

News & Updates

* Faculty of Education Newsletter August Edition *

Collection Day

The creative and kind-hearted 'knitting club' handed over their contribution bundle of baby jerseys and beanies recently. The jerseys and beanies will be distributed by Rotary members to various orphanages, baby shelters and those in need. A big thank you to all who got 'reacquainted' their knitting needles and produced some awesome and very unique jumpers! ~ Muriel and Delene
And... the new project has begun... socks! Everyone is welcome to come **Join In**.



From back left Zilpah Jones, Erica Blackburn (Cotswold & Rotary), Val, Christina, Carol, Jackie, Basheera. Front left Pam, Muriel, Delene



From back left Erica Blackburn, Jackie, Val, Christina, Muriel, Basheera. Front left Jackie, Carol and Delene

Prof Lesley Wood conducted a workshop on 29 July 2009 for all faculties at the Mthatha Campus of Walter Sisulu University to help them to integrate HIV & AIDS education into their different degree programmes.

The workshop was attended by the Vice-Chancellor, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, the Executive Deans of all faculties and representatives from each faculty/school. Senior management of the university has committed itself to making their academic programmes more relevant for equipping graduates to live and work in a world characterised by HIV & AIDS.

Prof Wood working with one of the breakaway groups during the day-long workshop



The **Resource Centre** is as busy as ever! The new study area is greatly utilised (above) but once the computers arrive, it will be a hive of activity and offer even more to our students ~ Lilda



news & updates continued

Conference News

Prof Tilla Olivier (CERTI), Prof Naydene de Lange (our soon to be HIV & AIDS Research Chair) and Prof John Creswell (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) attended the 5th Annual Mixed Methods Conference at Harrogate (UK), 8th-11th July 2009. They presented a paper entitled: *The application of mixed methods to documentary development*.

Tilla also presented a paper alone, which was co-authored with Dr Alette Delpont and Dr Muki Moeng, entitled: *Towards an organizational identity at a comprehensive university: obstruction or construction?*



Naydene and Tilla



Tilla, Naydene and John

Welcome...

...Inger Petersen, of Oldenburg University. She arrived in P.E. on August 24 and will be staying for two weeks. She is a junior university lecturer and Ph.D. candidate.

Her interests in the academic literacy of students and pupils learning in a second or third language relate especially to work done by Nokhanyo, Mary Grace, Logan and Bill.

However, if you are interested in discussing joint research or other activities with her, kindly liaise with Carol Poisat about booking a slot to see her. She is also willing to contribute to lecturing in a module for a few sessions.
~ Nonnie

Eskom Expo for Young Scientists



The Port Elizabeth Regional Expo took place on Thursday, 20 August at the Mecer Indoor Sport Centre on North Campus.

A total of 186 school learners displayed their projects, which covered a wide range of interests. Many of our NMMU academics assisted with assessing the originality of the projects, the scientific method followed, and the communication, both written and verbal, of the research undertaken.

The Eskom Expo for Young Scientists has organised Regional, National and International Science Fairs for the past 29 years. They have built an internationally recognized reputation for excellence, not only for the quality of the projects that the learners display, but also for the standard of the science fairs that they organise. For more information, visit their website at www.exposcience.co.za

Many thanks to those colleagues who offered their time, expertise and enthusiasm in assisting on the day. It was a great success! ~ Marilyn

Recognise this *Rooi Roos* celebrity?



TESSA Presentation Jayshree Thakrar, Manager of Training & Academic Projects / TESSA at the University of Fort Hare, will be delivering a presentation to staff and students on TESSA and the resources it offers educators.

Details: 21 September 2009 Auditorium, South Campus 14h00-16h00

Attendance is *compulsory* for the PGCE and 4th year BEd students and encouraged for other students.

* Posters and more information to come *

news & updates continued

"Page 3" Profile - getting to know each other

PROFILE: VERNON NAIDOO

JOB TITLE: Project Manager: CERTI

Management of externally funded projects (8 in PE & 1 in North West), involvement in all CERTI projects, assist Prof Webb and the project co-ordinators with various tasks, conferences, workshops. I love what I am doing at the NMMU. I have a passion to assist people to excel in life and especially in Mathematics and Science. I did lower grade (LG) Maths in school!

GROWING UP:

I come from a family of 8 children (4 girls & 4 boys & yes, no TV!). We grew up in a Municipality (council) house in Malabar (PE). It was extremely tough times but our parents managed to provide for us on a daily basis. 1986 in SA was a volatile year – it was also the year I was introduced to an organisation called Youth for Christ (YFC). This was the first time that I was able to engage with people from different backgrounds and skin colours about the situation in our country. With YFC we were able to go into the Townships (being watched by the SAPS of course) and visit the suburbs, and it was then that I realised Apartheid was wrong and the injustices in our country great.

STUDIES ETC:

I completed my Grade 12 at Woolhope in 1987. In 1988, I travelled around Transvaal, Northern Transvaal, Venda, and Bloemfontein with a Youth for Christ Music and Drama team. During this year I was stretched! I gained confidence, learnt to communicate and live with people from various backgrounds. In 1990, I went to Cape Town to Bible College (now Cornerstone Christian College). After 3 years I graduated with a Diploma in Theology. I came back to PE to work for YFC for 3 years. Thereafter, I worked for The President's Award (TPA) as Area Manager. TPA is similar to the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme in England. In 1997 I took a group of young people (including a Street Kid) over to England and met Prince Edward for Tea at Buckingham Palace (!), hiked in the Lake District (loved this area) and worked in a Nature Reserve.



I pursued my studies at NMMU and completed my Masters in Christian Studies and, thereafter, my Masters in Sociology. But, due to not being able to write the exam, I did not graduate (eventually stopped fighting with the Prof and gave up!!). Currently enrolled at Stellenbosch University (SUN) for my Doctorate (my proposal will be presented to the RCDF on the 6th October 2009).

MY FAMILY:

I am married to Leanne, who was a teacher (taught for 12 years, majoring in English and she taught Maths) and is now in private practice as a Counselling Psychologist. We have 2 boys; Jordan who is 5½ and Tristan who is 3½. They love the outdoors and whenever we have a free weekend, we are camping.

WHAT I LOVE:

- Life and to live
- Travelling - especially Singapore
- Running - have completed 5 Two Oceans Marathons
- Playing volleyball
- Playing my guitar
- Helping young people by giving guidance and direction
- Being a Nutsman! (for my own property – sorry!)
- Curry – nice and strong!!

LATEST BOOKS I HAVE READ:

- The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch
- Exclusion and Embrace by Miroslav Volf

I LOVE TO LISTEN TO:

- Debates on SAFM (radio)
- Music - R&B and Jazz on Metro FM
- My wife on LeanneFM!

OTHER INVOLVEMENTS:

- NMMU Alumni - Treasurer (looking for \$\$\$ for 2020 vision!)
- NGO – Vezokuhle – Board member (work with prisoners to reintegrate them into society and provide skills)
- NGO – Siyawela – Board member and facilitator (teaching business life skills to learners)



Xmas 2008 in Singapore

news & updates continued

Education students excelling outside of the classroom...

Donovan Vallance, a B Ed IP student, is no longer an unfamiliar name in local music circles. His music career kicked off in 2007 when he was the ultimate winner at the first BAY FM Spiral Competition. He received awards for Best Newcomer of the Year, Best Solo Artist and Overall Winner... all this after his debut hit single, "Ek maak jou myne", had been playing on BAY FM for only 2 months! During July 2007, Donovan and Marc Welgemoed, his current manager and agent, began to write songs together and in March 2008 his debut album, "Gee my net 'n kans", was released. The album is extremely popular amongst fans and presented him with three BAY FM number one-hits; "Ek maak jou myne", "Langpad" and "Somer in my lewe".

Donovan does not only perform locally, he is expanding his musical boundaries deep into the rest of South Africa. He has performed at various local festivals and concerts, as well as national festivals such as 2008 and 2009 Absa KKNK in Oudtshoorn, 2008 Aardklop National Arts Festival, 2008 Loerie Naartjie Festival, 2007, 2008 and 2009 Absa Kirkwood Wildlife Festival and 2008 Rittel Festival in Vredendal. Ray Dylan, Nicholis Louw, Wicus van der Merwe, Jody Williams, Freddie Nest and Lianie May are just some of the local celebrities he has performed alongside.

Donovan focusses mainly on Afrikaans dance music; the likes of Kurt Darren and Nicholis Louw. His stage personality is extremely energetic and his charismatic voice complements his music in a unique manner. He has intrigued audiences at all his concerts and built up a substantial fan-base, both locally and nationally, as well as amongst several of the national celebrities. It can be said that Donovan is a celebrity in his own right!

He is currently busy in studio with compositions and recordings for his next album, entitled "Rock my wêreld", which will be released late 2009. The first single from this album, "Speel-speel", has already reached number 1 on BAY FM and is still going strong. He is also preparing for more exciting performances later this year; the 2009 Aardklop National Arts Festival and the 2009 Rittel Festival in Vredendal. The public and fans can also look forward to upcoming local performances.

Visit Donovan's official artist website at www.donvallance.co.za ~ by Marc Welgemoed – Exclusive Manager and Agent



The first Sport Achievement of the Month award, which highlights a sport club or club member(s) who demonstrate and display their commitment to perform within their chosen code or activity, went to the team that represented NMMU at the World Student Games in Belgrade, Serbia in July.

On this team is B Ed IP student, Chris Stottelaar. Congratulations and well done, Chris!

From left: Greg Kieck, Keri Plumstead, Chris Stottelaar (all Swimming), Cindy Stewart (Athletics), Mr Steven Thomas (USSA Team Delegation) and Leigh Jules (Athletics).



SRC Faculty Rep

We have a new SRC Rep for the Faculty! The role, which has been vacant for some time now, will be filled by FET student, **Loyiso Mashawa**. Congrats!



His contact details are as follows:

Loyiso Mashawa

South Campus

Tel: 041 504 2172

Cell: 083 524 3130/084 453 1673

E-mail: rep.education@nmmu.ac.za