

Innovation Park

UKZN and Eskom have joined hands to build a science and technology innovation park in KwaZulu-Natal. The park, which is expected to take three years to complete and will cost in the region of R20 million, will grow innovation in the field of engineering technologies.

Eskom corporate consultant in transmission technology and research, Mr Logan Pillay, says that while the innovation park will initially be a joint initiative between the University and Eskom, future developments may include opening the park to other industries involved in the field of engineering.

The proposed park will consist of the already-existing Vibration,



INNOVATORS: (top l-r) Mr Isaiah Engelbrecht (Eskom Research), Mr Reggie Govender (UKZN Innovation Company), Professor NM Ijumba – Dean (Faculty of Engineering), Mr Siven Naidoo (Eskom Research). (bottom l-r) Mr Logan Pillay (Eskom Research), Professor AC Bawa (DVC-Research, Knowledge Production and Partnerships and Professor PJK Zacharias (DVC and Head of College-Science, Engineering and Agriculture).

Research and Testing Centre, a High-Voltage Direct-Current

Centre and an infrared centre already developed by Eskom. Mr

Pillay says that the University and Eskom are discussing the possi-

bility of moving the infrared centre to UKZN.

The innovation park will also feature a power and energy technology museum and power-delivery maintenance and application centre. This will focus on maintenance and smart materials for the power-delivery infrastructure in South Africa.

“There has been a depletion of skills in this area, and we believe that the University can add value in terms of training new engineers on good maintenance practices”, says Mr Pillay. Several government departments, as well as other organisations, have expressed interest in coming on board.

UKZN and Eskom have successfully partnered many innovative projects.

- adapted from an article in *Engineering News*.

Picture: Supplied

Faculty banner unveiled

AT its Research Student Poster Conference and Research Day the Faculty of Education exhibited 23 works of art donated to the Faculty by Ronald Albino, Fran Saunders, Sean Eagle and Coral Spencer-Domijan. Also among the works displayed were items of beadwork acquired from women’s groups, as well as bead-work from the Umcebo Trust. These works of art will be housed on both campuses of the University where the Faculty of Education has buildings (Pietermaritzburg and Edgewood).

The day was also an opportunity to unveil a specially commissioned banner produced by the Umcebo Trust. The banner is the new emblem of the Faculty, symbolic-

ally placing children at the centre of the educational endeavour.

Professor Robert Balfour, on behalf of the Dean (Professor Renuka Vithal) and the Faculty of Education, commissioned the work for the Edgewood Campus. The banner is entitled “THE SEA OF KNOWLEDGE.” At a thematic level the piece captures the rapid leap forward that education has taken in the recent past. Children now communicate over the Internet. Music speeds across borders and is uploaded and downloaded. With the push of a button, one can travel to another country or communicate with a friend in China while eating breakfast. In the spirit of the

banners (examples of which are displayed annually at the Time of the Writer Festivals at UKZN) created by the Trust, they have tried to capture this through the captivating beadwork of the students from Sinethemba Children’s home, based in St George’s Street. These students and their Principal, Muhle Ngcobo, are an integral part of the Umcebo programme. The “Sea of Knowledge” uses a combination of recycled, bought and found objects in the background.

The banner hangs in the Reception Area of the Faculty of Education at Edgewood.

- Robert Balfour



The new Faculty of Education banner.

Picture: Thabiso Mndebele

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Partnership with Virginia Commonwealth University

UKZN has been chosen as a partner university by Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU).

In November Dr Edward H Bersoff, Rector of VCU, and UKZN Vice-Chancellor Professor Malegapuru Makgoba signed an agreement. Dr Bersoff was accompanied by Dr Peter S Kirkpatrick, Executive Director, VCU International Education.

This agreement is intended to strengthen and extend ties between the two institutions and to affirm their intent to explore international collaboration and academic interactions of mutual benefit. It includes the following as key areas of collaboration:

- Facilitation of scholarly activities including academic training of students at undergraduate and graduate levels and placement of students in programmes of advanced study and collaborative research;
- Facilitation of academic/research enhancement visits to the respective Universities by faculty members;
- Co-ordination through the appropriate offices of the respective institutions: organisation of student and faculty exchanges, promotion and co-ordination of each institution's relevant summer study programmes and identification of

joint or collaborative research projects;

- Co-ordination, as appropriate, of the continued exchange of documentation and research material of mutual interest.

VCU has decided to focus its international commitments on 15 universities in 12 different countries in the world. During their visit, both Dr Bersoff and Dr Kirkpatrick met with members of the executive management and faculty deans to ensure that faculty relationships between the two institutions are nurtured and remain active and vibrant. VCU has also committed resources at the University-level and Deans-level to start up faculty initiatives/lectures/exchanges with faculties. A delegation of administrators/faculty representatives have been invited to visit VCU in Richmond, Virginia.

Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va, is ranked nationally by the Carnegie Foundation as a top research institution and enrolls nearly 30 000 students in more than 170 certificate, undergraduate, graduate, professional and doctoral programmes in the arts, sciences and humanities in 15 schools and one college. Forty of the university's programmes are unique in Virginia, and 20 graduate and professional programmes have been ranked by *US News and World Report* as among the best of their kind.

- Bhekani Dlamini



Picture: Shaun Veeran

PARTNERSHIP: Dr Edward H Bersoff (Rector, Virginia Commonwealth University) and Professor Malegapuru Makgoba (Vice-Chancellor UKZN) sign the MOU. Dr Roshen Kishun (centre), Director of UKZN International Relations, facilitated the collaboration.

College of the Bahamas visit

THE President of the College of the Bahamas, Professor Janyne Hodder and Ms Linda Davis, Vice President: Research and International Relations, visited UKZN on 6 December.

UKZN was represented by Professor Ahmed Bawa, DVC: Research, Knowledge Production and Partnerships, The Faculty of Education, the Schools of Nursing, Biological and Conservation Sciences, and Geological Sciences. The delegation was part of a broader mission to South Africa by the Bahamian Minister of Education, who attended the Commonwealth Ministers Meeting in Cape Town.

Arising out of the Bahamas-South Africa Joint Bilateral Commission Meeting (and subsequent bilateral agreements for educational co-operation) the College of the Bahamas aims to establish formal linkages and partnership agreements with UKZN. This will create



Picture: Siyabonga Seme

(l-r) Ms Nicola Latchia (UKZN International), Mr Trevor Wills (Executive Dean of Students), Ms Linda Davis (Vice Principal: Research & International Relations, College of the Bahamas), Professor Janyne Hodde (President, College of the Bahamas), and Professor Ahmed Bawa (DVC: Research, Knowledge Production and Partnerships, UKZN).

opportunities for student and faculty exchanges, research collaboration, joint programmes and collaborative degree programmes at undergraduate and graduate levels, partnerships in support of visiting scholars, including post-doctoral exchanges and faculty-research stays, and joint confer-

ence planning. The College of the Bahamas already has successful partnership arrangements with Kent State (USA), Bishops University (Canada), University of Rhode Island (USA), and University of Miami (USA).

- Siyabonga Seme

Editorial

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Groundbreaking initiative by UKZN Innovation

GIVEN the rising costs of Higher Education in South Africa, the pressure from students to keep fees as low as possible and the growing need for increased research funding, the University of KwaZulu-Natal has opted to set up UKZN Innovation (Pty) Ltd as a vehicle to tackle some of these challenges. The global conditions facing Higher Education have, to some extent, become manifest in South Africa as well, necessitating the enhancement of UKZN's capacity to generate third stream income.

South African society is keen, under the new democratic dispensation, to enhance our capacity for technological development. Technological development is a fundamental feature of any knowledge-based economy, and it is up to universities, as national assets, to help create and sustain the conditions for such development. UKZN Innovation will therefore concentrate on intellectual property produced within the University and will look at finding ways of working with researchers in order to tap the inherent and market value of their outputs. In doing these things, UKZN Innovation is hoping to contribute to the development of an entrepreneurial culture within the institution, so that staff and students continue to think and act in ways that contribute to the meeting of development goals that go beyond the core activities of teaching and research.

The three initiatives embarked upon by UKZN Innovation in line with the above rationale, are firstly, the optimal utilisation of the University's fixed assets and equipment base; secondly, short course development and offering; and thirdly, technology development. To assist the University to do this, a R3.8 million grant has been received from the Innovation Fund managed by the National Research Foundation for the establishment of an intellectual property management office. The University Community wishes UKZN Innovation well in its path-breaking ventures exemplified by the partnership with Eskom, our lead article in this edition of ukzndaba.

Professor Dasarath Chetty, Executive Director, Public Affairs and Corporate Communications

The ukzndaba team



Dasarath Chetty Deanne Collins Bhekani Dlamini Fikisile Mabaso Thembeke Dlungwane Vidhya Singh

World AIDS Day

The University community joined people all over the world in marking World AIDS Day at an event held at the Senate Chamber, Westville campus on 1 December. The event which was attended by staff, academics and students began at the traffic circle with the sounds of drums and HIV and AIDS-related poetry. This was followed by a procession to the Senate Chamber. On arrival, participants were treated to the beautiful singing of the KwaMgaga School Choir from Umlazi.

Professor Salim Karim, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) and Chairperson of the University AIDS Committee said “we all have a duty to know our status”. He added that “UKZN is the leader when it comes to an HIV and AIDS response... (we were) one of the first universities to offer free ARV treatment to students”. He acknowledged the role played by the Executive Dean of Students Mr Trevor Wills.

UKZN is a leading university with regard to HIV research. Two out of



Clement Ntuli, Professor Salim Karim and Professor Leana Uys, about to light the candle.

the top three published researchers in HIV and AIDS in the country are from this University.

Clement Ntuli, an honours drama student gave a moving personal account of his journey living

openly with HIV for over ten years. He told the audience how he struggled with the news that he was HIV-positive. Having received no pre or post-test counseling, he was convinced of his imminent death. He started smoking and drinking

heavily and eventually dropped out of university. He got involved in crime, and ended up at Westville prison in 1998. He was released in 2003 on medical parole. “I was very sick and basically I was being sent home to die.” He has been on

ARV treatment for the past three years. He appealed to students to make use of the available HIV and AIDS support services the University offers. “Don’t wait until it is too late.”

Ntuli’s appeal was echoed by Xolani Mzobe, the Deputy President of the Central SRC. He surprised everyone when he openly declared his status: “This morning myself and another member of the SRC underwent VCT and I am able to say the result is negative.” He called on the University to provide food parcels for needy students: “If they are on treatment they will not take it without food.” He feels the University should introduce a compulsory first year life skills module to help students deal with social challenges like HIV and AIDS.

The event ended with a symbolic lighting of a candle to symbolise hope in the fight against HIV and AIDS.

- Chris Mokolatsie

“Know your status”

STUDENT leadership and management tested for HIV at the Westville Campus Health Clinic as part the University’s World AIDS Day campaign encouraging students and staff to know their HIV status. The participants agreed to publicise their testing.

Among those who took up the call were Professor Ahmed Bawa, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Knowledge Production and Partnerships, Professor Leana Uys, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Health Sciences, Professor Sabiha Essack, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Mr Trevor Wills, Executive Dean of Students, Ms Kathy Holland, Dean’s Assistant, Health Sciences, and Xolani Mzobe, Deputy President of SRC, who was accompanied by another SRC member.

At Howard College Professor Jacobs from Humanities took the lead, flanked by four members of his department.

In the waiting room at the Westville clinic, participants openly talked about the experience of testing, the importance of knowing one’s status and the challenges posed by HIV at UKZN.



Professor Sabiha Essack (r) and Ms Kathy Holland with Marcus Dimba, (centre) the VCT counselor at the Westville campus.

Speaking after her test, Professor Uys said UKZN is training young people for the future. We need to ensure that they are healthy and protect themselves from HIV infection. She added that “we now have reached a point where we really must nag everybody to know their HIV status”. Mr Wills said that even though he was confident

about his HIV status, he felt a little apprehensive. “But the counselors were very professional and made me feel at ease”.

Professor Essack found the experience “nerve wracking”, but agreed with Ms Holland that “we all have a moral responsibility to know our HIV status”. Ms Holland

said that parents need to set an example: “By getting tested and knowing my status I am showing my son, who will be going to University next year, what he too must do. I am divorced and like my

17 year old son I am in the ‘dating game’ so we face the same challenges”.

- Chris Mokolatsie



Executive Dean of Students Mr Trevor Wills a few minutes before undergoing his HIV test.

Social work a scarce skill

ACTING Registrar of the South African Council for Social Service Professions (SACSSP), Ms Iveda Smith recently visited UKZN to address fellow practitioners on issues and roles pertaining to this profession and the Professional Board of Social Work.

Looking forward to a series of conversations in the future, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Head of the College of Humanities, Professor Fikile Mazibuko said “we have adopted a new paradigm as an institution where we want to engage in dialogue.” Dean of Humanities, Development and Social Sciences Professor Donal McCracken welcomed the guests to the seminar.

Ms Smith, an accredited assessor and mentor, said that “We have many challenges but the client should not be the victim of our

challenges. We are the biggest constituency of social work in South Africa but we do not speak with one voice about issues that relate to our profession”. Unqualified people who are employed to manage social services do not adhere to and maintain ethical standards and principles such as confidentiality when dealing with clients. “It’s violating ethical standards if you pass on confidential information communicated to you by a client in good faith to someone else without permission from the client.”

The council is looking at the demarcation of social services, child care and social work. She encouraged practitioners to participate in reviewing or rewriting the social work statute.

Ms Smith stressed that continuing professional development is criti-

cal if the sector wants to accelerate, integrate and enhance appropriate recruitment and retention of social service professional training levels. She said there needs to be a complete revamp of policies, adding that benchmarking of qualifications is a priority. Government’s draft scarce skills policy framework recognises social work as a scarce skill and proposes that a strategy be developed to address recruitment and retention. The National Treasury will fund 3 000 students in 2007 and there will also be support for them to do their practicals.

She applauded UKZN for producing quality graduates. Head of Social Work Professor Vishanthi Sewpaul thanked Ms Smith for her informative and insightful talk.

- Bhekani Dlamini

Student Counselling celebrates

UKZN’s Student Counselling and Careers Centre recently celebrated the success of its newspaper.

Student Counselling Quarterly was established in 2004 to engage students in conversation about services offered by the Centre.

Started as an e-newsletter, the newspaper has grown to greater heights with staff and students being motivated to contribute to a hardcopy. The logo of the now fully-fledged newspaper was launched in grand style in September 2005.

Applauding staff and students for their collective effort in making the newspaper a success, Dr Ravi Naidoo, Director of the Centre, acknowledged the feedback which suggests that the readership is increasing in leaps and bounds.

“The paper has strategically grown to focus on the needs of both vulnerable and well students. In this regard we have dedicated a special issue to stories about student successes in life in general, adopting a healthy lifestyle and a focus on the campus social scene”, explains Dr Naidoo. In the spirit of collaboration, in the last two issues of the newspaper guest articles have been invited from fellow Student Service Departments at UKZN to which they responded favourably.

The newspaper is set to dedicate one entire issue to guest writers drawn from staff, the SRC and Clubs and Societies. It will also carry a regular crossword puzzle with great prizes. Formal polls will be conducted to determine readership. More vigorous sourcing of advertisers will be done to ensure the financial viability of the newspaper.

Rikesh Haryparsat, who provides IT and technical support to the Student Counselling and Careers Centre, says the Centre designed a Career Advisory Programme (CAP) that provides one-on-one inter-action. Diane Gent, Careers Advisor, says that through the CAP Programme she developed career advisory skills that will help her later on in her career as a psychologist. She adds that students were willing to share their social difficulties with her because “they relate to us better and we are less intimidating for them”. The programmes also provided her with an opportunity to interact with communities.

Dr Naidoo presented Careers Advisors with certificates acknowledging their role in providing counseling services to students.

- Bhekani Dlamini



Picture: Bhekani Dlamini

Professor Vishanthi Sewpaul, Ms Iveda Smith and Professor Fikile Mazibuko.

Research excellence

UKZN ranks among the top 1% universities in the world in four research areas – clinical medicine, Plant and Animal, Social Sciences (general), and environment/ecology.

An analysis by Anattasios Poursis of the University of Pretoria reflects the University’s high research output in these fields. It provides impetus for the University to continue to strive for excellence in research and to maintain the global impact of its research contributions.

Pouris’ analysis is an important contribution to the controversial process of ranking Higher Education institutions. Six South African universities made it into the top 1% of institutions in the world based on the number of citations of research papers in at least one of 22 academic areas. It is noteworthy that all six rank in the top 1% in two areas; clinical medicine and Plant and Animal.

Citations have substantial limitations as a measure of academic performance; for one, they do not measure any impact of the University’s teaching or community outreach/service. Citations mainly reflect the standing the research findings of an institution have among other researchers. They can be skewed by a preponderance of review articles, for instance, an article on the extent of a disease may be quoted multiple times as part of introductory comments in many research papers but may have little actual scientific impact. Also, citations may largely be self-citation i.e. authors quoting and referencing their own past research and thereby gaining more citations. Despite these limitations, citations are a useful indicator, when viewed together with other indicators, of a university’s research standing and can provide guidance for policy purposes to guide future approaches to research funding.

- Salim Karim



Picture: Bhekani Dlamini

CONGRATULATIONS! (Back l-r) Rikesh Haryparsat, Ayanda Zondo, Libby Collins, Mr Trevor Wills (Executive Dean of Students), Jacques Livingston, and Dr Ravi Naidoo (Director of Student Counselling and Careers Centre, Howard College and Medical School Campuses).

(front l-r) Shenila Maharaj, Neeshi Singh Pillay, Rosalind Lee, Krish Shunmugum, Bonghi Sokhela, and Lisa Grant-Stuart.

Appointments

The University has announced three senior appointments:

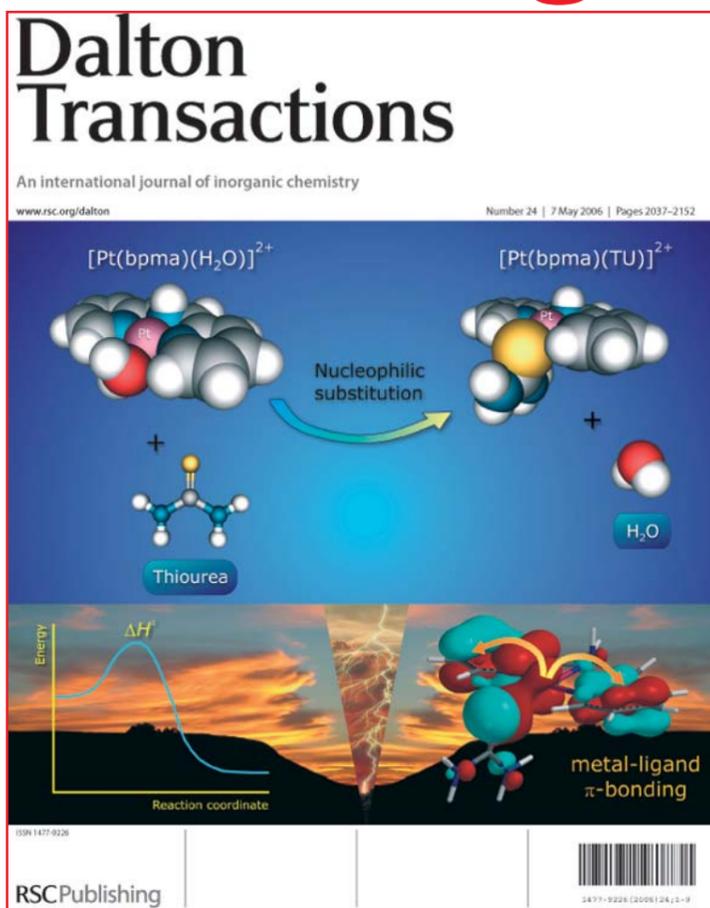
- The new Director of the Information and Communication Technology Division is Ashodh Rajaram.
- Nora Buchanan is the new Director of Libraries.
- The new Director of the Audio Visual Centre (initially for a two-year period) is Jasper Cecil.

An eye for design

In today's world of specialisation, it is rare to find a top scientist who is also skilled in the area of graphic design and artwork. Orde Munro, an Associate Professor in the School of Chemistry on the Pietermaritzburg campus, is a widely published inorganic chemist whose artwork has recently appeared on the front covers of three prestigious international Chemical Journals.

Obtaining front cover exposure in a top international journal is a great tribute but is a fairly arduous process. Firstly, a paper submitted to a major ISI-rated international journal is subjected to an independent review by three subject-specific referees or experts. Once accepted, the editor of the journal invites the papers' authors to submit artwork for featuring on the front cover. Any one journal may include up to 30 papers so there may be numerous designs submitted to the editors. The artwork submitted usually depicts and highlights the scientific content of an accepted paper. The final step in the process involves a review by the editors who vote on the front cover of their choice.

Since only high quality papers are generally accepted by top journals for publication and only the most striking artwork is chosen for the front covers, it stands to reason that only the best scientists will succeed



one of the covers which Professor Munro designed. Picture: Supplied

in securing front cover features. Journal covers are important marketing tools as they serve to entice readers, thereby increasing the journal's exposure and popularity.

According to Professor Munro, it is a major advantage to secure front cover exposure as "your paper is guaranteed to be widely read since it is highlighted on the first printed

page of the journal with a succinct description of the science underlying the graphical art on the journal cover". It also places the University in the spotlight as "thousands of chemists around the world who pick up the journal and read the abstract see that the chemistry done at UKZN is highly significant – it has made the front cover!"

- Vicky Crookes

LEAP seminars

AS part of Leadership Equity Advancement Programme (LEAP) Academy the Equity Office hosted two academics, Professors Dan Ncayiyana and Siphoo Seepe, to facilitate a

seminar on leadership in education. Professor Ncayiyana is a former Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the Durban University of Technology and is currently an independent con-

sultant. Professor Seepe is the research director at Hanley Management College in Johannesburg.

- Bhekani Dlamini



(front l-r) Dr Bhekithemba Ngcobo (deputy dean of students – Howard College and Medical School), Mr Themba Khumalo (deputy dean of students – Westville and Edgewood), Professor Dan Ncayiyana (facilitator), and Dr PK Singh.

(back l-r) Professor Deo Jaganyi (Chemistry), Ms Lungi Zulu (Equity), Rev. James Ngomane (Deputy Dean of Students, Pietermaritzburg), Professor Siphoo Seepe (facilitator) and other academics and students.

New project in Development Studies

PROFESSOR Julian May (School of Development Studies) and Kathleen Diga (Development Studies masters student) attended an inception workshop for a project titled "Poverty and Information and Communication Technology in Urban and Rural Eastern Africa" (PICTURE Africa) in Nairobi, Kenya.

PICTURE Africa is a study of four countries, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and Tanzania examining whether Information and Communication Technology (ICT) systems are helping to alleviate poverty. The three year study will commence with an 18 month two-wave panel dataset in combination with quali-

tative research. Professor May will lead the team as Research Director and Kathleen is one of 14 award winners for the 2007 International Development Research Centre (IDRC Canada) Internship Award (see webpage: http://www.idrc.ca/awards/ev-24334-201-1-DO_TOPIC.html).

The project also anticipates developing a strong network of African researchers in various research institutes and universities in this multidisciplinary study. It is hoped results will pressure policy makers to target their ICT policies in favour of the poor.

- Mary Smith

Helping children

PROFESSOR Rajendra Bhimma is reaching out to 1 500 children who suffer from kidney diseases at the Renal Unit Clinic at King Edward VIII hospital.

A specialist in Paediatrics and Child Health at the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, Professor Bhimma provides medical care to the young patients who come from all over KwaZulu-Natal. He started working with children with kidney diseases from 1992.

He says that many of the children he sees at hospital come from disadvantaged backgrounds and are not able to afford private health care. "We have organised the Children's Kidney Working Group which is part of the KwaZulu-Natal Kidney Association to try and assist some of these children." This non-governmental organisation relies on sponsorship from the public.

Depending on the nature of the illness, Professor Bhimma and his colleagues facilitate government grants for them if their disease is of a severe and chronic nature, and organise food parcels for those on dialysis.

Professor Bhimma would like to create awareness that "kidney diseases are often missed if one does not have a high index of suspicion and that it is the commonest cause of high blood pressure in children". He adds that several of the diseases are of a chronic nature and require ongoing follow-up despite the absence of symptoms.

Mr Sewlall Hamraj, technical officer in Sport Science, raised funds to organise a Christmas party for children attending the Clinic. He credits Professor Bhimma for saving his son Niven's life when he was diagnosed with kidney problems at the age of three. Niven attends the renal unit clinic every Friday and is coping well at school.

Mr Hamraj asked private business, students and staff to make contributions to give the children a fun day and managed to raise R3 000. He thanks Adams Bookshop, his friends, Checkout supermarket, Uncle John from the Upper Café on the Westville campus and Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) for their generosity.

- Bhekani Dlamini

Rhodes Scholar

The KwaZulu-Natal Rhodes Scholarship Selection Committee selected Craig John Kesson as its 2007 KZN Rhodes Scholar Elect over 18 other applicants in October 2006.

Established by Cecil John Rhodes, the highly regarded Rhodes Scholarships have been operating since 1903. About 90 Rhodes Scholars are selected worldwide each year to benefit from the intellectual and other opportunities Oxford University offers. The Rhodes Scholarships are unique in that they are meant for students who are not only outstanding academics, but are all-rounders who combine intellectual excellence with leadership, commitment, involvement, character and other important attributes.

Craig was educated at Durban Preparatory High School and Durban High School, and completed his BA Honours in History at UKZN. He received matric prizes for History, English and Cul-

tural Achievement at high school. He represented South Africa twice as a member of the World Schools Debating Team that went to the World Schools Debating Championship in Singapore in 2002 and as a member of the South African Delegation to the World Individual Debating and Public Speaking Championship. He was the first South African to win this championship in 2002. He has received commendations from the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa and the Office of the State President of the Republic of South Africa regarding various actions undertaken by Amnesty International UKZN. He received a scholarship from the Golden Key Society in 2004, and a Vice-Chancellor's Merit Scholarship and funding from the National Research Foundation. He was awarded the BSoc Science in History and Political Science *cum laude* in 2005 with several Dean's commendations and Certificates of Merit. He is an active member of the Treatment Action Campaign as

well as the South African Institute of International Affairs (UKZN branch), the Otherways Social Club for Gay Rights Awareness and the Howard College General Students Council.

Craig believes that being awarded the Rhodes Scholarship is an affirmation of all of the effort he has invested in his career as a student. "The Rhodes Trust considers many factors in its awarding of the scholarship and it is incredibly heartening to think that the Trust believes that I am a student who possesses the qualities of a Rhodes-Scholar. To be awarded the scholarship is in many ways like being awarded a prize at the end of a long-race...it recognises the sacrifices made and the achievements along the way, and it's a reward for hard work and determination."

He hopes to study for an MPhil in Medical History in Oxford, beginning in September 2007. He wants to continue his research into the history of the blood services in South Africa and further his enquiries into the ways that different groups and people think about blood in South Africa. This is a substance that is invested with heavy cultural narratives that are at most times in conflict with the biomedical description of blood.

Secretary for the KZN Selection Committee, Mr Angus Stewart describes Craig is an exceptionally gifted and accomplished student who is a voracious reader with an intellectual independence, confidence and curiosity which enhances his academic strengths and passion for historical research.

- Bhekani Dlamini



2007 Rhodes Scholar Craig Kesson.

Off to Canada

EDUCATION student Mathabo Motalingoane-Khau has been granted an opportunity to further her studies at Concordia and McGill Universities in Canada for six months.

Mathabo is doing a Masters degree in gender education on the Edge-wood campus. She obtained her honors degree *summa cum laude* during the graduation ceremonies in May early this year. Her studies will be funded by Foreign Affairs Canada and International Trade Canada. She left for Canada at the beginning of February 2007.

"I feel humbled to realise that my efforts are being recognised in the academic world," said Mathabo. The title of her study is: "Understanding adolescent sexuality in the memories of four female Basotho teachers: an auto/biographical study." She will focus on the memories of adolescent sexuality of female teachers and how such memories and experiences influence the way the teachers handle issues of sexuality and HIV/AIDS education in their classrooms.

Mathabo will participate in the analysis of photos and videos. Through this participation, she will learn the finer points of 'photo-voice' methodology and explore the use of photo elicitation for autobiographical work. Under the supervision of the project's investigators, she will explore and critique websites or teaching materials, comparing the Canadian and African contexts, especially in terms of gender and HIV/AIDS. She will also explore methods for the effective communication of results to youth and broader communities in South Africa and Canada. She will also attend a conference in Canada.

Determined to reach her ultimate goal in academia, she plans to pursue a doctoral degree in 2008. She has just published an article in the journal *Agenda* entitled "Should I celebrate Nairobi +21", which talks about being a woman in the age of HIV/AIDS in Lesotho. She was born in Maseru Lesotho.

- Bhekani Dlamini



Mathabo Motalingoane-Khau.

Top Law graduate

CONSISTENTLY excellent performance has paid off for Lisa Byrne who scored 26 distinctions and graduated as the top student in Law.

Lisa attributes her success to making sure that she completed all her assignments and regularly reviewing her lecture notes. "The most important thing is to have an active and genuine interest in what you are doing and to take full responsibility for the work you produce".

Having been blessed with a baby girl in July, Lisa was previously employed by Livingston Leandy Inc. She looks forward to continuing her work there, when she be completing her articles.

She believes studying law and the practice of law are two different things, adding that what she might choose to specialise in now doesn't necessarily translate into something she could specialise in, in practice.

She maintains that everyone should attempt to excel at whatever it is they do.

- Bhekani Dlamini

Picture: Supplied

Picture: Supplied

Gender-based violence

Social work lecturer Dr Reshma Sathiparsad has concluded a groundbreaking study on "Gender-based violence and masculinity: a study of rural male youth." She was awarded her Doctor of Philosophy degree during the graduation ceremonies in October 2006.

Most approaches to the issue of gender-based violence, says Dr Sathiparsad, have focused on the link between masculinity and violence and have concentrated on empowering women to challenge subordination and oppression by men. There is increasing recognition that focusing only on women is counter-productive, since reductions in levels of violence depend fundamentally on male behavioural change.

Dr Sathiparsad investigated the attitudes, beliefs and behaviour of a sample of Zulu-speaking male youth at rural schools in the Ugu District in Southern KwaZulu-Natal. Her study sought to determine what these young men believed constituted gender-based violence, how they viewed gender-based violence and how they perceived their community viewed gender-based violence. In-depth exploration of individual attitudes, beliefs and behaviour aimed to ascertain the extent to which individual perceptions and behaviour were consistent with community perceptions and behaviour.

The study also aimed to identify the sources of the attitudes and beliefs articulated by the youth. This allowed for a deeper exploration and understanding of how the youth viewed violence against women and girls in a broader context.



Dr Reshma Sathiparsad.

The majority of the respondents indicated that male behaviours such as beating females, having multiple partners, sexual harassment of females and forcing females to have sex were acceptable. Many of these young men felt that women were responsible for the spread of HIV and AIDS. However, the responses of some participants indicated that they valued equality with females and challenged traditional norms, adding weight to the perception of the fluidity, multiplicity and the contextual nature of masculinity. The study proposes that alternative masculinities be encouraged as a strategy to prevent inter-partner violence and to promote gender equality.

Dr Sathiparsad has published two journal articles from her study. She is also involved in other research projects in the Ugu District relating to issues facing women, educators and female youth. She is the co-ordinator of the Violence Prevention Project which operates under UKZN Community Outreach and Research.

Article and picture supplied

Lecturer honoured

THE President of Italy, Giorgio Napolitano, signed a decree on 17 October 2006 bestowing the title "Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella della Solidarieta" to Federica Bellusci, Programme Director and Academic Co-ordinator of Italian Studies at UKZN. The 'Knighthood' (Cavaliere-Ship) is in recognition of her tireless contribution to the study and promotion of the Italian Language and Culture in Kwa-Zulu Natal.

Awards Banquet

THE Faculty of Engineering held its 7th Annual Engineering Society Awards at the ICC Durban on 1 December.

The main objective of the function was to recognise and honour those who have supported or excelled in

their engineering endeavours. Awards were presented to companies and organisations for their financial contributions, staff were recognised for their excellent research productivity, and third and fourth year students were honoured for their academic performance in 2005.

The following industries were recognised for their support of the faculty, in the three classes of awards:

Platinum: for contributions over R 1 million, Gold: R 500 000 to R 1 million and Silver: R 250 000 to R 500 000.

Class of Award	Company
Platinum	ESKOM
Platinum	Water Research Commission
Platinum	Sasol Technology (Pty) Ltd
Platinum	Telkom
Gold	SAPREF
Silver	VODACOM
Silver	HIGHVELD STEEL
Silver	AECI Ltd
Silver	MERSETA
Silver	Armcor
Silver	Bayside Aluminium & Hillside Aluminium Community BursaryFund
Silver	ENGEN
Silver	UPSTREAM TRAINING TRUST
Silver	South African Weather Service
Silver	Alcatel
Silver	CSIR – Miningtek

The following academic staff members were recognised for excellence in research productivity:

Professor S Adali – Mechanical Eng

Professor E Boje – Electrical, Electronic and Computer Eng

Professor S Govender – Mechanical Eng

Dr GPW Jewitt – Bioresources Engineering and Environmental Hydrology

Professor GGS Pegram – Civil Engineering

Professor D Ramjugernath – Chemical Eng

Professor F Takawira – Electrical, Electronic and Computer Eng

Student Awards were given to the following third and fourth year students for their outstanding academic performance in 2005:

Programme	Best 3 rd Year Student	Best 4 th Year Student
Bioresources Engineering and Environmental Hydrology	Madimetja Isaiah Mashamaite	Nicola Bailey
Chemical Engineering	Jeremy Clive Pillay	Subramoney, Shalendra Clinton
Civil Engineering	Junaid Desai	M I Kajee
Computer Engineering	Tamsyn Jade Oosthuizen	Kartik Sarvass Naidoo
Electrical Engineering	Ashvir Harcharan	Orrin Veerasamy
Electronic Engineering	Luke John Edward Harrison	Grant Carl Freyer
Land Surveying	Thabo Mosiane	Edworks Sinvula
Mechanical Engineering	Denver Moodley	Gokool, Meethan
Property Development and Construction Management	Stefan Coetzee	Richard Hayes

The ECSA medal and certificate for the best Engineering student over four years was presented to Jean Pitot de la Beaujardiere.

The function was a huge success with support and attendance from approximately 24 organisations as well as over-

whelming support from the student body.

- Vishal Krishandutt

Sportswoman of the year

Kerry-Lee Harrington UKZN Westville Sportswoman of the Year 2006 concluded the year on a high note, winning the named the KZN Badminton



Picture: Supplied

Sportswoman of the year Kerry-Lee Harrington in action.

Association Sports-woman of the Year 2006. She is a third-year Sports Science student. Kerry-Lee plays for the Protea badminton team and is the current number one lady's singles badminton player in South Africa, number two for mixed doubles and number three for doubles. She started playing badminton as an extra mural sport at the age of nine in primary school.

In 2006, Kerry-Lee participated in seven national tournaments, including the SA Championships, which she won. She also took part in eight international tournaments, which included the Commonwealth Games in Australia and the World Student Badminton Games in China. She has represented South Africa in many international games including the recent SASSU World Student Games in Wuhan, China 2006.

Kerry-Lee definitely considers sport as her future career. While completing her degree, she is also concentrating on qualifying to participate in the 2008 Olympics. She plays Premier league badminton for Tech Marist Club in Durban and also represents SASSU, KZN and South Africa. She is committed to training younger players.

- Bhekani Dlamini

Partners in community empowerment

UMFOLOZI FET College in Richards Bay has approached UKZN's Centre for Entrepreneurship to partner with it in training local communities in business initiatives.

This follows the Centre's successful incubation programme in Umlazi where aspirant business people from different communities in KwaZulu-Natal are trained in various aspects of starting, managing and sustaining a business.

The Umfolozi FET sent three employees to seek assistance in starting a similar programme in Northern KwaZulu-Natal. Members of the delegation were Mr Siboniso Thwala, Mrs Barabara Kamwendo and Mrs Qinisile Mnqayi.

The Director for the Centre for Entrepreneurship, Dr Malome Khomo welcomed the College delegates. He said that this kind of intervention will help reverse the effects of apartheid, which prevented certain groups from accessing knowledge. "Now structures are there and we need to deliver. We need to create social relevance and integrated learning which

provide training with practical experience for our communities," commented Dr Khomo.

One of the founders of the incubation programme, Professor Noel Whan from the University of Limerick in Ireland was also at UKZN to attend the Advisory Board meeting. He noted that the incubation idea started in Europe. Although the concept was originally a university idea, they blended it to include technikon education.

Mrs Kamwendo from Umfolozi College said that the College is involved in training different rural communities in starting and managing business co-operatives. She believes the UKZN model can help them a great deal to achieve their goals.

Mr Sifiso Mncube represented the UKZN Foundation which is tasked with soliciting funding for projects of this nature. The delegation from Umfolozi College also visited the incubation centre in Umlazi to observe and meet the learners on the programme.

- Bhekani Dlamini



Picture: Bhekani Dlamini

GROWING ENTREPRENEURSHIP: (l-r) Dr Malome Khomo, Mrs Barabara Kamwendo, Mrs Qinisile Mnqayi, Mr Sifiso Mncube, Mr Siboniso Thwala and Professor Noel Whalan.

Calabash Extravaganza

THE School of Music staged a Cultural Calabash Extravaganza for students registered in the level 3 module on *African Music Outreach: Community Development*.

The theoretical part of the course aims to introduce the students to the field of Applied Ethnomusicology and the practical requirement is to stage a concert. Dr Patricia Opondo, lecturer, explained that students need to develop a concert theme, set clear objectives, select performing groups, draw up performance contracts, construct a budget, promote and advertise the show, sell tickets, organise the sound engineer, cater for performing groups and handle sales of refreshments during intermission. Finally, they have to host the event, act as ushers and handle box office ticket sales. The show is held once a year in October

Well organised and attended by students, academics and members of the local community, the show featured performers like Poetry in Motion and Ikusasa Lethu featuring students, and Skeleton Gumboot Dancers and Shophi from Umlazi. The awesome dance, music, instruments and outfits made the show a great success.

- Bhekani Dlamini

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