

Faculty of Education
News

The winds of change are currently blowing through our Faculty.

A FACULTY IN TRANSITION

A message from the Acting Executive Dean

Dear staff and students

The winds of change are currently blowing through our Faculty. As we wait for a new dean and deputy dean to be appointed Prof Shervani Pillay and I have been asked to act as deputy dean and executive dean respectively. I would also like to congratulate the following staff members on their appointment as Head of Departments:

- Dr Walters Doh Nubia – Post Graduate Studies Department
- Mrs Helena Oosthuizen – Post Schooling Department
- Dr Ayanda Simayi – Secondary School Education Department

I would like to thank Dr Badroen Ismail for acting as

HOD for the SSE Department for the last 9 months. We are awaiting council approval of our application to amalgamate the Foundation Phase and Intermediate Phase Department into one Primary School Department and will then advertise for a HOD for the Primary School Department. I would like to thank Dr Tobeka Mapasa for agreeing to continue to act as HOD in this Department while we wait for council approval of our amalgamation request.

We welcomed back Prof Mdzanga, Dr Van Heerden and Ms Papu back from sabbatical at the beginning of the year and wished Prof Athiemoolam, Prof Mosito and Dr Matsha all the best with their sabbatical this year.

The Faculty welcomed 905 new students into the Faculty





Last week we celebrated the fruits of our collective hard work, as 560 students walked across the stage to graduate

family and we wish them everything of the best as they embark on the journey of completing the respective qualifications they enrolled for.

We extend our congratulations to Prof Geduld and Prof Khau for successfully completing their respective Future Professors Programmes and look forward to them sharing their expertise with us. Prof Khau has also been invited as a guest lecturer for a summer school hosted by Oldenburg University, Germany during June and we wish her well for this. We also congratulate Ms Pretty Magangxa and Ms Makhosi Madimabe-Mofokeng for being awarded Thuthuka funding towards their PhD research. Dr Badroen Ismail has been accepted to participate in the Teaching Advancement at University (TAU) programme and wish him everything of the best for this.

We had a very busy start to the academic year and had several staff development workshops including the SBL Briefing, the Assessment workshop, the CHE Review preparation workshop and the Post Graduate Studies Review workshop. We also hosted a thought-provoking Robert Sobukwe Institutional Public Lecture with Ms Lebohang Pheko as Guest Speaker and Prof Simphiwe Sesanti as the respondent. The Faculty also participated in the Decolonisation and Africanisation Indaba and asked some intriguing questions to move the debate regarding these matters forward.

Eight of our students are currently on an exchange programme in Norway and are doing School Based Learning in Norwegian schools. They were accompanied by Prof Sylvan Blignaut and Dr Eileen Scheckle for the first week of their stay. We wish these students well and trust that they will make the most of this learning experience. Remember you will have to come and tell us about your experience.

A hearty congratulations to Dr Tarryn Lovemore and her husband Mr Jeroen Roffel on their marriage. We pray that their union will be blessed and that they will spend many

happy years together. Dr Lucky Maluleke and his wife welcomed a new baby boy into the world. May this new baby bring the Maluleke family much joy and happiness. Congratulations Dr Maluleke and family!

We extend our sincere and heartfelt condolences to Dr Simayi and her family on the passing of her husband. May the fond memories console you during this trying time.

Sadly, we bid farewell to Mr Koketso Nthimbane as he moved to take up a position at another institution earlier this year. We will also say good bye to Ms Pretty Magangxa at the end of April as she too, take up a position at another institutions. We thank Ms Magangxa for the work she did in the faculty and wish her well for the future.

Last week we celebrated the fruits of our collective hard work, as 560 students walked across the stage to graduate with their respective qualifications from the Faculty. Congratulations to all our students who graduated last week. We wish you everything of the best for the future. Thank you to all our staff for your commitment, hard work and dedication that contributed to the success of our students. A special congratulations to the following staff members on their graduation:

- Mr Nkosinathi Mzuzu – BA Honours (Developmental Studies)
- Ms Pamela Roach – MBA
- Dr Rochelle Thorne – PhD

Congratulations! Halala! Welgedaan! We are proud of you.

As we move towards the end of semester one, please diarise the following dates:

- 26 April – Student Games Day
- 10 & 11 May – Open Day
- 19 & 20 June – Faculty Strategic Breakaway

Everything of the best. Take care and stay safe.

Robert Sobukwe Memorial Lecture – 100 Years

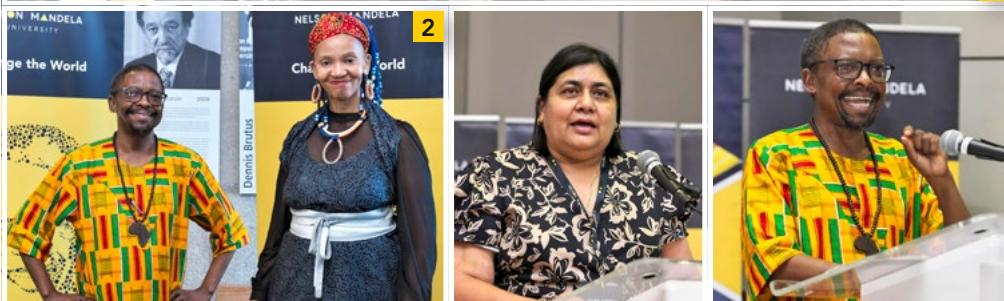


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The faculty hosted the first institutional public lecture of 2024 on 27 February to a packed auditorium. The Robert Sobukwe Memorial Lecture – 100 Years commemorating the centenary of Robert Sobukwe’s birth aimed to honour his life and immense contributions during his life.

Our keynote speaker, Ms LL Pheko, delivered a thought provoking address around reparative memory, ‘Defying the Undefiable: A Meditation on Reparative Memory’, with Prof S Sesanti of UWC being the Respondent. This well attended event hosted dignitaries from PAC and Azapo, Mr Tsepo Sobukwe (Robert Sobukwe’s grandson), VC Muthwa and senior management in the institution as well as students from both Mandela University and Fort Hare University. Learners from several high schools in the metro attended with their teachers.

Watch Highlights: https://www.instagram.com/reel/C4NQ8A_CHEK/?igsh=MTlpaTg5bXp1dmFseA==



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- 1 From left, Prof Andre Keet (DVC TE), Mr Apa Pooe (PAC Secretary General), Prof Sibongile Muthwa (VC), Ms LL Pheko (Keynote Speaker), Prof S Sesanti (Respondent), Dr Muki Moeng (DVC LT), Mr Nelvis Qemeka (Azapo President), Mr Mzwanele Nyhontso (PAC President) and Prof Heloise Sathorar (Acting Dean, Faculty of Education)
- 2 The keynote speaker, Ms LL Pheko, and respondent, Prof S Sesanti
- 3 Learners from several metro schools were also in attendance at this auspicious event



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First Year Welcoming

2024 Welcome Events



Professor Sibongile Muthwa, the Vice-Chancellor of Nelson Mandela University, warmly welcomed the incoming first-year students on February 3rd. He reassured them that the university was on track to receive students for the 2024 academic year and pledged to provide the necessary support for their academic success.

The event was a resounding success, with an impressive turnout of over 5000 students for the second in-person welcome address in nearly three years. Professor Muthwa highlighted the various forms of support available to ensure students' access and overall success, emphasizing the university's commitment to inclusivity.

To inspire the first-year students, Mr Thato Moshoeshe, an alumnus and public relations officer, was selected as the program director for the day. Moshoeshe shared his personal success story at Nelson Mandela University, showcasing how he overcame academic challenges through determination, hard work, and prayer. This was a

proud moment for our faculty.

Breakaway sessions were organized, enabling students to have one-on-one interactions with their faculty deans, lecturers, and administrative support staff. These sessions also provided an opportunity for students to connect with their peers throughout the year.

Orientation sessions were held for different academic programs within our faculty, including the IP/FP and SP/FET meet and greet, followed by the PGCE orientation session. These faculty welcome events aimed to assure our students that they made the right choice by selecting Nelson Mandela University as their educational institution.

We are eagerly awaiting to hear about your dreams, aspirations, and determination. Our ultimate goal is to equip you with the skills and knowledge to make a meaningful impact in the field of teaching and learning as you embark on your journey in the real world.



PGCE Welcome



Staff Welcoming





VC Welcoming



BIBLIONEF LITERACY PROJECT

The latest report by the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study states that out of ten South African school children struggle to read by the age of ten. Hence, we endeavour to interact with multiple stakeholders through collaborative processes of teaching and learning, engagement, and scholarship.

The Centre for the Community School in the Faculty of Education is working in collaboration with Biblionef South Africa to provide literacy training and support to seven primary schools, five high schools in Motherwell, and one Farm School in Seaview to provide literacy training and support to educators. This project is made possible by with funds from the International Board on Books for the Young People (IBBY SA) and the Yamada Apiculture in Japan. Workshops and classroom demonstrations took place in school from the 26th of February to the 5th of March, a significant demonstration took place at Fumisukoma Primary School, marking the commencement of training sessions for term one conducted by our esteemed partner, Biblionef.

This project is aimed to gather educators who had previously expressed interest during on-site visits with the funder last year. These educators were officially invited to participate in the workshops and classroom demonstrations, which formed the first phase of the training program. The workshops were carefully designed to equip educators with the necessary knowledge and skills to enhance their teaching practices



and promote literacy development among their students. Additionally, classroom demonstrations showcased practical examples of effective teaching techniques and strategies.

This is a year programme where teachers benefit from book packs, workshops, and classroom visits that are integral components of the program. The donated resources are integrated into the curriculum daily lesson plans and in-class mentorship sessions.

Another component is a book donation that is primarily sourced locally, and they feature stories that resonate with the experiences of South African children and research.

Three research focus areas identified include but are not limited to.

- A research project working with grade 8 & 9 isiXhosa teachers.
- A research project working with grade 8 & 9 English teachers.
- A research project working with school principals.

As the project progresses, CCS will continue to collaborate with Biblionef and other stakeholders to ensure the success and sustainability of the Biblionef Literacy Project. We look forward to witnessing the positive outcomes that will undoubtedly emerge from the dedication and hard work of the educators involved in this initiative.



Guest Lecture on “Gender and Sexual Diversity through the Lens of Human Rights”

The Faculty of Education Primary School Education Department and the Arts and Social Sciences Discipline at Missionvale Campus organized a guest lecture on “Gender and Sexual Diversity through the lens of Human Rights.” This was facilitated by Dr Obakeng Kagola.

Guest lecture Professor Anthony Brown from Stellenbosch University highlighted the legal and ethical foundation of LGBTQI+ inclusion in education. He emphasized that all individuals have inherent human rights, regardless of their identity, as stated in South Africa’s constitution.

Failure to protect the rights of LGBTQI+ learners has detrimental effects on their access to education. Professor Brown provided concrete strategies for action, including using correct names and pronouns, displaying LGBTQI+-affirming materials, addressing harassment and bullying, advocating for inclusive policies, providing support services, and respecting learner confidentiality. He emphasized the importance of ongoing learning and personal growth to foster inclusivity and understanding.

Read more: <https://news.mandela.ac.za/News/Gender-and-Sexual-Diversity-through-the-lens-of-Hu>





AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

April is autism awareness month. The aim of the month is to raise awareness about individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) throughout the world. When an individual is diagnosed with autism it means they have a neurological disorder which affects them in areas such as social interaction communication and eye contact. Within the spectrum of Autism there are individuals who need minimal support and those who need significant support, depending on the severity level of the condition. Children with ASD usually have communication, social, emotional as well as sensory difficulties. They prefer certain topics of interest and sometimes display repetitive and challenging behaviours. These characteristics can vary depending on the individual; hence autism is called a 'spectrum disorder'.

Children with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) are less able to learn social rules, conventions and behaviours by intuition compared with their typically developing peers.

As a teacher, understanding these characteristics is important, because you might have a child with autism in your classroom. Most importantly, you need to be aware of your role when you think a learner displays such characteristics. Firstly, you are not a diagnostician, but your role is to observe and report observations accurately to the appropriate professionals such as recognised medical practitioners, psychiatrists, and psychologists for diagnosis. The focus is on the best interests of the learner and how the outcome of this process could be used

to support and assist the learner to try and overcome barriers to learning.

You also need to be aware of curriculum adaptation. Curriculum adaptation is a process of modifying the existing prescribed curriculum to meet the needs of all children. It enables the teaching team to welcome learners of all abilities. Children with autism experience the world differently to those who do not have ASD. Their uniqueness is evident in their developmental difficulties. Hence access to a relevant curriculum is essential for these children. As a teacher therefore, you must be in a position to adapt your teaching in order to effectively engage learners with ASD. In South Africa, there is currently no autism specific curriculum as teachers are expected to teach CAPS as well as adapt it to suit the needs of learners. This implies that teachers need to be skilled on how to make these adjustments and adaptations.

As a teacher you can also play an advocacy role for children with autism. Ask yourself the following questions and more:

- Does the education system value all types of minds?
- What support is provided in school for children with autism?
- What skills am I teaching these children that will enable them to join the world of work?
- Am I able to adapt the curriculum to meet the needs of children with autism?
- Do these children have access to education?
- Do teacher training institutions prepare teachers to teach children with autism?
- What role can I play in the education system of these children.

Watch out for the space as the faculty of Education at Nelson Mandela University is taking steps to address the issue of capacitating teachers and practitioners to teach children with autism.

Spread the word and tell someone about Autism.

Prof N.N. Mdzanga

Future Teachers Choir

The faculty's future teacher choir performed at several events during the first term of 2024, flying our faculty flag high.

The audience at the recent Robert Sobukwe Memorial Lecture – 100 Years were mesmerised and impressed by the polished and beautifully rendered performance of our choir. Aably conducted and led by Education student, Mr Kuselo Joni, our future teachers showed off their skill and teamwork in two beautifully sung pieces.

The choir also performed at the institutional ECAAP Certificate Ceremony on 6 March 2024.

Our choir has applied to be a recognised student society body in the Creative Arts Portfolio which will enable them to formalise their activities and include a wider membership of students.



Future Teachers Choir performing at the recent Robert Sobukwe Memorial Lecture



Nelson Mandela University's Faculty of Education takes immense pride in congratulating one of its distinguished alumni, Mr. Zolani Sigadi, for his remarkable achievement of attaining a 100% pass rate for all his grade 12 students in the class of 2023.

Mr. Sigadi currently holds the position of Head of the Department of Mathematics for Grade 12. Hailing from Engcobo, he exemplifies the spirit of academic excellence and demonstrates unwavering dedication to his craft.

Mr. Sigadi's journey to success serves as a testament to his unwavering commitment to cultivating a culture of healthy competition and academic rigor. His recipe for success, which is rooted in promoting healthy competition among students, has yielded exceptional results. Out of the 34 learners under his guidance, an impressive three have

achieved distinctions in Mathematics, scoring an astounding 99%.

His philosophy on academic excellence resonates deeply: "Academic excellence starts when a pupil is in grade 8 and being ahead." This mantra reflects his belief in the importance of laying a strong foundation early on, setting the stage for future achievements.

As an esteemed alum of Nelson Mandela University's Faculty of Education, Mr. Sigadi continues to embody the institution's values of excellence, integrity, and leadership. His dedication to his learners and passion for mathematics inspires not only those he teaches but also his fellow educators.

The faculty celebrates his commitment to nurturing the next generation of leaders and scholars. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to him and wish him continued success in his endeavors!!!

Afrikaans Methodology Student Projects: DIE AFRIKAANSE TAALMONUMENT

On 8 May 2025, it will be exactly a century since Afrikaans was recognised as an official language by the then parliament of the Union of South Africa. In preparation for the centenary celebration of this milestone, the Afrikaans Home Language Method students (FET phase) built scale models of the Afrikaans Language Monument located on top of Paarl Mountain unveiled on 10 October 1975.

The project formed part of a larger study of the historic development of the Afrikaans language. This assessment task aimed to make students reflect critically on the Afrikaans Language Monument. Through research, students had to explore the architectural history of the monument, discuss the symbolism of the various components of the monument, and reflect on the monument's value in the context of a multilingual South

Africa. Students were confronted with questions such as the context of the monument in a pre-1994 democratic society, Afrikaner nationalism and the overall feeling towards such a monument post-16 June 1976.

Prof Anna Otto and Ms Asambese Mkumatela from the School of Languages (Section: Afrikaans) were invited to assess the students' scale models. Apart from the construction of the scale model, students had to deliver a short presentation in which they expressed their opinions and feelings about the monument's historical context and the continued speaking of Afrikaans and all its varieties such as Kaapse Afrikaans, Griekwa-Afrikaans and Moesliemafrikaans in a multilingual context.

Ms Janice Philander was named the overall winner based on her scale model and presentation. Allicin Williams, Ashanté Williams, and Diemoné Schoeman's scale models deserve honourable mention. The winner received a certificate and book prize sponsored by the South African Academy of Science and Art (Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns).

On Monday, 25 March, RSG (Radio Sonder Grense) broadcasted a short programme in which the SABC journalist, Mariska Spoormaker, interviewed some of the students and asked their opinions regarding Afrikaans and the upcoming centenary celebration in 2025.

The students experienced the project as "challenging" but admitted that it made them think about the language monument as well as the complex origin and development of Afrikaans as a language.

Dr Dewald Koen



Celebrating Dr. Tarryn Lovemore's New Chapter as a Newlywed



We are delighted to extend our warmest congratulations to Dr. Tarryn Lovemore on her recent marriage! On the 16th of March 2024, Dr. Lovemore embarked on a beautiful journey as a newlywed, marking a significant milestone in her personal life.

The faculty proudly organized a surprise bridal shower to celebrate Dr. Lovemore's joyous occasion and to express our heartfelt wishes for her future happiness. The event was a heartwarming testament to the close-knit community we have within our faculty, where we celebrate not only professional achievements but also personal milestones.

As Dr. Lovemore embarks on this new chapter of her life, we wish her an abundance of love, joy, and fulfillment. May her marriage be filled with shared dreams, unwavering support, and endless moments of love and happiness. We are confident that her commitment and resilience will extend to her personal life, just as it does in her professional endeavors.

Once again, congratulations to Dr. Tarryn Lovemore on her marriage. May this new chapter bring her an abundance of love, happiness, and cherished memories.



Omega Day Care Engagement Initiative February 2024

The first visit to Omega Day Care centre for 2024 took place on 6 February. The engagement was literacy themed. It served as preparation for World Read Aloud Day (WRAD), held annually on 7 February. The team consisted of Dr Margie Childs, Dr Eileen Scheckle, Mrs Rochelle Thorne, Mr Thatho Moshesh and Ms Lindo Msutwana.

Dr Childs and Mrs Thorne shared a story from the Book Dash My Little Library collection. The My Little Library consists of 8 locally crafted stories. See: <https://bookdash.org/my-little-book-dash-library/>

The book "SHHHH!" was chosen.

Dr Childs read the story in English and Mrs Thorne followed up by sharing and interacting with the children in Afrikaans. In 2023 Principal Karen Kivido had indicated that building literacy skills and multilingualism were key interests of the day care centre. Dr Scheckle also had the opportunity to share a picture book with the children.

Mr Moshesh, Faculty of Education Public Relations Officer, captured the event in photographs and video. Student Ms Msutwana, provided a reflection on the event. Future plans include science and mathematics activities and additional literacy work.

Omega Educare Center is located in the poverty stricken area of Helenvale in Gqeberha. It was founded by Mrs Katherine Fillis in 1994. She was succeeded as principal by her daughter Karen Kivido. Mrs Fillis continues to assist at the day care centre.



READING CLUB

During a recent PSBL300 online contact session, the class talked about students being agents of transformation in schools. Student, Owethu Mayekiso, shared what she is volunteering to do at KwaNoxolo Primary School after observing a grade 4 learner not being able to read and write.

Owethu approached the Principal to begin a Reading Club at the school in order to offer this additional support to learners. She has a planned activity timetable for the kids which includes reading aloud with learners, individual reading, spelling bee competitions within the learner group, cursive writing practice, discipline and neatness.

She plans to utilise both online and available library resources for the reading club, and hopes that this initiative will have a positive and lasting effect on the learners who choose to attend, "...reading is the foundation of a learner's academic life, it's the best lifetime gift that you can ever issue to the learner."

Good luck with the Chubekile Reading and Writing Club – the faculty is proud of you!



Victoria Park High School Career Day

The marketing department recently participated in the annual Career Day organized by Victoria Park High School. This event provided an exceptional opportunity for learners to explore the diverse academic offerings of the university, as all faculties were invited to attend and showcase their programs.

Mrs. Muriel Geswint, Mrs. Delene Botha and Mr Thato Moshoeshe delivered a well-informed and captivating presentation during the sessions. The Career Day at Victoria Park High School was an interactive and engaging event. Learners had the opportunity to ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of the education programs offered by the faculty of education. The presenters provided guidance on career prospects, admission requirements, and the university's dedication to supporting students throughout their academic journey.

We thank Victoria Park High School for inviting the university.





Join us at the SAARMSTE Research School 2024: Igniting Innovation in Education Research

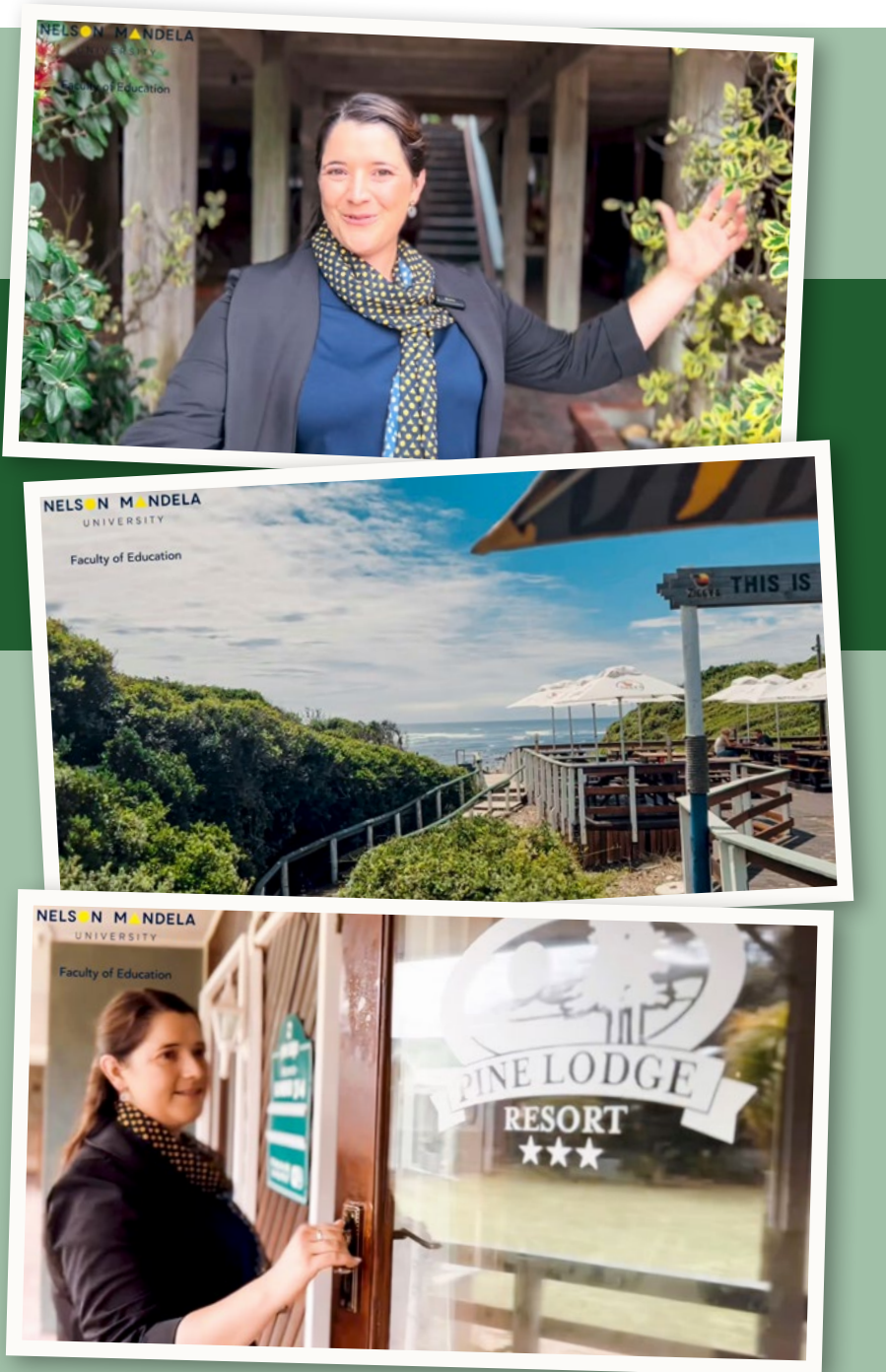
Calling all PhD students, Early Career Scholars, and Facilitators! Join us at the prestigious SAARMSTE Research School 2024 hosted by Nelson Mandela University's Faculty of Education! Join us at the SAARMSTE Research School 2024: Igniting Innovation in Education Research

This year's 22nd Research School will be a hybrid event, providing both in-person and online experiences. Don't miss the chance to engage with experts in Science, Mathematics, and Technology Education Research, and enhance your PhD journey! From proposal writing to publication, our interactive workshop-style sessions will cover it all.

Mark your calendars for 25th - 28th June at Pine Lodge in Gqeberha for the in-person venue. Apply now at <https://www.saarmste.org/research-school/> and visit www.saarmste.org for more information. We can't wait to welcome you to the SAARMSTE Research School 2024!

See Venue Visuals:

https://www.instagram.com/reel/C31_IQ_C8zR/?igsh=MXJqOHkxd2k2ampxNQ==



Norway Exchange Programme 2024

A group of Education students will leave AGQ in early April to spend a month in Tromso (Norway) as part of an international exchange programme with University of Tromso (iTENSA) where they will be placed in local schools



Norway Exchange Programme 2024



Dieketseng Dineo Matsbukanye

Hello :) My name is Dieketseng Dineo Matsbukanye. I am 21 years old and I am an aspiring foundation phase teacher. I love reading novels and colouring in colouring books. My favourite thing about myself is how different I am from everyone I've met, for example, I was born on Christmas Eve and I've had a needle stuck in my body before. I cannot wait to meet you all in Norway and to tell you all about it, I am looking forward to our time together.



Rorisang Tswai

Hi everyone! I am Rorisang Tswai, better known as Rori, a 23 year old Nelson Mandela University student. I am currently completing my 4th year in Education, specializing in the Intermediate Phase (Grade 4-7).

Although I am studying in the Eastern Cape, I am originally from the Northern part of South Africa, in the Limpopo province. I am somewhat of an introvert and enjoy reading, writing and listening to a wide range of music genres. I try to keep fit by running and doing pilates.

I am ecstatic and really grateful for the opportunity to travel to Norway and look forward to learning more about Norwegian culture and interacting with the learners, teachers and everyone else that we will get to meet on this trip.



Nicole De Jager

Hello everyone! My name is Nicole De Jager. I am 22 years old. I am an intermediate phase 4th year Education student at Nelson Mandela University. My main subject focus is Mathematics, Science and English but I study all the subjects.

I am very excited to experience your culture in Norway. It is my first time leaving South Africa. I hope to have a good and insightful experience meeting everyone. I can not wait to see how everything is done in a whole different country. I hope to learn from you as much as you learn from me.

I am not much of a sporty person, but I look forward to going to different places and trying new things. I can not wait to meet everyone.



Samkelisiwe Bebe:

Dear students and teachers in Norway! My name is Samkelisiwe Bebe. I am a 29-year-old 4th year intermediate phase student at Nelson Mandela University. The university is situated in my hometown of Gqeberha, also known as Port Elizabeth, the friendly (and very windy) city.

As an intermediate phase student, I specialise in all subjects, however my majors are mathematics, Natural Science and Technology as well as English home language. I previously studied Bachelor of Arts, majoring in Psychology and Sociology which I completed in 2016. I then chose not further my studies within the BA field because I knew that I wanted to venture into education as teaching has always been my passion, and when the opportunity came, I grabbed it with both hands, and I have not looked back since!

I am a social introvert, I enjoy socialising, speaking, and learning from people, both young and old through interactions and conversations. I also enjoy reading novels (Bridget Jones series, Me before you – Jojo Moyes and the likes), and going on beach walks, they help me to unwind. Sport (especially cricket) and attending live music concerts are the kind of events I attend in my free time. I recently started hiking and I must say, I have enjoyed the experience thus far. I have a dog; her name is Chelsea. She and I have become quite close since my family members recently relocated to other towns.

I am excited to meet all of you and I look forward to learning and experiencing Norway. See you soon!

Takk og farvel.

Norway Exchange Programme 2024



Thokozile Langman

Hello, I'm Thokozile Langman, a fourth-year student passionate about language and education. Currently specializing in English and Afrikaans, I thrive on exploring the intricacies of language and its cultural nuances. Teaching is not just a career path for me; it's a calling that allows me to connect with people on a profound level. I find immense joy in engaging in deep conversations about a wide array of topics, believing that every discussion holds the potential for growth and understanding.



Diemoné Schoeman

Hello! I am Diemoné Schoeman. I am 21 years old, and I am in my final year of my BE.d for SP/FET phase. My majors are English and Afrikaans home language. I am extremely excited to come to Norway, this will be my first time travelling outside of my country, and I am so excited to see snow for the first time. My hobbies include reading and going on hikes, so I am very excited to explore Norway when we get the chance. I am eager to learn from this experience and broaden my horizons.



Camilla Petersen

Hi everyone, I'm Camilla Petersen. I'm currently a 4th year education student at Nelson Mandela University in Port Elizabeth, specializing in History and Afrikaans. I'm originally from Knysna, a beautiful town in the Western Cape. I'm also part of the First Year Experience Program at the Faculty of Education. In my free time, I hang out with my friends and read novels. I'm very excited to travel to Norway to learn new educational strategies and methodologies from a different curriculum.



Scotland Wilson

Hello everyone, my name is Scotland Wilson, and I am 25 years old. I am a 4th-year student at Nelson Mandela University, studying a Bachelor of Education SP/FET, specializing in English Home Language and Geography.

I would describe myself as a lover of many things, I love being outside and spending time in nature whether it be hiking, hunting, or fishing. However, I am also quite partial to spending time indoors reading a book, watching a movie or playing games.

I am a real foodie and love cooking, so I am very eager to try your cuisine and hopefully incorporate some Norwegian classics into my repertoire.

I am both nervous and excited for this experience to begin as it will be my first time leaving our beautiful country, but from what I have seen and read I definitely won't be disappointed. I cannot wait to meet and interact with you all!



Faculty's First Year Experience Programme:

Our student Peer Mentors continue their multilingual tutorials in both formal and informal settings this year. Strongly supported by the Education student body, we are reaping the benefits of this type of peer led intervention. Our Peer Mentors are dedicated and passionate, translating their excellence in academics and leadership into ensuring that our 1st years are well supported and guided during their first year of higher education. The programme is so successful and appreciated, we have Peer Mentors who also support our senior students with a particular focus around challenging modules and SBL. Aably overseen by Ms Rhayi (Mamzo), the team communicate via whatsapp group messages and emails, as well as being available in person at the Resource Centre. You are making a difference. We are so proud of you all!

The peer mentors pictured in action include:

- Camilla Petersen SPFET: History and academic literacy
- Thokozile Langman SPFET: PEDS101 and academic literacy
- Bulumko Ntwanambi IP: PIMF100
- Chelsea Ruiters IP: PCTL100
- Bongiwe Danster FP: PFPD100



Love in Education: Faculty of Education's Heartwarming Valentine's Day Event

In a heartwarming celebration, the FYEP peer helpers at the Faculty of Education created a delightful Photo Booth, inviting students and staff to capture cherished memories on Valentine's Day.

Amidst the love-filled atmosphere, each staff member received a thoughtful token of love from the acting Dean, Prof. Heloise Sathorar. This event beautifully exemplified how love serves as the foundation for all that the faculty strives to achieve.

#ATeacherThatCares #DareToLove #DareToTeach

Watch Highlights:

<https://www.instagram.com/reel/C4Kootmivoi/?igsh=cDdkcDk4aTM4MWN6>





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