

DIRISANA+ NEWSLETTER



December, 2023

HELPING EACH OTHER DO **Dirisana+**



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

The Project's Growth & Success in 2023

As we enter the new year, we are thrilled to announce that the Dirisana+ project has experienced significant success in 2023.

Our hardworking team has successfully implemented numerous research projects and achieved the goals set out for 2023, to ensure successful completion of the project in 2024.

In this Issue

- 2023 Highlights
- Educational Feedback



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA
YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA



UCD School of Medicine
Scoil an Leighis UCD



WITS
UNIVERSITY



UNIVERSITY
OF TURKU



UNAM
UNIVERSITY OF NAMIBIA



WELWITCHIA
HEALTH TRAINING CENTRE



Maastricht University



SEFAKO MAKGATHO
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

Our Partners



Technology

- Created 3D models for teaching and learning in Anatomy and Forensic Anthropology
- 3D surface scanned and 3D printed one complete human skeleton and the cranium, pelvis, and long bones of another skeleton for Eduvos
- Developed videos from the birthing simulator for the online nursing programme
- Collected data from rural clinics to create a disease profile that can be aligned with the BCMP curriculum
- Presented a technical workshop on 3D printing at the XXVIII International Symposium of Morphological Sciences (ISMS) in August
- Presented a 3D imaging, post-processing and printing workshop on 11th to 15th of September and on the 20th to 24th of November

Curriculum

- Postgraduate research projects are focused on human capacity development and curriculum revision
- UP presented its new curriculum to the Faculty of Health Sciences and Senate in May and June 2023
- A review of core course content for a Human Biology Honours course at the University of the Witwatersrand has been completed

Socio-cultural diversity

- Their current research evaluates field-of-practice experiences and cross-cultural medical education
- Facilitator training for diversity and inclusivity sessions were held in November 2022 and January 2023



Assessment

- Multiple choice and short answer question banks were created in the basic medical sciences
- The ROGO system is used to store the databanks
- Over 1613 anatomy, human osteology, embryology, and histology questions have been uploaded onto the system
- YouTube videos on anatomy on various anatomical structures such as the eye, heart, lungs were created to assist students



IPE

- Research projects investigate the experiences and training of healthcare students in IPECP
- A video advert for a research survey was created
- Presented research at two conferences: South African Association of Health Education (SAAHE) and the Africa Interprofessional Education Network (AfrIPEN)
- Maastricht University gave an IPE Mapping Workshop in March of 2023
- Mr Mpilo Booie presented his research intitled Interprofessional Collaboration: hearing care, language and communication, and oral health services at the Oral Hygienists Association of South Africa (OHASA) seminar in May 2023
- Dr Renata Eccles and Ms Abigail Dreyer went on a mobility to Maastricht University for interprofessional collaborations and plan the Dirisana+ IPE activities. Ms. Dreyer also completed a Problem Based Learning course

Academic Literacy

- The Undergraduate Research in Health (URH) journal published its first issue in 2023
- Additional calls for papers have been released for future issues
- An evaluation of the journal is being conducted
- The writing center has a project to do a needs analysis for the creation of a writing centre within the Faculty of Health Sciences



**UNDERGRADUATE
RESEARCH
IN HEALTH**

A Message from the Project Coordinator

Despite initial setbacks due to the global pandemic when the Dirisana+ grant began in 2021, the hard work of all academic staff, researchers, and students involved in the project really shone through during 2023. Various presentations at local and international conferences highlighted the studies being performed regarding improving Health Sciences education, and the quality of teaching materials developed in the last three years only emphasises the passion being put into the grant by those involved. Having been granted a 6-month extension for the grant, we are excited to see the final details fall into place not only regarding outputs but also long-term collaborative relationships that have been forged between Southern African and European institutions.

2023 HIGHLIGHTS



AMBERFIELD COLLEGE

Recently members from Dirisana+, FARC, and the South African Police Services (SAPS) visited Amberfield College to provide learners with information about the field of forensic anthropology. 3D prints and casts were used to teach students human osteology and to expose them to topics explored in forensic anthropology (e.g. bone trauma, sex estimation). This also provided an opportunity for the school to see the benefit of using 3D prints for teaching and learning.

EU FIELD VISIT

Recently, on the 9th of October 2023, the EU visited the University of Witwatersrand for field-monitoring on the Dirisana+ project. Members of the Dirisana+ consortium presented to the visiting EU members on the current progress of the project and feedback on their experience of running the grant. The EU also provide constructive feedback to members are were impressed by our various outputs.



ASSISTING HIGHER EDUCATION STUDENTS

The Dirisana+ team from SMU paid a visit to a private higher education institution and gave lessons to learners on the anatomy of the heart and muscles of the face on various days. This provided learners with opportunities to get more experience in anatomical sciences and improved teaching and learning in health education.



EDUCATIONAL FEEDBACK



Student Feedback

A medical student from UNAM provided insight on the impact publishing in the Undergraduate Research in Health Journal had on her outlook of research. The journal exposes undergraduate students to the world of research and provides them with the opportunity to experience the peer-review and publishing process.

Workshop Feedback

Two 5-day 3D post-processing workshops were held and presented at UP. Attendees found this practical workshop to be highly informative and provided attendees with more insight and skills on how to use 3D imaging software and create STLs for 3D printing. All attendees thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated the hands-on experience they were given.



BEST OF LUCK FOR 2024!

We're excited to see the final outputs from the project next year.

Dirisana+

Helping each other do!

