

News & Updates

* Welcome to the **May Edition** of our Faculty Newsletter *



Muriel, Delene and Bronwyn at our PE Open Day stall

Open Days 2009 (PE and George)

Our two Open Days, held in PE on 8 and 9 May and in George on 15 and 16 May, were **highly successful** with many prospective students enquiring about both our pre-service and in-service programmes.

Thank you to all those who planned the events and prepared material for display, as well as the staff who volunteered to be present at the stall.

"When I was at the stalls I experienced an intense feeling of being part of a WINNING TEAM in which admin and academic staff work together to make our faculty even more successful - my feeling was confirmed by other staff who expressed the same sentiments when they gave feedback after the two events". ~ Pat

Faculty Mid Year Planning Session 2009

During May, the FMC members, Alette, Tulsi, Jackie E-G (in place of Ridaa), Margie, Sylvan, Nonnie, Jeff, Pat, Sindi, Lesley, Lyn, Leslie, Noluthando and Lonnie (report writer) worked off campus in Addo for two days (19th and 20th May). This mid-year planning session was structured to discuss issues that deal with:

- Gaps in our current policies and procedures
- Operational frameworks for the new Dean to consider
- Preliminary strategic planning for 2010 – in the light of imminent NMMU 2010 budget process!

The programme for the two days was as follows:

- Revisit October 2008 Faculty Road Map
- Operational and salaries budgets after the 1st term
- School-Based Learning management
- CERTI activities : 2009 and towards 2010
- Leave for academic and administrative staff
- 2009 Faculty Structure – pros and cons
- Internal Staff Development Policy
- Reflection on final 2009 Academic Workload profile and looking towards 2010
- 2010: Missionvale/South delivery mix and new buildings for both
- Programme Mix for 2010 (SLPs, ACEs, George, Projects, etc)
- Off-campus/distance education in 2010 and the role of the OCU
- The admin capacity and utilisation in the Faculty

~ Pat



Discussion & presentations around **interesting topics** at the recent strategic planning session...

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Research Capacity Development Forum

Another session of the RCDF was held on Tuesday 26 May 2009 in our staff tea-room. Laetitia kindly shared the beginnings of her research and insight on "Child Abuse" with us. Look out for details of the next session... ~ Michelle M



15th Comrades!

Well done Sylvan on finishing your 15th Comrades! ~ Jackie

(cont.) ... but other topics were V E R Y interesting...



A **CERTI strategic meeting** was held on the 7th May 2009 at Cherry Place. Paul, Jeff, Raj, Andre, Les, Tilla, Nadine (in view)



Ballet in George?

We have had some more guest lectures in George. But, these photo's refer to a lecture by Di Liebenberg (see photo right), who runs the "Di Townsend School of Ballet" in George. She came on 24th April 2009 to talk about ballet and bodies to our students: how dancers are trained, how the body operates and the extraordinary discipline required of aspiring ballet dancers. She was brilliant!

Di brought two student dancers with her and she used their bodies to demonstrate muscles, the rigorous training required, commitment and the need to protect the body from strain. Interestingly enough, the "rigger buggers" were particularly interested in the latter because injuries so often occur during rugby. In this day of lax discipline in so many fields it was inspiring to hear how important discipline is in ballet and how children submit to these demands so willingly.

The two ballet students even demonstrated a pas de deux – they performed beautifully and safely. ~ Paddy



Safia Smith

Safia, a beautiful baby girl, born to Gishma and Adi at 08.28am on Tues 05th May 2009, weighing 3.66kg. Sister for Aziz.

Congratulations!



On the 7th & 8th May, colleagues in the NPDE programme attended a 2 day writing retreat at Assegaibosch for semester 2 of final (3rd) year of NPDE (360) modules.

A successful outing and great venue! ~Neville



Marilyn, Thandi, Christina, Nokhanyo and Neville

news & updates continued

Computers in Schools Project

Third year ICT students continue to assist me install the donated DELL computers at those schools who received the computers. Their names are JP, Marnus and Steve. Much appreciated! ~ Vernon



LOLT Project

Percy Sepeng launched a new project on 7th May under the SMIS project banner called LOLT, for Grade 8 & 9 Maths Teachers. ~ Vernon



"Page 3" Profile - getting to know each other

I spent my childhood in Uitenhage as part of a big family and am still in awe of my parents who raised seven children! I matriculated from Brandwag High School and enrolled at UPE. In Grade 11, I met my future husband while he was doing his military service in the South African Air Force.

I spent three very happy years in the Melody residence, enjoying the full student life that living with hundreds of other crazy students offers. I was proud to be elected as a house committee member and my portfolio was the residence newspaper, "Melody Murmurs."

After completing my studies I returned to Uitenhage to teach Grade 2 at my former primary school, Albertyn. I taught here for seven years and a highlight was the year I chaired the Junior Primary Teachers' Association of our district.

We married in 1984 and stayed in Uitenhage. My husband, Michael, was teaching Mathematics at Muir, before moving to Riebeeck College on promotion. The "study bug" bit again. I decided to do a specialised diploma at UPE for teaching mentally retarded children. Upon completion, I accepted a post at Algoa Teachers' Training College in 1989 where I spent 13 very happy years; making friends who still meet weekly for coffee. Highlights include going into township schools during the apartheid years, Algoa becoming a pilot college for Technology, studying Technology at the ORT Step Institution and running the Technology department.

Another highlight was being chosen by Rotary to study the CLE Literacy programme in Bangkok. Back home, we ran this groundbreaking programme in ten pilot township schools. Funded by Rotary, the initiative sadly ended when Colleges of Education closed down.

In 1989 we started taking annual youth touring groups to Europe. I have been privileged to travel through Europe and other countries roughly 20 times. My dream is to be able to retire 'one day' on the Greek island of Santorini...

After 10 years of marriage we became the proud parents of twin girls, Michanne and Xanthe, via the GIFT procedure. Just after they were born Mike accepted a deputy principal's post at Victoria Park High School. The twins changed schools in Grade 3 and we moved to Port Elizabeth, as Mike had now become Principal at VP.

The Technikon took over the Algoa campus and I was asked to stay on by the DoE for three years to help pipeline students finish their teaching diplomas. I then accepted a post offered by Technikon. In 2006 I enrolled for my B Ed Hons at NMMU... the merger took place... we moved to South Campus... the audit of BEd FET programme... THAT is one year of my life I never want repeated!

I'm settled in at South Campus and plan to enrol for my Master's in 2010. My twin girls are turning 16 this year and are flourishing in Grade 10 at Victoria Park High School.

Sadly I do not find enough time for my hobbies: reading, interior decorating, calligraphy, pottery, painting, cooking, shopping and relaxing with friends at coffee shops. Before I turn 50 I plan to visit Croatia, Spain and Portugal, I want to do a parachute jump or two, fly in a hot air balloon and learn to play the saxophone. Time is running out... wish me luck!

~ Anneline (aka Nigel Mansell!)



news & updates continued

Qumbu Diaries

Based on a promise I made in March 2009 in Oldenburg during an orientation talk to students coming to SA, I arranged a trip for 6 German students to visit one of our off-campus sites for adult education in rural Qumbu.

We visited the NMMU's Qumbu Centre, managed by Ms Yolisa Dudula, where classes in Literacy and Mathematics were conducted. Then we stayed overnight in Port St Johns before returning home to PE. ~ Neville



L-R: Sina, Tobi, Philip, Henrika, Neville & Nettie



Philip hard at work in Qumbu



Tobi with some of the teachers in Qumbu



& eventually... a synchronised beach jump!

To read the full story and see all the pictures... visit [g:/drive/OCU/qumbu diaries.pdf](http://g:/drive/OCU/qumbu%20diaries.pdf)

PC hints 'n tips

Did you know that you can set a language default for your MS Office documents?

This feature is invaluable to ensuring professional quality and consistency in the production of official documentation. This is especially appropriate when more than one person works on the same document.

Our default should be to English (UK) or (US). To do this on your PC:

1. Open a Word document
2. Click on Office Button in top right hand corner
3. Choose Word Options at the bottom of this menu
4. Under Popular you will find a Language Settings button
5. Click. Choose English UK or US (not SA) as your Primary Editing Language
6. Click OK ☺

~ Jackie H

Fill every thought with determination, every step with courage and every word with love courtesy Brahma Kumaris

Industrious lunch time activities!

Guys, get your scarf orders in asap!

L-R: Carol, Bronwyn, Muriel, Delene & Anneline

