

UKZN TOUCH

A UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL ALUMNI PUBLICATION

Issue 2 • 2007



- NEWS
- PROFILES
- OUT & ABOUT
- CLASS NOTES
- ON THE BOOKSHELF
- CONVOCATION



02	MESSAGES
04	NEWS
16	PROFILES
20	OUT & ABOUT
23	CLASS NOTES
28	CONVOCATION
30	ON THE BOOKSHELF

UKZN TOUCH

A UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL ALUMNI PUBLICATION



Editorial team	Dasarath Chetty, Finn Christensen, Deanne Collins, André Young
Contributors	Deanne Collins, Vicky Crookes, Sejal Desai, Bhekani Dlamini, Hazel Dlamini, Caroline Harben, MaryAnn Francis, Vadi Govender, Smita Maharaj, Indu Moodley, Thembeke Nyaba, Corlia Ogle, Normah Zondo
Photographs	Vicky Crookes, Bhekani Dlamini, Anand Govender, Kevin Joseph, Madoda Mahlangu, Mangana Makhumisane, Colia Ogle, Shaun Veeran, Bruno van Dyk
Administrative Assistance	Esmé Estrice, Desiree Govender, Fikisile Mabaso
Produced by	Corporate Relations, University of KwaZulu-Natal
Telephone	031 260 1245/7115/2027
Email	collins@ukzn.ac.za
Alumni Affairs office	031 260 2016/2823
Alumni Affairs website	www.alumni-affairs.ukzn.ac.za
Design & Layout	Artworks Communications
Printing	Universal Printers
Cover photo	Chief Albert Luthuli Memorial Lecture (see article on page 4)



During 2006, the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) went through a comprehensive consultative process for the development of a 10 year Strategic Plan. The Strategy, which has been approved by Council, has the following seven goals:

- **African-led Globalisation**

To promote African-led globalisation through African scholarship by positioning the University, through its teaching, learning, scholarship, research, and innovation, to enter the global knowledge system on its own terms, bringing knowledge production

From the desk of the Vice-Chancellor

systems relating to its local context into the global arena

- **Responsible Community Engagement**

To contribute through knowledge to the prosperity and sustainability of our province, and to nation-building, by connecting with and committing ourselves to the communities we serve in a manner that adds value and earns their respect, admiration and trust

- **Pre-Eminence in Research**

To build a research ethos that acknowledges the responsibility of academic staff to nurture its postgraduate students, and to be a pre-eminent producer of new knowledge that is both local and global in context, and defines UKZN as the Premier University of African Scholarship

- **Excellence in Teaching and Learning**

To promote excellence in teaching and

learning through creative and innovative curriculum design and development, pedagogical strategies, and assessment practices in accordance with the highest quality management principles

- **Institution of Choice for Students**

To establish the University as an institution of choice that values students in all their diversity and has a student-centred ethos, providing students with curricula, teachers, infrastructure and support services designed around their needs and producing well-educated, competent, sought-after graduates

- **Institution of Choice for Staff**

To establish the University as an institution of choice that attracts and retains academic and support staff of the highest calibre by creating an intellectual environment that fosters and

stimulates academic life, and a climate of organisational citizenship in which all staff recognise and understand their role in ensuring the success of the University

- **Efficient and Effective Management**

To establish and maintain efficient, effective management systems and processes that provide a caring and responsive service to meet internal and external needs in a pragmatic and flexible manner.

The Strategy and its implementation are timely, when the University is preparing for the Institutional Audit due in October 2008; has developed a "Resource-based Allocation Model" of budgeting and has R400m capital to develop the University's infrastructure.

Professor MW Makgoba



On 31 December 2007 the University of KwaZulu-Natal will be four years old. In those four years UKZN has become known for its academic excellence, for being number two in terms of research output in competition with over 20 universities and universities of technology in South Africa, and for being one of only four South African universities in the

From the desk of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Corporate Relations

world's top five hundred – no mean feat when one considers that there are over 20 000 universities in the world. The University is known for its extremely wide range of academic offerings from Architecture to Zoology and securing a place in the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine is still an enormous achievement given the extremely competitive environment that students have to endure. Our staff and students are engaged in hundreds of community outreach projects directly in line with our quest to be critically engaged with society and our research breakthroughs with regard to TB and HIV/AIDS have

been internationally applauded.

The institutional culture has also begun to change as we democratise and deracialise structures and relations allowing for the historically and presently marginalised to enter the mainstream. Such transformation will always generate debate and opinion which will be nurtured and fostered together with ongoing contestations over what constitutes academic freedom and whether there ought to be limits to freedom of expression in an academic institution.

These real elements of the UKZN brand, projected through marketing and communications efforts, have

again seen UKZN scoop six awards at the annual Unitech Marketing and Communications Excellence Awards bringing our tally to 25 in four years – an achievement unrivalled by any other South African higher education institution. Public response to our branded publications, website and significant events has been overwhelmingly positive reinforcing our image and reputation in line with our vision to be the Premier University of African Scholarship.

Professor Dasarath Chetty

Message from the Alumni Affairs Team

The Alumni Affairs Team had a very busy and exciting 2007 – having interacted with over 96 000 alumni in one way or another. A number of events were co-ordinated in many parts of South Africa and abroad, thousands of alumni were met at events or interacted with via email, post and telephone and many new initiatives were launched. These include the Career Portal for alumni and the bi-monthly electronic

newsletter. The Team was also strengthened by the very welcome addition in July of another Alumni Co-ordinator – Zanele Ndlala.

A number of events/activities have been planned for 2008 – so please look at the Dates to Diarise section within this publication. Places to be visited in 2008 include East London, Port Elizabeth, Cape Town, Lesotho, Australia, New Zealand and the UK. We would like to draw special attention to the Golden Alumnus Reunion which will take place on the Pieter-

maritzburg Campus on Friday, 11 April. All graduates of 1957-59 are strongly encouraged to attend this special day which will include a morning tea, campus tour, lunch and a talk. A formal notice of the Reunion is included in this publication. Graduates of 1956 and before are as usual invited to attend this Reunion and we look forward to seeing many familiar faces.

In order to maintain our relationship with alumni we are eager to secure the current contact details of alumni, especially email addresses. Please also encourage any friends or relatives who are graduates and have

not received any correspondence from the University in the past 12 months to provide us with their updated contact details. This can be done on the provided form (to be faxed or posted), via email or the website.

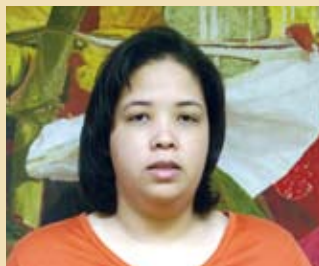
The Alumni Affairs Team looks forward to interacting and meeting with alumni during 2008 and welcomes suggestions on how we can build stronger relationships with all our fellow graduates.

With our very best wishes for a wonderful 2008.

The Alumni Affairs Team



FINN CHRISTENSEN



CORLIA OGLE



ESMÉ ESTRICE



ZANELE NDLALA

**Show that you
care about your
University . . .
Here's how a little
thought can make
a big difference**

The UKZN MasterCard credit card (issued and administered on behalf of the University by Absa Bank Ltd) is an easy way for you to make your own personal contribution to the University without effort or cost, and on a regular and ongoing basis.

Every purchase you make with your card will represent hard cash for your University. Without any additional charge to you, Absa Bank Ltd gives UKZN an amount proportionate to your total spending every month. You get an opportunity to support your University at no cost, yet make a real difference.

Your UKZN MasterCard credit card will also be distinctively branded with the name of UKZN.

When you consider the many graduates who have already pledged their support in this way, plus the many thousands yet to come, it is obvious that the sums involved provide UKZN with a welcome additional source of funding that will enhance the lives of all students.

Your Absa MasterCard credit card offers you all the benefits you would expect from a leading credit card. But perhaps the greatest benefit is knowing that each time you sign for an everyday purchase, you have made a contribution towards something that is dear to you.

Visit us at
www.absa.co.za
or call
(012) 317 3000
for more
information.

HOW TO APPLY: You can apply for your UKZN MasterCard credit card by completing a credit card application form and handing it in at any Absa branch or by filling in an electronic application form found on www.absa.co.za.

Chief Albert Luthuli Memorial Lecture

His Excellency, Joaquim Chissano, former President of Mozambique and current Chair of the Africa Forum, delivered the 2007 Annual Albert Luthuli Memorial Lecture at UKZN on 27 October. This is the third time that the University has hosted the Lecture.

The Lecture in the Westville campus main hall was attended by members of the Groutville community (where Chief Luthuli lived until his untimely death), students, academics and members of the public. Dignitaries present included His Excellency Karl Offmann, former Head of State of Mauritius; Chief Luthuli's daughter, Dr Albertina Luthuli and other members of the Luthuli family; Deputy Minister of Communication, Mr Roy Padayachee, IFP Leader, Prince Mangosuthu Buthelezi; Chief Justice Pius Langa; Justice Zac Jacob; and Mrs Ela Gandhi, Chancellor of the Durban University of Technology.

His Excellency Chissano, who was recently awarded the inaugural \$5 million Mo Ibrahim Award for African Leadership, spoke on the topic of 'Conflict Prevention, Management

and Resolution and Transformation of Societies in Africa today'. Noting that Chief Luthuli was a man of peace, he said that without peace there cannot be development, and without development we cannot transform societies in Africa.

He expressed his regret at the level of violent conflict in Africa and said that to prevent conflict requires co-ordinated initiatives and a clear understanding of what conflicting countries and societies stand to lose. "To celebrate the life of Chief Luthuli is to commit ourselves to the pursuit of the peaceful objectives that will bring about the development of our continent."

The Annual Albert Luthuli Memorial Lecture is a joint initiative organised by UKZN, the Department of Arts and Culture and the Luthuli Museum.



His Excellency Joaquim Chissano accepts a gift from UKZN Vice-Chancellor, Professor Malegapuru Makgoba.

Career 'Super-Highway'

UKZN's Alumni Affairs Office has facilitated an exciting and innovative career 'Super-Highway' which links alumni to the top companies in South Africa – from consulting and auditing firms, through to the banks, and the blue chip corporates.

There are over 100 current high profile jobs and career opportunities available at the moment. All graduates have to do is go online to www.ukznalumni.drm-za.com, browse the positions and register their CV online in detail. The online CV has to be completed comprehensively, as alumni only have to do it once, and from then on they can apply for as many jobs as they like at the touch of

a button. The 'Job Alerts' will advise them every time a new job is loaded that suits their profile.

This facility will proactively market alumni to the top companies whilst allowing alumni to focus on their current positions. All CVs are confidential and will only be shown to companies with their consent and at no cost.

The focus is on middle, senior

and executive level management positions. Feedback from alumni has been tremendous.

Employers looking to employ staff can go onto the portal for details on how to utilise the facility to attract real UKZN talent.

For more details contact Finn Christensen, Alumni Affairs Manager on 031-260 2823 or by email: christensenf@ukzn.ac.za

College boasts new Research Chairs

The College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science is proud of the addition of two new Research Chairs, announced recently by the Department of Science and Technology in an effort "to turn South Africa's brain drain to brain gain." Professor Deresh Ramjugernath from the School of Chemical Engineering and Professor Francesco Petruccione from the School of Physics will join the College's existing Research Chairs, Professor Steve Johnson and Professor Sunil Maharaj.

Professor Ramjugernath, Head of the School of Chemical Engineering, has been awarded the Research Chair in Fluorine Process Engineering and Separation Technology. He will contribute to the Government's Fluorine Expansion Initiative (FEI) by researching and developing South Africa's fluorinated products, eg pharmaceuticals and agro-chemicals. Despite South Africa possessing the second largest supply of fluorspar, it currently imports all its fluorinated products, said Professor Ramjugernath. The Government aims to develop this industry by diligently pursuing the FEI. "We expect substantial growth in this sector in the next few years," said Minister of Science and

Technology, Mr Mosibudi Mangena. Professor Ramjugernath's activities as the Chair will be directly linked with two major companies: Nuclear Energy Corporation of South Africa and SASOL.

Director of UKZN's Research Group on Theoretical Physics, Professor Petruccione will occupy the Research Chair in Quantum Information Processing and Communication. Professor Petruccione is a highly acclaimed researcher and the author of several books. His research interests include open quantum systems, decoherence, quantum information processing and communication, statistical physics and Monte Carlo methods.

The South African Research Chairs Initiative, launched in December 2006, aims to create 210 research chairs by 2010 covering a wide array of disciplines. "The main aim of the initiative is to grow high-level research capital and production capacity in the higher education sector." So far, 72 appointments have been made in 14 universities. Although approximately two-thirds of the incumbents are white, the initiative seeks to fill 60% of the Chairs with black researchers. There is also a target to ensure that half the appointees are women. It is estimated that the Research Chairs will cost the State R170 million over the next five years.



Professor Francesco Petruccione.



Professor Deresh Ramjugernath.

GOLDEN ALUMNI REUNION

Graduates of 1957, 1958 & 1959

Please join us as we celebrate the Golden Alumni Reunion for the Graduates of **1957, 1958 & 1959**

All graduates who graduated in 1959 and before are welcome to attend the Campus Tour and Luncheon

on **Friday, 11 April 2008 on the Pietermaritzburg Campus.**

We request all alumni to encourage fellow graduates (1959 and prior) to attend. If any graduate has changed contact details, please forward your new contact details to the Alumni Office. More detailed information will follow.

Contacts:

CORLIA OGLE: 031 260 1238 or ogle@ukzn.ac.za

ZANELE NDLALA: 031 260 2947 or magwaza4@ukzn.ac.za

Fax: 031 260 3265 or 031 260 2236

US\$8.1 million to train Crop Scientists

The African Centre for Crop Improvement, based on the Pietermaritzburg campus, will receive a grant of \$8.1 million from the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA). This support will allow the Centre a further five intakes of eight students a year. AGRA has also committed \$4.9 million to the ACCI's mirror image in West Africa – the West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI) at the University of Ghana. Modeled on the ACCI, this Centre aims to improve agricultural productivity and food security in western and central Africa.

The ACCI – the first of its kind in Africa – trains African PhD students in the applied breeding of African crops for increased drought tolerance and improved food security, with the ultimate aim of alleviating hunger in Africa. Students are drawn from a range of African countries, including Ethiopia, Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania, Rwanda and Zambia. "Students focus on different crops, depending on what is more pressing in their countries," said Deputy-Director of the ACCI, Dr Pangirayi Tongoona. Sorghum, millet, cassava, groundnut and pigeon pea are some of the crops studied by the students. The programme entails two years of training at the University, followed by three years of research in the students' home countries. Currently training its 7th cohort of crop breeders, the ACCI celebrated



Dr Joseph Kamau (right) and one of his technicians in front of a field trial of cassava at Kiboko Research Station, Kenya.

the graduation of its inaugural group of students in April.

AGRA, founded in 2006, is a partnership between the Rockefeller Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. It is committed to a "Green Revolution" in Africa that will move "tens of millions of people out of extreme poverty and significantly reduce hunger". Director of the ACCI, Professor Mark Laing is extremely enthusiastic about AGRA's investment in the ACCI programme: "AGRA has committed itself to continued funding of the research programmes of our graduates after they get a PhD. So they are not abandoned after graduating, but instead get the funding they need to continue their plant breeding projects."

Professor Laing is confident that the Centre will equip its students with the necessary skills and train-

ing to successfully breed new crop varieties suitable for the diverse agricultural environments in Africa. Some of the ACCI graduates have already made significant progress towards achieving this goal, such as Dr Joseph Kamau in Kenya.

Dr Kamau, the National Co-ordinator of the Cassava Programme, has made a major break-through by developing a fast maturing cassava crop for the Ukambani region in Kenya. When Dr Kamau embarked on his cassava breeding programme, local varieties took 18 months to harvest, were susceptible to disease and produced low yields. "In three years, he succeeded in releasing varieties which took eight months to harvest, were completely virus resistant, tasted better than any local farmer varieties, and had double the yield of local farmer varieties," said

Professor Laing. He added that the results of Dr Kamau's research are particularly encouraging considering that international agricultural agencies such as the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture maintain that it takes six to eight years to breed a new cassava variety.

While Dr Kamau continues to breed new cassava varieties, small scale farmers around Kenya are profiting from his agricultural developments. According to the Director of the Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute's Katumani Centre, Dr Charles Kariuki, "the new crop – Cassava 20451 – will enhance food security among farmers in dry areas."

Gold at Garden Show

The University continued its winning tradition at the Garden and Leisure Show in Pietermaritzburg, receiving a Gold Medal for its eye-catching and educational exhibit.

Acknowledged as South Africa's equivalent of the world renowned Chelsea Flower show in England, this annual event was held at the showgrounds from 5-7 October. UKZN competed against more than 95 exhibitors in the Commercial category, impressing the judges with creative skills and expert knowledge of their subject matter. Plant and animal enthusiasts were attracted to an aesthetic and well-synchronised display by various disciplines in the Faculty of Science and Agriculture at the Pietermaritzburg campus. The School of Biological and Conserva-

tion Sciences' display on attracting bats to the garden had great appeal. It featured live bats, courtesy of the Bat Interest Group, as well as a bat counting competition. It also comprised interesting information on the origins of plant names and a display on indigenous grasses.

Agricultural Sciences and Agribusiness focused on the science of growing plants, including displays on hydroponics and tissue culture. The Centre for Electron Microscopy featured the microscopic world of seeds with their expert staff on hand to answer any questions. Overall, the Garden and Leisure Show,



PhD Zoology student, Ms Joy Coleman, interacts with visitors at the University's stand at the Garden and Leisure Show.

which draws a wide range of people from around the country, provided the ideal platform for showcasing the

University and its diverse programmes in the Biological, Conservation and Agricultural Plant Sciences.

Sports Awards

Eleven UKZN sport ambassadors were recognised at an awards function at the Westville campus Sports Centre on 25 October. They were honoured for representing the University at the World Students Games in Bangkok earlier this year.

Miss Chandelie Jeanine Lombard, Judo champion, and Mr Pieter Koekemoer, Gold Medalist and athlete, were named the best UKZN sportswoman and sportsman. The University scooped the only gold medal for the South African team at the World Students Games. Two students were nominated from each campus to enter the sportswoman and sportsman of the year.

Executive of the South Africa Students Sport Union (SASSU) and former President of the Sport Union, Mr Sanele Madlala accompanied

the South African team to the World Students Games to Bangkok. He said the experience gained would be used for the benefit of students. He thanked the University for its assistance and support during the year.

Executive Dean of Student Services, Mr Trevor Wills congratulated students for having represented UKZN in sport. He added that the event was an opportunity to reflect on the year's experience and recognise students who have achieved university-wide. "It's time to recognise talent. We are a way above average University when it comes to sport, despite our facilities being below average," said Mr Wills. He congratulated sport participants for their performance, and clubs and Sport Administration for their enormous amount of work.

Head of Sport Administration Mr Andile Nqini, who accompanied students to Bangkok as a Manager, thanked students for their excellent performance. He also expressed his appreciation for the support promised by the KwaZulu-Natal Sport

Academy and the Executive Dean's Office. UKZN Corporate Relations sponsored the entire event. "With these promises and our generous sponsor we hope to make this event bigger next year," concluded Mr Nqini.

Back: Mr Pieter Koekemoer, UKZN Sportsman and Gold Medalist; Jason Sewanyana and Mario Rankin (then World Student Games representatives). Front row: Ms Chandelie Lombard, UKZN Sportswoman, Ms Gugu Sikobi, Ms Arisha Madaree and Ms Vidhartha Deonarain.



The informal economy and employment policy

MR Imraan Valodia of the School of Development Studies is working on a project to incorporate the informal economy into thinking about employment policy in South Africa. He is undertaking this work in association with Professor Rob Davies and Mr Stewart Ngandu of the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and Dr James Thurlow of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI).

The project has three components:

- a survey of informal retailers which seeks to understand the economic behaviour of informal retailers, especially in relation to the formal economy;
- a social accounting matrix (SAM) to establish the flows and interactions between the formal and informal economy; and
- a computable general equilibrium model (CGE) for South Africa that includes the informal economy.

The project is funded by the Conflict and Governance Facility (CAGE) – a partnership project between the South African government and the European Commission – and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI). Research team members recently presented initial findings to a group of policymakers and research experts at a seminar at the HSRC in Pretoria.

One of the important ‘puzzles’ about the South African labour market is the co-existence of high levels of unemployment and, by developing country standards, a relatively small informal sector. Most of the research to date on this puzzle suggests that the unemployed face significant barriers to entry into the informal

economy. These include licencing and restrictive by-laws; the large size of South African firms; labour legislation; poor access to capital, land and credit; crime; the risk of business failure; a lack of access to start-up capital; high transport costs; and jealousy that successful informal

entrepreneurs may face in the local community.

Mr Valodia and his colleagues argue that while these barriers are important, the conceptual approach applied by these studies approaches the ‘puzzle’ only from labour market considerations, and therefore identifies barriers to entry as the key consideration. Instead, they apply a general equilibrium framework and identify the relationship between the formal and the informal economy as the key issue. They suggest that the formal economy in South Africa has deep reach into the consumer

market, including among poor households and is able to exploit economies of scale to out compete the informal sector. Where the informal sector is able to function, it offers certain niche products – primarily selling in very small and convenient packaging, or selling goods at convenient locations. Thus, the informal sector in South Africa is small precisely because the formal sector is so large. Any policy attempts to ease entry in the informal economy will have to address demand considerations, and specifically the relationship between the formal and informal sectors.

Natal Society Scholarship

UKZN Botany student, Mr Ian Kiepiel, has received the Natal Society Foundation Scholarship. A Master of Science student registered on the Pietermaritzburg campus, he received the award in recognition of his seminal research into the plant Genus *Clivia*.

The Natal Society Foundation is a registered educational trust that focuses on the promotion and study of the arts, sciences, literature and philosophy. It actively encourages and supports education and training by awarding scholarships to excellent individuals. It also provides promising students with *ad hoc* start-up financial assistance.

“In granting scholarships and other funding assistance the Trustees place great reliance on an

applicant’s academic record and on the recommendation of his/her supervisor, principal or institutional head,” said Chairperson of the Natal Society Foundation, Mr Michael Daly.

Supervising Mr Kiepiel’s work is prominent researcher and South African Research Chair in Evolutionary Biology, Professor Steven Johnson. According to Professor Johnson the charismatic plant genus *Clivia* is very well known in horticulture, but poorly studied in its natural environment. “Ian is seeking to understand its reproductive biology, which includes research on the pollinators of the various species.” Professor Johnson is confident that Mr Kiepiel’s research will lead to the publication of several journal articles and a much improved understanding of this popular and beautiful indigenous plant.



Mr Ian Kiepiel.

Inaugural Lectures

UKZN hosted two inaugural lectures in October.

Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Head of the College of Humanities, Professor Fikile Mazibuko said: "The inaugural lecture is an important ritual in the life of an academic institution. It provides the Inaugurate with an opportunity to present his or her peers with what his or her intellectual and academic footprints on the discipline will be." She added that the inaugural lecture is an opportunity for the University to acknowledge publicly and proudly the excellent achievements of Inaugurates, and their contribution not only to the intellectual life of this Institution, but more broadly to the intellectual life of society.

Director of the Centre for Civil Society on the Howard College campus Professor Patrick Bond presented a lecture on "Global Civil Society Strategies for Social Justice" on 10 October.

Professor Bond explored the possibility of justice movements forming strong global links. While there are sharp differences of approaches, global justice campaigns have become a much more coherent force since the IMF Riots during the 1980s. Fusing these movements with anti-war movements is also a high priority. But doing so will require much more explicit attention to distinctions between 'reformist' and 'non-reformist' reforms, in the spirit of the late French social strategist Andre Gorz.

Professor Bond is a political economist with longstanding research interests, and NGO work in urban communities and with global justice movements in several countries. He worked at Johannesburg

NGOs during the 1990s, and several social justice agencies in Washington and Philadelphia during the 1980s. He was educated at Swarthmore College Department of Economics, the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania and the John Hopkins University Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering where he received his PhD in 1993.

Head of the School of Maternal, Child and Women's Health at the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine Professor Eddie Mhlanga presented his inaugural lecture on 12 October on "Nation's Future Secured Today: Women's Health."

Professor Mhlanga voiced his concern about the preventable deaths of women while giving birth. He pointed out that women are at the centre of development as "if you educate a woman you educate a nation." He challenged the current government policy of treatment for prevention of mother to child transmission of HIV which saves the baby but ignores what happens to the mother. He cited a number of threats to women's health which include health illiteracy, sexual violence, HIV, chronic diseases, and many life threatening factors.

Professor Mhlanga obtained his MBChB at the University of Natal in 1977, and worked at McCord Hospital, King Edward VIII Hospital and Tintswalo Hospital before returning to specialise in 1982.

He obtained a Diploma in Maternal and Child Health in 1985, and a Fellowship of the College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists in 1987.

In 1988 he returned to his home as the only specialist obstetrician and gynaecologist in government employ for seven hospitals.

He joined the Department of

Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine in 2004. He is also Adjunct Member of Faculty at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



Professor Patrick Bond.



Professor Eddie Mhlanga.

Recruitment Day

The Disciplines of Microbiology and Biochemistry in the School of Biochemistry, Genetics, Microbiology and Plant Pathology held a recruitment day to encourage final year students to pursue postgraduate studies in both fields.

Members of the South African Police Service (SAPS) were also invited to share information on job opportunities for science graduates within the SAPS Forensic Unit. The speakers for the day were Professors Mario Ariatti from Biochemistry and Bala Pillay from Microbiology, Ms Patience Songca from the SAPS Drug Unit in Amanzimtoti, as well as Mr Brian Memela from the SAPS

Career Centre in Pinetown.

Professors Ariatti and Pillay advised students on making correct career choices and encouraged them to consider studying further as obtaining a postgraduate degree will place them in good stead to find better jobs in industry. It is becoming clear that having a BSc degree alone is no longer enough especially in a growing economy where new

and more challenging technologies are constantly introduced. The job market demands skilled employees who can apply their knowledge and who are also innovative and can take initiatives. Government is channeling lots of money into Biotechnology at present.

Ms Songca and Mr Memela discussed various career opportunities within Forensics. These include

biological forensic analysts, drug analysts and ballistic analysts, most of which require a Chemistry background as well as Microbiology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. The SAPS Forensic Unit provides a six-month training programme for all new employees. An 12-month internship programme is also available in certain units.



Back: Professor Bala Pillay (Microbiology), Professor Mario Ariatti (Biochemistry), Mr Brian Memela (SAPS Career Centre, Pinetown), Ms Patience Songca (SAPS: Drugs Unit, Amanzimtoti).

Front: Miss Kaminee Jainarain (student), Miss Zandile Msomi (student), Miss Nomthunzi Ngema and Ms Kavitha Naicker.



Clinically-Based Research Category winners from the School of Optometry with Professor Sabiha Essack, Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences and Mr Elijah Tjiane, Pfizer.

Research Symposium

With sponsorship from Pfizer, the Faculty of Health Sciences held a research symposium for young health scientists within the Faculty. Top research findings in the Disciplines of Pharmacy and Pharmacology, Optometry, Speech Language Therapy, Medical Biochemistry, Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Sport Science, Nursing and Anatomy were presented. Undergraduate students presented in the categories of community-based research, clinically-based research and laboratory-based research to a packed auditorium of adjudicators, academics, researchers and students.

In the category of Laboratory-based research, students from the School of Pharmacy and Pharmacology won first prize for their research into Stavudine. Stavudine is a drug that is extensively used in the treatment of HIV-infected patients. The study focused on the effects of inadequate packing of the capsules for the hot and sticky weather conditions in Durban. Experiments indicated that patients need to be counseled on the

effective storage of the drug and that improper storage can cause treatment failure and drug resistance.

The Clinical-based research category highlighted excellent research by the School of Optometry on "The Best Moisturiser For Your Cornea." Research focused on the dysfunction of the outer lipid areas of the cornea that may lead to a dry eye. Several tear supplements (eye drops) were used on patients to determine

which would be the best to alleviate the symptoms. The results indicated that tear supplements in liquid form are not clinically significant in relieving a dry eye.

In the category of community-based research and also taking the overall prize of the symposium were students from the Discipline of Speech Language Therapy. They researched perceptions of first year health students about the professions

of Audiology and Speech Language Therapy. There is a shortage of specialists in these two professions and students tend to have negative perceptions about the Disciplines. The study recommends that the profession as well as the University needs to improve marketing strategies in order to attract a greater number of applicants.

TB Breakthrough

A significant breakthrough in research into tuberculosis (TB) has been made by a government sponsored innovation centre in co-operation with leading UKZN scientists led by Professor Willem Sturm, Dean of the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine.

The LIFElab funded National Genomics Platform (NGP) collaborated with scientists from UKZN's Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine on a project to sequence the entire genome of one strain of Extensively Drug Resistant Mycobacterium

Tuberculosis (XDR-TB) from a patient in KwaZulu-Natal. This strain of XDR-TB was successfully decoded and sequenced 20 times.

The purpose of the project was to provide a reference sequence for further projects involving sequencing of more isolates of XDR and Multi Drug Resistant-TB (MDR) from KwaZulu-Natal. This sequence information will be used to develop rapid molecular diagnostic tools for XDR and MDR-TB. The sequence information will result in more rapid and accurate diagnostic tests for XDR and MDR-TB and will assist in the development of therapeutic agents that target drug resistant TB. Furthermore, it allows for a better understanding of how TB bacteria causes disease in

people. This in turn will aid in designing tools to prevent this disease.

Head of the research team, Professor Sturm said, "Through the successful sequencing of the XDR organism's full genome, we are able to analyse the genes based on their structure in order to develop a rapid test to diagnose TB. The sequencing process was extremely successful in a short space of time but the work continues with a focus on drug and vaccine development that will enable clinicians to treat the disease effectively and without embarking on a trial and error experimental phase. This research breakthrough has the potential for eventually finding a cure."

"We have made a significant



Professor Willem Sturm.

investment in biotechnology innovation in South Africa, and it is very rewarding to see such positive results. TB is an enormous challenge for South Africa, and although the breakthrough is not a cure, it is a significant step in that direction," said Dr Phil Mjwara, Director General of the Department of Science and Technology.

Computerised handwriting device

THE Director of the Centre for Entrepreneurship at UKZN, Professor Malome Khomo is in the process of being granted a European patent for his invention, a Handwriting Recognition Method.

The device converts natural handwriting into computer type codes such as American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII). This process is called handwriting recognition. It allows one to write as though with a pen on paper into a computer.

Although his patent was originally specified using the Latin characters, Professor Khomo explains that it can be applied in other writing systems and to any culture. "The device can recognise any handwriting no matter how one writes. It works for any culture and



Mr Reggie Govender, UKZN Innovation; Professor Ahmed Bawa, former Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Knowledge Production and Partnerships; and Professor Malome Khomo, Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship.

any handwriting. It will work equally well with other more elaborate writing systems such as Tamil or Hun scripts."

He hopes to obtain venture funding to develop the product and get it manufactured for the wider market. Working with UKZN Innovation he

hopes to commercialise his invention so it generates income and becomes sustainable.

UKZN scoops Unitech Awards

UKZN received six Excellence Awards at the Unitech 2007 Congress held in Durban from 14-16 November. The Congress was organised and hosted by the University for the second year in a row.

Development Brief, the magazine aimed at donors, and HIV-911, the helpline set up by the Centre for HIV/AIDS Networking (HIVAN), were awarded first prize in their categories. The University's alumni publication, *UKZNTOUCH: Growing a Nursing School*, which commemorates the School of Nursing's 50th anniversary; the electronic newsletter *UKZN Online*; and the UKZN website were runners-up in their categories.

Unitech is the association of marketing, communications and public relations practitioners at South African Higher Education Institutions and Further Education and Training (FET) Colleges. The theme for this year's Congress, which brought together 120 delegates from 25 institutions, was "Changing Lanes: Global Best Practices in Marketing, Communications and Advancement." The Excellence Awards are adjudicated by a panel of independent judges representing the publishing, printing and electronic media.



Ms Emma Broster receives her Moot Court Award from Judge Kate Pillay.

Moot Court

Final year LLB student Ms Emma Broster was the winner of the 36th Ellie Newman Moot Court Competition held on 11 October at the Howard College campus.

The Ellie Newman Memorial Moot Court Final is the flagship Moot Court competition of the Faculty of Law. It was introduced in 1989 in honour of the late Professor Ellie Newman who initiated the competition in the early 1970s.

The Final is the culmination of a

process that involves all final-year LLB students at the Faculty of Law, Howard College campus, for whom participation is compulsory.

Professor John Mubangizi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Head of the College of Law and Management Studies, said in his address that the law profession requires students who are not only armed with academic theory and substance, but also adequately prepared and well versed with the procedural aspects of the profession. The Moot Court programmes aim to familiarise students with various aspects of liti-

gation and courtroom procedure.

One of the judges, Judge Kate Pillay, said the issues raised during the Moot Court were very difficult. "We found the participants put in a large amount of work and were able to stay calm and deal with the pressure. We were expecting the students not to present their cases like a written and prepared speech; they had to be ready for attacks and issues raised, and they had to anticipate the argument and en-gage." Judge Pillay said Ms Emma Broster's efforts were commendable.

Gandhi-Luthuli Peace Chair

UKZN signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in New Delhi in 20 September.

In terms of the MOU, the Indian Government will sponsor the Chair of the Gandhi-Luthuli Peace Centre in the College of Humanities at UKZN. The Memorandum was signed by UKZN Vice-Chancellor, Professor Malegapuru Makgoba; Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Corporate Relations, Professor Dasarath Chetty; President

of the ICCR Dr Karan Singh; and ICCR Director General, Dr Pavan K Varma.

The Gandhi-Luthuli Peace Chair was first mooted by Mrs Ela Gandhi, granddaughter of Mahatma Gandhi. It seeks to commemorate those who fought against the apartheid regime and to foster principles of peace and non-violence.

In terms of the agreement, the ICCR will appoint an Indian academic, at the level of Senior Professor, who will occupy the Chair for a period of two years from January 2008.

The Chair is expected to benefit academics in the field of gender and

diversity studies, governance and the politics of development, and education and rural development.

Professors Makgoba and Chetty also explored links with a number of universities in India. Their 10-day visit was spread across New Delhi, Chennai and Mumbai. The Indian Vice-Chancellors who they met are keen to begin, and in some cases continue, a mutually beneficial relationship with UKZN. The success of such partnerships will be founded on the common values of Higher Education which they share with UKZN. These include transforming the fabric of academic

education so as to ensure that knowledge gained from universities has a definite impact on society.

"Indians have ensured access for the disadvantaged while still raising their standards as global competitors. This is being done in a cost-effective way, doing more with less," said Professor Chetty.

UKZN envisages that the Gandhi-Luthuli Peace Chair will be a permanent Chair, with the possibility of establishing a Centre for Asian Studies in the future.



Vice-Chancellor Professor Malegapuru Makgoba; Professor Dasarath Chetty; Dr Karan Singh; and Dr Pavan K Varma.

Where are they now?

If you can provide the updated contact details of the following alumni, please contact the Alumni Affairs Office

Akakpo, Alex Kwaku (Mr)	BSc Eng(Electrical)'00	Makhathini, Lungile Emmerecia (Miss)	BA'98
Allen, Geoffrey Douglas (Mr)	BArch(6yr)'89	Maphumulo, Trevor Ntokozo (Mr)	BSc Eng(Electrical)'96
Amra, Mahmood Dawood (Mr)	BSc'81, BOptom'85, MBA'93	Matengu, Brian Munihango (Mr)	BSc'02
Barichevy, Rene Ann (Miss)	BSc Eng(Agriculture)'80	Mdaka, Dumsani Mboniseni Nkosinathi (Mr)	BSc Eng(Civil)'01
Bassa, Fathima Bibi Essop (Miss)	BA(SW)'83	Mkize, Victoria Norah (Mrs)	BA(Hon)'96, MA'99
Benitha, Romela (Dr)	MBChB'91	Mnguni, Elkington Sibusiso (Mr)	BSc Eng(Civil)'02
Bircher, Keith Gavin (Mr)	BSc Eng(Chemical)'72	Mzobe, Xolani Ceasar (Mr)	BA(Law)'91, Lib'93
Bissessor, Naylin (Dr)	MBChB'89	Naidoo, Pebashini (Dr)	MBChB'95
Breen, Kenneth Charles (Mr)	BSc(Agric)'90, MSc(Agric)'94	Ngonyama, Nokuthula Majorie (Miss)	BCom'98
Carter, Phillip Terrance Andrew (Dr)	MBChB'75	Nkabinde, Themba Ofentse (Mr)	BSc Eng(Mechanical)'86
Cenge, Ziyanda Patience (Miss)	BPhysio'02	Nsele, Nomthandaz (Miss)	BNurs'02
Cohen, Martin Scott (Mr)	BCom'76, Lib'79	Ntshika, Zoliswa (Miss)	BA'97, PG Dip(IR)'98
Comyn, Veronica Nicole (Miss)	BA'69	Peter, Anthony Christopher (Mr)	BA'88
Dall, Marion Hazle (Miss)	BMusic'93	Pillay, Arunajalum Perumaul (Dr)	MBChB'77
De Villiers, Ingrid Barbara (Mrs)	Lib'85	Pillay, Sumboorram (Miss)	BA'69, UED-PG'70
Fenner, Gillian Ellen (Mrs)	BSocSc'83	Ramdutt, Rajendra (Mr)	BSc'94
Frolich, Nicolas Gunnar (Mr)	BSc(Comp Sc)'80	Ramkylas, Vimal (Mr)	BPharm'99
Gajoo, Vinaychund Inderjit (Mr)	BA'76, Lib'78	Rangiah, Dayakaram (Dr)	MBChB'62
Gcwensa, Jennet Zamandulo (Miss)	BAdmin'99, BA(Hon)'04	Reinecke, Jillian (Mrs)	BCom'72
Goge, Primrose Steziah (Miss)	BNurs'01	Saloojee, Suliman Mahmood (Mr)	BSc (Pharm)'68
Govender, Romona Devi (Miss)	BSc'78	Shange, Nicholas Jabulani (Mr)	BAgric'99
Greene, Owen Murray (Mr)	BSc(Land Surv)'81	Shepstone, Gillian (Miss)	BSc(Comp Sc)'85, HDE-PG'89
Gumede, Mavis Nokuthula (Miss)	BEd'91	Sibisi, Charles Denis Thamsanqa (Dr)	MBChB'74
Hall, Jean (Mrs)	BSocSc'60	Sithole, Siphamandla Blessing (Mr)	BCom'97
Ishwarlal, Ansuya (Miss)	BA'90, Lib'92	Strong, Alison (Miss)	MSc'92
Johns, James Leslie (Mr)	BSc Eng(Mechanical)'70	Sunker, Rajesh (Mr)	BProc'85
Kgoadi, Emmanuel Moeketsi (Mr)	B Music'01	Turner, Alan George (Mr)	BSc Eng(Chemical)'73
Kgokong, Tefo Rainy (Miss)	BAdmin'01	Vallabh, Sachin Kan (Mr)	BSc'02
Kheswa, Sydney Arther Maziseni (Mr)	BA'95, HDE-PG'96	Vanker, Lily Soraya (Dr)	MBChB'76
Lakhi, Munirah Nazli (Miss)	BA'67	Vasant, Ramesh Vrajlal (Dr)	MBChB'76
Lebopo, Victoria Lerato (Miss)	BOptom'02	Welsh, Donald Munro (Mr)	BSc Eng(Electrical)'70
Leslie, Christine F (Miss)	BSc(Land Surv)'98	Youngleson, Simon Alexander (Mr)	BArch(6yr)'88
Mahabir, Nicolene (Miss)	BNurs'02	Zondi, Menie Bernard (Dr)	MBChB'57
Maharaj, Pranitha (Miss)	BOptom'96		

EDUCATOR

Edwina Grossi is passionate about education. Armed with a doctorate from UKZN, she founded Embury College Private Primary School in 1998. "I believe very strongly that love is the foundation of teaching. The school song is 'Love changes everything' and the motto is 'Love conquers all'", she says.

In response to the need for teacher training in the different learning areas of Outcomes-Based Education (OBE), she set up the Embury Institute for Teacher Education in 2000. Student teachers obtain hands-on training from their first day in more than 30 schools in Durban.



EDWINA GROSSI

In 2005 Grossi started a programme called "Wonder-skills" which is implemented in the Pre-Primary School. Children are guided through exercises to develop fine- and gross- motor skills, auditory and visual perception and sport. In 2005 she was awarded the mandate in a three year project between ENGEN and the Education Department, to train level 4 pre-primary teachers in KwaZulu-Natal. In 2005 she was commissioned by Education Department to write the course and training manual for 17 earmarked prison warders. These warders will start pre-schools in prisons.

As part of her commitment to community outreach Grossi secured money from an overseas donor to equip an old age home and to pay for the medical expenses of some of the aged. She donates food on a monthly basis to the home.

Grossi was nominated for the Checker's Business Woman of the Year Award and is the recipient of Standard Bank Woman of the Year Award in the Corporate Section.

MAYOR

Her Worship, Councillor Zanele Hlatshwayo, Mayor of Msunduzi Municipality in Pietermaritzburg, is a person of many talents and interests.

She started her career in Nursing, switched to Education, and has a postgraduate Diploma in Local Government.

Hlatshwayo is passionate about HIV and AIDS, empowering women and youth development programmes. Under her leadership, the Municipality has set up active Gender and Youth Desks.

Besides fulfilling her duties as Mayor, she chairs the



ZANELE HLATSHWAYO

Local Labour Forum and Youth and Gender Committees. She also serves on five South African Local Government Association (KwaZulu-Natal) Committees, one of which she chairs. In pursuit of her goal of developing women, she is the chairperson of Akhona Trade & Investment. In May 2005, she represented South African women at the International Art of Living Women's conference in India. She was nominated to represent South Africa in the United States of America on an International Visitors Leadership Programme.

Hlatshwayo has held senior positions in African National Congress (ANC) structures including Executive member of the Central Branch, Central Branch Election Team, ANC Women's League Branch Secretary, and ANC Women's League Regional Treasurer. She is currently serving as the ANC Branch Chairperson of Ward 37 in Pietermaritzburg.

She was married to the late Dr B F Hlatshwayo and they were blessed with three children, a daughter and two sons.

AUDITOR

Akash Singh is the Head of Internal Audit at the ABSA Group.

Singh was born in Durban and was educated at Stanger Manor Secondary.

Following a Bachelor of Commerce, Accounting he obtained his postgraduate Diploma in Accounting and worked at Nedbank as a Senior Financial Manager in their Corporate Banking Division for some time before moving to Absa. He is grateful for the financial assistance he received to attend university, and says that the University taught him



AKASH SINGH

discipline and exposed him to cultural diversity.

The highlights of his job are “constant change, constant challenge and working in various countries with differing business practices and regulatory environments.”

He is involved in community work at children’s homes in Johannesburg as part of Absa’s corporate social development programmes. He points out that these children lack basic necessities which many South Africans take for granted.

Singh strongly believes that Convocation should assist current and past students to share learning and experience. He has received a number of awards for special projects during his professional career. He advises students to think practically when studying theory.

Singh’s two brothers are also UKZN alumni: Raveen Parboosing, MBChB is working in AIDS research at the Medical Research Council and Minesh Singh, MBChB, is a Surgeon in Private Practice in Canada.

ATTORNEY

Siyabonga Shandu is the Associate attorney at Hofmeyr, Herbstein & Gihwala Inc, one of the largest corporate law firms. Based in the Sandton office, he previously worked as a researcher in the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Division of the High Court in Pietermaritzburg.

He participated in the mentorship programme on the Westville campus and later worked as a tutor on the Howard College campus.

Shandu says that when students enter the law profession, they are challenged to bridge the gap between the theoretic



SIYABONGA SHANDU

information obtained at university and the actual practice of the law. Dealing with this challenge entails hard work and keeping abreast of new legal developments.

He feels that giving back to community is important and is negotiating with sponsors to assist blind or partially sighted students studying law at tertiary institutions in Johannesburg. He comments that Convocation ensures graduates continue to interact with the University and provide feedback from real life experiences. This helps the University to ensure that it offers degrees that are in line with what is happening in the world of work.

He advises law students, especially those for whom English is a second language, to read broadly and sharpen their language skills as language is a primary tool in the life of every lawyer.

He is grateful to the government financial aid scheme for funding his undergraduate studies and to the Ian Fraser Memorial Bursary Fund Trust for sponsoring his Masters studies.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

Kumeshnee (Kimmy) Singh is a Chartered Accountant, and an Audit Partner at Deloitte and Touche, Umhlanga Ridge.

She says that the University provided her with a firm foundation of knowledge and skills which she builds on every day. While it is important to have one's own views on an issue, flexibility and openness are also important attributes.

As a Deloitte team member, she has participated in a number of charity events and in the refurbishment of an orphanage in Pietermaritzburg. This year, Deloitte refurbished an impoverished primary school in Durban and gave blankets



KUMESHNEE (KIMMY) SINGH

to disadvantaged kids at primary schools throughout Durban.

Inspired by the words of Mahatma Gandhi, she advises students to "learn like you will live forever, live like there is no tomorrow". "I personally believe that you should study for the sake of obtaining knowledge that will be with you in years to come. Do not study just to pass an exam, as passing an exam is actually irrelevant, if you are unable to acquire lasting knowledge that will sustain you in your life ahead," she says.

Singh is a role model for her two sisters. Vikashnee (Vicky) is completing her training contract to become a Chartered Accountant at Deloitte and Touche in Pietermaritzburg, while youngest sister Kashmeera (Kashy) is pursuing a B.Com degree on the Pietermaritzburg campus.

FASHION CONSULTANT

To many, Renato Palmi is known as South Africa's "Fashion Insider". Committed to growing our fashion and clothing industry, he is the first port of call for international outlets wanting to do business with South Africa.

Palmi's ReDress Consultancy conducts research and advises industry players on adding value to their product. He also lectures at fashion design schools and conducted the first evaluation of South Africa's Fashion Weeks. His Diploma in Marketing Management and Sales Management and Production Management, as well as a Masters Degree in



RENATO PALMI

Development Studies have equipped him well for these tasks.

Palmi is active in the non-governmental organisation sector and is involved in life skills and HIV/AIDS education in the Richmond area in KwaZulu-Natal. He has developed a KwaZulu-Natal Fashion Designer Co-operative to help designers develop and promote their business operations. The Co-operative has built links with the informal sector.

He has brought the Dalai Lama to South Africa three times, and organised two very successful national art exhibitions that made headline news in Durban. He advises students to enjoy their studies, take advantage of the time spent there and grab every opportunity.

NUCLEAR EXPERT

Nuclear expert Ernst Uken is the Head of the Energy Technology Unit at Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

He retired some time ago, but has returned to the fold, saying that “students keep me young”. For him, the most interesting thing about energy is that it is “a multi-disciplinary, technical approach to solving many social problems of society.” He believes that Chemistry is a very good way of teaching the basics of conducting research in an objective, systematic, methodological fashion.

After completing his PhD degree in Nuclear Energy,



ERNST UKEN

Uken pursued post-doctoral studies at the Technical University of München and the Fraunhofer Institute for Solar Energy Systems, Freiburg University, Germany.

He is part of the patented Solar Sewing Machine project which generated income of R30 000 for unemployed women in its first year of operation. The project has received a number of awards, including a THRIP Excellence Award for community service in 2001. A lay preacher of the Lutheran Church, he is also involved in youth work among all denominations.

He would like to see Convocation raising funds for bursaries for deserving, needy students. Observing that some universities in the US obtain more financial support from their alumni than they do from government, he hopes Convocation goes from strength to strength.

MOVIE PRODUCER

Ross Garland always wanted to be an actor. But he studied law at university, was awarded a Rhodes scholarship and received a Masters in Law from Oxford University.

Garland moved into film after working as an Associate at Lehman Brothers in New York, as an investment banker in the entertainment sector. He was Co-Executive Producer of *The Story of an African Farm*; Executive Producer/Producer of *U-Carmen Ekhayelitsha*; for which he was awarded the Golden Bear for best film at the 55th Berlin International Film Festival; producer of *Confessions of a Gambler*, based on the award



ROSS GARLAND

winning novel by Rayda Jacobs about a Muslim woman with a gambling addiction; and Producer/Writer of *Big Fellas*, a comedy about BEE.

His company, RogueStar Films, is in development on *Spud*, the bestselling South African novel by UKZN alumnus John van der Ruit, and the World War 1 novel *Iron Love*, by Marguerite Poland.

Garland is certain that South Africa has real opportunities in film. “Some people will probably see more potential in safer things, but I am a real believer in the industry. I think there is huge growth potential.” The film industry is, however, a nerve wrecking business: “You have to fight to produce the movies you believe in and pick the right projects,” he says. “It’s a complicated combination of creative and business acumen to walk the fine line of art and commerce and come out on the right side of the balance sheet.”

Alumnus events

Medical School Reunion

The Medical School Class of 1982 reunion was held at the Spier Wine Estate near Stellenbosch from 4-6 May. Almost a quarter of the class attended the reunion, which was co-ordinated by Dr Andre Reddy from Durban and Dr Vadi Govender of Cape Town. Malti Patel flew down from Canada and Funeka "Shorty" Madikiza made a special appearance on the Saturday night, taking time off from postgraduate examinations.

A colourful banner with the UKZN and Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine logos was erected in the hotel foyer. Gifts from the UKZN Alumni Affairs Office were well-received. It was the first time many of the former classmates had met in

25 years and there was much catching up to do!

Sixty two people, including spouses and a few children attended the gala dinner dance. The master of ceremonies was Dr Vadi Govender and the guest speaker was Dr Zweli Mkhize, fellow-graduate and KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Finance. Dr Mkhize called for a minute's silence for all those classmates who had passed on since 1982. He also made a passionate plea for alumni to get involved in UKZN, support its programmes and assist with funding needy students via the Alumni Affairs Office. Lancet Laboratories and classmate Peter Matseke sponsored the drinks for the evening.



Graduates at the reunion.

Barnyard Supper Theatre Show

On 22 May a group of 85 graduates and friends attended the Barnyard Supper Theatre show "Tonight's the Night" at Gateway in Umhlanga which was co-ordinated by the Alumni Affairs Office. At this annual event on the Alumni Events calendar, guests enjoyed a variety of snacks in beautifully packed picnic boxes before the show and during the interval.

to some of the greatest male vocalists of all time, included music made popular by the likes of Frank Sinatra, Tom Jones, Elton John, Stevie Wonder and Robbie Williams. The graduates and their guests thoroughly enjoyed the show and the opportunity to network and reminisce with fellow graduates in a relaxed and fun setting. Graduates were given folders containing the latest publications and information on their *alma mater*.

The show, which was a tribute

Hexagon Theatre Show



Alumni relax at the Hexagon Theatre.

Eighty alumni and friends of the University attended the production "Shake, Rattle and Roll" in The Dive, Hexagon Theatre on 18 August. The supper theatre event – which included a three-course dinner and the show – was co-ordinated by the Alumni Affairs Office.

The nostalgic and most entertaining show featured the music of the '50s and '60s and included songs by

artists such as Buddy Holly, Cliff Richard, Elvis Presley and Fats Domino. The cast included local singers and some fellow alumni: Sandra Styles, Tamlyn and Ryan Calder and Derrick Zuma and was directed by Helen Vermaak.

The attendees who ranged from graduates of the 1950's to the 2000's reluctantly left around pumpkin hour only after eliciting promises that a similar event would be held in 2008.



Barnyard Event - Mr André Young Dr Beki Hlatshwayo and Mr Themba Khumalo.

UK alumni gathering

The UKZN Alumnus Association in Europe held its best-ever attended function on Wednesday 3 October, when 115 alumni and guests attended a cocktail party at South Africa House.

The event was the first function for some years held exclusively by the Alumni Association, and was a resounding success. The current Chair of the Association, Ms Caroline Harben, and the Alumni Affairs Manager at Corporate Relations, Mr Finn Christensen, put together an interesting evening's entertainment.

World-renowned author and UKZN alumnus Barbara Trapido recounted her amusing and provocative recollections of her years at the University, stimulating all sorts of memories among alumni in the audience.

Darius Brubeck, well-known Senior Research Fellow in the Jazz Department at the University, assembled a wonderful quartet, all musicians with South African connections, and the audience was treated to a too-short set of South African inspired compositions and interpretations.

Short welcome addresses followed by Ms Harben, Mr Bruno van Dyk, Executive Director of the UKZN Foundation and Mr Roger Smith, Chair of the UK Trust, which collects money from individuals towards bursaries.

It is hoped to make this an annual event. To be placed on the Alumnus Association membership list, contact Caroline Harben (harbenafrika@aol.com or 01235 553 225) or Finn Christensen (christensenf@ukzn.ac.za).



Ms Caroline Harben, Chair of the Alumnus Association in Europe; with Barbara Trapido, Guest Speaker and alumnus; and Fellow Graduates.

Pietermaritzburg Staff Club Membership extended to all UKZN alumni

The amendment to the Staff Club constitution to admit *bona fide* alumni of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, was supported at the Special General Meeting and ratified accordingly on 30 October 2007. This means that: "all *bona fide* alumni of University of KwaZulu-Natal, subject to completion of the required membership form, shall be eligible for *Associate Membership*" of the Staff Club.

Staff Club hours are 11h00 to

15h00 Monday to Friday. Meals are reasonably priced and there are daily specials. The Staff Club can cater for special events upon request. Application forms and bookings can be made on 033 260 6096 or by email: staffclub@ukzn.ac.za with Tanya Odendaal.

Further information and the Staff Club menu is available on the Alumni website. We look forward to welcoming new members.

Entrepreneurship Workshops



Entrepreneurship Workshop, Pietermaritzburg campus.



Entrepreneurship Workshop, Westville campus.

A partnership between Business Partners and the Alumni Affairs Office resulted in three very successful two-day Entrepreneurship Workshops for alumni on the Howard College, Pietermaritzburg and Westville campuses in June and July.

On 26-27 June the first Workshop took place on the Howard College campus. The very practical Workshop was attended by 28 graduates who were all keen to learn more about the essentials of starting a business – from the initial writing of a business plan proposal, through to securing finance and management-related issues.

On 12-13 July a group of 31 alumni attended the Entrepreneurship Workshop on the Pietermaritzburg campus. The Workshop also

received very positive feedback regarding the course content, clear presentation style of the various presenters and the practical examples/discussions given by local entrepreneurs.

The third Workshop took place on the Westville campus on 30-31 July and was attended by 32 alumni.

The participants at the Workshops included graduates who already own businesses and those who are eager to take the plunge and start a business. These Workshops are set to become an annual feature on the programme of the Alumni Affairs Office and will be run again in 2008. Alumni Affairs is keen to receive feedback from graduates regarding the type of workshops they would like to attend.



Leadership Workshop, Howard College campus.



Leadership Workshop, Pietermaritzburg campus.



Leadership Workshop, Westville campus.

Leadership Workshops

During July and August a trio of two-day Leadership Workshops for alumni – organised by the Alumni Affairs Office and facilitated by Marie Odendaal of the Student Leadership Development Office: Pietermaritzburg and Mandla Ndaba from the Westville Office – took place on the Howard College, Pietermaritzburg and Westville campuses.

On 18-19 July the first Workshop took place on the Howard College campus. The Workshop was attended by 28 graduates who were all keen to improve their leadership skills and use the skills as preparation for their entrance into, and upward movement within, the workplace.

On 25-26 July a group of 35 alumni

from as far afield as Northern KwaZulu-Natal attended the Leadership Workshop on the Pietermaritzburg campus.

The third Workshop in the series took place on the Westville campus on 1-2 August. This Workshop was attended by 31 alumni, a number of whom hold managerial positions within the Department of Health in the eThekweni Municipality.

The participants at the Workshops ranged from the recent April 2007 graduates to graduates who have managed to gain quite a few years work experience. The participants discovered the value of effective listening and communication while tackling their own assumptions, stereotypes and prejudices.



Cum Laude and Summa Cum Laude luncheon.

Celebrating excellence

When students show their commitment to academic excellence it calls for celebration. The Alumni Affairs Office co-ordinated a celebratory luncheon for the *Cum Laude* and *Summa Cum Laude* graduates as well as for those who obtained their PhDs at the October 2006 and May 2007 graduations. The luncheon was held at the MH Joosub Hall, on the Westville campus on 25 June and was attended by 194 people.

Celebrating with these top achievers were parents, friends, Convocation Executive members

and the University's senior staff members.

President and Chair of Convocation, Mr André Young encouraged the graduates to contribute to the University by becoming active members of Convocation. "You can give back to your University, by taking some of the students as interns or trainees in your companies. I also encourage you to pursue your post-graduate studies."

Feedback from the graduates who attended the event was extremely positive.

Dates to diarise: 2008

FEBRUARY

25 February:
Durban Alumnus Association AGM

MARCH

26 March:
East London Alumnus Dinner

27 March:
Port Elizabeth Alumnus Dinner

29 March:
Cape Town Alumnus Dinner

APRIL

11 April:
Golden Alumnus Reunion (1957-59) on Pietermaritzburg Campus

MAY

27 May:
Cum Laude/Summa Cum Laude and PhD Celebratory Event

May (TBC):
Alumnus Business Breakfast in Durban

JUNE

26-27 June:
Entrepreneurship Workshop in Senate Chamber: Westville Campus (Two Days)

JULY

10 July:
Project Management Workshop on Howard College Campus

Keeping in touch!

Class Notes is a collection of short biographies sent to us by alumni from all over the world, highlighting their personal and professional achievements. Through these notes, alumni keep in touch and find old friends.

1940s

MEINHARD LUDWIG UKEN – BA'49, UED'50, BEd'51, MEd'65 (*cum laude*), PhD'75 taught Geography and German at Port Shepstone High School and initiated adult Continuation Classes in the evenings. Meinhard is the founder principal of Southern Natal Commercial High School. He was promoted to the Natal Education Department Headquarters as academic planner in 1975 and ten years later as Rector of the Natal College of Education for Further Training. He was promoted to Chief Education Specialist in Pretoria and head of the directorate of Macro-Guidance. He was sent on overseas study visits several times and retired to Pietermaritzburg in 1991. He became Director of the German Festival Year 1992 in Southern Africa. In 1964 he became a Rotarian and president of the Rotary Clubs of Port Shepstone and Pietermaritzburg East. He initiated

and organised the Port Shepstone Rotary Youth Leadership Course and became Governor of Rotary District 9270 for the year 1994-95. Rotary recognised him as a Paul Harris Fellow with two sapphire pins.

Meinhard was active in the German Community as chairman of the Deutscher Verein Pietermaritzburg, German Cultural Council KwaZulu-Natal and of the South African-German Cultural Association. He was awarded the Federal Republic of Germany's Cross of Merit for outstanding achievement in the promotion of German culture in South Africa. Meinhard is the founder of the Rotary Intercountry Committee, Germany-Southern Africa and of the Church of the Cross Retirement Village Trust which developed the Lutheran Gardens with 60 units under his chairmanship.

E-mail: drmuken@deunet.co.za

1950s

COLIN MARTIN TATZ – BA'54, BA(Hon)(*cum laude*)'55, MA(*summa cum laude*)'60 relocated to Australia in early 1961 and completed his PhD at the Australian National University. He founded and directed the Australian Indigenous Studies Centre at Monash University (1964-70), became foundation Professor of Politics at the University of New England (1971-82) and was Professor of Politics at Macquarie University, Sydney between 1982-99. Since 2004 he has been Visiting Fellow in Social Science at the Australian National University where he teaches and supervises postgraduates in the field of Genocide Studies. He became an Officer of the Order of Australia in 1997 and in that year he received an honorary Doctorate of Laws at a ceremony that included honorary degrees to Albertina Sisulu and Peter Brown in Pietermaritzburg. He is currently Honorary Visiting Fellow at the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies and Director of the Australian Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. Email: cst@aapt.net.au

Please send contributions to:

CORLIA OGLE • Email: ogle@ukzn.ac.za • Fax: 031 260 2236/3265

Post: Alumni Affairs, Corporate Relations,
University of KwaZulu-Natal, Westville Campus
Private Bag X 54001, Durban 4000, South Africa

1960s

DAPHNE JAABACK (nee Simon) – BSc'61 spent the summer holidays with her husband looking after their active three young grandchildren whilst their daughter Philippa Shiels (BSc'89) trained for the Hawaiian Ironman triathlon. Daphne represented the University at fencing.
Email: daphnej@tiscali.co.za

GLYNNIS NOEL BELCHERS (nee Hayward) – BA'69 is married to **Brian David Belchers** (BCom'68). Glynnis recently published her second novel, *A Significant Test of Blood* in the United States of America which is set in present day Cape Town and California. Her first novel, *A Telling Time* is set in South Africa. Both books are available on www.amazon.com.
Email: glynnishayward@gmail.com or belchers2@comcast.net

NEVILLE GEOFFREY INMAN-BAMBER – BSc(Agric)'69, MSc(Agric)'73 joined CSIRO in January 1997 on a tentative basis. Geoff's family settled in far better than he did and by July 1997 he was on course for a reasonable stint with CSIRO, a new Aussie culture and lots of jibes about the Cricket Union. He worked for 22 years at the South African Sugar Research Institute (SASRI) with which he has kept well in touch. CSIRO is the undisputed leader in irrigation science, operations research, modeling and many other aspects. His interests have now turned to a new type of physiology. The major challenge in this work has to do with numbers. He loves the great outdoors particularly mountaineering, bush walking, windsurfing, camping and wave skiing.
E-mail: geoff.inman-bamber@csiro.au

1970s

STANTON PETER NEWMAN – BSocSc'71, BSocSc(Hon)'72, PhD(SocSc)'75 was SRC President in 1971 and 1972. He has lived in London since 1974. He has lectured at a number of University of London Colleges and is currently Professor of Health Psychology at University College London (UCL). He is the Director of the Centre for Behavioural & Social Sciences in the Medical School and previously was head of the Department of Psychiatry & Behavioural Sciences at UCL for 11 years. He has published nine books and many scientific papers. In 2002, the Royal College of Physicians awarded him honorary membership of College in recognition of his work in medicine. Besides his academic work he is Chairman of UCL Consultants Ltd., a company that organises consultancies for academic staff.
E-mail: s.newman@ucl.ac.uk or gloria.jones@ucl.ac.uk

PETER ROBERT SPILLER – BA'72, LLB'76, PhD(Law)'83 went on to complete an LL.M. (Cambridge), PhD (Canterbury) and PGCTT (Waikato). Peter has taught law for the past 31 years and for the past 12 years has been a Professor of Law at the University of Waikato, New Zealand. Peter has published extensively in legal history and legal biography. His research interests also include dispute resolution and he is the editor of the text *Dispute Resolution in New Zealand*. He has also published three editions of *The New Zealand Law Dictionary*.
E-mail: Peter.Spiller@justice.govt.nz

DERRICK VINCENT PAUL SHEPPARD – BSc'73 during a successful career in quality control management with Unilever in Zimbabwe, Derrick developed an interest in finance while completing his post-graduate Diploma in Management Studies. On

returning to the United Kingdom (UK) in 1980 he trained as a Chartered Accountant with KPMG in Bristol and completed many assignments in the private, public and charity sectors. He qualified as an ACIS specialising in financial management and had various financial management and business improvement roles with the Allied Domecq Group (now part of Pernod Ricard). His current roles include enabling effective financial and investment management of the Environment Agency's Pensions Funds at their Head Office in Bristol and serving as a Trustee Director for the Allied Domecq Pension Funds.
E-mail: dvps@blueyonder.co.uk

JENNIFER ANN LANE – BSocSc(Nursing)'74 was a Neonatal lecturer/Practitioner in the United Kingdom until two years ago. She took early retirement and is currently living on the southern edge of the Kruger National Park. As a total career change, she is now qualified as a Tour Guide for the Kruger and surrounding reserves! Jennifer enjoys photography and has had some photographs published. She is planning a reunion for BSocSc(Nursing) students from her time (early 70s). It will be held in Kruger in late October or early November 2008. Anyone interested can contact her for further details.
Email: jenni@marlothpark.net

CHARLES RYCROFT FOSTER – BSc'75 was a resident of Townley Williams (TWH) and has lived in Cape Town since 1975. He is married with two student children at the University of Cape Town. Charles trained as an actuary (FIA), spending time at Old Mutual and Metropolitan (1975 – 2003). He retired from corporate employment at the end of June 2003. His main career work was in the field of investments. He is currently managing rand portfolios for a small group of clients as an independent

fund manager. He would especially like to see any TWH contemporaries who live in or who visit Cape Town.
E-mail: charlesf@capitalplus.co.za

BRUCE ROSS-ADAMS – BSocSc'75 completed his Masters of Business Leadership from UNISA in 1981. Bruce's particular interests and skills include: challenging and inspiring leadership (teams and individuals) to find focus and do great things for themselves and their organisations; and assisting with development, design and implementation of a wide range of people systems/interventions for organisations.
E-mail: bruceip@bigpond.com

ANN KATHLEEN COLVIN – BA'76 was given a Gandhi Development Trust (GDT) and Satyagraha award in August 2007 in recognition of her "tireless fight for freedom, equality and justice" together with six other anti-apartheid activists.
Email: ann.colvin@eject.co.za

PATRICK ERIC DEALE – BA'76, LLB'78 after completing his articles with Livingstone, Doull & Winterton and a partnership at Hawkey, Deale & Associates (Durban), Patrick married alumnus, Sue, in 1980 and became Group Secretary and Legal Advisor to General Tyre (Johannesburg) in 1982. In 1986 he and his wife created and ran Deales, a well-known restaurant in Diagonal Street. He joined attorneys Webber, Wentzel in 1988, and then focused on labour law issues with SPA Consultants in 1990 and Deale Labour Consultants in 1995, facilitating workplace transformations. An accredited IMSSA mediator and arbitrator and Senior Commissioner for the CCMA, Patrick then joined alumni Charles Nupen and Halton Cheadle in The Resolve Group as

MD of Workplace Solutions. In 2001 he started Tokiso Dispute Settlement, South Africa's first and now foremost private dispute resolution company.

E-mail: deale@pixie.co.za

HOWARD DAVID LIPSHITZ

– BSc'76, BSc(Hon)'77 is Professor and Chair of the Department of Medical Genetics and Microbiology and of the Graduate Department of Molecular and Medical Genetics at the University of Toronto, Canada where he is also Canada Research Chair in Developmental Biology and a Senior Scientist in the Research Institute of the Hospital for Sick Children. He has authored over 60 scientific articles and has edited two books. Now a dual USA and Canadian citizen, he would enjoy hearing from his former classmates and friends from University.

E-mail: howard.lipshitz@utoronto.ca

TIMOTHY MCQUOID-MASON

– BSc(LandSurv)'76 left Durban in 1991 and moved to Australia where he worked for two years in the Surveyors Generals in Bathurst, New South Wales. Four years ago they got a lucky break and moved to paradise – a seaside town (Airlie Beach) in the beautiful Whitsundays Islands of North Queensland. He is now the major share holder and director of Pioneer Surveys Pty Ltd that services clients from around Australia and the world.

E-mail: tmcquoid@bigpond.net.au

SANTYLAL DAYA – BSc'77 joined Rhodes University as a technician in the Faculty of Pharmacy. He completed his pharmacology major and Masters Degree in Pharmacology both on a part-time basis. He was then appointed as lecturer in the faculty of Medicine at MEDUNSA where he completed his doctorate in cardio-pulmonary pharmacology,

also on a part-time basis. He then returned to Rhodes where he worked his way up the ladder to Professor and Head of Pharmacology. He won the prestigious Vice-Chancellors Distinguished Teaching Award in 2000. He has published 110 papers in international journals and has supervised numerous MSc and PhD students. He is presently the Head of Pharmacology and Acting Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy at Rhodes.

E-mail: s.day@ru.ac.za

HOWARD WILLIAM RAYNER

– BSc'77, BSc(Hon)'78 entered the Coatings industry in 1978 working for five years at AECI Paints. He joined Hoechst in 1982 as Senior Paint Chemist, becoming Chief Chemist in 1986 and Technical Services Manager in 1989. After completing a Marketing Management Course at Damelin, he became a Product Manager in 1990. In 2001, he started a new company – Solventis (Pty) Ltd selling resins and additives together with two other partners. Howard is a keen hiker and has been a member of the Johannesburg Hiking Club for 25 years. He is also a keen bird watcher.

E-mail: howard.rayner@solvartis.com

FRANK CHARLES VAN ROOYEN

– BA'77, PG-HDE'78 after graduating he taught at Pinetown Boys High for a year, followed by a year at Hillcrest High. He joined the SA Navy in 1980 as a combat officer, spent time ashore on training courses, as well as serving onboard frigates, a support vessel, missile ships and had the opportunity to be seconded to Safmarine twice. He has been at the headquarters for well over a decade now, involved in what the military called 'staff work'; planning, project work, executing operations and exercises; etc. At present he is a Captain (SAN), and his post is that of Maritime Strategy doing naval 'business' with other countries.

E-mail: frankvroy@telkomsa.net

BRUNO FERNANDO VAN DYK

– BA'78, PG-HDE'79, BA(Hon)'87, MA'89 MCom(OrgMgtSys)'02 is the Executive Director of the University of KwaZulu-Natal Foundation, the advancement office of the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He holds a certificate in Managing Partnerships and Strategic Alliances from INSEAD, France.

E-mail: VANDYK@ukzn.ac.za

1980s

DAVID LESLIE KOLITZ – BCom'80, PGDipAcc'82 is an Associate Professor in the School of Accountancy and Assistant Dean (Undergraduate Affairs) in the Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management at the University of the Witwatersrand. He is currently serving a four year term as President of the Convocation at the University. He has held positions at the Judge Institute of Management Studies (Cambridge University, England) and at the Aarhus School of Business (Denmark). David has authored four books in the area of financial accounting. He has completed four Two Oceans and four Comrades marathons.

Email: David.Kolitz@wits.ac.za

DAVID RHYS OWEN – BA'81, PG-HDE'82, BA(Hon)'83 reluctantly served in the SADF for two years for National Service where he ended up doing community development work in Kokstad in East Griqualand after which he taught at Kokstad High School. He served a short contract as historian for the KwaZulu Monuments Council before teaching again at his *alma mater*, Kimberley Boys' High School. He then took up the position of Head of the History division at the Albany Museum in Grahamstown (a research institute

of Rhodes University). He did some teaching in the Faculty of Divinity where he completed a Masters in Theology degree. David is currently Chaplain and Head of Philosophy and Ethics at Taunton School in Somerset. E-mail: DRevOwen@aol.com

ARIEL SHAI – MSc(Agric)'83 is a lawyer and a specialist of tropical exotic fruits in Israel. He lives on a small farm (four hectares) located 45 kms south of Tel Aviv near Rehovot. For the past 10 years he practiced law, specialising in agricultural law, farming legal problems, family law and Ethiopian family law. His legal office is located on his farm and he appeared in all levels of the Israeli courts. Farming is a way of life for him and the minute he finishes a court fighting session, he changes into his farming clothes and continues his endless work and fight with nature. His agricultural achievements are focused on selecting new varieties of rare fruits adapted to the Israeli climate and consulting fruit growers.

E-mail: ariel023@zahav.net.il

BRUCE VIVIAN NOZAIC – BSc'85, PG-HDE'86, BSc(Hon)'93 is currently Head of Physical Science at Hilton College in KZN. He was appointed in 2006 as Chief Examiner for chemistry for the Independent Examinations Board. He recently obtained his Dive-master qualification for Scuba diving. He enjoys hiking in the Drakensberg Mountains and along the Wild Coast; and trout fishing. He loves travelling and has been organising bi-annual educational and cultural trips to the Amazon rainforest and spectacular areas of Brazil since 2001.

Email: bvn@hiltoncollege.com

NEIL STUART FERGUSON

– BSc(Agric)'87, MSc Agric(*cum laude*)'89, PhD(Agric)'96 was on the academic staff at the University's

Animal Science Department from 1989 to 2003 as an Associate Professor. He is currently the Swine Nutrition Research Manager for Maple Leaf Foods – Canada's largest food producer. He heads up all the research on swine production in the organisation which has facilities across Canada.
E-mail: FergusNS@MapleLeaf.ca

BARRY STEPHEN PHILLIPS – BSc(Land Surv)'87 is employed at Dawson Surveys, Inc in Santa Fe. They specialize in boundary (Cadastral) surveys and Pathfinder surveys for the communications industry. They also provide surveys for small engineering projects and condominium developments and a variety of other surveys on an as needed basis.
E-mail: bunnymalone@hotmail.com

DAVID ANTHONY TAPSON – BSc(Agric)'87 worked in Namibia and KwaZulu-Natal in rural development until 1994. He changed careers to IT in 1994 and worked in Johannesburg until 1997 then moved to the UK. He worked in the UK until 2003 with extensive travel around the Far East/ Australasia/ Canada and the States. He got tired of the bad weather and overcrowding and returned to Johannesburg where he is still working in IT.
E-mail: DAVET@discovery.co.za

PENELOPE VALMAI LOVE – BSc(Diet)'88, BSc(Hon)(Diet)'93 and PhD(Diet)'02 immigrated to Australia in 2005 and is currently working for Queensland Health, Population Health Services as Director for Public Health Nutrition, overseeing a team of 10 nutritionists with a focus on primary prevention nutrition initiatives within the central area of Queensland.
E-mail: penny@austware.com

VINESH ANIL NAIDOO – BA'89, LLB'91 is an Advocate (Barrister) of the High Court of South Africa and former member of the International Bar Association. He was recently appointed by the Mayor of Nantes, France to the Secretariat of the World Forum on Human Rights as well as to the Jury Committee for the international human rights award, Prix de l'Edit de Nantes. He was also appointed to the Board of Amnesty International, South Africa. He is Chairperson of Art for Humanity, the South African Coalition for an ICC and the Open Door Aids Centre; Deputy Chairperson of the Participative Development Initiative and Trustee of Fahamu SA.

He is also Managing Director of Indiba-Africa Development Alliance. Their projects include, the UmNyango Project, a ground-breaking collaborative initiative between local and international organisations, which uses SMS technology for rural women in KwaZulu-Natal to report human rights violations against them. Anil is married to Michelle Dhanaserie Odayan (BA'92).
Website: www.indiba-africa.org.za
Email: anil@indiba-africa.org.za

ROBERT GEORGE STEPHEN – MScEng'88 joined Eskom in 1980 and is responsible for technical aspects of network development below 220kV on a national basis and also consults to Transmission Group on a wide range of topics. He holds both MSc and MBA. He was chairman of Cigre SCB2-12 for 9 years and was Special reporter of Cigre SCB2 (Overhead lines) in 1996. He was the chairman of SCB2 on overhead lines in Cigre from 2000 – 2004. He has authored a number of national and international papers. He is an Honorary member of Cigre and a Fellow of the SAIEE and is the Honorary Vice President of the SAIEE for 2005.
E-mail: stepherg@eskom.co.za

GERALD GEORGE GARLAND – PhD'89 left UKZN Howard College campus in December 2006, and is currently employed as the Chairman of the Department of Geography and Urban Studies, University of the United Arab Emirates, Al Ain, UAE.
Email: gggarland@gmail.com

SHAWN HUNTER RODWELL – BCom'89, PGDip(Acc)'90 joined Ernst and Young in Durban in 2000 and qualified as a CA. He was transferred to Memphis, USA in 1993 and subsequently moved to Greenville, South Carolina, where he qualified as a Certified Public Accountant. After a brief stint in 1997 in Nashville working for a dot com, he joined Fluor Corporation back in Greenville and gradually worked his way into an international finance role. He is relocating to Cork, Ireland to lead the finance and accounting team on a large construction project.
E-mail: shawn.rodwell@ameco.com

PHILIPPA ANNE SHIELS (nee Jaaback) – BSc'89 represented South Africa at the Hawaiian Ironman triathlon in October 2007. She has completed five marathons (London, New York, Boston, Rheims and Two Oceans), two half Ironman triathlons and the Bay Bridge swimming race (4, 5 miles). While at University she participated in underwater hockey and volley ball. She has an active family of three youngsters.
Email: daphnej@tiscali.co.za

in digital media technology focusing on the Apple Macintosh platform. This soon led to a career in Digital Video editing and established him as one of Durban's first digital editing and animation companies – Overground Digital. Later, with the advent of some venture capital the company was re-branded as iX Media and entered into the broadcast production market.
E-mail: nick@ix.co.za

MARYSE GHISLAINE O'NEILL (nee Fleuriot) – BA'91 is married to Dave and lives in the USA. Maryse works as a Change and Process Improvement Manager at Microsoft.
Email maryse@davenmaryse.com

CAROLA BRIGITTE BAHATI STRASSNER – MSc'91 obtained her PhD in Nutritional Science (University of Giessen), and worked for three years with the dietetics company PreCon International as Head of Research and Development. In 2001 she joined OeGS Foodservice Consultancy, which specialises on the organic sector, as business partner and completed her MBA with Henley Management College (UK). She is currently a professor to the endowed chair of Sustainable Nutrition and Nutrition Ecology at the University of Applied Science in Muenster, Germany.
Email: strassner@fh-muenster.de

BRUCE JAMES GREIG – BAgric-Mgt'92, BAgricMgt(Hon)'93 after completing his postgraduate work at the University and work with Clover SA in Estcourt, Bruce travelled and worked in the UK, Australia, US, and New Zealand. In 2001, he emigrated to New Zealand where he has worked in the dairy and education sectors. He is currently a lecturer in Farm Management and Agribusiness at Lincoln University, as well as owning his own drystock farms.
E-mail: greigh@lincoln.ac.nz

1990s

NICHOLAS JAMES HEYGATE – BA'91, BA(Hon)'92 headed out to the high seas and for the next five years became a delivery and charter yacht skipper. On return from a long stint in the Canary Islands he assumed a sales and technical position in an IT company specialising

DOUGLAS WALTER HEHER

– BScEng(Mech)'93 in 1993 Doug spent a year overseas and on returning he ran a business for three years and then came back to engineering, starting as a junior engineer with Anglo American on Western Deep Levels. A transfer to the Namakwa Sands smelter outside Saldanha in 1997 saw him promoted to mechanical engineer. In 2003 he started on his own as a consulting engineer, and in 2006 became the founder and director of a company called Operational Engineering Services.
E-mail: douglasheher@mweb.co.za

STEVEN JOHN ROBERTSON

– BCom'90 also known as Bongo is married to **Linda-Lee Robertson (nee Gorissen)**, BCom'92. Both began their careers in Durban with Standard Bank. Thereafter, they spent five years in London pursuing their careers in the investment banking arena before emigrating to Australia in 2002 where they have settled in Perth. They have three children and remain in contact with many alumni, in Perth and other parts of Australia, South Africa and UK.
E-mail: steven.robertson@westnet.com.au

SEAN SCHULZE

– BMus'93, MMus'95 is currently on the faculty of the Cleveland Institute of Music in Cleveland, Ohio USA – an appointment he has held since 2002. He teaches piano and piano pedagogy and also serves as Chair of CIM's nationally recognised pre-college piano programme. Having earned a DMA in piano performance from the University of Arizona in 1999, Sean performs widely in the USA and abroad.
E-mail: seanmar@earthlink.net

LISA JOHANNA JONES

– BSocSci'94, BSocSci(Hon)'95 joined Unilever South Africa on their graduate trainee scheme as a Human Resources (HR) Officer. In January

1999 she began a six month secondment with Unilever Research & Development, Bedford, England. In 2003 she helped to establish the Learning and Development Department of Unilever's UK HR Shared Service Centre, where she worked before taking a career break to further her studies. In 2005 she completed her Masters in Human Resource Management (with distinction) at the University of Hertfordshire, and also attained CIPD graduate status. Lisa now works as a Learning Consultant for Shaw Trust, a national charity working to get disabled and disadvantaged people into work.
E-mail: lisa.jones@shaw-trust.org.uk

GEERTJAN WIELENGA

– BSocSc'94, Lib'96 is a technical writer for the open source Java IDE "NetBeans", which belongs to Sun Microsystems. He is based in Prague, in the Czech Republic, where he writes tutorials and a blog (blogs.sun.com/geertjan Website: <http://www.netbeans.org>
E-mail: g_wielenga@yahoo.com

EDWARD ANGUS BURNS

– BSocSc'96 created a full-time position for himself as co-ordinator for an integrated catchment management project funded by an Irrigation Board in the Mlazi Catchment (just outside Pietermaritzburg). Having been project co-ordinator for nearly eight years, he was approached to take on a new and very challenging project in the Northern parts of KwaZulu-Natal. He accepted and was appointed as co-ordinator for the Enkangala Grassland Project. Fellow alumni will remember him for his musical activities whilst at the Durban Campus. His band – Stonehenge – eventually folded after many years of success. Later he was approached to gig with the Hairy Legged Lentil Eaters and still does play with them at the odd festival or private gig.
E-mail: egtproject@mweb.co.za

RUDOLPH YOUNG – DBA'97 is currently the Associate Director of Human

Resources for the Higher Colleges of Technology (HCT) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), based in Abu Dhabi. HCT consists of 14 colleges across the UAE and has approximately 16 000 students. He is co-author of the book *Managing Information Systems Professionals* (Butterworths, 1997) and his next book, *Stress Innoculation for Expats*, will be published in the UAE in 2008.
E-mail: rudolph.young@hct.ac.ae

BRENDAN MOODLEY

– BScEng(Elec)'99 received his Diploma in Project Management from Daimler Management School in 1999 and attended the Eskom Technology Leadership Programme in 2002. He is a member of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (MSAIEE). Brendan currently holds a Senior Engineer position in the Control and Instrumentation department of the Enterprises Division in Eskom. He is studying towards a MCom (Strategic Project Leadership and Management) from UKZN.
E-mail: brendan.moodley@eskom.co.za

2000s

JASON KIT MYHILL

– BScEng(Elec)'00 obtained a MBA from the University of Cape Town Graduate School of Business and has also studied Negotiations, Currencies, Entrepreneurial Finance and Corporate Valuations at the Anderson School of Management, University of California in Los Angeles. He started his career in the process control and business systems industry. He started a company, initially registering a close corporation and later converting to a private company. He played a big role in profiling Dynaminds into what it is now.
Website: www.dynaminds.co.za
Email: jason.myhill@dynaminds.co.za

KEVIN JOHN HALL – DSc'02 moved to a new university (University of Northern British Columbia) as the inaugural Chair of Geography. Following from his work on the Pietermaritzburg campus he has continued in the Antarctic, working with the British, Canadian, and Italian National programmes during the past few years. He has also worked in Tibet (with the Chinese Academy of Sciences), and by invitation from institutions in Spain, Sweden and France. In the past three years, thanks to grants from the National Geographic Society, he has been back in KwaZulu-Natal working on the weathering of the San rock art in the Drakensberg.
E-mail: hall@unbc.ca

NEETHA SHAGAN MORAR

– MMedSc'02 completed her Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Arts Honours from UNISA prior to completing a medical degree at the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine. A social worker by training, Neetha began her current career at the Medical Research Council (MRC) as a junior scientist in the HIV Prevention Research Unit (HPRU) in 1996. Currently she presides over the largest unit in the MRC in her capacity as the Research Manager.
E-mail: neetha.morar@mrc.ac.za

Please send contributions to:

CORLIA OGLE

Email: ogle@ukzn.ac.za
Fax: 031 260 2236/3265

Post: Alumni Affairs
Corporate Relations
University of KwaZulu-Natal
Westville Campus

Private Bag X 54001
Durban 4000
South Africa



Back (l-r) Mr Sifiso Mncube, Dr Thavan Padayachi, Mr Sandile Ngcobo, Mr Alastair Dickson SC, Professor Sheryl Hendriks, Dr Beki Hlatshwayo, Ms Raylene Captain-Hashtibeer and Mr André Young. Front (l-r) Advocate Andrea Gabriel and Dr Imtiaz Sooliman.

Convocation Awards

Two distinguished alumni, Advocate Andrea Gabriel and Dr Imtiaz Sooliman have received the 2007 Convocation Awards in recognition of their outstanding contribution to Human Freedom and Endeavour. The Awards were presented at a ceremony to coincide with the Convocation Annual General Meeting on 29 October.

President and Chair of Convocation, Mr André Young, said the Convocation Awards are a way of acknowledging graduates for their outstanding achievements in their fields and

for exceptional contribution and service to society.

Accepting her award Advocate Andrea Gabriel said: "I would not have (been successful) without the

people around me and through the University." She added that she is impressed by the number of influential people who are UKZN alumni, and described the University as a "valuable centre of learning". She donated her prize of R500 to the Gift of the Givers to be used to help those in need.

Dr Imtiaz Sooliman lives by the mantra: "Best among people are those who benefit mankind." He believes

that all of humankind is one, regardless of spiritual differences: "Real spiritual people don't preach war ... real religion promotes love, tolerance and peace," he said. He added that he is "confident that the University is going places ... I am proud to be attached to this University."

UKZN alumnus and member of the Convocation Executive Committee, Dr Beki Hlatshwayo presented the Awards together with Mr Young.

Advocate Andrea Astrid Gabriel

*Nominated by
Mr Angus Stewart SC*



Andrea Astrid Gabriel (Bachelor of Arts 1991, Bachelor of Laws 1993) grew up in Pietermaritzburg in a family that placed much importance on education and on public service – a family whose eyes were open to injustice and poverty. It is this background that has led Andrea to the receipt of this Award that places public service and concern for others at its core.

Whilst still a student Andrea worked part-time at the Community Law Centre where she also worked full-time after graduating. It was there that she cemented her commitment to public interest legal work and to serving the poor and the marginalised.

Her expertise in Constitutional and Human Rights Law was taken to another level when as a Fulbright Scholar she read for and was awarded a Master of Laws by the prestigious Georgetown University School of Law in Washington DC. She worked for six months with homeless people in San Francisco whilst researching and compiling a publication on the interdisciplinary causes of homelessness in the US.

On returning to South Africa, Andrea worked as a researcher for then Justice, now Chief Justice, Pius Langa at the South African Constitutional Court. As part of the first intake of Constitutional Court researchers Andrea was at the court when the work there began and for a period of 18 months contributed to the early and ground-breaking work of the Court.

Andrea then took up a scholarship to do an MPhil at the National Law School of India in Bangalore where she wrote her dissertation on socio-economic justice – a burning topic for those committed to social justice.

Since commencing her own practice as an advocate at the Durban Bar in 1998 Andrea has earned enormous respect from her peers and from the bench. She balances her commercial and government work with public interest cases, often for little or no fees, to expand the frontiers of judicial protection against oppression and exploitation.

Dr Imtiaz Ismail Sooliman

*Nominated by Professor
Eleni Maunder*



Dr Imtiaz Sooliman (Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery 1985) was born in Potchefstroom, North West Province.

Following his medical internship at King Edward Hospital in 1985, he worked in private practice for eight-and-a-half years. His direction in his work then changed. Alongside his studies and his medical work, throughout his life Dr Sooliman has been involved in several associations, religious organisations and school governing bodies progressively as a student, medical doctor and an active member of civil society. Working with his spiritual teacher from the Halveti Jerrahi Sufi Tariqat (Sufi Order) of Istanbul, Turkey, it became clear that Dr Sooliman was destined to work alleviating suffering in a much larger arena than Pietermaritzburg and his work has taken him into the global arena. Following the advice of his spiritual teacher, Dr Sooliman founded the Gift of the Givers Foundation in 1992.

The Gift of the Givers is characterised by its rapid, large scale and innovative responses to natural and man made disasters. In 1993 the Gift of the Givers was involved in the development of the world's first and largest containerised mobile hospital, delivered to Bosnia, and not replicated to date by any agency. In 1994 the Gift of the Givers was involved in the development of the world's first containerised primary health care clinic. In 2003 the Gift of the Givers was the only charity organisation in the world permitted to land its plane in Baghdad International Airport after Gulf War 2 and deliver humanitarian aid to the Iraqi people.

The Gift of the Givers is presently the largest disaster response NGO of African origin on the African continent. In a 15 year period the organisation has developed into one of the most respected international humanitarian agencies, being the first such agency to be accredited by Proudly South African and delivering R220 million of aid to millions of recipients in 23 countries, South Africa included.

New books

A Soldier-Artist in Zululand

David Rattray

A SOLDIER-ARTIST IN ZULULAND

WILLIAM WHITELOCKE LLOYD
AND THE ANGLO-ZULU WAR OF 1879



DAVID RATTRAY

Well-known lecturer, raconteur and UKZN alumnus David Rattray completed *A Soldier-Artist in Zululand* shortly before his tragic death in January 2007.

As an officer in the 2nd Battalion of the 24th Regiment of Foot, Lieutenant William Whitelocke Lloyd (1856-1897) saw active service in the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879. He was also an artist of considerable talent.

On his return to civilian life he became the official artist for the P&O and Union Castle Lines, and several books were published of his artwork. But the watercolour paintings and sketches he made during the Anglo-Zulu War have remained unpublished and unknown for more than a century. Kept in an album in the home of the Becher family in England, they saw the light of day only in January 2000 when copies were taken to Fugitives' Drift in South Africa and shown to Zulu War expert David Rattray, who immediately recognised their significance as a unique pictorial record of the Anglo-Zulu War.

The paintings give a graphic rendition, as accurate and informative as it is beautiful, of key events in the campaign. The use of original diaries and source material infuses the stories of individuals with life, and the paintings themselves shed new light on many of the events of the war.

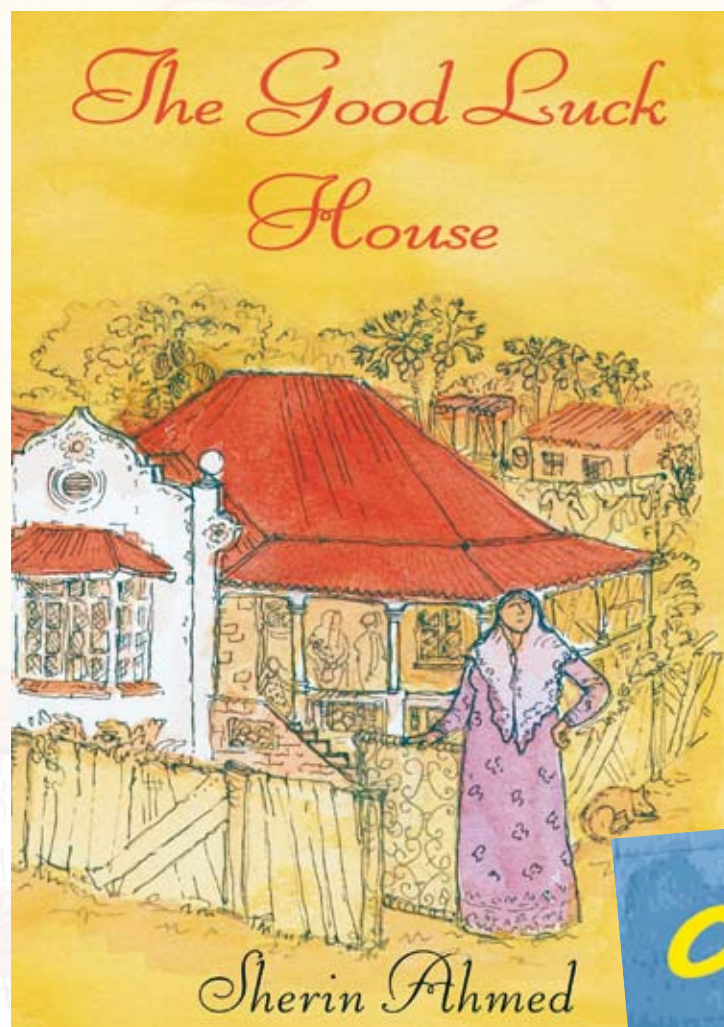
A Soldier-Artist in Zululand is essential reading for anyone with an interest in the Anglo-Zulu War.

To order or for more information:

Rattray Publications
Fugitives' Drift Lodge
P.O. Rorke's Drift
3016 South Africa

Tel: +27 34 642 1843 • Fax: +27 34 271 8053
Email: nicky@trustnet.co.za





In the last issue of UKZNTOUCH, the impression was created that *The Good Luck House* by Shirin Ahmed and *Chapters of Childhood* by Gertrud Strauss are published by the University of KwaZulu-Natal Press.

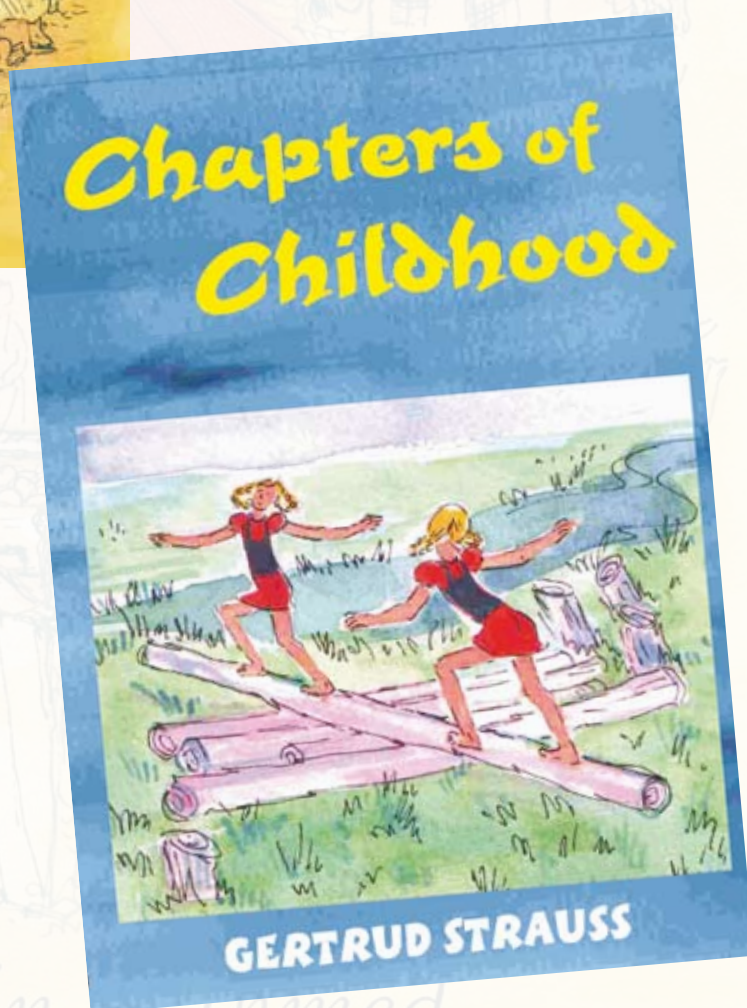
These two books are, in fact, published by Solo Collective. Contact Solo Collective at:

Address: 4 Elgin Drive
Cowies Hill 3610

Tel: 031 266 5178

Fax: 031 266 1100

Email: straussp@eastcoast.co.za



Vision, Mission, Goals and Core Values for the University of KwaZulu-Natal

VISION

To be the Premier University of African scholarship.

MISSION

A truly South African university that is academically excellent, innovative in research, critically engaged with society and demographically representative, redressing the disadvantages, inequities and imbalances of the past.

PRINCIPLES AND CORE VALUES

The University commits itself to the principles and values enshrined in the constitution of the Republic of South Africa and articulated in the preamble to the Higher Education Act of 1997 (as amended).

GOALS

The goals of the University are to:

- Promote access to learning

that will expand educational and employment opportunities for the historically disadvantaged, and support social transformation and redress.

- Create and develop an enabling environment for all learners and scholars to pursue their studies in accordance with the principles of academic freedom.
- Advance knowledge and culture through globally competitive teaching, learning, scholarship and research, innovation and scientific investigation.
- Foster a capacity for independent critical thinking, free engagement in fundamental discovery and a reappraisal and extension of traditional views of the world amongst students and staff.
- Support and contribute, across the academic enterprise, to national and regional development, and the welfare and upliftment of the

wider community.

- Provide holistic education which promotes an awareness of social responsibility and sound ethical practice in a diverse society.
- Promote and foster tolerance and respect for multilingualism, diverse cultures and social values.
- Promote excellence in teaching and learning through creative and innovative curriculum design and development, pedagogical strategies and assessment practices in accordance with sound quality assurance principles.
- Strengthen the institution through local and international collaboration, exchanges and partnerships with the private sector and higher education institutions in teaching, research and development enterprises.
- Conserve the physical environment and foster a culture of

responsible, ethical and sustainable use of natural resources.

- Increase opportunities for lifelong learning in response to the educational, social, political, scientific and economic challenges of our time.
- Equip graduates to serve as future leaders of the nation.
- Ensure effective governance through democratic representation, accountability and transparency.
- Promote the social and personal wellbeing of staff and students and foster the realisation of their full human potential.

The University views this vision and mission statement as a reflection of its core values and commitments. In carrying out its various activities, the University seeks to contribute to the building of a just South African society.





UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL