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Identity through exile

"I am compelled to confess my inadequate disposition, as each attempt at reaching a serene state for contemplating 'place' and 'painting' has failed. Inevitably, when I think of art, my thoughts turn to anarchic revolt. I become submerged within the combat zone of aesthetics, representations, ideology, sex, murderous plots and even strategies of world domination."

These are the words of revolutionary artist Simmi Dullay, whose work titled "Exploration Exile as Personal and Social Transformation through Critical Reflection and Creative and Artistic Expression", is currently on exhibition at the DUT Art Gallery. The exhibition was launched Monday and will run until 18 March 2010.

The artist is the daughter of apartheid activist Pritz Dullay. She was born in Port Shepstone in 1973; however her family was forced into exile in 1978. She received her basic education in Denmark and at the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College (SOMAFCO), an ANC school for exiles in Mazimbu, Tanzania. She is currently in the midst of completing her Master Degree in Fine Art at the Durban University of Technology.

Dullay holds firm beliefs in the visual presentation of ideas, thoughts and

undertones and uses mixed media as a platform for expression through visual representation. She said society "should not be fooled by the glossy veneer and luminous colour, the world of art is a dangerous one. Let's not forget that artists across the disciplines are often to be censored and persecuted in undemocratic regimes".

Dullay's work encapsulates South Africa's dark history in the beautiful embrace of mixed media. The canvas tells a tale of the lives of struggle heroes and revolt against social injustices and the different stages of her growth and development. Her work is largely influenced by political activist Steve Biko and the Black Consciousness Movement, perceptions of global colonialism, apartheid, her childhood and self exploration. Her childhood abroad has moulded her identity which is also firmly rooted to South Africa through the black liberation struggle. Her mixed media collection includes the use of metal, oil paintings, a collection of old brown school book cases, photographs, black and white home videos, her thoughts on paper and an eclectic assortment of oil paintings.

Amongst the art collection on exhibition are select pieces under the theme titled 'Love in Exile'. The pieces which are a play on the projection of images over bodies, holds hidden meaning and deep



Artist Simmi Dullay and son Akira

significance. Dullay uses maps, pieces from personal diaries and letters, with a sepia ink stained effect used to reflect a past era. She also holds a deep love for words which is interwoven throughout the collection on exhibition. "What has propelled me in this direction is my love for words, words that have kept us connected, words and images that begin to reveal connections and intersections between seemingly disparate things" she said.

DUT celebrates 100 years of City Campus in 2010

Bhekani Dlamini

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) is proud to announce that it is celebrating a 100 years of history together with the architectural significance of our City Campus to Durban's built environment. The building, which is currently used to house DUT's Faculty of Arts and Design, was initially built for students and staff of the Durban Technical Institute. The building's foundation stone was laid by the Duke of Connaught on 03 December 1910.

Over the last century, the City Campus has been recognised as one of Durban's oldest heritage sites displaying as it does, the original architectural design. The building is also listed as a historical monument by eThekweni Municipality and has attracted local and international tourists, struggle heroes and ex-South African citizens.

In celebrating the centenary DUT has embarked on a building restoration project. The first phase of the project will involve the replacement of the entire roof with all ancillary components of the ceilings, electrical and air conditioning installations. During the refurbishment of City Campus, the original architectural significance will be maintained. The project forms part of DUT's progressive academic and social development goals which are committed to the creation of a learning environment through the provision of



City Campus building, which is a heritage site

safe, modern and technologically advanced facilities for its academic community.

In a recent address to Faculty of Arts and Design, Vice-Chancellor Prof Roy du Pré said the massive revamp and renovation project is reflective of DUT's commitment to academic excellence, scholarship and the promotion of a conducive learning and teaching environment.

He said the decision to close the campus during the removal and reconstruction phase was motivated by safety concerns

and aims to minimise disruptions to the academic programme. The building restoration project will run from May until August 2010. However, the academic curriculum for 2010 has been designed to accommodate the four month semester break which will also coincide with the 2010 FIFA World Cup.

Prof du Pré said the temporary closure of the faculty is necessary for the urgent replacement of the roof. "The City Campus building is valued at around R100 million and is a heritage monument that we want to preserve and showcase to locals and the international community. The renovation will also allow for the replacement of support structures that have never been replaced since the building was first built."

He assured staff that this will not affect the academic programme of neighbouring DUT campuses. "The university's academic activity will not be affected by the project as we have engaged in extensive consultation with lecturers who have restructured their syllabuses to ensure all students complete their 2010 academic programme."

The academic calendar for all programmes offered at City Campus will include two semesters, the first semester will commence in January, a month earlier than the University wide programme, ending in April and the second will begin in September ending in December. To ensure minimum

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Editor's Column

Welcome

The Conduit Editorial Team welcomes the DUT Community. This is our first edition of the year. We will be publishing Conduit every second month and the next edition will be in May. The year 2010 has been hailed an important year in the history of South Africa in that we are privileged to host the major sporting event in the world, the Soccer World Cup Tournament. Let's all be united in supporting our national soccer team, Bafana Bafana during this tournament. We wish them good luck.

We are reliably informed that registration was successfully concluded at DUT and we thank staff who worked tirelessly to ensure that it was a success. Thereafter, lectures commenced uninterrupted and are progressing smoothly. We applaud our Emergency Medical Care and Rescue Team who responded to the call for help by offering their professional skills and expertise to assist the earthquake victims in Haiti during January 2010. We thank you for flying our DUT flag abroad during a time of need.

DUT is celebrating the centennial of our City Campus. The building, which is currently used to

house DUT's Faculty of Arts and Design, was initially built for students and staff of the Durban Technical Institute. The building's foundation stone was laid on 03 December 1910. Over the last century, the City Campus has been recognised as one of Durban's oldest heritage sites displaying, as it does, the original architectural design. The building is also listed as a historical monument by eThekweni Municipality and has attracted local and international tourists, struggle heroes and ex-South African citizens. In celebrating the centenary, DUT has embarked on a building restoration project. The first phase of the project will involve the replacement of the entire roof with all ancillary components of the ceilings, electrical and air conditioning installations. During the refurbishment of City Campus, the original architectural significance will be maintained.

This year brings with it many exciting opportunities, so here's to 2010 and better, brighter future for all.

I salute you.

Bhekani Dlamini
Communications Manager (Acting)

DUT Motivation

By Thandeka Mchunu

DUT- Motivation was recently launched in Cane Growers Hall, ML Sultan campus. The objective of this project is to motivate, inspire and work towards developing the community.

Guest speakers were Pastor Vusi Dube of EThekweni Community Church, Alex Mthiyane of Gagasi 99.5 FM, Mfanafuthi Ngwabe, DUT SRC President and Thami Shezi, former DUT SRC President.

Delivering meaningful words of motivation, Thami Shezi advised students that working hard towards their goals equals success and he further stated, "If you write five goals before bed time and act on them on the next day, your life is guaranteed to change for the better."

Radio personality, Alex Mthiyane took the floor and shared the hardships he experienced as a student at DUT. He emphasised that with determination he was able to achieve his ambition to



Alex Mthiyane, Sipho Jaka and Pastor Vusi Dube

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DUT's rapid response team returns from quake hit Haiti

Karishma Ganpath



Picture: Supplied

Left: EMCR HOD, Sageshin Naguran and team member, Yugan Naidoo together with the Mexican Team's sniffer dog which was used to help locate survivors trapped under rubble in Haiti

bodies through a collaborative effort with a Mexican rescue team. The state of destruction to some of the buildings made it very difficult and unsafe for the rescue team to attempt extrication. The stench of decomposing bodies hung heavily in the air and

survivors were in desperate need of food, water and medical attention."

He said search and rescue missions were called off by the United Nations on day 10 after the earthquake. The EMCR team then split up, allowing team members, Charlie McClung, Shannon Du Randt,

Yugan Naidoo and Yugan Pillay to provide further medical assistance at field hospitals in Port Au Prince and on the outskirts of the capital city. The team attended to close on 400 patients over three days. The majority of the patients were amputees with many of them receiving treatment without optimal anaesthesia, analgesia and follow up treatment.

Naidoo said: "As a result of the lack of medical supplies and inadequate medical care, many survivors faced secondary insult to the initial trauma sustained during the earthquake. We assisted with cleaning and debriding of wounds, re-stitching and applying new dressings. Fortunately, many patients responded well despite the delay in treatment. However, those who suffered from severe sepsis and gangrene had to undergo further amputations."

Naguran said the team's medical skills and

knowledge in wound management and holistic care were largely put to use. The mission exposed the team to some of the worst possible scenarios in disaster management. One of the greatest challenges humanitarian teams faced during the mission was that medical needs exceeded the supply of surgical supplies and medical equipment.

"I am proud of the team; they worked tirelessly to assist in all aspects of the relief mission. Conditions were difficult. We ate out of cans, slept in sleeping bags with no shelter and the lack of proper ablution facilities was a challenge. The extent of the need for our services in these circumstances was a real eye opener. Our efforts have been recognised in global search and rescue and if the need arose both nationally and internationally, we would offer assistance without hesitation," he said.

The Durban University of Technology's (DUT) interim Rapid Response Emergency Medical Care and Rescue (EMCR) team have been hailed as local heroes upon their return from quake hit Haiti, last month.

The six member special operations team was led by Sageshin Naguran and Raveen Naidoo and concentrated on humanitarian efforts at Haiti's capital, Port Au Prince. Naguran, who headed the medical support, said the team was glad to be home and were grateful for the Gift of The Givers sponsorship which funded the NGO's second humanitarian team.

Gift of the Givers founder, Imtiaz Sooliman said: "The cost of the relief mission with three teams, medical supplies, food and equipment came to R3 million. Funds were raised from the private and corporate sector. Additionally, the organisation's financial reserves were also used to fund the mission. We also sent to Haiti, 400 tons of cargo - consisting of tents, water, food, medical supplies and non consumable goods worth R8 million to help sustain survivors of the quake."

Raveen Naidoo said the team's primary mission was to locate victims buried under rubble and concrete using specialised equipment. The team arrived nine days after the quake and at that time the estimated death toll was 170 000 people. "We embarked on a search and rescue operation and located four



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Professor Gwele appointed as Deputy Vice Chancellor: Academic



Professor Nomthandazo Gwele, DVC: Academic

Professor Nomthandazo Gwele has been appointed Deputy Vice Chancellor: Academic at the Durban University of Technology (DUT). She is responsible for the academic affairs of the University. She assumed her responsibility this year.

Professor Gwele joined Durban University of Technology in July 2004 as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences. She has been a full Professor for 11 years and holds a doctoral degree in Nursing Education from the University of Natal, now known as the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Her experience in the higher education environment dates back to 1985, when she worked as a research assistant at the School of Nursing at the University of Missouri in Columbia (USA). Her teaching experience, however, began in 1989

at the University of Natal. She has ten years of academic leadership and management experience, the last five of which have been at senior management level in her position as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at DUT.

As a leader in her profession, Professor Gwele has chaired a number of national nursing education associations and structures such as the Standards Generating Body for Nursing, the Forum of University Nursing Departments in South Africa (now known as the Forum of University Nursing Deans in South Africa), and the Nursing Education Association. On the global front she represents Africa on the International Council

of Nurses Education Network (ICNEN); launched at the ICN conference, in Durban in July 2009.

In higher education, Professor Gwele was part of the current situation task team of the National Commission on Higher Education. She has served as an executive member of the South African Committee of Health Sciences Deans. Currently, she is a fellow of the American Council on Education (ACE) and participated in the ACE fellowship program on academic leadership in 2007; hosted by Boise State University in Idaho. She is also member of the Chair Academy which provides training for post-secondary leadership and management.

Tribute to Mandla Thabethe – Drama Graduate

Debbie Lutge

I met Mandla Thabethe at the end of 1989 when he successfully auditioned for the then Drama and Theatre Crafts Department at Technikon Natal (now Durban University of Technology).

Mandla's impish grin and twinkling eyes were a constant reminder that here was someone mischievous and full of surprises. His face was a combination of disarming charm, quizzical curiosity, and unabashed comic warmth with just a touch of sass thrown in for good measure. A lethal combination which later made him a favorite with his many female viewers! As a student Mandla quickly perfected Scarpin type characters. His quick witted commentary and intuitive sense of comedic timing on stage cast a lasting spell, allowing him to initiate a small following in Durban. This was to grow with each new endeavor. Additionally, Mandla used his strong stage presence to excel in mime adding depth to his original physical choices and quick smile. This is evident in the sign language used in later work on the learning channel on TV. In his third year of study Mandla directed his own play, a one act comedy entitled The Bosses. This two-hander ran for a week to full houses. Mandla had a knack of communicating with his audiences because he understood what was sought and because he knew he needed to surprise. This sense of honesty and humanity, or 'ubuntu' characterize his later work as Bongo on SABC 1's "Family Bonds" (Ezomndeni in isiZulu). This deep comprehension of identity was always treated with a sense of cultural irony by Mandla who continued to uncover the shifts in social veneer that he discovered throughout his life. It was as if each new artistic revelation conjured more flabbergasting elements Mandla needed to share.

For me as a teacher, Mandla was always a frontiers man: interesting and unexpected. On my way from the US imagine my astonishment at switching on the BBC channel in Britain to see Mandla

in a small part on the TV series "Cecil John Rhodes". Mandla would take the wind out of your sails by popping in impromptu style to see a show at the Courtyard Theatre or rock up at a rehearsal and chat about the industry to students. This is, in fact, how Xolile Zondi was mentored by Mandla. Mandla continued to surprise by noting the lack of opportunities around him in Durban and his response was to initiate a TV Sitcom with Durban talent by a Company on a Durban location. A feat few have managed to achieve.

Not only did 39 year old graduate Mandla Thabethe engage the industry wearing many caps, producing, writing and acting in "Family Bonds", a show garnering five SAFTA 2010 nominations including a nomination for Bongo for Best Comedy Actor, his boundless energy extended to other fields and hobbies. True to the form of an excellent performer, Mandla Thabethe left us wanting more. On one hand it was the rush and exhilaration of a new Harley Davidson adventure that led to his tragic accident in the early hours of Sunday morning 31 January 2010, on the other it was this impulsiveness, this sudden exuberance that was also the driver of his artistic charisma.

Mandla was a frontrunner because he took the bull by the horns and twisted in a new direction. He will be remembered as a pioneer in his industry, as producer of the first essentially Durban based Sitcom, as mentor to young Durban television 'wannabees', as writer/creator of a popular sitcom in isiZulu and as an artist whose heart belonged to the green hills of KwaZulu Natal. Mandla Thabethe was finally laid to rest in the Pinetown cemetery. He will be sorely missed by his remaining Lecturer, his alma mater and his Technikon Natal class of '92.

Mandla's company won an award at the 2010 South African Film and Television Awards (SAFTAs). The Best Overall Genre Award for Comedy, Family Bonds under Sosiba Entertainment.

UEL awards Visiting Chair to DUT Vice Chancellor

The University of East London (UEL) in the United Kingdom, has awarded Professor Roy du Pré, Vice Chancellor at Durban University of Technology (DUT), with an honorary Visiting Professorship. Professor du Pré is a leading figure in African Higher Education with over 25 years of service in the educational sector.

In the last 17 years he has served in the higher education sector as an academic, academic manager and a policy maker. In recent years, close ties have been established through collaborative agreements with UEL's Continuum team and Professor John Storan. This strategic partnership has resulted in a growing list of mutual benefits and outcomes for both UEL and DUT. This includes staff study visits and exchanges, joint conference presentations and publications, specific policy and practice exchanges, joint research activity and national and international Higher Education (HE) policy links.

The DUT/UEL partnership has also resulted in significant funding success and two British Council research awards. The quality and significance of the project was recognised by the British Council at an international conference that celebrated and encouraged England/Africa HE partnerships. The British Council has also recognised Professor du Pré's outstanding contribution through his leadership in national and international HE.

Commenting on the award, Professor Storan said the team have built an excellent relationship with Professor du Pré and his Durban team. "His work is an inspiration for further HE developments in Africa. Personally and professionally, I have learned so much through the collaboration. It has had a profound effect on the work we do here at Continuum. Knowledge and practice exchange continues to develop and has to date included HE access, student success, partnership working,



Professor Roy du Pré, former Vice Chancellor of DUT

employability, entrepreneurship and building a research capacity in these and related areas. This has been an important aspect of our collaboration".

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disruption to the academic programme for 2010 only contact academic work will be done during the beginning of the year. Students will be given projects to do and communication will be maintained between staff and students via e-mail. Should a need arise for lecturers to meet with their students; support venues at other campuses will be made available.

Academic support will be made available at Steve Biko Campus to ensure off campus management is maintained by the Faculty of Art and Design. Administration and recruitment procedures will also not be disrupted as the office of the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Design and the Faculty office will be temporarily relocated to Steve Biko Campus.

India to host its 10th Annual Premier Business Conference

Karishma Ganpath

The advisory committee of India's largest software tradeshow, Indiasoft has selected five South Africans to attend its 10th Annual Premier Business Conference. The exclusive event will be held from 10 -12 March, at the B M Birla Auditorium in Jaipur, Rajasthan and is expected to draw more than 5000 people.

The Information and Communication Technology (ICT) trade show, Indiasoft 2010, is expected to earn more than R1 million in revenue and will showcase products, innovations and services from leading international brands. The event will be attended by India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry and 151 international delegates from 40 countries.

Collin Thakur, Chairman of the KZN Computer Society of South Africa and HOD of Enterprise Development Unit (EDU) at the Durban University of Technology (DUT) is one of the select few who will be representing South Africa at the conference. Together with the Red Cap

Foundation, Thakur runs South Africa's largest ICT digital divide project funded by retail giant Mr Price, worth R3 million per annum. The project, which is in its third year, has also been supported by the Department of Education, who welcomed the annual donation of 20 computers to 10 different schools. He said: "A positive feature of this project is that no person is paid, remunerated or funded for their time or service. This keeps the accounting simple and allows for honest labour."

Thakur said he was honoured to have been given the opportunity to represent South Africa. "This is a networking opportunity that's not to be missed; the crème de la crème of



Collin Thakur, Chairman of the KZN Computer Society of South Africa and HOD of Enterprise Development Unit (EDU) at DUT

the IT industry will be attending the event, with the potential of social development partnerships and lucrative business deals. As a DUT ambassador, my intention is to source more developmental partnerships and research opportunities with software and related institutions, organisations and businesses."

He said global speakers and sourcing providers, panellists, top enterprise executives; industry and business analysts will be available to shed more light on areas such as production, supply and demand, organic and inorganic growth patterns in the global IT industry. The conference

promises to take ICT to new heights whilst creating niche markets, and enabling growth of the rapidly growing sector in the international market.

EDU is hopeful, that with the recent success of the joint R31 million partnership between DUT, five KwaZulu-Natal FET's, India's National Institute of Information Technology (NIIT) and KZN government to produce 1000 ICT professionals per year, will help pave the way to further strategic partnerships with more international companies and institutions. DUT will benefit from this relationship with the installation of a free fully equipped 50-seater laboratory.

Indiasoft 2010 will be visited by IT buyers from Latin America, Africa, CIS, Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), North America, Europe, Japan and the Middle East region. This year's exhibition will host 120 buyers from Latin America, Africa, Computational Intelligence Society, the ASEAN region and 45 buyers from France, Spain and Germany.

International students warmly received at DUT

Daisy Mthethwa & Dumile Mbatha

Durban University of Technology recently welcomed this year's international students with a sociable orientation held at the Art Gallery, Steve Biko campus. The event was organised by the Directorate of International Education and Partnerships.

The event, which was attended by representatives from various departments, gave students a chance to mingle with each other and gather information they might need during their period of study.

DUT's Head of Investigation of Crime (Security & Safety), John Pillay, told students about the success they've had in catching the perpetrators and advised the students to immediately contact the Security and Safety control rooms situated in all DUT campuses, should they become the victims of crime. He also assured the students of a safer environment that is conducive to teaching and learning. "In a couple of months we have successfully prosecuted a number of people. Our mission is to make DUT a home away from home", he said.

Students also shared their expectations

about the institution and views on South Africa. Miguel Dias, a first year Mechanical Engineering student from Angola said although he knew there were good and bad things happening in South Africa, he was not afraid and expected to get the best education at DUT as he sees it as the best institution. "I hope to finish my course successfully without any outstanding subjects," said Dias.

Vusumuzi Moyo, studying Retail Business Management, hails from Zimbabwe. He said he finds South Africa very friendly and warm. "It's not my first time being here in South Africa, I even have a home in Verulam," said Moyo. He said he's looking forward to getting his permanent citizenship.

Andreas Mohr from Germany, who is a third year Business Administration student, said he can't wait for the World Cup and he is not intimidated by the crime statistics. "I've been here for two months now and since my arrival I've visited a lot of interesting places like the Umfolozi Game Reserve," said Mohr.

Ingwe Health Plan representative, Antonette Nell told students about the importance of having Medical Aid Cover while studying in a foreign country. She



From left: First year International students, Vusumuzi Moyo (Zimbabwe), Andreas Mohr (Germany) and International Students Organisation President, Sibusiso Nyawo (Swaziland) at the International Students Orientation.

said it is now compulsory for all international students to have joined a medical aid scheme before being accepted into the institution. Representing the Department of Home

Affairs was Nonhlanhla Maphumulo who told students about the importance of study permits. The event ended with a brilliant performance from the Drama Society.

Body donors honoured at Annual Dedication Ceremony

Daisy Mthethwa & Dumile Mbatha

"Before you use the body, you must learn to respect the life it once contained," these were the words of Greg Bass, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences at Durban University of Technology's (DUT) Annual Dedication Ceremony.

The prayer service to honour the lives of individuals who donated their bodies for medical research and training purposes was held on Wednesday 10 February, at the anatomy lecture theatre, Department of Basic Medical Sciences on Ritson Campus.

In an interview Senior Lab Technician and Anatomy Laboratory Curator, Ganas Mathura, explained the processes involved in human tissue donation and in

preparing and preserving a cadaver for research purposes.

Mathura said the Department of Basic Medical Science was opened in 1989 and since then 300 bodies were received. On average over a year the department receives between 10 to 15 bodies from hospitals and old age homes which are prepared for undergraduate and postgraduate research and training. He said on receipt the body is cleansed and embalmed to prevent decomposition.

The body is then kept in the mortuary for six months to a year, allowing for the excess body fluid to drain out. The cadavers are stored at 18° C and are ready for dissection a year later. They are then wrapped in white calico and plastic to prevent dehydration.

A cadaver may be kept for up to 20 years; as long as it is kept moist to prevent dehydration. Cadavers are also plastinated; this refers to the coating of dissected specimen in a plastic substance which enables preservation.

Mathura said: "Donating one's body to further the development of science and health research is wonderful. Instead of the body being lost to cremation or burial it can be used by students and researchers. Prior to cremation an Inspector of Anatomy from the Department of Health oversees and ensures that the entire procedure has been carried out in keeping with the Section 2 (1) of the Human Tissues Act No 65 of 1989 and that all records are meticulously kept".



Above: Ganas Mathura, Senior Lab Technician and Anatomy Laboratory Curator, at DUT's Department of Basic Medical Science together with models of the male and female body which are used in practicals. The department also uses the skeletal system and plastinated specimens of the human body.

Picture by Dumile Mbatha

Workspace, providing innovative approach to Work Integrated Learning

Bhekani Dlamini

The Durban University of Technology (DUT) officially launched "Workspace"- a graphic design Work Integrated Learning (WIL) project in partnership with the British Council and Continuum at the England's University of East London (UEL) last year.

The project which forms part of an international research is the brainchild of the Graphic Design Programme, within the Department of Visual Communication Design and is geared to provide an industry formulated work experience. Workspace encourages innovative and creative thinking whilst providing a unique opportunity to develop and hone graphic design skills using the latest technology and diversified approach to experiential learning.

Addressing DUT's academic community at the launch, UEL Director of Continuum, Prof John Storan who is currently

working on increasing British Council support for Workspace said: "The project is based on a firm foundation of good educational principles and focused on providing support and preparing student for entry into the world of work. It provides creative solutions and a good start for students to benefit in a measurable way. I am inspired to be part of an innovative facility which demonstrates a new way of thinking about the employability of students."

HOD Piers Carey said the project is committed to continually improve industry readiness of graduates, ensuring access to employment. Workspace is based at DUT's City Campus as part of the Graphic Design's BTech Programme. The visual identity of the studio was generated by third year Graphic Design students under the direction of Rowan Gatfield, Workspace Studio Manager and Graphic Design Lecturer. This concept aimed to define the 'feel' of the studio and to characterise the decorative



Picture by Bhekani Dlamini

From left: UEL Project Co-ordinator, Tony Hudson, Continuum UEL Director, Prof John Storan, Executive Dean: Faculty of Arts and Design, Dr Kenneth Netshiombo and Visual Communication Design HOD, Piers Carey

scheme of the studio space.

He said: "Workspace will provide a full graphic design service to internal and external clients, this will allow participating students to experience all aspects of a working graphic design business, whilst completing their studies. The studio intends to provide both print and electronic design for clients, and welcomes enquiries regarding all aspects of graphic design."

Carey said the project will provide vital experience to students in the production and financial aspects of the profession. Students will be responsible for graphic design projects from the initial briefs and liaison with clients, through the conceptualization and design stages, to production, invoicing and record-keeping.

For more information, e-mail Kailash Maharaj: kaliashm@dut.ac.za

Faculty of Health Sciences Annual Research Day

Dumile Mbatha

The Faculty of Health Sciences at the Durban University of Technology (DUT) held its Annual Research Day at Mansfield Hall, Ritson campus, in February. The programme showcased a combination of qualitative and quantitative research across all programmes with 16 oral and 10 poster presentations.

The day's programme commenced with a warm welcome message from Deputy Vice Chancellor: Academic, Professor Nomthandazo Gwele who addressed academics on the significance of the day. Acting Dean of the Faculty, Greg Bass said exploring different research avenues creates more student opportunities. The number of postgraduate students had rapidly increased over recent years with a total of 88 registered Masters' students in 2010.

"We should encourage the Faculty to take more postgraduate student in order to improve our academic standards," said Professor Sibusiso Moyo, who is Acting Director of Research Management and Development.

The programme for the day included an award ceremony and three scientific sessions, each session included between four to seven presentations by lecturers from their respective programmes.

Presentations were informative and covered scientific and medical issues. Topics presented included research on the effects of therapeutic ultrasound on radial artery blood flow and lumen diameter, Protea cynaroides, and a review of dental services in Zambia.

DUT boasts of new F1 partnership with Sangari S.A.

Mausley Oliphant

Sangari SA, one of South Africa's leading engineering manufacturing and education solution companies, hosted an institutional F1 in Schools Challenge together with the Durban University of Technology's (DUT) Department of Industrial Engineering as part of their educational partnership.

Sangari SA and DUT took the opportunity to sign a memorandum of understanding that secured DUT as the host of the regional F1 In Schools Challenge. The event was held at the Fred Crooke's Sport Centre, Steve Biko Campus on

Monday and was adjudicated by a panel of judges from industry and industrial engineering lecturers. Six teams of fourth semester industrial engineering students participated in the challenge which was won by Team Radical.

Sangari SA CEO, Bez Sangari said the F1 in Schools Challenge has the full backing of Formula One and is currently the only race for scholars at provincial, national and international level with the Bernie Ecclestone Trophy as the ultimate prize. "The hope is to make scholars more conscious of science and technology, see science as fun. What better way to do that than with F1 racing. We are

currently trying to introduce this competition on a tertiary level and have approached a few institutions which are eager to join, including DUT. Hopefully we will have it up and running on a tertiary level by next year", he said. Industrial Engineer lecturer, Ranil Singh said all participating students were required to create model F1 racing cars according to design and manufacture specifications, the end product was then assessed and points were then contributed to the students year end mark.

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Launch of the new Print Room

DUT's Printing Department recently launched their upgraded printing room, installed with new technology to provide the university community with more options for binding and achieve a faster turnaround time.

The ribbon cutting ceremony was attended by the Vice- Chancellor, Prof Roy du Pré, the DVC: Institutional Support, Prof Ngabomzi Gawe and former Executive Director: Corporate Affairs, Nomonde Mbadi and other DUT stakeholders. The Nashua delegation was led by the MD of Nashua and the MD of Nashua eThekweni.

Two of the machines have booklet makers with saddle stitching and the third machine has a perfect binder. We have a combined machine capacity of 405 copies per minute. All three machines are networked.



Above: Professor Roy du Pré and the Printing Department team.



From left: Musa Zulu, MD of Nashua eThekweni, Former DUT VC, Professor Roy du Pré, Lynette Van Zuylen and Mark du Bois, MD Nashua Durban.

"Science and Technology goes hand in hand"

By Daisy Mthethwa

A renowned scientist, Professor Jim McKenzie, recently delivered a lecture on Solar System Atmospheres at Durban University of Technology, Steve Biko campus. The lecture was jointly hosted by the Research Management and Development Division & the Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Physics.

Professor McKenzie is affiliated to the Astrophysics and Cosmology Research Unit, School of Mathematical Sciences, University of KwaZulu Natal and Department of Physics, CSPAR, University of Alabama, USA. He is also a Senior Member of Kings College, Cambridge University in the UK. In addition, Prof McKenzie is a specialist in Space Plasma Physics and Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences.

Presenting a lecture in an entertaining way, Professor McKenzie explained the properties of the planets and their atmospheres and oceans. He suggested the interesting idea that there are seven days in a week because the ancient Greeks observed five planets (wandering stars - namely Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn) as well as the Sun and the Moon. He said that Uranus was discovered in 1781 by Herschel and Neptune in 1846 by D'Arrest (predicted by the mathematicians, Adams and Verrier). According to Professor McKenzie, Pluto, discovered in 1930, is the only planet not to have been visited by a spacecraft. It since has been demoted from its planet status as being too small and cold.

Professor McKenzie commented that fluids and gases are characterized by their average properties of velocity,

density, pressure and temperature, all which are functions of space and time described by the fluid equations. "Waves communicate information over large distances without matter being transported", he added.

He concluded by saying: "It is important for everyone, not only mathematicians and physicists to know about solar system atmospheres because they are part of our universe and represent an interaction between Science and Technology through telescopes and the building and launching of spacecrafts."



Picture taken by Dumile Mbatha.

From left: Guest Speaker, Professor Jim McKenzie with Professor Sibusiso Moyo, who is Acting Director of Research Management and Development and Professor Kevin Duffy, Director of the Institute of Systems Science.

Drama students perform at the FNB Dance Umbrella

By Daisy Mthethwa



Picture taken and supplied by Val Adamson

Drama students from the Department of Television, Drama and Production Studies at Durban University of Technology performed at the annual FNB Dance Umbrella earlier this month.

The cast, which consisted of 16 third year Dance Specialists headed for Johannesburg to perform A Bird without a song, a dance production choreographed by Mdu Mtshali, a Dance Lecturer at DUT.

A bird without a song runs for 25 minutes and was presented at Wits Theatre This dance performance was taken from the storyline of Rejected Angels, directed by

Mdu Mtshali, which was performed at the DUT annual dance production, a season of contemporary dance held in August last year.

The aim behind the production, A bird without a song, was to spread social awareness about discrimination against people with Albinism living in Africa. "This work is inspired by albinism and addresses rumours and strange beliefs conjured by witch doctors. The language of this piece has been borrowed from the Zombies and Cannibalism with whole bodies painted white and red with clay," said Mtshali.

Previous research shows that in Tanzania there is a superstition that albinos bring

luck to those who come in contact with them. As a result, there have been a number of people with albinism murdered and mutilated. Witch doctors market their skins, hair and bones, using them as an ingredient in supposedly medical or magical potions to make people rich.

The contemporary dance production served to address these myths and beliefs that are often performed by witch doctors for their personal gain. "I want people to question the actions against Albinos. I also want to stop these actions from reaching our shores. Through this dance I hope to educate and enlighten people," said Mtshali.

Mtshali participated in the FNB Dance Umbrella Residency in 2004. He has directed and choreographed dance productions such as Dance Unlimited (2005), Umgagco (2006), choreographed for Lost in the Stars directed by Debbie Lutge (2006), Bodies in Space (2007), Light of Hope (2008) and Rejected Angels (2009).

He has worked with a number of national and international choreographers such as Andile Sotiya and Musa Hlatshwayo. He has also worked with dance companies such as Siwela Sonke Dance Theatre (Home, Zero), Fantastic Flying Fish Dance Company (Off Axis, Grass Gardens, Coppelia), Inzalo Theatre Dance Company (point of view).

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be on radio and he never, under any circumstances, gave up.

Pastor Vusi Dube told students that young ladies need to focus on their studies since the intentions of others are not always diamonds and pearls.

Entertainment included poetry, singing and drama performance which rejuvenated the crowd. DUT certainly showcased a great deal of students' talent at this event.

The event was successfully organised by Sipho Jaca, who is also the founder of this project. In conclusion, Jaca thanked all who contributed in making the launch a success.

All students are urged to become part of the DUT MOTIVATION family on facebook.

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"This was a great learning curve for the students in terms of team dynamics and communication, as students had to create the whole experience from resourcing the materials, acquiring funds and marketing the cars", said Singh. He was also excited that they were working with aerodynamics which was outside of their curriculum. Ranil said, "This is a way to make learning exciting."

Team Radical Manager, Thapelo Mohajane said the team wanted to prove they were the best and decided to meet once a week to focus on their project. The work was divided into groups and individual strengths were identified, from this each member was tasked accordingly.

Library encourages love among students

The Steve Biko Campus Library celebrated Valentine's Day 2010. A competition was held and students had the opportunity to express their feelings of love.

Many enthusiastic entrants participated in this competition. Judging from the number of entries, it appeared that students take love seriously, and there are still prospective and budding Romeos and Juliets in our midst. The winner of the competition, Mandiphiwe Levani, cited four beautiful poems of love. She is an Electronic Engineering student and received a PA system as her prize.

From left to right: Mrs. Lucille Webster (Library Manager), Miss Mandiphiwe Levani (Winner), Mrs. Nomonde Mgqalelo (Circulation co-ordinator), Mrs. Molly Madho (Circulation Assistant).



SIFE Cocktail Evening

By Dumile Mbatha



Picture by Dumile Mbatha

The Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) at Durban University of Technology held its annual cocktail evening at the Hotel School, Ritson Road Campus. The aim of the event was to introduce business people from various professions to SIFE. SIFE is an international network aimed at enhancing students' leadership skills; they also play a role in developing communities.

SIFE is visible in 26 universities nationwide and SIFE (DUT) was voted as the rookie team of the year at their awards last year. Lana Brady, SIFE's current Faculty Adviser, was voted as the Faculty Adviser of the year at the awards. Letitia de Wet, SIFE South Africa CEO, told business people about their importance in SIFE's success. She also thanked students for the hard work they've shown to the organisation. "If SIFE (DUT) is successful today or tomorrow it is because of your hard work and determination," said de Wet.

Melusi Ndima SIFE, (DUT) President, presented all SIFE (DUT) Projects which consisted of Sizanani Vegi Gallore, Eco

Above: SIFE DUT Executive Team

Friendly Recycling, Furniture Enterprise Development Project (FEDP) and Save 10% Project, which is aimed at saving the power of electricity consumed by residence students. The Sizanani Vegi Gallore, situated in Nongoma, is about 500 hectares of land and is funded by Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA).

Peter Burke, Business Strategist at Graham Consultants, pledged business people to take part in supporting all SIFE (DUT) projects; Burke is also an advisory board member at SIFE (DUT). Present at the cocktail evening were representatives from eThekweni Municipality, National Youth Development Agency and DUT management.

SIFE is a section 21 registered company and SIFE SA was recognized by SIFE international as the best SIFE programme. Its projects have created many job opportunities in developing communities. SIFE is present in 42 countries across the globe and aims at bringing together the top leaders of today and tomorrow.

Disclaimer

The Communications Department strives to deliver accurate reporting and interesting stories, but cannot take responsibility for inaccurate information supplied. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the

Be eco-friendly and educate with the waste paper recycling project

Are you tired of unnecessary paper lying around your office? Well you can finally turn your clutter into something worthwhile. The Faculty of Health Sciences has embarked on a Waste Paper Recycling project to raise funds that will go towards academic bursaries. The project collects all types of paper and cardboard. If you have a once off load, drop an e-mail to gregb@dut.ac.za and it will be collected at no cost. However, serial paper collectors will be supplied with a recycling bin which will be emptied on a routine basis. Large amounts of unwanted paper can also be delivered to the Faculty of Health Sciences, Faculty Office.

So let us not waste, where we can save. Recycling has never been so easy. Recycle, educate and empower!



Maritime first year orientation



Photos by Daisy Mthethwa



Above: Abe Botha, Fire Fighting Instructor at Unicorn Shipping and Mthobisi Khwela (student) demonstrates how to use a Self Contained Breathing Apparatus.

Left: Maritime Studies first year students attending orientation.

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2010



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Making Knowledge Useful

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* Dependent on the sighting of the moon.

