



Central University of
Technology, Free State

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Issue 7



Community Engagement

NEWSLETTER

Message from the Community Engagement Manager

/// A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step. ///

As the second semester begins, it is amazing how time flies by when one is busy. This newsletter has been in existence over a year and it is gratifying to see how many good Community Engagement (CE) projects we have.

One of the essentials of publishing this newsletter is that it keeps colleagues updated on CE news and on trends in our profession. In this issue we boast proudly regarding some of the projects which have been making headlines.

Whilst it is important to share news with all of you, it is also important for me to know what you think. Let the ideas come streaming in!!

Best wishes for the term and semester.

Happy reading!!

Jeeva Munsamy

LUCKHOF FARMER MENTORING PROJECT

This project aims to mentor young previously disadvantaged farmers at the Aloekop Farm, Luckhof, Free State with the view to sustainable sheep and cattle production. This will ensure them with financial rewards over the long term.

The areas of intervention are:

- Sheep breeding and selection
- Cattle breeding and selection
- Animal health monitoring and control
- Feeding management
- Financial management and control
- Acquisition of inputs and selling of products
- Pasture establishment and management
- Water reticulation and maintenance
- Effective fencing against predators
- Creation of jobs

Mentoring these young farmers ensure that they are empowered to develop into sustainable commercial farmers. Furthermore, the long-term fertility of the natural resources is maintained. This opportunity is afforded to students to witness the success of young individuals and former students.

Author: Prof. Carlu van der Westhuizen.

PHOTOS ILLUSTRATING IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES AT ALOEKOP FARM, LUCKHOF



Training provided in animal dosing and care



Beneficiary (Thabo Motseki) dosing a ram prior to off-loading



Cattle are offered for sale



Newly purchased cattle adapted well on the farm



Cattle in good condition



Good quality Dorper sheep

SA COLLEGE FOR TOURISM (SACT), GRAAFF-REINET

The aim of the project is to render academic management and moderation services to the South African College for Tourism in Graaff-Reinet. The Central University of Technology, Free State's Hotel School is appointed as moderators to the theoretical and practical components of Culinary Studies, Food and Beverage Studies, Housekeeping and Front office subjects. Excellent quality standards are maintained in the training of 90 young women within the Hospitality industry, primarily for job opportunities in the Trans- frontier Parks (these women are from all over the SADC region).

Author: Mrs Grethe Muller.

ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING SERVICE TO INDUSTRY AND RESEARCHERS

The CRPM has successfully produced pre-operative planning devices and medical implants for reconstructive surgery using medical scans of patients with deformities or damage. The process of producing patient-specific titanium implants is a highly specialised field, and CRPM has carried out a number of case studies during the past year (see Figures 1 & 2). This is done in collaboration with Dr Cules van den Heever, a prosthodontist from the University of Pretoria and Extraordinary Professor in the Faculty of Engineering and IT. He also assists maxillo-facial surgeons as well as ear, nose and throat specialists in manufacturing patient-specific implants and external soft tissue prostheses such as ears and noses, as well as full facial prostheses. Since his involvement with the CRPM, Dr van den Heever has embraced the possibilities inherent in the AM technologies to the benefit of his patients. The CRPM has been in discussion with the various role players to establish where and how the CRPM can use its specialised equipment and expertise to provide a better service to the doctors and patients. It also plays a role in the social upliftment of vulnerable State patients who do not have adequate resources such as medical aid funds. These processes are life-changing to the patients and their families.

Author: Mr Gerrie Booysen.



Figure 1: Maxilla implant AM at CRPM



Figure 2: Mandible implant AM at CRPM

THABISO SKILLS TRAINING CENTRE – Welkom Campus

The centre's aim is to bring a sense of self-worth and independence to the large number of unemployed persons in the Goldfields. The project provides skills training for previously disadvantaged people from the Goldfields district to empower them to become self-reliant citizens.

We provide them with managerial skills to run the day-to-day activities of the centre, which, amongst others, include the following:

- Staff selection,
- Payments via the monthly payroll

- Chairing staff dispute meetings
- Strategic meetings
- Meeting with funders
- Monthly budgeting

Author: Mr Gert von Benecke [Welkom campus]

THE WORLD GETTING TOGETHER IN DENTAL ASSISTING

(a letter from the New York School for Medical and Dental Assistants (NYSMDA))

On 10 June 2014, the New York School for Medical and Dental Assistants (NYSMDA) welcomed a special guest all the way from South Africa! Ms Jeanné Oosthuysen, Lecturer in Dental Assisting from the Central University of Technology Free State, South Africa visited NYSMDA. She was impressed with the NYSMDA students, and of the opinion that our dental assisting programme is very similar to the one offered at CUT. The instructors agreed to expand communication and community service among the dental assisting staff, students, alumni and the greater dental fraternity by promoting exchange of ideas via social media channels and Skype. NYSMDA instructors and students were invited to join the Central University of Technology Dental Assisting Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/DentalAssistingCUT/>

The CUT Facebook group was created in 2007 and currently has 250 members, including current students, alumni, dental experts and global partners from all over the world. Dr Adam A Wahby from NYSMDA immediately responded by joining the CUT Facebook group and left the following comment:

"Thank you Ms Jeanné Oosthuysen for passing by. My students and I enjoyed your visit and are looking forward to start exchanging ideas and have students communicate with one another."

Feel free to join our school group at <https://www.facebook.com/nysmda>."

Author: Ms Jeanné Oosthuysen.



Ms Jeanné Oosthuysen with Dental Assisting students and Instructor from NYSMDA, New York USA.



Dr Adam A Wahby, Dental Assisting Instructor from NYSMDA and Ms Jeanné Oosthuysen, Dental Assisting lecturer at CUT



School entrance at NYSMDA



Drs Clint Arnaboldi (CEO) and Adam A Wahby (Dental Assisting Instructor) at NYSMDA.

EDUCATOR MENTORSHIP & DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (EMDP)

The EMDP project was conducted at four primary schools, three from the Bloemfontein areas of Heidedal (1) and Rocklands (2), and one at a farm school near Tierpoort.

The benefits of the EMDP project are:

- Teachers become more au fait with their teaching mandate;
- Better planning by and dedication of teachers towards their work;
- Sharing positive experiences with colleagues;
- A general increase in learner performance;
- Principals are more informed of general conditions in class and subject;
- General learner performance for coming ANA (Annual National Assessment) in September 2014 looks more positive.

Overall, there are positive spin-offs for key subjects such as Mathematics, Science and English.

Author: Mr Brend Jeremiah.

SATURDAY SCHOOL PROJECT

Twenty-seven schools from Mangaung, Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu areas are engaged in this project. The benefits of the Saturday School Project are as follows:

- Improved learner performance in English, Life Sciences, Mathematics and Physical Sciences;
- Improved school and provincial National Senior Certificate NSC (Grade 12) results;
- Addressing a national need for improved NSC results;

- Increasing the pool of learners with especially Mathematics and Science for studies in SET-related fields of study at CUT;
- Access to STEM-related fields of study;
- Access to other reputed HE institutions to pursue studies in programmes not offered at CUT;
- General improvement in learner performance as measured in NSC assessments (100% pass rate over the past 4 years).

Author: Mr Brend Jeremiah.

PHOTOS ILLUSTRATING ACTIVITIES THAT TOOK PLACE DURING SATURDAY SCHOOL PROJECT



Learners having lunch



Grade 12 Afrikaans class



Grade 12 English class



Grade 12 English class



Grade 11 English class



Grade 11 English class



GENERAL ENQUIRIES

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