



Faculty of Health Sciences RESEARCH FORUM

20 25

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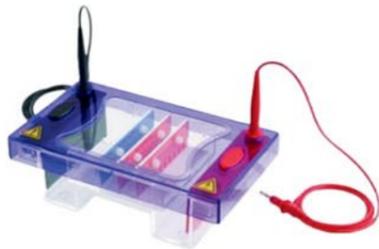
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FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES 56th RESEARCH FORUM

28 AND 29 AUGUST 2025

On behalf of the organising committee, we would like to extend a warm welcome to all presenters, participants, and guests of the 56th Faculty of Health Sciences Research Forum. We would also like to express our sincere gratitude to the external evaluators as well as the FP Retief Speaker.

The Faculty of Health Sciences Research Forum is one of the most notable events on the faculty calendar and continues to affirm the value of high-quality research. Furthermore, it serves as a valuable platform to showcase the research being conducted in the Faculty of Health Sciences while giving exposure to the staff and postgraduate students presenting their research to an audience of their peers.

Building on the success of previous meetings, the 2025 Faculty Research Forum promises to deliver several notable guest lectures with many high-quality clinical, laboratory and educational oral and poster presentations.

We are looking forward to an excellent forum with you.



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 Closing date: **30 October 2025**

 Value: Up to R800 000

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 Closing date: **30 October 2025**

 Value: up to R2.2 million over two years

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 Closing date: **15 January 2026**

 Value: Between R25 000 and R500 000

Be part of the next generation of leaders in academic medicine and boost South Africa as a leading international hub for research and science.



For more information on the awards, entry criteria and how to apply, go to www.discovery.co.za, or contact foundation@discovery.co.za



Message from
PROFESSOR GJ VAN ZYL
Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences

Welcome to the 2025 Faculty Forum. We look forward to celebrating your research achievements, your dedication and your impactful findings that will improve patient care and will make a difference to how we do things in the academic environment. Welcome to the 56th Faculty Research Forum.

We all look forward to engaging with you, the presenters, on the important research you have done over the past year.

In some cases, we will challenge you in different formats, we will motivate you to take the next step and celebrate the research achievements that make our faculty great. Talking about greatness: Sharma said, "Greatness comes by doing a few small and smart things each and every day. Comes from taking little steps, consistently." – Robin S. Sharma

Thank you to the organising committee for all their efforts in making this year a special and memorable year and Forum. We are deeply indebted to you for all the efforts and hard work behind the scenes in making these few days a success. Thank you to each researcher who will present this year, for investing the time and effort to participate in this prestigious research event. We applaud you.

A special word of thanks to all the administrative and support staff who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make this event possible. To the donors, sponsors and the faculty community at large. Thank you!

A warm welcome is extended to Prof Q Abdool Karim, the presenter of the 2025 FP Retief Lecture. Thank you for officiating at this special event. We are grateful to have three highly distinguished

external adjudicators attending, Prof Alex Doruyter (Clinical), Prof Vanessa Burch (Educational) and Prof Abidemi Paul Kappo (Laboratory). Thank you for contributing to this special event.

The annual Faculty Research Forum is one of the most notable highlights of the Faculty of Health Sciences calendar at the University of the Free State. It is my pleasure to thank each participant for presenting your research, attending the paper and poster presentations, or contributing to the success of the Forum in any other way. Please also attend the session that showcases the student winners of 2025. It is a highlight that justly deserves the attention of all Faculty members. Your attendance at this session gives our students the recognition they deserve.

This year's Faculty Forum is an extremely special one for me, for reasons known to many of you and I am attending to celebrate this special event with you. In 2023 the question was asked, "What is next?" Perhaps, there will be answers to this question.

Maurice Strauss (1964) said: "Discoveries do not arise de novo, like Athene from the brow of Zeus, but are more akin to the living layers of a coral reef built on the past labours of countless predecessors". More about that during the Opening session.

May the Forum be packed with special moments, events and memories and be a rewarding experience.

Welcome to all and enjoy the 2025 Forum!

Prof GJ van Zyl

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Tribute to Prof GJ van Zyl

By WH Kruger

A tribute to a leader whose vision and dedication have profoundly shaped the landscape of academic and impact research at the Faculty of Health Sciences, UFS.

Prof van Zyl's career in the faculty has been a testament to the transformative power of leadership rooted in vision, integrity, and unwavering support for research. Over the decades, the Faculty and the University has witnessed firsthand how his commitment to scholarship shaped not only our institution's research culture, but the lives and careers of countless researchers, staff, and students. The stewardship of Prof van Zyl has been defined by a relentless pursuit of knowledge, a belief in the transformative power of research, and a steadfast commitment to supporting those who dare to ask bold questions.

Prof van Zyl has not only advanced the research mission of the faculty, but he has elevated it. Under his leadership boundaries were pushed, collaborations flourished, and discoveries once thought impossible became reality. He created space for scholars to explore, for students to dream, and for ideas to take flight. His commitment to advancing research went far beyond the walls of the Dean's office. He believed that discovery should not only happen in laboratories, libraries, and fieldwork but that it should be shared, celebrated, and made visible to the world.

One of the clearest reflections of his impact has been his unwavering support for the Annual Faculty Research Forum. The Faculty Forum started before Prof van Zyl was appointed as Dean; however, under his leadership the Forums has grown into a vital platform where ideas are exchanged, collaborations born, and the full scope of faculty achievement is recognized. He understands that research does not live in isolation – it thrives when shared, discussed, and challenged. Through these meetings he continued to create such an environment.

Prof van Zyl's encouragement of research presentations at the Forum has empowered the Faculty and the UFS across all disciplines to take pride in their work, to articulate its significance, and to contribute meaningfully to a collective academic dialogue. The Forum has become more than an event. It is now a tradition, deeply embedded in the scholarly identity of this institution.

Through the continuous support of Prof van Zyl research presentations became more than a requirement – it became a platform. A platform for researchers, staff and students to grow in confidence, for the faculty to engage across disciplines, and to proudly showcase the breadth and depth of its intellectual life. It opened doors for funding, for collaboration, and for voices that might otherwise go unheard. Whether it was creating opportunities for early-career scholars, championing research symposiums, or encouraging publication and public engagement, his leadership made space for ideas to take root and flourish. Because of him, research at the Faculty of Health Sciences is not just conducted, but is seen, heard, and respected. He understands the value of giving researchers a stage to share their findings, to engage in dialogue, and to inspire one another. He reminds colleagues that knowledge kept to oneself is half-finished, and that true impact comes when researchers share what they have discovered with others.

Prof van Zyl believes that the power of research does not only lie in presenting at the Faculty Forum, or to publish research papers, but ultimately to change lives. Whether in the sciences, the humanities, or interdisciplinary frontiers, the impact has been both deep and wide. He is more than a steward of research – he is its fiercest advocate. He understands that excellence in research demands more than mere funding and facilities – it requires trust, mentorship, and a culture that values rigor, curiosity, and integrity. He builds that culture amongst staff and within the Faculty and the UFS. Furthermore, he reminds everyone that leadership in research is not just about enabling others; it is about participating fully, asking meaningful questions, and being unafraid to explore complex problems with courage and clarity.

The legacy Prof Gert van Zyl leaves behind is summed up: a leader whose unwavering support for research and scholarly presentation has left an indelible mark on our academic community with generations of researchers better equipped, institutions more forward-thinking, and a world slightly more enlightened because of his leadership within the research family of the Faculty and the UFS.



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EXTERNAL ADJUDICATORS

CLINICAL RESEARCH:

Prof Alex Doruyter



Professor Alex Doruyter is an Associate Professor in the Division of Nuclear Medicine at Stellenbosch University and serves as the Director of the NuMeRI Node for Infection Imaging. He holds a PhD from Stellenbosch University and has completed a PET-CT fellowship at University Hospital Antwerp. He collaborates on several research projects focusing on molecular brain imaging, as well as infection and pulmonary imaging utilizing PET/CT. He has a special interest in PET quantitative techniques.

EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH:

Prof Vanessa Burch



Vanessa Burch obtained an MBChB degree (cum laude) at the University of the Witwatersrand and completed training as a specialist physician and rheumatologist at Groote Schuur Hospital. She also holds a PhD in health professions education (HPE) from Erasmus University in Rotterdam. She has received numerous awards for academic excellence and four lifetime awards for teaching excellence.

She was the first woman Chair of Clinical Medicine at the University of Cape Town and has more than 30 years' experience as a specialist physician and rheumatologist.

Vanessa Burch plays a leading role in advancing HPE in sub-Saharan Africa and has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed publications and book chapters. She is a regular speaker at national and international meetings and was the founding editor of the African Journal of Health Professions Education. She is a fellow of the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) in the USA and was also awarded a Teaching at University (TAU) fellowship from the Council for Higher Education in SA.

In 2020 Vanessa was appointed Executive Director of Education and Assessment at the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa. In this position she plays a critical leadership role in all specialist and sub-specialist examinations conducted in South Africa.

Vanessa's passion for HPE extends to all walks of life. She is keen to share her understanding of the human body and how this can enhance health and wellness in the 21st century.

LABORATORY RESEARCH:

Prof Abidemi Paul Kappo



Prof Abidemi Paul Kappo is a structural biologist with over 27 years of academic research experience. He obtained his PhD from the University of the Western Cape, Bellville, South Africa, by determining the structure of the RING finger domain of the splicing-associated protein, RBBP6, using heteronuclear NMR spectroscopy. He is a full Professor of Biochemistry and Group Leader of the Molecular Biophysics and Structural Biology Group at the University of Johannesburg, South Africa. His research focuses on applying molecular biophysics, structural bioinformatics, and structural biology to discover, design, and develop new/novel biopharmaceuticals against infectious diseases, as well as in the fabrication of point-of-care biomedical diagnostics. Additionally, dissecting the nexus between optimal control strategies and cost-effectiveness analysis of treating infectious diseases and the development of biotherapeutics using biomathematics has been at the forefront of his research lately. He is a rated researcher by the South African National Research Foundation, has published widely on infectious diseases (>130 research articles), and has graduated several BSc (Hons) (>50), MSc (35), and PhD (13) students. His research has been primarily funded in the past by the South African Medical Research Council (SAMRC) and, lately, by the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB), the National Research Foundation of South Africa (NRF), the University of Zululand, and the University of Johannesburg. Prof Kappo is highly skilled in scientific organization and advocacy, having served as the President of the South African Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (SASBMB) for two terms (2018-2022) and is presently the Vice-President of the Federation of African Societies of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (FASBMB) since 2022. He has also been elected as an Executive Member of the Biochemical Education, Training & Fellowships Committee of the IUBMB (2024-2029). He is a visiting scientist at the University of Cincinnati Medical School, USA, and holds a visiting Research Professorship with the Niger Delta University, Wilberforce Island, Nigeria. Presently, he is the Deputy HoD: Biochemistry (Research, Innovation and Postgraduate studies) at the University of Johannesburg, Auckland Park, South Africa.

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Prof Quarraisha Abdool Karim

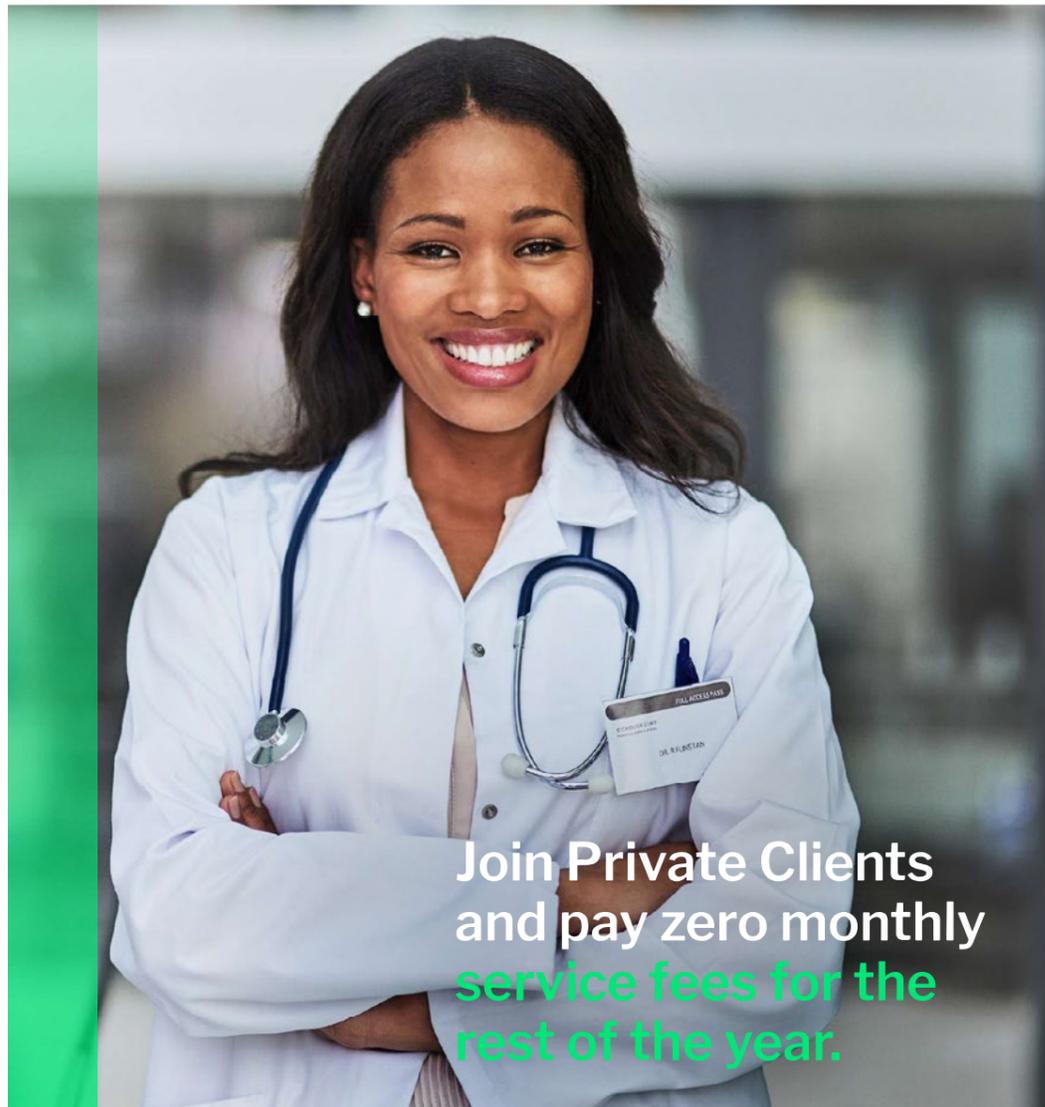


Quarraisha Abdool Karim, PhD, is a South African infectious diseases epidemiologist and co-founder of CAPRISA, where she serves as John C Martin Chair in Global Health and Associate Scientific Director. She is Professor of Clinical Epidemiology at Columbia University and Pro-Vice-Chancellor in the College of Health Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is currently the President of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and is the UNAIDS Special Ambassador for Adolescents and HIV.

She chairs the PEPFAR Scientific Advisory Board and is on the Board of Directors for the Global Health Innovative Technology (GHIT) Fund and the US Friends of the Global Fight Against AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. She is on the Steering Committees for: the World Science Forum; Science and Technology for Society Forum; and the Forum for Big Data and Sustainable Development. She is a member of the WHO Executive Groups for the COVID-19 Solidarity Therapeutics and Vaccines Trials and the Ebola Vaccine Trial.

She has authored over 300 peer-reviewed articles in leading journals including *Science*, *Nature*, *NEJM*, and *The Lancet*, and contributed as co-editor on key reference works like the *Oxford Textbook of Global Public Health and HIV in South Africa*. She has helped build the science base in Southern Africa through the Columbia University-Southern African Fogarty AIDS International Training and Research Programme, which has trained over 600 scientists in HIV and TB.

She is an elected member of the U.S. National Academy of Medicine and American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a fellow of the TWAS, Royal Society; International Science Council, CBAS African Academy of Sciences; Royal Society of South Africa, and Academy of Science of South Africa. Her contributions have earned her over 30 major awards, including the L'Oréal-UNESCO Award, Canada Gairdner Global Health Award, Noguchi Africa Prize, and the Lasker-Bloomberg Public Service Award. She has been awarded honorary doctorates from several academic institutions and has received the highest honor from the President of South Africa – the Mapungubwe Award.



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Is dietary iron overload still a problem in South Africa?

1997 – Prof DJ Ncayiyana
Meeting the Higher Education Challenges in the 21st Century.

1998 – Prof S Kallichurum
Ethics: New Challenges

1999 – Prof RC Franz
Veneuse Trombogenese – Eenhonderd jaar na Virchow. 'n Terugblik met waardering.

2000 – Prof J Terblanche
Academic advances in biliary tract surgery: A Cape Town perspective

2001 – Prof JV van der Merwe
Kwessies van Gesondheidsorg

2002 – Dr MW Makgoba
The impact of HIV/AIDS in South Africa

2003 – Prof FP Retief
Prof CJ Nel's career span in the faculty

2004 – Prof A du P Heyns
Blood Safety

2005 – Prof Benatar
Trends in Bioethics: A Review

2006 – Prof B Mayosi
Quality Assurance: the fourth pillar of academic Medicine

2007 – Prof HH Vorster
Nutrition in South Africa: from Research to Policy

2008 – Prof MJ Viljoen
Bestuur vir Navorsing in 'n Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe

2009 – Prof PN Badenhorst
Keeping the Research flame burning

2010 – Prof LR Uys
Challenges of Higher Education in South Africa

2011 – Prof EWW Sonnendecker
The Omnipotence of Vitamin K

2012 – Prof DJV Weich
Motivating and strengthening research in our Faculty of Health Sciences, UFS

2013 – Prof JD Jansen
The politics and epistemology of the healing sciences in South Africa

2014 – Prof J Volmink
Reflections on the Social Determinants of Health Research Outputs

2015 – Prof H Klopper
Global trends in health care: Implications for research, education, and policy

2016 – Prof B Morrow
Bridging the gap: Integrating research and clinical care in South Africa

2017 – Prof J Pettifor
Bone mass and fractures in South African children

2018 – Prof T Pillay
New diagnostic probes for laboratory medicine using nanobodies and next generation technology

2019 – Prof L Rispel
Building Scholarship and Capacity for Universal Health Coverage

2021 – Prof E Wentzel Viljoen
The South African Salt Story

2022 – Prof Solomon Rataemane
Burnout: A key factor among health care practitioners

2023 – Prof Zukiswa Zingela
From rough seas to calmer shores: how do we navigate our profession without sacrificing our health and well-being?

2024 – Prof JM Mahlangu
“Novel Therapies in the Treatment of Inherited Bleeding Disorders: From Replacement to Gene Therapy”

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EVALUATION COMMITTEES

CLINICAL	
Internal evaluation committee	Prof Busiswa Bisiwe (Chair) Dr Déte van Eeden Dr Liska Robb
External adjudicators of research articles	Prof Alex Doruyter (US) – attending Dr Elize Symington (Unisa) Dr Nyameka Dyakalashé (UCT)
LABORATORY	
Internal evaluation committee	Dr Nigel Makoah (Chair) Dr Beynon Abrahams Dr B van der Westhuizen
External adjudicators of research articles	Prof Abidemi Paul Kappo (UJ) – attending Dr T Khoza (UKZN) Dr Jinal Nomathemba Bhiman (UW)
EDUCATIONAL	
Internal evaluation committee	Ms Mashudu Rabambi (Chair) Prof Hanneke Brits Ms Kelebogile Manjinja
External adjudicators of research articles	Prof Vanessa C Burch (CMSA) – attending Prof François J Cilliers (UCT) Dr Sanele Enock Nene (UJ)

PRIZE WINNERS OF RESEARCH ARTICLES 2025

John van der Riet Medal Best article in the clinical category

**Corinna May Walsh, Janet Adede Carboo, Jennifer Ngounda, Jeannine Baumgartner,
Liska Robb, Marizeth Jordaan**

Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences,
UFS

Iron status, anemia, and birth outcomes among pregnant women in urban
Bloemfontein, South Africa: the NuEMI study

Muller Potgieter Medal Best article in the Laboratory category

Jane Duncan, Gina Joubert and Jacqueline Goedhals

Department of Anatomical Pathology, School of Pathology, UFS

Quantification of eosinophils in the lower gastrointestinal tract of adults: a review of
surgical specimens with normal histology from the Free State province, South Africa

Kerneels Nel Medal Best article in the Education category

Gina Joubert

Department of Biostatistics, School of Biomedical Sciences, UFS

Reporting and presentation of statistical analyses: instructions for authors of health
sciences journals based in South Africa

Faculty of Health Sciences FACULTY RESEARCH FORUM 2025 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF PARTICIPATING COMPANIES

We express our sincere thanks to the companies mentioned below for their financial support
and valued participation in the 2025 Faculty of Health Sciences Faculty Research Forum of the
University of the Free State.

EXHIBITOR'S:

1. **Busamed Bram Fischer Private Hospital**
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3. **Discovery**
4. **Emoyamed Bloemfontein**
5. **Inqaba Biotechnic Industries**
6. **JLW Suppliers**
7. **Lasec**
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| 4. Lancet: | Water |
| 5. Mediclinic | Forum bags |

PROGRAMME THURSDAY, 28 August 2025			
SESSION 1 08h00–08h30	KINE 1 Chairperson: Prof Esmé le Grange Opening Lecture: Prof Gert van Zyl		
SESSION 2 08h35–10h05	KINE 1 Clinical Papers	KINE 2 Laboratory Papers	KINE 3 Educational Papers
	Chairperson: Prof Jacques Malherbe	Chairperson: Prof Felicity Burt	Chairperson: Dr Nashua Naicker
08h35–08h50	CR 1 Brits, L	LR 1 Botha, J	ER 1 Vorster–de Wet, PC
08h50–09h05	CR 2 Russel, D	LR 2 Carelse, J	ER 2 Maselinyane, TPM
09h05–09h20	CR 3 Vorster, C	LR 3 Dube, SL	ER 3 Tlalajoe–Mokhatla, N
09h20–09h35	CR 4 Boonzaier, W	LR 4 J van Rensburg, W	ER 4 Van Wyk, R
09h35–09h50	CR 5 Omololu, A	LR 5 Keulder, T	ER 5 Jansen, PT
09h50–10h05	CR 6 Kamffer, C	LR 6 Lefuo, T	
10h05–10h25	TEA		
SESSION 3 10h25–10h55	KINE 1 Chairperson: Ms Mashudu Rabambi Invitation Lecture: Prof Vanessa Burch <i>AI and academic writing: How far can the pendulum swing?</i>		
SESSION 4 11h00–12h15	KINE 1 Clinical Papers	KINE 2 Laboratory Papers	KINE 3 Educational Papers
	Chairperson: Dr Lucia Meko	Chairperson: Prof Walter J van Rensburg	
11h00–11h15	CR 7 Titi, T	LR 7 Lehlaleroa, T	
11h15–11h30	CR 8 Khaliq, O	LR 8 Maass, P	
11h30–11h45	CR 9 Ramatsea, N	LR 9 Malebo, K	
11h45–12h00	CR 10 Meyer, E	LR 10 Maseko, S	
12H00–12h15	CR 11 Jassen, A	LR 11 Moodley, P	
SESSION 5 12h15–13h00	KINE 1 Chairperson: Prof C Janse van Vuuren FP Retief Lecture: Prof Quarraisha Abdool Karim <i>Research for societal impact: Lessons from preventing HIV infection in young women.</i>		
13h00–13h45	LUNCH		

	KINE 1 Clinical Papers	KINE 2 Laboratory Papers	KINE 3 Educational Papers
SESSION 6 13h45–14h45	Chairperson: Prof Jacques Janse van Rensburg		
13h45–14h00	CR 12 Motlolometsi, MW	LR 12 Ngesi, N	
14h00–14h15	CR 13 Robb, L	LR 13 Nkoi, M	
14h15–14h30	CR 14 Nqobile, H	LR 14 Oosthuizen, J	
14h30–14h45	CR 15 Mooko, T	LR 15 Shange, N	
SESSION 7 14h45–15h30	KINE 1 Chairperson: Dr Jolly Musoke BEST STUDENT PAPERS		
14h45–15h00	School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences		
15h00–15h15	School of Nursing		
15h15–15h30	School of Clinical Medicine		
15h30–15h45	TEA		
SESSION 8 15h45–17h20	KINE 1 Clinical Posters	KINE 2 Laboratory Posters	KINE 3 Educational Posters
15h45–15h50	Chairperson: Dr Marizeth Jordaan		
	CP 1 Brits, L	LP 1 Budding, L	EP 1 Du Preez, IM
15h50–15h55	CP 2 Fransman–Mathibe, XL	LP 2 Buys, JE	EP 2 Botes, PJ
15h55–16h00	CP 3 Brits, L	LP 3 Endres, W	
16h00–16h05	CP 4 Saffy, G	LP 4 Jim, T	
16h05–16h10	CP 5 Febana, BM	LP 5 Khala, M	
16h10–16h15	CP 6 Masemola, HC	LP 6 Mpaxa, ST	
16h15–16h20	CP 7 Brits, L	LP 7 Ngewana, N	
16h20–16h25	CP 8 Matlometsi, MW	LP 8 Ntaita, K	
16h25–16h30	CP 9 Boonzaier, W	LP 9 Papiyana, A	
16h30–16h35	CP 10 Schroeder, G	LP 10 Ralepeli, P	
16h35–16h40	BREATHER		
16h40–16h45	CP 11 Anirudh, K	LP 11 Sikanise, S	
16h45–16h50	CP 12 Biduaya, K	LP 12 Singh, S	
16h50–16h55	CP 13 Theron, P	LP 13 Tamilselvan, PY	

16h55-17h00	CP 14 Bana, I	LP 14 Vd Westhuizen, B	
17h00-17h05	CP 15 Tebeila, T	LP 15 Van Marle, A	
17h05-17h10	CP 16 Van Niekerk, A		
17h10-17h15	CP 17 Mooko, T		
17h20-17h25	CP 18 Brits, M		
17h25-17h30	CP 19 Matsose, P		
17h30-17h35	CP 20 Ngobeni, V		
17h35-17h40	CP 21 Van Tonder, M		
17h40-17h45	CP 22 Buchner, J		

PROGRAMME FRIDAY, 29 August 2025		
SESSION 9 08h00-08h30	KINE 1 Chairperson: Prof Busiswa Bisiwe Invitation Lecture: Prof Alex Doruyter <i>PET is beautiful: Illuminating biochemistry</i>	
SESSION 10 08h35-10h05	KINE 1 Clinical Papers	KINE 2 Laboratory Papers
	Chairperson: Prof Nicholas Pearce	Chairperson: Prof Chris Viljoen
08h35-08h50	CR 16 Chilembo, S	LR 16 Sondlane, H
08h50-09h05	CR 17 Mhundwa, W	LR 17 Sreenivasan-Tantuan, S
09h05-09h20	CR 18 Smith, R	LR 18 Terblanche, G
09h20-09h35	CR 19 Tabane, N	LR 19 Thubisi, R
09h35-09h50	CR 20 Pillay, D	LR 20 Willers, A
09h50-10h05	CR 21 Spies, E	LR 21 Akoniyon, O
10h05-10h25	TEA	
SESSION 11 10h25-10h55	KINE 1 Chairperson: Dr Nigel Makoah Invitation Lecture: Prof Abidemi Paul Kappo <i>Universal stress GALZ13 protein and glycolytic enzymes as druggable targets in rational anti-schistosomal drug discovery.</i>	
SESSION 12 11h00-12h00	KINE 1 Clinical Papers	KINE 2 Laboratory Papers
	Chairperson: Prof Alicia Sherriff	Chairperson: Prof Muriel Meiring
11h00-11h15	CR 22 Jordaan, M	LR 22 Gordon, S

11h15-11h30	CR 23 Van Eeden, D	LR 23 Kloppers, JF
11h30-11h45	CR 24 Hanekom, H	LR 24 Nazo, S
11h45-12h00	CR 25 Roos, F	
12h00-13h00	LUNCH	
Session 13 13h00-13h45	KINE 1 Chairperson: Prof Jaco Joubert Reflections: External Evaluators	
13h00-13h15	Reflection: Clinical External Adjudicator Prof Alex Doruyter	
13h15-13h30	Reflection: Educational External Adjudicator Prof Vanessa Burch	
13h30-13h45	Reflection: Laboratory External Adjudicator Prof Abidemi Paul Kappo	
13h45-14h00	KINE 1 CLOSURE Prof Esmé le Grange	
<i>Prize winners will be informed by Mrs Petunia Ranthamane. Winners are encouraged to please attend the awards ceremony in person.</i>		
15h00	KINE 1 AWARDS CEREMONY Master of Ceremonies/Toast to the Faculty of Health Sciences: Prof Chris Viljoen Announcement of Winners: Prof Corlia Janse van Vuuren	

PRESENTATIONS: THURSDAY, 28 AUGUST 2025

Session 2	Kine 1 08h35	CR-1	Aspartate aminotransferase-to-platelet ratio index (APRI) as biomarker for liver damage in biliary atresia (BA): A meta-analysis Presenter: Brits, L Surgery
Session 2	Kine 1 08h50	CR-2	The impact of early referral on milestone development of babies with Down syndrome at the Bloemfontein Child Information Centre, South Africa Presenter: Russell, D Paediatrics and Child Health
Session 2	Kine 1 09h05	CR-3	Sustainability in Anaesthesia: Are South African anaesthesia providers doing their part? Presenter: Vorster, C Anesthesiology
Section 2	Kine 1 09h20	CR-4	Cutting planning time, not corners: AI-assisted radiotherapy planning for complex cancer cases Presenter: Boonzaier, W Medical Physics
Session 2	Kine 1 09h35	CR-5	Underdispersed musculoskeletal injuries from gender-based violence using Poisson modelling Presenter: Omololu, A Biostatistics
Session 2	Kine 1 09h50	CR-6	Risk factors associated with the outcomes of fluoroscopic guided pneumatic enema reductions of intussusceptions at a tertiary academic hospital in Central South Africa Presenter: Kamffer, C Clinical Imaging Sciences
Session 2	Kine 2 08h35	LR-1	The development and optimization of a nested reverse transcription real time polymerase chain reaction for the detection of alphaviruses from mosquito vectors in the Bloemfontein region Presenter: Botha, J Virology
Session 2	Kine 2 08h50	LR-2	Status of BRCA1 and BRCA2 testing in South Africa: An overview based on the largest cohort for the public sector Presenter: Carelse, J Human Genetics
Session 2	Kine 2 09h05	LR-3	Molecular evaluation of colistin-resistance mechanisms in clinical isolates at Universitas Academic Laboratory Presenter: Dube, SL Medical Microbiology

Session 2	Kine 2 09h20	LR-4	Human leukocyte antigen allele frequency in primary HIV-associated thrombocytopenia in a central South African population Presenter: Janse van Rensburg, W Human Molecular Biology
Session 2	Kine 2 09h35	LR-5	Clinical implications of actionable germline TP53 variants detected in breast and ovarian cancer patients Presenter: Keulder, T Human Genetics
Session 2	Kine 2 09h50	LR-6	Effect of extracellular vesicles on the thrombotic potential in Thrombotic Thrombocytopenic Purpura Presenter: Lefuo, T Haematology and Cell Biology
Session 2	Kine 3 08h35	ER-1	A guideline to foster self-regulated motivation, student engagement and student autonomy in the classroom Presenter: Vorster-de Wet, R Basic Medical Sciences
Session 2	Kine 3 08h50	ER-2	Application of standardised patient simulation in midwifery education: A scoping review Presenter: Maselinyane, T Nursing
Session 2	Kine 3 09h05	ER-3	Towards a triadic conceptual framework in higher education anchored on social learning and social integration: Transition, retention and graduation Presenter: Tlalajoe-Mokhatla, N Student Learning and Development
Session 2	Kine 3 09h20	ER-4	Educator needs regarding a simulation debriefing programme: A missed opportunity for interprofessional practice at a South African university Presenter: Van Wyk, R Clinical Simulation and Skills Unit
Session 2	Kine 3 09h35	ER-5	The experience and perceptions of Anaesthesiology registrars and consultants regarding the operating theatre learning environment at the University of the Free State Presenter: Jansen, PT Anaesthesiology
Session 4	Kine 1 11h00	CR-7	Human papillomavirus knowledge, vaccination barriers and self-sampling awareness among female students in the Free State, South Africa Presenter: Tiiti, T Internal Medicine

Session 4	Kine 1 11h15	CR-8	The prevalence and management of syphilis at two primary healthcare facilities in the Free State Province, South Africa Presenter: Khaliq, O Paediatrics and Child Health
Session 4	Kine 1 11h30	CR-9	Clinical trial for the feasibility and effectiveness of the novel Hemoclear microfiltration cell salvage system in caesarean sections in South Africa Presenter: Ramatsea, N Anaesthesiology
Session 4	Kine 1 11h45	CR-10	Knowledge, attitude and practice of South African physiotherapists regarding motor learning in stroke rehabilitation: A cross-sectional survey Presenter: Meyer, E Physiotherapy
Session 4	Kine 1 12h00	CR-11	Quality of breast milk produced by lactating mothers of VLBW infants, and the short-term outcomes thereof at two tertiary hospitals in Bloemfontein Presenter: Jassen, A Paediatrics and Child Health
Session 4	Kine 2 11h00	LR-7	A comparative analysis of the antioxidant capacity and ellagitannins profile of the pomegranate fruit peel and juice extracts Presenter: Lehlaleroa, T Basic Medical Sciences
Session 4	Kine 2 11h15	LR-8	Evaluating the accuracy of univariate sex estimation in a Free State skeletal sample Presenter: Maass, P Basic Medical Sciences
Session 4	Kine 2 11h30	LR-9	Isolation and characterisation of CCHFV nucleoprotein-specific human monoclonal antibodies for diagnostic applications Presenter: Malebo, K Virology
Session 4	Kine 2 11h45	LR-10	Metagenomics next generation sequencing of norovirus-positive faecal samples from South African children under 5 years old reveals co-infections with multiple virulent enteric viruses Presenter: Maseko, S Virology

Session 4	Kine 2 12h00	LR-11	The identification and prevalence of pathogenic variants in CHEK2, a moderate-risk breast cancer gene involved in the sensing and recognition of DNA damage Presenter: Moodley, P Human Genetics
Session 6	Kine 1 13h45	CR-12	The primary health care environment and the performance of advanced antenatal care trained nurse-midwives Presenter: Motlolometsi, MW Nursing
Session 6	Kine 14h00	CR-13	Preoperative dietitian-led calorie-restricted diet: Impact on left hepatic lobe volume and laparoscopic upper GIT-surgery visibility Presenter: Robb, L Nutrition and Dietetics
Session 6	Kine 1 14h15	CR-14	Outcomes and clinical profile of preterm and term neonates admitted to Paediatric Intensive Care in Pelonomi Tertiary and Universitas Academic Hospitals, Free State, South Africa Presenter: Nqobile, H Paediatrics and Child Health
Session 6	Kine 1 14h30	CR-15	The prevalence of HIV resistance mutations and their influence on the shedding of HIV-1 into peritoneal dialysis effluent Presenter: Mooko, T Internal Medicine
Session 6	Kine 2 13h45	LR-12	In vitro evaluation of expression levels of ABC-transporter genes on needle biopsies of prostate cancer patients treated with chemotherapy Presenter: Ngesi, N Pharmacology
Session 6	Kine 2 14h00	LR-13	An anatomical description of the coeliac trunk in a Free State cadaveric sample Presenter: Nkoi, M Basic Medical Sciences
Session 6	Kine 2 14h15	LR-14	Optimising a portable PCR system for genotyping of South African BRCA1/2 founder variants with point-of-care utility Presenter: Oosthuizen, J Human Genetics
Session 6	Kine 2 14h30	LR-15	Decade-long molecular evolution of rotavirus G8P[4] strain in South African children: Evidence of antigenic changes in key epitope sites Presenter: Shange, N Virology

Session 8	Kine 1 15h45	CP-1	Hirschsprung's disease at a tertiary hospital: Patient profile, management and outcomes Presenter: Brits, L Surgery
Session 8	Kine 1 15h50	CP-2	South African medical practitioners' experience, knowledge and attitudes regarding medical cannabis – a national survey Presenter Fransman-Mathibe, XL Pharmacology
Session 8	Kine 1 15h55	CP-3	The influence of a vegan diet on child health and development: A scoping review Presenter: Brits, L Surgery
Session 8	Kine 1 16h00	CP-4	The spread of injectate on MRI after a lumbar erector spinae plane injection at L4 Presenter: Saffy, G Anaesthesiology
Session 8	Kine 1 16h05	CP-5	Perceptions of nurses on integrating mental health into primary health care in OR Tambo district Presenter: Febana, BM Public Health
Session 8	Kine 1 16h10	CP-6	Diagnosis, treatment, and management of vernal keratoconjunctivitis in resource-limited settings: A case report Presenter: Masemola, HC Optometry
Session 8	Kine 1 16h15	CP-7	The role of cow's milk protein allergy in refractory gastroesophageal reflux disease in infants: A scoping review Presenter: Brits, L Surgery
Session 8	Kine 1 16h20	CP-8	Advanced antenatal care trained nurse-midwives practitioners: Factors influence transfer of learning and performance Presenter: Motlolometsi, MW Nursing
Session 8	Kine 1 16h25	CP-9	Exploring automated contouring in cervix brachytherapy using NNU-NET: An initial investigation Presenter: Boonzaier, W Medical Physics

Session 8	Kine 1 16h30	CP-10	Smoking cessation in patients with established atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease: Are we doing enough? Presenter: Schroeder, G Internal Medicine
Session 8	Kine 1 16h40	CP-11	Long story short: A cadaveric case report of a short gastrointestinal tract Presenter: Anirudh, E Basic Medical Sciences
Session 8	Kine 1 16h45	CP-12	Advanced abdominal pregnancy at Universitas Academic Hospital: A two-year review Presenter: Biduaya, K Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Session 8	Kine 1 16h50	CP-13	Efficacy of oral and intravenous agents to mitigate tourniquet pain in adult patients undergoing orthopaedic surgery: A systematic review Presenter: Theron, P Anaesthesiology
Session 8	Kine 1 16h55	CP-14	An audit of the anticoagulation facility at Universitas Academic Hospital Presenter: Bana, I Haematology and Cell Biology
Session 8	Kine 1 17h00	CP-15	Knowledge, attitudes, and practices of pharmacovigilance amongst Nuclear Medicine practitioners in South Africa Presenter: Tebeila, T Nuclear Medicine
Session 8	Kine 1 17h05	CP-16	Outcomes of drug-resistant tuberculosis treatment in the Mangaung Metro, Free State Province, South Africa Presenter: Van Niekerk, A Family Medicine
Session 8	Kine 1 17h10	CP-17	Steady-state pharmacokinetics of lamivudine in end-stage kidney failure persons with detectable and undetectable HIV-1 RNA in peritoneal dialysis effluent Presenter: Mooko, T Internal Medicine
Session 8	Kine 1 17h15	CP-18	Bronchiolitis in children \leq 12 months during the pre-flu season of 2024: A case series Presenter: Brits, M Family Medicine
Session 8	Kine 1 17h20	CP-19	Enablers and deterrants to student blood donation at the UFS Presenter: Matsose, P Research and Development Unit

Session 8	Kine 1 17h25	CP-20	Gestational trophoblastic disease managed at Pelonomi Tertiary and Universitas Academic Hospitals: A six-year descriptive study Presenter: Ngobeni, V Obstetrics and Gynaecology
Session 8	Kine 1 17h30	CP-21	Perception of teamwork amongst healthcare professionals at National District Hospital Presenter: Van Tonder, M Family Medicine
Session 8	Kine 1 17h35	CP-22	The prevalence of pin site infection in external ring fixation at Pelonomi Tertiary Hospital from May 2023 to April 2024: A retrospective descriptive study Presenter: Buchner, J Orthopaedic Surgery
Session 8	Kine 1 17h40	CP-23	Herpetic hepatitis in a young immunocompetent patient Presenter: Budding, L Anatomical Pathology
Session 8	Kine 2 15h45	LP-1	Grade 2 well-differentiated pancreatic neuroendocrine tumour with bone marrow metastases: A case report Presenter: Buys, E Anatomical Pathology
Session 8	Kine 2 15h50	LP-2	An evaluation of pulmonary embolism detection on single photon emissions tomography ventilation-perfusion studies using open source deep learning algorithms Presenter: Endres, W Nuclear Medicine
Session 8	Kine 1 15h55	LP-3	Bio-guided isolation, purification, and identification of cannabinoids from <i>Cannabis sativa</i> L. flower hexane extract: Enzyme inhibition relevant to type II diabetes Presenter: Jim, T Pharmacology
Session 8	Kine 2 16h00	LP-4	Copy number variants affecting DNA double-strand break repair in South African breast and ovarian cancer patients Presenter: Khala, M Human Genetics
Session 8	Kine 2 16h05	LP-5	Highlighting the value of expanded characterisation of rotavirus strains by whole genome sequencing to determine constellation diversity Presenter: Mpaxa, ST Virology

Session 8	Kine 2 16h10	LP-6	Comparison of the human factor 8 gene to that of the chacma baboon: Implication for the haemostatic disease model Presenter: Ngewana, N Haematology and Cell Biology
Session 8	Kine 2 16h15	LP-7	Navigating the nuances between international guidelines for variant reclassification in homologous recombination genes involved in breast and ovarian cancer susceptibility Presenter: Ntaita, K Human Genetics
Session 8	Kine 2 16h20	LP-8	Investigating the prevalence of hypervirulent <i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> in Universitas Academic Laboratory, Free State, South Africa Presenter: Papiyana, A Medical Microbiology
Session 8	Kine 2 16h25	LP-9	Development of RT-QPCR to detect orthobunyaviruses Presenter: Ralepeli, P Virology
Session 8	Kine 2 16h30	LP-10	In-silico selection of aptamer targeting multidrug resistance 1 gene for drug resistance reversal in prostate cancer Presenter: Sikanise, S Pharmacology
Session 8	Kine 2 16h40	LP-11	Preparation and characterisation of recombinant reagents for Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever virus diagnostic assays Presenter: Singh, S Virology
Session 8	Kine 2 16h45	LP-12	Molecular glue (ActimidTM): Targeting extracellular vesicle transmembrane glucoprotein CD40 from HEPG2 cancer cells for metastasis immune regulation Presenter: Tamilselvan, PY Haematology and Cell Biology
Session 8	Kine 2 16h50	LP-13	Rapidly progressing rhinosinusitis in a patient with advanced HIV infection due to <i>Saksanaea oblongispora</i>, a rare cause of mucormycosis Presenter: Van der Westhuizen, B Medical Microbiology
Session 8	Kine 2 16h55	LP-14	A case of myeloid neoplasm with PDGFRA rearrangement presenting in blast-phase with basophilia Presenter: Van Marle, A Haematology and Cell Biology

Session 8	Kine 3 15h45	EP-1	An illustration is worth ten thousand words: An extraordinary approach to present information through infographics Presenter: Du Preez, I Research and Development Unit
Session 8	Kine 3 15h50	EP-2	Perceptions and experiences of Large Language Model (LLM) usage among medical educators at the Faculty of Health Sciences, UFS Presenter: Botes, J Research and Development Unit

PRESENTATIONS: FRIDAY, 29 AUGUST 2025

Session 10	Kine 1 08h35	CR-16	Distal tibia pilon fractures treated with circular external fixators at Pelonomi Tertiary Hospital: Retrospective descriptive study Presenter: Chilembo, S Orthopaedic Surgery
Session 10	Kine 1 08h50	CR-17	The experience of rituximab usage in treating glomerular disease in central South Africa Presenter: Mhundwa, W Internal Medicine
Session 10	Kine 1 09h05	CR-18	Transitioning to a flexible, tiered, developmentally informed, same-day screening model for preschoolers in low-resource settings Presenter: Smith, R Physiotherapy
Session 10	Kine 1 09h20	CR-19	Implementation barriers in the management of maternal syphilis by midwives at two primary healthcare clinics in the Free State Province, South Africa Presenter: Tabane, N Paediatrics and Child Health
Session 10	Kine 1 09h35	CR-20	Up to 11 years follow-up of percutaneous pulmonary valve implantation (PPVI) in Central South Africa Presenter: Pillay, D Paediatrics and Child Health
Session 10	Kine 1 09h50	CR-21	Knowledge and reported treatment of patients with polycystic ovarian syndrome (PCOS) in South Africa Presenter: Spies, E Nutrition and Dietetics

Session 10	Kine 2 08h35	LR-16	Metagenomic exploration of antibiotic resistance genes and bacteriome profile in the gut of infants in their first six months of life from the Free State Presenter: Sondlane, H Virology
Session 10	Kine 2 08h50	LR-17	Development and validation of a multiplex real-time PCR method for screening genetically modified crops approved in South Africa Presenter: Sreenivasan-Tantuan, S Human Molecular Biology
Session 10	Kine 2 09h05	LR-18	Non-targeted screening approach of wild-caught ticks (<i>Acarixodidae</i>) in the Eastern Cape Province of South Africa Presenter: Terblanche, G Virology
Session 10	Kine 2 09h20	LR-19	Investigating the effect of sorafenib on autophagic flux in a hepatocellular carcinoma cell model Presenter: Thubisi, R Basic Medical Sciences
Session 10	Kine 2 09h35	LR-20	Optimisation of the quantification and characterisation of micro vesicles in thrombosis and haemostasis Presenter: Willers, A Haematology and Cell Biology
Session 10	Kine 2 09h50	LR-21	A comparative evaluation of <i>Cannabis sativa</i> L. extracts on B-secretase inhibition and cytoprotective effects in an N2ASWE cell model of Alzheimer's disease Presenter: Akoniyon, O Basic Medical Sciences
Session 12	Kine 1 11h00	CR-22	Feeding practices and growth of infants: A cross-sectional study at a primary health care facility in Mangaung, South Africa Presenter: Jordaan, M Nutrition and Dietetics
Session 12	Kine 1 11h15	CR-23	Automated segmentation of the left ventricle in planar blood-pool imaging using Duck-Net Presenter: Van Eeden, D Medical Physics
Session 12	Kine 1 11h30	CR-24	Viruses identified in endomyocardial biopsy samples in idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy patients in Central South Africa Presenter: Hanekom, H Cardiothoracic Surgery

Session 12	Kine 1 11h45	CR-25	Are we making hay while the sun shines or lying in it? Assessing utilisation of emergency operating theatre time at a tertiary hospital in Bloemfontein, South Africa Presenter: Roos, F Anaesthesiology
Session 12	Kine 2 11h00	LR-22	African drumming as an intervention for cortisol reduction: A case study of the UFS students Presenter: Gordon, S Basic Medical Sciences
Session 12	Kine 2 11h15	LR-23	The genetic landscape of the factor 8 gene in people with haemophilia A from Central South Africa Presenter: Kloppers, J Haematology and Cell Biology
Session 12	Kine 2 11h30	LR-24	Metagenomic characterisation of microbial communities and antimicrobial resistance genes on high-touch ICU surfaces at Universitas Academic Hospital, Free State Province, South Africa Presenter: Nazo, S Virology



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