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Humanitarian honoured at Spring Graduation

Lisa Mbongwa



Dr Imtiaz Sooliman, recipient of the Honorary Doctorate in Health Sciences together with Prof Nomthandazo Gwele (left), DVC: Academic and Ela Gandhi, DUT Chancellor

with the President's Order of the Star of South Africa, the country's highest civilian award from former President, FW De Klerk in 1993; a Presidential Award from Pakistan President, Pervez Musharraf for the NGOs response to Pakistan's earthquake, in July 2006 and the Pietermaritzburg Civic Commendation Award from former President, Nelson Mandela, in 1997.

In his address, Dr Sooliman said we should be proud of our heritage, while working together towards a common goal geared to fostering the

socio-economic development of all South Africans regardless of race, gender, ethnicity and social background. He emphasised the need for South African's to unite in the spirit of ubuntu to reinstall hope in a society that is faced with social adversity. He encouraged students to give off their best and to consider themselves as privileged, encouraging them not to waste the valuable time and their parents' financial resources.

Vice Chancellor and Principal, Prof Ahmed Bawa said: "The conferring of ten doctoral degrees during the Spring Graduation Ceremony is an excellent achievement. It is extremely important that students work hard and make the most of opportunities

presented to them. They must see themselves as privileged, since just 18% of 18-24 year-olds in South Africa have access to higher education."

In honour of DUT's academic partnership with the South African Navy, Vice Admiral Johannes Mudimu, Chief of South African Navy, addressed graduates and inspired them to give back to society by becoming productive members that enable the progression of South Africa.

Prof Nqabomzi Gawe, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Institutional Support said: "As part of the University's ongoing support of technology, transfer and innovation, DUT seeks to actively strengthen postgraduate recruitment in alignment with niche areas in research. Our focus is to continuously increase the pool of researchers, building the capacity of staff and postgraduate students to engage in research activities."



eThekweni Municipality Councillor, M Ntshangase; DUT Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Prof Ahmed Bawa; DUT Chancellor, Ela Gandhi and Chief of the South African Navy, Vice Admiral J Mudimu



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Business Studies Unit Awards Ceremony

Sboniso Biyela



Proud BSU graduates

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela

More than 500 DUT students graduated from 15 different programmes at the 2010 Business Studies Unit Awards Ceremony, at Fred Crookes Sport Centre, on 8 September. Management Sciences Executive Dean, Prof Malcolm Wallis opened the ceremony by congratulating graduates. In his address he stressed on the need for Universities of Technology (UoT) to pay greater attention to post experience studies.

He further challenged DUT and other UoTs to recognise the importance of promoting post experience studies and to encourage students to pursue studies with the greatest vigour. He also cautioned graduates to ensure they put their skills and competences into practise to avoid becoming non-functional members of society.

Guest speaker, Alex Bozass addressed students on the importance of graduating to increase employment opportunities for themselves. "A qualification is not a guarantee for success but it is merely a door opener. Continue to research and read," he said.

Teaching Assistant Programme

Lisa Mbongwa

More than 500 students gathered at Steve Biko's Fred Crookes Sport Centre, on 7 September, to receive their Teaching Assistant Programme (TAP) certificate. The programme, which is an initiative by the university's School of Education, is geared towards dealing with bottlenecks experienced by under-performing Foundation Phase teachers in underprivileged areas of KwaZulu-Natal.

The Department of Education appealed for the programme to be initiated. Project Manager, Amos Mahlangu said: "TAPs central objective is to provide high-level training to 600 Teaching Assistants who will relieve qualified Foundation Phase teachers of difficult yet inescapable administrative and classroom management responsibilities, and thus accord them the time and flexibility to focus on their core responsibility of teaching and assessment. It is hoped that this will enhance the quality of the teaching and learning experience in primary schools."

TAPs developmental dimension provides employment for unemployed youth who could later choose to pursue a career in teaching. KZN Department of Education guest speaker, Dr Peggy Msimango said the provision of Teaching Assistants will enhance a culture of harnessing creative ways to assist teachers and ensuring teachers spend less time doing administrative work and focus more on learner preparation. "The Department of Education considers Teaching Assistants as a key component in education and ensure that the transformation of education in South Africa stands firm," said Msimango.

TAP graduate, Sindisiwe Cele believes the experience will act as a catalyst in conquering her dream of becoming an education psychologist. "Being involved in the daily transitions of children's lives and the ability to see them grow and being receptive to what they are being taught makes me proud," said Cele.



Editor's note

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the DUT community for their wonderful support and professional guidance over the last year, during my stint as Acting Communications Manager. I extend a special thank you to Prof Gawe, DVC Institutional Support for her leadership, direction and co-operation during her time as Acting Vice-Chancellor.

I would also like to acknowledge Sushi Moodley and Nonku Xuza for their administrative assistance and staff at the Division of Corporate Affairs for their commitment and support. Your dedication, understanding and patience have enabled me to successfully complete tasks as Acting Communications Manager and achieve strategic goals, ensuring smooth corporate communications. This opportunity has provided me with valuable experience which has equipped me with the necessary skills and confidence to face greater challenges in the future. Your efforts in ensuring DUT maintains its commitment to providing high standards of quality education is appreciated.

Communications Manager, Raylene Captain Hasthibeer takes up the reins at the institution on 1 October, after spending a year in London in completion of her Master's degree at Westminster University.

I leave you with the words of scientist, Sir Isaac Newton: "If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants".

With these words I salute you.

Bhekani Dlamini

Acting Communications Manager
Division of Corporate Affairs

Mad Hatters celebrate Secretaries Day

Lisa Mbongwa

As South Africa celebrated the dawn of Spring and Secretaries Day, DUT management hosted a Mad Hatters Tea Party in collaboration with the Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE), to honour the vital role and commitment of the institution's secretaries. The colourful event was held at the Hotel School on Ritson Campus and showcased secretaries dressed in unique hats in various styles.

Secretaries Day began 52 years ago when an American advertising executive, Harry Klemfuss, decided secretaries should be annually celebrated to show appreciation for their work. The event coincided with Prof Ahmed Bawa taking up the reins as the university's Vice-Chancellor and Principal. In his address to staff at the tea party, he said the efficiency of secretaries and the key role they play in putting forward a public image of the University, is largely dependent on a deep fundamental trust.

Motivational speaker Dawn "Nomsa" Harrison emphasised that secretaries are often not acknowledged for the significance of their roles within the corporate sector. She encouraged them to further their academic qualifications and to persevere after their goals and ambitions. Secretaries were pampered by Somatology students with free facials and massages.

Pictured: DUT secretaries at the Mad Hatters Tea Party

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela



DUT's Young Entrepreneurs Scoop Seven National SIFE Awards

Sboniso Biyela



Pictured: Proud DUT SIFE members showcase their seven awards which they received at the National SIFE Awards ceremony in Johannesburg

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela

DUT students were awarded seven awards after competing in the National Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE) Presentation at Birchwood Hotel and OR Tambo Conference Centre in Johannesburg, on 06 August.

The group of 45 students presented various projects based on creating economic value and entrepreneurial impact and opportunity, to executive companies that supported SIFE. DUT SIFE president, Melusi Ndima said the feat was an astonishing achievement by the group as they managed to secure fourth rating out of the 26 competing universities.

"It's the first time that a University of Technology (UoT) has walked over traditional universities such as Wits, to secure a good rating," said Ndima. He added that the concepts behind the projects were

geared to creating and enhancing economic opportunity and development for communities, which enabled the group to be favourable candidates for the awards.

The group walked away with seven trophies after participating in different categories, their achievement includes a second place win and six first place awards. DUT SIFE Vice-President, Nhlakanipho Nene said their achievement has created a new chapter in the history of DUT.

"It is an undisputable fact that we are the first organisation to deliver such results in DUT's history. We would like to thank people who have supported us, especially the Faculty of Management Sciences," said Nene. He added that his organisation is based on firm business principles and each member's participation and dedication contributed to their achievement.

Water treatment with Chemical Engineering

Sboniso Biyela

DUT Chemical Engineering graduate, Dorcas Alfa returned to South Africa after attending a short course in Holland on Development and Evaluation of Small Scale Water Disinfection System in June. The programme was hosted and planned by UNESCO-IHE Institution For Water Education. The 220 international students who participated in the course were trained on how to deal with industrial waste water treatment through innovative practices.

Nigerian born Alfa is ambitious about her research potential and is currently completing her Masters qualification while she works as a graduate assistant on water research at the Department of Chemical Engineering. She said attending the programme was of great benefit as it shed more light on the cleaner water production processes. The course was geared to incorporate new regulations of small scale water disinfectants and the use of new and alternative technologies.

Alfa said the programme has enabled her to assist students and to gain more knowledge about the modernised and technological ways of treating water. "Generally small scale problems are caused by the lack of sustainability. With the knowledge that I have acquired I will be able to develop a highly sustainable water treatment unit for DUT. I would like to work with the corporate sector and the water industry on how to minimize and reuse their waste products."

Alfa's field of interest has resulted in extensive involvement with the Water Institute of Southern Africa (WISA) and Umngeni Water to make clean water accessible at lower cost to people living in the rural areas. She is keen to work with large corporates in conjunction with the water treatment industry to look at possibilities of minimizing waste through recycling. Alfa intends holding collaborative workshops to inform students of new innovations in water treatment.



Pictured: Chemical Engineering graduate, Dorcas Alfa with her certificate from UNESCO-IHE Institution For Water Education

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela

2010 Spring Graduation Doctors



From left:
Professor Ahmed Bawa, Vice-Chancellor and Principal;
Dr Lawrence Lekhanya;
Dr Thiru Pillay;
Dr Gopalkrishna Chetty;
Dr Richard Perumal and
Ela Gandhi, DUT Chancellor

Dr Gopalkrishna Chetty

Dr Chetty, Special Advisor to DUT's Vice-Chancellor and Principal, received his Doctor of Technology degree in Human Resources Management. His research titled "The transformations of South African Higher Education sector through mergers: a case study of Durban University of Technology" was promoted by Prof MAH Wallis.

Dr Mpele Lawrence Lekhanya

Dr Lekhanya received his Doctor of Technology degree in Marketing. His research promoted by Prof R B Mason, investigated "The use of marketing strategies by small, medium and micro enterprises in rural KwaZulu-Natal area."

Dr Richard Isiah Perumal

Dr Perumal, a former DUT employee achieved his Doctor of Technology degree in Human Resources Management after completing his research on "The development of Universities of Technology in the Higher Education landscape in South Africa", which was promoted by Prof MAH Wallis.

Dr Thirumurthie Shunmugham Pillay

Dr Pillay, Deputy Registrar at DUT obtained his Doctor of Technology degree in Public Management, his research was promoted by Prof M A H Wallis. His study looked at "Student enrolment planning in Public Higher Education: A South African case study."



From left:
Dr Richard Sheridan,
Dr Indra Bahadur,
Dr Feroz Swalaha,
Dr Mduduzi Mokoena,
Dr Viresh Mohanlall,
Dr Vinodh Edward

Dr Vinodh Aroon Edward

Dr Edward received his Doctor of Technology degree in Biotechnology on completion of his research on the "Development of a Starter Culture for the Production of Gari, a Traditional African Fermented Food". His research was promoted by Prof S Singh and joint promoters, Dr CMAP Franz and Dr PJ van Zyl.

Dr Viresh Mohanlall

Viresh Mohanlall received his Doctor of Technology degree in Biotechnology for his research on "Screening, In-vitro Propagation and Bioaugmentation of Ceratohca triloba for the Production of Secondary Metabolites". His investigation was promoted by Prof B Odhav and joint promoter, Dr B Okole.

Dr Mduduzi Paulos Mokoena

Dr Mokoena received his Doctor of Technology degree in Biotechnology. His research investigated "Computational Studies of the Folding Patterns of Small and Medium-size Polypeptides" and was promoted by Prof K Bisetty and joint promoter, Prof J J Perez.

Dr Feroz Mahomed Swalaha

Dr Swalaha obtained his Doctor of Technology degree in Biotechnology after completing his study on the "Optimization of Riboflavin Production by Fungi on Edible Oil Effluent". His research was promoted by Prof B Odhav.

Dr Indra Bahadur

Dr Indra Bahadur received his Doctor of Technology degree in Chemistry after successfully completing his investigation on the "Excess Molar Volume and Isentropic Compressibility for Binary or Ternary Ionic Liquid Systems". His study was promoted by Prof N Deenadayalu.

Dr Richard David Sheridan

Dr Sheridan received his Doctor of Technology degree in Language Practice upon completion of his study on "The language of digital learning: developing an e-learning approach for the elderly". His research was promoted by Dr DD Pratt and joint promoter, Prof R Naidoo.

DUT welcomes first MSc Textile Graduate

Sboniso Biyela



Liberian MSc Textile Graduate, Ashwin Sheolall (left) receiving a gift from the Dean of Applied Science, Prof Darren Lortan

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela

Ashwin Sheolall received a warm welcome by the Department of Textile Technology upon his return from the Czech Republic after completing his two year masters' course in Textile Technology. Sheolall has made history by being South Africa's first citizen to qualify with a masters' qualification from the Technical University of Liberia (TUL).

The relationship between DUT and TUL has resulted in a long term partnership to maintain strong links to enable future exchange programmes between the two universities. Sheolall describes his stay in the Czech Republic as an experience of a lifetime which broadened his knowledge intellectually and academically. He said: "My stay was interesting, demanding and I was fortunate to be introduced to a different way of life. I was ecstatic about the developments, exposure to new technology and conducting research."

He added that living in a hostel with different people from different countries has broadened his perception about life. Sheolall thanked the Post Graduate Development and Support (PGDS)

department for its continued support while he was completing his coursework at TUL.

He said TUL has implemented different ways of accessing the delivery of lecturers, he believes these methods can be incorporated at DUT to foster the provisions for a master's programme. He also thanked DUT for realising the need for high quality education in the field of textile technology which, with development, can aid in improving South Africa's clothing and textile industry.

Sheolall intends on embarking on his doctoral degree and hopes his academic output will contribute to improving the current textile curriculum by incorporating the involvement of various stakeholders and government to channel funding in an appropriate way.

As part of the ongoing student exchange programme and to maintain good relations between the two universities, nine DUT students and staff members travelled to TUL to complete a six week Continuous Professional Development (CPD) Programme.

DUT signs international trade agreement

Lisa Mbongwa



Delegates from China's Jiangnan University with DUT management at the signing of the academic trade agreement

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela

Durban University of Technology signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with China's Jiangnan University, on 26 August at ML Sultan Campus, sealing an academic trade agreement.

Jiangnan University is one of China's national key project universities which is currently involved in several research undertakings with numerous partnerships with global academic and research institutions. The strategic collaboration focuses on sharing a dual vision aimed at developing and expanding on current academic partnerships and research on the efficiency of biotechnology for sustainable development within the food and new generation bio-manufacturing industries.

Deputy Vice Chancellor of Technology Innovation and Partnerships, Prof Frederick Otieno said:

"The collaboration between the two universities will increase research and the socioeconomic status of this country in terms of jobs and poverty." He added that DUT's aims to become a leading university in teaching and learning can only be achieved through strategic partnerships, thereby enhancing research output making academic research a norm.

Jiangnan University is internationally recognised for its research capacity, quality of students and high standard of facilities and is currently involved in research exchange between 72 international universities with DUT being the latest addition.

Department of Biotechnology and Food Technology HOD, Prof Suren Singh said the department supports the academic trade agreement and believes the collaboration will be a success.

Environmental Health Research Receives National Award

Durban University of Technology's Environmental Health Lecturer, Joy Kistnasamy has been awarded a National Paper Award from the South African Thoracic Society (SATS). The paper, titled The Relationship Between Asthma and Ambient Air Pollutants Among Primary School Students in Durban, South Africa, was awarded the SATS Best Publication in Pulmonology by SA Researchers in 2009. Kistnasamy and her fellow collaborators will receive the award of R10 000 at a Gala Dinner at the 2011 SATS and Critical Care Society Congress, at the Albert Luthuli International Convention Centre, from 28-31 July.



Joy Kistnasamy,
Environmental Health lecturer

Prof Gill Ainslie, SATS Scholarship Selection Committee Chairperson said the best publication was adjudicated by a panel of senior researchers and pulmonologists. The applicant had to be the first author or a major contributor to the work. The 2009 award was awarded to Kistnasamy for a paper published in 2008. The application was made by SATS member, Prof Elvis Iruen.

Kistnasamy said the paper was based on her master's research project in Environmental Health which she completed in 2005. The research was a collaborative project together with UKZN's Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine and the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health Sciences, University of Michigan and various stakeholders from the South Durban Industrial Basin.

She said: "I presented my Master's research at the 4th International Children's Health and the Environment Conference in Vienna, Austria, in June 2007. I was the only speaker from the African Continent. Eighty international researchers presented, of which 20 top presentations were selected and I was one of them. I was then invited to publish in the peer reviewed scientific journal, International Journal of Environment and Health.

The paper was published in 2008 and later submitted to the SATS for consideration in the appropriate award category. The research team included Prof Thomas Robins, Prof Rajen Naidoo, Prof Stuart Batterman, Dr Graciela Mentz, Caron Jack, and Prof Elvis Iruen. A special thanks to Prof Umesh Laloo, Settlers Primary School principal, staff, students and the various funders. Proper planning and team effort played a vital role in this process and kudos to all involved."

She said the SATS monetary award will be used to further research in different spheres under environmental health. "I am very pleased, as the

award is traditionally awarded to medical health research professionals. However, this research and the subsequent outputs would not have been possible without the guidance of my mentors and especially the collaborative effort from the UKZN and University of Michigan researchers, for their immense emotional and resource support, funding, dedication, leadership skills and expertise."

Kistnasamy said the research revealed a 52% prevalence of asthma amongst the sample group taken from Durban South Basin's (SDB) Settlers Primary School. At the time, the asthma prevalence rate was the highest in world. The sample group made up of 50% African and 50% Indian learners. Kistnasamy said: "It was impossible to hold any particular industry responsible for deteriorating respiratory health of the community; however, increased lower respiratory symptoms were strongly and consistently associated with ambient levels of certain asthma inducing pollutants."

The outcome of the research resulted in a R6 million South and North Durban Health Study which has formed part of the National Government's Multipoint Plan which includes Environmental Health as one of the key focus areas. The research findings has inspired the SDB community to become more proactive, intensifying talks between government, surrounding industries, media, NPOs and NGOs like groundWork and the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance.

Industrialist creates environmental awareness

Lisa Mbongwa

International academic and industrialist, Professor Jean Faullimmel captivated DUT's academic community in a lecture on environmental preservation at Steve Biko Campus's Research Boardroom, on 5 August. Faullimmel's respected lectures have travelled the world and have been driven by his desire to acquire more knowledge about the world.

As a researcher and industrialist he has gained extensive experience from working with large conglomerates, including Shell. While addressing aspects of industrialisation in developing countries he said sustainable development must meet contemporary needs without compromising that of the future generations. Globally, 85% of wastewater going into the environment remains untreated; the average daily carbon dioxide emissions released into the atmosphere can take between 50 to 200 years to disintegrate, with a prolonged effect on global warming. This in turn affects global temperatures, with the highest temperatures recorded over the last 15 years.

Faullimmel said he is concerned about the increase in industrialization in developing countries, including South Africa as it would have an increased impact on pollution. He stressed the need for government to work hand in hand with the public, private and corporate sector to ensure safe waste disposal methods are implemented. "In order to stabilize the climate, the annual global emissions will need to be reduced below the level that the earth can absorb without adding to the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. The plastic bags, bottles and other debris piling up in the oceans and seas could be dramatically reduced by improved waste reduction, better waste management and recycling initiatives. Humanity shares the same home, it is fragile, keep it clean, and protect it," said Faullimmel.

Durban design institute recognizes local artist and writers

The Centre for Fine Art Animation and Design hosted its 10th Annual Graduation Dinner, Fashion Extravaganza and Too Little Too Late (TLTL) Awards Ceremony, at Greyville's DLI Hall on 27 August 2010.

The event, which has graced the social calendar for a decade, saw three significant events rolled into one fabulous evening. A sit-down banquet in the atmospheric DLI Hall provided the backdrop for CFAD's most recognized public event. The event highlighted the tertiary institution's acknowledgment of unsung heroes who have been instrumental in weaving the complex fabric of our community. "The TLTL Awards are given to individuals who contribute unselfishly to the community without the recognition they deserve. Most South African artists have highlighted the plight of the struggle for freedom, and through their work people were able to break the silence," said CFAD director and cartoonist, Nanda Soobben.

He said this year's TLTL award recipients, Aziz Hassim, Prithiraj Dullay and Ashwin Desai all share a literary heritage. The three respected authors, contributed meaningfully to the process of reconciliation, cultural awareness and nation-building through their writings.

DUT academic editor and activist, Prithiraj Dullay, was influenced by his exposure to struggle activists such as Steve Biko and Strini Moodley while studying at Springfield College, shaped his political consciousness. Dullay's debut book Salt Water Runs in My Veins was launched in May 2010. His is currently working on a second project, expected to be published later this year.

The art and media achievement, Edge Award, was presented to Jan Jordaan, DUT Fine Art lecturer and director of Art for Humanity, in tribute to his work in the media. Jordaan initiated the UDHR International Print Portfolio for Artists for Human Rights in Durban.

The event culminated in a fun, vibrant and frivolous organic fashion show, with creations made out of recycled waste by undergraduate students. Designers focused on integrating the theme of celebration into their designs while simultaneously highlighting the effects of global warming and the environmental benefits of recycling. The design brief was interpreted literally, figuratively and symbolically.

Krish Moodley, CFAD academic director said the initiative began in 2000, "the fashion design project is an opportunity to stretch the creativity of the graphic design students and to explore a unique solution to the age-old problem of pollution."

DUT hosts World of Work

Lisa Mbongwa and Sboniso Biyela

More than 50 national companies participated in DUT's World of Work (WOW) careers fair at Rison Hall on 12-13 August, attracting hundreds of students seeking employment opportunities.

The interactive initiative between the institution and industry stakeholders was launched in 2007 by the Department of Co-operative Education with the aim of providing a networking platform for students and prospective employers. The 2010 fair saw the participation of 19 additional companies compared to last year.

Public Relations student, Alzira White said WOW creates student employment opportunities and its success and growth has resulted in Toyota and the South African Revenue Service providing DUT graduates with long term employment. Large corporates including Siemens, Engen and IT company, Accenture, displayed colourful stands with informative presentations to captivate potential interns. Siemens also provided students with information on its Apprenticeship Training Scheme that focuses on the development of crucial technical skills.

Siemens representative, Venessa Da-Silva said: "The training consists of six months basic theoretical training and 18 months practical training. The objective of the training scheme is to prepare students to write their trade test to become qualified artisan as boilermakers, fitter and turners, welders and electricians."

Accenture is currently recruiting IT graduates for its 2011 Graduate Internship Programme with training to specialise in different fields. Accenture representative, Natachia George said the careers fair provided a great opportunity to market Accenture and to look for potential employees.

DUT and eThekweni Municipality embark on sustainable living

Lisa Mbongwa

In promotion of sustainable living, eThekweni Municipality hosted the Sustainable City Exhibition at the Durban Exhibition Centre, from 13-15 August. The exhibition was open to the private and corporate sector to encourage increased research in innovations and demonstrate support towards sustainable living, highlighting the importance of using the earth's natural resources through green products and services. Experts in the field of energy conservation, waste management and environmental health were invited to exhibit presentations, and contribute to the growing discourse and debate on sustainable energy. The event showcased innovative ideas and projects linked to energy efficiency, renewable energy, waste minimization, recycling and organic food gardening.

Exhibitors included individuals, small, medium and micro enterprises, departments within eThekweni Municipality and provincial schools. Institution for Water and Wastewater Technology (IWWT) director, Prof Faizel Bux said: "The IWWT, as part of DUT, exhibited the Algae Technology Project that we are running with eThekweni Municipality, focusing on the production of biodiesel from microalgae. The display was well received with many enquiries especially from potential entrepreneurs and scholars, with many of them now wanting to pursue their qualifications in biotechnology."

The event was attended by Deputy Mayor, Logie Naidoo and City Manager, Dr Mike Sutcliffe.

Search for new talent



DUT's Power House Football Club on the sports field

The DUT's Power House Football Club meets on Fridays, depending on the availability of the soccer field, as a social networking platform for staff, students and alumni who have a common interest in the sport. Practice sessions for the strategic game focuses on mental and physical fitness training. The club welcomes new staff and student membership and is keen on increasing the number of games played against other institutions and corporates.

Soccer matches are geared towards exposing the hidden talents of DUT's academic community and increasing engagement with the university's alumni. Power House FC recently played against formidable teams, winning 2-1 against the SABC Soccer Team. They were locked in a tight battle with Ilanga Newspaper as the teams drew 1-1. Earlier practice sessions proved to be successful as the home team walked away with a victorious win with 3-1 goals against Independent Newspapers. For membership details, please contact Thuli Duma on (031) 373 2114.

Mars Africa takes the lead in Food Science Innovation

Mars Africa Spokesperson

Mars Africa, one of the country's leading manufacturers of food, chocolate and pet care products, has taken the lead in food science innovation by championing the support of the South African Food Science Industry at the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFoST), 15th World Congress of Food Science and Technology.

The bid to host the conference was won by the South African Association for Food Science and Technology (SAAFoST) and was held for the first time in South Africa, at the Cape Town International Convention Centre from 22-26 August, 2010. The conference aimed to unite food experts around the globe and highlight the important role food scientists play in terms of research and education. Amongst the topics of food innovation and safety, focus was given to food security, food preservation, consumer education and environmental sustainability.

Fifteen Food and Science Technology students, including Trishanta Pursotham, Sri Devi Saminathan and Aadilah Cassim from DUT, were sponsored by Mars Africa to showcase their work to international delegates attending the event.

The conference revealed that while food science is still seen as a scarce skill in South Africa, there has been growing interest in applications for food science programmes at South African universities. Employment opportunities have increased with greater

opportunity for students exiting degree programmes in fields including nutrition, research, education, the agriculture sector, quality assurance or in food ingredient sales and advertising.

Jeanne Cerff, Mars Africa Food Business General Manager said: "As a forward-thinking organization we have always been supportive of the industry scholars, from students and educators to leading industry players contributing to research and development. We believe in paying particular interest to students and hope to help them grow their interest in food science as a discipline and contribute to the growth of the industry."

The event was also attended by Ashraf Shehata, Scientific and Regulatory Affairs manager for Mars Africa, India and Middle East; Adam Adams, director of HW and Sustainability at Mars Incorporated and Lisa Ronquest, head of Research and Development at Mars Africa Food.

Ronquest said: "South Africa has an extremely diverse food industry from small family businesses to large multi-nationals. I believe this is a great foundation for innovation and trying new things in our country and diverse consumer base. We do, however, have a responsibility to South African consumers to provide food that is value for money as well as play our part in reducing food insecurity in our country. Mars Africa will drive this cause through the IUFoST conference."

Engineering student scoops Eskom award

Sboniso Biyela

DUT BTech Engineering student, Lee Naidu received the 2010 Eskom Academic Award for the University of Technology student category at a prestigious ceremony held on 11 August, in Johannesburg. The annual event recognises engineering students with academic excellence enrolled at Higher Education Institutions, and provides academic bursaries in promotion of furthering interest in the field.

Naidu was nominated for the Eskom Academic Award by the Department of Electronic Engineering after graduating with 20 distinctions and an 81% aggregate. As part of acknowledging his academic achievements, Eskom presented Naidu with an achievement plaque and a R10 000 bursary. Naidu's victory comes after receiving the Dean's Merit Award at the April Graduation Ceremony. His lecturers described him as a dedicated and hardworking student who is always keen on acquiring new knowledge.

Naidu's aspirations in the field of engineering is endless, he is currently completing his BTech degree while employed as an Application Engineer and is involved in processing software and the design for process control.

He said: "Elements of engineering, challenges of design and innovation inspires me." He added that unconditional support received from his wife and family played a crucial role towards his achievements and kept him motivated. Naidu is enthusiastic about his future and plans to pursue his master's degree in Electronic Engineering and hopes to be involved in project and design management upon completion of his current qualification.

Recognising international students



Angel Motsamai, International Relations officer, together with Swazi students

The Department of International Education and Partnerships (IEP), together with DUT Swazi students, acknowledged Swaziland's National Day in celebration of the country's independence which was achieved on 6 September 1968. As proud citizens, students honoured the efforts made by their fellow men at a private ceremony held at the IEP boardroom, ML Sultan Campus, where they networked with other International students.

Angel Motsamai, International Relations officer said: "As part of the IEP commitment to International students and in the spirit of good hospitality, we acknowledge and celebrate the various national, independence days, special holidays and events from their countries of origin. The initiative emphasizes that we are proud to have international students studying at our university. They are important to us as part of our drive to foster new relations with different countries within Africa and other continents."

Researcher focuses on religious practices at schools

Sboniso Biyela

More than 250 international delegates attended the 17th International Conference on Learning 2010 held during June in Tai Po. The event was hosted by the Hong Kong Institute of Education and focused on research development in education.

DUT DTech Education student, Loshini Govindsamy attended the conference, where she presented her paper titled the "Mismatch between the Policy on Religion Education and the way this is currently practised at South African Public Schools"

This year's conference aimed to draw international attention to the way school assemblies are being conducted at public schools in South Africa. Govindsamy's research, funded by the postgraduate Incentives Award, focuses on changing the way in which assemblies are currently being conducted, and the predominance of certain religions in schools. She said the conference afforded her the opportunity to network with academics, discuss future research possibilities, share ideas and strategic research methods. She added that her stay in Hong Kong was fascinating, empowering and motivating.

Govindsamy said: "Attending the conference has given me international exposure. My paper will be published in the International Journal of Learning by Common Ground Publishers." She intends to have her thesis passed by the university's Higher Degrees Council thereafter, once accepted research findings will be made available to the Department of Education (DoE). She hopes the DoE will take remedial action to assist School Governing Bodies in becoming more knowledgeable on the conduct of school assemblies and South Africa's diverse religious following.



Pictured: Delegates at the 15th World Congress of Food and Science Technology conference in Cape Town. Mars Africa sponsored 15 students from Higher Education Institutions, three of which were from DUT

Photographer: Jurie Senekal

2010 Spring Graduation scenes



Spring Graduation academic procession with Chief of the South African Navy, Vice Admiral Johannes Mudimu



DUT academics stand in honour of the National Anthem 'Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrika', which is ceremoniously sung at all graduation ceremonies



Excited students eagerly await their turn to be capped by the Chancellor as they reap the rewards of their hard work. This year's Spring Graduation saw 10 doctoral and 36 masters' degrees issued to students across six faculties.

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela



DUT creates environmental awareness

Karishma Ganpath



Pictured: Prof Ngabomzi Gawe, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Institutional Support; Dr Kenneth Netshiombo, Executive Dean: Faculty of Arts and Design and Lehloholo Mokohlouloane, Health and Safety Officer together with Anti-Litter Campaign volunteers

Photographer: Bhekani Dlamini

More than 200 students participated in DUT's joint Anti-Litter Campaign with eThekweni Municipality, on 8 September, in a drive to create awareness on environmental conservation by encouraging the academic community to put an end to littering through recycling initiatives.

The collaborative project was launched by Dr Kenneth Netshiombo, Executive Dean of Health and was endorsed by the office of DVC Academic, Prof Ngabomzi Gawe with student support from the Environmental Health programme, the Health Advisory Students Organisation (HASO) and the Department of Health and Safety.

Project Manager, Lehloholo Mokohlouloane said the joint initiative between DUT and the City is an intended long term partnership that will look at alternative ways of incorporating efforts by industry and research stakeholders. "We want to inculcate a culture of cleanliness within the University's communities. The Anti-Litter campaign is supported by eThekweni Municipality's Durban Solid Waste and the Health Unit: Pollution Control and involved the participation of students from Ritson, Steve Biko and ML Sultan campuses. The project will focus on constant monitoring litter hotspots using litter marshals and ways to encourage students to keep their environment clean," he said.

DSW Education Officer, Noxolo Mcobongwana said the project intends to provide recycling bins at strategic points to encourage students to segregate waste for recycling purposes. She said: "The recycling bins encourage the public to separate waste into paper, cans, plastic and glass. Through this initiative we want to eradicate the perception that littering creates jobs by highlighting the environmental impact of pollution."

Senior Technician at the Health Unit: Pollution Control, Phumlani Ngema said the project is a good education tool which focuses on sustaining the environment. Waste segregation is important and can be used to create employment opportunities through recycling projects. "The project can be enhanced by implementing an institutional policy on waste recycling. We also want to encourage the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions, which is a global warming gas, together with other toxic gasses which are released into the environment through burning of plastic mixed with other waste including rubber. These harmful gases known as Poly Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAH) together with dioxins and furans pose increased health risks with respiratory tract infections being common symptoms," said Ngema.

Gandhi Trust honours struggle veterans

Karishma Ganpath



Ela Gandhi, grand-daughter of Mahatma Gandhi presents Dr Enuga Reddy with the 2010 Mahatma Gandhi International Award for Reconciliation and Peace at Durban's City Hall

Picture supplied

Dr Enuga Sreenivasulu Reddy was awarded the 2010 Mahatma Gandhi International Award for Reconciliation and Peace for his efforts in building solidarity against apartheid. He received the award at the annual Gandhi Development Trusts' Mahatma Gandhi and Sathyagraha Awards ceremony at Durban's City Hall, on 9 September.

The former United Nations (UN) Assistant Secretary-General led the Centre against Apartheid from 1976 to 1984 and later became Principal Secretary of the Special Committee against Apartheid. Dr Reddy's firm values were shaped and influenced by the political and social beliefs of Nehru and Gandhi in their fight against British oppression and colonization. He has written extensively on the South African liberation struggle and has been engaged in research on Gandhi and his Passive Resistance Movement. During his time at the UN, Dr Reddy used his political influence to cultivate international solidarity towards the demise of apartheid.

Posthumous awards in recognition of the role struggle veterans played towards achieving South Africa's democracy were issued to family members of Chief Albert Luthuli, Dr Yusuf Dadoo, Dr Monty Naicker, Ruth First and Fatima Meer. Struggle veterans Ahmed Kathrada, Laloo Isu Chiba and Sophie Williams De Bruyn received Mahatma Gandhi Awards for their courage, commitment and sacrifice.

Accepting the award in the memory of his late father, Dr Monty Naicker, Dr Kreesan Naicker said the award was a fitting tribute to his father, other recipients and the thousands who sacrificed their lives for our freedom. He said however, his father would be particularly disappointed that South Africa achieved political freedom but not socio-economic empowerment for all citizens.

He said he would be further concerned with the high levels of crime and corruption and would mobilise citizens and civil societies to assist government in healing our fractured society. "He would be critical of government for any deviant behaviour that goes against the constitution. He would find it difficult to understand or justify the government's tabling of the Protection of Information Bill, because throughout his life he fought for the freedom of speech and association and access to information," said Dr Naicker.

Du Plessis 'Caught in the Act'

Lisa Mbongwa

Veteran marine videographer, John du Plessis, recently travelled the coast of Egypt to capture the Red Sea phenomenon to be broadcast as part of a National Geographic five part series.

Du Plessis, an accomplished underwater wildlife documentarian, lectures Video Technology to BTech students at DUT. He specialises in filming fish species, sharks and wrecks of the East African coast and Red Sea. Footage for his latest production, *Caught in the Act* was captured in Dahab, a small town situated on the southeast coast of the Sinai Peninsula in Egypt. The captivating production documents his underwater adventures. He said: "It's all about being at the right place at the right time. Working close to water and with underwater creatures has made me aware of the environment and the balance of nature." The five part series reveals fascinating details about his subjects, igniting the curiosity of viewers with gripping footage that reveals insight about behavioural patterns of wildlife and instinctive survival tactics.

Du Plessis' career began as a diver 12 years ago and was fuelled by his passion for underwater exploration and his love for deep sea creatures. As a seasoned marine videographer he enjoys working in and around South Africa and has produced several documentaries for the South African Broadcast Corporation. In 2008, he joined DUT as it launched its first underwater Video Technology programme. "The course is unique and I have not come across a university that has a similar course. It has a methodical approach that also puts theory into practice, teaching students the art of diving and camera skills. The response to this course has been highly successful," he said.

Du Plessis' artistic creativity however, does not end with his camera. He is a renowned violinist who performs under the name of Johan Grobbelaar. Du Plessis also holds an Honours Degree in Music Composition and Violin from the University of Pretoria and has played with legendary classical musicians and orchestras over the years, frequently travelling between Paris and London to perform. He also produced numerous music programmes and documentaries since his appointment as Producer and Studio Director at SABC's Serious Music Department, in 1975.

Fragmented Prisms

Karishma Ganpath

The Department of Drama Studies entertained playwrights, producers and students at their recent performance of *Fragmented Prisms*, an energetic and dramatic play written by Sabelo Ndlovu and Genbia Hyla. The production was showcased on the 26-27 July at DUT's Courtyard Theatre.

Ndlovu said: "Fragmented Prisms is aimed at changing the perceptions of society through a global message of hope for humanity by depicting the different eras South Africa has gone through to achieve democracy." The thought provoking piece which showcased at the Grahamstown National Arts Festival in June, questions our thoughts and emotions and the type of democracy we have achieved.

He said different scenes reflect the transitions through colonial rule, the apartheid era and contemporary society and are carefully interwoven into the complex dramatic performance. Despite the serious undertone, the performance is colourful with good use of props and comes with a dash of laughter. The characters' personalities are captivating with traits that we can relate to, whilst they wittily radiate the clash between traditional beliefs and post modernism. The story line focuses on contemporary issues including xenophobia, racism, social imbalances and the ever widening gap between the rich and poor. The play further raised questions on whether we live in an illusionary democracy and examines the role of government.

The main character 'Man', played by Menzi Mkhwane, is sent back in time by a group of sangomas, to retrieve the lost souls of his ancestors. He is tasked to fetch the wandering souls, who remain trapped in the pages of our history, with the use of an Umphafa branch. The act signifies cleansing of the soul to help society find peace within itself to restore humility to humanity.

Ndlovu said: "The use of traditional adaptations from the Zulu culture provides a unique take on how tradition can be used in conjunction with post-modern beliefs to achieve common ground. The act of purging, a cleansing exercise to rid the body of contaminants, is used to illustrate that the mind and soul can be rid of hatred that stems from past injustices."

He said the plot creatively questions the perceptions and belief systems of different races and ethnic groups, inspiring public discourse. The play however, has an intended message which focuses on building a unified progressive society through forgiveness and tolerance.

IEASA workshop addresses setbacks at HEIs

Sboniso Biyela



Staff and students at the IEASA KZN Workshop at DUT

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela

Accommodation setbacks topped the agenda at the International Education Association of South Africa's (IEASA) provincial workshop hosted by DUT, earlier this month.

Staff members and student representatives from neighbouring Higher Education Institutions gathered at ML Sultan Campus, on 6 August, in an attempt to find possible solutions to the accommodation crisis presently facing the education sector.

In recent months, the lack of available suitable student accommodation together with issues relating to the availability of student loans and outstanding fees have fuelled violent student protests around the province resulting in disruptions to academic activities, and the temporary closure of DUT.

The IEASA workshop was designed to create a platform for robust discussion on accommodation issues and finding alternatives in order to avert seasonal strikes. The discussions revealed that academic performance of institutions in KZN have been hampered by issues relating to accommodation.

DUT Student Housing Head, Theophilus Nhassengo said that the accommodation crisis has not only affected KZN institutions but is a worldwide phenomenon; there exists the need for strategic ways to address the problem. "It is not the responsibility of the institution to find students

accommodation; establishments within the city were never meant to be residential universities. Students are expected to be independent as they reach senior level, however, we have limited bed spaces and have found masters students requesting accommodation," said Nhassengo.

He reinforced that residences were not designed for senior students, as the general expectation is that students will become independent as they mature, however, recent findings reveal that accommodation has been misused by students who have overstayed their welcome. Nhassengo outlined limited resources as an additional burden which institutions have had to endure. Unscrupulous landlords who focused on financial gain were also identified as catalysts to the problem.

A Mangosuthu University staff representative, who asked not to be named, said leased buildings come with additional costs which ultimately become a financial burden on institutions. He added that limited funding from the government to support student villages needs to be revisited.

The panel acknowledged that the majority of students affected by the accommodation crisis were black students from disadvantaged areas. However, they agreed that the current accommodation system needs to be overhauled, to allow it to be self-sustainable and to prevent future academic disruptions and bottlenecks.

Simba's princess returns to South Africa

Lisa Mbongwa and Sboniso Biyela

After spending months in Hong Kong, one of the leading global trade centres, DUT Drama postgraduate student, Nombuso Gcabashe, returned to South Africa for a seven day visit after being cast in the award winning Broadway musical, *The Lion King*, in August. After responding to a call for auditions Gcabashe managed to snatch one of the leading roles in the play. Gcabashe always hoped to move to Hong Kong, and now her dreams have become a reality.

The ambitious actress, who majored in music and dance, plays the role of Simba's boisterous girlfriend, Nala. Gcabashe said citizens of Hong Kong, in comparison to South Africans, are very reserved however the cast received wonderful audience response to the production. She is keen on becoming a director and producing her own shows, similar to that of *The Lion King*, with performance artists and dramatists from around the world.

Gcabashe emphasized that the key to success lies in self confidence, courage and discipline. She said: "Everything that I have learned at DUT has come into practice and I am grateful to people like Debbie, who have pushed me to work hard, enabling me to cope in this strenuous industry. You do not become famous, people make you famous."

Drama Studies lecturer, Debbie Lutge said Gcabashe was a very good student and is focused and provides an all round performance which is internally integrated.



Jubilant Nombuso Gcabashe

Photographer: Sboniso Biyela

Bridging Free State's skills gap

Karishma Ganpath



Pictured: Free State Provincial officials with DUT, UKZN and Mangosuthu University Hlasela Fund bursary recipients

Photographer: Karishma Ganpath

A delegation of officials from the Free State (FS) provincial government visited DUT's Steve Biko Campus, on 21 August, to meet students funded by the province's Operation Hlasela Fund as part of its commitment to bridging the skills shortage gap.

The bursary initiative supports 27 students currently enrolled at DUT, UKZN and Mangosuthu University and has raised R154 million towards providing education opportunities to disadvantage learners. The bursary will cover all academic costs over the full duration of the students' qualification. Bursary applications will be advertised in regional papers across all provinces, including local papers in the Free State.

FS Premier, Elias Magashule said the country is currently faced with major challenges which require rapid response from government and social partners including universities. He said problems required an integrated approach to overcome high levels of unemployment and skills shortage within the labour market, poverty, poor service delivery models, low levels of productivity and rigid bureaucratic machinery.

FS Premier spokesman, William Bulwane said Magashule and his Executive Council embarked on a national tour to meet bursary recipients and to engage with management at Higher Education Institutions to address the need for social partnerships to fund tertiary education. He said: "Hlasela is a Sotho word meaning attack. It is appropriate as the Hlasela project aims to attack poverty, the lack of education and unemployment by providing opportunities to disadvantaged learners. The project is also trying to address the skills scarcity in South Africa by providing bursaries in fields with specific focus on Maths, Science, Engineering, Technology and Commerce."

Bulwane said Operation Hlasela is an intended long term project that generated funding with individual monthly contributions at R600 from the FS Legislature, with the Premier and Executive Council members making a monthly contribution of R1500 each. He said: "Employees are not obligated to contribute to the charitable cause. However, we love to urge others to contribute toward the educational cause that allows equal opportunity to those who are less fortunate."

Victorious Victor's swift gold in Botswana

Lisa Mbongwa

DUT Graphic Design student, Shane Victor was awarded two gold medals after competing in the 15th Confederation of University and College Sports Associations Games, in Botswana. The event was hosted by University Sports South Africa's (USSA) athletics division from the 5th to 10th July.

The brawny resilient sprinter received two gold medals for his agile performance in the 400m and the 4x400m relay. Victor said he began taking his participation in various sporting activities seriously in high school and currently endures intense training six days a week to put his stamina, speed, strength and skills to the test.

After enrolling for his first passion Graphic Design, he joined the university's Athletics Team to compete in the Student SA Champ games in Potchefstroom. He was then selected to represent the university within the organisation's South African team. He said his accomplishments came from dedicating all his time to becoming the best he can be at what he does. "To be chosen as the best amongst other university students feels good and I am still very surprised. It's all about hard work and dedication, I've been working really hard so I feel very proud," said Victor.

USSA is a structure for the regulation, organization and coordination of student sports activities at regional, provincial and national levels within SA's Higher Education sector. Victor said his ambition is the driving force behind his success, and has his sports career planned. "My goal is to represent the country in 2011 at the World Students Games in China. If I can do that, I will be on the right track for the Olympics, which I have two years to prepare for. I'm ready for the intense training that will go into making this a success. Winning these gold medals has given me such a huge boost and interest in what I am doing, so the passion is definitely there," said Victor.

Pictured: DUT gold medallist, Shane Victor returned to SA with two gold medals after competing in the 15th Confederation of University and College Sports Associations Games in Botswana



Photographer: Lisa Mbongwa

IkamvaYouth and DUT partner to improve secondary education

Dumile Mbatha

IkamvaYouth, in collaboration with DUT, will host a Summer School at Steve Biko Campus during December as part of the Non-Governmental Organisation's drive to improve education and the socioeconomic status of disadvantaged learners.

KwaZulu-Natal Regional Manager, Khona Dlamini, said IkamvaYouth was first established in the Western Cape and later developed branches in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal (KZN).

She said the KZN project was launched in 2007 in partnership with the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), geared towards improving scholars in underperforming schools. "We began with a pilot study with Grade 10-12 learners from Mayville Secondary School. Currently we have 96 learners enrolled; they come from Molweni, Bonela, Chesterville and Wiggins Secondary in Cato Manor. These learners will go on to participate in the upcoming Summer School in December."

Dlamini said the project has had significant impact on the learners' performance and will positively impact on the economy, and the disadvantaged communities they come from. DUT and UKZN registered volunteer tutors provide mentorship in Business Studies, Life Sciences, Geography, Computer Literacy including Information Technology, Drama, History, isiZulu, English, Accounting and Tourism.

Prof Darren Lorton, Dean of Applied Sciences said: "The Faculty of Applied Sciences supports the initiative as part of the University's corporate social investment, by providing student mentors to the programme and facilities for the Winter and the upcoming Summer School. Learners who matriculate with academic excellence will be provided with financial assistance and support to register at DUT."

He said quarterly reports are monitored and learners will be awarded with attendance certificates as an incentive for improvement and high achievements. The course has strict attendance criteria, which requires all learners to achieve 75% attendance at Saturday classes with a mandatory daily attendance during holiday programmes. The project is an intended long term sustainable project that has the potential to expand to programmes under different faculties.

Cape Town UNISA Psychology and Communications student, Hilton Marnoch said: "It's very nice to see that kids are learning and the fact that they are enjoying themselves shows it's been good and that there should be more similar projects available nationally."

Grade 10 Chesterville learner, Phelele Gwala said it was the first time he attended the Winter School and believes it will help him improve his grades.

Harbouring Histories Exhibition

DUT's Art Galley hosted a joint mixed media A3 paper exhibition by Australia's Curtin University of Technology's (CUT) Faculty of Arts and DUT's Department of Fine Art and Jewellery Design last month.

Prof Donal Fitzpatrick, head of the School of Art and Design in Perth visited DUT in May 2009 to attend the Faculty of Arts and Design Conference on Creative Research Outputs. At the conference Tony Starkey, DUT HOD of Fine Art and Jewellery Design, suggested that the two departments hold a joint exhibition of work by staff at DUT and CUT galleries. A memorandum of understanding was later signed by the two universities.

The joint collaboration with CUT HOD of Art, Julian Goddard resulted in an A3 paper exhibition, titled Harbouring Histories. Work by staff members was submitted to reviewers, Harry Hummerston and Brenda Ridgwell from CUT and Durban artist, Dr Andrew Verster. The exhibition, which showcased the work of 23 academics from DUT and CUT will travel to Perth in December.

The mixed media exhibition included pieces by DUT Fine Art lecturers, Nirmi Ziegler and Themba Shibase. Ziegler's work uses hand-made paper to reflect her thoughts and emotions. Shibase's work incorporates monoprint, a process used in printing, to subvert popular images in creating new languages to look at history.

Prof Fitzpatrick draws on the bold use of colour and huge brush marks to express emotion with great craftsmanship. His work is colorful, eye catching and thought provoking. The ambiguity of the figure like structures in Harbouring Aliens, a charcoal sketch by DUT Fine Art lecturer, John Roome, creates discourse by alluding to the presence of alien-like species.

DUT Art Gallery curator, Nkosinathi Gumede said: "The project is an intended long term partnership between the two universities; hopefully creating opportunities for future staff and student exchange programmes, joint research initiatives and curriculum development. The partnership is also aimed at positioning academic output from DUT's Faculty of Art and Design in the global context."



Harbouring Aliens

Students return from Chiropractic congress

Karishma Ganpath

DUT undergraduate Chiropractic students, Justin Adams and Jason d'Hotman de Villiers attended the World Congress of Chiropractic Students conference, held at Parker College of Chiropractic in Dallas, Texas from 16-22 September.

More than 230 international delegates attended the event which was aimed at the advancement of the chiropractic profession, global research possibilities and identifying current challenges faced by Chiropractic Higher Education Institutions and programmes around the world.

Adams said: "DUT's Chiropractic programme is accredited by the European Council on Chiropractic Education which is based in Germany. Our visit focused on marketeting the programme and initiating long term mutually beneficial academic and research partnerships. The seven day conference also created discourse on new innovations, therapy and development in research."

"WCCS congress was a great networking opportunity for students and included presentations by academics and practitioners in the field. Our visit would not have been possible without the support and sponsorship from TAP Kruger Orthopaedics, the Chiropractic Association of South Africa (CASA), HiTech Therapy, DUT Chiropractic students, private practitioners and the Departments of Transfer, Innovation and Partnerships; International



Justin Adams (left) and Jason d'Hotman de Villiers

Photographer: Karishma Ganpath

Education and Partnerships and Chiropractic and Somatology," said d'Hotman de Villiers.

As part of the drive to raise R45 000 to fund their trip Chiropractic students raffled a Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation Machine. The portable digital machine valued at R1100 was won by Alan Dicks of East London. The machine is used as a pain control modality and can be used for home care in the treatment of pain in the lower back, neck and is appropriate for chronic conditions and acute pain.

Chiropractic programme head, Dr Charmaine Korporaal said the interaction of chiropractic students with other international chiropractic colleges through the WCCS, is a vital step for DUT's Chiropractic programme to achieve, in order to support international accreditation processes.

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