



Congratulations to: A/Prof Bongani Mayosi, awarded the prestigious National Research Foundation [NRF] P-Rating [President's] Award for young promising



researchers. He thus joins two UCT awardees from Science and one from Law. The occasion was celebrated in the Dean's suite by the President of the NRF, Dr K Mokhele, NRF

staff, Vice-Chancellor Professor NS Ndebele, and Deputy Vice Chancellor Prof Cheryl de La Rey, as well as members of the UCT's research office and members of EXCO.

A/Professor Vanessa Burch received the first prize of R10 000 at the recent South African Association of Health Educationalists [SAAHE] conference for her presentation in which she proposed changes to the time intensive, portfolio-based assessment of students.

Dr Cynthia Sikakana received a certificate of merit from SAAHE.

Dr Faadiel Essop has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright scholarship to spend time in the laboratory of Professor Heinrich Taegtmeyer in Houston.

The Faculty was awarded a grant of R2 million from the Strategic Equipment fund in response to its request for equipment to be utilized in various departments across the Faculty.

Health Science awards 2005:



The annual award ceremony was held on 4th May, and under- and postgraduate students and staff received medals and awards for their achievements during 2004. Professor

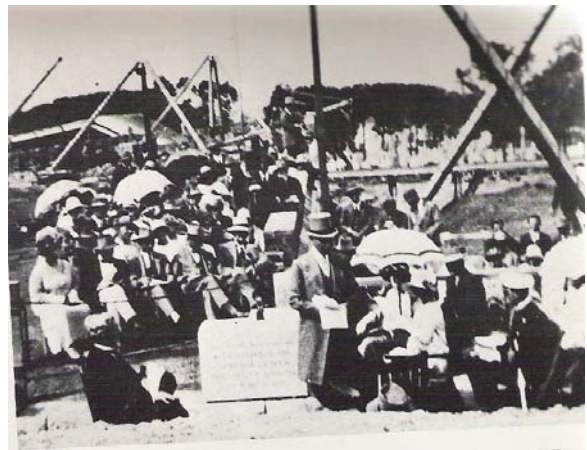
Gonda Perez, the Dean, is pictured with Dr Bronwen Ross who scooped up many of the prizes in the MbChB curriculum.

New Structures in Education: The first Faculty Education Committee met on the 14th April. Many challenging and relevant issues were identified for action. The new undergraduate curriculum was targeted for appraisal as well as a new evaluation of the post-graduate curriculum. This committee will now meet bi-monthly to keep pace with these challenges.

SAAHE conference: The second South African Association of Health Educationalists conference took place on the 8th and 9th of April, at the Faculty of Health Sciences, and this provided an opportunity for 108 academics and practitioners to share experiences and innovative ideas. A student slot saw lively and constructive discussion between them and teaching staff.

Joint Agreement: It is essential that there be a legal arrangement defining the relationship and obligations between the Province and the University with regard to their shared land, buildings and staff appointments, and all matters that relate to these. The first Joint Agreement between the Province and the University was drawn up in 1926; several modifications followed, the last in 1951. The work of the UCT FHS Joint Agreement Task Team, lead by Professor Mike James, has produced a new draft Joint Agreement which will, in the coming weeks, be aligned with similar documents from the Universities of Stellenbosch and Western Cape, and then finally between the Provincial Government, and the Universities.

HPCSA Report: The HPCSA inspected the Faculty and its undergraduate curriculum, and has tendered a complimentary report. The Faculty was commended for the enthusiasm and commitment shown by staff for the



incoming new curriculum.

80th Birthday: The foundation stone for the Werner Beit North building was laid in 1925, 80 years ago, by the Earl of Athlone. The Faculty thus celebrates its 80th birthday on this campus [the previous medical campus was at Hidding hall, in the Gardens]. The first disciplines to move into the Building were Pathology and Bacteriology, as well as the Offices of the Dean, and the Clinical Departments.

Pathology and bacteriology had previously occupied the building Bertram Place, in Orange Street in the Gardens. We are collecting events to commemorate this



80th birthday and accounts of unusual or significant occasions should be submitted to Clare Jeffery [cjeffrey@curie.uct.ac.za] for inclusion in the record. Plans to have the "80 Events in the 80th Year" listed on our website are under way. See your event in (web) lights!

Health Sciences Funding Conference: A conference crucial to the financing of health sciences education in South Africa has been organized for 16th and 17th May, in Cape Town. With international speakers and several key



national and provincial role players participating, this conference promises to be an exciting national event, contributing to the future sustainability of health sciences faculties. The contribution of the Department of Education, in addition to the Department of Health will be emphasized by the presence of Education Minister Naledi Pandor.

Anzio Road upgrade: Anzio road has become a major thoroughfare following the commercial development of St Peter's Square and the surrounding areas. This busy road bisects the medical campus. Crossing Anzio road, usually by students to reach the hospital or to access the Jammie Shuttle, has become increasingly hazardous. In collaboration with the Cape Town City Council, UCT plans to upgrade the road to include traffic islands with trees running down the centre. The traffic lighted pedestrian crossing would be relocated down to the Barnard Fuller entrance and a further traffic light will be positioned at the Anzio / Falmouth Road intersection to facilitate and tame traffic. A single traffic circle will replace the multiple traffic islands at the mountain end. These improvements will enhance pedestrian safety, as well as making vehicular movements streamlined and safer.

Alumni: The new "UCT Medical Alumni Group" will incorporate members of the previous Faculty "Barnard Fuller Society", expand and introduce interesting talks, luncheons, and alumni gatherings, as well as other interesting activities. For further details, contact Joan Tuff at the Alumni Office on 406-6686 or email jtuff@curie.uct.ac.za. Our alumni website is currently being evolved to include "News of our Alumni" to showcase awards and special achievements. Send contact details and general information to be posted to keep in touch with your contemporaries. For further information about alumni, log onto our website at www.health.uct.ac.za/alumni.

Some publications: Professor Heather Zar and colleagues of the School of Child and Adolescent Health showed in *The Lancet* that sputum tests may improve the rate of TB diagnosis in infants and younger children. Professor Tim Noakes' seminal [1981] work on overhydration in marathon athletes was acknowledged in an Editorial, and multiply cited in an accompanying article on the Boston Marathon in the *New England Journal of Medicine* [<http://content.nejm.org/current.shtml>] He had long maintained that the overdrinking of fluids during marathon running resulted in haemodilution, hyponatraemia, and severe morbidity, even death. In 2001 his book "The lore of Running" was awarded the UCT book award.

Students & Human & Health Rights: First year students have produced their Human Rights and Health Rights posters, which are of high standard and make for interesting reading. They will be on display from the 13th May for two weeks in the New Learning Centre.

Postgraduate Cyber Lounge at Grotties [E21]: On Wednesday, 11th May the CEO for MSD, Chirfi Guindo, will be announcing a \$228,000 donation for postgraduate IT facilities and library purchases. The Doctors' Common Room IT suite is currently in Phase 1 of a 2-phase project

providing first-rate facilities for postgraduate studies. Registrars in training, and scientists, will benefit greatly from this initiative, being able to go on line, and interact on a computer in their clinical work place. This development is part of Professor Kit Vaughan's task-group vision, which aims at consolidating and improving postgraduate facilities on the FHS campus.

Inaugural Lectures: Over the last two years the Faculty has appointed almost 20 Full Professors, by the filling of vacant Chairs, or by *ad hominem* promotion. New Professors in any Faculty, and in any University, have by international and historical custom, pleaded their cause with an inaugural lecture. There have, however, been no inaugural lectures for two years. This vacuum has been attributable to there being too opportunities available in the busy University calendar. Through the efforts of Professor Kit Vaughan, the Lecture Series will recommence with a combination of both Public [Upper Campus] and Faculty [FHS] Plenary Lectures. Ten lectures are scheduled for this year and a further ten for 2006.

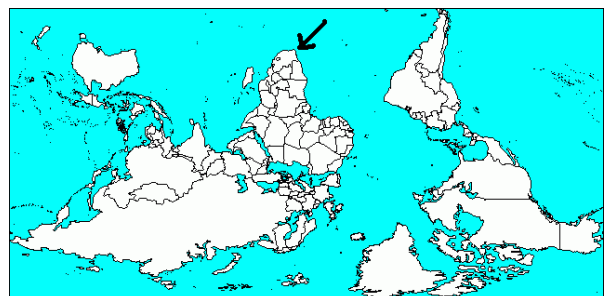
Carnegie Corporation & Transformation: The Carnegie Corporation has invested R12.4 million towards transformation, by post funding, at UCT. The Corporation was established in 1911 as a philanthropic gesture in terms of the will of the American steel and industrial magnate. The mandate of the will was to improve the 'diffusion of knowledge and understanding'. Together with Wits and the University of Natal, we are viewed as institutions of "international excellence" and by this grant, are encouraged to "ensure growth and excellence as well as serving the broader South African society by nurturing its future leaders".

MAC Club Lunches: On Fridays at 12h30 in the MAC Club. Sometimes pasta, sometimes chicken pie, sometimes stew, always veggies and sweet, always good. All this for R20. Just ask Abdu, the MacMan.



Newsletter Competition: Win R100 token at Exclusive Books: Which Professor died of flu just months after assuming their Chair in the Faculty?

Answers: dmdent@uctgsh1.uct.ac.za. No correct answers: roll over and continue with next question, next month.



Location of UCT Faculty of Health Sciences in an International context.

Gonda Perez, Dean, on behalf of EXCO.