

NEWS

Upcoming Events

Alumni & Joint Events

- Cape Town Social
- 14 March
- East London Social
- 28 March
- George Social
- 18 May
- Johannesburg Social
- 23 May
- Alumni Achiever Awards
- 25 October
- Alumni Exec Breakfast
- 16 November

Graduation 2012

George - 13 April

Port Elizabeth - 17 - 23 April

Alumni Exec Meetings

- 12 April
- 21 May (AGM)
- 02 August
- 08 November

Reunions

- Athletics Reunion
- 14 April

Cheque handover, support pledges, social event

NMMU Alumni pledge support



HANDOVER ... The Alumni Association handed over a cheque of R50 000 to the NMMU Trust CEO Dr Garth Van Gensen in support of the Alumni House Fund at the PE social event recently represented by Alumni Vice-President Evert Knoesen (left) while Director: Alumni Relations Paul Geswindt looks on.

ALUMNI of Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) pledged their support to the university and the Vision 2020 Capital and Endowment Campaign at a social event held on the Summerstand South Campus.

The event was supported by more than 150 former students who enjoyed reconnecting with their *alma mater* and fellow alumni.

A formal pledge signing ceremony was held and alumni present were invited to join the movement to support the campaign to take NMMU to greater heights.

The university plans to raise R1 billion in project and endowment funding by 2020 to ensure that facilities and academic standards continue to improve NMMU as a leading higher education institution.

Director of Alumni Relations Paul Geswindt

informed alumni of the Alumni House project which forms part of the Vision 2020 Capital Campaign projects.

The Alumni House will be a symbol of the importance of alumni as a stakeholder group and a symbol of encouragement to current students to join the ranks of our global alumni ambassadors.

Alumni Association Vice-President Evert Knoesen invited current donors to join him as he made a personal pledge to support a bursary programme and the endowment fund.

Newly-appointed NMMU Trust CEO Dr Garth van Gensen stressed the importance of understanding the reason why NMMU embarked on this fundraising drive to benefit the academic mission and help NMMU realize its vision to be a leading university in Africa and the world.

Signing of Career Jump Agreement

RECRUITMENT Service Provider Career Jump and the NMMU Alumni Relations Office have signed an agreement allowing the company to provide alumni the opportunity to upload their personal profiles to be considered for employment placement by the recruitment company and its affiliated companies.

Career Jump is an online career portal populated with the personal profiles of a wide variety of job seekers with higher education qualifications, or working towards such qualifications.

The company presently also has a link on the current Alumni website which when clicked, directs alumni to the Career Jump website to complete these profiles.



ALUMNI BENEFITS ... NMMU Alumni Relations and Career Jump have signed an agreement to increase job opportunities for alumni. Present at the signing were (from left) Paul Geswindt (Alumni Director), Dr Deon Van Wyk (CEO) (back), Randall Jonas (Alumni President) and Attie Uys (Career Jump).

Note from the editor

GREETINGS from Alumni Relations. Our office is abuzz with a new and exciting year ahead. New Trust CEO Dr Garth Van Gensen is warmly welcomed to the NMMU Trust team as is Missionvale Shop-based Alumni Relations intern, Olwam Mnqwazi.

Please keep an eye on:

- ◆ Our new website
- ◆ Like our facebook page
- ◆ Check out the benefits for alumni and their children
- ◆ Our upcoming events, nationally and internationally to be a part of the growing alumni family.

In this edition you will find:-

- ◆ Up-to-date alumni news and happenings
- ◆ Alumni success stories
- ◆ Alumni event gallery
- ◆ Student Alumni Society events

Have you updated your details?

We would love to stay in touch with you.

We are proud of our alumni who keep the NMMU flag flying high.

Warm regards
Liscka Hendricks



Alumni Relations

Connect & stay in touch...

Liscka Hendricks @ 041 504 3935 (f) 041 504 1417
alumni@nmmu.ac.za

or visit our website @ <http://alumni.nmmu.ac.za>

& Facebook @ <http://www.facebook.com/pages/NMMU-Alumni-incl-ex-PE-Technikon-ex-UPE-old-students/104106786333440>

University Shop @ Sanlam Student Village

Baakier Abrahams @ 041 504 4371
(f) 041 504 1851

shop@nmmu.ac.za or

visit our website @ www.nmmu.ac.za/shop

Missionvale University Shop

@ 041 504 1369

shopmv@nmmu.ac.za

Alumni included in Top 40 Under 40

THE very first Top 40 Under 40, also known as the young achievers in business was launched by the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber recently. Almost half the recipients are NMMU graduates.

Among the recipients are:

Andrew Angles, (BA - 1998) Sales Manager, Tavcor Volkswagen.

Ayanda Bambiso, (BA Admin Human Resources - 2006), Marketing Manager, Umhlobo Wenene FM. Ayanda is responsible for growing the brand of the second largest public broadcast station in South Africa.

Alan Barr, Managing Partner, (BCom Hons - 1996), Eastern Cape, KPMG.

Bridgette Gasa (right), (Bachelor of Building Arts - 1998), Managing Director and CEO, The Elilox Group. She was nominated as the first-ever female and first-ever African President of the Chartered Institute of Building.



Ryan Haworth, BCom (Marketing Management - 2009), Membership Consultant, Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber.

William Heydenrych, (BCom General -

2010), Managing Director, Little Big Technologies.

Stuart Keil, (ND Electrical Engineering - 2009), Owner and Member, 4Tech IT Solutions.

Ayanda Kheswa, (LLB - 2009), Attorney, Joubert Galpin Searle.

Louise Liebenberg, (ND Public Relations Management - 1996), Assistant Editor, Weekend Post.

Ongama Mtimka, (MPhil - 2011), Media Liaison Officer, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.

Chuma Myoli (right), (ND Marketing - 2009), Communications and Marketing Coordinator, Mandela Bay Development Agency.



Gugu Nxiweni, (BCom Hons Accounting - 2003), Director and partner, KPMG. Gugu is the first African Partner of KPMG in the Eastern Cape and currently drives key advisory initiatives.

Jacques Pienaar, (MBA - 2009), Senior Consultant, KPMG.

JP Roodt (right), (BA Media, Communication and Culture - 2005), Head of Marketing and Stakeholder Relations, NMMU Business School. JP was named South Africa's best PR in Media Liaison at the age of 25.



Jaco Serfontein, (ND Building - 2010), Managing Director, Nutritech. Opened his company in 2009 which sources raw materials for use in nutritional supplements.

Xabiso Sidloyi, (MSc Built Environment: Project Management - 2008), Founder and Managing Member, ArchworXS Architects and Project Managers.

Mandlakazi Skefile, (ND Internal Auditing - 2000), Chief Executive Officer, Nelson Mandela Bay Tourism.

Warren Upton, (BTech Electrical Engineering - 1997), Director and Co-founder, Strategy Advertising.



RISING STAR ... NMMU Alumnus Achumile Majija was recently named the Rising Star of the Year.

NMMU Alumnus receives top award

NMMU BCom graduate Achumile Majija was recently named the Rising Star of the Year in the London-based SA Business Club Business Awards 2011.

He currently holds the title of Group Lead - Risk and Capital MI for Prudential Plc, an international financial service group with operations in Asia, US and UK which serves over 25 million customers and has a £349.5 billion of assets under management.

Majija has excelled within his nominated field, where he holds numerous professional memberships.

He served as a Founding Chairperson of the Black Management Forum Young Professionals, was selected as a Brightest Young Mind in 2005 and has also represented South Africa at the World Youth Congress, World Business Dialogue, at the

Harambe Bretton Woods Symposium. Majija is now a member of the International Youth Council and recently also named a Young Global Shaper by the World Economic Forum.

Other achievements include being the recipient of many scholarships from Vodacom, Abe Bailey, Chevening and the Leeds Deans Scholarship.

Majija is also actively involved in community projects.

"I am passionate about youth development, empowerment and social entrepreneurship and helping young people to unleash their potential: One day I hope to play an active role in reducing unemployment and poverty in Africa," he says.

Majija has also been selected as the only African on Prudentials Fast Tracker Programme (Momentum).

Home grown alumnus makes it big

NOMINATED for many years as Archive's "200 Best Photographers" world wide, this alumnus has proved that being positive, passionate, playful and persistent pays off in the end.

Jillian Lochner, now an international photographer specialising in advertising, is home grown, straight from the shores of Port Elizabeth and also an alumnus of NMMU.

Now residing in the United Kingdom, Lochner's work life has her enjoying travelling between London and New York.

Lochner, has achieved quite a number of her career goals and now just goes with the flow.

"These days I am enjoying the process. I don't believe we should have end-goals because in a way you are wishing your life away and you miss all the amazing subtleties and experiences that you have along your journey," said Lochner.

"Now when faced with unforeseen

situations, I go with the flow and explore and learn from what happened.

Lochner has won a number of awards thus far, including New York Gold for Levi's and Gold Awards for Cannes.

She has worked for many top brands including the iconic Absolut Vodka bottle - this being a dream of hers since NMMU.

Lochner, who studied at NMMU during the conservative apartheid years, says that NMMU laid a good foundation.

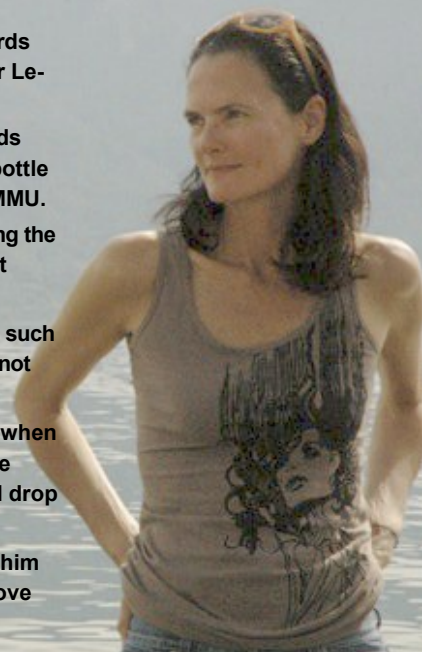
"We used to fail if we broke the rules such as blurred images or if the images did not fall on the rule of the thirds," she said.

Her passion for photography grew when a lecturer told first years, "women are useless, incompetent and you will all drop out".

"I then went on a mission to prove him wrong, which I did and then I fell in love with photography".

Lochner graduated from PE Tech (now NMMU) in 1990 with a NHDip in Photography.

PICTURE PERFECT ... NHDip Photography graduate Jillian Lochner



Plettenberg Bay educator among South Africa's best

HARD work, dedication and passion is what drives this educator to go above and beyond the call of duty to educate his pupils and contribute to his community.

Leigh Dunn is not the average educator. He shares his days with special needs children at Formosa Primary School in Plettenberg Bay where he heads up the Elsen Unit. He was recently recognised at the National Teachers Awards where he won the top award in the "Excellence in Special Needs Teaching" category.

Dunn, who hails from three generations of educators, with his grandfather, Michael Dunn, being the first coloured school principal in the Plettenberg Bay area and the first to start the first multi-racial school too.

"My grandmother taught there too. Both my parents are retired educators. I learnt a lot from their example. I also really enjoyed languages as a student," said Dunn.

Dunn who spent four years abroad in Korea teaching children, praises this experience for his interest in special needs.

"Korea has changed my life as an educator; it was so challenging, yet so

rewarding. Indeed, at the end of four years, I didn't even want to leave," he said.

Dunn, who graduated from UPE (now NMMU) with a BEd in 1995, was elected to NMMU's Student Representative Council in that year-this being the highlight of his educational career.

"I was given two major portfolios to run instead of one and was allowed to organise student leadership programmes and invited celebrity guests like Kepler Wessels to speak."

He also ran the student publications, which taught him to be creative and work closely with the press, photographers and many prominent people in the country.

He describes being "the nerd" at his residence UNITAS, as challenging but rewarding.

"I suddenly became the top achiever, receiving many awards and a bursary for good academic results and diligent behaviour," he said.

Dunn describes himself as a very creative person who loves the cultural side of life.

"One of my favourite lecturers at the time, Prof Olivier always told me how



CELEBRATING ... Leigh Dunn with two of his learners during a birthday party celebration held at Formosa Primary School in Plettenberg Bay.

she enjoyed her work, well I thank God that for the first time in my life, I can say exactly the same thing. Special needs is where I want to make a difference in for as long as I feel called to do so.

Author receives Alumni award



ACHIEVER ... Award winning author, Eben Venter (centre) was awarded an Alumni Achiever Award at his public lecture hosted by NMMU and Alumni Relations. Handing over the award is Prof Piet Naude, Deputy vice Chancellor: Academic (left) and Alumni Association President Randall Jonas.

AWARD-winning Afrikaans novelist and alumnus Eben Venter received an Alumni Achiever Award when he presented NMMU's first public lecture for 2012.

This prestigious award recognises alumni who have excelled in their specialised fields, contributing positively to society at local, national and international levels.

The official Alumni Achievers Awards ceremony was held in Port Elizabeth during November but Venter was unable to attend.

One of his novels, *Ek Stamel Ek Sterwe* (translated as *My Beautiful Death*) has been declared as one of the 10 best novels in the Afrikaans literature.

He has also won the WA Hofmeyr Prize for Afrikaans Novel of the Year for *Ek Stamel Ek Sterwe* as well as three other novels, *Foxtrot van die Vleisetters* (*Foxtrot of the Carnivores*), *Begeerte* (*Desire*) and in 2010, *Santa Gamka*.

In 2010 he was also one of five M-Net Literary Award Winners, taking top hon-

ours in the Afrikaans category for *Santa Gamka*, for which he also won the ATKV Literary Awards.

His public lecture was attended by more than 120 alumni, friends and students from schools in Port Elizabeth where Venter shared some extracts from his published books.

“Afrikaans is a rich and robust language with an incredible vocabulary...”

At the lecture, Venter said in response to a question that he will write in Afrikaans as long as possible. This was in response to the controversial

bill on South African official languages which in its current form has spurred many debates and threatening court battles.

“Afrikaans is a rich and robust language with an incredible vocabulary. Neither the English nor Xhosa vocabulary has the power to describe the shrubs in the Great -Karoo,” he said as an example.

The PE Alumni Chapter also launched a book club at this event where Venter signed their first book.

News Briefs

Alumnus takes gold

MICROBIOLOGY Honours student, Eugene Nolan won gold as he represented the South African team in Bench press at the Commonwealth Powerlifting Championships in December 2011.

He won a gold in his category with a bench press of 235kg. Eugene also improved his Eastern Cape and South African records.

Treasure Island Contest

ECONOMICS graduate and former financial consultant Ross Jordaan has rubbed shoulders with South Africa's top celebrities during the shooting of “Tropika Island” of Treasure's fourth season in Mexico.

The contestants are competing for the grand prize of R1 million. Jordaan intends to complete his honours degree with NMMU and then go on to work in economic or events management.

Chameleon takes on the world

ANDILE Dyalvane, an art and design graduate from NMMU, has been named a Design Icon and Master Crafter by the Cape Craft and Design Institute. He has also established Imiso Ceramics, is represented by Amaridian Gallery in New York and his work is also on show at Piece by Piece in Rosebank, Johannesburg.

He was a finalist in the Young International Design Entrepreneur of the Year Awards in 2009 and won an international award in the ceramic category in a competition organised by Elle Decoration magazine.

Alumnus develops skills

CERAMIC design graduate, Chuma Maweni, is now the Studio Manager at Art in the Forest, a South African art gallery, studio and boutique situated in Cape Town and actively involved with Light from Africa Foundation, an organisation generating funding for South Africa's vulnerable children.

Maweni has also been involved in a community project teaching ceramic art skills to women in rural Transkei.

SAS - More than just a student society

THE Student Alumni Society recently participated in the Umboniso Society Expo, which formed part of the 2012 Orientation programme.

The expo was organised by the SRC (Student Representative Council) to encourage students to be active participants in campus life by registering for a society of their choice.

This was held across all four campuses in Port Elizabeth and presented the opportunity for societies and students to interact.

With over 60 societies to choose from in five categories, namely academic, religious, recreational, political and developmental societies, SAS managed to recruit 165 members during the expo, already exceeding their total registered numbers in 2011.

The Alumni Relations Office offers support to this society by coaching and mentoring of the SAS executive members as well as oversight to assist in establishing a meaningful programme to its members.

The society also has a dedicated Alumni Relations Officer to provide assistance with the governance of the society.

SAS has its own programme but also collaborates on many events with other societies and departments.

The society also have a presence at many other student NMMU events, focusing on creating awareness of the Alumni Relations, what it is about and the value of staying connected with NMMU.

Upcoming projects and events include a Networking Social in March as well as a Leadership Seminar in April.

The Executive team consists of six capable students chaired by Thomas Terblanche. Other executive members include Vice Chairperson Luyanda Gwiji, Secretary Shinay Terblanche, Treasurer Jason Barks, Project Manager Stewart Nyabereka and Public Relations Officer Curwyn Mapaling.

Would you like to assist at these events or be a mentor? For information on SAS and its programmes contact Lyree Boucher @ 041 504 4371.



DRIVEN ...
SAS members Mandisi Getane, Nthabiseng Lengosane and Jason Barks signs up members at this year's Umboniso Society Expo which formed part of the first year orientation programme.

University SHOP

SANLAM STUDENT VILLAGE • UNIVERSITY WAY

Tel: 041 504 4371 • E-mail: shop@nmmu.ac.za

Trading hours: Mon - Fri
09:00 - 15:30

BEST SELLERS

Visit the University Shop or browse our website for the full range of all NMMU Branded Corporate Clothing & Gifts

Clothing Tracksuit R450 Rain Jacket R340 Corporate Golf Shirt R145 Corporate T-shirt R115 Shorts R115 Cap R50 Bags Laptop Backpack R200 Sports bag R130 Gym Bag R90 Compact Sling Bag R80 Folders Executive Folder R185 A5 Folder R75 A4 Folder R65	Corporate Gifts Desk Pen Holder R100 Aluminium Pen Set R85 A5 Journal R70 A5 Eco Notebook R45 Thermal Mug R45 Memorabilia NMMU Tie R110 Choir CD/DVD R100 Lapel Pin R40 Gifts under R20 Greeting Card (p/pack) R20 Waterbottle R15 Lanyard R15 Conference Pen R3	
---	---	--

Satele life Shop situated at Missionvale Campus
 eKhaya Student Life Centre
 Tel: 041 504 1369
 Email: shop@nmmu.ac.za

www.nmmu.ac.za/shop
 Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University
 for tomorrow



YOUNG ALUMNI ... Former University Shop manager (from left) Darren Howe, Kelly Renze, Caryn Van der Westhuizen and Ayabonga Jonas were among attendees at the Alumni social.



GRADUATES ... Also present at the Alumni Social were Hlulane Siweya (left) and Pertunia Rikhotso. The alumni social was attended by more than 150 alumni and friends.

SENIOR ALUMNI ... Alumni and friends joined the PE Alumni Social recently which was held at Madibaz Café on NMMU South Campus. At the event the Alumni Association handed over a cheque of R50 000 in support of the Alumni House Project. Present at the event were (from left) NMMU Alumni Association Vice President Evert Knoesen, Director: Alumni Relations Paul Geswindt, Prof Bert Olivier, Mariana van Rooyen, Leana van Loggerenberg, Prof Christo Van Loggerenberg and new NMMU Trust CEO Dr Garth Van Gensen.



ALL SMILES ... Alumni (from left) Loreene Ragadu, Beverly Jones and Anneline Matroos enjoyed the jazz at the PE Alumni social held recently.



REUNION ... SAS executive member (from left) Shinay Terblanche, met up with alumni Sharda Coopposamy and Kribban Coopposamy at this year's social event.



NEW GRADUATES ... Alumni (from left) Otto Tamela, Regis Guezodje and Yanga Fadana enjoyed this year's PE Alumni Jazz and cocktail social recently held at Madibaz Café on NMMU's South Campus .



RECONNECTING ... Among of the alumni to attend the recent NMMU PE Alumni Social were Thabiso Nkile (left) and Mncedisi Wambi. More than 150 alumni and friends attended.



BOOK LOVERS ... Sharon Daniels (from left), Brent Wilson and Mecky Pothmann-Leven attended the public lecture by novelist Eben Venter held recently at the North Campus Conference Centre. The author read extracts from his award-winning novels at the event.



WELL READ ... The Alumni PE Chapter launched their book club at the public lecture of Eben Venter (right) Chairperson of PE Chapter Adv Shuaib Rahim looks on as Venter signs one of the Chapter books.



LECTURED ... Students from Kingswood College attended the public lecture by award winning Afrikaans novelist, Eben Venter (centre) held recently. At this event Venter also received an Alumni Achiever Award from the Alumni Relations Office for being an alumnus who has gone the distance and beyond in their specialist fields, benefitting society at local, provincial, national or international level. Educator and alumnus Randolph Scholtz (back right) also attended.