



Happy 100th birthday, FHS!

On 6th June 2012, exactly 100 years to the day since the opening of the Anatomical and Physiological Laboratories on what is now Hiddingh campus, the Faculty of Health Sciences celebrated its centenary in style with three interlinked events.

The celebrations kicked off on the evening of 5th June with a tour of the original medical school buildings, led by Professor Howard Phillips of the Department of Historical Studies and Emeritus Professor David Dent of the Department of Surgery. Guests then packed the old lecture theatre to be entertained by an informative audio-visual presentation by Professor Phillips, on the birth and early history of the first medical school.

On Wednesday, 6th June, the official commemorative function took place in full academic address in the New Learning Centre. Attended by alumni, staff, student leaders, community members, members of UCT senior leadership and dignitaries-which included the Premier of the Western Cape, Helen Zille and the Deputy Minister of Health, Dr Gwen Ramokgopa; the Deputy Mayor of Cape Town, Alderman Neilson; UCT Chair of Council Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane; UCT Vice-Chancellor, Dr Max Price and former Professor of Medicine and UCT Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor Stuart Saunders. At the morning event the South African Post Office honoured the occasion with the launch of a beautiful postage stamp, of which 50 000 copies are being sold at Post Offices country-wide.

With the formalities wrapped up, Faculty staff and students descended on the



balloon-festooned plaza to celebrate in true festive style. Following a refreshments, they were treated to an afternoon of entertainment by none other than fellow staff and students performing items from our recent centenary concert, a delightful sing-along with Professor Maurice Kibel, as well as the ever popular Afro-pop group Freshlyground, which got the crowd dancing and singing to well-known tunes. A celebration that won't be repeated for another 100 years!

HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE

- ⇒ Centenary events in pictures
- ⇒ Historic occasion: Multilateral Agreement signed
- ⇒ Accolades for staff and students
- ⇒ Minister of Health meets with students

Dean's Corner

Welcome to our bumper issue, the first of 2012! For the first half of the year, our communications focused intensely on centenary projects, and this newsletter covers 6 months of news that capture the spirit and ethos of our Faculty's hallmark of excellence over the past century.

This has been a remarkable year in so many ways. The planning of the centenary celebrations, and the implementation of the many varied activities and initiatives have yielded phenomenal stories of achievement and information, illustrating our journey since 1912.

Above all, the planning and activities bonded us as a Faculty family - across boundaries of rank, organisation, campus and discipline. Staff and students rallied behind the celebration of this milestone, and faculty-wide, departments continue to convene events and initiatives. But our bonding extended beyond the Faculty borders, bringing new collaborations with the Faculty of Humanities through our concert, exhibitions and plans for academic initiatives into the future. The University supports us in profiling our achievements and also our campaign to raise funds to build our Faculty's future. In so doing, we will strengthen our capacity and rise to the challenges of meeting the demands of our nation's health into the next 100 years. For all of this, we are truly grateful.

In this issue, we feature a collage of images of events of the year, such as the naming of the Frances Ames and Dumo Baqwa rooms; our concert; and the wonderful exhibitions and competitions. We also showcase the Faculty's tradition of excellence, mediated by the consistently outstanding achievements of our staff and students, only some of which are highlighted here, and all of which are acknowledged and appreciated with great pride.

A major milestone of the period has been the long-awaited finalisation and signing of the multilateral agreement - with the Western Cape Government and our sister institutions in the province. This is a forerunner of a bilateral agreement, and together, these will seal our common commitment to health care in this region and provide a framework for the academic health complex for education, training, research and service.

We look forward to the remaining centenary activities for the year, including the Wolfson colloquium in honour of one of our benefactors, the children's art exhibition at the Children's Hospital, the premiere of our centenary documentary, the launch of a 100 limited edition medallion sets and the successful marketing of other centenary memorabilia, among others. Communication around these and other events will be forthcoming.

The year has also been marked by sadness, as we bade farewell to Associate Prof AO Ockreglicki, Emeritus Professor Mervyn Berman, Emeritus Professor Boet Heese, Dr James Klaassen and most recently, former Chief Medical Librarian Sheila Katcher, each of whom made tremendous contributions to the faculty, and will be remembered with great fondness.

To all who have been news scouts, sending us leads or submitting stories - thank you. The success of the newsletter relies on being kept informed, and we welcome all future contributions.

Marian Jacobs: Dean



Centenary calendar

Forthcoming highlights

8 AUGUST

Women's Day Commemoration:
Book Launch, Prodigal Daughters

4 SEPTEMBER

Inaugural Wolfson Memorial Colloquium

3 OCTOBER

Naming of the Aadil Moerat Room

18 OCTOBER

Surgical Society Centenary talk

22 OCTOBER-2 NOVEMBER

Dept of Paediatrics and Child Health art
exhibition celebrating children

25 NOVEMBER

Medical 10 Race

16 NOVEMBER-16 DECEMBER

Alumni Reunions

For more information, see www.health/uct.ac.za/centenary/memorabilia

REFLECTING ON THE PAST

CELEBRATING THE PRESENT

BUILDING THE FUTURE

CENTENARY MEMORABILIA

Now on SALE!

MON / WED / FRI

12h30 – 13h30

1st floor, Barnard Fuller Building

(opposite MAC Club, next to lift)

Development, Communication,
Alumni and Marketing

Tel: 021 406 6686



Our birthday in pictures...

6 June 2012 - Staff and student bash

5 June 2012— History tour and lecture at first medical campus at Hiddings campus

A precarious precocious venture: The beginning of medical education in sub-Saharan Africa
Howard Phillips



6 June 2012 - Formal commemoration



A glimpse of other centenary activities & initiatives..



Dept of Medicine Awards



The Faculty's youngest graduate



Library exhibition



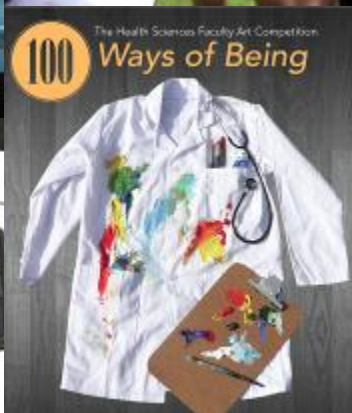
Faculty Concert



Faculty Rugby Tournament



Faculty branded bus



The Health Sciences Faculty Art Competition
100 Ways of Being



Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences Art Competition

Partnership agreement signed



Signing the multilateral are (from left) Dr. Max Price (UCT Vice-Chancellor), Prof. Russell B o t m a n (U S Vice-Chancellor), Prof. Craig Househam (Western Cape Head of Health), Prof. Ramesh Bharuthram (UWC Acting Vice-Chancellor) and Prof. Lineo Mazwi-Tanga (CPUT Vice-Chancellor).

The signing of a multilateral agreement (MLA) was an historic occasion between the Western Cape Government and the universities in the province that train health workers.

The multilateral agreement is between the Western Cape Government and the University of Cape Town, University of Stellenbosch, University of the Western Cape and the Cape Peninsula University of Technology. All four of the higher education institutions are involved in the training of future health workers and in health research.

The signing ceremony is of national significance because health services is an area where national health and higher education must work together. This agreement is the bridge toward this essential partnership.

Previous attempts (over the past twenty years) to revitalise the current agreements were unsuccessful. Over the past eight years senior representatives from the Western Cape Department of Health and each of the universities, supported by legal representatives, worked to achieve the consensus reflected in the agreement signed.

The MLA is an over-arching agreement setting out the principles and definitions of agreements between the Western Cape Government and each of the four universities. This will be followed by bi-lateral agreements between each university and the Western Cape Government.

Why is an agreement necessary?

An agreement is required to govern the relationship between government and the institutions that prepare health science students for clinical practice. These students require hands-on clinical exposure during undergraduate and postgraduate training. Undergraduate and postgraduate students spend about 5,6 million student hours in hospitals. The public health service platform offers a wide spectrum of common and unique conditions, as well as the required patient numbers. Access to these service platforms needs to be governed to protect the patient and the integrity of the service platform.

The relationship between the public health service and the higher education institutions will continue as long as health sciences students need to be trained. The relationship, however, needs to be governed due to resource limitations and to find a balance in delivering two mandates - academic activities and service delivery. The sharing of resources requires clear arrangements for proper accounting.

How does the joint staff system currently work?

The Western Cape Department of Health provides the service platform for teaching, training and research. At present both employees of the Department and the universities are involved in these functions. The Department and the institutions appoint staff, but the recruitment and selection is a

co-operative process. The employee's conditions of service, and disciplinary processes, depend on whether they are appointed by the Department or the university.

At present the Western Cape Department of Health holds the mandate for clinical service delivery, and the universities the mandate for teaching and research.

The Multilateral Agreement

The multilateral agreement covers a range of clarifying definitions, principles and processes that will govern the relationships between the Western Cape Government and the four Institutes of Higher Education.

Ultimately it provides mechanisms to ensure the parties together provide future health professionals with excellent and relevant training, where student and research access is ensured whilst patient rights and patient safety are respected.

The agreement in particular provides for staff who can execute academic and service delivery responsibilities in a balanced manner. It provides for the governance or oversight structures at a multilateral as well as a bilateral level.

The way forward

Within the next year revised bilateral agreements will be developed between the Western Cape Government and each of the universities. *Continued on pg 6...*

...from p 5

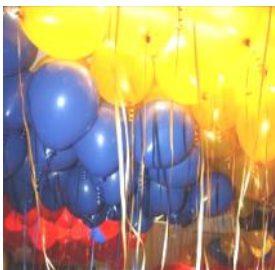
Members of the Joint Agreement Governance Council (JAGC), which will meet at least annually, are:

- Western Cape Minister of Health, Mr. Theuns Botha - chairperson
- Vice-Chancellor UCT, Dr. Max Price
- Vice-Chancellor US, Prof. Russell Botman
- Acting Vice-Chancellor UWC, Prof. Ramesh Bharuthram
- Vice-Chancellor CPUT, Prof. Lineo Mazwi -Tanga
- Western Cape Head of Health, Prof. Craig Househam
- Deputy Director General Specialised and Emergency Services, Dr. Beth Engelbrecht
- Deputy Director General District Health Services and Health programs, Dr. Joey Cupido
- Faculty of Health Science Deans:
 - UCT, Prof. Marian Jacobs
 - US, Prof. Jimmy Volmink
 - UWC, Prof. Yusuf Osman
 - CPUT, Prof. Dhiro Gihwala

our teaching platform

In order to ensure our students receive appropriate training, they learn practical skills and experience real-life health settings in the community, supported by experienced medical practitioners on site.

The Faculty has expanded our teaching sites to more communities in underserved and rural areas, from the Cape Flats in Cape Town to Vredendal along the West Coast.



other milestone birthdays in the Faculty

Happy Birthday!

75 years old: DIVISION OF NURSING

The Division will celebrate their nursing research initiatives in partnership with Groote Schuur Hospital and Red Cross Children's Hospital.

50 years old: DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Celebrations have included a gala dinner and a book launch.

40 years old: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

A lunch event celebrated the special milestone.

10 years old: DESMOND TUTU HIV CENTRE

The DTHC will host an event celebrating their partnership with the City Health Department in Masiphumelele over more than ten years at the Wolfson Pavilion on Friday 17th August, 12h30 - 16h00.



DR JOE BARON, our oldest known graduate, turned

101 years old

on 12 June 2012!

honouring our colleagues

As part of our centenary activities, the Faculty of Health Sciences is honouring two former colleagues and a student for their outstanding contribution to the fight for social justice, through the renaming of three of its conference rooms.

The Francis Ames Room

On 18th April 2012, Conference Room 4 in the Barnard Fuller Building was renamed the Frances Ames Room. At a moving ceremony, attended by approximately 80 people, Francis Ames was described as a woman with a fierce conviction for social justice, one who was prepared to put her career on the line for her beliefs by speaking out against apartheid and the lack of integrity in the health profession. Short speeches from former colleagues and students, including the current Head of Neurology, Professor Alan Bryer, were peppered with amusing and poignant stories that attested to her iconic status as an anti-apartheid activist amongst her colleagues and students. The room was officially opened by her daughter-in-law, Joanna Castle, on behalf of her family, and our Dean, Professor Marian Jacobs.

Professor Ames obtained her MBChB from UCT in 1942. She headed the Department of Neurology at Groote Schuur Hospital for ten years (1976-1985) and continued teaching at UCT until her death in 2002. The renaming commemorates an outstanding clinician and inspiring teacher who stood for human rights and justice, despite enormous pressure, at times both personal and professional, being exerted upon her.

Professor Ames will be remembered as one of the leading anti-apartheid icons within the medical field. She was instrumental in raising awareness and highlighting the failures of the medical doctors that attended to Steve Biko in detention and was an outspoken critic of the apartheid-driven South African Medical Council (SAMC). She remains an inspiration to colleagues, students and all who knew her.

Prof Jacobs and Joanna Castle, Prof Ames' daughter-in-law, unveil the plaque.

Prof Peter Folb, who worked closely with Prof Ames, spoke with fondness of her feisty spirit.



honouring our colleagues

The Dumo Baqwa Room

On 26 April 2012, Conference Rooms 1 and 2 in Barnard Fuller Building were renamed the Jeff Dumo Baqwa room.

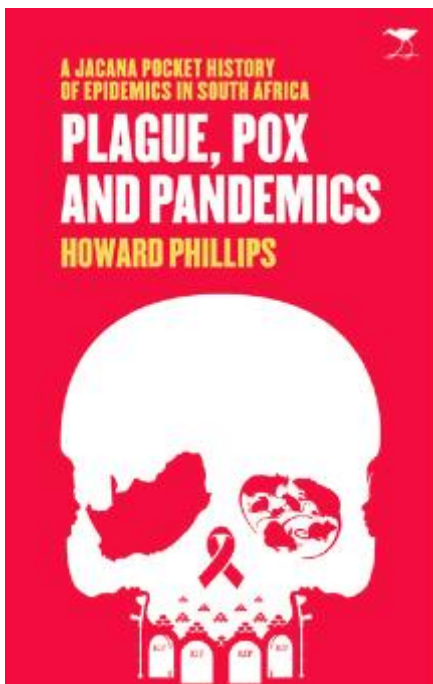
Jeffrey Dumo Baqwa (1949-2001) was appointed as the first Professor of Primary Health Care in 1995, a position he held until his death in 2001. Professor Baqwa had been a political activist and leader within the Black Consciousness Movement. He went into exile in West Germany. It was there that he qualified as a doctor. As the first African professor appointed in the Faculty, as Associate Dean and as warden of the Forrest Hill Residence, Professor Baqwa was an inspiration to students and colleagues, and he became known for building partnerships within communities and a strong advocate for equal healthcare for all. He played an instrumental role in the development of the new health system through his involvement in the National Health Forum and the Western Cape Strategic Management Team.

Speakers spoke with fondness of his passion for his work, his warm relationship with his students and his love for ball-room dancing. In her address to the family, colleagues and students attending the event, the Dean, Professor Marian Jacobs, said that the renaming commemorates an outstanding and inspirational health professional, mentor and teacher who championed the struggle for human rights and black consciousness despite the many hardships he faced under the apartheid regime - such as having to flee the country of his birth. He remains a great inspiration to his colleagues, students and staff of the Faculty, she added.

From below, clockwise: Prof Anwar Mall recounts colourful times spent with his former colleague and friend; the Dean and Judge Selby Baqwa unveil the plaque for his late brother; Judge Baqwa and former colleagues of Prof Baqwa, Johannah Keikelame, Steve Reid, Margeret Hoffman and Leslie London.



book launches



Plague, Pox and Pandemics, by Prof Howard Phillips of the Department of Historical Studies, was launched with an informative and entertaining introduction by Prof William Pick, a Faculty of Health Sciences' alumnus, founding member of the Health Economics Unit at UCT the former Head of the School of Public Health at the University of the Witwatersrand.

He congratulated Prof Phillips for this first history book of epidemics in South Africa - lethal episodes that significantly shaped this society over three centuries. Focusing on five devastating diseases between the 1700s and today - smallpox, bubonic plague, Spanish flu, polio and HIV/AIDS - the book probes their origin, their catastrophic course and their consequences in both the short and long term.

As each of these epidemics occurred at crucial moments in the country's history - early in European colonisation, in the midst the mineral revolution, during the South African War and World War I, as industrialisation got under way, and within the eras of apartheid and post-apartheid - Howard Phillips also examines how these processes affected and were affected by the five epidemics. South African history should not look the same to readers after they have finished this book.

The author has pioneered research in and the teaching of the social history of medicine and disease, and has a long association with the Faculty, particularly the School of Public Health and Family Medicine.

Book details

Plague, Pox and Pandemics: A Jacana Pocket History by Howard Phillips

Acknowledgement: Jacana Publishers

The launch of 'Prodigal Daughter', a book of stories about South African Women in Exile, will take place on Wednesday, 8 August in the Frances Ames Room.

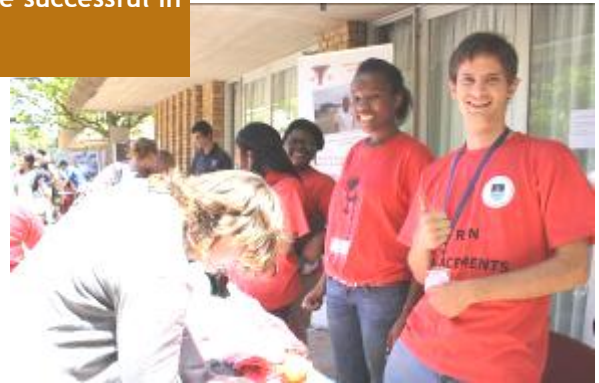
Deputy Dean in the Faculty, Prof Gonda Perez, and one of the book's contributors, will speak at this event to commemorate National Women's Day.

our undergraduates

First year students are orientated in the first weeks on campus following registration.



In 2011, there were 4500 applications for the MBChB programme in 2012 - only 220 applicants were successful in securing places.



6 months later—what students say...

“First semester has been a bit scary and the threat of the intervention program was very real, but after six months I think most of us have decided that we really want to be doctors and we are ready to work towards that.”

Scott (MBChB, 1st year)

“It’s been a really hard six months, filled with lots of work. But for the most part it’s been mostly enjoyable.”

Onga (MBChB, 1st year)

“It’s been the best and worst experiences so far, but it’s been a great learning and growing opportunity.”

Lunga (MBChB, 1st year)

“The last six months have been an holistic experience in all facets. At times being here has been a bit of a cultural shock. It’s been hard work, but it’s been a great opportunity.”

Carol (MBChB, 1st year)

Prize-giving for top performing 2011 students

An awards evening was held on 12 May to congratulate last year's top performing students, ranging from first to final year programmes across the Faculty. The Dean, Professor Marian Jacobs, who handed out the awards, pointed out that the 2011 final year classes attained the highest marks ever.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Sarah Butler, Megan Stevens, Kate McMullen, Juanita Becker, Dean Prof Jacobs, Laila Collier and Hanmarie Kunneke.

The top 2011 final year students in the Faculty

Kate McMullen and Juanita Becker were tied as the top MBChB student and were also the recipients of the prestigious Mary Robertson Award worth R15 000.

Laila Collier was the recipient of the Mary Robertson Award for the MBChB student who made the most progress, worth R10 000.

Megan, Hanmarie and Sarah were recognised for top performance for their respective degrees in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences:

- Sarah Butler, BSc Physiotherapy Gold Medalist
- Hanmarie Kunneke, BSc Occupational Therapy
- Megan Stevens, Bsc Speech Language Pathology.

Video technology used in teaching



Two new mobile Polycom Video Conferencing Solutions - the first of their kind to be used in a health faculty in South Africa - have been the latest acquisition to the Faculty's teaching facilities. The state-of-the-art apparatus was installed in Vredenberg Hospital and in the Barnard Fuller Building, and will allow students to attend lectures remotely in real time.

The installation will enable medical students to spend more time at clinical sites interacting with other health professionals, as they would not be required to be on campus. Video-conferenced lectures will reduce travelling time.

Jerome Corns, the ICTS Manager in the Faculty says, "Not only does this equipment allow the faculty to extend its teaching directly into Vredenberg, aiding near face to face communication, but it also enables other forms of collaboration amongst academics, such as being able to conduct meetings and interviews remotely. This will allow us to operate in a much more cost-effective way."

Corns said there was the possibility the project could be expanded to other regions where our staff and students are based off-campus and at rural sites. It also allows for links internationally. For now, it will be used mainly for teaching, but has the potential to be used for our research activities in the future.

First Sign Language Certificate Course addresses dire need



The Faculty of Health Sciences recently celebrated the **first medical-sign-language course**. The course, *Introduction to Community Medical Sign Language Interpreting* is spearheaded by Dr Marion Heap of the Faculty's School of Public Health and Family Medicine. READ MORE: <http://www.health.uct.ac.za/news/?id=8151&t=dn> and

<http://www.capetimes.co.za/index.php?fArticleId=4459464>

faculty facts!

4 000 under- and postgraduate students are trained annually

87 public health facilities are used for hands-on training in urban, rural and underserved communities.

our postgraduates 2012



Doctoral Cocktail Party celebrates doctoral degrees

On 7th June 2012 celebratory cocktails were held in the Frances Ames Room to celebrate the conferring of 13 PhDs and 1 MD degree at the Faculty of Health Sciences graduation ceremony the following day. Doctoral candidates, supervisors, heads of department and invited guests were welcomed by the Dean of the Faculty, Prof Marian Jacobs, who congratulated the graduands on their achievements and wished them well in their chosen careers. The Chairman of the Doctoral & Master's Committee, Prof Peter Meissner imparted some well-chosen words of wisdom and likened the achievement of a doctoral degree to that of a marriage – 'sometimes pleasure, often pain!' The evening was light-hearted and candidates were able to celebrate this great milestone of their careers with their spouses or partners in an informal setting. Each candidate was given a framed group photograph of the June 2012 Doctoral Class to remember this event.
Lorraine MacDonald



Scholarship Awards fast-tracks clinical research expertise

On the 15th June 2012, the Faculty named the winners of the first clinical scholarships - sponsored by the Medical Research Council and pharmaceutical company Boehringer Ingelheim- as part of its Clinical Scholar's programme. The programme aims to address the critical shortage of academic practitioners at UCT and the country by fast-tracking students into clinical research. The Faculty is also investing a few more funded awards into the programme—the Santial Parbhoo and Mark Horwitz prizes in Molecular Medicine, and the Bryan Kies Fellowship in Neurology.

READ MORE: <http://www.health.uct.ac.za/news/?id=8160&t=dn>

our academics 2012

We have much to celebrate about our academics this year. Not a week goes by without news of outstanding achievements from our staff. Some of these include:

Inaugural Lectures

Five academics in the Faculty will have their inaugural lectures this year, two of which took place this past semester. These special academic events are held to honour the lecturer's appointment to full professorship. Professors Anthony Figaji and Carolyn Williamson delighted their guests with their lectures entitled *Brain/Child Interrupted* and *HIV: Surviving under immense pressure*, respectively.

Professor Carolyn Williamson

In her lecture, HIV: Surviving under immense pressure, Prof Williamson took the audience on a journey through what she termed "the greatest viral epidemic of the current time".

FOLLOW THE LINK TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE

<http://www.health.uct.ac.za/news/?id=9168&t=mp>

Acknowledgement: Monday Paper



Professor Tony Figaji

Prof Figaji and his colleagues have tried to take paediatric neurosurgery in South Africa to new heights.

FOLLOW THE LINK TO READ THE FULL ARTICLE

<http://www.health.uct.ac.za/news/?id=9191&t=mp>

Acknowledgement: Monday Paper



Ad Hominem Promotion

Professor Lee Wallis was promoted to Professor of Emergency Medicine in an ad hominem promotion



Congratulations!

- **Professor Lynette Denny**, Head of **Obstetrics and Gynaecology**, was appointed a Fellow at the Royal College of **Gynaecologists**.
- The following staff members received **UCT Teaching Grants**. This new grant supports individuals or teams who are engaged in developing departmental, programme or faculty-level innovations to curricula or courses aimed at improving student learning, including through the use of education technology. Applicants receive awards up to R30 000:
 - **Nicholas Anthony Kruger** from Orthopaedic Surgery
 - **Gregory Doyle** from EDU/HSC
 - **Liesl Peters** from Occupational Therapy
 - **Lunelle Pienaar** from EDU/HSC
 - **Robert Dunn** from Orthopaedic Surgery
 - **Veronica Mitchell** from EDU/HSC
- Congratulations to **Melanie Alperstein** from EDU/Health Sciences for receiving the **UCT Award for Collaborative Educational Practice**. This competitive award aims to recognise and promote collaborative approaches to enhance the teaching and learning environment at UCT. Recipients are given awards of up to R40 000.

Faculty's Olympic man

Wayne Derman, Professor of Sports Medicine with the UCT/Medical Research Council Research Unit for Exercise Science and Sport & Exercise Medicine, has been selected as the Chief Medical Officer for the South African team heading for the London 2012 Paralympics. *Read more here:*

<http://www.uct.ac.za/dailynews/?id=8180>

Outstanding Young South African

Congratulations to **Dr Chris Scott** for being selected as one of the 200 Outstanding Young South Africans by the *Mail and Guardian*. This is a wonderful tribute to Dr Scott's outstanding work and advocacy for children and for paediatric rheumatology. *Read more here:*

<http://ysa2012.mg.co.za/christiaan-scott/Mail and Guardian>

Go BIG on PhD's, says Faculty's Prof Mayosi

A proposal to train 1000 health sciences PhD's by **Professor Bongani Mayosi**, the Head of the Department of Medicine in the Faculty, has now become a reality. In April this year, the Deputy Minister of Health Gwen Ramokgopa announced that government would launch and fund a PhD training programme. *Read more here:*

<http://www.uct.ac.za/dailynews/archives/?id=8104>

Excellence Awards

Top Honours for the Faculty's **Professors Bongani Mayosi, Heather Zar** and former Deputy Dean of Research, **Kit Vaughn**, three of the five UCT academics named among the country's science and technology trailblazers when the winners of the National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF)-BHP Billiton Awards were announced at a gala event in Johannesburg.

These NSTF-BHP Billiton Awards set out to reward excellence in scientific research, technological innovation, education, capacity building and communication. UCT scholars were named among the finalists of no less than 18 categories of this year's awards. *Read more here:*

<http://www.uct.ac.za/dailynews/archives/?id=8161>

Faculty's 2nd A-rated woman researcher!

Professor Heather Zar, Head of the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, has been named as UCT's latest A-Rated scientist, making her the third woman at UCT to be rated by the National Research Foundation. She joins colleague, Prof Valerie Mizrahi, Director of the Institute for Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, as the other A-rated woman scientist in the Faculty. *Read more here:*

<http://www.health.uct.ac.za/news/?id=8153&t=dn>

Red wine is hearty!

Congratulations to **Associate Professor Sandrine Lecour** whose research on the alcohol content in red wine was recently published in the *South African Medical Journal*. Lecour, along with colleagues, found that lowering the alcohol content of red wine does not alter its cardioprotective properties. Her research was also recently covered in *City Press*. *Read more here:*

<http://samj.org.za/index.php/samj/article/view/5733>

City Press article:

<http://www.citypress.co.za/Lifestyle/News/Red-wine-makes-the-heart-beat-better-20120630>

Acknowledgement: Monday Paper

22 August 2012 - the next inaugural lecture to look forward to:

Prof Valerie Mizrahi, Director of the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine

Popularity of Open Educational Resources for Prof Johan Fagan's ENT Surgery not going to his head

The University of Cape Town's Division of Otorhinolaryngology (ENT) has for a number of years been training ENT surgeons and Head and Neck surgeons for other African countries. This created an awareness of the difficulties doctors face in Developing World countries in accessing surgical textbooks and educational material.

This prompted Professor Johan Fagan to write an [Educational Website for ENT surgeons in the Developing World](http://www.entdev.uct.ac.za) (www.entdev.uct.ac.za) which the Educational Development Unit (EDU) has assisted in published as an Open Educational Resource (OER). Since this educational website was first launched in November 2010 it has been visited more than 7000 times from almost every country in the world. The biggest users have been South Africa, India, UK, USA, Egypt, Saudi

Arabia, Germany, Nigeria, Italy and Kenya. The fact that 44% of visits are repeat visits, and that the average time per visit is over 4min indicates that this website is proving to be a useful resource for ENT surgeons.

Purchasing a new surgical textbook may cost a surgeon in a developing country the equivalent of 2 months' income. Following failed negotiations with two big publishers to make textbooks that are out of print available as open access resources, Professor Fagan started writing [The Open Access Atlas of Otolaryngology, Head & Neck Operative Surgery](#) which instructs surgeons on how to perform common ENT operations. He has since been joined by some of the top international sinus, ear and head and neck surgeons who are contributing to this open access resource at no cost. The book is published under a

[Creative Commons](#) license and readers are encouraged to use the content as they wish by copy, cut and paste. Since the first few chapters were released in November 2011, they have been downloaded more than 11000 times, 10% of which are to mobile devices.

The popularity of these two open access educational resources demonstrates a means by which UCT can reach out and share information with academics and professional colleagues internationally.

These resources show that quality teaching material can be published under an open license and expensive printed texts are not always the only option.

Gregory Doyle (Edu Dev Unit)

our Faculty has:

- **9 A-rated scientists**
- **3 peer reviewed articles published on average per day**
- **10 people who have received National Orders in recognition of their incredible contributions to the country**
- **more than 20 research groups and units**

Social Participation and the Patient Experience

Members of the Learning Network for Health and Human Rights (South Africa) and the National Campaign on Health and Social Security as Fundamental Right (Columbia), in conjunction with colleagues from Guatemala and Uganda, recently held a series of workshops at the People's Health Assembly.

The event, which took place from 6th to 11th July at the University of the Western Cape, focused on social participation and the right to health, exploring the different ways in which participation is structured, mediated and facilitated as a vehicle for realising the right to health.

Professor Leslie London from the School of Public Health said participants were invited to bring their experiences of collective action for the right to health in an aim to share and map examples of good practice with regards to community participation.

Although this was the first of such events, says Professor London, work on this has already been made possible through two large grants, one from the IDRC and a second from the European Union. Euro 1 million is to be used over a period of two and a half years for various projects in the Western- and Eastern Cape, aimed at enhancing patient experience.

our research



At the Limits

Between Friday 30 March and Monday 2 April 2012, Department of Medicine Professors Derek Yellon and Lionel Opie hosted the latest addition to the 'At the Limits' series. For the first time decision-makers in the areas of Cardiology and Diabetes, from across Europe and beyond, gathered at the University of Cape Town for a single, combined meeting.

Professors Opie and Yellon of UCT began the "At the Limits' meetings 14 years ago. The meetings - based on a principle being the exchange of science and medicine between African and European countries- allowed for the close relationship and collaboration between the University of Cape Town and University College London. The conference, which saw specialists from 25 countries being represented, highlighted the latest findings and trends across topical areas of cardiology and diabetes as well as the role the Pan African Society of Cardiology (PASCAR) plays in promoting the treatment and prevention of cardiovascular disease, training, public education and fundraising for research.

UCT joins international research exchange to help patients with anxiety disorders

Researchers from UCT have joined colleagues at 12 other universities in Europe in an international research exchange that aims to develop greater understanding of anxiety disorders and develop more effective treatment for patients.

This is the first time such a research exchange has been undertaken. South Africa was selected as a key research site because the research partners believe the country offers many opportunities to gain new and additional insights into the mechanisms that underlie and maintain anxiety disorders. One crucial factor is the high prevalence of HIV/Aids infection in South Africa and the effects of the disease on mental health.

The joint European-South African Research Network in Anxiety Disorders (EUSARNAD) involves 13 centres of excellence for research into anxiety disorders and builds on the Anxiety Disorders Research Network (ADRN). The EUSARNAD study is funded by the European Union through the Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme.

Professor Dan Stein of UCT said, "Anxiety disorders are the most prevalent of all psychiatric disorders in South Africa. As in other countries, they have a major impact on the economy. Recent research indicates that the presence of severe depression or anxiety disorders was associated with a significant reduction in earnings among both employed and unemployed South African adults."

David Baldwin, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Southampton and coordinator of the EUSARNAD study said, "Collaboration with the University of Cape Town in South Africa allows us access to unique genetic populations, a pattern of exposure to infectious agents which differs to that in Europe, and access to a range of clinical groups that allow important questions about anxiety to be explored in more detail than would be possible within Europe. The scheme could help harmonise research and clinical databases, improve research methodologies, refine prediction of clinical outcome and encourage evaluation of innovative interventions."

"We have access to a number of state-of-the-art scientific methods, such as those housed at the Cross-University Brain Imaging Centre and the Centre for Proteomic and Genomics Research. We have access to a number of important clinical groups, including patients with HIV/ AIDS, patients with post-traumatic stress disorder and so on. ADRN will provide our students the opportunity to travel abroad and learn from international experts in this area, and it will be useful for us to have visitors from these laboratories," he adds.

Clinical Pharmacology makes an IMPAACT!

The International Maternal Paediatric Adolescent AIDS Clinical Trials (IMPAACT) Group is a cooperative group of institutions, investigations and other collaborators organised for the purpose of evaluating potential therapies for HIV infection and its sequelae in the infant, paediatric, adolescent and pregnant women populations. IMPAACT is primarily funded by both the Division of AIDS (DAIDS), National Institute Of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (EKNICHHD), NIH.

In March this year, the Scientific Oversight Committee of the IMPAACT issued a solicitation for applications from laboratories in various disciplines, including Pharmacology, to support the network's scientific agenda and to become an IMPAACT Specialty Laboratory. An application was submitted by the Clinical Pharmacology Laboratory (CPL). Over the past decade the CPL has built up a track record second to none in the study of drug concentrations in African patients with HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria - particularly among vulnerable groups. For example a key aspect of the group's research has prompted changes in the doses of drugs administered to children, a notoriously tricky science.

Criteria for the award is extremely competitive, evaluation includes past performance and experience, the significance of the overall clinical and proposed work as well as the innovation and uniqueness

The solicitation saw an award made to just 9 out of 28 applicant laboratories, one of which was the Clinical Pharmacology CPL, made to Assoc. Prof Peter Smith. Peter Smith. Smith noted, "The award is a vote of confidence; not for any one individual, but for the labours of everyone working in the CPL. Joining the IMPAACT family is an achievement of note. Getting involved in this network is an important opening, as we will perform assays for specific projects and become involved in the design of future pharmacology studies within IMPAACT."

Acknowledgement: Assoc. Prof Peter Smith

Book launch

Thursday, 16 August

Frances Ames Room

17h00



The poster features two versions of the book cover for 'Substance Use and Abuse in South Africa: Insights from Brain and Behavioural Sciences'. The left cover shows a profile of a human head with a red cross on the forehead. The right cover is a larger version of the same title. Below the covers, the text reads: 'UCT Press cordially invites you to the launch of SUBSTANCE USE AND ABUSE IN SOUTH AFRICA Insights from Brain and Behavioural Sciences'. It then lists the featured discussion by Dan Stein (Professor and Head of the UCT Department of Psychiatry), Charles DH Parry (Director: Alcohol & Drug Abuse Research Unit, Medical Research Council), Fleur Howells (Brain-Behaviour Initiative Postdoctoral Fellow, UCT Department of Psychiatry) and Joanne Corrigan (Honorary Research Associate at UCT School of Public Health) with a brief viewing of selected clips from Booza TV. The event details are: DATE: Thursday, 16th August 2012; TIME: 17h00 for 17h30; VENUE: Frances Ames Conference Room, Ground Floor, Barnard Fuller Building, UCT Faculty of Health Sciences, Anzio Road, Observatory; RSVP: Portia Gqamane, Tel: 021 659 2340, E-mail: uctpress@juta.co.za, by Tuesday, 14th August 2012.

HSF student leaders meet with Minister of Health



Dr Aaron Motsaoleli, Minister of Health, is introduced to Student Leaders before meeting with them.



The Minister of Health and Prof Marian Jacobs, Dean, are flanked by Health Sciences Faculty Student Leaders, Mike Ramothwala and Kopano Malebo.

The Health Sciences Students Council, together with UCT's Student Representative Council, hosted Minister of Health, Dr Aaron Motsaoleli, in April. The Minister gave a talk on the challenges facing the county's healthcare system and the proposed National Health Insurance scheme. He also met with the Health Sciences Students' Council.

Acknowledgement: Monday Paper <http://www.health.uct.ac.za/news/?id=8151&t=dn>

Future Health Leaders Programme

In its second year running, the UCT Future Health Leaders Programme (FHLP) is a student leadership development programme initiated by students for students and launched last year as a pilot project. With renewed sponsorship from the Faculty of Health Sciences, the 2012 FHLP kicked off on the 28th July with the first of 4 sessions over the next 5 weeks. These sessions will see the students grapple with issues of leadership from a local and global perspective, as well as look at qualities and attributes that make for effective leaders and how these can make a difference in the delivery of equitable and high quality health care in South Africa. Being the Faculty of Health Sciences Centenary this year, the programme will place a special emphasis on the role that leadership and initiative has played in the establishment of the Faculty and the steering of the institution through both illustrious, and at times challenging periods over the past 100 years.

A total of 33 applications were received and accepted into the programme. Of the 33 participants, 36% were male and 64% female. The programme is open to all first to third year Health Sciences students with a total of 48% of the applicants being first years, 42% second years and 10% third

years. "These figures are in keeping with the FHLP's goal of identifying and developing junior students early on in their career into competent student leaders. It is our hope that the programme will also help lay the foundation needed to help them develop into effective health leaders capable of tackling the many challenges that plague South Africa's health system," says FHLP Founder and Final Year Medical student, Itumeleng Ntatamala.

Acknowledgement: Itumeleng Ntatamala





Vaccines for Africa Initiative

Africa is home to 15% of the world's population. Despite this, it has the highest child mortality rate of all the world's continents, with 51% of the nine million global deaths in children under-five occurring in sub-Saharan Africa. Vaccine-preventable diseases are a major contributor to the high child mortality in our continent. Five thousand children die each day from a vaccine-preventable disease in Africa, as a result of limited vaccine introduction and low vaccination coverage. Making well-informed decisions about how best to reduce child mortality in Africa will depend partly on policymakers across the continent accessing the best scientific evidence about what approaches work, and integrating this evidence into national health systems. In addition, effective vaccine advocacy and communication can mobilise resources for national vaccination programmes, encourage wide participation and local ownership of vaccination services, and lead to positive changes in knowledge and attitudes towards vaccines among parents and healthcare providers in every African country. This was the background for forming the Vaccines for Africa Initiative (VACFA) in 2009. VACFA's administrative team is based at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Cape Town (UCT) and is assisted by an Advisory Board, which consists of 13 leading vaccine experts from nine African countries. The board is chaired by the Faculty's Professor Gregory Hussey.

The vision of VACFA is an Africa free of vaccine-preventable diseases. Our mission is to increase awareness of the benefits of vaccines and to promote the uptake of established and newly available vaccines in Africa as well as make a significant contribution to capacity building, product development, and research on vaccines in Africa. This mission is in line with UCT's mission "to be an outstanding teaching and research university, educating for life and addressing the challenges facing our society."

Achievements: VACFA has been very successful in forging a strong partnership with relevant stakeholders across the African continent to conduct Africa-focused vaccine advocacy, communication, capacity building, and research. We highlight some of VACFA's achievements below.

Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP): VACFA took an active part and made significant contributions in the development of the GVAP. On 25 May 2012 (which coincidentally is Africa day), all 194 member states of the United Nations endorsed the GVAP at the World Health Assembly in Geneva. The 194 countries committed to apply the GVAP vision and strategies to develop the vaccines and immunisation components of their national health strategy and plans, to allocate adequate human and financial resources to achieve the immunisation goals, and to report back every year to their respective World Health Organization's Regional Committees on progress made.

Annual African Vaccinology Course: VACFA runs the Annual African Vaccinology Course, whose target audience is everybody working in the fields of vaccine preventable diseases in any African country. The one-week intensive residential course aims to provide participants with the necessary expertise to support national immunisation programmes and to contribute towards building sustainable research capacity to develop vaccines, including conducting registration-standard clinical trials of new vaccines. More than 500 healthcare workers, programme managers, policy makers, researchers, and lecturers from 41 African countries have attended the course. **The next vaccinology course will take place from 5 to 8 November 2012.**

Vaccine advocacy website: In 2009 VACFA launched the UCT vaccine advocacy website (www.vacfa.com), which serves as an interactive forum for exchange of evidence-based and up-to-date Africa-focused information on vaccine and immunisation issues. The website, which provides a one-stop shop for information to care givers and healthcare workers, is accredited by the World Health Organisation for adhering to international credibility and content criteria of good information practices. We plan to make the website more interactive and to translate the content into several additional languages, in order to make it more accessible to everyone in Africa (Anglophone, Francophone, Lusophone, Arabophone). Other website activities will include regular updates and increased marketing of the website as a comprehensive vaccine information source for parents and healthcare workers. One of

the envisaged website-linked activities is to provide healthcare workers with 24 hour access to a "vaccinologist-on-call" (a registered physician with post graduate training and experience in vaccinology), to answer queries on adverse events and other vaccine-related issues. We hope to make a contribution to reducing the currently high number of missed opportunities to vaccinate in this way. Responding to adverse events following immunisation in a timely manner should help to increase public confidence in the healthcare system's general capacity to deal with both the medical condition and parents' queries as they arise.

Technical support: VACFA provides technical support and advice to vaccination stakeholders at all levels, from local health clinics to international development agencies.

Research: VACFA conducts research with a focus on systematic reviews and translation of research evidence into health policy and practice. Examples include a multi-level analysis of reasons for low vaccination coverage in Africa, and a bibliometric analysis of immunisation research productivity in Africa.

International African Vaccinology Conference: From 8 to 11 November 2012, VACFA will host the first International African Vaccine Conference (<http://iavc2012.vacfa.com>). The intention is to host the conference bi-annually. The conference will provide a three-day programme of high quality oral and poster presentations which cover aspects of vaccine research relevant to Africa; including basic science, clinical, public health, and operational/health systems research.

Conclusion: We plan to expand our activities by taking advantage of existing infrastructure, expertise, and opportunities to contribute to decreasing vaccine preventable disease related child mortality in Africa through evidence-based vaccine advocacy, communication, training, and research. VACFA is ideally positioned to make a significant contribution in ensuring that Africa meets her Millennium Development Goals with respect to child mortality and development.

Charles Shey Wiysonge, Programme Manager

How can the Faculty ‘green up’ its act?

The global climate is changing and humans are responsible. This is now a generally accepted fact that will have significant impacts on human health in the decades to come. The African continent will be particularly vulnerable to these impacts and South Africa is certainly no exception. The Western Cape is predicted to become hotter and drier, which will affect the epidemiology of disease and the distribution of the population, placing additional burdens on the City’s health services. In recognition of these threats to human health, the South African health sector is mobilizing and preparing mitigation and adaptation plans at the national, provincial, and municipal levels. The City of Cape Town is a recognized leader in climate change planning, and UCT’s newly-established African Climate Development Initiative (ACDI) is playing a key role in inter-disciplinary collaboration in research and advocacy.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has called on health professionals to act at different levels to protect health from climate change. At the *global level* this may mean advocating for a “fair, scientifically sound and globally binding commitment to reduce net greenhouse gas emissions and stabilize the global climate”, which is explicit about the need to protect health and strengthen health systems. There is much that can be done at a *national and local level*: working with others to plan adaptation and mitigation strategies; assessing and strengthening adaptive capacity in communities and health systems (e.g. public education, disease surveillance,

disaster preparedness, mosquito control, food hygiene and inspection, nutritional supplementation, vaccines, primary and mental health care, and training); and encouraging health institutions to lead by example. We can all make a difference at the *personal level*, and health professionals are in a strong position to role model good practice for their patients and society at large. Personal actions include learning and teaching about climate-related health threats and adaptive actions, and reducing one’s own “carbon footprint” by adopting a number of lifestyle changes in the way we consume the earth’s resources.

A “green agenda” for health institutions has been produced by a global organisation called *Health Care Without Harm*, which can be adapted readily to our own faculty and health facilities. It describes ten goals and related actions on issues such as energy management, water consumption, waste disposal, transport, procurement, greener building design and operations, and safer pharmaceuticals. UCT’s Green Campus Initiative (GCI) has been active for a number of years now in promoting a green agenda at UCT. The annual Green Week provides the focus for a number of creative and high-impact activities on main campus, which have not yet impacted significantly on the Health Sciences campus. GCI Green Week 2012 (16-19 April), and the above developments in the health sector, therefore present the Faculty with a challenge and an opportunity to demonstrate that we are serious about responding to the threat of climate change.

James Irlam

green

tips

Food

- Buy fresh, local food.
- No processed junk food
- Support Meat- Free Mondays

Fuel

- Walk or cycle to class
- Take the Jammie and train as much as possible

Electricity

- Put on a jersey instead of using your heater
- Turn off your lights and your computer when not in use

Water

- Take a shower instead of bath
- Drink tap water instead of bottled water

Waste

- Take your own mug when you buy tea/ coffee on campus
- Avoid buying products that use unnecessary or non-recyclable packaging
- Recycle anything that is recyclable! Make sure it’s clean though.
- Don’t help yourself to more food than you need
- Use cloth bags for shopping – avoid plastic bags

go green

In-house conference expertise benefits Faculty

UCT's Conference Management Centre (CMC) is running at full steam, organising several academic conferences simultaneously across the university. Based in a corner of the Faculty's Barnard Fuller, the CMC was established 20 years ago to provide conference services with in-house expertise at competitive rates for UCT departments.

"We have a strong focus on medical conferences and scientific programme management," says Deidre Raubenheimer, CMC Director, "but we can assist with any event planning need."

"Why would a department choose the CMC at UCT to manage your event?" she asks. "Well, we are backed by the University of Cape Town, and we have a record of excellence in managing conferences and working with the relevant role-players within UCT."

"We, in fact, manage the entire event production", adds Dr Jonny Myers, under whose department the CMC falls.

Above all, unlike an external company, a percentage of the CMC profits are re-invested back into the Faculty of Health Sciences - contributing to the Faculty continuing to address the health challenges facing South Africa and African



communities today. "That is why we encourage UCT departments to use the CMC," says Faculty Deputy Dean, Professor Reno Morar.

On that note, he adds that he would like to clarify confusion that has arisen following two staff members leaving the CMC to set up their own company, and offering similar services to CMC clients. Departments need to be made aware that CMC is the preferred UCT vendor and not be under the

impression that the individuals concerned are providing the service on behalf of CMC.

"And for our team to achieve this level of service, they work extremely hard," says Raubenheimer, pointing proudly to conference coordinators Fatima Saban, Belinda Chapman, Janet Sirmongpong and Bianca Allison, who were all focused on last-minute preparations for their next conference.



The Division of Human Genetics has swapped "genes" for "jeans" and embarked on a campus wide Clothes Drive. From the 23 July to 31st August, the Division will be collecting any new or old clothes to be distributed to local charities. Staff and students should be on the look out for donation bins placed across campus.

Genetics wants your jeans

... and other clothing!



Pictured from left to right with some of the donation bins: Ansie Wichers, Gift Pule, Gavin Pharo, Amy Roberts, Stephanie Dias, Taahira Goolam Hoosen, Professor Raj Ramesar. Missing from photo: Adrea Gibbon and Alex Nash

REFLECTING ON THE PAST

CELEBRATING THE PRESENT

BUILDING THE FUTURE