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Architects against Xenophobia

Sinegugu Nxumalo

The Department of Architectural Technology and Interior Design recently painted a wall to create awareness of xenophobia at the Durban University of Technology's Steve Biko Campus. The event was organised by the department's HoD, Wouter Gildenhuys.

Wouter organised the event as he and the students felt strongly about the violence. He believes that it comes from various social problems in the country; stemming from poverty and poor service delivery. "This is a free country and xenophobia brings a negative view of our country," said 1st year Architectural student Ayesha Paruk. The students felt strongly about the outbreak of violence against foreign nationals that has been spreading throughout the country. "When the people of South Africa and other countries needed help they went to other countries, why can't we do the same?" said Zainub Mponda, also a first year student in Architecture. Students from all around the campus came to watch and support this event. There were four appointed graffiti artists who designed the wall between the S-block and the Library complex. The students were campaigning and hoped that their efforts of nation building and unity would be seen and understood by all.

Pictured are Architectural Technology students who, armed with spray cans and a keen sense of design, expressed their opinions.



Photo's: Bandile Matindisa

DUT Television School is First in SA to Train Underwater Cameramen

Cary Burnett

How many students would love to ditch the lecture room in favour of spending their class time swimming in the azure waters of Durban's Ushaka aquaria? This was exactly the scenario for eight hand-picked students who were chosen for places on a brand new degree course in Video Technology, offered by the DUT.

This unique degree includes a course in underwater camerawork, or marine videography - a first in South Africa. DUT Television School HoD Professor Pete Burnett said: "Durban is ideally suited, with our warm weather, Ushaka aquaria and reefs and wrecks to offer a course in marine videography. The DUT Television School has a long history of preparing graduates to enter the television industry. This new, fourth year course adds another unique dimension to our training and produces qualified underwater cameramen for a niche area in the industry."

Veteran marine videographer John Du Plessis was contracted to run the course which included PADI Discover Scuba qualifications for each student who, on completion of the training, were qualified to dive up to 12 metres with an instructor. Initial dives took place in the Ushaka aquaria which provided a safe and protected environment in which to learn the necessary scuba skills. Once competent at diving, students turned their attention to mastering shooting under water. "There are a lot of shot opportunities at the

aquarium because of the abundant marine life, but an interesting challenge was the current, which simulated the natural marine environment and helped prepare them for the later ocean dives" said Cary Burnett, the course leader.

Tackling surf launches and diving in the ocean was a "whole other experience" for the 8 students. Rishane Rajkomaar described the ocean dives as physically challenging and "like trying to hold a camera in a hurricane". Rishane always wanted to try scuba diving so getting the opportunity to do so as part of his studies was a dream come true. Like others in his group he wants to continue on and get his Open Water scuba diving qualification.

For Marcello Maffei the course was a highlight and "the coolest thing I've done all year". Some of the students were already keen on water sports, including Adam Van Heerden who is an avid surfer. "It was actually difficult to get really good shots underwater. There are so many more factors to consider than when on land. It was a real eye opener to see all the marine life", said Adam, who is determined to pursue this option and become an underwater cameraman. "I want to specialise



Photo: Supplied

Stuart Strydom pictured with the underwater camera

in shooting surfing and travel the world doing it," he said. Another keen surfer in the group was Jeremy Martin whose best moment was a chance to swim with the dolphins on the way out to Blood Reef.

Marine Videographer John Du Plessis described the group as talented and rated their underwater filming efforts highly. "I was pleased to get such good feedback about the students," said Cary Burnett. "This is our first year offering this course and we are still feeling our way. The feedback from both lecturer and students has been very good so we are definitely going to continue offering training in marine videography."



Editor's Corner

The Vice-Chancellor recently tasked Corporate Affairs with the production of a veritable "brag book", a publication that will be used to showcase the talent inherent at the institution. This has been no easy task; simply due to the sheer volume of information we have received which will simply not fit into the very limited space we have available. This goes to show just how much we have to brag about!

This bumper edition of the Conduit is yet another example of the "DUT stars" resident at the university. Spanning 10 pages, this Conduit highlights the achievements of staff, students and alumnus. The Journalism Department in particular seems to be shining, with graduate Smanga Zwane at the Beijing Olympics earlier this year (see page 4).

Maya Jagjivan of SABC News and Arthi Sanpath of Daily News set sail for Mumbai, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat at the beginning of September. Read more about these graduates making waves overseas in the News section of the DUT website.

The passing of Professor Lionel Slammert, DVC: Academic has cast a sense of sadness across the DUT campuses. I clearly remember David Sedumedi and I taking Professor Slammert along to the various DUT campuses, and how impressed he was with City Campus in particular. He had a brilliant mind, and will be sorely missed.

Ciao,
Raylene

DUT Journalism Students participate in Youth Crime Prevention and Safer Cities Summit

Kyle Venktesh

Durban recently catered for an influx of international delegates who attended the *Your City International Youth Crime Prevention and Safer Cities Summit*, 17th to 21st June. KwaZulu-Natal and the UN-Habitat hosted the summit which was seen as the culmination of a series of international forums which focus on strengthening the role of youth in our communities. Nicholas You, Senior Advisor, Policy & Strategic Planning for the United Nations said: "The information of best practises exchanged and the summit's synergy can be mobilised in the re-shaping of a community, especially like South Africa ahead of the 2010 world cup."

It is estimated that by 2030, 60% of urban dwellers worldwide will be under the age of 18. It is therefore the duty of the youth to strive for a better society. Expected outcomes of the summit included a crime prevention resource centre for the youth and the induction of a social networking website from the Baobab organisation.

DUT Journalism students worked together with the *Centre Circle Collective* to cover the various plenary and dialogue sessions held at the summit. The plenary sessions focused on "Youth and children as champions of community safety for a better world", while the dialogue sessions offered a chance for delegates and local government officials to interact with

one another and discuss problems arising. Meyuri Pillay, a 2nd year journalism student said, "The summit proved to be an open debate and ideas session, whereby we as South Africans realised that communities around the world face the same battle."

Evening entertainment for delegates included trips to uShaka Marine World and The Bat Centre for *The Hip Hop Celebration* and *Tribute to Lucky Dube* respectively. The four-day summit came to a close with the gala dinner hosted by Bheki Cele, Member of Executive Council for Transport, Communication, Safety and Liaison.

For further reports on the summit please visit www.safercitiesyouth.blogspot.com

DUT Honours Women Researchers

Sandile Gumede

The Durban University of Technology's Hotel School recently hosted academics from KZN universities at the launch of the Voyages of Discovery Bulletin. The bulletin is aimed at recognising women researchers within the institution.

Acknowledging women in research Vice-Chancellor and Principal of DUT, Professor R H du Pré said the core of any university is the creation of new knowledge and that there is a very crucial relationship between traditional universities and universities of technology.

Professor du Pré also congratulated Professor Gansen Pillay, Director, Centre for Research Management and Development (CRMD) who initiated the Voyages of Discovery Bulletin.

Speaking on behalf of Professor Pillay his wife, Mrs Loshni Pillay, said the bulletin is aimed at addressing gender equity and acknowledging the contributions by women at DUT. Mrs Pillay added that research can only be valid if it has an impact on the people of South Africa. Professor

Pillay could not attend the function due to unforeseen circumstances.

Women in Research Award recipients included Kavita Beemsen (completed DBA from UKZN), Veena Rawjee (D Phil from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University), Deirdre Pratt (D Tech from DUT), Shamla Moodley (DBA from UKZN), Dawn Stephens (D Tech from DUT) and Suryakumari Rajah.

Rawjee said the award is for everyone who supported her. "Completing my PhD was a collective effort, especially the support I received from my family, DUT (CRMD) and colleagues".

Suryakumari Rajah said DUT has given attention and recognition to women. She added that the award is a good motivation to continue researching.

Meanwhile, six National Research Foundation (NRF) rated researchers were also honoured for their contributions. Professors P Y Tabakov, M Walker, S Singh, K Duffy and D Pillay all received awards for being re-rated while Professor K Bisetty was rated as an NRF researcher for the first time.

Journalism Research Seminar

Bandile Malindisa

The Department of Journalism recently hosted their Annual Research Seminar at City Campus. The seminar room was filled with students and guests who were treated to different research topics and research tips by senior journalism students.



Photo: Patiswa Jwacu

Lyse Comins presenting her research topic, "Mothers in the Media".

Senior freelance journalist and lecturer at the Department, Lyse Comins' topic "Mothers in the media" tackled issues such as the glass ceiling in the media that prevents women from heading-up senior positions in the media industry. Additionally, it also looked at the way mothers are perceived at work and also their rights in the work environment.

Andile Ndlovu interrogated "Media coverage and portrayal of women in sport." His topic looked at portraying women as sex objects in the media, while on the other hand men are portrayed as warriors or superiors. He also touched on issues of sexism.

Other topics included:

- Anelisa Kubheka's "Source, selection - the media gender bias"
- Charmel Bowman's "Comparison of SABC and e-TV news"
- Mpumelelo Mkhwanazi and Sbongile Mthembu's "Bertelsmann company," to name a few.

With the help of the research seminar, students got to know the basic requirements for researching and different data capturing methods used by their peers. In addition, the seminar was useful in preparing first year and second year students who are yet to conduct research.

World of Work Exhibition attracted thousands of students

Sandile Gumede

Durban University of Technology students recently got their first taste of the world of work at the company exhibition held at DUT's Ritson Campus. More than 40 companies showcased themselves to thousands of DUT students in a two day event organised by the Co-operative Education Department (Co-op).

Group Manager Human Resources at Business Connexion, Arnold Beyleveld said his company will be recruiting more than 190 IT graduates to an 8-months BCX Internship Programme. Beyleveld added that graduates will be placed and trained for available positions within the company.

Senior Manager Training and Development, Carva Pop urged students to show positive attitude if they want any chance to be part of the BCX programme. He told them that no-one owes them anything. "You are owed nothing but you will have to prove yourself. You must create a reputation that you want the job" concluded Pop.

The exhibition earned accolades from both students and companies. "I have been to seven universities in the country showcasing Ericsson, but DUT was the best of them all" said Mbali, representative of the multinational cellular company.

Chairperson of South African Institute of Professional Accountants in Durban, Vijay Latel said they want 150 to 200 accounting graduates to be placed in different companies. He added that there is a massive shortage of accountants in the country and that students must grasp this opportunity.

The Director of Co-op, Shakeel Ori said the aim was to put DUT students in contact with companies that will eventually employ them. He continued that both first and final years benefitted from the exhibition, "Part of it was preparing students for the realities of the work place and also to help new students to start thinking about their careers."

DUT students and the fast paced world of fashion

Zwelakhe Shangase

Journalism and Photography students from the Durban University of Technology joined forces to cover the MTN Durban Fashion Week. The event, held at the Suncoast Casino and Entertainment World, saw South Africa's young designers sharing the stage with some of the big names in the South African Fashion industry. The venue, set against the backdrop of the Indian Ocean coupled with Durban's vibrant ambience, exuded a mixture of African, Eastern and Western cultural influences.

Vanashree Singh of VShe Promotions, the organiser of the event in conjunction with Africa Fashion International, said the intention was to raise the bar in South African fashion by giving young designers the opportunity to showcase their talents alongside the country's top and well established designers. Young designers like Smiso Mbindwane and Bekky Beukes were honoured to share the stage with some of the big names in the South African Fashion scene. "Today I grew not only as a designer but as an individual," said Smiso Mbindwane who expressed the sentiment that his designs are futuristic and for those who are willing to go the extra mile in their everyday work clothes. Gugu Msimang who works under the label "Sibu Msimang" who shared the stage with the likes of Gavin Rajah and Andre Martin (*Life*) said her designs were greatly packaged and of good quality. "The show was great and it was even greater when I got a standing ovation."

The Journalism and the Photography students worked for *Fashion Daily*, a glossy magazine produced daily during the Fashion Week. They had the task of publishing stories every night under the supervision of Cathy Steed, Senior Fashion Editor of *Glamour* magazine and Lorna King, Managing Editor of *Bona* magazine. The students were honoured to be working with renowned fashion editors and they regarded this as a tremendous experience. "It was a nice and a hectic experience! For the first time I fully understood the concept that

every second counts," said Luthando Nzimande, a Journalism student. Phathiswa Jwacu, a Journalism student said that her experience on *Fashion Daily* was like embarking on a trip around the world as she saw the different fashion styles. "I actually got firsthand experience on how the magazine/fashion industry works." Bwalya Lungu, a Photography student said that this was by far the best event their department has ever sent them to cover. "I love fashion and being at Fashion Week really made me think about pursuing a career in fashion." Lungu also added that she missed the profession as she is a designer herself. "I have never had so much fun in my life!" said Noxolo Memela, a Photography student. Memela was excited to enhance her portfolio with pictures from Fashion Week. "The experience was just amazing and I have never been so frightened and also excited at the same time, I wish we could do it again!"

The students found the event to be a tremendous learning curve because it assisted them in networking and also in meeting some famous names and faces of South Africa. The highlight of the event for the socialites was the Eastern Mosaic Style Showcase that saw well known Bollywood designers like Rohit Bal, Neeta Lulla and Tarun Tahiliani showcasing their latest designs. One segment that left the students speechless and amazed was Andre Martin's showing of his latest clothing range from the label *Life*, and the students summed it one word, "Amazing".

Taxi Jam

Sandile Gumede

Drama students at the Durban University of Technology recently gave a classic performance of the production, *Taxi Jam*, written and directed by Themis Venturas.



Photo: Ronicka Sirputh

From left to right: Portia Buwa as Ma Dlamini, Ntando Mncube as Themba, Philani Muthwa as Putha, Menzi Mkhwane as Dlamini

Taxi Jam is about township life and political violence before democratic South Africa. Young Phutha (Philani Muthwa, 18), is a brilliant kid who despite a poor family background is determined to have a bright future. His mother (Slindile Ndlovu) is a drunkard who brings different men to the house who give money to Phutha.

Writer and Director, Themis Venturas

said the play emerged when one of his township drama students was killed by thieves who wanted his meagre possessions. He added that there were lots of people who used political elements to settle their personal scores.

In the play, Phutha knows some ANC comrades but is not politically involved. He is labelled as "impimpi" by Themba (Ntando Mncube, 22), and comrades trap

and kill him. Police never investigate the case, claiming it is politically motivated whereas the real reason is that he and Themba are both in love with Ma Dlamini's daughter.

Menzi Mkhwane, 19 (Dlamini) said theatre is a reflection of society. He said though *Taxi Jam* was first performed more than 15 years ago, it is still relevant to democratic South Africa. "We still see a lot of black on black killings in townships, homelessness and lack of leadership which results in *Taxi Jam*," said Mkhwane. He added that as a first year student, he's not in any rush to look for a job. "I'm hungry to learn from my lecturers and senior

students," he explained.

3rd year, Portia Buwa 21, (MaDlamini) is not obsessed like many young performers to move to the "City of Gold", Johannesburg. "Though it's my final year here at DUT, I'm young in the industry. I want to stay in KZN and establish myself here."

Ntando Mncube 22, (Themba) has only two months left in his final year and sees the tough corporate world ahead of him. "There are many well known actors and actresses, and it's the battle of the fittest in which I have to prove myself," concluded Ntando.

In Beijing on a 2010 World Cup Mission

Bhekani Dlamini

A DUT alumnus was in Beijing along with a team of colleagues from government to learn from China, hosts of the 2008 Olympics, how to promote the 2010 Fifa World Cup to be held in South Africa in less than two years.

Smanga Zwane, a BTech graduate in Journalism, is the Content Manager for the official 2010 Fifa World Cup Government Website. He works for Government Communication and Information System (GCIS) under the 2010 Communication Project Management Unit in Pretoria. Zwane is expected to report on the outcomes of all the Olympic events in China and to provide operational assistance to his colleagues. He is confident that they are not in China to convince people that they are capable of hosting the World Cup, but are there "to show them how we are going to do it."

He believes his job is multi-faceted and a challenging one as apart from writing and co-ordinating content for the website, he also meets people who are working tirelessly to make Africa's 2010 dream a success. He then shares their stories. He edits and approves all content for the website. He supplies 2010 content to other government publications and makes sure that there is fresh, timely, relevant, accurate and informative

content for the website. He also ensures there is correct audiovisual material for the website.

Most of all, Zwane provides operational support to his Unit which is responsible for profiling the implementation of government's World Cup commitments / guarantees and the state of readiness and co-ordinating government communication on the 2010 World Cup preparations. He works closely with the 2010 FIFA World Cup South Africa Local Organising Committee. He uses all the resources at his disposal, the website being one of them, to make the public and other entities interested in the 2010 World Cup aware of what is going on.

"Ultimately, I am excited because I am part of something great, part of a dream, a South African dream, an African dream, the 2010 dream. My job is about following and telling a story of courage and confidence in a country that's vibrant and alive with possibility, a country whose capacity to hold a successful World Cup cannot be doubted," comments Zwane.

Many Ways to Food

Sinegugu Nxumalo

The food technology department recently held a "Meals in a can" workshop at the ML Sultan Campus, inspired by the recent Eskom power cuts. The event was organised by Dr Thiriloshani Padayachee, the Associate Director of the Department of Biotechnology and Food Technology. The one day workshop was organised for students to be assisted in their projects and for speakers to impart their knowledge of Food Development. The event hosted a number of speakers from different fields of nutritional occupation.



Photo: Bandile Malindisa

One of the speakers, Kay Devchand from FACT (Food and Cosmetic Technologies), gave the students guidelines for new product development. Devchand explained to them that there is so much more to a product. He told them that they can formulate different and completely new ideas from ordinary products; he said to the students that they should unleash their creativity. He told them some of the factors that will inspire and stimulate their creative process was to first have "inspiration, clarification, and distillation." He showed the audience various products on the market that were products of sheer creativity such as

instant rice and different flavours of syrup which originated from the original syrup.

Christelle De-Witt from Unilever spoke to the students about dietary requirements in food and also confirmed that half of the women in South Africa are either overweight or obese. She spoke about making food labels easier to understand for the consumer and urged students to accept their social responsibility to the public and "limit the bad from the word go so we can make a difference." The workshop also comprised of many other speakers who were willing to enlighten the students further.

Student leader's graduate

Sandile Gumede

Eight Student Representative Council members graduated at the recent graduation ceremonies held at the Durban University of Technology.

Central President of the SRC, Mandla Shange, ND: Human Resources Management, encouraged students to work hard and prioritise their studies. He also urged students to participate in university activities so they can network with other learners. He, however, warned students not to be too involved and forget about their academic work, "All students must understand that the primary objective is to study and the rest are secondary."

Education and Transformation Officer, Nkosinathi Mthuli who graduated with a Bachelor of Education degree said students must learn to balance social life and academic work. "It is important to de-stress after attending classes and writing exams, but don't spend too much time on leisure," warned Mthuli.

He, however, noted that this qualification was not the end for him but he wanted to continue studying until Doctoral level.

ND: Language and Practice graduate, Mbokodo Mbatha warned students not to be carried away by the social life in Durban. Mbatha added that everyone must know why they came to the institution. "You must know where you come from, what you want and which tools to use to achieve your objectives." He added that qualifications obtained from DUT will help him open his own business.

Treasurer of the SRC, Nhlanhla Nkosi, said students must understand where they come from. "Being in Durban for the first time can be very challenging and difficult but one must not forget what they initially came here for". Nkosi is currently a registered BTech Cost and Management Accounting student.

SRC members including the Local President, Musa Zondi, Local Secretary, Mthunzi Gumede and Sports and Culture Officer, Nkanyiso Zondi graduated with ND: Management, BTech Journalism and ND: HRM, respectively.

Wouldn't you like to know what's happening at your campus?

Email your name, surname, Department, Course, Student/staff number and most importantly your cell number to webmaster@dut.ac.za to receive important sms notifications in the event of an emergency. For more information, contact Corporate Affairs on 031 373 2899/2339/2106.

Postgraduate awards

The Postgraduate Development and Support Directorate has developed the Postgraduate Award Structure for 2008. Outlining the awards (including cash incentives and laptops) for BTech, MTech and DTech students, the structure includes guidelines for application.

Visit the website, www.dut.ac.za for more information.

Telling kids' stories for Olympics

Bhekani Dlamini

Former DUT Journalism student keeps our flag shining through coverage of the Olympics games in Beijing. Ntando Mnyandu spent two weeks in China, working as a producer, camera person and doing production co-ordination.

Born in Inanda, in the northern part of Durban, Mnyandu is the Producer/Camera person for Kids News at the SABC in Johannesburg. Kids News is a television news programme that focuses mainly on issues affecting children, not only in South Africa, but globally. His job at SABC includes writing stories, production and compilation of the show, research and video editing. Kids News is aired on SABC 1 at

6:30 am every weekday. "I'm trying to tell Chinese stories in a manner that South African children would easily understand and relate to, without any limitations," says Mnyandu. During his stay in China his focus was on encouraging more and more young athletes to take part in the Olympics.

Mnyandu studied towards a National Diploma in Journalism.

Information Technology awards

Bandile Malindisa

The Department of Information Technology held its annual awards ceremony at Ritson Hall earlier this year. This event saw students receiving awards at all levels of the course, from first year to BTech.



Photo: Supplied

Riaz Mohammed, Mr Trevor Luyt (guest speaker from software company SQS), and Sanrita Haripersad

The awards ceremony began with the presentation of first year students' awards. The first award was the Special Achievement Award which recognises the dedication and determination of a student. The recipient of this award was Siboniso Lowell Ntenga for receiving six distinctions and producing consistently improved marks throughout the year. The second award was a Special Recognition Award that went to Chen Zheng. Zheng also developed an animated tutorial with the aim of assisting students struggling with writing programmes.

The third award was the first year Merit Award which recognises the student who has the second highest aggregate in their level of study. This year's recipient is Tyron Govender. The final award at the First Year Level was the Best Overall Performance Award. The award recognises the student who achieves the highest aggregate in their year of study. This award went to Rowen Keith Landsberg for achieving eight out of eight distinctions in all the modules.

In the second year category was a Special Achievement Award that pays tribute to students who rise above challenges that nature and society place before them. This year's Special Achievement Award went to Adhil

Ramnath. Ramnath completed his schooling at the VN Naik School for the Deaf. The special award was followed by the Merit Award that went to Natasha Natley Govender. She is also the recipient of last year's Best Overall Performance Award.

The final Award in the Second Year Category was the Best Overall Performance Award. This award went to Naiomi Reddy for achieving distinctions in 10 out of 10 modules. The Merit Award went to Njabulo Samson Shongwe for achieving an aggregate of 74% with distinctions in two subjects. The Best Overall Performance Award went to Sanrita Haripersad. Haripersad also received the Merit Award in her first year and the Best Overall Performance Award in her second year.

The BTech Merit Award went to Thirushen Subra Gounden and this year's Best Overall Performance Award went to Riaz Mohammed. Riaz receives the Dr Stuart Melville/ Dimension Data Floating Trophy, a certificate, a notebook computer kindly sponsored by SQS, a trophy and a book. The last award was the Diplomat of the year Award. This award went to Sanrita Haripersad who also received the Dimension Data Floating Trophy, a certificate, and a full computer system from Aviva Systems, a trophy and a book.

Graduate wins an award

Shakira Mayaram, MTN SA and Bhekani Dlamini

Congratulations to the graduate of the Durban University of Technology (DUT), Dineo Bopape, on winning the MTN New Contemporaries Award 2008 at the gala awards event recently held at the University of Johannesburg Art Gallery. The leading innovator won R50 000 in cash.

The adjudicators of the MTN New Contemporaries Award 2008 have cast their votes, and with this Dineo Bopape has emerged as the new young leader on the contemporary South African art scene. This leading innovator won a R50 000 cash prize, while the finalists Daniel Halter, Themba Shibase and Michael MacGarry each won R5,000. All received state-of-the-art cell phones.

Bopape received a BTech in Fine Arts (*cum laude*) 2004 from DUT, then DIT. She has been accepted into the prestigious Columbia University in New York, and she is due to start in September 2008. She is currently awaiting news regarding funding, to enable her to pursue her Masters in Fine Arts.

"It feels really cool having won the MTN New Contemporaries prize. I feel honoured and grateful, for the opportunity to have been a part of it. Being nominated and being given the opportunity to make a new piece and having had the assistance of the curator of the show: Melissa Mboweni, the MTN Foundation, and the University of Johannesburg Gallery crew was wonderful. It has been a great experience," says Bopape. She does video, installations, painting and sculpture.

Born in Polokwane, Bopape lived in Durban for a while, and now travels and works in cities around South Africa. Since completing her BTech at DUT, she participated in a 2 year residency programme called *de Ateliers* in Amsterdam. She has also been participating in art shows in South Africa and abroad.

This competition awards its winner and finalists in a more substantive manner too, by exposing their talents to the art world. Since early this year, the four artists were sponsored to work under the direction of a leading curator, then given the opportunity to present their

works at a premier gallery in Johannesburg.

The developmental nature of this competition is structured to meet the purpose for which the MTN New Contemporaries Award is designed: to locate talented young artists who have not yet received critical acclaim but who are positioned to be leaders in the art field.

The four selected emerging South African artists were afforded the opportunity to create a new artwork especially for the MTN New Contemporaries exhibition. Their respective art pieces are now on view to the public at the University of Johannesburg Art Gallery, which is an exciting environment for a contemporary show of this nature.

Themba Shibase, also from DUT, is intrigued by the notion of an artist as a cultural hybrid in the context of present-day South Africa. Michael MacGarry's work investigates the infiltration of Western imperialism and colonialism through current experience on the African continent. Dineo Bopape collects and assembles personal objects that have guided and been a part of her everyday experience

It was from this challenging display of diverse works that the independent judging committee, consisting of formidable specialists Khwezi Gule, Nathi Gumede, Bongie Dhlomo-Mautloa, Kathryn Smith and Annali Cabano-Dempsey, selected their winner.

"Once more, the MTN SA Foundation is delighted to congratulate a winner and our other finalists. The MTN New Contemporaries Award has been held roughly every two years, and has been an important part of the MTN SA Foundations Arts and Culture portfolio since 2001," says Eunice Maluleke, the General Manager of MTN SA Foundation.

The DUT Choir Sings High in Limpopo

Theron Rapoo

After raising funds for a long awaited trip to Limpopo, the DUT CHORALE comes back with top honors. Help from the SRC and the Vice-Chancellor led the choir to the University of Venda, Limpopo Province where 25 higher education institutions gathered for the 2008 SATICA (South African Tertiary Institutions Chorale Association) Eisteddfod. This year's competition received support from the SABC.

The standard of this year's competition was high, with new twists and turns. This year, DUT made history at the competition, when Midlands came back with top honors and accreditation. In the Standard Section, there are 10 prescribed pieces, and 2 unprescribed pieces with one being an HIV/AIDS compulsory piece. Midlands's conductor, Mdu, took one song from one of the Master Composers' collection, Verdi, and arranged it in Zulu. He came up with Zulu lyrics and produced a powerful HIV/AIDS song which left everyone speechless. It was

a Zulu opera, with an HIV/AIDS message, accompanied by our official pianist, Sfiso Mthlane. It took Mdu some hours before the competition to arrange the whole song, evidence of hard work and dedication indeed.

After seven days of strong music, both choirs placed tops, irrespective of the fact that some of the choristers were sick due to the very dry air in Venda. The results are as follows:

DUT DURBAN

1. Male Voice - Position 3
2. Mixed Choirs Western - Position 3

3. Mixed Double Quartet - Position 1
4. OVERALL LARGE - Position 3

DUT MIDLANDS

1. Mixed Choirs HIV/AIDS - Position 1
2. Mixed Choirs African - Position 1
3. OVERALL STANDARD - Position 1

Midlands Choir is the National Champion in the Standard Category and the Durban Choir placed 3rd Overall. This puts the institution's flag higher on the map and really makes one feel proud to be a student at "A leading university of technology in Africa," especially the choristers.

Thanks are due to Professor Roy du Pré, Professor Gawe, the SRC, Ms Nomonde Mbadi, Mr Dheo Kumar, Fatima Haffajee and Professor Ngcobo, without whom this could not have been possible.

Next year the competition is going to the Western Cape and both choirs will soon start to prepare themselves as they already have their repertoire. Currently, they are preparing for the Premier Competition in September, the South African Post Office Chorale Competition, and the National Choir Festival. Halala DUT Halala!

DUT Homecoming

Barba Ndlovu and Sithembile Shabangu

Graduates from the Durban University of Technology converged at their alma mater for the recent homecoming held at the Ritson Road Campus.

The event was held for all graduates who hold a qualification from M L Sultan, Technikon Natal, DIT and DUT. It was aimed at rebuilding and reuniting all the graduates with their university and to provide an opportunity to network and socialise.

President of Convocation, Zakhele Nyuswa, said that he was grateful to see the graduates back at their institution.

Graduate Themba Khanyezi, who graduated in 2005, said that DUT played a huge role in his life as it made him more marketable to industry. He admitted that he gained a lot of leadership skills which helped him be more disciplined in his job.

Other issues that were discussed included the opportunities for unemployed graduates, international exchanges for alumni, class/programme reunions and the Alumni mentoring programme.

The Silver Tusk Awards

The Silver Tusk awards were held for graduates who have made significant achievements in our communities and are 'Movers and Shakers' in their respective industries. The awards went to:

GORDON MURRAY - a Mechanical Engineering graduate. He was the



L - R: Prof du Pre', Nanda Soobben, Sharoda Rapeti, Gordon Murray, Mathuto Motumi, Maud Mogodi-Dikgetsi (Vice-Chair: DUT Council)

Chief Designer for the Formula 1 Brabham Team, and his Brabhams scored 22 Grand Prix wins, finished second in the Constructors' Championship in 1975 and 1981 and gave Nelson Piquet the Drivers' Championship in 1981 and 1983. At the end of 1986, Murray joined McLaren as Technical Director. His Honda-powered McLaren won 15 of 16 Grand Prix in 1988, and gave Ayrton Senna his first Drivers' Championship. Over the period 1988-

1991, the McLaren team won four consecutive Constructors' and Drivers' Championships (Alain Prost in 1989 and Ayrton Senna in 1990 and 1991). From 1991-2004, Murray headed McLaren Cars to design road-going supercars viz the McLaren F1 and the Mercedes Benz SLR McLaren. In July 2007, he established the Gordon Murray Design consultancy, where he is busy with the T25 prototype city car, along with a future lightweight, economical supercar project.

SHARODA RAPETI - graduated with the Higher National Diploma in Electronic Engineering from the then M L Sultan Technikon in 1990. In 1997 she completed her MBA (*cum laude*). Her work experience includes:

2001-2007: Managing Director: technology Division - Group Executive: Technology Division: SABC (Including: SABC's four TV stations, 19 Radio Stations and enterprise business operations globally)
1998-2001: Manager Digital Technology Development SABC
1998: Manager IT Projects: SABC
1996: Regional Manager: Facilities: SABC (KZN)

Achievements

- Technology DIVA Award 2005
- Top Woman ICT: African ICT Achievers Award 2002
- Overall African ICT Achiever Award Winner 2002
- First female Vice-President of ECSA 2001
- First Female Deputy Chairperson of Council for Built Environment 2002
- Women in Media Award: best Engineering Contribution: SABC 2001
- Old Mutual Award for Top MBA Study Group 1996
- Nedcor Award for top MBA Marketing Group 1996
- Best Engineering Student Award: Institute of Mechanical and Electrical Engineers 1987
- First student to obtain 100% pass in National Engineering Mathematics Examination
- ESKOM Top Student Technician Award 1990.

NANDA SOOBEN - is the founder and creative director of the Centre for

continued on page 8...

Community Engagement Day at DUT

Bandile Malindisa

The Department of Journalism at the Durban University of Technology (DUT) recently hosted a Community Engagement Day. This year's Community Engagement Day was held at the Arthur Smith Hall, City Campus.

This 2008 Community Engagement Day, characterised by the presence of a large number of organisations, was opened with a prayer. Most of these organisations are non-governmental and based at helping people with difficulties or infected with sicknesses.

Organisations that presented on the day included:

- The Association for The Aged (TAFTA)
- The Sunflower Fund, aimed at financially supporting people who have contracted leukemia.
- Streetwise, a Durban based organisation aimed at empowering, protecting and reconciling street children with their families.
- The Quadriplegic Association of South Africa presented on issues such as user-friendly buildings and the ill-treatment of physically challenged people. Some of the topics they stressed were preventing quadriplegia and protecting, as well as promoting the interest of quadriplegics.
- Diakonia, known for being the home of social agencies committed to justice, peace and development.
- The Durban Lesbian and Gay Community and Health Centre.

"The world is changing"

Sinegugu Nxumalo

Professor Roy du Pré, Vice -Chancellor of the Durban University of Technology gave the opening address at the E-learning day for lecturers at the ML Sultan Cane Grower's Hall. The event was organised by Mari Peté. The purpose of the learning day was to encourage lecturers to look at other means of teaching students and to strive for progression. They were also urged to use new methods of technology and the internet in teaching students.

Professor du Pré commented on the slowness of the university in adopting new technology and that the lecturers should not impart knowledge that is mundane to students. He said "the world has changed" saying that lecturers should move away from repeating old curriculum to the students of a new age. Professor du Pré also said that millionaires are made through technology and the university needs to train those that

will go out there, since this an ever changing world and the world evolves through technology, and the university with the assistance of the lecturers, need to train students for the real world. Awards were presented to lecturers, amongst them was the Distinguished e-Learning certificated Award, given to three awardees, Carolyn Burnett, Deidre (Dee) Pratt and Anisa Vahed. Other lecturers competent in e-learning were given awards.

SASCE Appreciation Lunch

Bandile Malindisa

The Department of Co-operative Education held a thank you lunch at DUT's Hotel School to show appreciation to all who helped during the SASCE conference. Mr Shakeel Ori, as well as Prof Roy du Pré, thanked all who made the conference a success, from organisers, ushers, greeters and the guest speakers from various places in the world who attended the conference.



Photos: Bandile Malindisa



Mathematical Literacy Outcry

Sinegugu Nxumalo

The Durban University of Technology hosted a mathematics College Lecture Programme, "The new Curriculum statement: Mathematics and Mathematical Literacy - Implications for admission and curriculum development" held at the Steve Biko Campus earlier this year. Guest speakers included Professor John Volmink, Vishnu Naidoo of Tongaat and DUT's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Roy du Pré, who formally introduced the guests.

"I don't think the country is ready for Mathematical literacy," said Professor Volmink, considering the number of students who will seek admission in the year 2009, with Mathematical Literacy (ML) in their certificates. The question is, "will higher education institutions adequately provide for these future students?" Mathematics and mathematical literacy are different in purpose and not different in level, but most higher education institutions have the perception that ML is of a lower level. Professor Volmink explained that Mathematical Literacy is "simple maths in a sophisticated way." In the year 2006 ML was formally introduced in schools as an alternative mathematics for grade 10-12 in South Africa. In Professor Volmink's presentation he showed statistics that revealed that most students needed mathematics on

level 4 in order to be admitted in Universities such as UCT and WITS, whereas in some faculties they do not consider ML and if they do, they need no less than level 7/8. However Vishnu Naidoo was a bit more optimistic about the new curriculum in place. He said that ordinary mathematics does not prepare the learners for the working field and he hopes that the new curriculum will do just that. He explained that the crucial purpose of ML is for effective participation and contribution to the modern world. Although Professor Volmink disagrees and thinks that South Africa is jumping the gun "we are building the plane while we are flying". The fact remains there are learners who are products of ML and they will be seeking admission in their chosen institutions. What will become of them?

Dancing their way to save lives

Bhekani Dlamini

Two Drama graduates and a final year student at the Durban University of Technology have been performing the dance drill for Dance4Life in South Africa as part of the Heart Connection Tour to educate the youth about HIV/AIDS.



Photo: Supplied

Dance4Life is an expanding global movement that aims to actively involve young people in the battle against HIV and AIDS, in a way that is fun and appealing to them.

Matsepo Tau, Samkelisiwe Hlophe and Ayanda Khanyile are proud to have played an important role in making sure that the youth take responsibility for their lives. They started taking part in the Heart Connection Tour in April this year. The Heart Connection is a funky way of educating people about HIV/AIDS and preventative measures that can be used to stay safe. The dancers were accompanied by drummers, a facilitator and a DJ during the Heart Connection Tour. They performed at 30 schools in KwaZulu-Natal in the regions of Inanda, KwaMashu, Ndwedwe and Umlazi.

Tau says being part of Dance4Life has changed her life and she has learnt more about HIV/AIDS. "I have learnt how to carry myself as a person," says Tau. She says the workshop she attended before the Dance4Life in South Africa project helped her understand what she was supposed to do during the performance.

Hlophe was aware of the sensitivity of the HIV/AIDS issue when she first took part in the Dance4Life in South Africa project, then realised the need to inform the youth about HIV/AIDS. She was impressed with the response she received from the youth during their performances. She believes she has changed many lives through her performances. She says she realised that the performances had an impact when the audience listened so attentively.

Best Design Award for new Encyclopaedia

Professor Graham Stewart

Claire Griffin, a 3rd year Graphic Design student won the award for the best logo design for the new Encyclopaedia of SA Arts, Culture and Heritage (ESAACH). She received her cheque at a ceremony held at City Campus on 20 June 2008. Led by Professor Mbulelo Mzamane of UKZN, ESAACH is a major project of national significance that aims to produce multi-volume, multi-media work of encyclopaedic scope encompassing the verbal, performing and visual arts as well as many expressions of South African cultural heritage.



Photo: Supplied

Claire Griffin (Winner, best logo - centre), runners-up M. Kweyama (left) and Thandiwe Madikazi.

The judges were impressed by the aesthetic qualities of the winning designs and in particular the way they so effectively reflect the key elements of the Encyclopaedia: the essentially South African nature of the arts and culture covered by the project, and its diverse and participatory character.

The ESAACH website went live in July 2008, so the new logo comes at a very important time in the development of the project. Claire Griffin's

memorable design will shape website visitors' first impressions of the site. But the logo also has significance for the project team because it communicates the spirit of the project so well, it provides an aspirational focus for their research and development work.

Fellow students M. Kweyama, Thandiwe Madikazi and Stephen Frank were runners-up in the competition. Professor Graham Stewart is the local research team leader.

Integrating HIV/AIDS into the Curriculum @ DUT

Gwen Stuart

The HIV/AIDS Centre recently hosted a workshop at the Royal Hotel, on integrating HIV/AIDS into the curriculum. Thirty-five departments were invited to each workshop. It was an achievement to have different departments working towards a common understanding on how to integrate HIV/AIDS into the curriculum.

Dr K Mlisana from CAPRISA, UKZN presented on HIV/AIDS Epidemiology and how HIV/AIDS affects the nation. From this presentation, staff requested that training be made available to facilitate integration taking place successfully. "Train the trainer" was suggested which would equip staff with the skills necessary to assist an HIV positive colleague or student who needs support during disclosure and when determining what can be done for them.

A concern was raised, "would it be possible for faculties to integrate HIV/AIDS besides the Health Sciences?" Professor Xiaohua Xia from Pretoria showed how it is possible to integrate HIV/AIDS into the following courses: Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering.

Dr Kate Wells from Graphic Design, Dr Ashley Ross and Ms Naseema Kajee from Applied Management shared their experiences. It was a privilege to have the presence and support of Professor Malcolm Wallis (Dean of the Faculty of Management Sciences) who motivated DUT staff on the way forward and detailed the support necessary in order for integration to be a success.

Group work and discussion proved fruitful as many ideas were raised on how to make this project a success. It was suggested that creating a uniformed approach, e.g. appointing a board which would steer this process in each faculty and creating a module or point system to be used by all.

The HIV/AIDS Centre would like to thank all participants who attended the workshop.

PhD conference in Gauteng

Graham Myers

Some 300 possible PhD students and faculty staff from all the universities in South Africa gathered at Emperor's Palace in Gauteng earlier this year. The aim of the conference was to encourage students who had completed their masters or were busy with their masters to continue and become researchers. Funded by the Department of Science and Technology and the National Research Foundation (NRF) and supported by the Minister of Trade and Industry, students and staff were encouraged to continue with their studies.



Photo: Supplied

A fair was held where each university could showcase their qualifications and entice students into their postgraduate programs. Representing the DUT were Dr R Bhagwan of Child and Youth Care, Dr Izel Botha of Homoeopathy, Mr Paul Green from Pietermaritzburg and Mr Graham Myers from Accounting and Informatics.

It is hoped that in 2009 when the second conference is held, there will be many more DUT Master's students who will be there to make themselves "heavy" as the minister of trade and industry categorized them.

Access to NRF funding for post-graduate studies was explained in detail and can be accessed from the DUT Research office or directly through the NRF on their website.

DUT Annual French Presence In KZN Programme

Glenn Flanagan

Once again DUT did the tricolor proud during the 14th annual French Presence in KZN programme of events which were mainly focused during the week around the 1 June (the day on which the Prince Imperial, Louis Napoleon, died in an ambush at Uqweqwe in the closing stages of the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879).

We had already celebrated the 4th anniversary of the Prince Imperial Rose Garden on Riverside Campus on 16 March 2008. The 30/31 May saw Pietermaritzburg in its annual Francophile colours. These were notably - a viewing of the newly re-arranged Prince Imperial exhibition at the Msunduzi museum; a Franco-Pietermaritzburg Soirée to welcome, Mme Agnès Ameil, the Attachée de Co-opération from the French Embassy in South Africa, in the Tatham Art Gallery and the 8th annual Requiem Mass for the Prince Imperial in St Mary's Chapel (said in liaison with the Imperial Chapel, Biarritz, France).

The DUT-waved tricolor, with all the hierarchical entourage, then wound on via Pomeroy, and it's Breton Augustinian Sisters at the Noyi Basi Clinic, to Dundee. There, Elisabeth Durham, Dundee's only French resident, had organised the French

Soirée at her Chez Nous B & B. After a soirée of fine wining and dining, the tricolor was then borne off the following morning, to Uqweqwe, for the 12th annual commemorative ceremonies for the launch of La Route du Prince Impérial, Louis Napoléon. By now, three years later, since their initial involvement, the Abaqulusi Municipality, had firmly embraced its tricolor liaison and a *magnifique* Zulu autumn morning was spent in the precincts of the Prince Imperial monument enjoying our varied cultural diversity! All who attended this tour de force applauded the development of this DUT-inspired cultural tourism research development project which now enjoys international recognition!

Vive l'Université Technologique de Durban
Vive le Prince!
Vive le KwaZulu-Natal

I'm not just a woman

Sandile Gumede

More than 200 ladies were recently treated to a feast of entertainment activities at Cane Growers Hall, ML Sultan Campus. The celebration of women event was hosted by the Department of Student Counselling. All the men in the hall were asked to sign a pledge to never abuse women.

The audience was delighted when Pastor Radebe gave an inspirational talk. Firstly he asked all women to stand-up and say "I'm not just a woman, I'm special." Radebe encouraged women to love themselves. "If you don't love yourself, you expose yourself to people who are going to hijack you and your dreams."

DUT student and famous Durban comedian, Simphiwe Shembe said women are the most important people and they deserve to be treated with respect.

Ms Karen Corbishely from DUT's Marketing Department said companies who choose to ignore qualifying

women lose out on productivity, talent and creativity. She reminded women that they have choice over their destinations.

Mayoral representative Councillor Khanyisile Mthembu of the eThekweni municipality said Women's Day is not just a formality but that everyone must be reminded that a women's role is no longer in the kitchen.

Famous poet Mxolisi Mtshali was asked for an encore after he gave a solid performance with his poem "I'm raising a girl child". Other artists included poets Khumbuzile Zuma and Tumelo Khoza, music group Andile Buthelezi and Siyabonga.

Toastmasters



Victoria Chipunka, a 2nd year ND: Consumer Sciences: Food and Nutrition student was recently voted the best speaker in the Toastmasters International Speechcraft programme held here at DUT.

According to HoD, Sue Vermeer, the Toastmasters programme formed part of 2nd year students' Food Communication 2 subject, equipping students with the skills they would need when they enter the job market. The eight week programme was geared at developing the communication and leadership skills of the participants.

Victoria's speech, titled "Assignment" can be viewed at the DUT website, under Speeches.

Photo: Supplied

DUT Homecoming

...continued from page 6

Fine Art, Animation and Design. Nanda has received international recognition for his solo exhibitions of political cartoons in New York and Brazil. His book of cartoons, 'The Wizard of HOD' (House of Delegates) is a collector's item and part of the African Library Collection of the Smithsonian Institute Museum. While studying in New York he was a member of the prestigious New York-based Cartoon and Writers' syndication.

Soobben studied computer animation at the Parsons School of Design in New York and did an internship at the San Francisco Art Institute prior to

returning to South Africa, where he established the Centre for Fine Art, Animation and Design (CFAD) in Durban.

DION CHANG - Celebrity Fashion Designer and Fashion Journalist studied fashion design at the then Technikon Natal, but has also been a make-up artist, fashion editor on several publications, a judge for magazine and fashion awards, a TV presenter, and has produced a book based on his cartoon character, Gloria. Chang said that he was humbled to have received the award and advised other graduates that perseverance pays.

Glass Ceiling: Women Succeeding in the Workplace

Zanele Buthelezi and Gideon Biyane

The glass ceiling phenomenon describes a situation where women are deprived of opportunities to hold positions of power in the workplace. It is an invisible but real barrier through which the next stage or level of advancement can be seen but cannot be reached. Despite the economic, social and political advances that women have achieved in this 21st century, they still face the discriminatory barrier which prevents them from rising and advancing to positions of power and responsibility. This is the point at which one can clearly see the next level of promotion, yet despite their efforts, an invisible barrier seems to stop them from proceeding.

Within our country, despite the growing numbers of women becoming more qualified for senior management positions, many of them continue to be under-represented in such positions. There is sufficient evidence to suggest that women are now better equipped than ever before to hold senior positions in South Africa. A high profile example is that of Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka being appointed to the most powerful political office (Deputy President) in the country. However, while things might have changed for South African women, a massive imbalance still exists in that men still outnumber women in most of the senior positions across the board.

This is a global trend. The way women are viewed in the workplace by their male counterparts has not changed as much as it should have. Women are still expected to fulfil the traditional roles of wife and mother which have a major effect on their employment opportunities. For this reason, women need to draw on their inherent strengths and use their unique attributes to bring diversity in the workplace. Women do not have to change to satisfy the environment in which they find themselves. Tshidi Mokgabudi, executive director of KPMG says "As a woman in a male dominated industry I thought I had to be tough, but over the

years I have learnt that humility is far more compelling. I've also had to maintain my vision and focus". Studies reveal women represent 52% of the adult population and by empowering them we will go a long way to solving skills shortages.

Although sex discrimination in the workplace is prohibited by law in many nations, such practices still exist. These stereotypes and existing barriers impact on women's perception of themselves and their environment, and eventually their career choices. This shows that there is a need for reviewing practices and policies within organisational settings to address the glass ceiling phenomenon. In addition to that, industries out there need to be challenged to consider employing a systemic approach that will address issues of sexism and barriers which block women from advancing beyond the glass ceiling. If the role of women in society is going to change, men also have a vital role to play in enabling women to achieve this goal.

Let us all remember (not just in August, "Women's Month") that a massive task in restoring gender equality still lies ahead of us.

This article is dedicated to all DUT female students and staff members.

DUT showcases itself

Sandile Gumede

Over 120 schools around KZN attended the "DUT Open day" held at the Fred Crookes Sports Centre from the 23rd to the 26th of July.

More than 45 academic departments exhibited their activities in one venue. Pretty Mnisi (19), grade-12 learner at Senzokwethu High in Ntuzuma said the event was very informative and that she fell in love with Quantity Surveying. Mnisi added she plans to register for the course next year.

Rodney Maharaj, Manager: Student Recruitment said the function was well received and acknowledged the commitment from staff and senior students. Maharaj congratulated departments of Hospitality Management and Civil Engineering who won 1st and 2nd Overall Best Stand Awards, respectively. The prizes (sponsored by Eduloan) include a scanner and iPod for the Best Stand, and a scanner for the runner up.

Nomonde Mbadi, Executive Director: Corporate Affairs said the aim was for students to experience DUT's vision of being a leading University of Technology in Africa that nurtures holistic education and the advancement of knowledge. She added that grade 12 learners were assisted in

making informed career choices next year.

Grade-12 learner at Belverton Secondary in Tongaat, Sashen Govender (18) expressed his excitement saying the careers fair gave him all the information he wanted including different career choices and requirements. He added that he can't wait to be at DUT.

On the last day, parents were allowed to visit the university with their kids. Trevor Channele, a parent said his son is interested in doing graphic design at DUT. He added that from what he saw, it seemed a lot of thought and hard work went into the displays and services offered by all the departments showcasing courses.

During the Open Days, the University received over 1400 applications, and two of these prospective students will receive bursaries to study at the University. The draw is set to take place at a function hosted by Corporate Affairs to thank the members of the "Open Week Planning" and "Graduation Planning" committees.

Research gives remedial hope to asthmatic patients

Bhekani Dlamini

MTech researcher Shekaar Rampersad has undertaken a study on the effect of spinal manipulation and ribcage mobilization in improving lung function in chronic asthmatics as compared to using a bronchodilator (asthma medication).

Rampersad says that research based on anecdotal evidence indicates that spinal manipulation may be beneficial as an adjunct to pharmacological therapy in chronic asthmatics. Though these findings had not been conclusively proved, he says a recent study (Kriel, 2005) had shown that ribcage mobilization was useful in improving lung function and chest wall expansion in healthy asymptomatic individuals. The author of the study recommended that this procedure be attempted on symptomatic individuals.

Rampersad says asthmatic patients who were treated at DUT's Chiropractic Day Clinic were suggestive of an improved ability to breathe after spinal manipulation and there was also a reduction in asthma medication usage. He adds that if the outcomes of this study were positive, spinal manipulation and ribcage mobilization could in future be incorporated into the global management programmes of chronic moderate asthmatic patients. He started collecting data collection for his research in December 2007 and his research has been submitted for examination.

Sunflower Fund

Third year students from the Department of Fashion and Textiles participated in a National competition held by the Sunflower Fund to design a surprise bandana for the Annual National Bandana Day, that will take place on the 23rd September. All proceeds go towards the Bone Marrow Registry of SA, in turn giving more hope to children suffering with leukemia.



Lauren Dougal, Chelsea Lawson (back), Giulia Chella and lecturer Mark Pywell.

Photo courtesy of the Department of Fashion and Textiles

The winning design was created by DUT's Lauren Dougal, Chelsea Lawson and Giulia Chella, who said: "With this design we are determined to convey the message of a bright sunny future full of love, fun and laughter, a future for active sporty people who have had their dreams shattered. A

future for fun-loving happy little boys and girls who have had their life changed forever, because of leukemia and other life threatening blood disorders."

Enhancing Communication

Bhekani Dlamini

Chiropractic student Sarah Heslop is currently conducting research entitled: "The knowledge and perception of Paediatricians in South Africa with respect to Chiropractic", to help improve communication between chiropractic professionals and children's specialist doctors. She is doing this research study for her MTech degree.

The purpose of the research is to determine the knowledge and perceptions that Paediatricians have of Chiropractic, if they refer patients for chiropractic treatment, how they feel about the communication between Chiropractors and Paediatricians and how this communication can be improved. She started doing this research in 2007.

Heslop was driven to do this research because of her interest in the treatment of paediatric patients and would like to further do a post-graduate study in Paediatric Chiropractic.

She is confident that this research will be beneficial to the Chiropractic community as "we do treat a number of paediatric conditions but are unsure whether this literature equates in referrals from Paediatricians".

She adds that this research will also help with regards to communication between the professions, and Paediatricians who respond to the survey can also request to receive information on Chiropractic Paediatrics which will help in better understanding between the professions.

We Need Your Help!

The Postgraduate Development & Support Directorate (PGDS) is in the process of initiating the compilation of a quarterly research newsletter. The editorial committee, under the leadership of Professor Annelie Jordaan, welcomes research articles from all DUT staff (admin/academic) including but not limited to:

- Full research
- Mini dissertations
- Patents
- Artifacts
- Software
- Research undertaken with internal/external collaborators
- Any interesting results shown
- Any workshops, seminars and conferences attended.

To kickstart this process, the Directorate requests your assistance. PLEASE suggest a relevant and upbeat name for this proposed publication. Prizes will be awarded for the top three names chosen by the PGDS

Directorate. The editorial committee's decision will be final. Please send in proposed name(s) to: Ms Joy Kistnasamy (Editorial Committee Co-ordinator) @ JoyK@dut.ac.za by 8 October 2008.

Scene and Around Frontline staff workshop



Photos: Morgan Kisten

Frontline staff were recently treated to an informative workshop at M L Sultan Campus.



Naidoo twins shine together

Bhekani Dlamini

Merebank twin brothers Dhireshan and Diloshan, fondly known as Delon and Deon, have together qualified as accountants and they received their National Diploma in Internal Auditing at the Durban University of Technology on 17 June 2008.



Photo: Supplied

The two brothers have parted ways for the first time since they were born 21 years ago. Both are now working as trainee accountants for different accounting firms. Delon works for F Suleman and Associates, and Deon is employed at J C Derl Business Consultants.

They have been at the same school and class until they completed their matric in 2004. They then enrolled at DUT in 2005 for internal auditing because it entailed accounting which was something they enjoyed. In their matric year Delon had a merit pass and Deon obtained distinctions in maths and accountancy. In the three years that they studied at DUT, they received 25 distinctions each.

It has been a habit for them to do everything together except sleeping and bathing! They like playing soccer, cricket and spending time with friends and family. "At first it was different because we were together for our schooling career

and on campus but now we are getting used to it," says Delon.

Though separated by employment, the Naidoo brothers still continue to do things together. They are currently studying further towards becoming chartered accountants through UNISA.

Their mother, Mrs Sharitha Naidoo is proud of her boys, referring to them as "the Dees". During their spare time they like spending time with family and their niece, Rhea, who is 2 months old. She says they have lots to catch up on in the evenings and over the weekends. She also adds that they spend their spare time tutoring kids in maths and accounting.

"The turning point in life was when they received Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior into their lives. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom," concludes Mrs Naidoo.



DUT STARS

The PGDS Directorate wish to sincerely thank the following DUT departments and personnel for their able assistance afforded to the Faculty of Health Sciences for their Grant-writing workshop held in July 2008. It is greatly appreciated.

- Hotel School: Mohil Ramgovind, the staff and students for their commitment to excellence, great service and amazing food;
- The Duplicating Department: Narend Singh and Rajesh Durgaparsad for their timely assistance.

Thanks,
Joy Kistnasamy
PG Workshop Co-ordinator

Disclaimer

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

Quotable Quote

You don't take a photograph, you make it.
Ansel Adams



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