Cloete (pictured on the right with Dr Tania Coetzee)

Title: A critical analysis of the relationship between political transformation and corruption. As citizens of South Africa corruption has become endemic and an important relationship between political transformation and corruption has been established. A clear trend indicates how corruption manifests and progressively grows in almost every state undergoing a process of political transformation, with reference to the negative repercussions for the poor in particular. Case studies in three African states (Nigeria, Botswana and Zimbabwe) have been done prior to shifting the focus to South Africa, where both public sector departments as well as private sector experiences come under scrutiny established the necessary patterns. Apart from the broader South African environment, selected departments of the Eastern Provincial Government were also placed under the microscope as a continuation of the case-study approach. In an attempt to find solutions for the manifestation and increase of corruption during political transformation processes, the findings and recommendations can be put forward. The establishment of a single independent law enforcement agency; the importance of strong political will and leadership to combat corruption; institutional controls and accountability to promote



Governance Personnel awarded for hard work!

Mrs. Yolandi Coetzee (administrative staff) has been very courageous in enrolling for the Post Graduate Diploma in Governance and Political Transformation at the University of the Free State. She has worked very hard and completed her qualification with good marks. From our side as programme staff members – **CONGRATULATIONS** Yolandi. We are so proud of you!

The **Programme Governance and Political Transformation** has an Undergraduate Programme Directorate which guides the Programme in terms of decision-making and overall management issues regarding the undergraduate degree in BA Governance and Political Transformation. The colleagues ***pictured on the right*** for the Undergraduate Directorate are (from front left):

Mrs. L. Ackermann, Lecturer in the Department of Sociology; Prof. L. Lues, Associate Professor in the Department Public Administration and Management; Dr T. Coetzee, Programme Director in Governance and Political Transformation; Dr D. Mulder, Senior Lecturer in the Department Communication Science; and Prof. T. Neethling, Head of Department Political Studies and Governance.



The Postgraduate Directorate consists of: Prof. T. Neethling, Head of Department Political Studies and Governance; Prof. J. de Wet, acting Head of Department Communication Studies; Dr M. Schimper, Lecturer and Supervisor in the Governance Programme; Dr M. Sukdaven, Lecturer in Religion Studies; and Prof. A. Wessels, Senior Professor in the Department History.

Lecturers in the Programme Governance and Political Transformation

The Programme is privileged to have some of the top academics at the University of the Free State as lecturers. The following colleagues present modules in the Postgraduate Diploma in Governance and Political Transformation:



Dr T. Coetzee
MGT531 The political environment
MGT541 Cooperative Government
MGT551&552 Research Methodology



Mr W. Ellis
MGT532 Political transformation & management
MGT542 Political change management
MGT543 Political conflict management



Prof. J. de Wet
MGT536 Political communication management



Dr L. du Plessis
MGT538 Municipal Management



Dr M. Sukdaven
MGT539 Ethics, religion and governance



Dr M. Schimper
MGT547 Local & corporate governance



Dr L. Swanepoel
MGT548 South African governance & Political Transformation

RESEARCH SEMINAR

It was again a great pleasure and privilege to listen to experts giving advice to Masters Degree Students during the Research Seminar held on 25-26 July 2013. The purpose was to provide advice and knowledge on research methodology including *The Meta-theory of social research; The importance of technical care in the writing of a dissertation; The essence of ethnographic research; Information gathering methodologies; and the Approach and challenges of part-time studies.*

During the second day students interacted with facilitators, namely Dr Piet Croucamp, Dr Lenie Swanepoel and Dr Kallie de Beer. Students had to present and discuss their research in small groups and could find answers to the questions they posed to the facilitators and fellow students.

Judging from the feedback students were motivated, enriched, gained new knowledge and were determined to complete their studies.



Dr Lenie Swanepoel
"I understand what you are saying, but have you thought about..."



Dr Kallie de Beer
"You always have to remember that..."



Dr Piet Croucamp
"Could you just explain what you mean by liberal?"

Dr Tania Coetzee, along with Mr I.D Liba, a Masters Degree Graduate of the Programme Governance and Political Transformation, published an article with the title: *Supremacy of the Constitution and the rule of law in the new South Africa.*

The article was published in the journal of US-China Public Administration, Vol.10, Num 3 March, 247 - 258.

Governance student elected as SRC president

The Programme is very proud to have, for the second year in a row, a student from Governance and Political Transformation be elected as the SRC president for the Bloemfontein Campus.

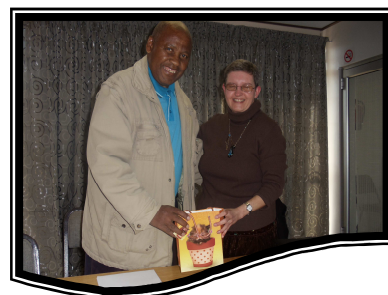
23-year old Governance and Political Transformation student, Phiwe Mathe has been elected as the Free State University's SRC president at the Bloemfontein campus.

Amongst Mathe's plans is to introduce a student assembly where the SRC will be held accountable and to also integrate off-campus students into campus activities.



Pictured here is Phiwe with the Dean of Student Affairs, Rudi Buys.

Dr Tania Coetzee had the privilege to engage with members of Age in Action Free State Management Committee during a training session of good governance in Bloemfontein on the 7th of June 2013.



Pictured on the left are the attendees of the training session, and on the right Dr Coetzee is handed a token of appreciation by one of the board members.

SAAPS Colloquium

On the 19th and 20th of September 2013 a regional SAAPS (South African Association for Political Science) colloquium were hosted by the Department Political Studies and Governance University of the Free State Qwaqwa campus. Dr. Tania Coetzee presented a paper on Western and African discrepancies in Governance.



Pictured here are some of the colleagues who attended the colloquium. From left: Mr Andre van Zyl, Prof. Theo Neethling, Prof. Heidi Hudson, Mr Ambrose du Plessis, Mr Mandlenkosi Mthombeni, Prof. Hussein Solomon, Mr Mahlakeng Mahlakeng, Dr Tania Coetzee, Mr Albert Schoeman, and Mr Eben Coetzee.

Dr Tania Coetzee has recently been inducted to the University of the Free State's Supervisor Hall of Fame.

Well done!

Dr Tania Coetzee's specialist areas include the political environment (state, political parties, federal and parliamentary systems, constitutional dispensation), intergovernmental relations as part of cooperative government (relationship between the three spheres of government) and governance (theories, perspectives, measurements).



Students are making a difference in governance practices

The **service learning** module within the B.A. curriculum provides a golden opportunity for students to gain firsthand experience on a **very practical level regarding governance issues within communities**. Students contributed to improved good governance practices at municipal level and especially at ward level. Students must analyze, assess and learn how ward councillors implement good governance principles.

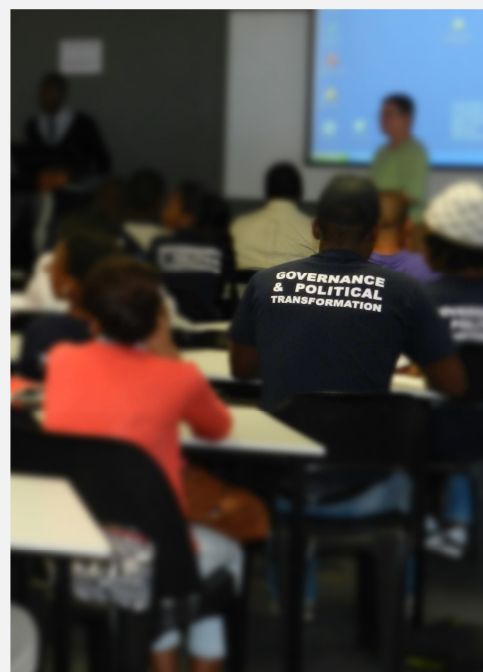
They also obtained a better understanding of the theoretical framework of Political Science and Public Administration and Management and could clearly use and link the theory of the different subjects to understand the practical issues and problems experienced by communities and councils regarding good governance. They were able to identify the basic principles of good governance and could advise the community and councillors to implement good practices and improved service delivery. Different community's needs, problems and disputes were identified and discussed during **workshops and meetings** organised by the students themselves.

These matters were brought to the attention of the services sector (public servants in local government spheres). In the process the accountability of public servants, particularly ward councillors, was ensured. The community obtained a better understanding of the theoretical framework of political management and the difficulties with implementing decisions and policies. Community members voiced their opinions and shared their dreams, concerns and needs in an open and transparent manner.

Students also had the opportunity to **present their research findings, experience and very important, their understanding of governance and political transformation** during a formal presentation to colleagues, students and the ward councillors of the different wards.



The **service learning** students busy making presentations to their classmates.



Pictured on the left are: Ms Mabatho Ntsieng (Service Learning coordinator); Mr Khaonina Mtshiwana (Councillor: Ward 7, Mangaung);, Dr Tania Coetzee (Programme Director); Mr Isaac Mofubelu (facilitator) and Mr Lucky Hlongwane (facilitator).

Up to date the Programme Governance and Political Transformation boasts with 182 Masters Degree graduates, 148 Postgraduate Diploma graduates and 4 Ph.D graduates.

SOME EXCELLENT POSTGRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS IN HUMANITIES

GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION

The ideal qualification

This well-established Programme successfully brings 21st century politics to politicians and decision makers of today – nationally and internationally. The aims of the qualifications are the advancement of political knowledge and the development of political management-orientated skills in an environment of rapid change. This Programme was created to satisfy the need for institutional capacity building, leadership development and the promotion of a value system which complements good governance and forms the basis of a democratic government.

Postgraduate Diploma in Governance and Political Transformation

Duration is one year, by completing eight (8) modules in areas that include, amongst others: Political Transformation and Management; Political Environment; Conflict Management; Cooperative Governance; Communication Management and Municipal Governance.

Admission requirements: B Degree or four year National Diploma (NQF level 7).

Closing date for applications: 1 November 2013.

Masters Degree in Governance and Political Transformation

Duration is one year, which includes Research Methodology and the writing of an Extended Mini-dissertation.

Admission requirements: Postgraduate Diploma in Governance and Political Transformation or Honours qualification (NQF level 8).

Closing date for applications: 1 November 2013.

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