HEALTHSciNews

ISSUE 1 • JUNE 2010

NUUSBRIEF VAN DIE FAKULTEIT GESONDHEIDSWETENSKAPPE
NEWSLETTER OF THE FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES • Tel: 051-405 3017 • Fax: 051: 444-3103

HEALTH SCIENCE
THE HEALTHIER CHOICE!

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ARBEIDSTERAPEUTE NA DIE VSA

Van links na regs: A. van Jaarsveld, E. Janse van Rensburg, M. Nel en M. Steyn voor die oorspronklike Ayres Kliniek in Torrance, Los Angeles.

Vier arbeidsterapeute verbonde aan die Departement Arbeidsterapie het in Februarie vanjaar die VSA besoek. Mev Annamarie van Jaarsveld, (Departementshoof), Mev Elize Janse van Rensburg (junior lektrise), Mev Marisa Nel (deeltydse lektrise) en Mev Mandie Steyn (praktykbestuurder: Departementele Opleidingspraktyk) is vir drie weke na Los Angeles waar hulle die jaarlikse "R2K Research Congress" oor sensoriese integrasie bygewoon het.

"Dit was 'n ongelooflike ervaring. Die vlak van navorsing waaraan ons blootgestel is, is verseker iets om na te streef en was vir ons 'n inspirasie," vertel Mev Janse van Rensburg. Terapeute van 17 lande regoor die wêreld, van so ver as Australië, Spanje en Finland, het die kongres bygewoon.

'n Twee dae werkwinkel in "Fidelity Measure in Ayres Sensory Integration" is ook bygewoon.

Die groep was in die bevoorregte posisie om verskeie arbeidsterapie praktyke in die Los Angeles omgewing te besoek, insluitend "Pediatric Therapy Network", 'n groot gemeenskapsgebaseerde praktyk in Torrance.

Tyd is ook spandeer by 'n program wat in die gemeenskap aangebied word oor sosiale vaardighede vir kinders met outisme. Hierdie nagevorsde program lewer uitstekende resultate.

Hierdie besoek was baie waardevol op navorsings- en kliniese gebied en die vier Arbeidsterapeute hoop om dit wat hulle geleer en ervaar het te kom terugploeg by die Universiteit.

Faculty of Health Sciences • Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT • UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE • YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA
Tel: (051) 405 3017 • Fax/Faks: (051) 444 3103

CAMP FOR CHILDREN WITH TYPE 1 DIABETES HOSTED

The Department of Paediatrics and Child Health at the UFS, in co-operation with Universitas Hospital, hosted a weekend camp for children with diabetes between the ages of 9 - 13 years old. The slogan for the weekend was "The Winning Team".

In line with the rest of South Africa, the soccer ball theme featured prominently, with sponsored soccer ball for each child. Members of Bloemfontein Celtic spent time practicing soccer skills with the children while a group photo with the soccer stars was a definite high light of the day.

A team of youths – also diabetics – as well as a diabetes educator, Hester Davel, came from Johannesburg to provide a full program for the weekend. The children had plenty of time to play games, while gaining new knowledge regarding diabetes.

"Being together with other children with diabetes gives a sense of belonging", say dr Hallbauer of the Department of Paediatrics.

The older youths were a shining example that one can live with diabetes and win!

ON TOUR WITH OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

An experiential learning tour was held for 3rd year Occupational Therapy students as well as a number of philosophy students during March 2010. The purpose of the tour, which took place in Bloemfontein, was to sensitize students to the relevance of human rights to social justice issues and ultimately cultivate cultural competence.

A total of 60 students and 4 lecturers from the two disciplines participated in this event. The week-long tour included a fully guided historical tour through Bloemfontein, a lecture on the challenges that students with disabilities face and discussions with people from diverse cultures regarding their experiences as minority groups.

In addition, students travelled to MUCPP by taxi, (in wheelchairs) attending lectures in Social Justice and Critical Thinking presented by well-known public speakers such as Elna Boesak and Andrè Zaaiman.

The tour was concomitant to a pre-graduate research project under supervision of Tania van der Merwe of the Department Occupational Therapy, investigating the value of such an experiential learning opportunity for students. The results give new insights to the meaning of such an experience and will be presented during the annual Occupational Therapy Pre-graduate Research Day on 6 August 2010.

Third year Occupational Students taking a taxi to MUCPP.

GROOT EER VAL DEPARTEMENTSHOOF TE BEURT

Die Kinderneurologie Vereniging is op 1 Mei 2010 tydens die Internasionale Kinderneurologie Kongres in Kairo, Egipte, geloots (APNA - African Paediartric Neurology Association).

Die vereniging is gestig om neurologiese diensverskaffing vir kinders in Afrika te bevorder, om dialoog tussen lande te ontwikkel, 'n kontinentale data basis van dienste te skep en navorsing te bevorder. By die vergadering wat deur afgevaardigdes van ongeveer 20 lande bygewoon is, is **Prof André Venter,** Akademiese Hoof van die Departement Pediatrie en Kindergesondheid, Universiteit van die Vrystaat, eenparig aangewys as die eerste President van die organisasie.

Prof Venter, asook Prof Jo Wilmshurst (Rooi Kruis Kinderhospitaal) is beide tot die uitvoerende bestuur van die Internasionale Kinderneurologie Vereniging (ICNA) verkies. Beide ampstermyne duur 4 jaar.

Regs: Prof André Venter, nuut verkose president van die APNA.

STUDENTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

A group of third year physiotherapy students and the community service physiotherapist of MUCPP went all the way to brighten up the MUCPP Physiotherapy treatment area. The area was painted with a fresh coat of colour and the guys showed that they are really 'handy' men by building a neuroplinth! This initiative was one of many success stories for our student's community service learning rotation!

STUDENTS LEARN WHILE PROVIDING A MUCH NEEDED SERVICE

And you thought that dietitians are trained to help people lose weight and tell diabetics what to eat? Not at all! Fourth year Dietetics students from the Department of Nutrition and Dietetics are providing a much needed community service for the past four years in the rural areas of the Southern and Central Free State. This service does not only entail providing nutrition education to prevent and treat disease, but also include a long-term research project on nutrition related health issues in these communities.

The Assuring Health for All in the Free State (AHA FS) study is a research project aimed at determining how living in urban informal settlements and in rural areas influences the lifestyles of populations that predispose them to both chronic diseases (such as obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease) as well as under nutrition. This study will provide the Free State with a direct estimate of the health/disease burden attributable to established and emerging risk factors for obesity, diabetes, and cardiovascular disease, as well as infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, TB and under nutrition.

The challenge for students and lecturers is to design and develop appropriate educational and health promoting programs with the emphasis on prevention rather than cure in disadvantaged communities where services are provided. Except for providing an important service according to specific needs, this unique opportunity in return offers a valuable learning opportunity to students in a real community setting.

VRYSTATERS GASHEER VIR NASIONALE KONGRES

Die Vrystaatse Tak van die Suid-Afrikaanse Ortopediese Vereniging was die gasheer van 'n baie suksesvolle jaarlikse nasionale kongres wat by die Champagne Sports Resort in die Drakensberg aangebied is.

By 'n spogdinee is **Prof John Shipley,** Hoof van die Departement Ortopedie van die Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe aan die UV, is as die nuwe President van die Suid-Afrikaanse Ortopediese Vereniging gekies. Dr Allan van Zyl, voorheen verbonde aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat, het lewenslange lidmaatskap van die SAOV ontvang vir langstaande diens gelewer op die Uitvoerende Komitee.

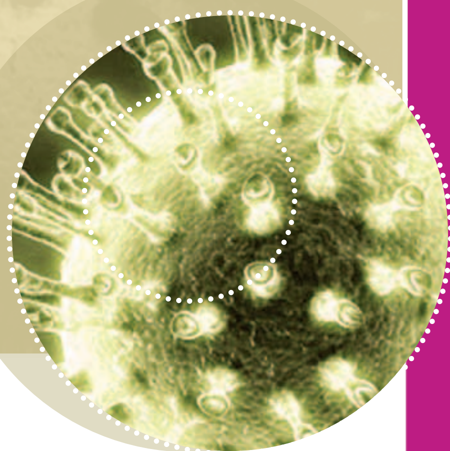
Die Bloemfontein kongres komitee

The Department of Cardiothoracic Surgery hosted a "EACTS Course: Applied science for Cardiothoracic Surgeons and EACTS advanced surgical techniques course" from 15 - 17 March 2010.

Eight international delegates, all experts, acted as guest speakers, while 14 delegates from Africa were amongst those who attended the course.

STUDENTS PARTAKE IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Three postgraduate students from the Department of Medical Microbiology and Virology recently attended the 14th International Congress on Infectious Diseases (ICID) in Miami, Florida, USA from 9th to 12th March 2010. Rudo Samudzi, Lehlohonolo Mathengtheng and Shannon Smouse each presented their results as posters entitled “Gene optimization for expression of Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever viral nucleoprotein,” “Development of a recombinant antigen and multiplex PCR for the differentiation of tick-borne and mosquito-borne flaviviruses” and “Preparation of antigenically active recombinant yellow-fever viral envelope domain III protein”, respectively. The three students are under the supervision of Prof Felicity Burt whose research group focuses on immune profiling and antigen/epitope discovery for medically significant vector-borne viruses. Funding for travel was awarded by the University of the Free State Grow Our Own Timber program and by the NHLS travel funds.



Heleen van Wyk is vanaf 1 Februarie 2010 as junior lektor by die Departement Fisioterapie aangestel. Haar hoofvakgebied is Elektroterapie. Kliniese areas waarby sy betrokke is, is Geriatrie, Kraam en Chirurgie, asook Neurologie. Dit is vir die departement 'n groot voorreg om so 'n ervare fisioterapeut as deel van die span te hê.

Dr Sanet du Toit form the Department of Occupational Therapy at the University of the Free State was invited to a guest lecture at the Illinois University in Chicago. The lecture was on the use of the Kielhofner's Model of Human Occupation in South Africa.

Dr Kielhofner and dr du Toit during her visit to the University of Illinois.

IN MEMORIUM: Prof PC Minnaar (Flip) is op 22 April 2010 op 83 jarige leeftyd oorlede. Hy was die stigter van die huidige Departement Geneeskundige Fisika aan die Universiteit van die Vrystaat.

Benewens sy merkwaardige akademiese loopbaan en prestasies, sal Prof Flip egter altyd onthou word as 'n mens-mens. Hy was altyd bereid om na ander se probleme te luister en doelgerigte raad te gee.

Ons eer sy nagedagtenis!

Dr Santie van Vuuren performed a poster presentation at the World Federation for Occupational Therapists in Chillè with the title "Clinical Skills Center: Possibilities for trainingoccupational therapy students in South Africa."

Dr Lizeth Roets van die Skool vir Verpleegkunde was vir twee weke in die DRC waar daar sestien nagraadse studente van die Skool vir Verpleegkunde is. Hierdie Magister studente is tans besig met hul miniverhandelinge (navorsingsverslae) wat deur dr Roets gefasiliteer word. As alles goed verloop, behoorrt die studente in 2011 hul M grade af te handel. Die studente is almal Frans sprekend, wat die taak dus soveel te meer 'n uitdaging maak.

July

- Watch the website for the "fans of the Faculty" newspaper...
- 20/7 - Golden Key Event for top students

August

- 24/8 - Student Forum
- 26-27 - Faculty of Health Sciences/Astra Zeneca Research Forum
- 28/8 - Forum Gala Dinner