



Nelson Mandela
Metropolitan
University

for tomorrow

routes

Edition 6 ▶ Summer 2012 ▶ Alumni Newsletter

www.alumni.nmmu.ac.za



*An artist's impression
of the Alumni House
development*



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CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

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AND SOCIALS

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THEY NOW

Alumni Association President's Message



THE "mystery of its untapped potential" is what makes Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University great, believes president of the Alumni Association Randall Jonas.

Jonas, who chairs the body that represents alumni of NMMU (incorporating former UPE and PE Technikon) believes the association serves as a voice to over 90 000 alumni who are scattered around the globe.

The Alumni Association Executive Committee consists of a group of dedicated local alumni who provide an important oversight role in the administration of alumni affairs.

Established in 2010, the Alumni Relations Directorate is the engine that drives the Alumni Relations strategy - ensuring that NMMU gives more coherent expression to its engagement with its alumni.

"The establishment of the Alumni Directorate, signals the powerful commitment of NMMU to its alumni and says profoundly: alumni are forever part of the institution," said Jonas.

Alumni are ambassadors of the university, wherever they go in life, work and society, they express themselves as products of this esteemed institution.

"The relationship between NMMU and its alumni does not end at the graduation ceremony but evolves through consistent communication and ultimately revisiting through reunions."

Jonas believes that the key to being part of this family is a sound communication strategy underpinned by a comprehensive database.

"NMMU branding is critical for presenting the institution to the broader family and we are succeeding with this huge task through the two directorates; Alumni Relations and Legacy Directorate."

Jonas wants to use his term as president to further the NMMU brand locally and internationally and connect with alumni worldwide. He aims to contribute to Vision2020 and harness alumni and partners in the quest to establish NMMU as a leading university. "I believe in NMMU, its people and cause."

Randall Jonas



HELPFUL STAFF ... Alumni Administrative Officer Liska Welcome (back from left), Alumni Relations Assistant Lyree Boucher, Alumni Relations Officer: Internal Stakeholders & University Shop Manager Baakier Abrahams, University Shop Assistant Wendy Scheepers and Alumni Relations Assistant Mziyanda Bloro. Alumni Relations Director Paul Geswindt (front left) and, Alumni Relations Coordinator Santosh Ramadu.

Alumni Director's Message



2011 was a very exciting year for NMMU's alumni relationship building programme. Alumni social events were held in Port Elizabeth, East London, Cape Town, Durban, Johannesburg, London (UK) and Nairobi (Kenya). See pages 10-11.

The number of event participants nearly doubled compared to the previous year which also contributed to a significant increase in the number of updated alumni records. We are extremely pleased with the growing support and active involvement of alumni in the affairs of our university. Please continue to supply us with information to reconnect with fellow alumni you are in contact with.

Some of the major events and projects of 2011 include:

- ▶ The launch of a new website, alumni DVD, pamphlet and brochure. Please visit our new website www.alumni.nmmu.ac.za
- ▶ A successful graduation alumni awareness campaign as well as many awareness promotions
- ▶ A resolution taken at both the Alumni and Convocation AGM's to consider the establishment of a single alumni representative structure.
- ▶ The establishment of a satellite university shop and alumni relations office on the Missionvale Campus.
- ▶ An increase of nearly 40% in university shop

turnover compared to 2010. Do you own an NMMU branded item?

▶ Launch of the R1billion capital and endowment campaign. See page 3. Your contribution in cash and kind can make a difference. Please contact us on 041 504 3935 or alumni@nmmu.ac.za

▶ The inclusion of an Alumni House development on the South Campus as part of the capital campaign.

▶ A very successful Alumni Achievers Award function. See our achievers pages 12-13. Please visit the website for nomination information.

The Legacy Department, under Prof Kotie Grove, also arranged smaller group events targeting business and senior alumni in several cities. Accounting, Rugby and Hockey Reunions also took place this year and a number of Legacy programmes were launched. The Legacy programmes are agreed upon between alumni and the relevant academic or support departments to develop and support specific programmes and projects or fund bursaries.

Major developments are taking place at your *alma mater* as shared on the pages of this newsletter. As alumni you have a permanent stake in the affairs of the university and we invite you to be actively involved. You can contribute to the development of your alma mater in many different ways such as being donors, advisors, mentors and employers.

May you enjoy health, happiness and prosperity during 2012 and continue to be great NMMU ambassadors.

Paul GG Geswindt

Contact us

Please update your details by using the update form, visiting our website or contacting our office.

Alumni contact details

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E-mail: alumni@nmmu.ac.za

www.alumni.nmmu.ac.za

Alumni contributes to Campaign

NMMU Fundraising Campaign Launched

IN THE past three years, NMMU has been in the most significant capital expansion and modernization programme since its founding. Since 2008, dozens of new facilities have been constructed on all campuses. So far, more than R500m has been spent on new infrastructure.

But science, technology and society are rapidly changing in the early 21st century, and NMMU is preparing itself for this future.

New investments are going to be required in a new generation of academic programmes to help South Africans cope with the challenges of sustainability in the context of global climate change and resource limits – a new economy, new industries, cities and towns, building materials, food production, banking systems and civics.

Vision2020 is about investing in our future. NMMU's R1billion Endowment and Capital Campaign aims to raise this investment for future investment in scholarship for future sustainability.

"We are proud of our university, its leadership and what it is already achieving. We are investing in its future and wish to encourage others to do likewise," says Council Chairman Judge Ronnie Pillay.

The campaign will now be taken to market for support by our many corporate partners, alumni, institutional investors and philanthropic organisations.

The university aims to fully raise R1 billion by 2020 – with R500m to be used for long-term reserves, and R500m to fund specific projects:

- ▶ A new Engineering Research Innovation and Technology Centre



INVESTING IN TOMORROW ... NMMU Chair of Council Judge Ronnie Pillay, Vice Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz, Alumni Association President Randall Jonas and NMMU Trust Chairman Dr Xolani Mkhwanazi with the R50 000 Alumni Association contribution towards the R1-billion capital and endowment campaign.

- ▶ New student residences
- ▶ A new high performance sport centre
- ▶ A new Science Centre
- ▶ A new Alumni House

The Alumni house will serve as the base for fundraising, alumni staff and a venue for alumni socials.

We are investing in its future and encourage others to do likewise

Your gift

If you would like more information on the campaign, please visit the new alumni website: alumni.nmmu.ac.za

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Jo-Ann Daniels • 041 504 2162
postgrad@nmmu.ac.za

New microscope centre launched

NELSON Mandela Metropolitan University is home to a new R120m centre where scientists can – for the first time in Africa – analyse materials right down to the atomic level.

As a result, the High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope (HRTEM) Centre and its suite of four state-of-the-art microscopes will put Africa on par with its international counterparts in terms of cutting-edge research.

The centre was officially opened by the Minister of Higher Education and Training Blade Nzimande on 11 October before a group of dignitaries from around the world and a large press contingent.

Scholars from Oxford, the Japanese scientists responsible for building the high-powered microscopes along with NMMU's key partners, the Department

of Science and Technology (DST), the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the National Research Foundation (NRF), and Sasol, were also at the launch. The official "switching on" marks the culmination of a personal 20-year dream by the centre's director Professor Jannie Neethling, who is recognised internationally for his microscopy expertise. The custom-made microscopes means NMMU will become the focus of research covering national priorities such as clean water, energy, mineral beneficiation and manufacturing.

Until now, South African scientists have had to travel overseas to conduct such research. "Without doubt, this new centre for nanoscience and nanotechnology is going to mean big business for South Africa," says physicist Prof Neethling.



SWITCHING ON ... Higher Education and Training Minister Blade Nzimande (front) turned on the 20-year dream microscope of Physics Prof Jannie Neethling (far right) at the opening of Africa's only High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope Centre in October. They are joined by (from left) Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz, NRF President Dr Albert van Jaarsveld, and Council Chairperson Judge Ronnie Pillay.

R244m in building projects



BUILDING projects valued in excess of R244m will be undertaken on various NMMU campuses this year as part of the university's Vision 2020 process.

"We are excited at the opportunity to develop projects with the potential to cement the aspirations of Vision 2020 within the physical infrastructure fabric on our campuses.

"Together with the opportunity to improve the landscape, goes the responsibility to provide sustainable infrastructure that will enable the living and learning educational experience at NMMU for future generations," says Executive

Director: Operations Gisela Kaiser.

The following projects are either already underway or will start shortly:

- ▶ R17m refurbishment of the second and third floors of the Health Sciences building on South Campus.
- ▶ New engineering block, valued at R47m, on North Campus.
- ▶ New R34m Human Movement Sciences (HMS) building near the postgraduate village on South Campus.
- ▶ 278-bed residence, valued at R94m, alongside the Sanlam Student Village.
- ▶ 75-bed cluster residence for George Campus.
- ▶ R1.2m revamp of the present engineering laboratory facilities.
- ▶ R8.4m revamp of the old HMS block and facilities in the Faculty of Education.

Also in the pipeline is the new R104m

Business School and a residence with 75 beds for Missionvale Campus. Funding for the various projects comes from both the Department of Higher Education and Training. (R131m over the next three years) and NMMU.

The Engineering block which will consist of new laboratories, tutorial rooms and a 200-seater lecture hall will adjoin the present E-block and jut out towards the astroturf.

Work on the new residence which adheres to NMMU's living and learning concept will begin early in 2012. So too will the HMS project.

Meanwhile, work continues apace with the re-configuration of the proposed one-stop administrative hub for students in the main tower block. The R11m consolidation plan also includes the upgrading of offices in the Heinz Betz hall.

Briefs

Choir accolades

THE NMMU Choir was selected as one of 25 choirs from 119 applications to perform at the 9th World Symposium on Choral Music in Puerto Madryn, Argentina, at the beginning of August. The symposium, held every three years, celebrates different choral song traditions all over the world.

Apart from a medley of African traditional music the choir performed technical challenging music composed by well-known SA composers. Moreover, the choir received another exceptional invitation from the International Federation for Choral Music to represent Africa in Beijing, China in July 2012.

National Pharmacy leaders

PHARMACY final-year students Juta Raydon and Thulasiswe Shelembe were recently elected as President and Vice-President of the South African Pharmaceutical Students' Federation for 2011/2012 at their recent conference, an honour for NMMU. Juta is also President of the PE Pharmacy Students' Association.

Sporting victories

NMMU's sportsmen and women showed resilience during the winter holidays with a number of victories against other universities in University Sports South Africa (USSA) tournaments as well as national and international competitions. In addition to our surfers, rugby players and karate team who were in top form at USSA, swimming, netball, cycling, cricket and pentathlon also had top achievers.

We are excited at the opportunity to develop projects with the potential to cement the aspirations of Vision 2020

DibaOne shines in Germany

NMMU Racing has done Africa, South Africa and the university proud by becoming the first Formula Student team on the African continent to successfully compete in all static and dynamic events of the prestigious Formula Student Germany competition.

The DibaOne team returned earlier this month after competing in Hockenheim, Germany.

NMMU Racing also became one of the most successful first-time entries by completing all dynamic events in the competition, including the

gruelling 28-lap endurance race, with no component failures on the car.

"We're thrilled with the way everything went," said Trevor Stroud, who accompanied the student team to Germany.

Both judges and fellow competitors were impressed by the quality of engineering on the self-built car, as well as the level of knowledge displayed by a first-time team at the design presentation.

We're thrilled with the way everything went

RACING SUCCESS ... NMMU Racing team, DibaOne, represented here by (from left) Andre Labuschagne, Leewyn Arends, Peter-Ben Johnson and Saleen Norshib (driver), successfully competed in the Formula Student competition in Germany.



Knitting his way to success



TRENDSSETTERS ... Go-getting NMMU graduate Laduma Ngxokolo features in the centre modelling his knitwear a celebration of Xhosa culture

BTECH Textile Design alumnus Laduma Ngxokolo continues to fly the NMMU flag high around the globe.

Apart from his successful outing at South Africa's Design Indaba in Cape Town, the Xhosa knitwear trendsetter has had his work exhibited in Paris, Milan and the London Fashion Week. His talent has also been recognised in the form of several top awards

including the 2011 Marie Claire Prix De Excellence Best Emerging Design Award.

Late in 2011 he was on the verge of establishing his MaAfrica brand in conjunction with a mohair manufacturing business in Uitenhage.

"It is good to be able to give back to my culture," says Laduma whose younger and older sisters are also both studying at NMMU.

As a result, NMMU Racing has racked up another round of "firsts":

- ▶ First South African team to compete in the Formula Student Germany competition.
- ▶ First African team to pass scrutineering.
- ▶ First African team to complete all dynamic events, including skid pan, acceleration, autocross and endurance.

Briefs

Solar car

FOLLOWING the success of the Formula Student car, the Advanced Mechatronic Technology Centre is going to build a solar car to participate in the South African Solar Challenge (SASC) in 2012. The NMMU team needs to conceptualise, design, source, manufacture and ultimately race the car to see who is best at harnessing the sun for its supply of renewable energy.

Best of the best

NMMU has two technology stations – eNtsa, formerly known as the Automotive Components Technology Station, and InnoVenton, the Downstream Chemical Technology Station – both identified by the Tshumsiano Trust as being the best of 14 stations in South Africa.

Top honour



SENIOR Zoology lecturer and alumnus Dr Kwezi Mzilikazi has been selected as an honorary ambassador scientist (Humboldt Ambassador Scientist) for the

Alexander von Humboldt Foundation from September 2011 to August 2014. This prestigious appointment is aimed at raising awareness about the programmes and activities of the Foundation, and follows Dr Mzilikazi's earlier appointment in 2006/07 when she was a Humboldt Fellow and spent a year conducting postdoctoral research at Marburg University in Germany. Dr Mzilikazi is recognised as Africa's first black evolutionary physiologist thanks to her groundbreaking research on small mammals which has put her on the global science map.

Accounting among highest

NMMU BCom Honours (Accounting) graduates obtained a 90% pass; higher than the national average of 80% for first-time attempts in the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) qualifying examinations written in January this year.

This number includes nine of the 10 Thuthuka bursary programme students.

Community schools'

- the answer to SA's education crisis



LAUNCH GUESTS ... Community School Centre Director Dr Al Witten (second from left) is joined by Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz, Education Dean Prof Denise Zinn and launch guest speaker Prof Pedro Noguera from the USA at the recent launch of the centre.

AS South Africa struggles to address its education crisis, there are a number of schools in the poorest areas – rife with crime and unemployment – that are achieving successes against all odds. These schools – termed ‘outliers’ – are the inspiration behind NMMU’s new Community School Centre launched on 26 August 2011, which aims to contribute to education improvement across the country by identifying the success factors in these schools.

Director Dr Al Witten says many theories were being debated on how to improve education in this country, but little attention had been paid to addressing the impact of the social environment on schools.

“How do schools deal with a child coming to school hungry, or sick – a child who is an HIV/Aids orphan, or running a child-headed household? These factors impact on what is happening inside a school, and how a child learns.”

Yet there are schools that are achieving excellent results despite these challenges – and Witten has found their success to be attributed to the involvement of the community, from parents to clinics, faith-based organisations, NGOs, libraries, universities and even unemployed youth.

“They realise they can’t do everything on their own and bring in stakeholders to build a network of support around the kids.”

A network of successful Bay commu-

nity schools has been formed to work on school improvement programmes in partnership with the new centre, which, in addition to research, aims to educate tomorrow’s teachers about the successful methods used in community schools

The new centre, based at Missionvale Campus, will convene conferences with similar organisations both nationally and internationally, and will work closely with government to ensure community schools are supported through policy, resources and training.

“This filters down – if management is not functioning, all other levels collapse.”

School principal Mr Cosmo Baartman said his school’s successes included “brilliant” rugby and netball teams, with some learners representing the Eastern Cape. “Our learners are able to outshine learners at other schools, including former model C schools.” One learner came first in an inter-school maths competition, held at NMMU.

NMMU Dean of Education Prof Denise Zinn, who previously taught at St Thomas and Chapman high schools in Port Elizabeth, said a challenge facing many schools was the absence of a “collective will” within the community to demonstrate “ownership” of the school.

Prof Zinn said universities could assist by providing schools with the tools they need to enable them to sustain good quality education.

Briefs

Sustainable technology

THE university’s chemical technology station, InnoVenton, continues to create cutting-edge knowledge for a sustainable future.

In 2011, the station introduced or expanded a number of new projects including that of using marine algae to turn carbon dioxide into biofuels and other products to put NMMU at the forefront of “green” technology.

This project, which will be rolled out to industry, focuses on converting the algae biomass into organic oil as well as sugar and protein solutions, to be used in various applications, like animal feed supplements.

Successful invention

NELSON Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) won the National Innovation Competition for the second consecutive time.

The Weldcore engineering team from eNtsha, beat 57 other finalists from the country’s leading higher education institutions with an invention that reduces the risk of unexpected catastrophic failure and plant downtime. This technology which removes and measures metal fatigue and was developed over eight years in conjunction with Eskom, has been patented and is already being used commercially.

This success follows that of NMMU doctoral student Robert Bosch whose “green” technology for tyres won the same top award in the previous competition in 2009.



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Tackling education challenges with technology

IN 21st century Africa, pupils may not have textbooks, but they all have cell phones. Most of the continent cannot afford laptops, but they can access a world of information through their handheld devices.

The technological era is here to stay – and Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University is determined to use it as a means of improving society, targeting education in particular.



Computing Science doctoral student Melisa Koorsse has developed a unique MXit application to help pupils improve their computer literacy skills.

The idea was sparked when Koorsse evaluated

Computer Application Technology (CAT) student teachers in rural schools, and saw that pupils had to hand in their textbooks at the end of the lesson. "I got frustrated seeing how the learners struggled to keep up with the work."

Determined to provide them with extra assistance, she honed in on the one thing just about all the pupils had – cell phones – and set about developing the MXit tool, which has thus far attracted more than 5,000 users. The tool was initially launched as a dictionary, where pupils sent a word they did not understand and received an automated definition via MXit text conversation. Now pupils can also practise what they have learned using various toolbar graphics.

Then there is Dr Math, which also makes use of MXit, in the form of an innovative tutoring service. It has attracted 19,000 users since it was started in 2007. Dr Math's inventor Dr Laurie Butgereit, an Information Technology (IT) programmer at the Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research's (CSIR's) Meraka Institute in Pretoria, recently upgraded the service through her master's studies at NMMU.

"We wanted to help kids do better at Maths. Instead of running maths camps or writing books, we felt the kids could reach us via MXit – all teenagers have MXit

MXIT FIX IT: Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University Computing Science doctoral student Melisa Koorsse uses MXIT to plug computer literacy gaps in schools. Picture: Nicky Willemse



MATHS WHIZZ: Pretoria-based IT programmer Dr Laurie Butgereit recently improved her MXit tutoring service, Dr Math, through her master's studies at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Photo: Supplied by the Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research Photo: Nicky Willemse

on their phones."

Technology is also at the centre of a unique teaching and learning model for teachers and pupils, developed by NMMU's Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Unit (GMMDU). It uses cutting-edge electronic media to teach the Grade 11 and 12 maths syllabus.

One of the ways GMMDU is sharing this resource is via a DVD series – which allows both pupils and teachers flexible access to quality tutoring.

Perfecting the mobile 'PC'

THE cellphone has become Africa's personal computer – and NMMU's Prof Janet Wesson and her postgraduate students are determined to ensure the mobile computing experience is as satisfying as possible.

"The majority of the population can't afford expensive laptops. We are trying to design better techniques and methods to enable people to use mobile devices as computer platforms," said Wesson, a professor in the Computing Sciences department, who also developed and presented South Africa's first postgraduate mobile computing course earlier this year.

The range of mobile applications Wesson and her students are investigating is vast and varied, from context-aware mobile maps and tourist guides, to in-car communication systems that detect the driver's level of distraction, by monitoring the speed and steering angle of the car, and can delay incoming messages or calls.

In collaboration with Germany's University of Oldenburg, the Computing Sciences department is also pioneering South African research on sustainability reporting – where companies report statistics relating to their social, environmental and financial sustainability. This is a trend that has become an essential part of business in Europe and the United States, but lags behind in this country.

The department recently launched the country's first academic course in this field, and is also partnering with industry to conduct leading-edge research on sustainability reporting.



CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH ... Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University's Prof Janet Wesson is perfecting the mobile computing experience. Picture: Nicky Willemse



A GLOBAL ISSUE ... Lecturers from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University's Computing Sciences department Brenda Scholtz and Prof Andre Calitz (standing) and the University of Oldenburg's Prof Jorge Marx Gómez use a multi-touch surface to discuss the growing global need for sustainability reporting.

Briefs

New chairs

NMMU has a number of new chairs, reflecting the continued positive growth of its research. The FirstRand Foundation South African Mathematics Education Chair and the HIV/Aids Education Chair were both established, following fast on research chairs in nanophotonics, automotive engineering, mechatronics and engineering development. The university is confident of receiving further research chairs as it strives to emulate its vision of being "a dynamic African university recognised for its leadership in generating cutting-edge knowledge for a sustainable future".

Legendary visitor

SIR David Attenborough who has so enriched television audiences around the globe with his pioneering approach to wildlife, entertained more than 2 000 people at NMMU with a lecture. The popular naturalist presented a piece on the Birds of Paradise which was streamed live to various lecture halls once the main hall was filled. He was among six people to receive honorary doctorates at graduation in 2011.

NRF researchers

NMMU now has 65 National Research Foundation researchers as compared to 57 late in 2009. This ensures that NMMU retains its place among the top ten South African universities in terms of NRF ratings. It has two A-rated researchers and six B-rated researchers.

Husbands, wives & family ties

Boy meets girl is as much a part of the university experience as books and burning the midnight oil – with many budding relationships eventually leading to “I do” and then the pitter-patter of little feet, which sometimes follow in their parents’ footsteps. NMMU celebrates the couples, their kids and other families with strong connections to their Alma Mater.

When Hugh met Debbie

IN the 33 years Professor of Maths Education Hugh Glover has spent either studying or working at NMMU, there are few days as special as the first day of term in 1975.

It was the day Glover, then a third year BSc student, was introduced to Debbie Wills, former head girl of Collegiate and first year BA student. By the end of the following year, the two were married.

“My first date with Debbie was to the Debutants ball at the Marine Hotel in 1976. She was a princess for Miss First Year.”

In 1978, by which stage Glover had completed his BSc (Hons) and spent a year teaching, the couple completed their Higher Diplomas in Education together – both passing cum laude.

Glover spent the next five years in the classroom and then the corporate world before returning to academia in 1983.

Debbie taught for two years, raised their three children – two of whom (Alison and David) also studied at NMMU – and then entered the ministry in 1993.



HAPPY DAYS ... Prof Hugh Glover met his wife Debbie on her first day at university.

She is a pastor at Walmer Methodist Church. Glover said: “The university has been a source of great joy and challenge.

We grew during our years as students and made many long-lasting friendships. For me, it has also provided interesting and challenging work.”



NEWS MAKERS ... Wandile Fana and his wife Heather Cousins (pictured with their daughter Nobulali, now five) met at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in 2001 as first year BA (Media) students. After graduating in 2004, the couple moved to Fana’s home town of Cofimvaba in rural Eastern Cape, where they started their own independent newspaper, Skawara News – one of few community newspapers printed in the vernacular (80% isiXhosa, 20% English). The weekly newspaper has the biggest circulation and readership in the Intsika Yethu Municipality area, and recently received an award from the Canadian High Commission for being the best service-delivery reporting isiXhosa community newspaper in the province.

Foreign exchange love story

A BUDDING author from war-scarred Bosnia, studying in the United States, meets a top South African cricketer while on a six-month student exchange programme in Port Elizabeth, and goes on to marry his sister.

It has all the makings of a romance novel, but for Savo Heleta and his wife Jade, the sister of Robin Peterson, who now plays for the Cape Cobras, it is a real-life love story.

His 2005 meeting with Jade, who was then studying nursing at NMMU, inspired Heleta to return to Port Elizabeth two years later, after completing his US studies. By then, he had also penned a book *Not My Turn to Die* about the horrors of war in Bosnia.

“The main reason (for returning to South Africa) was Jade, but I had also decided to continue with my studies at NMMU... I had a great experience at NMMU in 2005, learning about South Africa and its history and current socio-political affairs.”



I DO ... Bosnian author Savo Heleta married Jade Peterson, sister of cricketer Robin Peterson, in Bosnia last October.

Heleta obtained his master’s in conflict transformation and management at NMMU, and is now completing his PhD in Development Studies. He is also an advisor on the South Sudan Executive Leadership

Programme at NMMU’s Business School. Jade is a registered nurse at St George’s Hospital. The couple married in Bosnia in October 2010, and had a South African wedding ceremony in January last year.



BUSY STUDENT DAYS ... Greg Hechter, kicking coach for Western Province and Stormers rugby, met his wife Julie (nee Austin) at a varsity hockey match in August 1993. The two met up again at a rag function a week later – and have been together ever since. Greg, who completed a BA (Human Movement Sciences) and then honours in Biokinetics, played rugby for Border before joining the Western Province and Stormers coaching team in 1999, initially as the fitness and conditioning coach. While at NMMU (then UPE), he played first team rugby and cricket. Julie, who completed a BPrimEd (Senior Primary) and was HK for Veritas R-flat in 1995, is a Grade 5 teacher at Kenridge Primary School in Cape Town. “We were both very involved at varsity and had a great time,” said Julie. The couple, who married in 1997, have two daughters – Cailyn, 11, and Hayley, 9.

Sibling success

THERE are few fathers as proud as Prof Kobus van Wyk of NMMU’s Department of Building and Quantity Surveying – with three of his four daughters graduating from NMMU, and the fourth still busy with her studies here.

Talita van Wyk, 30, obtained a BCom (honours) degree in Business Management and is now working with eyewear company Luxottica SA in Cape Town as a business analyst. Sanel Janse van Rensburg, 27 – whose husband Severius, whom she met at a first-year church camp, is also an NMMU alumnus – has a BCom (honours) Accounting degree. A qualified chartered accountant, she works at BKB Limited in Port Elizabeth as a credit advisor. She chose NMMU’s School of Accounting for its reputation as one of the top producers of Chartered Accountants in this

country. “It was hard work but prepared me well for the working world.”

Sanel’s twin Elzaan, 27, has a BPharm and works as a Technical Support Quality Assurance pharmacist at Aspen Pharmacare in Port Elizabeth. She is currently completing her MSc MED (Pharmaceutical Affairs) through Witwatersrand University. Youngest sister Larita van Wyk, 22, is completing her first year of pharmacy, following a two-year course studying somatology (Health and Skincare) at the Paarl Institute for Body Therapy and Skin Technology, where she was the top student.

“I gathered information on universities that run the pharmacy programme and found that NMMU’s pharmacy department and programme was the best.”



Accounting tutorial leads to love

In 2003, when Taiwan-born BCom (honours) Accounting graduate James Chen agreed to assist new Chinese accounting students with challenging terminology, he had no idea he was about to meet his future wife.

“I met Maggie (her Chinese name is Li Liu) at the very first session... I guess everything happens for a reason,” said Chen, who works at the South African Revenue Service (SARS) in Johannesburg as a recruitment manager for large business centres. It was love at first sight. The couple dated for six months, then went to China so Chen could meet Maggie’s parents. They got married on October 2, 2006 shortly after Maggie completed her BCom. She went on to obtain her MA (Development Studies) and is currently a full-time mum to baby Justin, born in May this year.

Chen, who moved to South Africa from Taiwan in 1992, said he was a “book worm” at university, determined to pass as many subjects as possible with distinction. “It was that kind of discipline that has given me the edge now at work.” He said NMMU was well-known for the calibre of its accounting school – and this had stood him in good stead during his career. He is currently completing his MA (Development Studies).



PROUD PA ... Prof Kobus van Wyk and his wife Alta (left) with their four daughters (from left) Sanel (Janse van Rensburg), Talita, Elzaan and Larita, have strong ties to NMMU.

Reunions and Alumni socials



IN ATTENDANCE ... Algene and Clinton van Boomen were among over 300 alumni invited to attend this year's PE Alumni Chapter social held at Madibaz Café on South Campus last year.



STUDENT AMBASSADORS ... Student Alumni Society executive members (from left) Thomas Terblanche, Moirick Israel, Luyanda Gwiji, Candice Demi Williams, Litha Rwxana and Sonnetta Human (SAS Chairperson) are actively involved in promoting, bringing about awareness, development and outreach activities to 'current students' (undergraduates).



HOOKED ... Graduates from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University including ex University of Port Elizabeth and Port Elizabeth Technikon who were rugby players, re-united at a Rugby Reunion held in August last year, some of the rugby players who attended were Isak Haarhof (from left), Menanteau Serfontein and Pierre Bestier.



ATTENDEES ... Among some of the attendees of the Frontfoot/Alumni Leadercast Seminar held at the North Campus Conference centre were Coca-Cola Fortune staff members (from left), Sandra Knoetze, Jean du Randt and Khanyisa Hlaneti.



NEW ALUMNI ... National Diploma in Public Relations graduates expressed their enthusiasm by throwing their caps in the air after their graduation ceremony. Head of Department Doctor Hercules Fourie watches as his former students leap with excitement. Over 90 000 students have now graduated from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, former UPE and Technikon.



FORMER STUDENTS ... Berthram and Manjane Essen attended the East London Alumni Chapter Social held at the East London Golf Club.

SIBLINGS ... The Parshotam sisters (from left) Meera, Nalini, Anita and Praveena were among the 300 guests who attended the PE Chapter Social function. Alumni and their partners gathered to socialise, network and witness the launch of both the Alumni DVD and brochure.



GIVING BACK ... PE Chapter members Thembisa Ngxale (from left), Pamela Babi, Krish Williamson and Adv Shuaib Rahim all signing alumni donation forms at the diversity talk hosted by CANRAD, and the Alumni Relations Office.



MEETING UP... The NMMU Alumni Relations Office together with the NMMU Alumni Johannesburg Chapter hosted their first cocktail social recently. The event was held at The Country Club Johannesburg and attended by more than one hundred alumni and friends. Some alumni who attended were, (back left) Tibane Mphahla, Lwando Mahlasela, Cuan Baatjies, Janet Sharp, Kim Jensen, Khwezi Blose, (front) David Gibbons, Michel du Preez and Nyameko Lusu.

FIRST CUSTOMER... Management student, Pinini Mawasa assisted by Alumni Relations assistant Lyree Boucher, was the first person to purchase an NMMU BRANDED item at the opening of the Missionvale Campus University Shop. The shop will also function as a satellite Alumni Relations office and will be open on Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm.



REUNITING ... Accounting alumni joined Executive Dean : Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences, Prof Niekie Dorfling (back row fourth) and Legacy Director, Prof Kotie Grove (back right) at the Accounting Reunion (1965 - 1990) held at the NMMU VIP Lounge.



REUNITED ... Lynn Slowgrove (from left), Heather Shaw (nee Murdoch) and Desiree Serfontein (nee Schoeman) were among the 120 alumni and friends who attended an NMMU Hockey Reunion recently. The event was held at the South Campus Sports Centre and was hosted by the Legacies Directorate and the Alumni Relations Office.



RES BOYS ... NMMU Alumni attended the Cape Town Chapter Social at the Hildebrand Restaurant in Cape Town. Jean – Dimitri Van Dyk (from left), Lubabalo Mpongwana and Gopal Rausankar.



READY FOR SERVICE... Director of Alumni Relations Paul Geswindt along with Alumni Association President, Randall Jonas and Missionvale Operations Manager, Sonwabo Hoyi officially open the University Shop on Missionvale Campus for business.

OUTSTANDING



Notable leader in accounting

Colin Beggs, retired chief executive officer of PricewaterhouseCoopers, has been an exemplary leader in the accounting profession, holding many top positions during his 39-year career at the international auditing giant.

The BCom (honours) graduate joined Price Waterhouse in 1970, working his way through the ranks to be appointed as Chief Executive Officer of Pricewaterhouse Coopers Southern Africa from 2001 until his retirement in 2009.

Beggs served as chairman of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA) board in 2002/3, and was also chairman of SAICA's Accounting Practices Committee, responsible for the development of accounting standards for use in South Africa. For many years, he also played an active role as a trustee of the Thuthuka Bursary Fund, a vital initiative ensuring the transformation of the Chartered Accounting profession.

Since his retirement from PricewaterhouseCoopers, Beggs has taken up independent non-executive directorship positions at Sasol and Absa Group.

EVERY year, NMMU recognises alumni who have gone the distance and beyond in their specialist fields, to the benefit of society at local, provincial, national or international levels. 2011 was no different. A number of outstanding nominations were received by the Alumni Awards Committee, and the seven worthy winners – and one special award winner – were selected and approved by the Alumni Association Executive Committee. You have made us proud!

Finance guru

Chartered accountant **Leon Crouse**, who obtained a BCom in 1974 and a Certificate in the Theory of Accountancy in 1976, has held a string of top financial management positions in the sectors of telecommunications, luxury goods, chemicals, and clothing and textiles.

Crouse, who matriculated from Port Elizabeth's Otto du Plessis High School is currently the chief financial officer of South African investment group Remgro Ltd.

Prior to this, from 1996 to 2008, he was chief financial officer and group finance director of Vodacom Group, an associate of Telkom SA Ltd, and also served as its company secretary.

Before that, he worked for the former Rembrandt Group, spending seven years (1986 to 1993) in Switzerland in the position of financial controller of Compagnie Financière Richemont AG, as part of the team that unbundled the luxury goods business from the Rembrandt Group to form Richemont.

In 1993, as a Rembrandt appointee, he returned to South Africa to become a founder member of the Vodacom Group executive team.



Building a sterling career



More than 30 successful years in the construction industry in South Africa and the Middle East, with projects that have included the recently-completed US\$2-billion Dubai Airport, culminated in **Nigel Harvey's** appointment in June as chairman of Murray and Roberts' Construction Cluster.

Harvey, who graduated with a BSc in Building Management in 1979, has worked for Murray and

Roberts since his student days.

He managed various projects before moving into general management in Murray and Roberts' Garden Route office in 1992. He then relocated to Johannesburg, where he was responsible for building construction activities throughout South Africa, and in 2004 made the move to the Middle East as managing director for Murray and Roberts. He is currently working in four Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries in the Middle East.

Harvey is also the founder member of the South African Business Council in Dubai, and served as president for seven years.

Extraordinary legal mind

Perhaps best known as President Jacob Zuma's advocate, one of South Africa's foremost advocates **Kemp J Kemp** has won famous victories in the courtroom, often against great odds.

Kemp, who also represented the four former Free State University students known as the Reitz Four, graduated with a LLD in 1978 from the then University of Port Elizabeth, where he was one of the top students and president of the Student Representative Council (SRC). He was a lecturer in the university's Faculty of Law from 1978 to 1980, before joining the University of Zululand in 1980, where he lectured until 1990.

In 1990, he joined the Durban Bar and was

appointed as Senior Counsel in 1997.

In January 2009, in the midst of Zuma's legal battle against the State, Kemp was nominated as Legalbrief's Newsmaker of the Month, as a result of his riveting courtroom exchanges with state senior counsel Wim Trengove.

Asked what these exchanges signified in an interview with Legalbrief, he said he would like to believe they indicated that the South African legal system really allowed "justiceable disputes to be fully and fairly ventilated in court and also that debates, even about highly emotive issues, can be conducted in an innately fair and civilised manner".



ALUMNI

Transforming businesses

Throughout his career, BCom (honours) graduate **John Lynch** has demonstrated a knack for building, managing and restructuring businesses, often turning struggling companies into success stories.

He started his career at Price Waterhouse in 1974. Six years later, he joined Caborundum Abrasives (which ultimately became Abrasives Corporation), climbing the ranks to CEO from 1990 to 1995, which saw him running a group of companies in the complex abrasives industry, which were profitable every year. He left the company in 1995 to purchase an ailing subsidiary group, Cumar Resistant Materials, which he managed to turn around in 18 months, selling the business to the leading international player in 1997.

He then bought a minor equity stake in two struggling companies owned by the Gutsche Family Investment Company (GFI) in Port Elizabeth, and spent three years turning them around. Once these companies were profitable, they were sold, with substantial value improvement for shareholders.

Until August this year, he spent six successful years chairing South Africa's largest citrus exporter, achieving record returns for four years.

Afrikaans writer excels



Afrikaans novelist **Eben Venter**, who obtained his MA in 1981, has made a significant contribution to both Afrikaans and South African literature, with his novel *Ek Stamel Ek Sterwe* (translated as *My Beautiful Death*) declared one of the 10 best novels in the Afrikaans literary canon.

Venter, who lives between South Africa and Australia, won the WA Hofmeyr Prize for Afrikaans Novel of the Year for *Ek Stamel Ek Sterwe*, as well as three other novels, *Foxtrot van die Vleiseters* (*Foxtrot of the Carnivores*), *Begeerte* (*Desire*) and, in 2010, *Santa Gamka*.

Last year, Venter was also one of five M-Net Literary Award Winners, taking top honours in the Afrikaans category for *Santa Gamka*, for which he also won the ATKV Literary award.

His books have been translated into English, German and Dutch.

In 2005, Venter taught creative writing at the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poland, and the School for Neerlandistiek at the Palacky University in the Czech Republic. In 2007, he was the writer-in-residence at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS).

Multi award-winning cyber security expert



His pioneering research in the area of Information Security has led to a number of top awards for internationally-recognised **Prof Basie von Solms**, a research professor in the Academy for Computer Science and Software Engineering at the University of Johannesburg.

In 1965, Von Solms, who matriculated from DF

Malherbe High School in Port Elizabeth, was one of the first students to register at the then University of Port Elizabeth. He completed his BSc and BSc Honours in 1967 and 1968, respectively, and went on to receive one of the country's first PhDs in Computer Science at the former Rand Afrikaans University.

In addition to playing a major role over the last 40 years in establishing Computer Science and Information Technology as academic disciplines in South Africa, he has conducted leading-edge research in Information Security.

From 2007 to 2010, Von Solms was the first

person from Africa to be elected as president of the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP), and received the prestigious Kristian Beckman Award 2010 from the IFIP's Technical Committee 11 (Informational Security). Also in 2010, he received the Distinguished Service in ICT Award from the Computer Society of South Africa (CSSA) and the recently-founded Pioneers in Computer Science and Information Technology Award from the South African Institute for Computer Scientists and Information Technologists (SAICSIT).

His earlier awards include the MT Steyn Medal from the South African Academy for Science and Arts, which he received in 2005.

Alumni Association Special Award A voice for Afrikaans women

Dr Erra Cilliers has contributed to an open and democratic South African society, one in which the voices of women within the Afrikaans society are heard.

The retired social work lecturer, who obtained her BA, MA (both cum laude) and PhD from UPE, is also recognised for her service to the university, having served on the UPE Council and the Alumni Association Executive Committee. Her late husband, Prof Jac Cilliers lectured political science at UPE, while their daughter-in-law Dr Charmain Cilliers lectures computer science at NMMU. The Cilliers' three sons, Pieter, Willem and Jaco, all studied at UPE, obtaining

respectively LLB, BA and BA (honours) degrees.

Cilliers was a founder member of Dameskring (Women's Circle), which served as a more democratic, alternative women's social group in an era where the only Afrikaans women's groups were under the stewardship of the Broederbond.

She was a member of the first democratically-appointed SABC board, and served on the national executive committee of the Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurverenings (Federation of Afrikaans Culture Organisations).

She has always believed in the importance of the family, emphasising that if the family is healthy, the entire community would be healthy, and was



recognised for her contribution to family life by the Afrikaanse Taal en Kultuurvereniging (Afrikaans Language and Culture Organisation), when she was awarded a Woman for Women Award.

Alumni in the news

Changing the lives of many

AS one of 10 volunteers selected for Vodacom's Change the World programme, psychology honours graduate Funeka Mani has been making a difference in the lives of school children in Mpumalanga.

The volunteers were given the chance to put their skills into action at 10 South African-based charitable organisations for six months, starting in April, with Vodacom paying them for their time. Such has been

Mani's success that Vodacom has actually extended her stay for a further six months.

Mani, 31, is serving as a commu-



nity worker at the South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drugs Dependence (Sanca) Lowveld's Alcohol and Drug Help Centre in Nelspruit, Mpumalanga. She facilitated the centre's Children against Drug Abuse (Cada) programme in schools, set up a holiday programme to complement SANCA's Teenagers against Drug Abuse (Tada) programme, and spearheaded a project which saw 20 needy school children getting winter uniforms.

She was also in charge of distributing about 220 blankets and clothes to the needy and vulnerable in communities in and around Nelspruit, as well as webboxes (providing access to the Internet) to schools.

She has also been providing counselling to clients coming to the centre for HIV testing, as well as those who test positive for the disease and need support.

"It's been an opportunity for me to give back," said Mani. "For me, volunteering doesn't stop. I've always been a volunteer and I will continue with my work."

(Adapted from an article published in the Sunday Times on 31 July 2011)

SPREADING JOY ... Through one of her projects as a Vodacom Change the World volunteer, NMMU graduate Funeka Mani was able to give new school uniforms to 20 needy children.



YOUNG TALENT ... NMMU photography lecturer Gerhardt Coetzee was a finalist in the 2010 Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum's Biennial Exhibition and Award.

Wall artist winning fans

FINE art graduate Warren 'Bake' Petersen is making a bold mark on the art world, by pursuing a career in graffiti.

Port Elizabeth-based Petersen, 26, is a self-taught graffiti artist, whose exquisite spray paint art is in demand. "I used to work a lot with oil paint as a fine artist, but I later changed to spray paint because I wanted to produce larger art at a quicker pace... I just picked up a can one day and figured out how to use it. "Because there aren't many artists working in this medium in the Eastern Cape, I have ended up doing many commissioned pieces. However I have decided to focus more on doing my own graffiti projects.

In this way, I have more creative freedom to enjoy the medium and express various concepts or views to the audience." Petersen, who is also a tattoo artist and illustrator, said graffiti was "evolving" into a form of art in its own right. "People are now producing photo-realistic art." Petersen's own art carries a "positive message".

"My favourite pieces have been the ones I've done indoors (such as those on display at Black Concepts in Parliament Street) and the few around town where I was given permission to do my own stuff."

(Based on an article that appeared in the Herald, 17 January 2011)



WOW FACTOR ... Warren 'Bake' Petersen's graffiti is turning heads. (Copyright: Herald)

Photographer Gerhardt among PE's top art talent

NELSON Mandela Metropolitan University photography lecturer Gerhardt Coetzee, 28, who completed his BTech Honours degree in photography at NMMU in 2009, was among seven finalists selected for a prestigious regional art competition.

Coetzee and the other finalists – selected from 74 entrants from a range of artistic backgrounds, which had been whittled down to 17 semi-finalists – were able to showcase their work at the 2010 Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Art Museum's Biennial Exhibition and Awards, held from December 2010 to February 2011.

"It was a great opportunity for me to exhibit with artists whom I have idealised since I started my studies at NMMU," said Coetzee.

The prize was a solo exhibition, which was ultimately won by Port Elizabeth printmaker Ethna Frankenfeld, a senior lecturer in NMMU's department of Studio Arts. Frankenfeld obtained a national diploma in fine art printmaking in 1975 at the then PE Technikon. Her winning exhibition was on view at the Art Museum in March last year.

(Adapted from an article that appeared in Weekend Post, 18 December 2010)

A passion for fashion

PORT Elizabeth fashion designer Thabo Makhetha is making her mark in the fashion industry – with a third of her clients coming from Johannesburg. Lesotho-born Makhetha, 24, who completed her Diploma in Fashion Design at NMMU in 2008, established her own company, Thabo Makhetha, in Cape Road two years ago, after struggling to secure an internship at local and international fashion houses. “I applied at Chanel in France, but they said they didn’t have space for me. I also tried other places in Cape Town and Johannesburg – without any luck.”

When she started her business, her parents were her biggest clients, but now 35 per cent of her clients are from Johannesburg, with the orders keeping her busy for months ahead. She

is mentored by fashion fundi Lorato Liphuko, who works for African Fashion International, owned by businesswomen Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe.

Makhetha makes corporate clothes with an ethnic feel for businesswomen in their late 20s to early 40s – and she aims to one day create her own fashion empire, competing with the big names. “I want to run up against Woolworths, minus the food... I’m just following what is in my heart and surrounding myself with the right people who will support me, teach me and advise me as I work towards my ultimate goal.”

(Adapted from an article that appeared in the Herald, 20 January 2011)

BIG DREAMS ... Thabo Makhetha hopes to be one of South Africa’s top names in fashion. (Copyright: Herald)



Lecturer makes NMMU history with doctorate

NELSON Mandela Metropolitan University economics lecturer and netball doyenette Noluntu Dyubhele this year became the first Xhosa woman to receive a doctorate in economics from NMMU.



Grahamstown, I knew I wanted to make more of my life, put rural areas on the map and used studying to get out of the rural area,” said Dyubhele, who has studied both economics and education.

Dyubhele, who is the president of Nelson Mandela Bay Netball, divides her time between lecturing, family and providing both academic and sporting training to school children and adults in various Port Elizabeth townships.

She is also the main author of the textbook Izigama Sezoqoqosho, which translates as ‘Economic terms and concepts made simple’.

“Growing up in the rural Ngqushwa district outside

“I could never decide between the two. I loved imparting knowledge and seeing people’s faces light up when I could explain something to them, but on the other hand, I had grown up working in my uncle’s shop during the holidays and had a flair for business. “My brother and I always spoke about how good it would be to be one of the few female economists in South Africa and that motivated me as well.”

(Adapted from an article in the Herald, 13 April 2011)

Two Loeries for Lubabalo

GRAPHIC designer Lubabalo Mtati, who completed his studies at NMMU last year, nabbed not one but two prestigious Loerie awards at last year’s premier advertising event.

He won a Gold Loerie for his culture-themed campaign, Kultured: A way of learning, and a Craft Gold Loerie for his poster campaign. Both works were nominated in the student award category.

“Winning the awards was the most incredible thing that has ever happened to me... I remember trying to digest the news that [I’d] won a Loerie, when I was called up again to accept the second one,” said Mtati, who works at Strategy Advertising in Port Elizabeth.

(Adapted from an article that appeared in the Herald, 21 September 2011)



TOP TALENT ... Graphic design graduate Lubabalo Mtati took home two coveted Loerie awards, both for culture-themed designs. (Copyright: Herald)

Kelly’s new designs top in SA



HER funky knitwear designs saw fourth-year BTech Fashion student Kelly Esterhuysen winning this year’s Elle New Talent Designer Search award in September – one of the biggest national design competitions in the country.

Her prizes included a R25,000 cash prize, a Mr Price mentorship programme, the opportunity to adapt her range to be sold at Mr Price, and the opportunity to show at next year’s SA Fashion Week.

Esterhuysen said she felt “incredibly overwhelmed” by her win. “It felt like one of my life long dreams had come true. “She chose mohair for her range as it is a medium typically “overlooked” in South Africa’s fashion industry, in terms of ‘new’ design. She also wanted to support the local textiles industry. The patterns on her knitwear were inspired by the geometric shapes on an X-ray. “At the time, I had a lot of tension in my back from all the sewing I was doing and googled *tension* – I was inspired by the patterns on the X-rays.” She said her studies had helped her pursue her dreams. “The competitions our university enters definitely keeps our standard of design high.

Studying fashion design has opened so many doors and we have been educated in all spheres of the fashion industry which has been a big advantage.”

CREATIVITY REWARDED ... Fourth-year BTech Fashion student Kelly Esterhuysen was crowned the winner of the prestigious Elle New Talent Designer Search award for 2011

Where are

1960

Abraham Cronje Maritz (NDip Forestry 1964) has recently retired from Sappi Forests where he held the title of Director: Forestry.

Philippus Johannes Gerber (Flip) (CTA 1969) works as a Trust consultant and an estate planning analyst for Donkin Brokers.



Abraham Andries Johannes Strydom (Forestry Diploma 1965) Retired.

1970s



Linda Scheckle (nee Cloete) (BA African Languages 1971) is the acting manager and Teaching and Learning Consultant at the University of Fort Hare.

Mike Davies (BCom, CTA, BCom Hons 1973) is the project manager at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, in Putney, London, UK.

Dean Frederick McClelland (CTA, 1976) is the IT projects manager for Rabor.



Pieter Swart (HED Postgraduate 1979), is the Director: Marketing and Corporate Relations at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University

Barry Probert (BSc Quantity Surveying, 1975) is a senior partner at Rousseau Probert Elliot.

Rudy Barry Mclean (Diploma in Marketing 1979), is the managing director of Symrise South Africa, a multinational company that supplies flavours, fragrances and cosmetic ingredients to all the major multinational FMCG companies around the world.



Lynn Jansen van Vuuren (nee Scott) (BJuris 1988) is the environmental project manager for Lokisa Environmental Consulting CC.

1980s

Corine Christine Brink (nee Kirsten) (BA 1980) is the owner of Corine Brink Bookkeepers and Income Tax Consultants in Windhoek.

Cyril Barry Dalenski (BCom, CTA 1980), is the Head of Balance Sheet Risk Management at Investec Bank Limited



Deon van Onselen (B Building Arts 1983) is a director at Osmond Lange Architects & Planners

Professor Hugh Jeffery (MTEch Industrial Engineering 1987) is a consultant and committee member of various committees for the Engineering Council of South Africa.



Lester Cunningham (BSc 1989, HDE 1990, Hons (Maths) 1995) is a Mathematics HOD at John Walton Secondary School.



Cheryl Albrecht (nee Coombe-Davis) (BPharm 1989) works for the Strubensvalley Medical Centre and is a former Miss SA princess.

Michael Ferreira (Diploma in Marketing and Business Management 1986) is the General Manager: Financial Services at Porsche Automotive Holdings in Germany.



Mark Woollgar (BCom / CTA 1986) is the founder and partner of Adam Woollgar Financial Services in Sacramento, California



Don Gibb (BSc Building Management 1988) is the owner of Gibb & Company Knysna, a small construction company specialising in the residential market in and around Knysna - Plettenberg Bay area.

Laurinda Rheeder (B Build 1986, B Arch 1988) is a director at Architectural Design Associates in Port Elizabeth.



Geoff Galloway (Forestry Diploma at Saasveld 1981) is the senior research officer in the eucalyptus clonal development programme for Sappi Forests

Sonja Verster (nee Lotter) (BJuris cum laude LLB cum laude 1989) is an advocate residing in Cape Town.

they today?

1990s

J.H Veldsman (Rijan) (Wood Technology 1997) is the operations manager – Lumber at Pan Pac Forest Products Ltd in New Zealand.



Reynier Koen (BArch 1990) works for RK Architects Principal.



Gary Cotterell (BArch 1990) works for the Business Day, and was the founding editor and creative director of WANTED, their award winning lifestyle magazine.

Dominic Roderick Bonnesse (BArch 1990) is the director and owner of Dominic Bonnesse Architects.



Ruth Ellen Connelly (nee Benjamin) (MA Counselling Psychology 1995) works for NMMU as a Senior Student Counsellor.

Frikkie Bezuidenhout (BSc Quantity Surveying 1997) is a member at Mokate Monk & Du plessis in Bhisho.

Samuel Erasmus (NDip Fire Technology 1998) works for the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.



Nomfuneko Xandekana (BTech Public Management & Administration 1997) is the financial manager at Lithotech PE a division of Bidvest BidPaper Plus.

Xolile Tatana (BTech Marketing 1999) is the regional manager of Hi-Q Western Cape.

Glenton Wayne de Kock (NDip Sports Administration and Marketing 1995) is an executive consultant at Grant Thornton Strategic Solutions.



Zamuxolo Cecil Nyamza (ND Architecture 1994) works for the Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality as the chief building inspector.

2000 - 2005



Jacqueline Stow (nee Carr) (BArch 2000) is the director of Axion Architects.

Alistair John Scott (BCom 2002) works for Dimension Data as a senior business development consultant.

Xolela Khonza (NDip Information Technology 2004) works for the Volkswagen Group South Africa as a senior systems analyst



Dr Vincent William Foutie (DPhil Social Development Professions 2004) works at Chase Farm Hospital in the Crisis Resolution and Home Treatment in Enfield, London UK.



Temba Gola (MPA 2001) is the Area Court Manager at the Department of Justice.



Malelela Jojo Motlhasedi (BPharm 2005) is the operations manager for Unit 1 & 3 – Solids Packing at Aspen Pharmacare in Port Elizabeth



Ifedolapo Fasheun (BPharm 2005) is the production manager at Johnson and Johnson (Pty) Ltd.

Riaan Webb (BTech Forestry 2001) is a management forester for Sappi Forests, Mpumalanga

Kagiso Tlhabolo (BTech Tourism Management 2001) is the Senior Manager: Tourism Standards for South African National Parks.



Connie Georgina Kweleta (nee Mashulu) (BTech Public Management 2003) is an area manager – Client Services for George Municipality.

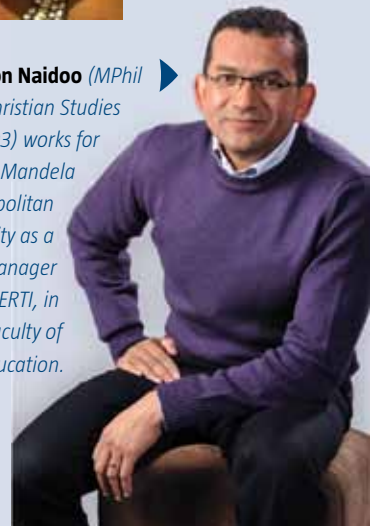


Radley Lee Connor (BCom Hons – Business Management 2005) works for British American Tobacco as a brand executive.

Melissa Awu (NDip Sport 2005) is a sports officer at Rhodes University.



Vernon Naidoo (MPhil in Christian Studies 2003) works for Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University as a project manager for CERTI, in the Faculty of Education.



2006 - 2010



▲ **Khwezi Blose** (BSc Quantity Surveying 2006) is the general manager of Siyaya Health and Hygiene Services.



▲ **Ma-aasha 'Mo Firefly' Ismail** (NDip Journalism 2007) is a night sub editor for an Avusa publication, *The Herald*.



▲ **Hiten Parmar** (BTech Electrical Engineering 2008) works for Volkswagen Motorsport as an electrical engineer (data acquisition)



▶ **Solomzi Kaya (Solly) Booi** (BBA & MBA 2006) is the regional head of sales for Cape Province at Liberty.



◀ **Lisa-Jo Lai Wing** (BTech Journalism 2011) is the public relations assistant for Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University's Arts & Culture Department.



▲ **Lyndon Jozaffe** (NDip Analytical Chemistry, Quality Assurance and MBA 2006) is the Director: Sales and Operations for Elizabeth Arden South Africa.



▲ **Nozuko Kelly Ontjies** (NDip Environmental Health 2007) works for Volkswagen South Africa as the occupational health, safety and environmental advisor.

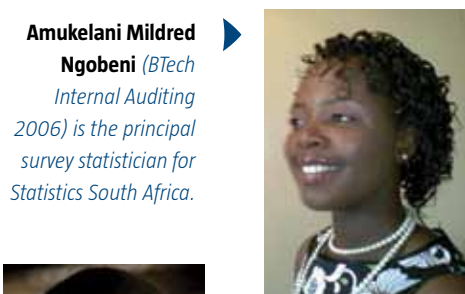
▶ **Khaya Christopher Gqwetha** (MBA 2011) is a quality controller at General Motors.



◀ **Carlos Manuel Da Fonseca** (MBA 2011) is a group SHEQ manager for TI Group Automotive.



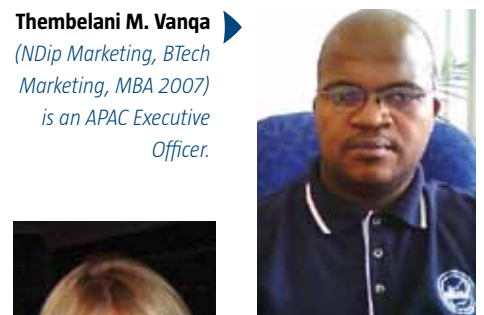
▶ **Jaco Botha** (BTech Forestry 2011) is the logistics management forester at Merensky.



▶ **Amukelani Mildred Ngobeni** (BTech Internal Auditing 2006) is the principal survey statistician for Statistics South Africa.



▲ **Raewynne Goeda** (BA Hons Labour Relations & Human Resources 2006) works at Edcon as an employee relations officer.



▶ **Thembelani M. Vanqa** (NDip Marketing, BTech Marketing, MBA 2007) is an APAC Executive Officer.



◀ **Delon le Roux** (BA MCC 2011) is the owner of an events company Ikhwezi Inc.



◀ **Hayley Reynolds** (BCom Honours Economics 2009) is an economist in the tax analysis unit within Tax Policy at the National Treasury.



◀ **Sinovuyo Mdlungu** (NDip in Public Relations Management 2011) works for Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in the Student Governance & Development Department.

Bulelani Caiphus Mbiyozo

(BSc Honours in Labour Relations & Human Resources 2006) is a human resources practitioner for Statistics South Africa.



▲ **Gillian Pillay (nee Rensburg)** (NDip Public Relations Management 2011) is the marketing and events coordinator at Bizbox.



▲ **Roger Peters** (F.D.E - English Language Teaching, BA Hons 2007) is the training manager for Khanyisela Training.



▲ **Adv Shuaib Rahim** (BJuris, LLB 2010) is a senior lecturer in Law and Criminal Justice Structures at Port Elizabeth College.



◀ **Shaun Pritchard** (BTech Marketing 2009) is the sales & marketing executive for Sutherland Health Group Plc.



Ezre' Stokes ▶ (BCom Industrial Psychology and HR Management 2011) is a current BCom Honours Business Management student.



◀ **Loyiso Mabece** (BCom 2007) works as a strategy consultant in the Strategy Solutions Department for Grant Thornton in Johannesburg.



◀ **Debohne' Monique Isaacs** (BTech Industrial Engineering 2011) is a production technician at Rehau Polymer Solutions.

Keiron Shannon Arnolds ▶ (BTech: Human Resources Management 2011) is a Student Counseling graduate intern at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.



◀ **Farren Foutie (nee de Kock)** (NDip Public Relations) is the marketing officer for Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University's Faculty of Engineering, the Built Environment and IT.



▲ **Tauhira Langeveldt** (BTech Human Resources Management 2010) works for Veyance Technologies as the human resources graduate in training.



▲ **Alexis Pillay** (MA Soc 2011) works for NMMU at the Centre for Extended Studies as an associate lecturer for Academic and Life Management.

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SOMETIMES
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TO FINISH
WHAT YOU'VE STARTED.

I'M SO CLOSE BUT
IT'S JUST TOO MUCH.
I DON'T THINK I'M
GONNA MAKE IT...

1000KM OF SOLID
UPSTREAM SWIMMING
AND I'M BEAT! BUT I'VE
GOTTA KEEP GOING,
I'VE GOTTA SPAWN!

TAKING STRAIN AGAINST THE
CURRENTS, I'VE JUMPED SO
MANY FALLS AND DODGED SO
MANY FISHERMEN, ALL I NEED
NOW IS A HUNGRY BEAR!

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