

In-tuition

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Faculty of Education creates new spaces and opportunities

The Faculty of Education celebrated the completion of two years of work on its infrastructure on the Groenkloof Campus of the University of Pretoria.

The official opening took place on Monday, 12 September 2011 when about 200 guests gathered to savour the moment of unveiling the stone at a reception.

Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Pretoria delivered the opening address after cutting the ribbon to unveil the stone. Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education, delivered an address on the background of the projects and the buildings.

Some of the major building projects include the new high technology lecture theatres with respectively 350, 350 and 400 seats; the open-air amphitheatre (boma) next to the Groenkloof dam; lifts; bathrooms and a special passage for people with disabilities; science laboratories; 121 computer working stations; and the upgrading of several related facilities on the Groenkloof Campus.

The main contractors in the project were Robenco Construction and BILD Architects as well as a professional team from other companies.

The event was attended by Members from the Executive of the University of Pretoria; Deans from the University of Pretoria; Members of the University Council; Members of the Executive of the former Normaal Kollege, Pretoria; Directors at the University of Pretoria; Members of the Faculty of Education Advisory Board; several School Principals; the team from Robenco Construction and BILD Architects

and members of their professional team; staff from the University of Pretoria; staff members from the Faculty of Education and other guests.

“The official opening of the new infrastructure development at the Groenkloof Campus is a proud moment for the Faculty of Education. The University of Pretoria has thus created new spaces and opportunities for our 3500 undergraduate, 1000 postgraduate and 19 000 distance education students who will benefit from the new opportunities established,” said Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education.



Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor and Principal (left) and Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education, celebrating the infrastructure developments by unveiling the stone.



P 4 New shops create new opportunities



P 20 Education is the best career choice



P 13 Spring Graduation a glorious event



P 15 Jakarandia alive and well



Word from the Dean

This year, 2011, has been a fantastic year for the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria. We increased the number of NRF-rated researchers in the Faculty – thereby further improving our status as top-performing Faculty of Education in the country. We opened the inspiring new buildings and infrastructure on campus and we successfully launched the new B Ed programmes. We also welcomed exceptional new colleagues as part of the Groenkloof team. We hosted several esteemed international scholars on campus and we increased our global footprint by presenting our work at highly regarded national and international conferences. Both staff and students published books in education and we became home to the outstanding ISI-listed journal, *The South African Journal of Education*.

Looking back, we are grateful to be well-aligned with the navigational markers of quality, relevance, sustainability and diversity as articulated in the Academic Plan UP 2025. The University of Pretoria is a research-intensive university in Africa and it envisions to develop people, to develop knowledge and to make a difference locally and globally. At the Faculty of Education we fully support this vision.

In the new year, we will be welcoming new cohorts of undergraduate and postgraduate students on the Groenkloof campus. They will start with bright eyes and curiosity and in a few years they will leave with new questions – and hopefully with some new perspectives, deepened characters and an inclination to make a positive difference in the world.



Prof Irma Elof, Dean of the Faculty of Education

Editorial



Annalize Brynard, Editor: *In-tuition*

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Celebrating new developments



Prof Irma Elof, Dean, in conversation with Mr Tiny Gouws and Mr Peter Howith of Robenco Construction



Staff from the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies enjoyed the official opening of the new buildings.

Faculty celebrates new infrastructure development



Ms Jeannie Beukes, Ms Makgomo Manale and Ms Melinda Joubert



Mr Eddie Pretorius, Mr Johan Taljaart, Mr Tiny Gouws, Mr Phillip Nel, Director of UP Facilities Management and Mr Pieter du Preez



Raymond Ntozi and Quintin Botha of the SRC 2011



Prof Sandra Klopper, Dean: Faculty of Humanities with Ms Christa North, Head: Quality Unit and Mr Andre van der Walt of Academic Administration



Prof Irma Eloff with Eddie Pretorius and Prof Antonie de Klerk, Executive Director.



Prof Robin Crewe, Vice-Principal with Prof Tienie van Staden, previous Rector of the Normaal Kollege, Pretoria.



Ms Marna Jordaan, Principal of Afrikaans Hoër Meisieskool with Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor and Principal; Prof Liesel Ebersöhn and Ms Marié Schoeman



Prof Niek Grové, Registrar with Prof Tienie van Staden and Mr Herkie Smit



Prof Irma Eloff with Ms Marié Schoeman



Guests attended a presentation in the Aldoel 1 Lecture Theatre.



Prof Cheryl de la Rey discussed the impact of the new developments with the audience.



Prof Irma Eloff shared the background by means of a Power Point- and multi-media presentation.



New shops at Groenkloof Campus officially opened

The Faculty of Education celebrated the official opening of three new shops by Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor and Principal. The launch of Haloa; the Wannabee Shop and the Bookmark bookshop was on Monday, 10 October 2011.

Mr Deon Herbst, Director of Business Enterprise at UP (BE@UP) marked the event as a highlight not only for Groenkloof Campus but also for BE@UP. He said that this was the result of much research and many surveys, to establish what would be ideal for staff and students at the Groenkloof Campus.

Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education said: 'We need spaces such as this to signal that our staff and students are important. We need spaces such as this to show that we value quality and holistic learning experiences on the Groenkloof campus'.

Guests had the opportunity to enjoy some of the delicious food at Haloa Coffee Shop while they viewed the books of Bookmark as well as the variety of items sold in the Wannabee Shop.

Since the doors of the shops opened for service, students and staff have shown their appreciation for the quality of service and the items available on their doorstep.



Prof Irma Eloff, Dean, with Prof Caryl Hartell, Head: Department of Early Childhood Education share a moment in the new facilities



Mr Tonie Roux with Ms Yzelle van den Berg, UP Project Manager



A student browses the new Wannabee Shop



Mr Deon Herbst, Director of Business Enterprise at UP (BE@UP) welcomed the guests



Guests enjoyed the environment of the campus

Infrastructure development great asset to all stakeholders



Aldoel 1 Lecture Theatre seats 400



Northern side of the Aldoel 1 Lecture Theatre blends surfaces of various textures



The boma (amphitheatre) integrates modern design principles



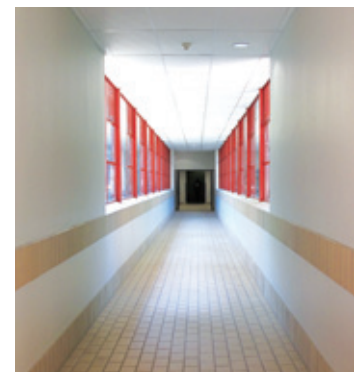
Students benefit from the new computer laboratories

Infrastructure development at Groenkloof Campus in a nutshell

- New lecture theatres: 400 seats; 350 seats
- New open amphitheatre (boma)
- New computer laboratories
- New bathrooms and facilities for persons with disabilities
- New shops: coffee shop (Haloa); clothing shop (Wannabee) and bookshop (Bookmark)
- New passage: access for persons with disabilities
- New lifts for persons with disabilities
- Upgrading of Natural Sciences building: laboratories; offices and equipment
- Upgrading of lecture theatres: high-tech equipment
- Upgrading of the Normaalsaal: air conditioning and curtains



Aldoel 3 Lecture Theatre features a modern staircase



Persons with disabilities can access the building by means of this passage and this lift



New bathrooms have state-of-the-art fittings

An Award goes to TESSA

The Teacher Education in Sub-Saharan Africa (TESSA) project, which is a research and development initiative creating open educational resources (OERs) and course-design guidance for teachers and teacher educators working in Sub-Saharan African countries, was awarded one of six prizes by the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE). The panel considered hundreds of entries and selected TESSA for its creative approach and its evidence of impact.

The project is led by Freda Wolfenden from the Open University in the United Kingdom. Prof Gilbert Onwu, Co-ordinator of TESSA at the Faculty of Education is very proud of the award and said that TESSA operates as a network of national and international organisations. The network includes institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa, among them the University of Pretoria.

A spokesperson of WISE said: "The 2011 Winners were selected for their innovative approaches and positive impact

upon societies and education, within the perennial theme of Transforming Education: Investment, Innovation and Inclusion."

Commenting on the winning projects, H.E. Sheikh Abdulla bin Ali Al-Thani, Chairman of WISE and Chairman of the WISE Awards Jury, said: "Innovation is crucial for continuing to improve both access to and quality of education. The WISE Awards aim to showcase inspiring projects and give them the exposure they deserve. The 2011 WISE Awards Winners have often had to overcome pre-conceived ideas and find creative solutions to break down barriers to innovation in education. They have already been rewarded by the positive results of their projects. I would like to congratulate them all for their perseverance and worthy achievements. They are genuine role models for the entire WISE community."

The WISE Awards 2011 were presented during a Gala Dinner held on 2 November 2011 in Doha.

Two promotions for academic staff

Dr Alta Engelbrecht of the Department of Humanities Education has been promoted to Senior Lecturer as from 1 January 2012. Dr Engelbrecht holds a PhD (UP) in curriculum studies. She obtained the MEd degree in 2002 with a case study describing how ideological change in South Africa manifested itself in terms of racial representation in a transitional language textbook series. Her main focus areas are power; reform; and change and continuity in Education. She is responsible for the training of BEd students who study Afrikaans as an elective. She teaches Language variation, Literature and Drama.

Prof Saloshna Vandeyar of the Department of Humanities Education has been promoted to full-professor as from 1 January 2012. Prof Vandeyar is an NRF C-rated researcher and an award-winning scholar on intercultural education and the winner of two prestigious international awards: The Mid-Career Award 2011 which was made by the Division K (Teaching and Teacher Education) of the American Research Association (AERA) and the international BMW Awards in the category: Theory, 2006.

Her work has received national recognition as evident from other awards namely: The Education Association of South Africa

(EASA) Research Medal 2011; The National Science and Technology Forum Award in the category Senior Black Researcher 2007; Finalist in the category Education of the Shoprite Checkers/SABC 2 Woman of the Year 2006; The Education Innovation Award from the University of Pretoria in 2009; the Exceptional Young Researcher's Award for Academic Excellence and Achievement in 2008. She also received two community awards: Excellence in Education and Research in 2007/2009 and a Research Perseverance Award from the Faculty of Education in 2002 and Merit Awards for Outstanding Teaching in 1987/1993.

Prof Vandeyar's specialist areas of research are Education and Diversity, Teacher Professionalism as well as Assessment Practices.



Prof Saloshna Vandeyar



Dr Alta Engelbrecht

New Editor for SAJE in our midst



Prof Liesel Ebersöhn

Prof Liesel Ebersöhn of the Department of Educational Psychology has accepted a five-year appointment as Editor of the *South African Journal of Education* (SAJE), between 2012 and 2017.

The South African Journal of Education is a well-established journal with an impact factor of 0.632 (ISI - World of Science) - ranking 95th out of 177 titles in education.

Educational Psychologist to receive prestigious award

Dr Carien Lubbe-de Beer of the Department of Educational Psychology is to be the recipient of the prestigious Education Association of South Africa (EASA) Research Medal in the Category: Emerging Researcher.

Dr Lubbe-de Beer enjoys national recognition as researcher, having obtained her NRF Y2-rating in 2011.

Her emerging national and international profile is evident from invitations to present at conferences or partake in publications.

She has supervised 11 MEd dissertations to completion as well as two PhD theses, and is currently supervising a further four PhD and 13 MEd postgraduate students. She is frequently asked to act as external examiner to masters' and doctoral degrees. She serves on the editorial board of the Australian Journal of Educational and Developmental Psychology

and reviews articles for numerous journals (South African Journal of Psychology, African Education Review, Journal of Psychology in Africa, Perspectives in Education, South African Journal of Higher Education, South African Journal of Education and the Journal of Educational Studies).

Her publications include four articles in international accredited journals, and seven national accredited journals, as well as two additional papers published in peer-reviewed journals on national and international level. She has co-authored one and wrote three chapters in national and international scientific textbooks. She has presented 23 papers at local and international conferences.

Her main research interest lies in same-gendered or lesbian and gay parent families, with a specific focus on the experiences of children growing up in lesbian parent families,

as well as the parents' own experiences of transition and becoming parents. Currently she has also developed a keen interest in Sandplay therapy and is pursuing an international qualification from the International Society for Sandplay Therapy.



Dr Carien Lubbe

Lecturer awarded for teaching excellence



Dr Hanlie Dippenaar

Dr Hanlie Dippenaar, from the Department of Humanities Education, was recently informed that she is to receive a commendation award at the National Excellence in Teaching and Learning Awards 2011.

According to the National Excellence in Teaching and Learning Awards Selection Committee a total of 27 applications were received, from which five Excellence awards and nine Commendation awards were made.

Dr Dippenaar is to receive her award from the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and the Higher Education Learning and Teaching Association of Southern Africa (HELTASA) in December 2011. Her name features on an information sheet which was handed out at the annual HELTASA conference at the end of November 2011. It also is to feature on the HELTASA and CHE websites.

She appreciates the words of Dewey when he said: "I believe that education must be conceived as a continuing reconstruction of

experience; that the process and the goal of education are one and the same thing. I believe that ideas (intellectual and rational processes) also result from action and devolve for the sake of the better control of action. What we term reason is primarily the law of orderly or effective action."

Dr Dippenaar is a Lecturer in English methodology; Education; English Language proficiency for Education students and BEd Honours students as well as Afrikaans Didactics for Education and Sexuality Education as specialisation for BEd Honours students.

She is currently doing research on the English language needs of educators, especially second language speakers of English, with reference to the curriculum design of a compulsory English course for all undergraduate Education students in 'Language across the curriculum'. Furthermore she is investigating the role of Community Engagement in the curriculum of undergraduate student teachers.

In 1990 and 1992, Dr Dippenaar received a Merit Award for Teaching from the Gauteng Department of Education; in 2009 a Merit Award for Teaching and Learning from Department of Education Innovation at the University of Pretoria and in 2010 she was selected to represent the University of Pretoria in the International Blackboard competition. She also received the Dean's Award from the Faculty of Education for Applying Theory to Practice. In 2010 she also received the Top Laureate Award for Teaching Innovation from the University of Pretoria.

The Faculty of Education has 16 NRF-rated researchers

Five new NRF-rated researchers announced

The National Research Foundation (NRF) has announced that five new researchers in the Faculty of Education have received ratings. The NRF has also confirmed that the Faculty of Education is regarded as the top performing Faculty of Education in South Africa in terms of the number of rated researchers per NRF Specialist Committee (per subject area).

The five new NRF-rated researchers are:



Prof Saloshna Vandeyar of the Department of Humanities Education: C2 (previously C3)



Prof Adelia Carstens, Head of the Department of Humanities Education: C3



Dr Vanessa Scherman of the Centre for Evaluation and Assessment: Y2



Prof Venitha Pillay of the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies: C2



Prof Jan Nieuwenhuis of the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies: C3

The Faculty of Education strives to achieve excellence in research that is aligned to national needs and priorities. It aspires to make a substantial contribution to produce scientific knowledge and to deliver research results that apply to local concerns as well as to global challenges. In line with the vision of the University of Pretoria, the Faculty actively promotes a research culture and continuously focuses on building research capacity, providing resources for research and applying stringent evaluation measures, as well as the highest ethical standards in research outputs.

Previously rated researchers in the Faculty

The following academics in the Faculty of Education currently have NRF ratings as researchers:

- Prof Johan Beckmann, Department of Education Management and Policy Studies C2
- Prof Liesel Ebersohn, Department of Educational Psychology C3
- Prof Irma Eloff, Dean C2
- Prof Ronél Ferreira, Department of Educational Psychology Y2
- Prof Billy Fraser, Department of Science Mathematics and Technology Education C2
- Prof Sarah Howie, Centre for Evaluation and Assessment C1
- Prof Rika Joubert, Department of Education Management and Policy Studies C3
- Dr Carien Lubbe-De Beer, Department of Educational Psychology Y2
- Prof Kobus Maree, Department of Educational Psychology B3
- Prof Mokubung Nkomo, Department of Education Management and Policy Studies C2
- Prof Chika Sehoole, Department of Education Management and Policy Studies C2
- Prof Saloshna Vandeyar, Department of Humanities Education C3

The six focus areas of research in the Faculty are:

- Early Childhood Education;
- Science, Mathematics and Technology Education;
- Language and Literacy;
- HIV/AIDS in education;
- Assessment and evaluation;
- Power, reform and change.

Central to the research strategy of the Faculty of Education is its attempt to build a strong and high-quality postgraduate student community. In addition to a highly selective admission process, the Faculty offers an intensive support and development programme for masters and doctoral students.



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Faculty of Education

Renowned international sociologist lectures to postgraduate students

Corey Keyes, Professor of Sociology at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia presented Research Support Sessions to postgraduate students at the Faculty during October 2011. The subject was: 'research and lessons learnt from theory'.

Prof Keyes is a member of a MacArthur Foundation Research Network on Successful Midlife Development, co-chaired the first Summit of Positive Psychology in 1999, and is a member of the 2007 National Academies of Science Keck Future's Initiative on The Future of Human Healthspan: Demography, Evolution, Medicine and Bio-engineering. He is a senior fellow at Emory University's Center for the Study of Law and Religion and its multidisciplinary five-year project on the "Pursuit of Happiness" funded in part by the Templeton Foundation.

His research focuses on illuminating the 'Dual Continuum' model of health and illness, showing how the absence of mental illness does not translate into the presence of 'flourishing' mental health, and revealing that the biological and psychosocial causes of true health are often distinct processes from those now understood as being the cause of illness. This work is being applied towards providing a better understanding of resilience and the prevention of mental illness, and informs the growing healthcare approach called 'Predictive Healthcare,' which seeks to map and monitor and apply novel responses to correct early deviations from true health to maintain health and limit disease and illness.

Prof Keyes is currently working on these issues with governmental agencies in England, Northern Ireland, and Scotland, the Mental Health Commission and the Public Health Agency of Canada, and with the

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the USA.

Prof Keyes works in the areas of complete mental health and methods for attaining positive social relationships. He also studies the psychology of aging. Keyes is known for coining the psychological term "flourishing" which describes mentally healthy adults. He is considered to be a pioneer in the field of positive psychology. Keyes is a member of the advisory board for the World Happiness Forum and is a member of the Positive Psychology Network. His work has had wide-reaching policy implications. He has worked with the Center for Disease Control and his model of mental health as a complete state has been adopted by Public Health Canada into its national surveillance program in all Canadian provinces.

The support sessions were particularly well-suited to the University of Pretoria's current IRT on food, nutrition and wellbeing.



Prof Corey Keyes

Books and two reading series launched

The Faculty of Education launched four new books as well as two reading series at a book launch on Thursday, 10 November 2011. The event took place in the Education Library on the Groenkloof Campus at the University of Pretoria.

The following books were launched:

- **Shaping the Story: A Guide to Facilitating Narrative Career Counselling as well as Dar Forma Alle Storie: Guida Al Counseling Narrativo** by Prof Kobus Maree of the Department of Educational Psychology which was translated into Italian.
- **Spot on: Reading Series** by Dr Nkidi Phatudi of the Department of Early Childhood Education
- **The Early Childhood Reading Series** consisting of readers; a work book; CD and posters by Dr Ina Joubert; Dr Nkidi Phatudi and Ms Annalie Botha of the Department of Early Childhood Education
- **Vuvuzela-Afrikaans: Taalonderrig wat nie geïgnoreer mag word nie** by Dr Alta Engelbrecht and Ms Dina Cloete
- **Hyphenated Selves: Immigrant Identities within Education Contexts** by Prof Saloshna Vandeyar of the Department of Humanities Education



Dr Ina Joubert and family sample the works



Prof Chika Sehoole, Head: Department of Education Management and Policy Studies; Dr Nkidi Phatudi and her husband, Mr Tebogo Phatudi exploring the books exhibition.



Staff and guests enjoyed the publisher exhibitions



Many scholarly books were on display



Prof Ronel Ferreira, Head: Department of Educational Psychology seen here with Prof Kobus Maree.



Some of the authors: Dr Ina Joubert; Ms Annalie Botha and Dr Nkidi Phatudi enjoy the final products.



Dr Thiru Vandeyar with Prof Saloshna Vandeyar and their son



Dr Alta Engelbrecht and Dr Dina Cloete share some insights

The Faculty of Education takes pride in the work being done by academic staff members. These books once again confirm the staff's dedication to the Faculty of Education and the University of Pretoria.

Professor from Perth shares in acquiring literacy

Prof Deslea Konza, Director of the Fogarty Learning Centre, Edith Cowan University (ECU) Perth, visited scholars at the Unit for Education Research in AIDS (ERA) at the Faculty of Education during August 2011.

The collaboration is focused on sharing research capacity to understand the process of becoming literate in remote, rural schools in emerging economy environments. During her visit Prof Konza was accompanied by Prof Liesel Ebersöhn of the Department of Educational

Psychology who is the Director of ERA and a group of educational psychology postgraduate students, on a visit to a long-standing partner in Mpumalanga, the Ngilandi Secondary School.

The Fogarty Learning Centre, ECU, has similar partnerships with remote rural school-research sites in Australia, China and Mauritius. By partnering with this South African school-community, comparative knowledge on literacy acquisition in multilingual school settings may be extended.



Ms Sonja Coetzee, Prof Liesel Ebersöhn and Prof Deslea Konza enjoying the field trip

Sestien onderskeidings tussen twee vriende

Twee personeellede van die Fakulteit se seuns het die uitnemende prestasie gehaal dat hul elk agt onderskeidings aan die einde van 2011 in matriek behaal het.

Wim Steyn, die seun van Dr Miems Steyn van die Departement Vroeë Kinderonderwys het agt onderskeidings in die afgelope matriekeksamen aan Afrikaans Hoër Seunskool behaal. Sy vakke was Afrikaans, Engels, Wiskunde, Addisionele Wiskunde, Natuur en Skeikunde, Rekeningkunde, Biologie en Lewensoriëntering.

Michael-John Dippenaar, die seun van Dr Hanlie Dippenaar van die Departement Geesteswetenskaplike Opvoedkunde het agt onderskeidings in Afrikaans, Engels, Wiskunde, Wiskunde vraestel 3, Fisiese Wetenskappe, Lewenswetenskappe, Lewensoriëntering en Rekenaartegnologie behaal.

Wim en Michael-John is beste maats sedert hulle mekaar as vierjariges by Skuilkrans Kleuterskool ontmoet het. Saam is die twee deur die laerskool, en het hul onderskeie mylpale ook gesamentlik afgelé.

Albei is na Afrikaans Hoër Seunskool waar hulle as gedugte debatspan twee keer deurgedring het na die landswey finale kompetisie. Dié twee het ook albei Springbokkleure in swartkruitskiet behaal. Verdere prestasies van Wim en Michael-John was dat albei tot die Affieraad verkies is, waar hulle hul skool as leiers verteenwoordig het. Albei was ook dirigente. Michael-John en Wim het gaan in 2012 hul tersiêre studies aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch voortsit – Michael-John as student in Aktuariële Wetenskappe en Wim as BCom Regtestudent. Beide van hulle het plek in die Wilgenhofkoshuis gekry waar hulle hoop om verder die studentelee saam aan te pak.



Michael-John Dippenaar - agt onderskeidings in matriek



Wim Steyn- agt onderskeidings in matriek

DETA Conference 2011 focuses on quality

Several members of the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies attended the Distance Education and Teacher Education in Africa (DETA) Conference at the Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputu, Mozambique, between 3 and 5 August this year. The title of this year's conference was 'Ensuring the highest possible quality of education in a changing Africa'. The Keynote speaker for the occasion was Ms Graca Machel, wife of former South African president and international freedom icon, Mr Nelson Mandela. Prof Antony Melck represented the UP Executive at the conference. The audience

was delighted by his charming introduction of Ms Machel.

Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education, was invited to a panel of Deans of Education who presented on the development of distance education across the continent during the last decade. The title of her presentation was 'Thinking inside the box'.

Prof Johan Beckmann, Prof Rika Joubert, Dr Vimbi Mahlangu, Dr Teresa Ogina, Dr Mogadi Mohlakwana, Dr Sharon Mampane and Mr Jean van Rooyen chaired several sessions of the conference and also presented papers to

an attentive international audience. Dr Vimbi Mahlangu spoke on 'No school wants to be led by dead wood: ACE School Leadership Programme in Mpumalanga' while Dr Mokgadi Mohlakwana delivered a paper on 'Who said the quality of activities for Distance students is not important?'

Prof Rika Joubert and Mr Jean van Rooyen spoke about 'Cutting edge programme delivery – a South African case study' while Dr Teresa Ogina and Dr Sharon Mampane's paper was on 'Quality tutorial sessions: Experiences of tutors and students in distance education'.

Staff members deliver paper at Tanzania conference

The 46th Distance Education Association of Southern Africa (DEASA) Conference and Annual General meeting took place in Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania between 30 September and 2 October 2011.

The theme of the conference was 'Enhancing access and success in education through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) in the SADC region'. Dr Johan Hendrikz, Head of the Unit for Distance Education was re-elected at the Annual General Meeting as Honorary Treasurer for DEASA for another two-year term.

Dutch Research co-ordinator for PIRLS visits CEA



Ms Andrea Netten

Ms Andrea Netten, the Dutch Research Co-ordinator for the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS), visited the Centre for Evaluation and Assessment (CEA) recently.

The progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) is a research study conducted under the auspices of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) that provides internationally comparative data about student reading achievement and associated factors. More than 50 countries all over the world are now involved in the PIRLS 2011 survey that was conducted throughout the current school year at schools.

Ms Netten has been involved in PIRLS since 2004, and works as a researcher at the National Centre for Language Education, the research centre that has been responsible for PIRLS in the Netherlands since

2001. The National Centre for Language Education aims at improving the teaching and learning of Dutch language arts in schools. By undertaking research and development projects within the Netherlands, an attempt is made to discover and document those school conditions that encourage children to become skilled and motivated communicators and readers.

This visit by Ms Netten, offers both research centres the opportunity to share experiences and expertise on PIRLS co-ordination, testing and data analysis and to build relationships across countries who are involved in IEA studies. It also provides an opportunity to discuss recent research and developments in the areas of reading and the changing educational environment in both countries. During the visit, Ms Netten undertook monitoring activities in a variety of urban, township and rural schools sampled for the PIRLS 2011 survey. She also met researchers and students of the CEA to discuss activities and projects undertaken by the National Centre for Language Education in the Netherlands as well as current PIRLS research involving secondary analyses.

Spring Graduation in glamour



On 5 September 2011, the Faculty of Education celebrated the achievements in education when many degrees and certificates were conferred upon their students.

The Advanced Certificate in Education was awarded to 312 students; the Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (PGCE) to two students; the Postgraduate Certificate in Education in Further Education and Training to one student; the Bachelor of Education degree to 20 students; the Bachelor of Education Honours degree to 171 students and the Master of Education degree to 13 students. Nine students were awarded the degree Doctor of Philosophy.

The Unit for Distance Education presented four spring graduation ceremonies. On 14 September 2011, two ceremonies were held in Polokwane. Five hundred and eighty-seven students graduated, of which 360 were awarded the Advanced Certificate in Education (ACE) and 227 received a BEd (Hons) degree. On Friday, 16 September 2011, two ceremonies were presented in Nelspruit. A total of 279 students graduated, of which 145 were ACE and 134 BEd (Hons) students. On Wednesday, 21 September, the Distance Education a graduation ceremony took place in East London. One hundred and twenty-six students graduated of which were 72 ACE and 54 BEd (Hons) students. On Friday, 23 September, the final graduation ceremony was presented in Durban. Two hundred and sixty-six students graduated of which 153 were ACE and 113 BEd (Hons) students.



Prof Philomena Essed

An Honorary Doctorate was conferred recently on celebrated international trans-disciplinary academic, Prof Philomena Essed at a graduation ceremony held at the Faculty of Education, University of Pretoria.

Prof Essed is professor of Critical Race, Gender and Leadership studies at Antioch University, USA. She holds a PhD in the Social Sciences and is an affiliated researcher at Utrecht University (The Netherlands) Graduate Gender Program. Before joining the Antioch Faculty in the summer of 2005 she worked as a transnational scholar affiliated to two universities on two different continents: Senior Researcher at the University of Amsterdam (1993-2005)

Faculty of Education confers Honorary Doctorate on renowned trans-disciplinary professor

and Visiting Professor at the University of California, Irvine (2001-2005). Trained in Social Anthropology, Women's Studies and in Race Critical Studies, her research and teaching transcends national, cultural and disciplinary boundaries.

As an academic, Prof Essed has a strong commitment to social justice. Her very first peer-reviewed journal article, *Racism and Feminism* (published in 1982 in the Dutch language) was selected in 2010 as one of the most influential texts in the Dutch Feminist Movement of the second half of the 20th Century.

Best known for introducing the concepts of everyday racism and gendered racism, her work has been adopted and applied in a range of countries, including the US, Canada, South Africa, Sweden, Finland, Russia, the UK, Switzerland, and Australia. She has published numerous articles in English and in Dutch, some of which have

been translated into French, German, Italian, Swedish and Portuguese.

As an expert witness on race, gender and racism in Europe, Prof Essed has had the honour of addressing national and international governing bodies including The European Parliament (Brussels, 1984); The United Nations Economic and Social Council (New York, 2001); The House of Representatives of the States-General (The Hague, the Netherlands, 2004); and the United States Helsinki Commission, Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, (Capitol Hill, Washington, 2008).

In April 2011, Philomena Essed was honoured with a Knighthood by Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

The Honorary Doctorate was conferred on Philomena Essed for her exemplary trans-disciplinary work in Education, Critical Race, Gender and Leadership studies.

Secretaries escape to Wonderland

The Secretaries in the Faculty were all dressed up in the exotic divine outfits to suit the 'Alice and the Mad Hatter in Wonderland' theme of the University of Pretoria Secretaries' year-end function on 7 October 2011. The event was held at the Stone Cradle Restaurant at Rietvlei Nature Reserve. The highlight of the event was the limousine in which they travelled to Irene.



The Wonderland visitors arrive at their destination



Ms Yvonne Munro looked like the Cheshire cat



Ms Annemarie Siff and Ms Judith Brown travelling in the limousine



The women travelled in a limousine to the event



Ms Maggie du Rand is ablaze in red



Ms Marieta Nieman and Ms Liza van Baalen dance happily



Ms Desirée Volschenk and Ms Cilie Vos appear as the white rabbit and queen of hearts

Sculptor's model relives student days

On Friday 26 August 2011, Ms Eleanor Fouché (now Botha) visited the Groenkloof Campus. Ms Fouché was a fourth-year education student at the Normaalkollege, Pretoria in 1953 and modelled for the sculptor Hennie Potgieter's life-size sculpture of Natie du Toit, the first education student.

Ms Fouché who was 20 years old at the time, was selected as a model from a group of education students. Today at the age of 78, she is still a beautiful, dignified woman who has maintained her style over the years.

Walking through the Groenkloof Campus buildings, she was filled with pride and nostalgia as she reflected on her years as an education student.



Ms Eleanor Botha at the sculpture she modelled for 48 years ago.

Edu-Cantare Choir celebrates life with Gala Concert

The Edu-Cantare Choir of the Faculty of Education held a Gala Concert on Thursday evening, 21 October 2011. It was a magnificent event of music and dance from different genres.



Jakarandia faculty house alive a well



Jakarandia, the official student day house of the Faculty of Education is alive and well. The newly-elected house committee under the leadership of Bryan Kriel as Chairperson and Nicole Adams as Deputy Chairperson is enthusiastic about their term and their endeavours for 2012. "We are here to serve the Faculty of Education and we support our students academically through various workshops. We would like to encourage our students to participate in the variety of social events and sporting activities. Cultural activities include lenkmelodienk, the 'sierrie' competition as well as the First Year's Camp", Brian said.

Being part of the house is also a good way to meet new people and make friends that will last a lifetime. The Jakarandia committee members emphasise that they strive towards excellence and that they have a strong value system based on respect, equality, integrity, involvement and duty. "We as a House promise that every student's time with us will be enjoyable and will be a memorable one".



Prof Irma Eloff, Dean (right) and Ms Marietjie Bruwer of the Department of Early Childhood Education, Patron of Jakarandia with the new Jakarandia House Committee



Life is exciting and adventurous



Sports fever reigns

Sport alive and well



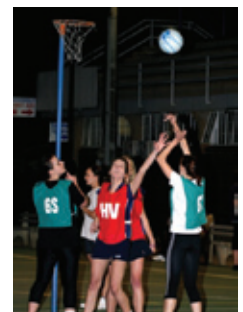
A womans hockey match played with fervour



Dressing up for a special occasion



Friends forever



Netball enthusiasm is evergreen

Year-end dinner



Jakarandia House Committee poses at the Annual year-end Dinner

Cricket inter-res trophy winners



Winners of the Inter-residence Cricket Trophy



Chairperson Bryan Kriel contemplating the pitch



2011 ends with Dixie-Feast





Thursday, 3 November, Normaalsaal



Workshop strengthens early childhood approach

The Department of Early Childhood Education held the 3rd Inter-institutional EU research workshop with three universities on 16 November 2011. These universities are the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Tshwane University of Technology and Central University of Technology.

The overall aim of the of the project is to do quality research that informs material development to strengthen existing Early Childhood Education programmes and to establish programmes at universities that do not yet have them.

The project has a collaborative approach to research with other universities that could lead to an increase in research outputs for all participating universities. Meeting at least three times a year, the universities discuss problems and uncertainties experienced and

receive feedback from the co-ordinators of the research focus areas and, at this workshop planned research activities for 2012.



Staff of the Department of Early Childhood Education and delegates from different universities had discussions to strengthen existing early childhood programmes.

Trainers on pilot project meet to discuss progress

Trainers who are involved in the non-governmental organisation, Ntataise, met in November to give feedback on a pilot project. In 2011, 55 centres with 1,354 children were involved in a project where new material was implemented at these centres. A feedback session was held in June and July and then also on 23 November 2011.

Ntataise initiates and keeps education going in rural and urban areas in early childhood centres. The name 'Ntataise' means to take a child by the hand. The organisation operates through a network of independent organisations which all form a unit under the umbrella of Ntataise. The organisation is respected nationally and internationally and has received many prizes for their work with the educators-in-training (Practitioners), up to level four in early childhood teaching.

Since 2003, Dr Nkidi Phatudi, Dr Ina Joubert and Ms Annalie Botha of the Department of Early Childhood Education have been part of the organisation. They identified the need for planned activities which the practitioner can use for day-by-day teaching of the children between three and four years of age. They decided to develop a set of materials to fulfill this need. The material is based on themes that they are already

using in their teaching in the early learning centres. The materials are a unique product for this very young age group and tailor-made for the needs of Ntataise.

During the feedback session the trainers reported on the practitioners' implementation of the materials as they are the ones that are teaching in the early learning centres. Difficult activities were highlighted as well as illustrations that are problematic. They reported that the parents could see their children's progress clearly for the first time and that the assessment of the children's knowledge and skills was now easy to assess using the workbooks.



Trainers in a pilot project of Ntataise seen with staff from the Department of Early Childhood Education

Academic staff presents several papers



Dr Suzanne Bester; Prof Liesel Ebersöhn; Dr Carien Lubbe-De Beer; Dr Ruth Mampane and Dr Kesh Mohangi seen at the conference.

At the 18th South African Psychology (PsySSA) conference in August 2011 at Emperor's Palace, Johannesburg, staff from the Department of Educational Psychology presented a seminar which was extremely well received. It was titled 'Trends in Educational Psychology: Research and Training'.

'Trends in Training' consisted of papers presented by Dr Carien Lubbe-De Beer on 'Reflecting on facilitating the personal growth of psychological counsellors', as well as Dr Suzanne Bester on 'Changing Internships: Lessons Learnt From the Class of 2010', as well as 'Using a personal portfolio for identity development with an adolescent'.

'Trends in Research' featured Dr Ruth Mampane with Prof Cecelia Boucher on 'The influence of township schools on the resilience of their learners', and 'Considering Intrapersonal and Interpersonal skills as protective factors for women who care for institutionalised children', presented by Dr Kesh Mohangi and Ms Michelle Finestone. Prof Liesel Ebersöhn and Prof Ronél Ferreira presented a paper on their distinguished work, titled 'Formative evaluation of the STAR intervention: Improving teachers' ability to provide psychosocial support for vulnerable individuals in the school community'.

Two lecturers share expertise with Chinese scholars

Dr Mia Abrie of the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education and Mr Eric Eberlein of the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies attended the Seminar for University Teachers from Developing Countries hosted by the North East Normal University (NENU) in the city of Changchun, China.

The seminar which was held over a period of three weeks in September, was the 17th such event hosted by NENU, and brought together 38 lecturers from 17 developing countries – Eritrea, Ethiopia, Grenada, Seychelles, Myanmar and South Africa, to name but a few. The motivation was ‘to learn about and learn from the experiences in education reform that have taken place in all sectors of Chinese education since its ‘opening up’ in 1978’.

The Faculty contingent, as staff members of a University that already shares close ties with NENU, were offered the opportunity to address a group of postgraduate students on the South African education system in general. In response to this invitation, Dr Mia Abrie, with the assistance of Mr Eric Eberlein, prepared and delivered a well-received hour-long talk on the similarities and differences in the education systems of the two countries.

The greatest benefit of seminars such as this one is the opportunity to build international networks and relationships and to experience first-hand the triumphs and challenges of teacher education in other countries.

Participants were also treated to a tour of places of interest in major Chinese cities such as Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Beijing.



Dr Mia Abrie at the Great Wall of China



Mr Eric Eberlein (right) and Mr Osman Mohammed from SAMARA University in Ethiopia flaunting traditional Chinese wear.

Education Management attends ISER Conference in China

The Department of Education Management and Policy Studies was once again at the forefront of this year's International Symposium on Education Reform (ISER) Conference, the seventh since the inception of ISER in 2004. This year the event was hosted by the East China Normal University in Shanghai, China, between 12 and 14 June.

ISER members the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria, the University of Kentucky (USA), the University of Jyväskylä (Finland) and the East China Normal University (China) meet annually to discuss education reform and the agenda for improved co-operation and education development in and between the four member countries. This year's theme was ‘School Leadership – Exploring the roles of principals, teachers, students and parents in implementing next generation Schools’.

Prof Johan Beckmann, Prof Rika Joubert, Dr Vimbi Mahlangu, Dr Mokgadi Mohlakwana, Dr Keshni Bipath and Dr Sharon Mampane, Mr Jean van Rooyen, Mr Eric Eberlein, Mr Jorrie Jordaan and Mr Ben Badenhorst attended on behalf of the Department and were accompanied by several guests from among others the universities of Johannesburg and Venda and also FEDSAS.

The papers presented by participants from the four countries sparked interested and enthusiastic debate and the general feeling among participants at the end of the conference was that the quality and depth of the presentations would be hard to find almost anywhere else in the education reform world.

Prof Beckmann's conference summation created the perfect springboard for the 8th ISER Conference to be hosted by the University of Kentucky in 2012.

DEASA Honorary Treasurer from Faculty

The 46th Distance Education Association of Southern Africa (DEASA) Conference and Annual General meeting took place in Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania between 30 September and 2 October 2011.

The theme of the conference was ‘Enhancing access and success in education through Open and Distance Learning (ODL) in the SADC region’. Dr Johan Hendrikz, Head of the Unit for Distance Education was re-elected at the Annual General Meeting as Honorary Treasurer for DEASA for another two-year term.



Dr Johan Hendrikz

