



# NEWS

May 2013

OPEN  
DAY 2013

A kaleidoscope of study careers awaits you



# DISCOVER YOUR DREAMS

## FACULTY OF EDUCATION



NMMU Open Day Port Elizabeth was held on the 10th and the 11th of May 2013. The Education stall was well attended with learners enquiring about teaching as their career choice. Assisting at the Education stall were students, (From left to right) Johan Strydom, Lionel Kennedy, Kaylin Van Willing and Kurt Japhta.

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# Official opening and partner school award function

The PE Open Day kicked off with an official opening function, during which NMMU's top partner schools will be acknowledged for the significant number of matrics enrolled at NMMU.

Principals of all schools in the metropole, as well as DoE officials from Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage schools districts, attended.

The audience was addressed by the NMMU Executive team and created an ideal opportunity for NMMU staff and principals to network.

Educators also got an opportunity to glimpse what their learners could expect during the Open Day.



Dr Peter Manser (second from left) Principal of Alexander Road top partner school enrolled the highest number of 2012 matrics this year at NMMU, with Sean Moore, Principal of Harvest Christian School, the top partner school which enrolled the highest percentage of their 2012 matric class this year at NMMU. With them are Deputy Vice-Chancellors Prof Piet Naude (left) and Prof Thoko Mayekiso.

# GEORGE

*Heloise Sathorar*

The George campus and the B.Ed FET programme offered on the campus enjoyed intensified attention from the Faculty of Education during May.

The Dean, and the SITE DOS met with the George Campus Principal and attended a George Strategic Planning session. Both meetings were deemed successful as they clarified the role that the Faculty of Education will play on the George campus over the next couple of years. Thanks Dean Zinn and DOS Delport for the leading role you played in this discussions to path our way forward.

We also had some academics travel to George to offer lectures to students and to meet with staff. Thanks Les, Hugh and Sylvan for sharing your knowledge and wisdom with our staff and students in George. The students in particular were very appreciative and this made us realize that the students in George should be exposed to this type of engagement more regularly. We would ideally like the students in George to be part of plenary sessions through live video streaming .

The faculty also had a beautiful stall at the George Open Day exhibition where all our programmes were promoted. The stall attracted alot of attention confirming the interest in Education as a career option. The students who worked at the stall created a positive hype around the stall and enthusiastically informed interested parties about our programmes.



SuperEd the Education society on the George campus is very active and involved in several outreach programmes.

One such programme is the subject choice and career guidance provided to Gr 9 learners at several High Schools in George. I was priviledged to attend one of their sessions at Parkdene Secondary School and was very impressed with the work that they were doing. It is pleasing to know that this is the calibre of teacher that we are cultivating. Teachers who care about their community. Keep up the good work SuperEd! I am proud of you!

Meetings were held with students and staff to answer any questions they might have about the future of the B.Ed FET programme on the George campus. Prof. Zinn also attended and patiently and graciously explained why we are not having an intake for the FET programme on the George campus in 2014 and 2015.

Finally, there was the Education Partners Networking Breakfast on Saturday morning where Prof Zinn explained how the FOE at NMMU intend to contribute to a solution for the crisis in Education in our country. With a passionate explanation of our vision and mission as well as reference to our curriculum renewal framework she won over the George community. Thanks for your inspirational and motivational presentation. You made us all proud to be associated with the Faculty of Education.



George - Parkdene Secondary School

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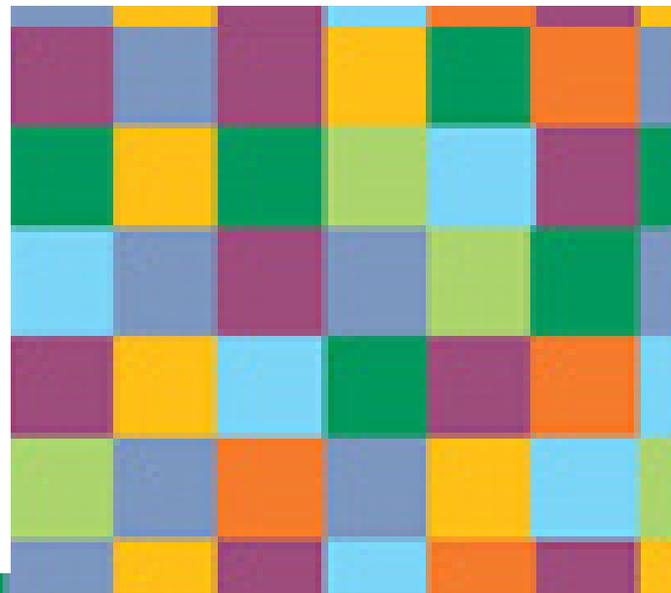
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George



Above: Prof Zinn and Campus Principal, Prof Q Johnson are photographed with colleagues at the George Open Day.

**“ We are here to work!”**

SuperEd members and BEd FET students work at the Open Day stall.



# George Campus Merit Awards



**13 of our George students receive awards at this years ceremony.**

They are: Adri Botha, Jo-Ralene Heunis, Karin Jordaan, Dean Langeveldt, Jolize Lotter, Precious Mahlangu, Monique Marx, Catherine Peake, Kellina Pillay, Rochelle van Rooyen, Petula Booysen, Nina Hanekom, Meashane Holmes with Dean Zinn.

## Well done Mandy!



Well done to NMMU Judokas who represented their university at the annual University Sports of South Africa [USSA] Judo tournament held recently.



Mandy Martins, second year IP student (second from right) achieved a bronze medal. Well done Mandy, we are proud of you.

Her team members Sinthemba Mpati received two gold medals, Lwazi Mapitiza - two silver medals and Daniel Pienaar, two bronze medals. Astrid Bluemel (right) took two golds and the USSA Lady Prestige Award, Allannah Pilkington (left) - a silver and a bronze, Phila Bomela - a bronze, a silver and the award for USSA Most Promising Female Judoka.

# Bumper NMMU Open Day in George attracts visitors from far and near

An Education Sector event combined with the recognition of NMMU's top partner schools was another highlight on the Open Day programme. The programme was opened by Campus Principal, Prof. Quinton Johnson, and included an overview of the education landscape in South Africa, with specific reference to the role and strategies of NMMU's Education Faculty, as presented by the Executive Dean, Prof Denise Zinn.

NMMU George partner schools acknowledged during the event included Hoërskool Outeniqua and Oudtshoorn, Point High School, as well as York High School; Imizamo Yethu, George and Bridgton Secondary Schools; Oakdale Agricultural School, Langenhoven Gymnasium and Brandwag Hoërskool.

Hoërskool Outeniqua was also acknowledged for contributing significant numbers of students for Port Elizabeth-based programmes of NMMU.



Delegates representing a cross-section of stakeholders, including the education sector, local government and organised business attended NMMU's Education Sector breakfast event during the university's annual Open Day in George.



Partners in education... Prof Quinton Johnson, NMMU George Campus Principal (left) with Prof Denise Zinn, NMMU's Executive Dean for Education, who delivered the keynote address at a stakeholder event during the university's recent Open Day in George, with some of the attendees – Dr Rajesh Maharaj, Deputy CEO at South Cape College, Mr Christo Vorster, Principal of Hoërskool Outeniqua, Mr Francois Moll, Principal of York High School, and Mrs Pumla Cona, Deputy Principal of Imizamo Yethu Secondary School. NMMU George also acknowledged its top partner schools, based on enrolments from these schools at George Campus in 2013, at this occasion.

# Researching pathways to resilience: Theoretical and methodological reflections

Dr Nokhanyo Mayaba



On the 11th of April 2013, I attended a symposium which was hosted by the North West University, Vaal triangle campus. It was amazing to see some of the South African resilience researchers that I have referenced in my study gathered in one room, and for a moment I panicked but I had to be courageous and look forward to their input. Dr Linda Liebenberg from the Resilience research centre, Dalhousie University, Canada, was the guest speaker and she clearly discussed the issues and concerns around resilience research.

In my presentation I reflected on my pathways to resilience with children who are orphaned and rendered vulnerable by HIV and AIDS (OVC). I specifically focused on my journey of using folktales to develop resilience in children in a way that is compatible with classroom experiences. My choice of folktales was influenced by the importance that resilience theory puts on how cultural variables contribute to the resilience process. Based on my knowledge of bibliotherapy to promote resilient coping with individuals, I was interested to see if folktales could be used in a similar way with groups of children. I also shared how I used interactive teaching strategies such as drawings, collages and drama and what I learnt regarding the use of these strategies. I am hoping to action research how teachers experience these strategies and the use of stories (folktales).

## Doctoral Celebration



A celebration of new Doctors in the Faculty (Dr V Tshazibana and Dr N Mayaba) and of 2012 research outputs was held recently. Staff members acknowledged include from left, Prof P Webb, Dr C Jordaan, Dr V Tshazibana, Dr M Khau, Dr L Athiemoolam, Dr A du Plessis, Dr N Mayaba, Dr T Morar, Prof D Zinn, Dr W Hendricks (PhD 2012), Prof N De Lange and Prof S Blignaut.

# NMMU MAKES ITS VOICE HEARD



Prof Zinn, Prof de Lange and Vimbisio Makumre join the campus march against gender violence. Hundreds of staff, students and community members participated in marches on the three Port Elizabeth campuses as well as the George Campus on Tuesday, 21 March against gender violence towards women in our country.

Rhodes, Fort Hare and Walter Sisulu staff and students also participated on their campuses with Western Cape universities having had marches in February.

At the end of the marches, university leaders addressed the participants who then signed a pledge towards the cause.



Taking part in the march at Missionvale Campus, were colleagues Neville Rudman and Dr Al Witten.

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**Port Elizabeth**

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