

News & Updates

January Edition

* WELCOME BACK EVERYBODY *

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to wish you all a very happy new year, and welcome to the faculty in 2010! This is going to be a BIG year, as we implement the changed structure, take on new challenges (our own in the faculty as well as those of the province!), make possible through our work and commitment some of the changes we think are needed in this fundamentally critical work we do with teachers, in teaching and learning, research and engagement with our communities of practice.

I am looking forward to an exciting year, to working with all of you, and to the new heights to which we will soar in 2010.

And then of course, there's the World Cup...

Warm wishes to all of you, may this year prove to be all you're hoping for in 2010.

Denise.



Young Researcher of the Year medal

Prof Lesley Wood was awarded the Young Researcher of the Year medal by the Education Association of South Africa. This medal is conferred on the researcher who is considered to have achieved outstanding research accomplishments within 5 years of obtaining their doctorate. The conference was held at the Vaal Triangle Campus of NWU. Lesley is seen here relaxing on a boat trip on the Vaal river with the keynote speaker, Prof Michael Ungar of Dalhousie University in Canada. *Well done Les!*



w e l c o m e

The **ITE School** would like to officially introduce and welcome the School's new Programme Coordinators for 2010, Ms Thandi Hlam (Foundation Phase) and Ms Helena Oosthuizen (FET). FET administration / management is not entirely new to Helena as she acted as HOD in 2005. She has vast experience and a full understanding of the FET programme. Thandi served as Teaching Practice coordinator for the past two years (2008 & 2009). The School is looking forward to tapping into her Foundation Phase expertise and NGO experience.

A warm welcome back (as PC) to Dr Christina Jordaan and Ms Thobeka Mapasa. Christina has been steering the PGCE ship for a while now and Thobeka is in her 2nd year as IP coordinator.

For more information on the ITE School's administration, please see the School's 'Who To Ask' posters. We wish all of them well for the year ahead. ~ Noluthando

news & updates continued

Colleagues spend time at Oldenburg University

Prof Paul Webb, Lesley Wood and Dr Christina Jordaan of the Faculty of Education spent some time in Oldenburg University in Germany late last year as part of the DAAD exchange agreement with this university.

Mr Percy Sepeng, a lecturer in the Faculty and a PhD candidate, along with Ms D Geduld, PhD candidate, also joined the group when they met the DVC of the university during their visit in October. The NMMU academics presented guest lectures and had meetings with faculty from the German university to discuss various projects they participate in. ~ Les Wood



The Germany Group... from left Ben K-S, Paul, Christina, Wolfgang, the VC of Oldenburg University, Les, Deirdre and Percy

Well done Maths Ed Department!

The Maths Ed Dept won the 5th anniversary cake at the VC's end-of-year function held in December 2009.

Maths Ed Dept staff members Andre, Lonnie, Lyn, Hugh and Flip are here in the photo with the cake. ~ Lonnie



SRC News

The 16th annual national congress of the South African Students Congress (SASCO) was held in early December at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal.

Issues pertaining to students and their rights within higher education were discussed and debated, and a two year plan was proposed. Specific focus areas included issues surrounding access (specifically for new applicants), succession, fee's and student services (such as res, food, safety, library services, etc)

Also in attendance was Deputy President, Mr Kgalema Motlanthe, and the Minister for Higher Education, Mr Blade Nzimande, who will take this plan to the ANC for consideration in their policy decision making.

Loyiso
SRC Education Rep



Faculty Iron(wo)man

Prof Lesley Wood completed the ½ **Ironman** in East London on Sunday 17 January in 06h03 to take second place in her age category. Despite a slow swim over 1.9km (41.40 mins), she made up places and time on both the bike (90 km/3h24) and the run (21km/1h46).

Well done Les!

news & updates continued

December 2009 was a busy month...

... not only with exams, marking, ITS capturing and the like; but also with **"The Move"** ...



"Ai Gish, get away with that camera!"



Basheera can't wait to get to her new office!



Ridaa lends a helping hand...

Pulling together to get everything moved, packed and ready to go!



Hitting the road... Nokhanyo says bye to South



bootcamp!



May you all be
very happy in your
new office space



Faculty of Education

Guiding tomorrow



Nelson Mandela
Metropolitan
University
for tomorrow
Port Elizabeth & George

news & updates continued

... and, of course, we said good bye to Muki



Farewell Speeches by Denise, Les, Tilla and Sylvan...

for more photos,
see [g/drive/photo archive/...](#)



New PhD candidates and MAC-AIDS

Two NMMU PhD candidates, Cheryl Kader and Shomane Pillay (*pictured alongside*), both in the process of registering for their doctorates at the NMMU under the supervision of Prof Naydene de Lange, have gone through to the second round of the prestigious MAC-AIDS leadership Initiative.

This joint initiative is driven by Columbia University and UCLA in the USA, and the Human Science Research Council (HSRC) in South Africa.

The two students will benefit greatly from the award especially in the area of leadership and project management in the field of HIV and AIDS. Prof Lesley Wood was also a previous recipient of this award in 2008 and spent a number of weeks at Columbia University, in New York. ~ *Naydene*



If you were all alone in the universe with no one to talk to, no one with which to share the beauty of the stars, to laugh with, to touch, what would be your purpose in life? It is other life, it is love, which gives your life meaning. This is harmony. We must discover the joy of each other, the joy of challenge, the joy of growth.

Mitsugi Saotome