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## Opening of LETLOTLO BUILDING heralds NEW era

The Letlotlo Building on the Groenkloof Campus at the University of Pretoria was officially opened by Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, on Monday, 4 April 2016. The event was attended by Ms Futhi Mtoba, Chair of the University Council, and Deputy Chair Dr Piet Botha. Also present were Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education and other deans, directors and heads of department. Colleagues from Facilities Management, UP Arts, UP Archives, Library Services and members of the professional team were also among the guests.



At the unveiling of the plaque at the Letlotlo Building is Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice Chancellor and Principal (left) and Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education.



P11 - Prof Irma Eloff steps down as Dean



P17 - Students excel at graduation ceremony



P27 Inligtingstegnologie in Taalonderwys

Prof De la Rey mentioned that this event was the third time this year that she has had the privilege of officiating at the opening of a new building at the University of Pretoria. She added that she believed that the frequency of such occasions was a tangible reminder of the University's commitment to ensuring

that the physical facilities and amenities offered to our students enhance their learning and their total student experience, and that, with regard to the staff, it optimised their working conditions and productivity.

Prof de la Rey pointed out that the Letlotlo Building is right at the entrance of the Groenkloof Campus and therefore forms the gateway to the Campus.



Members of the University Council, the UP Executive, and the professional team enjoy the renovated 'old SACTE building'.

The refurbishment was intended to open up the building to the Campus and to invite students inside to make use of the facilities, which were designed to meet the operational needs of the Faculty, as well as the social needs of the students and staff.

"Letlotlo means treasure. On the Groenkloof Campus we treasure education and in this building we treasure the long history of excellence at the University of Pretoria." – Prof Irma Eloff, Dean: Faculty of Education.

# Redundant SACTE Building transformed into new, multi-functional building

The former SACTE (South African College for Teacher Education) Building, built in 1986, has been refurbished and was officially reopened as the Letlotlo Building on 4 April. The building originally belonged to the Normaalkollege, Pretoria (NKP) and the facilities were used by Unisa following the merger between the NKP and the University of Pretoria. The transfer of the property to the University of Pretoria was registered in 2014 and in November of that year the University became its new owner.

The building was subsequently upgraded at a cost of R34 169 million. The construction

work began in July 2014 and was completed in June 2015, and the building was then renamed Letlotlo, which means 'treasure'.

On the occasion of the official opening of this building, Prof De la Rey said: 'I trust that the Letlotlo Building will be seen to live up to its name, which means 'treasure', by providing valuable additional facilities to the Groenkloof Campus to serve the needs of staff, students and the various institutions. The Campus comprises of a self-contained hub that provides teaching and learning, research, accommodation, sports and recreation facilities and services for staff and students in the Faculty of Education.'



*Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice Chancellor and Principal said that she hopes 'these physical facilities and amenities offered to our students enhance their learning and total student experience'.*



*Prof Karen Harris, Ms Ria van der Merwe, Ms Alida Green and Ms Thariza van Rensburg.*



*Prof Wendy Kilfoil, Director of Education Innovation, Prof Ina Joubert and Mr Tony Mays*



*Prof Vasu Reddy, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities, Prof Stephanie Burton, Vice Principal and Ms Futhi Mtoba, Chair of the University Council.*



*Mr Nicolaas Bester, Ms Hilda Kriel and Prof Carolina Koornhof, Executive Director*



*Mr Willie Oosthuizen, Ms Futhi Mtoba, Chair of the University Council and Dr Piet Botha, Deputy Chair of the University Council viewing some of the items in the UP Arts Archives.*



*Ms Hilda Kriel, Mr Gerard de Kamper and Mr Edwin Smith in conversation.*



*Ms Isabelle McGinn in discussion with Prof Vasu Reddy, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities.*



*A view of the Letlotlo building from the ground floor.*



# Letlotlo building an ASSET

The ground floor of the building was transformed into a student activity area equipped with Wi-Fi and formal and informal study facilities. Colourful, modern furniture was selected to further enhance the area. The student administration offices of the

Unit for Distance Education, which include a Call Centre, and the new Ed's Diner for staff, students and visitors are adjacent to this area. The first level also houses Student Health Services. Offices and facilities for the other components of the Unit for Distance Education, as well as Student Support Services, are located on the second level of the building.

The third level houses storage areas for the Natural Sciences, the Agricultural Library and the UP Arts Archive. The UP Arts Archive is a dedicated space that ranks as one of the best archive storage



*At the unveiling of the plaque are from left: Ms Futhi Mtoba, Chair of the University Council, Dr Piet Botha, Deputy Chair of the University Council, Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice Chancellor and Principal, Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education and Prof Vasu Reddy, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities.*

facilities at a South African university and houses an on-going collection of archival documents. The current holdings are in the region of 1 000 metres. The archival records kept here include official documents, photos, slides and other collections. The facility is a valuable addition to the University's infrastructure for the accommodation of the very valuable art and heritage collections for which the University is the custodian. This includes the Mapungubwe national collection; the Van Tilburg collection; the Gylbland Oosterhoff collection and the UP Arts collection. Other facilities include lecture halls, a boardroom, seminar rooms, an auditorium and a number of storerooms.



*Mr Hendri Kruger and Mr Tony Mays*



*Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education addressing the guests.*



*Mr Thys Willemse and Mr Pieter du Preez*



*Ms Adri Scholtz and Prof Theo van Wijk, Director of UP Arts.*



*Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Dr Piet Botha, Mr Willie Oosthuizen, Prof Vasu Reddy and Mr Gerard de Kamper, enjoying the UP Art Collections.*



*Prof Ina Joubert and Ms Ronél du Toit*



*UP Arts Collection a valuable asset.*



*Prof Vasu Reddy, Dean of the Faculty of Humanities delivered a vote of appreciation.*



*Mr Hennie Coetzee and Mr Thys Willemse*



*Prof Johan Buitendag, Dean of the Faculty of Education with Prof Ronél Ferreira and Prof Gerrit Stols*



*Dr Piet Botha, Deputy Chair of the University Council Management, with Prof Susan Adendorff, Director of Facilities Management*



*Dr Matete Madiba, Director of Student Support Services and Ms Patience Mushungwa, Executive Director*

# Message from the Dean

*The Faculty of Education said good bye to Prof Irma Eloff as Dean at a function on 12 May 2016. She expressed her appreciation to in a address at the function. Here are some extracts from her speech.*

"There are so many people I wish to thank on a day like today. Firstly, the wonderful colleagues in the administration building of the Groenkloof campus. Yvonne and Rose, without whom this entire campus grinds to a halt; I count myself as a most fortunate Dean. You have no idea how many times I have said thank you for the fact that you are there in the dean's office. Melinda and her superb team for student support; Esther and her team at the former CSC; Annalize with her many, many talents; Jeanette and her superbly efficient team in human resources and Michelle Stobie who can turn a project on a dime. I think of Michelle Finestone, who can calm down an irate postgraduate student, yet also meet with university presidents and ambassadors. I think of Kgomotso who ensures caring and attention to detail with the facilities on the 4th floor. I think of Andries who raises the flag on the Groenkloof campus early every morning and Izak and Papati who turns down the lights in the evening. I think of Aphane who guards the gates to the Groenkloof campus like we are the Reserve Bank."

"The work of a Dean depends in large parts on the quality of the leadership team in a faculty - starting with the heads of department. I have been so fortunate with the outstanding colleagues who have taken on the responsibilities of a headship during my terms. Academic departments are the building blocks of a university and it is also where you find the custodians of the academic project. This faculty is exemplified by excellent heads of department. Colleagues who work nobly to ensure a good working environment. Colleagues who make huge personal sacrifices in terms of their own careers, yet they do so graciously and without a thought to themselves. I wish to express my deepest appreciation to the current team of Heads of Department: Prof Chika Sehoole, Prof Ronél Ferreira, Prof Jan Nieuwenhuis, Prof Gerrit Stols and Prof Ina Joubert. I also want to thank all the HoDs who have served before them. Thank you for the better decisions we have made during all those long days of meetings, because of your insights. We are now a stronger faculty as a result. I also wish to specifically thank the many acting heads of department who stepped up to the plate during times of need. Yours have been an especially tough task and yet, we have seen some of the best leadership from our acting heads of department in the last eight years."

"I could not have asked for a more remarkable Deputy Dean than Prof Max Braun. The decades of experience, the creative solutions and the thoroughness with which he works have been a true source of support for me. Thank you, Max, for the dedication and wisdom you brought to our endeavors."

"Thank you Lucille and thank you to Yzelle and everyone from UP's facilities management for all the support over multiple large-scale projects over many years. I also think of colleagues who have left, but to whom I am deeply grateful. Johan Hendrikz who led distance education so superbly for many years and now Tony and his team, for being able to deal with the distance education students that make up a small university. Thanks to Willem who keeps his eye on the money over there. In the same way I want to thank everyone who work in our various centres to generate first-rate research and to our teaching practice office who manages thousands of students in hundreds of school placements. To Prof Kobus Maree and Prof Liesel Ebersöhn, who bring such stature to the Faculty with the journals they edit."

"Thank you to all the secretaries who have assisted in the dean's office over many years when the pressures were up - Sophia, Marieta, Marianne, Elana and Xandra. To all our departmental secretaries, the charm and intelligence that you combine in your work, benefits all of us. I think of the deeply committed colleagues in other faculties who work with us to educate the teachers of the future. A Faculty of Education functions within a broad network without which it would not be

sustainable. So today I also want to thank our dear colleagues from the Groenkloof library, first Johann and now Julene and her team; Bettie, Clarisse, and now Liesl who specifically assisted the Dean's office; our colleagues from student health services, the IT and AV support teams, our messengers, safety and security, internal auditing, marketing, the exam office, the former CSC, academic administration on Hatfield, Education Innovation, the UP Legal department and many more."

"I wish to thank our colleagues who are for many students the face of our faculty - Groenkloof student support services. Thank you for dealing with peak times with such grace and humour and thank you for flawless graduation seasons. Thank you to Bronwynne, and before her Jeannie, for our work on the Postgraduate Committee. I also want to thank Rita and the team at distance education. I also want to express specific thanks to everyone who acts as programme co-ordinators and who serves on committees in the faculty and at the university - ranging from the Research committee, the Teaching and Learning committee, the Ethics committee and to institutional committees like the rating committees, the post-doc committees, the UP ITC committee and so forth. It is service of high academic citizenship and often where some of the most impactful decisions are made."

"To the academics: There are days when I have to pinch myself because of the utter privilege to be working amongst people who choose a life of thinking and reading and teaching and wrestling with new ideas. It is one of the greatest joys of my life. I just love the way the minds of academics work: not taking things at face value, ever questioning the way the world works, always challenging others on their beliefs, questioning their own beliefs, being reflective of their actions, constantly questioning any authority and thinking and believing that we can always find better ways to do things. I also love the way in which academics adapt - whether it is shifting goalposts when it comes to promotion criteria or having to adjust curricula according to new national requirements. As academics, we are often criticized that we don't know how the real world works, but ours is a world that is very real; and I think if the world out there can have the same adaptability we do, perhaps the world really can become a better place."

"To our students: Education students are extraordinary. There are so many 'unknown' truths about education students, that the world does not seem to recognize. For instance, many of them by far exceed the admission criteria for the programmes in which they are enrolled here. Yet, you will not find them bragging about this. By the time they graduate from us, they can stand in front of hundreds of people and speak like world leaders. Yet, they would never boast about this truly scarce skill of eloquence. They can organize events and they can converse in multiple languages and they can get on a plane and offer their professional skills anywhere in the world. They are highly sought after almost everywhere on the planet. My work as dean has allowed me to see the very best of our students and I am forever thankful for it."

To our friends and family in- and outside academia: Thank you for urging us on to keep universities going. The world needs universities. It needs universities to be safe and open spaces where we can experiment and we can instill in our students a sense of adventure and responsibility."

"I also want to thank today my predecessors, especially my two immediate predecessors, Prof Michael Bondesio and Prof Jonathan Jansen. You have both been examples of a full and true commitment to the deanship that I have tried to emulate. To my successor, Prof Chika Sehoole - my very best wishes are with you in this new era in the life of the Faculty of Education at UP."

"In the year to come I look forward to my work on the UNESCO International Task team for Teachers and also to our book publication on 'Psychology for Teachers'. I will be starting a new chapter in my professional life and I am looking forward to it."

**Irma Eloff**



# Eerste vroulike dekaan by Opvoedkunde tree na agt jaar uit

Prof Irma Eloff, die sewende dekaan en die eerste vrou wat die posisie beklee, tree aan die einde van Mei uit na agt jaar as Dekaan van die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde.

Irma Eloff se eerste herinneringe aan die onderwys is die dae wat sy buite haar moeder wat 'n Graad een onderwyseres was, se klaskamer op die stoep gespeel het. Op hoërskool het haar wiskunde onderwyseres by die Hoërskool Noordheuwel haar daarop gewys dat sy gebore is vir die onderwys: "ek hoop jy gaan vir jou 'n TOD (Transvaalse Onderwysdepartement) beurs kry en onderwys gaan studeer", het sy haar aangemoedig.

Nadat sy haar BA graad by Noordwes Universiteit (destydse Potchefstroom Universiteit) gedoen het, het sy na Tukkies gekom om haar Hoër Onderwysdiploma te doen. "Die dag toe ek by die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde ingestap het, was ek reeds tuis", sê Prof Eloff. Sy wou graag nagraads in Opvoedkundige Sielkunde studeer en het ook 'n PhD-graad by Stellenbosch Universiteit verwerf. In die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde was sy aangestel as onderwys-assistent, tegniese assistent, tutor en later as dosent, Hoof van die Departement Opvoedkundige Sielkunde en Voorsitter van die Skool vir Opvoedkundige Studies. Sy het vir amper twee jaar opgetree as Waarnemende Dekaan en is op 39-jarige ouderdom as Dekaan aangestel.

Prof Irma Eloff meen dat daar baie uitdagings rondom 'implementering' in die onderwys bestaan. "Ons het goeie beleide. Ons het hoë vlakke van toewyding tot die onderwys en ons het 'n hart vir die onderwys maar ongelukkig sukkel ons in die onderwys om die beleid te implementeer en ook om mense aanspreeklik te hou", sê sy.

Haar oë word sag as sy praat oor die mense in die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde by die Groenkloofkampus. "Die mense in die Fakulteit maak dit die uitnemende Fakulteit wat dit is. Die personeel is toegewyd tot die onderwys, hul handhaaf baie hoë standaarde vir hulself en vir hul studente. Hier is 'n sterk kollegialiteit op ons kampus met baie goeie menseverhoudinge binne- en buite die Fakulteit. Van die top leerders in die land doen as gevolg hiervan aansoek om by ons te kom te studeer."

Die Fakulteit het sterk samewerkingsooreenkomste met baie universiteite in Suid-Afrika en ook in die buiteland. "In Opvoedkunde wil ons eerder saamwerk, as kompeteer", sê sy. Die samewerking tussen vier Fakulteite by UP, het byvoorbeeld daartoe gelei dat die BEd baie sterker gemaak is en 'n groot sukses is.

"Internasionaal hoef ons vir niemand terug te staan nie", stel prof Eloff dit duidelik. "Na 8 jaar as Dekaan voel ek dat die kundiges in ons Fakulteit kan vergelyk word met die beste internasionale kundiges", beklemtoon sy.

Prof Eloff is trots op die vele hoogtepunte in die Fakulteit oor die jare wat sy Dekaan was maar in besonder toe die Nasionale Navorsingsfederasie die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde as een van die Top Opvoedkunde Fakulteite met die meeste gegradeerde navorsers aangewys het. Nog 'n hoogtepunt was die QS World Rankings se gradering van UP Opvoedkunde as een van die top 150-200 wêreldwyd. Wanneer in ag geneem word dat 18 000 universiteite jaarliks beoordeel word en UP Opvoedkunde nou reeds vyf agtereenvolgende jare hierdie prestasie bereik het, dink sy dat dit iets is om op trots te wees.

Vir Prof Eloff is die infrastruktuurontwikkelings van meer as R70 miljoen, wat in haar termyn aangepak en voltooi is, ook 'n besondere hoogtepunt.

"Natuurlik is die nuwe model van die BEd program wat ontwikkel is en wat die vakken kennis van onderwysers verder versterk het, baie naby aan my hart en in my oë 'n reuse hoogtepunt", sê sy met blydschap.

Op die vraag waar sy haar inspirasie vandaan kry, glimlag sy baie breed en sê: "Ek het verskeie bronne van inspirasie. My Christenskap is natuurlik sentraal en dan is ek baie lief vir my familie en gesin". Haar seun Daniël is 'n voorgraadse student in die Fakulteit Regsgeleerdheid hier by Tukkies en so ook haar seun Rohann wat regte in die Fakulteit Ekonomiese en Bestuurswetenskappe studeer. "Dan is daar my man



*Prof Irma Eloff, sewende Dekaan van die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde*

Daan. Hy is vir my 'n reuse ondersteuning en inspirasie in my lewe". Daan het self in 'n akademiese huishouding grootgeword en was dus gewoon aan die lang werksure en verpligtinge wat die akademiese omgewing verg. "In die tye wat ek gedeelde verantwoordelikhede gehad het het hy honderd persent die verantwoordelikheid vir die seuns geneem. Hy het die rugbywedstryde bygewoon en die seuns by die skool gaan haal en moes dikwels wanneer ek oorsee moes reis al die verantwoordelikhede op homself geneem. Hy het nooit gekla of 'n sweempie van verwynt gehad nie en alles met 'n sin vir humor hanteer. Ek is baie dankbaar oor hom."

Prof Eloff neem vanaf begin Junie 'n jaar sabbatsvlof waartydens sy tyd wil neem om aan 'n boek te werk oor 'Psychology for Teachers'. Sy dien ook op UNESCO se Internasionale Taakspan vir Onderwysers. Sy sien baie uit na die sabbatsjaar en om nie meer so propvol dagboek te hê met twee tot drie aande per week se sosiale verpligtinge nie. Sy sien uit daarna om meer vryheid te kan hê en om verskeie geleenthede op te volg wat sy voorheen van die hand moes wys.

Waarom sy dan na agt jaar as uitstekende Dekaan uittree meen sy dat rotasie in leierskap en in enige sisteem gesond is. Sy het die doelwitte bereik wat sy vir haarself in die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde gestel het. Aan die begin was dit 'n komplekse en amper onmoontlike taak om die hele Fakulteit te herstruktureer. Hoewel dit haar op intellektuele vlak baie besig gehou het, het dit haar baie genoegdoening verskaf. "Ons het wêreld-erkenning gekry vir die werk wat ons gedoen het; studente kry reeds werk terwyl hulle nog studeer wat dui op die hoë kwaliteit van die opleiding in die Fakulteit."

"Toe ek dekaan geword het, het ons nog nie geweet wat 'n Ipad was nie, daar was geen koffie- of boekwinkel op die Groenkloofkampus nie en die grootste lesinglokaal kon omtrent 150 studente neem. Die meeste van ons dosente het nie toegang gehad tot nagraadse studente vir supervisie nie. As ek terugkyk, weet ek ons het saam baie vermag en ek sien uit na dit wat die toekoms vir Opvoedkunde by Tukkies inhou. Die Fakulteit het besonderse akademiese en personeel wat met toewyding werk om 'n verskil in die breë onderwyssektor te maak", sê sy met trots.

Vir prof Irma Eloff was daar baie waarde in Dekaan-wees. "Ek het geleer dat dit wat ons saambind is altyd meer as dit waaroor ons verskil – die gemeenskaplike grond. Daarom moet ons die meeste van die tyd daarop fokus."

Die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde groet 'n formidabele dekaan; leier; bestuurder; navorsers; netwerker; professor en kollega.

# Looking back over 8 years as Dean



At NENU in China were from left Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice Chancellor and Principal, Prof Sarah Howie, Director of the Centre for Evaluation and Assessment, Prof Chika Sehoole, Head of the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies and Prof Stephanie Burton, Vice Principal.



Prof Mike Bondesio, former Dean of the Faculty of Education with Dr Pieter Small, Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Ms Barbara and Prof Theuns Erasmus, former Vice Principal, at the 75 year celebrations of the Faculty of Education.



Dr Fern Snart, Dean of the Faculty of Education at Alberta University, with Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education.



Prof Max Braun, Deputy Dean, receiving and award from Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education.



Prof Irma Eloff enjoying talking to the students at the annual First Year's Welcoming Day.



At a Hat Day in the Faculty of Education were Ms Sonja Delpont, Clarisse Venter, Prof Irma Eloff, Ms Elmarie van Wyk, Dr Riek van Aswegen and Dr Dorette Vermeulen.



Enjoying a Faculty event were Dr Hanlie Botha, Dr Sonja van Putten, Prof Irma Eloff, Ms Elmarie van Wyk and Ms Antoinette Botha.



Prof Irma Eloff and her two wonderful Management Administrators, Ms Rose Tibane and Ms Yvonne Munro.



Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education with Prof John Creswell from Nebraska Lincoln University and Prof Ronél Ferreira



Prof Max Bergmann from the University of Basel, Switzerland with Prof Irma Eloff



Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education with Prof Tjeerd Plomp from the University of Twente, the Netherlands





At the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between Alberta and Pretoria were Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Prof Stephanie Burton, Vice Principal and Dr Fern Smart, Dean of the Faculty of Education at Alberta University.



Prof Irma Eloff with Dr Johan Hendrikz



Prof Irma Eloff with enthusiastic staff members in the Faculty of Education who participated in the 2013 Mini Olympics on Groenkloof Campus.



Prof Ronél Ferreira, Ms Rita Venter and Prof Irma Eloff, all dressed in red on Valentine's Day.



Prof Irma Eloff presents an award to Dr Wendy Carvalho-Malekane.



Prof Irma Eloff in informal manner, dressed in her UP blazer



Dr Diane Parker, Deputy Director and the Department of Higher Education and Training and Prof Wayne Hugo from the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal with Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education at the Teacher Education Conference held on Groenkloof Campus



Staff members and their books with Prof Irma Eloff at a book launch on Groenkloof Campus. From left: Dr Judy van Heerden, Prof Kobus Maree, Prof Chika Sehoole, Prof Ina Joubert, Prof Rinelle Evans, Dr Sakkie Prinsloo, Dr Jean van Rooyen and Prof Rika Joubert.



Prof Irma Eloff and Prof Cheryl de la Rey enjoying a moment when visiting the newly built science laboratories on Groenkloof Campus.



One of Prof Irma Eloff's many wonderful moments at the graduation ceremonies. Seen here she is with Prof Themba Mosia, Vice Principal.



Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education with Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice Chancellor and Principal and Mr Trevor Manuel, the then Minister of Finance and Prof Carolina Koornhof when she was Dean of the Faculty of Economic and Management Science.





*Prof Irma Eloff – outstanding speaker, academic, researcher and above all leader.*



*Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Nebraska Lincoln. From left Prof Theresa Catalano, Prof Edmund Hamman, both from Nebraska, Prof Stephanie Burton, Vice Principal and Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education.*



*Prof Irma Eloff, Dean, and Prof Max Braun, Deputy Dean with staff and student achievers in the Faculty of Education.*



*Prof Irma Eloff in a light spirit at the sod-turning ceremony of the new infrastructure developments on Groenkloof Campus in 2012.*



*Prof Irma Eloff with members of the Student Day House, Docendo, 2016.*



*Prof Irma Eloff with members of the Faculty Student House, House Education, 2016.*



*At the unveiling of the plaque in the Aldoel 1 Building at Groenkloof Campus, Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Vice Chancellor and Principal and Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education is celebrating the huge infrastructure development.*



*In her term as Dean, Prof Irma Eloff had several postgraduate students. Here she is seen with Dr Michelle Finestone who did her PhD in Educational Psychology.*



*At one of the Faculty's art festivals were Prof Irma Eloff with her husband Mr Daan Eloff and Prof Themba Mosia, Vice Principal.*



*Prof Irma Eloff received an award from Dr Dipane Hlalele, Chair of EASA (2015), for her contribution in research.*



*As always – happy to be alive and to work at her favourite Faculty of Education.*



# Terugkyk aan 8 jaar as Dekaan



Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Visekanselier en Rektor en Prof Irma Eloff, Dekaan van die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde vier die eerste sooi wat gespit is as aanvang van die groot konstruksiewerk op Groenkloofkampus in 2012.



By 'n personeelgeleentheid saam met Prof Irma Eloff is Dr Funke Omidire en Dr Ruth Aluko.



By Alberta Universiteit in Kanada saam met Prof Irma Eloff is van links Prof Everard Weber, Me Linda Bosman, Dr Sonja van Putten, Dr Fern Snart, Dekaan van die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde by die Alberta Universiteit en Ms Kgadi Mathabathe.



Sommige van die personeel wat by Prof Antonie de Klerk se laaste Senaatsvergadering was van links: Prof Diane Manning, Prof Karel Stanz, Prof Jakkie Pretorius, Me Cila Myburgh, Prof Irma Eloff, Prof Niek Grové, Prof Antonie de Klerk, Prof Cheryl de la Rey, Prof Mapundi Banda, Prof André Boraine, Prof Frans Viljoen, Prof Egmont Rohwer, Prof Anton Stroh and Prof Max Braun.



Teenwoordig by die 'African Deans of Education Forum' vergadering by die fakulteit was: Prof Seenie Naidu (Unisa), Prof Eugenia Cossa (Mosambiek), Prof Charmaine Villet (Namibië), Prof Irma Eloff (UP), Prof Themba Mosia (Viserektor UP), Prof Thobeka Mda (KSUT) and Prof Ngidi Ngidi (KUT)



Prof Irma Eloff gesels met kollegas van die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde by 'n jaareindfunksie.



'n Groep van die jaarlikse toppresterders by Prof Irma Eloff.



# Good bye

# to Prof Irma Eloff



*Dr Keshni Bipath and Prof Irma Eloff enjoys the moment.*



*Dr Alta Engelbrecht and Prof Irma Eloff*



*Prof Chaya Herman and Prof Everard Weber with Prof Irma Eloff.*



*Ms Connie Makgabo and Dr Eva Sujee*



*Mr Alwyn van der Walt and Mr Vernon Candiotos*



*With Prof Irma Eloff are Ms Lerato Mokhadi, Mr Sipho Mankgane and Ms Rose Tibane.*



*Ms Popi Sithole and Ms Elisa Sambane*



*Prof Irma Eloff with Ms Salmita Madingoaneng*



*From left are Dr LD Beukes, Dr Maximus Sefotho, Dr Annelize du Plessis, Dr Ruth Mampane and Prof Salomé Human-Vogel*



*Ms Lucille Weyer, Ms Ronél de Villiers and Ms Retha Nel*





*Prof Irma Eloff expressed her appreciation towards so many people who made a difference during her time as Dean of the Faculty of Education.*



*Prof Irma Eloff with the Dean-elect, Prof Chika Sehoole, Head of the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies.*



*Prof Ina Joubert and Dr Keshni Bipath*



*Dr Sonja van Putten, Programme Director, presented a hundred-page photo book of the Faculty of Education to Prof Irma Eloff. It represents her eight year term as Dean.*



*...and a gift voucher*



*...and lovely flowers*



*Dr Sonja van Putten with Mr Daan Eloff and Prof Irma Eloff.*



*Ms Salmita Mandingoaneng who completed her BEd Early Childhood Education at the Faculty, brought a tribute to Prof Irma Eloff.*



*Prof Irma Eloff with Dr Kendra Mitchell, Fulbright Scholar from the USA.*



*Ms Ronél de Villiers and Ms Annalize Brynard*



*Prof Venitha Pillay in conversation with Prof Irma Eloff.*



*Prof Irma Eloff and Ms Yvonne Munro, Management Administrator in the Dean's Office .*



*Ms Lucille Weyer and Prof Irma Eloff*



*From the Unit for Distance Education: Ms Tracey Rabie, Ms Rita Venter, Ms Annatjie de Bruyn and Ms Emsie Piek.*



# Dean's

# Farewell

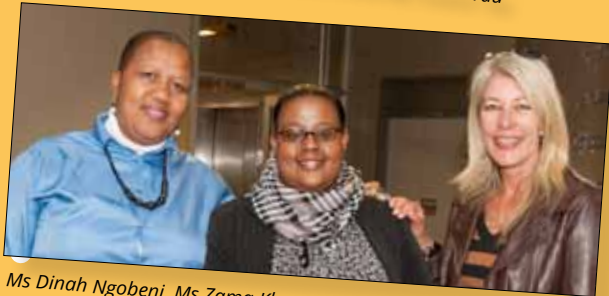
# Function



*Ms Adél Taljaard, Ms Bronwynne Swarts and Ms Pulane Tau*



*Prof Cycil Hartell, former Head of the Department of Early Childhood Education, Prof Liesel Ebersöhn, the retired Prof Thinus Kühn and Prof Ronél Ferreira*



*Ms Dinah Ngobeni, Ms Zama Khumalo and Ms Retha Nel*



*Mr Willem Cronjé and Prof Irma Eloff*



*Dr Estelle Gaigher, Dr Mia Abrie and Ms Corene Coetzee*



*Ms Lindie van der Walt shares a happy moment with Prof Irma Eloff*



*Prof Max Braun, Deputy Dean, with Mr Daan Eloff*



*Prof Irma Eloff with Dr Vimbi Mahlangu*



*Prof Cycil Hartell with Prof Irma Eloff*



*Ms Lerato Mokgadi and Ms Rose Tibane*



*Ms Elna Smith, Prof Irma Eloff and Ms Sophia le Roux*



*Dr Sonja van Putten, Prof Gerrit Stols, Dr Ronel Callaghan, Dr Surette van Staden and Prof Irma Eloff*





Prof Caryl Hartell in conversation with Prof Irma Eloff and her husband Dr Daan Eloff.



Ms Marië Schoeman and Prof Ronél Ferreira



Prof Irma Eloff and Ms Yzelle van den Berg



Prof Rinelle Evans with Prof Irma Eloff and Ms Maitumeleng Ntho.



Dr Wendy Carvalho-Malekane with Prof Irma Eloff



Prof Johan Beckmann with Prof Thinus Kühn



Prof Irma Eloff with Mr Alfred du Plessis



Ms Tshegofatso Chauke, Ms Rachel Morgan, Ms Lindiwe Sibande, Ms Thandi Mngomezulu and Ms Monica Makana



Ms Annemarie Siff and Ms Malebo Segodi



Ms Kimera Moodley, Dr Portia Kawai, Dr Maryke Mihai, Mr Niekie Blom and Dr Surette van Staden



Ms Loraine Schamrel, Ms Yvonne Munro and Ms Marthie Barnard



Prof Irma Eloff with Ms Julene Vermeulen



Dr Marlize Malan-van Rooyen, the retired Ms Adrie van Dyk, Prof Irma Eloff and Dr Sonja Coetzee





# Faculty of Education awards 496 degrees

At the Faculty of Education's Graduation Ceremony held on 12 April 2016, an impressive 496 undergraduate and postgraduate degrees were awarded. The degree courses offered by the Faculty include courses in Early Childhood Development and Foundational Phase, Education Management, Law and Policy, and Further Education and Training in specialised subject areas.

At the first graduation in 2016, 10 PhDs were awarded. The names of the candidates are listed below, together with the titles of their theses and the names of their supervisors:

Dr Maryna Christina Du Plooy: 'Visualisation as a metacognitive strategy in learning multiplicative concepts: a design research intervention.' Supervisor: Dr Caroline Long; Co-supervisor: Prof Sarah Howie.

Dr Eric Eberlein: 'Education leadership learning: the experiences and perceptions of Master's degree students.' Supervisor: Prof Rika Joubert.

Dr Charity Lenwe Meki Kombe: 'Sustaining implementation of innovations beyond donor support: a case study of a literacy programme in Zambia.' Supervisor: Prof Chaya Herman.

Dr John Shebabese Maluleke: 'Co-operative governance in the national and provincial departments of education in South Africa.' Supervisor: Prof Chika Sehoole; Co-supervisor: Prof Everard Weber.

Dr Douglas Matorera: 'The management of quality function deployment in a master's programme.' Supervisor: Prof William Fraser.

Dr Thersia Rossouw: 'Professional development of teachers at a private high school: a peer mentoring initiative.' Supervisor: Prof Pieter du Toit.

Dr Gertruida Anna Magdalena Schoeman: 'Reconceptualising learner support in the South African Police Service.' Supervisor: Prof Jan Nieuwenhuis.

Dr Mmabaledi Kefilwe Seeletso: 'The design of instructional materials as a potential contributor to academic success of secondary school open and distance learners in Botswana.' Supervisor: Prof Rinelle Evans.

Dr Anthony Smith: 'Experiences of educator evidence leaders of their role in the learner

disciplinary hearings.' Supervisor: Prof Johan Beckmann.

Dr Anna Magrietha Truter: 'Education in the best interests of the child: a case study of rural schools in KwaZulu-Natal.' Supervisor: Prof Rika Joubert.

An Advanced Certificate in Education for School Leadership was awarded to Rekgopetse Faith Malandule.

The Award of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal was awarded to Ulrike Reinstorf for her outstanding undergraduate academic achievement in her first bachelor's degree completed in the Faculty. The award included a silver medal, a certificate and a cash prize.



At Prof Irma Eloff's last graduation ceremony as Dean were with her Prof Niek Grové, Registrar and Prof Stephanie Burton, Vice Principal.



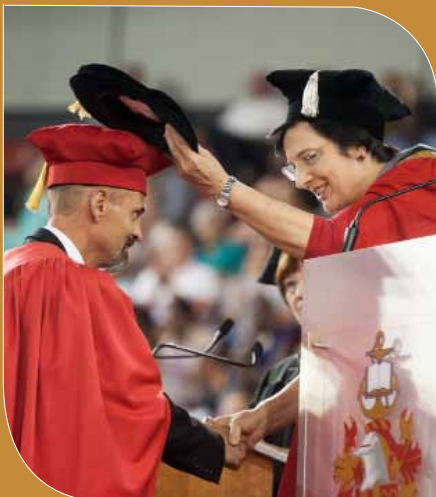
Academic procession







*The Award of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal was made to Ulrike Reinstorf for her outstanding undergraduate academic achievement.*





# More than 600 Education students awarded degrees and certificates

During the second part of the Faculty of Education's Autumn Graduation Ceremony, which was held on 22 April 2016, a total of 398 degrees and 195 certificates were awarded.

The names of the 13 candidates who received PhD degrees are listed below, together with the titles of their theses and the names of their supervisors:

Dr Antoinette Cook: 'Exploring learners' management of career-related transitions through career and self-construction.' Supervisor: Prof Kobus Maree.

Dr Maria Catherine Kekana: 'Understanding the effect of a professional development programme on the classroom practice of science teachers.' Supervisor: Dr Estelle Gaigher; Co-supervisor: Prof William Fraser.

Dr Frans Jacobus Kruger: 'Mapping peace and violence in the TESOL classroom.' Supervisor: Prof Rinelle Evans.

Dr Liana Kruger: 'Resilience in gay and lesbian parent families'. Supervisor: Prof Carien Lubbe-de Beer.

Dr Priestly Malambo: 'Exploring Zambian Mathematics student teachers' content knowledge of functions and trigonometry for secondary schools.' Supervisor: Dr Sonja van Putten; Co-supervisor: Prof Gerrit Stols.

Dr Patricia Barbara Neo Maseko: 'Language and identity in the academic performance and portraiture of Black BEd Foundation Phase students.' Supervisor: Prof Nkidi Phatudi.

Dr Nhlanhla Mpfu: 'Exploring beginner teachers' knowledge in the teaching of literature in English.' Supervisor: Dr Lizette de Jager; Co-supervisor: Prof Jan Nieuwenhuis.

Dr Malose Daniel Ramoroka: 'A study of the central tenets of critical thinking in history classrooms.' Supervisor: Dr Alta Engelbrecht; External co-supervisor: Prof Neil Roos (University of the Free State).

Dr Joyce Nthabiseng Basanyane Thobela-Mailwane: 'Ecosystemic factors influencing the accessibility of Early Childhood Development services for young children with

disabilities.' Supervisor: Dr Miems Steyn.

Dr Adeline Twigge: 'Verkenning van die waarde van lewensontwerpberading ten opsigte van selfkonstruksie by die ontlukende volwassene.' Supervisor: Prof Kobus Maree.

Dr Jennifer Dworshak Wiegman: 'The incorporation of yoga techniques in the classroom.' Supervisor: Prof Carien Lubbe-de Beer.

Dr Annelise Wissing: 'Reconstruction of Black immigrant professional identities at a South African university of technology.' Supervisor: Prof Saloshna Vandeyar; Co-supervisor: Dr Thiru Vandeyar.

Dr Gracious Zinyeka: 'The epistemological basis of indigenous knowledge systems in science education.' Supervisor: Prof Gilbert Onwu; Co-supervisor: Prof Max Braun.









# New Manager for Distance Education

The new Manager of the Unit for Distance Education in the Faculty of Education, Mr Tony Mays, assumed duty on 1 April 2016. He succeeded Dr Johan Hendrikz, who has taken up an appointment with the Commonwealth of Learning in British Columbia, Canada.

Before joining this Faculty, Mr Mays was a Senior Programme Specialist with the South

African Institute for Distance Education (SAIDE) for 16 years, and prior to that a lecturer and later the Manager of the Unit for Resource-based Learning at the PROMAT Colleges.

He brings with him a wealth of experience in open and distance learning (ODL), which will further impact the quality of ODL programmes at the University.



Mr Tony Mays

## Early Childhood Education has the Spirit



The staff members of the Department Early Childhood Education supported the Varsity Cup, UP players by wearing their T-Shirts on Mondays - the day of the matches. Although the UP team did not win the Varsity Cup the staff members were dressed to support them.

## Academics FOCUS on IMPROVING schools in SA

Prof Johan Beckmann from the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies and his mentee, Dr Keshni Bipath from the Department of Early Childhood Education, have successfully highlighted research regarding South African school leadership in the chapter they contributed to the book *A decade of research on school principals – cases from 24 countries* (edited by Årlestig, Day and Johansson), which deals with the challenges faced by school principals in 24 countries. Their chapter focuses on South African public school principals and the uncompromising desire to improve the quality of education.

Prof Beckmann and Dr Bipath describe research that was conducted over the past 10 years, highlighting the struggle of principals striving to make their schools functional, despite the challenging contexts and the many promises and expectations that have to be met. Decentralisation of governance to the school level in the form of school governing bodies was a brave move, but may have contributed to widening the gap between the rich and poor.



Dr Keshni Bipath from the Department of Early Childhood Education, and Prof Johan Beckmann from the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies.

In addition to their traditional leadership and management roles, principals are now expected to foster staff development, parent involvement, community support and learner growth. As a result, it has become increasingly difficult to develop principals and provide them with the necessary knowledge, skills, values and attitudes. They also deal with how South African school principals endeavour to create a functional culture in the unpromising context within which they find themselves and in which teacher unions seem to play a very disruptive role.



# NEW DEAN appointed in Faculty of Education

Prof Chika Sehoole has been appointed as the new Dean of the Faculty of Education as from 1 June 2016. He will succeed Prof Irma Eloff, who has decided to step down after having served two terms as Dean.

Prof Sehoole, who has been Head of the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies since 2011, previously held the positions of Chief Director: Higher Education Policy and Development Support, and Chief Director: Higher Education Planning and Management Support in the National Department of Education.

He obtained a BA degree in Pedagogics at the University of the North (now part of the University of Limpopo) and a Bachelor of Education degree at the University of the Witwatersrand before completing a master's degree and, in 2002, a PhD in Education.

Prof Sehoole commenced his academic career as a lecturer in the Faculty of Education at UP in 2001. In 2007 he was

promoted to associate professor. He was subsequently seconded to the National Department of Education, where he held various chief directorships until 2010.

He has published extensively in the field of higher education and is the author or co-authored of a number of published peer-reviewed policy briefs, chapters in scholarly volumes and articles in accredited journals in his fields of research specialisation.

Between June 2013 and June 2014 he served on a task team of the Council on Higher Education, which conducted a 20-year review of the status of higher education in South Africa, and between 2012 and 2013 he participated in a research initiative of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), which focused on governance in higher education.

He is an NRF-rated scientist and maintains a number of active research collaborations nationally and internationally. He has also been involved in various outreach projects in local communities.



*Prof Chika Sehoole*

## New Head for Early Childhood Education

Prof Ina Joubert, who is a member of the World Education Research Association and serves on the management committee of the South African Research Association of Early Childhood Education (SARAECE), was recently appointed as the new Head of the Department of Early Childhood Education.

She specialises in democratic citizenship education and the language education of the young child and has published articles on her research in these fields in accredited national and international journals. She is the author of several scholarly books on children's experiences of their citizenship in democratic South Africa and assessment practices at higher education institutions, and has also contributed chapters to a number of subject-related books.

Prof Joubert has mentored postgraduate students to the completion of their studies in the fields of democratic citizenship education and language education in the Foundation Phase. Many of the students who completed their degrees under her supervision have excelled in their careers.



*Prof Ina Joubert*

## Promotions



*Dr Sonja van Putten from the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education was recently promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer.*



*Dr Surette van Staden from the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education was recently promoted to the position of Senior Lecturer.*



# FIVE NEW BOOKS LAUNCHED

On 19 April 2016 the Faculty of Education launched five new books by staff members. The event took place in the Postgraduate Research Commons where the Editors shared their experience and background of each book with colleagues, researchers and other guests.

Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education welcomed the guests and introduced the Editors.

The book *Psychological Assessment: Thinking innovatively in contexts of diversity* of Prof Ronél Ferreira, Head of the Department of Educational Psychology, propose creative ways of assessing and working with a range of clients, who may differ from the practitioner in background, culture, age and gender. The authors in the books draw on years of experience and research in the fields of industrial, counselling, clinical, research and educational psychology.

The book introduces practitioners to the current thinking and possible practical approaches, thus successfully blending theory and practice in one volume.

Prof Kobus Maree of the Department of Educational Psychology introduced one book and one manual to the guests. *First Steps in Research* is a much-needed book which is an introductory text for novice researchers, including undergraduate students or junior postgraduate students who are encountering research methodology for the first time.

*The Maree Career Matrix* (MCM) is a manual and a South African developed psychological test. It was devised by Prof Kobus Maree and standardised over the past eight years on a representative sample of South Africa learners. The MCM measures people's career interests and self-estimates of confidence about their aptitude to execute certain careers.

*Communication, culture and the multilingual classroom* of Prof Rinelle Evans from the Department of Humanities Education, focuses on the communication skills required by a teacher, both inside and outside the classroom. In an instructional context, the clear expressive use of one's voice is the primary mode of communication. This book equips prospective teachers with the necessary communicative and classroom literacies to follow a policy of additive bi/multi-lingualism and succeed as professionals in the domain of teaching.

The first e-book in the Faculty of Education was also launched: *Innovative Assessment Practice* e-book. The student and academic experience at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) is constantly changing as the profiles of students who come to learn. This means that how we teach needs to constantly adapt and change and innovation is the key to doing this successfully.

The book consists of seven chapters, each with its own, unique focus on the Scholarship of Assessment as part of the comprehensive Scholarship Teaching and Learning (SoTL) as a balancing act between teaching and learning.



Prof Irma Eloff rejoices in the achievements of the book editors.



Prof Ronél Ferreira



Prof Kobus Maree



Prof Rinelle Evans



Prof Ina Joubert





*Celebrating the new books launched were the Editors: Prof Kobus Maree, Prof Ronél Ferreira, Prof Rinelle Evans and Prof Ina Joubert. Seen here with them is Prof Irma Eloff, Dean and Prof Chika Sehoole, Dean-elect.*



*Prof Liesel Ebersöhn, Prof Johan Beckmann, Prof Ronél Ferreira, Prof Gerrit Stols and Prof Billy Fraser.*



*Prof Rinelle Evans and Ms Heather Erasmus*



*Dr Agnes Mohlakwana and Dr Vimbi Mahlangu*



*The Publishers enjoyed the event*



*Prof Karel Stanz, Prof Ina Joubert and Prof Irma Eloff*



*Prof Johan Beckmann*



*Mr Niekie Blom, Prof Billy Fraser and Dr Mia Abrie*



*Mr Adolf Ebersöhn, Prof Liesel Ebersöhn and Prof Ronél Ferreira*



# Academic Achiever

## Award for Professor

Prof Liesel Ebersöhn, Director of the Centre for the Study of Resilience and professor in the Department of Educational Psychology was awarded one of the eight Exceptional Academic Achievers Awards made at a Gala Dinner in March. This Academic Achievers Award function is one of the highlights on the University of Pretoria's calendar.

This award is made annually to senior academics who have already achieved the status of professor, are regarded highly by their peers and have consistently excelled in the areas of under- and postgraduate teaching and learning, research, community service and administration over a period of time. Any academic who has been awarded an A-rating by the NRF in the year under consideration automatically qualifies as an Exceptional Achiever as long as he or she remains as A-rated researcher.

Prof Liesel Ebersöhn is the Director of the Centre for the Study of Resilience and a professor in the Department of Educational Psychology in the Faculty of Education.

As NRF-rated researcher, Prof Ebersöhn is regarded as a leading scholar and teacher in resilience and resilience promoting interventions in high-risk school settings. Her research is positioned in contexts characteristic of an emerging

economy country in transformation. She combines emancipatory and intervention methodologies to investigate pathways to resilience as human-ecological and cultural adaptive responses to chronic and cumulative adversity. Her recognised scientific contributions include a generative theory (relationship-resourced resilience) describing an emic system to counter chronic adversity, as well as 'flocking', a word she coined to depict a collectivist indigenous psychology pathway to resilience.

Prof Ebersöhn is the appointed Secretary-General of the World Education Research Association (WERA). She served as Chair of the International Research and Scholarship Committee (Division C, Learning and Instruction, of the American Educational Research Association), and was the South African international representative to the Building Resilience in Teacher Education (BRITE) Project Reference Group, Murdoch University. She presented a plenary session in March 2016 as an invited speaker to the Global Development Network 17th Annual Conference in Lima and at a symposium on Indigenous Pathways to Resilience at the 2014 meeting of the American Psychological Association. She was visiting professor at Yale University and Edith Cowan University. Her research focus has had a decided impact on curricula for teacher training



*Prof Liesel Ebersöhn,*

in several higher education institutions in South Africa. With students, co-researchers and as a single author, Prof Ebersöhn has contributed more than 70 peer-reviewed articles, numerous book chapters and several edited and co-authored books. Her teaching and research outputs attest that higher education can effectively integrate research, teaching and learning as well as community engagement. Her pedagogy aligns with global citizenship and education as key strategies to restructure postcolonial conditions.

## Applauded for research

Dr Surette van Staden, senior lecturer in the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education, was acknowledged for her Y-rating by the NRF for the research she does at the annual Academic Achievement function.

At this gala occasion, the University celebrates excellence in the core functions of the University and we pay tribute to the academic stars and NRF rated researchers.

Dr Van Staden has an interest in educational assessment, specifically the assessment of reading literacy. She worked on the 'Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS)' 2006, an international large-scale comparative study on reading literacy, and acted as the co-national research coordinator for the study in 2011 in South Africa.

She is a member of the 'Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns' and was elected member of the 'Onderwyskommissie of the Akademie' for the term 2015 to 2017.

In 2014 she received a Knowledge, Interchange and Collaboration

grant from the NRF to attend the World Education Research Association (WERA) Focal Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, where she presented evidence of differential item functioning for different languages of the test that came to light in the prePIRLS 2011 overall results.

Dr Van Staden was elected as an inaugural fellow for the African Science Leadership Programme in 2015 and appointed as WERA network coordinator for work in reading literacy and associated

reading interventions for high-risk children from disadvantaged communities. She received a Y2 rating from the NRF. She is currently undertaking an intervention at two Gauteng schools to assist with reading comprehension practices of learners at-risk of failure in the Foundation Phase.



*Dr Surette van Staden*



# Staff in Washington DC

Five staff members attended the AERA conference in Washington DC in April. They are Prof Liesel Ebersöhn, Dr Funke Omidire, Dr Ruth Mampane and Ms Carine Jonker from the Department of Educational Psychology, Dr Surette van Staden from the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education and Prof Sarah Howie from the Centre for Evaluation and Assessment.



*Dr Surette van Staden and Dr Annika Bergbauer*

The theme of the conference was 'Discovering our past, creating our future'. The conference was attended by about 15 000 delegates from all over the world.

Dr Surette van Staden presented a paper on 'Reading achievement in home language and language of learning in South Africa: Evidence from prePIRLS 2011' with Dr Annika Bergbauer from Munchen, Germany.

Prof Liesel Ebersöhn from the Department of Educational Psychology and Director of the Centre for Resilience presented a paper at a recent World Education Research Association symposium also in Washington DC, USA. The paper was on 'Southern African perspectives on indigenous pathways to care and support in high risk school-communities: The value of being needed in a high risk school-community in Southern Africa'.



*With Prof Liesel Ebersöhn, Dr Ruth Mampane and Dr Funke Omidire were Prof George Head and Dr Rocio Garcia Carrion.*

# Teacher Training for Learning Equity

The Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria, Prof Irma Eloff, presented a lecture entitled 'Teacher education as an enabler for the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals' at the Symposium on 'Reframing teacher education for Learning Equity', which was held at the University of Newcastle in Australia on 11 March 2016.

Prof Eloff's presentation unpacked the shift in the Incheon Declaration that was promulgated in Korea in 2015. The declaration emphasises the critical role of teachers in terms of the Global Goals for 2030, in particular Global Goal #4, Quality Education, which states that teachers need to be qualified, well trained, motivated and supported.

Prof John Fischetti, Dean of the School of Education and Arts, thanked Prof Eloff for bringing a unique African perspective to the discussions.

The collaborative partnership between the University of Pretoria and the University of Newcastle was initiated almost a decade ago and has seen several publications, including a book, and several staff exchanges come to fruition.



*Prof Irma Eloff, Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria with Prof John Fischetti, Dean of the School of Education and Arts at the University of Newcastle, Australia*

## Academic elected as Deputy Chair of SAQA

In February 2016, the Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Blade Nzimande, appointed Prof Sarah Howie, Director of the Centre for Evaluation and Assessment (CEA) to the Board of the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) for the term 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2020. At the first meeting of the Board on 11 March 2016, Prof Howie was elected by members of the Board to serve as Deputy Chairperson for a term of five years.

The Board, which is chaired by Dr Toni-Penxa, comprises of prominent role-players in education, higher education, industry, trade unions and non-government organisations. The Board is

tasked with the governance and financial management of SAQA, and with supporting and facilitating the implementation of key policy initiatives under SAQA's mandate. It will also focus on working with a changed Sector Education and Training landscape while maintaining a strong emphasis on the implementation of the policy initiatives of the White Paper for Post-school Education and Training, the recognition of Prior Learning Coordination Policy and the Articulation Policy.



*Prof Sarah Howie*



# First-year MUSIC EDUCATION STUDENT'S hidden talents revealed



The exceptional voice of Siyabonga Sindane, a first-year BED (FET) student, has won him several awards. He was the winner of the 'Tuks has Talent' competition and walked away with the cash prize of R2 000. He also received membership and a gym attire from the Tuks Gymnasium. He said that he felt grateful and encouraged by the recognition he received from lecturers and student friends on campus.

Encouraged by two teachers at school who had recognised his talent, Siyabonga started singing solos in church and in choirs when he was in Grade 9. He also downloaded audio recordings from the internet, which he used for practising. This boosted his confidence.

'Jonas Kaufmann is my role model in singing, because his voice is unique. There is no other tenor who can sing like he does. His technique is incredible,' Siyabonga said.



He added: 'My dream is to win the BBC International Opera Competition and to sing in opera houses around the globe. I would also like to teach young music students opera music, and I think it will be great to teach modules in which the focus is on choral and gospel music.'

He is currently the conductor at his former school, Rorobhani Junior Secondary School



in Mpumalanga, which is where he lives. He was also the conductor at another school that won a national award and was placed second in the South African School Choir Eisteddfod.

Siyabonga would like the University of Pretoria to participate in SATICA, an opera and choral music competition for universities.

## Tiny miracles



On a hot, dry Wednesday morning in February 2016, six baby tortoises burrowed their way to life through very hard soil, knowing somehow that the rain was on its way. Later that afternoon the long-awaited rain finally arrived, bringing joy and hope to everyone. With the rain came more babies! What a pleasant surprise! All of them perfect, beautiful and precious.

It all started four years ago when Ms Marietjie Bruwer from the Department of Early Childhood Education and her family took in a leopard tortoise that was found neglected and in very poor condition. She had apparently been hit by a car and her shell was seriously damaged. She also had runny-nose syndrome (RNS), which is a life-threatening disease for tortoises. Ms Bruwer named her Lacey as she was so vulnerable at that stage. Thanks to treatment by the veterinarians at Onderstepoort and their useful advice, Lacey recovered and thrived at her new home. She weighed 11 kg and the veterinarians estimated her age to be between 20 and 25 years. Due to the damage to her shell, she could not be returned to nature. A year later, to everybody's surprise, she made three nests in three consecutive months even though there was no male around.

The leopard tortoise is South Africa's largest tortoise species and the third largest tortoise species in the world. These amazing animals can reach a weight of up to 40 kg and can live for up to 150 years. The females are usually bigger than the males. Their diet consists of different types of grass and succulents. They also love mulberry leaves, hibiscus leaves, petunias and desert roses.

Leopard tortoises become sexually mature at the age of ten years and after mating, the females dig nests in which they lay between 12 and 20 eggs. However, if conditions are not favourable for nesting, they can delay this process for up to two years! The eggs can remain underground for as long as four or five years and will only hatch when conditions are favourable for survival. When the babies hatch, they burrow their way out from under the ground. They survive without any parental care and are immediately ready to eat the same foods as the adults. Lacey's eggs were laid during the summer months of 2013.

The newly hatched tortoises are tiny, weighing a mere 6 grams, but they are little fighters with a strong will to survive. They do need protection though from birds, rats and the cold of winter. Leopard tortoises do not hibernate, but their metabolism does slow down, resulting in peaceful sleep for a period of three to four months.

After all the hardship Lacey had endured, the fact that she succeeded in producing offspring is an amazing achievement. She now gets a special flower for breakfast every morning, because for her every day is Mothers' Day!





# International reading assessment

## (PIRLS 2016) goes digital

The Centre for Evaluation and Assessment (CEA) this year introduced the electronic version of the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS).

This project, known as Epirls, aims to compare online reading to paper-based reading. In November 2015, after two years of preparation, the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) 2016, which is run under the auspices of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), went into the field in 500 classrooms around South Africa. The PIRLS assesses reading comprehension and has been monitoring trends in learner reading achievement at five-year intervals since 2001. The CEA was the National Coordinating Centre for South Africa for the 2006 and 2011 studies and will also coordinate the 2016 study.

PIRLS assesses reading comprehension at the Grade 4 level in more than 60 countries and sets international benchmarks for reading comprehension. In PIRLS 2016, the IEA introduced an easier version of the reading assessment, namely PIRLS Literacy. South Africa is participating in the PIRLS Literacy for Grade 4 learners in all 11 languages, and in the more difficult PIRLS at the Grade 5 level. Learners completing ePIRLS assessment are assessed at the Grade 5 level.

A further innovation with regard to PIRLS 2016 is ePIRLS, which is an assessment of online reading that makes it possible for countries to understand how successful they are in preparing Grade 4 learners to read, comprehend and interpret digital information. The electronic assessment presents learners with authentic school-like assignments on science, literature and social studies topics, which align with purposes for school reading.

In South Africa, given the extent, logistics and expense of PIRLS and PIRLS Literacy, an exploratory study of ePIRLS is being conducted in conjunction with PIRLS. A total of 13 schools in Gauteng that use ICT were selected, and one class of Grade 5 learners was assessed using both PIRLS (paper-based) and ePIRLS (electronic) instruments. This means that Grade 5 online reading comprehension can be compared to paper reading comprehension for a limited sample of schools.

The final data will be collected in April 2016 and the South African and international results for the PIRLS, PIRLS Literacy and ePIRLS will be released at national and international press conferences in December 2017.

## CEA members elected to RASA Executive Committee

At the Annual General Meeting of the Reading Association of South Africa (RASA), held on 27 February 2016, Mrs Karen Roux and Ms Nangamso Mtsatse from the Centre for Evaluation and Assessment (CEA) were elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the Association's Gauteng Branch.

Mrs Roux will serve as the secretary of this prestigious non-profit organisation, which focuses on literacy in South Africa, while Ms Nangamso Mtsatse's role will be that of Social Media Organiser.

RASA forms part of the International Literacy Association (ILA) and is a chartered affiliate of the International Reading Association (IRA). The organisation aims to enrich South African

citizens with the necessary literacy skills to cope with the daily demands of life.

At the various workshops that are held during the year, teachers, academics and any other persons who would like to be proactive in literacy can join in the conversation. The Annual RASA Conference, during which CEA researchers will be participating and presenting papers, will take place in Pietermaritzburg from 30 September to 2 October 2016.

The organisation has an accredited journal titled Reading and Writing and all are welcome to submit papers on the topic of literacy. More information can be found at [www.rasagauteng.com](http://www.rasagauteng.com)

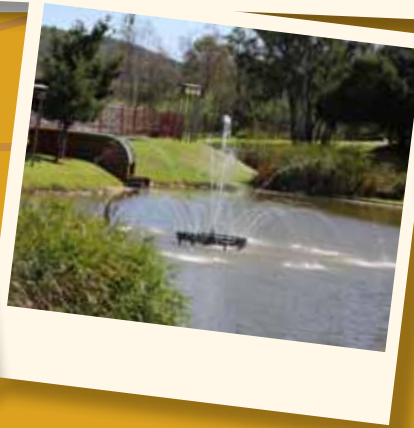


From left: Ms Catherine Langsford (Unisa), Dr Kamala Pather (WITS), Dr Carien Wilsenach (Unisa), Mrs Karen Roux and Ms Nangamso Mtsatse (Centre for Evaluation and Assessment)





# CAMPUS LIFE







*Prof Ina Joubert and Dr Keshni Bipath.*



*Mr Vernon Candiotes, Prof Pieter du Toit and Dr Jeanine Mwambakana on their way back from a seminar.*

## Inligtingstegnologie in taalonderwys

Dr Eva Sujee van die Departement Geesteswetenskaplike Opvoedkunde het 'n drie daagse werkswinkel oor inligting-stegnologie in taalonderwys aangebied vir lede van Naptosa. Die integrering van tegnologie in die hedendaagse taalklasskamer was een van die prioriteite wat deur die onderwysers uitgewys is as 'n leemte in hul universiteitsonderrig. Die fokus van die werkswinkel was om onderwysers bewus te maak van die indringende behoefte om die nodige kennis, vaardighede en waardes wat vandag in ons samelewing nodig is, aan leerders oortedra. 'n Veranderde omgewing noodsaak veranderde onderrigstrategieë en onderrighulpmiddels. Met tegnologie kan baie take vergemaklik word en die leerder word beter toegerus vir 'n kompeterende, globale wêreld. Die eerste dag se fokus was op die beskikbare hedendaagse tegnologie en hoe om dit in 'n taalklasskamer in die lesse te integreer. Die tweede dag is toegespits op assessering. Nuwe metodes van assessering moet in die 21ste eeu aangebied word wat 21ste eeuse vaardighede toets. Die derde dag is al hierdie nuwe kennis en vaardighede toegepas in die aanbieding en bespreking van mikro-lesse met die fokus op die integrering van tegnologie in lesaanbiedings en assessering.



*Dr Eva Sujee met lede van Naptosa wat die werkswinkel bygewoon het.*



# Great HONOUR for DYNAMIC young researcher

Ms Kgadi Mathabathe from the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education was chosen by the Embassy of the United States to participate in the 2016 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders.

The Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders is the flagship programme of President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI). As a Mandela Washington Fellow, she will arrive in the United States on 17 June 2016 and will spend six weeks taking part in academic activities hosted by a US institution of higher education.

Ms Mathabathe will also share her leadership skills and network with other young leaders from sub-Saharan Africa and the United States. After her academic residency, she will travel to Washington DC to participate in the three-day Mandela Washington Fellowship Summit hosted by President Barack Obama.

During the Summit, she will have the opportunity to interact with US leaders in the field of government, and with representatives from the business and non-profit sectors. A small number of fellows will remain in the United States to gain additional professional development experiences at US companies, non-profit organisations or government agencies. Upon completion of the US-based programme, her fellowship will continue in South Africa, where she will have access to professional development, networking and a variety of funding sources.



*Ms Kgadi Mathabathe*

Commenting on the programme, Patrick H Gaspard, American Ambassador in South Africa, said: 'I share President Obama's vision for the Mandela Washington Fellowship and believe that our commitment, courage, and "Yes, we can" attitude will lead sub-Saharan Africa into a new era of prosperity as it takes its place on the world stage.'

## Focus on effective TEACHING and LEARNING



Towards the end of March, four staff members from the Department of Education Management and Policy Studies, Prof Johan Beckmann, Dr Sharon Mampane, Dr Teresa Ogina and Prof Everard Weber were involved in training 120 school teachers in Kwazulu Natal in 'Mentoring and coaching for effective teaching and learning'. The training, which took place over a period of two weeks, was initiated by CE@UP.

This training was part of the professional development of teachers that falls under the Continuing Professional Teacher Development Programme (CPTD), which is administered by the South African Council of Educators and financed by the EDTP Sectoral Education and Training Authority (SETA).



*Students who attended Prof Johan Beckmann's presentation with him.*

## Editorial

**In-tuition** is the official newsletter of this Faculty of Education.

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*Ms Annalize Brynard  
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