



Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Divisions of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Nursing and Midwifery and Disability Studies



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An interactive workshop to support the development of OT practice learning supervisors

An interactive CPD accredited workshop was held on Friday 21 February 2014 with our OT clinical educators and the clinicians that supervise our students. The workshop was aimed at ensuring that those who supervise our students understand and apply the conceptual frameworks that have been forefronted for students as a guide to practice in our curriculum. The day created a networking space for many clinicians as well as for our clinical educators.

The morning session of the workshop was presented by Matumo Ramafikeng and focused on introducing clinicians to OT conceptual frameworks. Clinicians were able to engage with this in an applied way as they discussed how it related to their sites, clients and challenges that they faced. The afternoon session was a breakaway session where Clinical Educators and Lecturers from each cluster, namely: Physical Health, Mental Health, Work practice, Community Practice as well as Child learning development and Play were able to discuss the specific outcomes and learning objectives related to them.

Positive feedback was received with regards to how useful it was to be kept updated with the curricula requirements for our students. Creative ways to continue to support the clinicians who supervise our students as they engage in prac-

tice are being sought as an outcome of this workshop. For example a vula site for sharing resources with clinicians was started. This was the first of many opportunities that we will be providing to ensure that we maintain the relationships we have built with practice learning sites.

The Occupational Therapy Division expands its contribution to the School Improvement Initiative (SII) Partnership

The first 4th year practice learning block of 2014 has seen the placement of two groups of students focused on two different areas of Occupational Therapy practice at Intshayeledo Primary in Khayelitsha. The school is one of the SII partner schools currently supported by the UCT School Improvement Initiative. Child Learning, Development and Play students, together with Community Development Practice OT students are currently exploring the occupational therapy intervention at Intshayeledo. They are beginning to work in partnership with the CSD Division students who are also placed at the school.

We are looking forward to a fruitful year where modes of interdisciplinary practice can be further developed.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY STUDENTS IN ACTION

(Article appeared in Tatler Thursday 20 February 2014)

Epilepsy SA hosts wellness day

Work was all about wellness – and a side order of healthy fun – when Epilepsy SA hosted a wellness day at their Wetton branch.

The event, held on Tuesday

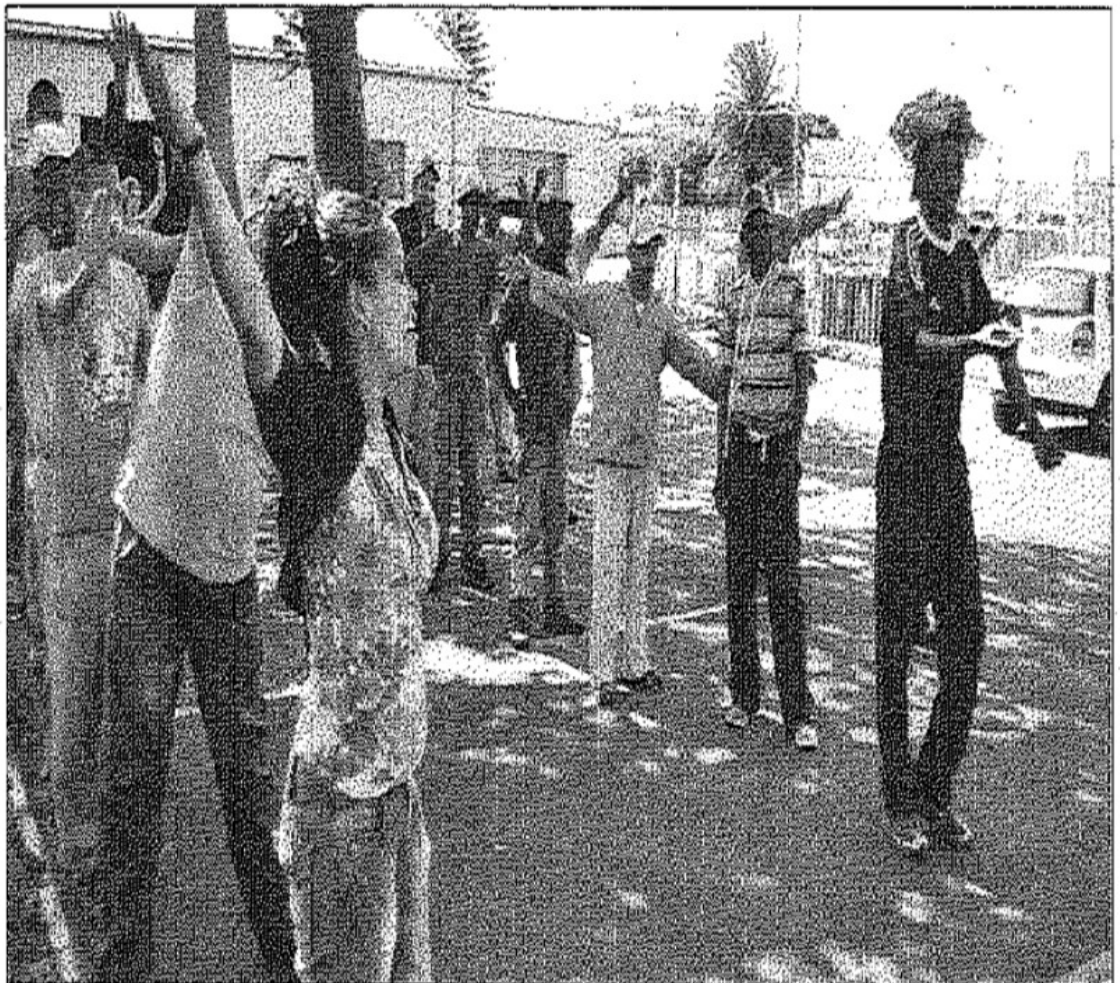
February 18, focused on healthy lifestyles for people with disabilities.

The day's activities included a Master-chef healthy meal competition, a boisterous exercise session

led by student occupational therapists and workers at the centre were seen to by Lansdowne Clinic nurses for pap smears, HIV-testing, blood pressure checks, and cholesterol and diabetes testing.

■ Shaunelle Riley enjoyed making windmill

⋮ movements and having a laugh – exercise was fun on the wellness day.





■ Epilepsy SA employees get ready to run... all in the spirit of fun at their wellness day. They are from left, Anthea Emanuel, Ruth Nugent, Imreen Ebrahiem and Naiemah Williams.



■ Talia Mayson and Unaisa Gani, student occupational therapists, helped out with exercises for the workers on the Epilepsy SA wellness day.

Disability Studies Programme Communiqué Feb 2014

By: Lieketseng Ned-Matiwane

The Disability Studies Programme was visited by Prof Roy McConkey from Ulster University for a period of 2 weeks in January 2014, during which he launched a book on Inclusive Education in low-income countries: A resource for teacher educators, parent trainers and community development workers by Lilian Mariga, Roy McConkey and Hellen Myezwa. The book launch seminar was a success and Prof Roy McConkey gave a talk on "Education for all learners with special needs: An impossible dream?" on the 29th January 2014. Books are available on order (Flyer attached for further details).

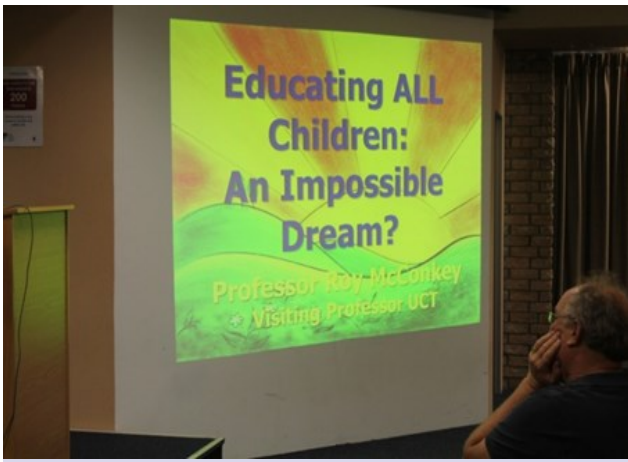
In highlighting the wonderful opportunity of working with Prof McConkey, Prof McConkey and Associate Prof Theresa Lorenzo have been awarded funding by Special Olympics to conduct a qualitative evaluation of Healthy Communities' Programmes Internationally. Lieketseng Ned-Matiwane is the project manager of this project, while Judy McKenzie and Margie Schneider form part of the steering committee.

The Disability Studies Programme has also been fortunate to be involved in a research project with the Western Cape Education Department: The WCED has employed 4 teams to work with children with severe to profound intellectual disabilities (CSPID) in special care centers (SCCs) in the Western Cape. These teams approached the DHRS with a request to work together in order to formalize their research. They recognized the importance of documenting and evaluating their work with the SCCs. Dr. McKenzie and Prof Jennifer Jelsma successfully applied for funding from the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) and the Western Cape Government (WCG) partnership within the strategic area of Education and Training. This work has been ongoing since October 2013 and we are in the process of pre-

paring a paper for publication as well as developing a research database. We are finding it a very fruitful interaction between practitioners and researchers.

We hosted the first meeting to develop a writing process of a Learning Programme for Children with Severe and Profound Intellectual Disability (CSPID) under the direction of Marie Schoeman of the DBE in November 2013. A meeting of the steering group for the development of alternative curriculum pathways for children with intellectual disability (in groups of moderate, severe and severe to profound) was held in the DHRS on 28, 29 and 30 January. The DBE thanked the Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences for arranging for the meeting and making a room available. Dr. McKenzie was appointed as convener of the group on severe to profound intellectual disability pending DHRS approval.

The short course on policy processes and Disability Rights took place from the 27-29th January 2014 with a good turn-out number of participants from different provinces and countries and different fields of national, provincial and municipal levels of government offices, non-governmental organizations, disabled peoples organizations and university students. The course focused on an overview of policy processes and analysis, context and content and reviewing the relevant legislature, capacitation of policy literacy and policy brief writing, and stakeholder analysis. Prof Harsha Kathard and Mrs. Chioma Ohajunwa convened the course and structured it to be interactive consisting of seminars, small group discussions, presentations and activities. This was to draw from, and build on participants' policy literacy, knowledge and understanding of policy processes and implementation for disabled people within own, as well as wider context.



PowerPoint presentation by Prof Roy McConkey



Participants presenting group tasks in class



Shanaaz presenting on Stakeholder analysis in the policy processes course



Dr Judy Mckenzie welcoming guests and speakers to the book launch event

Masters students by full dissertation

The DSP currently has eight registered MPhil by full dissertation students who are all in the process of proposal development. Some of the research focuses for their dissertations include:

AHEAiD course experiences.
Analysis of advice centre database regarding employment of disabled youth.
Capacity of service providers for disability inclusive youth development.
Media representation of disability in Nigeria.
Hearing loss in TB patients in Namibia.
Rehab Care Worker monitoring tool for access and participation.
Disabled youth strategies for livelihoods.

The Division of Nursing & Midwifery celebrates World Sight Day

First event

To coincide with World Sight Day on 10 October 2013, Dr Una Kyriacos from the Division of Nursing & Midwifery Adobe Connect(ed) her Postgraduate Ophthalmic Nursing students with the author of one of their prescribed books: Janet Marsden, Professor of Ophthalmology and Emergency Care at the University of Manchester. The book, An evidence base for ophthalmic nursing practice, provided the title of the challenging lecture. This was a first for both universities. Questions like 'so what's evidence', 'now what?' and common practice were critiqued through the lens of clinical scenarios and a filter of expertise. The bottom line is that 'without clinical expertise, practice risks becoming tyrannised by evidence, for even excellent external evidence may be inapplicable to or inappropriate for an individual patient'.



Second event



The Right to Sight global initiative was launched in 1999 by the World Health Organization (WHO) and The International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), with the aim of eliminating **avoidable** blindness by the year 2020 and in so doing preventing an estimated 100 million people from going blind but we have passed the halfway mark. Most (80%) adult blindness is avoidable by simple and inexpensive means and nurses in outlying areas are in an ideal situation to play an important role in this if they had basic eye screening skills. This changed on Saturday 5 October.

Another first organised by Dr Kyriacos was a 'hands-on' short course workshop entitled **UP-SKILL YOUR EYE SCREENING COMPETENCE to make YOU proud of YOU!** on Saturday

5 October for 46 primary health care nurses from areas fanning out from the West Coast district to Swellendam. The response was overwhelming, drawing nurses from farms having to deal with farm workers sustaining eye injuries during the pruning season, to fishing villages and having to cope with fishermen getting fish hooks in their eyes. Dr Kyriacos enlisted the help of the Cape Society of Ophthalmic Nurses (CapeSON) of which she is the treasurer, to partner with UCT on this day. There were 6 'hands on' training stations covering skills in basic vision testing and eye screening examination through which the participants rotated every 25 minutes and were given a certificate on completion. The evaluation was overwhelmingly positive.

Launch of the Postgraduate Room in E48

The Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences has seen a steady increase in the number of post-graduate students in the last five years, and currently approximately 20% of students registered with the Department are post-graduate students. The courses that are offered include post-graduate diplomas, masters by coursework and dissertation and PhD. The multi-disciplinary nature of the Department has led to the development of diverse areas of research, including stuttering in children play in infants, sports injury management and interventions for stroke patients.

Unfortunately there was no place for post-grad students to meet, interact, work on their dissertations or generally relax. Consequently these students, particularly those who were enrolled for dissertation only courses, did not have a chance to develop a sense of cohesiveness or post-graduate identity. The students met on an individual basis with their supervisors but, do not develop a sense of 'belonging' to the Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences.

This is all due to change with the opening of the Post-graduate Common Room, which was funded by the Faculty of Health Sciences. It is well equipped with workstations, comfortable sofas, a microwave and fridge - the Health and Rehabilitation Post-grad students at last have a place that they can call their own! We expect great ideas to emerge from discussions over cups of coffee and lasting collaborations to have their foundations in sharing toasted cheese sandwiches.



Postgraduate Room on E-floor

Profs Jennifer Jelsma (front left) and Prof Denver Hendricks at the launch of the Postgraduate Room





Second Year Physiotherapy students taking an oath to make a meaningful and sound ethical impact on their clients and the community

Second Year Physiotherapy students' oath taking ceremony

On Wednesday 19th February, the second-year, UCT, physiotherapy students took their professional oath, prior to starting clinical practice later in the month. Mrs Shamila Manie, a lecturer in the division of physiotherapy stressed the importance of this auspicious occasion and that the students would be entering professional clinical practise for the first time, with all the responsibilities that go with the experience. The students were required to formally pledge their commitment to upholding the strictest standards in the services they will be offering. The taking of the oath was lead led by Professor Seyi Amosun, a senior lecturer in the division.

Professor Amosun was also the guest speaker at the event. He stressed the importance facing educators at the university, in fully preparing students with all the skills to successfully manage clients in the clinical setting. He also emphasised that the students are agents of change and have a responsibility in promoting health literacy and in providing accessible health care to the wider population. Universities have the responsibility of fighting for better standards for all and should be encouraging leadership skills in all students, enabling them to effect change in all communities. He reminded students of the importance of respecting their clients under all circumstances.

Dr Romy Parker, the acting Head of the Physiotherapy Division, congratulated the students after the oath taking and handed their name badges to them. She reminded the students of their responsibility to adhere to the professional code of conduct at all times.

The students left the ceremony realising the magnitude of their responsibility in making a meaningful and sound ethical impact, on their clients and the community.



Second Year Physiotherapy students' oath taking ceremony



Laura Russel and Graham Pollock

Graham Pollock (left) and Nick Mallet (below) meeting up with the Department of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Clinical Educator, Laura Russel

Laura Russell was invited by Supersport to attend pre-season workshops for their rugby and cricket commentators in Johannesburg on 11 February 2014. She gave a talk to the commentators about “Care of the professional voice”, and managed to get in a few photos too!



Nick Mallet and Laura Russel