

eish!

Staff newsletter for the NWU



NORTH-WEST UNIVERSITY[®]
YUNIBESITHI YA BOKONE-BOPHIRIMA
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Prof Herman van der Merwe, computer guru and dean of the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Information Technology on the Vaal Triangle Campus, is also a great nature-lover. Read more about him on p8 and 9.

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MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Dear colleagues

I share your joy that the long winter is almost over and that spring is finally beckoning.

However, the new season also brings with it the realisation that the academic year is slowly drawing to a close and that the pressure is on to complete everything we set out to do.

Good luck with that – especially with achieving the goals that we set so ambitiously at the beginning of the year. I was very encouraged by the half-year results, which upped my expectations of what is possible on the various operating levels.

In this edition, you can read more about the third leg of our core business, that is to say the implementation of expertise, particularly



community engagement. We realise that the continued existence of the university and of communities is inextricably linked.

That is why we have reason to be proud and grateful that our academics are responding

in such a positive manner with their expert input to the challenges of our time.

“Involved!” would be a good catchphrase to describe the NWU’s commitment and the impact of the 300-plus projects in our various immediate campus environments.

August was women’s equality month, and in the spirit of Women’s Day I would like to acknowledge the role of the female staff at the NWU and in the higher education landscape. Thank you to the women at the NWU, who make up 56% of our team!

This is also the time of year for looking and planning ahead. We are currently finalising the planning processes and budget for next year, and I am happy to say that the NWU is still very well positioned to deal with the demands of higher education, nationally as well as internationally.

Enjoy reading this edition of Eish!

Thinus Cloff

Eish!, time flies

Time flies when you’re busy and the past few months have raced past for us at the NWU.

One of many milestones was women’s month, when the women of the NWU did us proud. On p5 you can read how Prof Susan Visser and Prof Cara Jonker from the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences on the Potchefstroom Campus were celebrated as influential women in the academic world.

In this edition of Eish! we place the spotlight on the NWU’s engagement with the community. On p4 we tell you about the goodwill shown by the NWU community on Mandela Day, and on p6 Ms Bibi Bouwman, Institutional Director:

Community Engagement, explains how the NWU empowers communities.

The NWU’s corporate identity and brand name are also addressed in this edition, on p14 and 15.

The way we promote

the NWU trademark is important as it influences almost everything we do, from the events we host to the marketing material we use and the social media messages we exchange.

Fortunately, there are policies and guidelines that can help us to communicate a uniform visual message in our interaction with our target groups and to apply the corporate identity correctly in terms of the use of logos, templates, communication material, signage, and so on.

Compliance with these guidelines is a hot topic now and, with the ensuing internal and external brand awareness campaigns, it is necessary to pay special attention to the NWU brand.

The rewards of doing so are great. As you can see, this edition of Eish! is brimming with reasons to be proud of the NWU brand.

Happy reading,

Nelia & Marelize



Sector benefits from his expertise

Prof Themba Mosia, the institutional registrar of the NWU, has been appointed as administrator of the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT). Dr Blade Nzimande, Minister of Higher Education and Training, announced the appointment after an independent assessor investigated the management and administration of TUT.

Prof Themba's appointment has been valid since 15 August 2011 and the NWU has made him available for an initial period of six months.*

He will take over the full authority of the TUT Council, as well as the functions of the vice-chancellor, with the aim of managing TUT and putting in place processes to establish a new council.

"This is a huge honour for Prof Mosia, and it underlines the fact that he is widely respected in the sector," says Dr Theuns Eloff, the vice-chancellor of the NWU.

A WEALTH OF EXPERIENCE

This is only the latest example of how Prof Themba shares the wealth of experience that he has gained throughout his career.

There are also other examples. He was for instance involved in an investigation into problems at the University of Zululand, an institutional audit at the Walter Sisulu University, and the allocation of over R4 billion to South African universities. In addition, he mentored a fellow in university governance on behalf of Higher Education South Africa (HESA).

INVESTIGATIONS AND AUDITS

Last year, at the request of the Minister of Higher Education and Training, Prof Themba served as a governance and management expert on a task team appointed to investigate the governance and administration of the University of Zululand.

The investigation and subsequent report led to the appointment of an administrator for that university.

Prof Themba also chaired the Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC) panel

that audited the Walter Sisulu University between February and April this year.

The audit was part of the normal quality assurance activities of the Council on Higher Education (CHE) and was the fifth audit that Prof Themba has been part of on behalf of the HEQC. He is also the longest-serving member of the Accreditation Board of the CHE and one of the five people who established the CHE itself in 1999.

Prof Themba was also involved in the accreditation of academic programmes in India, the United Kingdom, Dubai, the United Arab Emirates and the Seychelles.

ALLOCATING FUNDS

In another vote of confidence, the Minister recently appointed Prof Themba to the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) board overseeing the allocation of over R4 billion to public universities in South Africa.

Administering the money allocated for student funding, NSFAS operates in adherence to the Public Finance Management Act and is audited by the Auditor-General.

The activities of the board include conducting research to establish what the needs are, and what resources are available.

"Faced by the appalling level of poverty in our country, and the fact that there is never enough money available to help everybody, this is a very difficult task," he says. "However, I believe that we should continue to explore all opportunities to enhance higher education in South Africa."

Prof Themba was appointed to the NSFAS board in June 2011 for a term of four years.

MENTORING A FELLOW

As a last example of sharing his experience, Prof Themba is mentoring a fellow from Rhodes University, Mr Gcini Mtukela for six weeks. The mentorship started on 15 August 2011.

This is part of the Fellowship Programme, which is a component of HESA's broader Higher Education Leadership and Management (HELM) programme aimed at building capacity in higher education.

As part of the mentorship, Mr Gcini will be exposed to the NWU's good practice in governance.

This includes aspects such as record management, institutional legal matters, student administrative systems, and the provision of governance and secretariat services.

** Mr Frans du Preez, director in the office of the vice-chancellor, will act as institutional registrar during Prof Themba's absence.*



Prof Themba Mosia, Institutional Registrar: NWU.



The first port of call for the Mafikeng Campus was the Bethlehem Shelter for Street Kids where, together with officials from the Department of Social Development, staff members served a hot meal of soup and bread to the children. They also helped tidy up the shelter.



The ladies from the Wag-'n-Bietjie ladies hostel on the Potchefstroom Campus visited the Padi Intermediary School on Mandela Day and spent the day playing and making masks with the children. Here is Ms Tanya Veldsman with two of the children.

In the spirit of Mandela Day

They say that the success of a life should not be measured in years but rather in the quality of friendships and relationships.

Given the international support for Nelson Mandela Day, it is clear that our very own Madiba is living proof of the truth of this philosophy.

Staff and students across the university took part in the global celebration of Nelson Mandela's 93rd birthday on 18 July by taking up the 67-minute challenge.

Mr Mandela gave 67 years of his life to fight for the rights of humanity, and therefore the challenge is simple – all South Africans should give 67 minutes of their time to give back and preserve this legacy.

The overarching objective of Mandela Day is to inspire individuals to take action to help change the world for the better, and in doing so build a global movement for good.

The theme for this year's Mandela Day was **"Take action; inspire change; make every day Mandela Day"**.

The Vaal Triangle Campus launched a charity drive for the Vanderbijlpark Child Welfare Organisation and collected blankets, food parcels and toys. At the back from the left are Rev John Maloma, Director: Marketing and Communication, Prof Linda du Plessis, Vice-Rector: Academic and Planning, and Prof Thanyani Mariba, the Campus Rector, with children from the organisation.



Prof Susan acknowledged as **influential woman** in SA

Prof Susan Visser, Director of the School of Accounting Sciences on the Potchefstroom Campus, truly excels at teaching and training. This was confirmed recently when she was nominated as one of the country's most influential women in the education and training field.

She achieved this distinction in the competition launched by the business magazine CEO (*Celebrating Excellence in Organisations*) to acknowledge South African women who make valuable contributions in business and government. There were 21 categories and Prof Susan won the category for Education and Training: Academic.



Dr Wendy Ngoma (right), acting head of the Wits School of Business, hands over the award for the most influential woman in Education and Training: Academic to Prof Susan Visser, while Prof Cara Jonker (left), the runner-up in this category, looks on. Prof Susan and Prof Cara are both from the Faculty for Economic and Management Sciences on the Potchefstroom Campus.

Dr Wendy Ngoma, acting head of the Wits School of Business, handed the award to Prof Susan at an event in the Sandton Convention Centre on Friday, 29 July 2011.

Prof Cara Jonker of the School of Human Resource Sciences, also on the Potchefstroom Campus, was the runner-up in the section

for Education and Training: Academic. The organisers of the competition received about 960 nominations for the different categories. During the three-phase evaluation process, the judges assessed the participants on the basis of their CVs and additional documentation, as well as an interview that had been recorded on CD.

Awareness campaign launched about violation of copyright

The Institutional IT Office has just launched an awareness campaign to inform students about copyright, including copyright on software, movies and music.

"Being a value-driven university, we would like people to realise for themselves that it is illegal to copy and distribute IT-related property without the permission of the owner. The campaign therefore involves awareness rather than policing," says Mr Boeta Pretorius, Institutional Manager: IT.

The wide variety of communication technologies available enables people to obtain and distribute illegal material effortlessly, according to Boeta.

"Moreover, people do not always realise exactly what licensing conditions involve. They do not, for example, necessarily allow for a computer program to be installed on two computers simultaneously."

Boeta says the campaign will initially focus primarily on students, but later also on staff. It was launched on all three campuses, starting with a competition for students.

Pamphlets, posters and a dedicated website will be used to get the campaign message across, along with articles and advertisements via the student newspapers and campus radio stations.

Business Software Alliance (BSA) is an organisation that focuses on the prevention of copyright infringement in South Africa. When they receive tipoffs on possible copyright infringements, they can audit institutions and impose heavy fines if guilt is proven.

The following information appears on their website:

- In 2009, more than four out of 10 software programs installed on personal

computers around the world were stolen, with a commercial value of more than \$51 billion.

- Reducing the piracy rate for PC software by 10 percentage points – 2,5 points per year for four years – would create \$142 billion in new economic activity while adding nearly 50,000 new high-tech jobs and generating roughly \$32 billion in new tax revenues by 2013.





Community Engagement

In this edition of our series "Focus on", the spotlight falls on community development at the NWU. Eish! asked Ms Bibi Bouwman, Institutional Director: Community Engagement, to tell us more about this.



Q: What is community engagement?

A: At the NWU, community engagement is defined as activities undertaken by the staff and students of the university to uplift and support individuals or sectors of the community by implementing our expertise.

At present there are more than 300 community projects running at the NWU. What is very important to us is that the projects should be sustainable and accompanied by the transfer of skills, and that the community's own expertise and resources should be respected. Sustainable development is achieved only if role players buy in to the development plan, and if we follow a trans-disciplinary approach to find solutions together.

Q: Where does community engagement fit in at the NWU?

A: Community engagement is part of the third leg of our core business, after teaching-learning and research. Yet it should not be viewed in isolation – the ideal is to incorporate it into, for example, curriculum development and relevant research, so that it forms part of education and the daily activities of academics.

Q: Why did the NWU make community engagement part of its core business?

A: The Minister of Higher Education and Training expects all higher education institutions to share their expertise with the community in this way. In addition, the NWU is a value-driven institution with a social conscience that believes the implementation of our expertise should also benefit the community.

Q: What is the role of your office?

A: Our activities include funding, facilitation, accumulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. We have also developed strategic policy as a substructure

for the campuses' community engagement plans.

Q: What role does the NWU play as a partner to businesses?

A: We want to be the partner of choice to businesses with regard to the spending of their corporate social investment funds.

Q: Can you give an example of how an NWU project has changed a specific person's life?

A: Since Ms Sannah Saul from Ikageng became involved in the Mosaic Project* in Potchefstroom, her life has improved drastically. She, her husband and her five foster children – who are HIV positive – lived in a two-roomed corrugated iron dwelling before, but now live in a brick house with three bedrooms.

These days she works in a leather factory in Potchefstroom, earns a fixed income and has acquired new skills (manual as well as general life skills). The project also serves as a support network to her. Student volunteers have, for example, helped the children in her care to improve their performance at school.

Q: Can you mention a few examples of established projects?

A: The Ikateleng project has provided supplementary training to school learners and teachers in the communities around all three NWU campuses for the past 22 years.

The Farm Labour and General Health (FLAGH) project of the Potchefstroom Campus was launched seven years ago and is aimed at improving the quality of life of women living on commercial farms by equipping them with various skills.

Projects on the Vaal Triangle Campus include the Siyakhulisa Programme for Early Childhood Development, which attempts to improve the standard of education for early childhood development (ECD) among teachers in the Vaal Triangle, as well as Resilient Educators (Reds), a support programme for teachers affected by HIV/Aids.

On the Mafikeng Campus the Centre for Animal Health provides primary animal healthcare services to people who cannot afford the services of a vet, while the Chemistry Department provides clean water to the village of Madibogo near Mafikeng, and other staff offer Setswana classes to doctors and Grade 12 learners, among others, in the area.

Q: What recognition is given to people and projects of the NWU for their contribution to community engagement?

A: The NWU has an incentive system that acknowledges the contributions of staff to corporate social investment. Later this year individuals, projects and centres will again receive recognition for their contributions to community engagement.

**Mosaic provides the foster families of orphans with proper housing, job opportunities and skills training and had an annual turnover of R1 million during the first year.*

Students give R2 million

At a recent function in Potchefstroom the Student RAG Community Service of the Potchefstroom Campus donated R2 million to approximately 51 organisations or projects, mainly in North West.

These experts **know** their **subjects**

In recent weeks, several members of the NWU community have shared their expertise in speeches and media interviews. In our on-going series, we continue to bring our readers quotable quotes from our experts.

// The psychiatric nurse specialist maintains a non-judgmental and accepting attitude and uses an outcomes-based approach. This has an immediate therapeutic effect, making the psychiatric nurse specialist an accessible and cost-effective health care provider. //

*Dr Petra Bester, School of Nursing, Potchefstroom Campus
Noordwes Gazette, 12 July 2011*



“ The Academy strives to ensure that the voice of the academic is heard very clearly in South Africa – as an academic you are entitled to state and defend your opinion on the strength of your acquired knowledge. ”

*Prof Wannie Carstens, Director: School of Languages, Potchefstroom Campus and newly elected Chairperson of the South African Academy for Science and Art.
Radio Sonder Grense, 19 July 2011*



// Extrusion technology is a continuous cooking process that is particularly suitable for Africa. It is a relatively inexpensive, energy-efficient and easily operated technology that produces a wide range of ready-to-eat human foods, as well as animal and aqua feeds. It is also environmentally friendly as it produces minimal waste products. //

*Prof LJ Grobler, head of the Centre of Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing, Potchefstroom Campus.
SA Co-op, 1 June 2011*



“ The community at large should take on the joint responsibility of improving the living conditions of their fellow man – the true spirit of “Madiba Magic” should be evident in our everyday lives. ”

*Prof Thanyani Mariba, Rector: Vaal Triangle Campus
Vanderbijlpark Ster, 1 August 2011*



// Language is still a problem in subjects such as science and technology. If these subjects can be taught in the students' mother tongue, it will be easier to improve the quality of teaching in schools and universities. //

*Prof Thapelo Mamiala, School of Undergraduate Studies, Faculty of Education, Mafikeng Campus
Radio Sonder Grense, 13 July 2011*





We continue our series on the NWU's deans by interviewing Prof Herman van der Merwe, the dean of the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Information Technology on the Vaal Triangle Campus. Read on to find out what excites him about Information Technology, his work as dean, his family and nature.

For this **optimist**, software and nature go hand in hand

Late afternoon in the Namib... Prof Herman van der Merwe and his wife, Annelie, visited the prehistoric Welwitschia plants in Namibia during a vacation in 2009.

Prof Herman van der Merwe is equally enthusiastic about working with computers and staring at a Bushveld fire.

In the life of this Vaal Triangle Campus dean, his love of technology and nature go hand in hand, just as the ones and zeros of binary code belong together.

In the Namib Desert, he gets excited about a prehistoric Welwitschia plant, but what delights him on the Vaal Triangle Campus is the fact that his faculty is the first – and to the best of his knowledge the only one – in the world where business and information technology are combined.

“Combining these two fields of expertise in a single faculty leads to unique module and research combinations,” he says.

FROM GOOGLE TO WORLD BANK

On 4 January 2011, Prof Herman, former director of Telematic Teaching at the Tshwane University of Technology, joined the Vaal Triangle Campus as dean of the faculty.


He was immediately impressed by the positive energy of the staff and the unique research opportunities in the faculty.

Current research projects in the faculty include the development of speech technology in

conjunction with Google, the establishment of a chair in applied risk management (with the focus on industry), and a cell phone laboratory – sponsored by the World Bank – that tests the hardware and software of different cell phones for South Africa.

Something else that excites him is the faculty's business and IT incubator, known as “B²EE HIVE Business & IT Incubator”. (B²EE stands for Bridging Business and Education by Establishing a Hub of Innovative Expertise.)

“This is where we explore opportunities to help our students, staff and local communities



Other interesting facts

Favourite dish: Offal, *potjiekos*, curry dishes – anything except sweets.

Favourite books: *Die Perdekompers en ander stories uit die jagveld* by Pienkes du Plessis; Don Tapscott's books about technology and its impact on our everyday lives.

What makes me happy: My work and what we are doing in the faculty. Also, things shared with my loved ones, such as pedalling 325 km through Austria with my wife, chasing after a golf ball with my son or cooking with my daughter.

Disgusting: Cold, fatty, dirty dish-water.

Most precious possessions: The old Bibles, Psalm- and Hymn book and Hallelujah books that once belonged to my ancestors.

The family: My wife, Annelie, is my best pal. We have two children, Herman and Annerine. Herman is married to Renalta and they live and work in KwaZulu-Natal, and my daughter is a second-year Psychology student at the University of Pretoria. My mother-in-law (91) stays with us and my own mother lives in Potgietersrus, where I matriculated.

to evolve a business concept and to let it grow to financial maturity," he explains.

In keeping with his optimistic nature, he is quick to counter any negativity about the fact that learners at many schools throughout South Africa do not have access to computers.

GENERATION Y KEEPS UP

"Most young people – known as Generation Y – bridge the technology gap between schools and universities with more ease than you would expect. One of the main reasons for this is that everyone has a cell phone, which they use as mini computers.

"A survey that we conducted in Sebokeng last year showed that 89% of the people own cell

phones – despite the fact that most people live below the poverty line – and 83% of these individuals have access to the web and other social media via their cell phones."

According to him the problem does not lie with students. "Even those who have not been exposed to technology in school get the hang of it very quickly. The problem is that some lecturers who were born 'BC' (before computers) are loath to try anything new. In the process, they deprive students of wonderful opportunities," he says with a twinkle in his eye.

IT'S WONDERFUL

Asked about the use of the latest computer technology in higher education, he answers: "Eish! There are some wonderful new gadgets and things that appear on the horizon every so often."

He says the latest is something called 'ubiquity'. "It is a mobile, portable technology which enables the user to access information from anywhere, making him omnipresent in a certain sense. Powerful appliances, most of them small enough to fit into your hand, make it possible for you to be reached, to reach other people, and to obtain information from almost anywhere in the world.

"I am of course referring to the latest generation Android phones, Apple's iPhone, the tablet computer, Amazon's Kindle e-book reader and the latest Tab cell phones."

FADING WALLS

"Just think of the possibilities if you challenge your students to share new information with each other outside the classroom, to discuss things with each other on their social web – or yours for that matter – and to come up with new ideas or knowledge."

Prof Herman believes that there are endless possibilities for using handheld technology and social media in the classroom.

ALL CAN ANSWER

"When you ask a question in class, some of the students put up their hands and one of them gives the correct answer, but you never know if the other students also had the answer.

"The solution is to use cell phone technology as a personal reaction system. If all of

the students send their answers to your computer or cell phone when you ask a question, you can see their answers and determine who needs help."

But can it be achieved at the NWU?

"Of course," answers Prof Herman, ever the optimist. "We already have the technology and the expertise; now we just need to get the 'BC lecturers' to think out of the classroom. Once they realise how technology can be utilised to make the walls of the classroom fade away, they will be in a position to offer students an unparalleled experience."

A heart for nature

Never think that technology removes you from nature – Prof Herman sees no reason why techno gurus should not be nature-lovers as well.

"I know a lot of technology people who neutralise the zeros and ones in their heads through 'low-level formatting' in nature," says Prof Herman.

The Van der Merwes enjoy relaxing in nature. "We prefer the Bushveld in winter and the sea – particularly Umhlanga on the North Coast – in April."

His most memorable holiday experiences all involve animals: whales at Hermanus, sharks at Sodwana, elephants in the Chobe National Park in Botswana and fish eagles at the Vaal River following this year's floods.

"Eagles are my favourites, as they teach us a lot about perseverance, power, energy and a sense of purpose."

He also believes that dogs truly are man's best friend. "They will always welcome you with a wagging tail, even if you gave them a scolding two minutes ago."

Prof Herman used to breed working dogs for the army and pugs in his private capacity.

Mafikeng Campus honours stalwarts

The Mafikeng Campus recently honoured two of its longest-serving members, Prof Lesole Gadinabokao and Prof Simon Taole.

Both joined the former University of Bophuthatswana at its inception in 1980 until they recently retired.

Over the years they became key pillars in the physics department that produced renowned academics, including Prof Dan Kgwadi, the campus rector, Prof Mogege Mosimege, Vice-Rector: Academic, Prof

Sipho Seepe, special advisor to Defence and Military Veterans Minister Lindiwe Sisulu, and Prof Martin Ntwaeaborwa, currently a lecturer at the University of the Free State.

As a token of appreciation for their long service, the two professors each received a life-size portrait from the campus.

Prof Seepe was the guest speaker and presented a memorial lecture. In his tribute to the two professors, he said that they made it possible for him to be the person he is today.

Top left is Prof Lesole Gadinabokao and bottom Prof Simon Taole.

Campus offers Setswana to non-Setswana speakers

The Setswana Department is now offering special Setswana classes for staff members who do not speak Setswana. This project is an initiative of the Marketing and Communication Department who identified a need for non-Setswana speakers to be able to communicate in Setswana.

The intended learning outcomes of the project are to enable participants to speak, read and write Setswana appropriately in a real-life context.

"It is the department's priority to equip enrolled students with language skills that will enable them to confidently interact with the majority of residents in the North-West and surrounding areas," said Ms Malefsane Zebediela, coordinator of the project.

The first classes started on 1 August 2011 and are initially scheduled for two days a week, for three months. Presently, 17 students are registered.

Most of the participants indicated that they wanted to learn the Setswana language for ease of communication.

"Living in South Africa and in the North-West province where the majority of people speaks Setswana, I feel it is my duty to also learn the language," said Ms Susan Van Rooyen, alumni coordinator and one of the participants.

"Apart from the fact that I think every South African must be able to at least help himself in the language of his fellow countrymen, it also promotes communication with colleagues, students and alumni and encourages respect," concluded Susan.

Internationally acclaimed scientist visits campus

The Department of Biological Sciences recently hosted Prof Don Cowan, an internationally acclaimed NRF-rated scientist. He is the current president of the Royal Society of South Africa (RSSA), which will be hosting the South African Society for Microbiology (SASM) conference in Cape Town later this year.

The purpose of his visit was to promote the RSSA and SASM to recruit members for the Institute for Microbial Biotechnology and Metagenomics (IMBM) and to investigate possible collaboration with the campus. Prof Cowan has published approximately 195 research papers, review articles and book chapters and sits on the editorial boards of 12 international journals.

After spending some time in New Zealand and London, he accepted the position of professor of Microbiology in the Department of Biotechnology at the University of the Western Cape, where he is now a senior professor. He is also the founder and director of the IMBM.



Ms Susan van Rooyen (left), alumni coordinator, and Ms Shirene Klink, Manager: Residence Services, making notes during one of the Setswana classes.



The cosy new coffee bar, ferdi's, in the library.

Unique coffee bar opens in library

ferdi's, the new coffee bar in the Ferdinand Postma Library, is one of the first of its kind in a university library in the country.

Dr Tom Larney, the Director: Library Services, says they want to make a visit to the library a pleasant experience and therefore see the provision of refreshments as an extension of the library's services.

Refreshment facilities are nearly always part of the rejuvenation that libraries are undergoing worldwide, and the Ferdinand Postma Library is introducing this trend in South Africa. The library hopes *ferdi's* will not

only be a refreshment station for students and staff, but also a place where they can get together socially and academically.

The Vice-Rector: Research and Planning, Prof Amanda Lourens, said during the opening of the coffee bar that it is a dream come true.

"We want to make the university research-oriented and I hope we have now created the space where we can further inspire research in an informal way."

The coffee bar is manned by the staff of the cafeteria and will be open from 8:00 in the morning until 18:00 in the evening.

NWU staff give generously for community project

As part of their community involvement drive, the team from Financial Administration: Income (FADi) has raised funds for a day-care centre in Ikageng.

The department, under the leadership of their director, Mr Greg Roberts, raised funds among staff of the Joon van Rooy Building, enabling the Katlego Early Learning Centre in Ikageng to buy blankets.

Over and above their contributions for the blankets, Ms Danelle Kamffer of Student Discipline and her team decided to donate R5 000 from the disciplinary fines paid by students. This money will be used to help furnish a separate baby room at the centre.

According to Greg, they were able to buy 30 blankets, which they, together with PUKfm, delivered to Katlego. PUKfm also helped the centre by collecting waste paper, Afrikaans children's books, puzzles and coloured pencils under the guidance of Mr Niel Wahl, who is part of the community liaison committee of PUKfm.

Greg said the little children were very happy with the gifts and thanked them with loud "sharp-sharps" and "thumb presses".

A few years ago PUKfm "adopted" Katlego as their Student Rag Community Service (known as SJGD) project, and FADi linked up with PUKfm in 2011.

Prof Carstens takes the lead at SA Academy

The new chairperson of the South African Academy for Science and Art is our own seasoned linguist, Prof Wannie Carstens.

Prof Wannie, director of the School of Languages and currently chairperson of the *Afrikaanse Taalraad (ATR)*, has just been appointed for a three-year term.

He has been a member of the Academy since 1992 and has served on its Board since 2001. Prof Wannie is actively

involved in language circles and serves Afrikaans in a number of capacities.

These include his position as chairperson of the *Nasionale Taalliggaam vir Afrikaans* of the Pan South African Language Board (PanSALB), member of the board of directors of the bureau of the *Woordeboek van die Afrikaanse Taal (WAT)* at Stellenbosch, and member of the advisory council of the Afrikaans Language Museum and Language Monument in Paarl.

Co-author of the ninth edition of the *Afrikaanse Woordelys en Spelreëls (AWS)* (2002), Prof Wannie is a co-recipient of the C.J. Langenhoven award for Language Science of the Academy for his contribution to the AWS.

Two other members of the NWU also serve on the board of the Academy. They are Prof Amanda Lourens, Vice-Rector: Research and Planning, and Prof Ewert Kleynhans of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.

Charl is one of the Top 200 Young South Africans

The *Mail & Guardian* newspaper group has named Mr Charl van Heerden as one of the Top 200 Young South Africans. Charl is a young researcher in the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Information Technology and an esteemed international leader and pioneer within the field of Voice Search Research (VSR).

The aim of this recognition, which is only open to young adults under the age of 35, is to help set a new agenda for the country. Through creativity and resonant national values, the hope is to improve the standard of living of all South Africans.

According to Charl, he was humbled by his nomination and inclusion in the group.

"I have been very privileged regarding the opportunities that I have had in life, as well as in the mentors with whom I have crossed paths."

He added that his supervisor, Prof Etienne Barnard, has also played an important role in his achievements up to now.

"The impact of the *Mail & Guardian* recognition will motivate me to keep on performing so that I can make a positive contribution to the lives of South Africans through the advancement of science."

Within his field of specialisation, Charl conducted research in Voice Search for the leading global search engine, Google.



Mr Charl van Heerden.

Lecturers learn innovative strategies

The Academic Development and Support (ADS) Unit recently hosted a seminar on innovative teaching strategies in higher education at the Quest Conference Estate.

Lecturers from the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Information Technology attended the seminar as part of their professional development and to improve student

throughput and student participation. The presentations were interactive and in the format of workshops for 48 lecturers.

Four presentations were made. Dr Saretha Brussow (University of the Free State) spoke on 'Engaged learning for addressing under-preparedness'; and Dr Susan van Schalkwyk (Stellenbosch University) focused on 'Facilitating student engagement'.

Dr El-Marie Mostert and Ms Erika de Bruyn (University of Pretoria) co-presented on the topic 'Using objective assessment'; and Prof Duan van der Westhuizen (University of Johannesburg) spoke about 'Innovative use of computers in the classroom'.



The seminar recently hosted by the ADS Unit was a huge success. Here, lecturers from the School of Economic Sciences work together on a task during one of the sessions.

Economist now part of selection panel

After winning the prestigious title of FinMedia24 Economist of the Year for 2006, Mr André Mellet now serves as a member of the national panel of judges of the competition.

The panel, which consists of all the previous winners of the competition, saw André, a lecturer in the School of Economic Sciences, evaluating economic predictions forwarded by this year's participants.

The competition, previously known as the Sake24 Economist of the Year, has contributed to several career achievements and highlights for André. He jokingly admits that he was not named 'Economist of the Year' this year but remain honoured to be a member of the selection panel.

As an academic, André has developed several certificate courses in economics and he is highly regarded as a guest speaker on topics regarding economics. He recently delivered an address at the international East meets West conference in Osaka, Japan.

Walking the extra mile

As in previous editions, Eish! again acknowledges all the NWU colleagues who regularly walk the extra mile in their daily activities. It seems nothing stops them in their quest to be of service.

Ms Mary Monaisa, a salary officer in the Human Resources Department in the Institutional Office, once again appears as a special second miler. "Mary is always friendly and helpful, even if your query does not involve her area of work. She goes out of her way to bring you into contact with the right person, and is always available," said Ms Francinah Mthembu, assistant technician in the Academic Development Centre on the Mafikeng Campus.

Mr Keletsamaile Motatsa, junior lecturer in Economics in the Faculty of Commerce and Administration on the Mafikeng Campus, singles out two of his colleagues for praise. They are **Ms Karen Visser**, also a junior lecturer in Economics, and **Ms Evie Pivalliza**, a coordinator in the Academic Development Centre.

"Karen is dedicated in her work, is a good manager and is always willing to help others – regardless of whether they are students, staff or other clients," he said. "Evie is a very good coordinator – she always makes sure that everybody knows what is expected of them, she communicates due dates clearly and understands when things do not always go according to plan."

Dr Nomonde Phetlho-Thekisho, a senior lecturer in Social Work in the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences, also recognises Evie's abilities. "She is extremely professional in her work and her customer service is outstanding," he said.

Mr Carlo Calitz, helpline assistant in the Information Technology Department on the Potchefstroom Campus, uses the opportunity to nominate **all the staff in the Health Centre** on this campus for their excellent service. According to him it is a pleasure to know that there is always someone available at the centre to go out of their way to meet their clients' needs. "Sometimes we forget the good and hard work that you do every day – I want to say thank you very much!"

Ms Leandri Kleinhans, lecturer in the Faculty of Humanities on the Vaal Triangle Campus, has nominated a trio of colleagues. They are **Ms Debbie McCallum**, secretary in the School of Basic Sciences, **Ms Christine van Aardt**, secretary in the School of Languages on the Vaal Triangle Campus, and **Ms Ananka Loubser**, lecturer in the School of Philosophy on the Potchefstroom Campus. According to Leandri,

these three ladies do exceptional work. "I want to nominate Debbie and Christine for their unconditional friendliness and willingness to help at all times. I have the greatest respect for the professionalism and effectiveness with which they do their work.

"Ananka is incredibly dedicated in her work and I know that you will find her in her office every day – even after hours. Her students have the greatest respect for her – her honesty and the transparency with which she approaches any task speak volumes," she said.

Prof Ewert Kleynhans, associate professor in the School of Economics on the Potchefstroom Campus, would like to nominate **Ms Cathy Crous**, secretary in the office of Prof Frikkie van Niekerk, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation and Technology in the Institutional Office. "Cathy not only works for the NWU, she embodies a calling and is an example to us all. Her work is outstanding and she is always friendly and helpful, without being meddling or intrusive. It is very important to her that our beautiful university should always function well and she clearly takes pride in her work," said Prof Ewert.

Mr Molekodi Matsipane, a lecturer in Nursing Science in the Faculty of Agriculture, Sciences and Technology on the Mafikeng Campus, is another person on whom you can depend. "I am really impressed by his positive attitude and willingness – he walks the second mile with a smile," said Ms Mahlasela Annah Rakhudu, also a lecturer in Nursing Science in this faculty. "He is very helpful and always approaches his responsibilities very seriously."

If you want to nominate a colleague who goes the extra mile at work, send an email to Marelize.Santana@nwu.ac.za. In your email, please remember to mention the job title and relevant department or school of the person you are nominating, as well as your own details.

MARY MONAISA



KAREN VISSER



EVIE PIVALLIZA



DEBBIE MCCALLUM



CHRISTINE VAN AARDT



ANANKA LOUBSER



MOLEKODI MATSIPANE



CATHY CROUS



And the winners are...

Congratulations to the following colleagues who each won a **corporate gift**:



Institutional Office:
Mr Andre Fourie, manager, Tax Services Department



Mafikeng Campus:
Mr Keletsamaile Motatsa, junior lecturer, Faculty of Commerce and Administration



Potchefstroom Campus:
Mr Samuel Matlepe, control room operator, Protection Services



Vaal Triangle Campus:
Mr Wonga Mbijekana, committee secretary, Office of the Registrar

We would like to thank everyone who participated – we received a whole bunch of entries from each business unit of the NWU. If you were not so lucky the first time, here is another opportunity to take part in our exciting competition.



Take part in our **NEW** exciting competition and test your knowledge of our **BRAND!**

You can win a **corporate gift** – just find the answers to the following **five questions!**

HINT: All information about the brand, brand identity and the corporate identity manual can be found on the intranet. You can type the following address into your browser: <https://intranet.nwu.ac.za/en/fileplan/liaison/index.html>, or follow the following easy steps: Go to the intranet, and click on 'Corporate Identity' under 'USEFUL RESOURCES'.

- 1: Who are the three campus marketing and communication directors and who is the institutional brand manager?
- 2: What does ICBID stand for?
- 3: What is brand identity (according to the brand identity policy)?
- 4: On what page in the CID manual will you find "Incorrect use of the logo"?
- 5: Which corporate font should be used in the official NWU Groupwise signature?

Send your answers to:

Post: Marelize Santana, Internal box 260

Email: Marelize.Santana@nwu.ac.za with Eish! competition in the subject field.

Remember: Please supply your staff number, title, name, surname, job title, and the name of your division and campus. The first correct entry per business unit that we receive, will win a prize!

Intellectual property partners receive **honorary awards**

The university recently bestowed special honorary awards on the Dramatic, Artistic and Literary Rights Organisation (DALRO) and DM Kisch Inc, a firm of attorneys that specialises in dealing with intellectual property.

The NWU's vice-chancellor, Dr Theuns Eloff, presented Vice-Chancellor Honorary Awards to these two institutions at a special breakfast event held in Sandton on 20 July 2011.

"The university has great appreciation for the professional manner in which DALRO has managed the NWU's copyright portfolio and for DM Kisch's handling of our intellectual property during the last 15 years," said Dr Eloff.

The NWU's copyright portfolio includes the annual licence agreement between DALRO and the NWU, according to which the NWU is authorised to reproduce other authors' works – textbooks for instance – and to



Stakeholders at the presentation of the Vice-Chancellor Honorary Awards are from left to right Prof Themba Mosia, Institutional Registrar: NWU, Mr Gérard Robinson, Executive Chairman: DALRO, Ms Nothando Migogo, Executive Director: Dalro, Mr Derek Momberg, chairperson of the Board of Directors: DM Kisch Inc, Mr Frans Kruger, Director: Institutional Legal Services: NWU, Dr Theuns Eloff, Vice-Chancellor: NWU and Mr Nicholas Motsatse, Chief Executive Officer, South African Music Rights Organisation (SAMRO).

incorporate them into study guides.
The portfolio for intellectual property

consists of patent rights, trademarks,
copyright and plant breeders' rights.



Brand-related enquiries should be directed to the institutional brand manager or campus marketing and communications directors. For graphic design needs, Graphikos can also check corporate identity compliance. For a list of contacts for various brand touch-points, consult the NWU Brand Identity page on the staff intranet.



"Community engagement is like house and car maintenance. You can skip it for a while, but **eventually** you've **got to pay.**"

– Jonathan Boyd

www.nwu.ac.za

