



Nelson Mandela
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University
for tomorrow

10 2005-2015

routes

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Celebrating our 10th Anniversary as NMMU!

Chancellor Santie Botha, Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz (middle) and Alumni Association President Randall Jonas have kept the NMMU alumni flag flying high over the past 10 years.

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Alumni Association President's Message



THE establishment of an Alumni Relations Directorate (ARD) was a bold, yet visionary step taken by NMMU more than five years ago. Alumni are very important

stakeholders of the university since the association with their alma mater is an enduring one. NMMU alumni are not only fulfilling an ambassadorial role for NMMU, but are also leaders where they are. Alumni success is a feather in the cap of the university – and a university that continues to grow and achieve can only increase the value of a qualification for the alumnus. Considering that NMMU and its predecessors granted more than 115 000 qualifications to close to 90 000 individuals, it can be asserted that alumni have extended the university's global footprint.

NMMU is a new generation university with an exciting vision and alumni can play an important role in helping to achieve the university's strategic objectives.

The strategic objective of the first phase of Alumni Relations focused on establishing and gearing the directorate for future engagement with alumni and developing various programmes to reconnect alumni as friends of their alma mater.

The second phase, 2015 to 2020, will focus more on consolidation and the further development of projects that encourage alumni participation in advancing the strategic goals of the university. As the embodiment of NMMU's corporate identity, alumni can become the proverbial brand ambassadors by using promotional strategies and networking to foster the university's mission and connect benefactors and patrons to the institution.

The work of the ARD and Alumni Association continues and we are indeed proud of our achievements thus far and look forward to the next phase of this exciting journey, to take NMMU to even greater heights.

Thank you to all alumni and friends for the support thus far. We look forward to even greater alumni involvement and support for the future.

Best wishes for 2015 – and please join us in celebrating NMMU's 10th anniversary this year.

Randall Jonas • President: Alumni Association

If you would like to make a contribution or an online donation, please visit the following website for more information: <http://alumni.nmmu.ac.za/Donate-to-NMMU/Alumni-Giving>

BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS

Bank: Standard Bank
Account Name: NMMU ALUMNI
Account Number: 080 292 321
Branch Code: 050417
Branch: Port Elizabeth
Ref: Please list ID number or cell / tel number

NMMU's Alumni Team



FORWARD-FOCUSSD ... The Alumni Relations Directorate (ARD) team includes (from left) Administrative Assistant Liska Hendricks, University Shop Manager Baakier Abrahams, Director Paul Geswindt, Coordinator Santhoshini Petersen and University Shop Assistant Wendy Scheepers.

Alumni Director's Message



IT is fitting that we reflect on what has been achieved since the establishment of the Alumni Relations Directorate (ARD) five years ago. Alumni Relations should provide a key stakeholder relationship-building function

at any educational institution. It is a long-term investment that can render returns in various ways, not only financially, but in all aspects important for the advancement of the institution.

2010

During South Africa's Soccer World Cup year, the Alumni Administrative Officer and Projects Officer were appointed and the Alumni Relations Centre was opened. The corporate identity for alumni was finalised and new look marketing and communication material introduced. The Alumni Ambassador programme and Alumni Awards were also introduced during that period to showcase some of our top-performing alumni and allow alumni to become active NMMU ambassadors. National alumni chapters were established and cricket, law, architecture and pharmacy legacy reunions took place.

2011

The Alumni Association and Convocation merger talks started, in order to establish a single alumni governance structure. A promotional DVD, brochure and revamped website were also introduced to create awareness about the value of alumni relations and the role alumni can play in the development of their alma mater. The "free admission application fee" benefit for alumni was introduced and the satellite University Shop at Missionvale opened. The University Shop is an Alumni Association project that was established in 2005 to promote the NMMU brand; it uses surplus funds to contribute to the Alumni Association Fund. Accounting, rugby, hockey and athletics legacy reunions took place during this period.

2012

The alumni online donation system was introduced and the new constitution for the merged Alumni Association was adopted. The Rising Star awards, to recognise young alumni achievers, were introduced along with the community development-focused Past Pupil Programme, which helps mainly disadvantaged schools to get past pupils involved in school development. Four alumni newsletters were produced, and the various chapter outreach events continued to grow, along with event and programme partnerships.

2013

The new, merged Alumni Association was officially constituted and a new Executive Committee elected. NMMU hosted the Southern African Alumni Consortium and received an Association of Commonwealth Universities' Award for its newsletter. The Alumni Concert was introduced with a special celebration of the 25th anniversary of the university organ. It would become an annual event, focusing on celebrating alumni talent, building partnerships and raising funds in support of the Alumni Bursary Fund.

2014

This was a very busy year for the ARD. A record number of events took place and many exciting partnerships were entered into or cemented. The year was not only a celebration of 20 years of democracy, but also the 20th anniversary of the NMMU Choir. The Alumni Concert was attended by more than 1000 people, with all proceeds once again supporting the Alumni Bursary Fund. Also supporting this fund was the Student Alumni Society, which embarked on a fundraising campaign to sell 2 000 environmentally friendly shopping bags. The launch of a "Lessons in Leadership" booklet to showcase valuable life lessons from notable alumni was another highlight. The booklet kicked off a wider campaign to get other alumni to share their life lessons (See page 4).

Contact us

Please update your details by using the update form, visiting our website or contacting our office.

Alumni contact details

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nmmu.ac.za • Website: alumni.nmmu.ac.za

ARD's areas of focus

National and international events

We are proud of our annual events to engage alumni. These have included regular events in Port Elizabeth, Johannesburg, Cape Town, East London and George and, globally, in London, Nairobi, Kampala and Windhoek.

Governance

The single alumni governance model at NMMU is a very significant achievement for a merged institution. The Alumni Association and executive committee function well and actively work towards advancing the university's interests.

Partnerships

The establishment of internal and external partnerships and working relationships have contributed to the success of our projects. Partnerships with Madibaz Sport, the Office of International Education, Marketing and Corporate Relations, Student Governance and Development, and Arts and Culture, to name a few, have contributed to the programme's success. Alumni generally have a greater affinity towards an academic programme or student activity they enjoyed during their studies. Partnerships with external organisations have included corporate sponsor PPS and the Northern Areas People Development Initiative (Napdi), which funded the Past Pupil Programme.

Relationship-building events

These events can be categorised as official university events (e.g. graduation and open days), partner events (e.g. events involving academic departments or external organisations), and targeted ARD-initiated events (e.g. Chapter events, initiated by the ARD with alumni support in a specific geographical area).

Programmes and fundraising projects

The introduction of the Ambassador Programme in 2010 was to allow alumni to identify with and promote their alma mater. There have been three major fundraising projects: The Bench Project has seen alumni sponsoring personalised plaques on university benches, with funds supporting the Alumni Bursary Fund. The Student

Alumni Society's Shopping Bag Campaign has also raised funds for the Alumni Bursary Fund. Alumni have also had the option to make monthly or annual donations to the Alumni Fund.

Alumni Awards

The Alumni Awards, a highlight on the alumni calendar, were introduced in 2005 in a bid to recognise alumni achievers. Alumni can be nominated for the Achiever Awards (top category) or the Rising Star Awards (for young achievers). The Alumni Association also gives Special Awards to alumni who have contributed to society in identified areas.

Student Alumni Society (SAS)

SAS was established as a springboard for future alumni ambassadors and chapter coordinators, and to promote alumni relations among current students (or "pre-alumni"). The SAS Shopping Bag Campaign remains a main focus for 2015.

University Shop

Established by the Alumni Association in 2005, the University Shop and its satellites on Missionvale and George campuses only sell NMMU-branded items. Prices are affordable and surpluses are used to fund Alumni projects (See back cover).

Alumni Bursary Fund

This fund was established because many alumni wanted to donate money specifically towards a bursary fund. The need for additional financial support for financially-needy and academically-deserving students has increased dramatically. Every small contribution helps. For more information, visit: <http://alumni.nmmu.ac.za> or e-mail: alumni@nmmu.ac.za.

10th Anniversary Celebrations and the role alumni can play

During 2013/2014, the Alumni Association contributed more than R1m towards university projects, including R300 000 towards the Endowment Fund (which will make provision for future strategic areas, such as bursaries), more than R250 000 towards bursaries, and more than R500 000 towards various alumni, student and university projects. We have also managed to significantly grow our alumni connections and hope that the 2015-2020 period will see even greater alumni support.

Thank you for your support during our first five years as a directorate!

As we celebrate NMMU's 10th anniversary, we hope our alumni and friends will use the opportunity to reconnect with their alma mater, become more actively involved in alumni events and projects and help NMMU achieve its strategic goals.

Paul GG Geswindt • Director: Alumni Relations

NMMU turns 10! 10 highlights: 2005-2015

- 1 The appointment of visionary leaders, Vice Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz and Chancellor Santie Botha, and the introduction of Vision 2020, a strategic plan to enable the university to be even bigger and better by 2020
- 2 The university's unprecedented R1 billion building boom, which includes the R120m Centre for High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscopy, housing Africa's most powerful microscopes, and NMMU's new "green" business school, the first education building in the country to receive Green Council accreditation
- 3 The start of a paramedics degree, one of the first building blocks towards NMMU's fully-fledged medical school
- 4 The ball is also rolling for NMMU to become the marine and maritime university in South Africa
- 5 The university houses the country's first electric vehicle e-mobility programme
- 6 The establishment of the Centre for Non-Racialism and Democracy (Canrad)
- 7 The launch of NMMU's very first television advert
- 8 NMMU ambassadors at the London Olympics included Paralympians Kevin Paul and Michael Louwrens, and Olympian Jessica Roux
- 9 Noteworthy honorary doctorate recipients have included Sir David Attenborough and Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu
- 10 NMMU currently has 27 000 students on six campuses – five in Nelson Mandela Bay and one in George – offering as many as 450 programmes across 120 different career fields

NMMU's Vision 2020 strategic plan has given rise to an unprecedented building boom to support our aims to provide cutting-edge and life-changing educational opportunities for our students.

Prof Derrick Swartz, Vice-Chancellor

World-class alumni: an inspiration



THE success of any university is measured by the success of its graduates. As NMMU celebrates its 10th year since the 2005 merger, we look back with pride at the achievements of our alumni, those who graduated both before and after the merger. They inspire us. And we want them to inspire others – which is why we asked some of our top-achieving alumni to share with us the lessons they have learned on their journeys towards becoming leaders in their fields.

A true leader isn't afraid to fail. Winning is easy, but the people I admire are those who have managed adversity and turned it into an opportunity. ”



Danise Lopes
LLB graduate,
Global Head of
Intellectual Property,
The Coca-Cola
Company

I am driven by my Christian beliefs ... The bible verse I always go back to when things are tough is: 'Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.' ”



Nikki Mbengashe
NDip Industrial
Engineering
graduate,
Chief Operations
Officer, Absa

Today, society faces major challenges and the stakes are getting higher: poverty, water scarcity, climate change, food security and alcohol-related harm, all demand urgent attention to secure a prosperous future. These pressing issues are shared by communities, businesses and governments and we must solve them together. ”



Alan Clark
Clinical Psychology
master's graduate,
Chief Executive,
SABMiller

Car companies accelerate with Johan at the wheel



Speed of execution is as important as quality of execution. Accept as a consequence that occasionally you may fail, which is okay because even failure can be a learning experience. ”

IN August this year, BCom graduate **Johan de Nysschen** was named President of Cadillac globally. The appointment is recognition indeed of De Nysschen's high-calibre leadership – and without a doubt the pinnacle in an auto-industry career which has spanned several decades. But perhaps what stands out most in his impressive CV is his 19 years with Audi, where he grew the company's sales exponentially in South Africa, and then effected massive turn-arounds in loss-making plants in Japan and the United States. His success at Audi led to his appointment in 2012 as President of the premium brand subsidiary Infiniti Motor Company Limited, headquartered in Hong Kong. And in parallel, he was Senior Vice-President of Nissan Motor Limited, headquartered in Japan. The Cadillac appointment came next. After so long in the driving seat of the world's top auto companies, De Nysschen has translated the leadership lessons he has learned into 'Ten principles of successful leadership':

Ten principles of successful leadership

1. The job of a CEO is not only to lead, but also to inspire and motivate the organisation.
2. Set a very clear long-term vision for the corporation. What do you want your business/brand to be in the future?
3. Cascade down corporate, functional and individual objectives, fully aligned with the corporate vision. Then people know how their role contributes to the master plan.
4. Craft a retail strategy, with clearly defined short, medium and long-term milestones, to serve as a road map from where you are, to where you want to be.
5. Surround yourself with top talent, ensure they buy into the vision, give them the essential resources and then get out of their way.
6. Do not entertain passengers – individuals only earn and retain the right to be part of a top performing team through their contribution to the team's success.
7. Develop a corporate culture that works hard and plays hard. Top achievers live life intensely.
8. Make well-informed decisions but do not be risk averse, because you will never have perfect information for complex decisions. Speed of execution is as important as quality of execution. Accept as a consequence that occasionally you may fail, which is okay because even failure can be a learning experience.
9. Good is the enemy of great – be demanding and set high standards. Feel free to sweat the small stuff with as much enthusiasm as you agonize over the big stuff.
10. Walk your talk. No exceptions.

Power of the mind propels Dave forward



THE ability to imagine himself succeeding – and then translating this into action – has stood former Eastern Province and South African wicketkeeper **Dave Richardson** in good stead throughout his career. Richardson, the CEO of the International Cricket Council (ICC), has employed this approach from the time he was a child. "From a young age, a vivid imagination allowed me to imagine playing cricket for South Africa. On the front lawn, I was always Graeme Pollock, Barry Richards or Mike Procter. This translated into a determination to play for Eastern Province and then South Africa. I guess I simply loved cricket and just wanted to be part of that world. I always knew I did not have the natural talent of the superstars but worked hard at being the best I could be. My imagination did the rest. My working career has just been an extension of that." Richardson represented South Africa as a wicketkeeper in 42 test matches and 122 one-day internationals. He was the ICC's General Manager: Cricket for 10 years before his appointment as CEO in 2012. Born in Johannesburg but raised in Port Elizabeth, Richardson graduated with a BCom LLB from the former University of Port Elizabeth. Upon retiring from international cricket in 1998, the qualified lawyer maintained close contact with the game as both a Business Director with Octagon SA, the company

On the front lawn as a child, I was always Graeme Pollock, Barry Richards or Mike Procter. ”

which negotiates South African players' contracts with their board, and as a media commentator with SuperSport in South Africa, before becoming the ICC's first General Manager in 2002. He is an Honorary Life Member of the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), which is the guardian of the laws of cricket, based at Lord's in London, and a member of the MCC World Cricket Committee. He is married to Jennifer and has three sons – Michael, Matthew and Jonathan.

Leadership roles always bring with them great responsibility and often significant privilege. Leaders who are preoccupied with the privileges of leadership instead of being concerned with the responsibility of leadership, and particularly the responsibility for those they lead, will never achieve true greatness. ”



David Powels
Certificate in
the Theory of
Accounting (CTA)
graduate, Outgoing
MD, VWSA

You have within you the inherent capability to achieve all that you set out to do. ”



Bridgette Gasa
PhD Construction
Management
graduate,
Founder and MD,
The Elilox Group

Visionary young leader determined to build SA



South Africa is where my heart is ... Being abroad is a learning path for me, I take it as a fact finding mission. All the knowledge and skills acquired will be useful in my efforts to build a better South Africa when I move back. ”

BCOM graduate **Achumile Majija** – who has spent the last few years working for insurance firm Prudential Plc in London and Poland – was a serious, inquisitive child, determined from a young age to live a life of purpose. At the age of 12, he walked into an Mthatha accounting firm and requested to meet one of the partners, asking her everything there was to know about her profession. "From that day on, I was convinced that financial services was the ideal industry." However, as a student and young professional, he also understood that life was more than work. "I always knew I had a greater calling, to live for a purpose greater than myself. Yes, I liked the idea of being in business and driving the economy as a first point of making a difference. But I also felt the need to be responsible." He was the Founding Chairperson of the Black Management Forum Young Professionals (BMFYP)

in the Western Cape, and has taken an active role in trying to promote youth empowerment, leadership development and socio-economic growth. He has taken part in various forums, including sharing a platform with former president Thabo Mbeki, to discuss the role young people should play in shaping Africa and South Africa. His many accolades include being named a "Young Global Shaper" by the World Economic Forum (WEF), "Rising Star of the Year" by the South African Business Community in the UK, being listed among the top 200 Young Influential South Africans by the Mail and Guardian in 2012, and voted as one of "13 Young African Business/Economic Leaders to Watch in 2013" by Ventures Africa. Five years ago, he completed his MBA in the United Kingdom, where he was headhunted by Prudential Plc, but is still planning on returning home. "South Africa is where my heart is ... Being abroad is a learning path for me, I take it as a fact finding mission. All the knowledge and skills acquired will be useful in my efforts to build a better South Africa when I move back."

Facing tough challenges in tough industries

Leaders are passionate about people. They represent an instrumentality for people, elevating them above their needs and wants, focusing on the worthy and switching on the power to find purpose in whatever they do. Ultimately, leadership is ministry. ”



Randall Jonas
Master's in
Sociology graduate,
CEO, Eastcape
Training Centre

Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world. ”



Desmond Tutu
Honorary doctoral
recipient (2007),
Archbishop
Emeritus



CLIMBING to the top of the corporate ladder in an industry traditionally dominated by men, was just one of the tough career challenges former Engen CEO **Almorie Maule** embraced. She first worked at SA Breweries before moving on to Gencor and later Engen, where she held a number of top positions, ultimately being appointed as Engen's Managing Director and CEO. Since retiring from corporate life in 2002, she has served on a number of boards, among them Engen Limited, Energy Africa, Women in Oil & Energy and the NMMU Trust, and has passionately promoted the empowerment of women and previously-disadvantaged individuals. "I was fortunate to grow up in a stable, loving home environment. My parents encouraged my brother and I to read widely, to question and to explore; but also to work hard and take responsibility for our decisions,

successes and failures – and to learn from them ... Generally, I was determined that what I lacked in talent and opportunity, I could overcome with hard work." It was a foundation that would keep her grounded – and determined to succeed. "I liked taking on tough challenges – my working career spanned three major sectors of the economy – brewing, mining and energy – none of which were particularly female friendly. It took time and perseverance to build credibility with my peers, but it was worth the effort. I discovered early in my life that many a difficult situation can be relieved with the

I chose to regard gender discrimination as a challenge which made me determined to demonstrate that I could do the job as well or better than anyone else – be they male or female. ”

introduction of humour." Rather than discouraging her, gender discrimination propelled her forward. "Gender discrimination was a big issue for me in my early years. Although disappointed by such events, I chose to regard them as challenges which made me determined to demonstrate that I could do the job as well or better than anyone else – be they male or female." Maule obtained a BSc (Hons) and MSc cum laude in Mathematical Statistics from NMMU. She is married to Lionel and has three children and three grandchildren.

Home-grown TV ad for NMMU



LEAP OF FAITH ... Schoolboy David Spanjaard jumps into Die Watergat at Jeffreys Bay in NMMU's first television advertisement.

University nationally. The university has over the past two years grown in national stature, but we need to further create awareness," said NMMU Director of Marketing and Corporate Relations Pieter Swart.

"The music and John Kani's voice adds the gravitas NMMU needs in sharing its brand beyond the Eastern Cape." Kani, an international actor who still calls New Brighton home, is an NMMU honorary graduate.

Unlike traditional university advertisements, NMMU opted to appeal to people's emotions in sharing the "moment" when you turn dreams into reality. All five locations are in the Eastern Cape, two within the university.

The university worked with strategic brand agency Boomtown and production company Rooftop, whose teams include a large number of NMMU alumni.

"This TV advert was a great opportunity to show our production capabilities and what Nelson Mandela Bay has to offer. I think our city has a lot to offer the film industry and this was the perfect opportunity to show it to the world," said Rooftop's Richard Ahlfeldt, a former NMMU student.

Similarly, Boomtown's team is almost entirely made up of NMMU alumni.

"It has been a fantastic journey working on this project. From concept, to pre-production, production and final editing, every component has been initiated entirely in and around Nelson Mandela Bay, and using local skills, and expertise," said Boomtown's Andrew Mackenzie.

All the actors, bar schoolboy David Spanjaard, were NMMU students or staff.

2014 Briefs

Singing for China

THE NMMU Choir was one of five international choirs, representing the five continents, invited to the 12th China International Choir Festival, held over six days in Beijing and Tianjin in August. The choir participated in the opening and closing concerts, with some members forming part of the mass choir. As Africa's representative, their costs while in China were sponsored by the host country. The choir also celebrated its 20th birthday in 2014.

ICC Africa Cup selection

MADIBAZ cricketers Curtis Samboer and Josh Dolley were selected to play for the South African Invitation XI at the International Cricket Council (ICC) Africa 6 Nations Cup in Benoni in September, competing against Kenya, Tanzania, Namibia, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The invitation side was selected following the Cricket South Africa Triangular in Kimberley in April.

SA hockey honours

FIRST-YEAR Mechanical Engineering student Ignatius Malgraff's selection for the South African Men's World Cup Hockey Team saw him competing against the best in the world in The Hague, Netherlands in May and June. He was one of only two juniors included in the squad. In October, Malgraff was joined by Madibaz teammate Chad Cairncross, who received his first call-up to the SA squad.

Student film at G'town fest

"THE Heart of the Who", a documentary telling the stories of learners studying in challenging circumstances, aired at the Grahamstown National Arts Festival last year.

The film was made by Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) students as part of their "Curriculum Design and Development" module.

Instead of choosing a traditional talk and chalk approach, their lecturer, Dr Kathija Adam, who in 2014 won a prestigious NMMU Teaching Excellence award, shifted the 65 students from the comfortable corridors of NMMU's South Campus in Summerstrand to the university's Missionvale Campus, surrounded by Missionvale township.

Then she took it a step further and partnered with nearby Khwezi Lomso High School so that the teacher candidates could get first-hand experience of where and how 80% of the country's learners study, and gain insights about whether the current national curriculum is truly meeting the needs of most South African learners.

The students, who spent time with the learners both at the school and in their homes, gaining insight into their personal lives, produced eight short films, which were collated into the 60-minute documentary.



CONNECTING ... Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) student Lee Abrahams plays with children in Missionvale township.

Creativity + Business Savvy = Success

BTECH Graphic Design graduate **Neil Hart** is the founder and Chairman of one of South Africa's best-rated advertising agencies, Boomtown Strategic Brand Agency, which has notched up a number of international wins for creativity at the world's top awards shows. Hart has a track record of developing top brands and has worked with the likes of Barloworld, SAB, Plascon, Avis and Neotel among others. He developed the Nelson Mandela Bay brand, assisted with the merged NMMU's new brand, and created the Eastern Cape Adventure Province and Cacadu brands, for which Boomtown won two global Rebrand Awards. The agency has offices in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth. Hart believes the seeds for his career success were planted during his student days – when he signed up for a combination of creative and business-savvy subjects. "I studied Graphic Design but also did a short marketing course before graduating. This combination effectively began a right brain/left brain marriage which has helped me tremendously. I was trained as a creative, but then began looking into the analytical reasons for a company's growth

or failure. As I began working with more and more companies, I started to understand marketing, brand and growth strategy for business ... I have found this to be a rare skill that provides great value to clients."

Hart has held many leadership roles including Chairman of the Marketers Executive Forum, Vice-President of Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber and Trustee of the Raymond Mhlaba Trust, where he worked personally with Nelson Mandela on projects to make a difference in South Africa. He is a Senior Leader of All Nations, an organisation that trains missionaries and carries out humanitarian work in Africa, the Middle East and beyond. Hart lives in Cape Town with his wife Mandi and two children, Matt and Emily.

I studied Graphic Design but also did a short marketing course before graduating. This combination effectively began a right brain/left brain marriage which has helped me tremendously. ”



2014 Briefs

Youngest MP yet

FORMER SRC President, Democratic Alliance Students Organisation (DASO) Caucus Leader and master's in Public Administration student Yusuf Cassim became the youngest Member of Parliament in the history of South Africa, when he was elected as DA Youth Federal Chairman last year. Applied Accounting's Dr Malcolm Figg and Student Development's Celeste Barker, who has since left NMMU, were also elected as MPs.

Top maths marks worldwide

BSC Computer Science student Amy-Rose Westcott was last year announced as the top achiever worldwide in the Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary (AS) Levels mathematics exams, as a result of her outstanding matric results. Westcott, a recipient of the university's prestigious Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship, obtained 100% for maths, beating 69 000 students from around the globe.

Gold for top botany prof

LEADING botany professor Richard Cowling was awarded the South African Association of Botanists' (SAAB) Gold Medal for Botany. Awarded only to exceptional candidates, Cowling is the 12th person to receive this premium award in SAAB's 46-year history. It is given on the grounds of outstanding botanical research and contributions to the advancement of botany in the country.

NMMU's marketing best in SA

WHEN it comes to publications, social media, video production, branding and integrated campaigns, NMMU is the best in the country. The university won the inaugural Severus Cerff Award for outstanding performance among practitioners in higher and further education, after winning the most awards in the annual Marketing, Advancement and Communication in Education (MACE) Excellence Awards in Sun City. NMMU won 18 awards for their work in promoting the university via various platforms.

WIND AND SUN STREET LIGHT ... Mechanical Engineering Associate Professor Russell Phillips (second from left) and eNtsha engineers (from left) Riaan Opperman, Etienne Phillips and Akshay Lakhani formed part of the NMMU team that took the revolutionary Twerly from concept to commercialisation.

NMMU aims to be future maritime leader



CRITICAL PARTNERSHIP ... World Maritime University (WMU) Acting President Neil Bellefontaine and NMMU Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz shake hands after signing a Memorandum of Cooperation to join forces.

THE possibility of NMMU becoming a future African leader in maritime and marine sciences took a step forward with the signing last year of a formal agreement with Sweden's World Maritime University (WMU).

The university, led by Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz, formalised its links with the global multinational university when it signed a Memorandum of Cooperation aimed at helping NMMU to build its future educational, research and innovation capabilities in maritime and marine sciences.

Situated off Algoa Bay, NMMU is ideally positioned to offer continental support and research expertise in the long-term to enhance the competitiveness of the blue economy in environmentally sustainable ways.

The university is also in the process of establishing the South African International Maritime Institute (SAIMI), in partnership with the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA), as part of a long-term goal to consolidate, expand and further strengthen pockets of excellence that already exist within different South

African universities.

NMMU is working hand-in-hand with SAMSA to increase its maritime and marine sciences capacity, given the country's extensive 2 500km of coastline.

The link with WMU – recognised by the United Nations for promoting international maritime education – will give NMMU access to a wide network of global maritime players in both the developed and developing worlds.

"It will also enable us to improve and grow our own academic capabilities in defined areas," said Senior Director: Institutional Planning Prof Heather Nel, who was part of the delegation of six to visit WMU in Malmö.

In addition to academic information exchange, the five-year agreement allows for both parties to collaborate on the development of SAIMI at NMMU, particularly around maritime safety issues, oil and gas exploration, environmental protection and management, effective port and shipping development and management, and other coastal economic development activities.

'Greenovation' at NMMU

SOLAR-powered mobile chargers, a new wind turbine, an invention that may revolutionise street lighting in South Africa and clean coal are just some of the "green" advances underway at NMMU.

The innovations, along with the university's hosting of the Green Campus Initiative, further confirm NMMU's status as a place where staff and students can pioneer solutions for a changing world.

"We should view NMMU as a social laboratory where innovative solutions can be found," said Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz.

Leading that charge is eNtsha, whose engineers have worked with East London entrepreneur Nikolas Jankovitch to take an "off-the-grid" renewable energy street lighting invention from concept to commercialisation. The Twerly, which harvests both wind and sun energy, offers a practical solution to communities that do not have access to electricity.

"This product could revolutionise street lighting in South Africa," says Mechanical Engineering Associate Professor Russell Phillips, who originally conceptualised the Twerly.

Phillips was also involved with the erection of a new wind turbine at the Centre for Renewable Energy's outdoor research facility. The energy it provides, along with energy provided by solar panels at the facility, is linked into the university's power grid.

NMMU's students are also benefitting from the sun's energy with the installation of 15 mobile phone charging stations on its campuses.

This year also saw the public showcasing of InnoVenton's innovative algae technology, that could turn millions of tons of coal dust wasted annually in South Africa and elsewhere into high quality clean coal.

On-campus simulator for learner drivers

BEFORE they hit the road, learner drivers on NMMU's Missionvale Campus can learn the basics in a state-of-the-art driver simulator situated on campus.

The simulator forms part of the Coega Development Corporation's Driver Training Programme, for which students can now enrol.

NMMU is the third university after Walter Sisulu (Mthatha campus) and Fort Hare universities to offer the simulated driver education programme.

Advocate Zuko Mapoma, CDC's Executive Manager: Corporate Services said graduates benefited "exponentially" from acquiring driving skills, as these translated into "increasing employability levels".

CDC's driver simulators are compliant with the K53 driving curriculum, with the various training modules covering identification of components, pre-trip inspection, starting procedures, moving-off and changing gears, handling of vehicle (hand-eye co-ordination exercises), parallel parking, alley docking,

three-point turns, incline starts, highway driving (under different weather conditions), city driving in basic and advanced mode and a yard summary.

After 40 hours on the simulator programme, which provides training for a Code 8 licence, students are assessed to determine whether they are road-ready.

Over the 2013/14 financial year, over 900 people in CDC programmes obtained their drivers licences, well over their 700-people target.



IN THE DRIVER'S SEAT ... Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Institutional Support Dr Sibongile Muthwa (seated) tests her driving skills at the launch of a simulated driver training programme at NMMU's Missionvale Campus, which was also attended by (back, from left) Missionvale Campus Director Dr Phakama Ntshongwana, SRC President Luzuko Ntshongwana and Advocate Zuko Mapoma, Executive Manager of Corporate Services at Coega Development Corporation, which is running the programme.

Future medical school: NMMU's approach praised

NMMU's "bottom-up" approach to building a fully-fledged medical school is receiving praise from health professionals throughout the country.

At a recent health conference in Cape Town, NMMU was singled out for its innovative and realistic approach to health care education.

"We're being praised for how we are about to redefine the norm for health services education in South Africa," said Health Science's Dr Andrew Crichton, who is part of the team driving the transformation of the university's Health Science Faculty in readiness for the Medical School.

"We're simply doing things differently and in line with the real

needs of South Africa."

Unlike other tertiary institutions, NMMU will not start out with a fully-fledged Medical School but rather take a "bottom-up" approach and focus its curriculum on producing doctors for the realities of the South African context.

Exit and entry levels into the new General Medical Practitioner (GMP) degree, to be introduced in 2018, will differ from traditional medical schools, along with its innovative trans-disciplinary study approach, in which modules shared in the first years of study will enable talented students studying nursing, for example, to transfer to the full medical degree if they so wish.

2014 Honorary Doctorates



DIGITAL ENTREPRENEUR ... An honorary DPhil was awarded to Microsoft co-founder and entrepreneur **Paul Allen**, in recognition of his contribution to innovations and inventions that have brought the technology of the digital age within reach of millions of people around the world.



EMPOWERING WOMEN ... South Africa's first female deputy-president, **Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka**, who is a United Nations Under-Secretary-General and the Executive Director of UN Women, was awarded an honorary DPhil degree for her pioneering work to create opportunities for women in the mining and energy sectors.



PHARMACEUTICAL INNOVATION ... Port Elizabeth-based pharmaceutical company Aspen's co-founder and CEO **Stephen Saad** received an honorary DCom degree in recognition of his exceptional entrepreneurial and financial skills, which he has used to revolutionise the generic pharmaceutical industry in South Africa.



TOP PHYSICIST ... South African physicist **Neil Turok**, who heads up Canada's Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, received an honorary DSc degree in recognition of his ground-breaking contributions in theoretical physics and the role he has played in the promotion and popularisation of science.



FIGHTING FOR FAIRNESS ... Political activist and medical doctor **Masilamoney Pather** received an honorary DPhil degree posthumously for his selfless work for social justice and for ensuring that the poorest of the poor experienced the dignity of having access to professional health care services.

Reunions and alumni socials



MEET THE AUTHOR ... The Alumni Relations Directorate and Computing Sciences Department hosted a breakfast talk by alumnus and author Alan Knott-Craig Jr (third from left), where he introduced his latest book. At the breakfast talk were (from left) Paul Geswindt, Randall Jonas and Petrus Boukes. Knott-Craig is also a former Alumni Rising Star Award recipient.



CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS ... BA English & Psychology graduate, full-time writer and author of three novels, Isla Morley, received her Alumni Rising Star Award from President of the Alumni Association Randall Jonas (left) and Alumni Council Representative Prof Hugh Jeffery, at an alumni event at the South End Museum in December 2014. Morley, who lives in the United States, was not able to attend the Alumni Awards Ceremony in November 2014.



BURSARY RECIPIENTS ... The Alumni Bursary Fund has assisted many deserving students with bursaries over the past few years, some of whom attended the Annual Alumni Thanksgiving Breakfast (from left) Faith Moyo, Tafadzwa Chijabvu, Sonnetta Human, Kylie Hughes, Welcome Kupangwa, Joy Hughes and Fredwin Martins. They were joined by Alumni Relations Director Paul Geswindt (left) and Alumni President Randall Jonas (middle).



RAISING THE ROOF ... More than a thousand music lovers attended the 2014 Alumni Festive Concert, which featured more than 150 performers. The event was held at the Summerstrand Dutch Reformed Church.



ADIEU ... Prof Kotie Grove (middle) is honoured with a Certificate of Appreciation from the Alumni Association for 40 years of service at NMMU and its predecessor, the University of Port Elizabeth, in various capacities as academic, Dean of Students, head of the Trust and Director of Legacies. Bidding him a fond farewell are Alumni President Randall Jonas (left) and Vice-Chancellor Prof Derrick Swartz.



JOHANNESBURG GATHERING ... NMMU's Computing Sciences department teamed up with the Alumni Relations Directorate to host the annual NMMU Alumni Johannesburg Chapter social. About 30 Computing Sciences alumni attended the event, which was hosted by Computing Sciences head Prof Jean Greyling (middle row, green tie).



LONDON ACCOLADES... SABMiller CEO Dr Alan Clark (middle) received his Alumni Achiever Award from NMMU Trust Acting CEO Renita Affat and Alumni Relations Director Paul Geswindt at an Alumni cocktail function held in London in July. Clark could not attend the 2013 Alumni Awards Ceremony and was the special guest at the event.



LESSONS IN LEADERSHIP ... Alumni Relations Director Paul Geswindt (second from left) was asked by the Department of Education (Port Elizabeth District) to share some "Lessons in Leadership" with post level 1 educators. More than 60 educators, who form part of a DoE development programme, attended the event at the Missionvale Campus Conference Centre, including (from left) DoE officials Chris Muller, Michelle Mbaco and Pam Mbusi.



BENEFIT CONCERT ... Attending a benefit concert by Winand Grundling (second from left), who also received his 2013 NMMU Rising Star Award, were (from left) Natalie Stear, Junita van Dijk and Prof Albert Troskie, all of whom are past Alumni Award recipients.



CELEBRATING ART... NMMU Alumni Port Elizabeth Chapter hosted a closing function for the solo exhibition by NMMU alumnus Dolla Sapeta (third, from left) at the Athenaeum in Central, enjoyed by (from left) NMMU PE Chapter Chairperson Adv Shuaib Rahim, Paul Geswindt and Senior Manager: Arts and Culture Michael Barry.

Alumni inspire with incredible achievements

Alumni Awards

OUR graduates achieve great things, in the region, in the country, in the world. Through our Alumni Awards, which we started five years ago, we acknowledge and showcase the remarkable achievements of our remarkable alumni. This year's winners include the mastermind behind the world's biggest science project, head coach of one of the world's top cricket teams (Go, Proteas!), the founder of seven lifestyle and business magazines in Kenya, and the South African head of a humanitarian organisation that works medical miracles across the world. We are beyond proud! Congratulations to the winner of our Alumni Achiever Award – our top-ranked award – along with the five Alumni Rising Star Award winners and the recipients of our three Alumni Special Awards.

NMMU Alumni Rising Star Awards



◀ **Russell Domingo**

PROTEAS head coach Russell Domingo has more than proved his coaching mettle since his appointment as the national cricket coach in 2013. In the early part of 2014, South Africa won the T20 series against Pakistan and Sri Lanka as well as the One Day International (ODI) series against Pakistan and India. In October, they beat New Zealand. These successes pushed South Africa to pole position as the number one ranked test and ODI team in the world. Domingo, who holds a Diploma in Sports Admin and Marketing from the former PE Technikon, started coaching at the age of 22 after a short stint playing the game. He worked within Eastern Province's age-group structures before taking over from Mickey Arthur as head coach of the Warriors in 2005. In just four years, he took the Eastern Cape franchise from perennial strugglers to a trophy-winning side. In 2011, he was appointed as assistant national coach. He was named South Africa's T20 coach in December 2012 and national coach in May 2013. He is South Africa's first coach of colour.

Nicholas Hafner ►

NICHOLAS Hafner is the National Sales Director, Board member and shareholder of Meridian Wine Merchants, a company which markets and distributes premium wines for 25 family-owned estates throughout South Africa. Hafner has a true passion for brand building, marketing and advertising. After graduating with a BCom degree in Business Management and Computer Science in 1995, he joined SABMiller and occupied various positions over a period of five years. He was then approached by Meridian Wine Merchants to take up the position of General Manager, looking after operations in the Eastern Cape, where he established a logistics solution to suit the region. Two years later, he was transferred to Cape Town where he was appointed as the Regional Sales Manager of the Western Cape, followed by National Key Accounts Manager and then National Sales Director. Hafner has been instrumental in the record sales of the company, heading up the key accounts and sales divisions which have a footprint throughout the country – and has recently explored opening new markets in both Africa and Europe. He is a visionary forecaster of marketing and sales trends, and implements strategies that translate these trends and visions into reality. He is highly respected in the wine industry nationally.



▲ **Tracy Cheetham**

BTECH Architectural Technology graduate Tracy Cheetham has achieved beyond her years and is presently the General Manager of the SKA SA (Square Kilometre Array South Africa) project, the biggest science project in the world. This project includes MeerKAT, the largest and most sensitive radio telescope in the southern hemisphere. A career highlight for Cheetham was winning the 2012/2013 National Technology Science Forum/BHB Billiton Award for her management and related science, engineering and technology (SET) activities over the last five to 10 years. Her previous positions include SKA SA Infrastructure Project Manager, Acting Director: Construction Industry Policy and Deputy Director: Industry Capacity Development at the National Department of Public Works, and Project Manager and Community Liaison Officer of the Port Elizabeth Low Income Housing Project, run by the Swedish Government and Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. Cheetham was a Swedish Government Scholarship holder, ladies' captain and Chairman of the Cullinan Golf Club, and NMMU's best Architecture Design student in 1995 and 1996.

Alumni Rising Star Awards Continued...

Baxolile Mabinya ►

BAXOLILE Mabinya, an MCom Computer Science and Information Systems graduate from NMMU, is the Group Strategy Executive for Dimension Data: Middle East & Africa. He has held numerous positions within the Dimension Data group, starting as a Training Consultant followed by Technical Manager and Chief Solutions Architect, and is now the youngest member of their executive team. Dimension Data is a subsidiary of the Japanese NTT group which turns over US\$125-billion annually. Dimension Data Middle East and Africa is a R13-billion business with over 10 000 employees and operations in 17 countries across the region. Mabinya serves on many boards and committees of the Dimension Data group, including the Social & Ethics Committee, the Employment Equity Committee and the Transformation workgroup. He is also actively involved on other boards and committees including Plessey (Pty) Ltd, Marpless Communications Technologies, Dimension Data MEA, the NMMU Industry Advisory Board, and the Young Professionals' Forum. Mabinya, who also holds an MBA degree from the Gordon Institute of Business Science, is passionate about coaching and mentorship as a tool for leadership development. He is also a research supervisor for MBA students with research projects in ICT and strategy-related fields of study.



▲ **Isla Morley**

BA English and Psychology graduate Isla Morley is a full-time writer and author of three novels, two of which have been published in several countries. For the past eight years, she has called Covina (in greater Los Angeles) her home and has lived in the United States for the past 20 years, including a seven-year stint in Honolulu, Hawaii. For more than a decade, Morley pursued a career in non-profit work, focusing on the needs of women and children. In so doing, she held a number of interesting positions, including Programme Manager for Dress For Success in Honolulu, Director of Communications at First United Methodist Church in Honolulu, and Ministry Assistant at Estero Bay United Methodist Church in California. She was also Magazine Editor for Freewind Publications in Port Elizabeth. "Above", her second novel, was published by Simon & Schuster in March 2014. Selected as "Best Buzz Books Spring 2014" by Publishers Lunch, it has been hailed by critics as an "audacious page-turner". Her debut novel, "Come Sunday", was awarded the Janet Heidinger Kafka Award for Fiction in 2009, and was a finalist for the Commonwealth Prize. It has been translated into seven languages. She is currently writing her fourth novel.

NMMU ALUMNI ACHIEVER

Deon Schoeman ►

MPHARM graduate Deon Schoeman, who has notched up over 30 years' experience as a pharmacist, is the founder and Managing Director of Klinikare Pharmacies, which includes 13 community pharmacies in and around Port Elizabeth. He has been involved at a local and national level in developing several innovative practice models which have been adopted by many pharmacists. These include Klinikare Distributors, Klinimed Nursing, Medikwip, Script Savers and KliniPac. Schoeman established the Klinikare Foundation, which sponsors bursaries for third and fourth-year pharmacy students at NMMU and is also the anchor sponsor for the St Francis Hospice Women's Day. He often presents guest lectures in NMMU's BPharm programme and has in the past been contracted to lecture pharmacology and pharmacy practice to final-year pharmacy and post-grad nursing students at the university. He has also evaluated the final-year projects of BPharm students. He is registered at the South African Pharmacy Council as a "Good Clinical Research Pharmacist", and has been involved in clinical research, by assisting specialists on behalf of pharmaceutical manufacturers. He was a speaker on "diabetes care in retail pharmacy with clinic setting" at the National Pharmaceutical Society of South Africa (NPSSA) congress in Durban in 2012.



NMMU Alumni Special Awards



◀ **Garret Barnwell**

MASTER'S in Conflict Transformation and Management graduate Garret Barnwell is the President of Doctors Without Borders/Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) in Southern Africa. He has worked in the field on humanitarian crises such as Somalia and Syria – and, as President, he plays a role in the governance of MSF. Barnwell last year completed a second master's degree, in Clinical Psychology, at NMMU – and plans to use this qualification not only to expand his work within MSF, but also to make a difference within the public

mental healthcare system in South Africa. MSF is an international medical humanitarian organisation. It provides health care in humanitarian crises where there is armed conflict, epidemics, natural disaster and in areas where populations are excluded from accessing healthcare services. MSF has more than 27 000 volunteers in over 60 countries – and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999.

Dr Amber Anderson ▶

AMBER Anderson, who holds a doctorate in Human Resources Development from NMMU, is the Human Resource Executive of Coca-Cola Fortune. This position is the culmination of a string of leadership positions Anderson has held over the years including National Talent Development Manager for Aspen Pharmacare, Business Services Leader: HR Services for BevServ (Coca-Cola Sabco) and Manager: Research and Faculty Officer at the former University of Port Elizabeth. Her leadership contributions have been authenticated through a number of accolades, including being a finalist in the National Businesswoman of the Year Awards in 2014, and being awarded Coca-Cola Sabco's Team CEO Award for Excellence in Business for 2013 and 2011, CEO Magazine's Most Influential Woman in Business and Government Award in 2012 and the Businesswomen Association's Regional Business Achiever's Award in 2009.



▲ **Dr Hannington Gaya**

KENYA'S Dr Hannington Gaya, who holds a PhD in Commerce in Business Management from NMMU, is the founder of seven lifestyle and business magazines in East Africa. Viewed as an authority in country branding, he was appointed by the President of Kenya as the Chairman of Brand Kenya Board, a body charged with managing the image of Kenya internationally, and has held this position since 2009. He is an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Riara University in Nairobi, a Council Member of the Marketing Society of Kenya, Honorable Secretary to the Media Association of Kenya and the Publisher/CEO of the Media 7 Group Kenya Ltd. In 2010, the country's President bestowed on him the award of the Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear (EBS) for distinguished service to his country. He is a fellow of the Institute of the Motor Industry of the United Kingdom FIMI (UK), a member of the Branding Council of East Africa, a council member of the Marketing Society of Kenya and a past Chairman and currently Honorary Secretary of the Media Owners' Association of Kenya.

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Briefs

Cell C marketing head inspires students



EACH year, Cell C's Executive Head of Marketing Dr Doug Mattheus (left) delivers a guest lecture to NMMU's marketing students. What is special about these lectures is that they transpired from the BCom Honours graduate's desire to give something back to his alma mater. Eight years ago, he approached his old varsity lecturer and supervisor, Prof Johan Bosch (right), about delivering a lecture. Bosch, who has since retired, jumped at the opportunity and the popular guest lecture has become an annual event. This year's talk focused on sponsorship marketing, with Mattheus recounting his own experiences of sponsorship campaigns involving top sports teams such as the Springbok and Sharks rugby teams.

Eric walks for disabled kids

IN May 2014, Law graduate Eric Streso walked from Pretoria to Port Elizabeth to raise funds for special-needs children at New Hope School in Pretoria. The project – called "Where is Eric? Walk for Hope" – saw Streso walking 1000km in just 30 days. "I wanted to create awareness of the challenges faced by children with disabilities and raise desperately needed funds for New Hope School," said Pretoria-based Streso, 43, who is himself disabled following a motorbike crash six years ago, in which he lost his left arm and 50% use of his right leg.

(Adapted from an article in *The Herald*.)



NATIONAL AWARD ... Citrus Academy General Manager Jacmien de Klerk congratulates Bahle Kweba, who won a national AgriSeta Excellence Award for Best Performing Learner: Graduate Placements. Earlier this year, after a two-year internship at the Sundays River Citrus Company (SRCC), he was made permanent as a field technician in SRCC's agronomy (crop production) department. "I enjoyed working for SRCC so much that I was willing to work for free if they didn't offer me a full-time position," he said. He completed his NDip Agricultural Management at NMMU and is now studying towards his BTech Agricultural Management degree.

Global cinematography success for former PE students



NEW YORK AWARD ... South African cinematographer Carlos Carvalho, who studied in Port Elizabeth, has gained international kudos for the film *The Forgotten Kingdom*.

GANGLAND ... Cinematographer Vicci Turpin (front) and her crew shoot the film *Four Corners* in the gang-associated areas of the Cape Flats.

TOUGH shooting in daunting locations for cinematographers Carlos Carvalho and Vicci Turpin – both of whom studied photography at NMMU – has pushed two gritty, homegrown movies into the international spotlight.

Carvalho, director of photography for *The Forgotten Kingdom*, the first feature film to be produced in Lesotho, won the Haskell Wexler Award for Best Cinematography at the 14th annual Woodstock Film Festival Maverick Awards Gala in New York.

The film – which tells the story of a young, unemployed man who travels from Johannesburg to his ancestral land to bury his estranged father – also won three awards, including one for cinematography, in the Africa Movie Academy Awards. It screened in South Africa April last year.

Turpin, meanwhile, was the cinematographer for

Four Corners, which was South Africa's submission for this year's Academy Awards in the best foreign language category. A coming-of-age tale about a 13-year-old boy living in the notorious ganglands of the Cape Flats, the film hit the big screens last February. Johannesburg-based Carvalho, 43, said filming *The Forgotten Kingdom* was "extremely challenging". A low budget saw them conquering mountainous terrain in a taxi that served as their camera vehicle. "A group of 4x4 enthusiasts asked us how we got up the mountain 'with that taxi'? ... We were a low budget film with endurance and cunning."

Cape Town-based Turpin, 48, said the *Four Corners* shoot was "technically very challenging due to the harsh realities of the locations" – with many of the gang-associated places where they filmed perceived as no-go areas.

Dream job, home for determined Sakhekile

AN inspirational article in *The Herald* last year about quadriplegic Sakhekile Zweni graduating with his honours degree in Group Dynamics at NMMU led to his dream job – and, soon, he will have completed a dream home for his family.

The report about the 32-year-old, who was disabled in a car accident seven years ago, described how he would put in four hours extra each day for work an able-bodied person would do in only two hours. Soon after its publication, he was snapped up by the Coega Development Corporation as the company's Diversity Officer, working on diversity programmes and strategies that focus on hiring and retaining under-represented people. "I am from a rural area [Lower Blinkwater, near Fort Beaufort], and it was always going to be difficult to go to all the establishments and apply for a job due to my condition."

His employment success has enabled him to build a three-bedroomed house at Fort Beaufort where his mother and younger sister can stay. "I enjoy my job. I am passionate about being challenged ... I enjoy creating new ideas I can be proud of."

(Adapted from an article in *The Herald*.)



Sakhekile Zweni

Where are they today?

1960



Michael de Jongh
(BA Hons 1966, MA Anthropology 1968) is a Professor Emeritus within the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at the University of South Africa (Unisa) and a Unisa Research Fellow.

1970s

Eugene van Jaarsveld

(BA Industrial Psychology 1978) is the HR Director for Princess Yachts in Plymouth, England.



Leon Goosen

(BA 1976, BEd 1977) is employed by the Eastern Cape Department of Education as the Deputy-Principal of Lorraine Primary School in Port Elizabeth.



Ephan Potgieter
(BSc & HED Postgraduate 1979) is the Managing Director for Underwater Surveys (Pty) Ltd in Cape Town.

Naydene de Lange
(BAEd 1978, BEd Hons 1985, DEd 1998) is an HIV and AIDS Education Research Chair at NMMU.



1980s



Petro Goosen
(HDE 1980) is employed by the Eastern Cape Department of Education as the Deputy-Principal of Westview Special School in Port Elizabeth.

Anton Mackenzie Vorster

(BCom 1983, MBA 2001) is the Managing Director of GBS Mutual Bank in Grahamstown.



Prof Hugh Jeffery

(MTEch Industrial Engineering 1987) is a consultant and committee member of various committees of the Engineering Council of South Africa (ECSA).



1990s



Denrich Evans nee Jute
(Diploma: Rubber Technology and Management 1995) is a Quality Engineering Manager at Continental Tyres SA in Port Elizabeth.

Louis Brendon Weitz
(BBuilding and BSc Quantity Surveying 1996) is the Director of Turner & Townsend (Pty) Ltd, a global construction consultancy, in Johannesburg.



Ziphozihle Ntoni
(ND Human Resources Management 1999) is the Control Immigration Officer at the Department of Home Affairs.



Christopher Sparks
(BArch 1991) is the Managing Director of MNI Architects & Project Managers in Harrismith.

Josias Petrus Albertus Pieters
(BSc Quantity Surveying 1990) is the Managing Director at IBP Construction Consultants (Central) (Pty) Ltd in Gauteng.

Ivan Martins
(BA Education 1992) is employed by the Eastern Cape Department of Education as the Principal of Booyens Park High School.

Celebrating alumni success ...



ACHIEVERS HONOURED ... The Computing Sciences Department celebrated the achievements of its alumni and current students at a breakfast attended by staff, students, alumni and industry partners, among them (from left) Alumni Relations Director Paul Geswindt, Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber "Top 40 under 40" achievers and alumni De-veraux Joubert and Mohammed Cassim, Alumni Rising Star award recipients Nicholas Hafner and (far right) Baxolile Mabinya and Computing Sciences head Prof Jean Greyling.

2000 - 2007



Candice Chetty nee Williams
(BPsych Counselling 2005, BA Hons Industrial and Organisational Psychology 2006, MA Psychology 2014) is a Registered Counsellor in the Student Counselling, Career and Development Centre at NMMU.

Dr Pieter Engelbrecht
(PhD Organic Chemistry 2000) is the Brewing Manager at South African Breweries (SAB).



Lauren Anne Mungur
(BA Media, Communication and Culture 2007) is a Radio Presenter at Algoa FM and also a Lecturer at Varsity College.



Kholisa Langa
(BTech Forestry 2006) is a Research Forester at Komatiland Forests Pty Ltd.

Leon Coopasamy
(BCom Hons 2007) is a Senior Lecturer in Accounting at Rhodes University.

Vanessa Heunis
(ND Office Management & Technology 2006) is a Faculty Administrator at NMMU.



Zanozuko Magam
(ND Mechanical Engineering 2002, BTech Quality Engineering 2008) is the Local Business Manager (Wagons Business) at Transnet Engineering, a division of Transnet Limited.

Pumeza Mzimane
(BCom Honours Business Management 2007) is a Business Strategy Advisor at Eskom Holdings SOC Limited.

Zoe Truelove Waters
(BCom Economics, Accounting, Financial Management 2004) is the Director of Finance and Operations at the Nelson Mandela Bay Business Chamber.



Dr Edward Daniels
(DEd 2006) is employed by the Anglican Church of Southern Africa as the Rector of St Margaret's Church in Summerstrand.



Ulen Mabie
(ND Operations Management 2007) is a Production Team Manager at Ford Motor Company.

Vernon Naidoo
(MPhil Christian Studies 2001) is the Manager of the Volkswagen Community Trust at VWSA.

Bruce Killerby
(BCom Rat Law, BCom Hons Acc 2006) is a Manager: Advisory Services at PwC in Port Elizabeth.



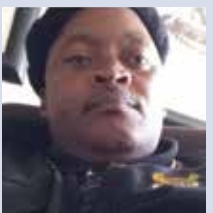
Ruby-Ann Levendal
(MPhil Conflict & Conflict Resolution 2001) is the Director: Transformation (Monitoring & Evaluation) at NMMU.

Temba Gola
(MPA 2000) is a Court Manager for Justice and Correctional Services.

Siyanda Toni
(BA Honours Applied Linguistics 2005) is the Chief Language Practitioner at the Department of Arts and Culture.



Claudia Booysen
(BTech Operations and Production Management 2007) is a Packaging Technologist: International Markets at Aspen.



Lee-Anne Geswindt
(National Diploma Financial Information Systems 2005) is a Support Specialist at Sanlam Employee Benefits: Umbrella Solutions.

Janine Christian
(BCom Accounting 2005) is a Lecturer in the School of Accounting at NMMU.

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2008 - 2014



Masixole Tsotsa
(ND Analytical Chemistry 2011) is a Senior Lab Analyst at Lonza Pty Ltd.

Nwabisa Mbatsha
(BCom 2008) is a Financial Officer: Expenditure for Transnet National Ports Authority.

Dr Sharon Audley Munyaka
(Doctor of Commerce in Industrial Psychology 2013) is an Industrial Psychologist, running her own practice, Sharon Munyaka Inc.



Sade' Heynes
(BTech Public Relations Management 2014) is the Society/Marketing Officer for Student Governance & Development at NMMU.



Litha Gatyeni
(MBA 2009) is the Director of Clinkscales Maughan Brown, a firm of consulting engineers in Port Elizabeth.



Veronique Reid
(NDip Logistics 2014) is the Master Production Scheduler at Faurecia Interior Systems.

Brett Dyason
(BCom Rat (Eco & Acc) 2008, Accounting Hons 2009) is the Chief Financial Officer at Hepstar Financial Services.



Tshira Terence Ntungela
(BSc Construction Economics 2010) is a Quantity Surveyor at Mawethu Civils (Pty) Ltd in Port Elizabeth.



Rolihlahla Pityana
(ND Information Technology 2011) is an IT Technician at NMMU.



Philani Mnikathi
(ND Forestry 2011) is a Forester at Sappi.

Nadine Marupen
(BTech Public Relations Management 2011) is a Marketing and Research Assistant at NMMU.

Gayle Saayman
(BCom Business Management & Organisational Psychology 2010) is a Production Purchasing Buyer at Volkswagen Group South Africa.



Jenevieve Fabre (ND Sport Management 2010) is part of the communications team for online shopping club Runway Sale.

Thukela Mashologu
(MBA 2012) is the Chief Executive Officer of Chris Hani Development Agency.



Nomsa Xubane
(National Diploma in Public Relations Management 2011) is the Information Centre Coordinator for the Office for International Education at NMMU.

Luyolo Madasi
(Polymer Technology 2014) is an intern at InnoVenton Research Laboratories, a chemical technology research institute at NMMU.

Lee-Anne Reid
(BCom Hons Accounting 2012) is a Trainee Accountant at PwC.



Menelisi Zukile Somhlahlo
(BTech Agricultural Management 2013) is the Acting Deputy Director: Project Implementation and Management Services at the Department of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform.

Siyabonga Makhangelana
(BTech Internal Auditing 2008) is a Cost Accountant at Volkswagen South Africa (VWSA).

Unathi Mpoza
(BTech Quantity Surveying 2010) is a Candidate Quantity Surveyor at Eskom.

Leonie Beckett
(BA Hons: Group Dynamics 2010) is a Residence Manager at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.



Benedict Mhletywa
(BTech Agricultural Management 2010) is a Technician at Rural Development and Agrarian Reform, Eastern Cape.



Thokozi Sihlangu
(BTech Internal Auditing 2013) is an Internal Auditor at Ernst and Young Advisory Services.



Carin Coates
(BTech Internal Auditing 2012) is an Analyst: Management Accounting at Volkswagen South Africa (VWSA).



Dr Herman Willemse
(PhD in Nursing 2013) is employed by the Department of Health as the Vice-Principal at Henrietta Stockdale Nursing College.



Dr Wakah George Odhiambo
(Doctorate in Business Administration 2011) works for the Parliamentary Service Commission of Kenya as the Senior Deputy Director: Administration and Corporate Affairs in the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training.

Silumko Nzube
(MTech Chemistry 2014) is a Forensic Analyst in Forensic Services (Port Elizabeth) for the South African Police Services (SAPS).



Kerwin Meyer
(BTech Civil Engineering 2014) is a Candidate Engineering Technologist at AECOM SA (PTY).

Annika Gouws
(PGCE 2014) is an educator at Cillie High School in Port Elizabeth.

Kangwa-Musole Chisanga
(LLB 2014) is a Teaching Assistant in the Department of Commercial Law at the University of Cape Town



Siphosethu Tetiwe
(BCom Accounting 2012) is a Broker Consultant at Sanlam.



Nomawethu Sifumba
(LLB 2013) is an Associate at BLC Attorneys in Port Elizabeth.



Jessica Baker
(Bachelor in Social Work 2012) completed her Master's in Social Work (cum laude) at Stellenbosch University in 2014. Her thesis topic was: Parent education programmes for early child development.

More alumni events ...



UGANDA ALUMNI ...
The Alumni Relations Office and the Office for International Education partnered to host Uganda alumni as well as current and prospective students at an event in Kampala, which was attended by (from left) Victor Sekabira, Diana Kimono, Miriam Ofwono, Patricia Kiggundu and Efrance Balamu.



SUMMER FUN ...
NMMU's Alumni PE Chapter held a Summer Jazz Evening at Madibaz, South Campus, during which the Alumni Bursary Fund was also launched. Alumni attending the event were (from left) Vanessa Behr, Neil Pretorius, Deng Blor, Adv Michelle Morgan and Adv Shuaib Rahim, as well as (right image) Christiaan Steyn and former Student Alumni Society (SAS) Chairperson Sonnetta Human.

Student Alumni Society (SAS) Campaign

In support of the **NMMU Alumni Bursary Fund**

Staff, students, alumni and friends are encouraged to support the SAS Campaign to help raise funds for the Alumni Bursary Fund. More than 40 students were assisted during the 2013 and 2014 academic years and more funds are needed.

SAS is selling eco-friendly shopping bags to raise funds and awareness about the Alumni Bursary Fund.

How can you assist?

- ▶ Purchase one or more of the bags @ R25 each. Surplus funds will go towards the Bursary Fund.
- ▶ Make a cash donation to the Alumni Association in support of the Alumni Bursary Fund.
- ▶ Sign a salary stop order for monthly contributions (staff members can contact paul.geswindt@nmmu.ac.za).
- ▶ Complete an Alumni bank debit order form for monthly contributions (forms available at the ARO or online)
- ▶ Make an online donation by visiting <http://alumni.nmmu.ac.za>
- ▶ Encourage family, friends and fellow alumni and students to support the campaign.

Every bag sold can help to make a difference! Buy bags as gifts and help a student bag an NMMU qualification.

Bags available from the **University Shop** at Sanlam Student Village,
Tel: 041 504 4371 or email: shop@nmmu.ac.za



CHANGE AGENTS ... Former Student Alumni Society (SAS) chairpersons (from left) Sonnetta Human, Thomas Terblanche, Curwyn Mapaling and Welcome Kupangwa have joined forces in support of the latest SAS Campaign – the sale of eco-friendly shopping bags – to raise money for the Alumni Bursary Fund. The Fund was launched as there is simply not enough money available from the National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS), corporate funding and university contributions to assist all students who are academically deserving and in need of financial aid. In addition to buying a bag, alumni, staff, students and friends of the university can also contribute to the Alumni Bursary Fund by contributing small annual or monthly donations, which can make a big difference.

