



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Humanities

Fakulteit Geesteswetenskappe
Lefapha la Bomotho

MESSAGE TO FACULTY OF HUMANITIES STAFF: 8 SEPTEMBER 2015

Dear Colleagues

SPRING GRADUATION CEREMONY 2015

This is a brief note to thank you for your hard work that led to the graduation of our students on 2 September 2015. I know (and appreciate) how much time, effort and commitment you have put it into ensuring the success of our students. The spread of graduands from certificate courses to doctorates, including the disciplinary coverage, is testimony to the rich diversity of offerings, as well as expertise in this Faculty. Thank you again for your contribution. I also want to thank you for your presence at the graduation ceremony. I also know that our students and their parents/family really appreciate *our* presence at these important public events. At a personal level, thank you also for your encouragement and kind words to me in support of my inaugural graduation. Hennie and I sincerely appreciate everything you are doing at a variety of levels to ensure we discharge our responsibilities with dedication, drive and determination.

HUMANITIES DAY 2015

On another positive note, I also experienced my first Humanities Day on 3 September. And I thoroughly enjoyed it. This was a day that showcased the work of our students and our staff. The postgraduate conference showcased nearly 50 paper presentations covering a wealth of topics in the course of 12 interdisciplinary panel sessions spanning a rich array of topics.

Congratulations to Professor Amanda du Preez (Department of Visual Arts) for winning the Teaching Excellence Award, and to Dr Angelika Weber (Modern European Languages) who was a runner up. For their outstanding performance in respect of research performance, we congratulate the following staff who received awards as researchers of the year. Each showcased their work in really insightful and creatively delivered UP Beat Lectures: Prof Ulrike Kistner (Philosophy), Rory du Plessis (Visual Arts), Prof Antoinette Lombard (Social Work), and Prof Corinne Sandwith (English).

The day was not possible without all your collective efforts. On 3 September we showcased only some of the very best research in the humanities and social sciences in our Faculty. We look forward to even more exciting and interesting offerings as we contemplate planning for 2016.

APPOINTMENT TO PROFESSIONAL BOARDS

I received the good news that Prof David Maree (Psychology) and Prof De Wet Swanepoel (Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology) have been appointed by the Minister of Health to the professional boards for Psychology and Speech, Language and Hearing, respectively, for a term of five years. I congratulate Prof Maree and Prof Swanepoel on their appointment and wish them everything of the best for their term as members of this esteemed board.

PRINCIPAL'S CONCERT

The 2015 edition, titled Sounds of South Africa, is the result of exceptional work by several members of staff in this Faculty. Congratulations to all our colleagues from UP Arts, the Music Department, the Drama Department, and the UP Symphony Orchestra for their excellent contributions.

INAUGURAL LECTURE: PROF ADELIA CARSTENS

Prof Adelia Carstens (Unit for Academic Literacy) will present her inaugural address entitled, ***'Developing a multilingual mindset: Promoting the development and use of students' strongest languages and empowering them in English as the academic lingua franca'*** on 10 September at 18:00 for 18:30 in the Senate Hall, Hatfield Campus. Given that her topic has much bearing on language issues relevant to teaching and learning in the Faculty and at the University, staff are encouraged to attend.

Regards

Vasu Reddy