



## Collaboration between NMMU Pharmacy Department and St Louis College of Pharmacy, USA

For the past two years the Pharmacy Department have, through the generous support of the American people with funding from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and CDC/South Africa, partnered with the St Louis College of Pharmacy (STLCOP) in a partnership that has been managed by the American International Health Alliance's HIV/AIDS Twinning Center.

To complete the projects on the partnership agenda there have been several exchanges between the partners. In April Ms Teri-Lynne Fogarty and Prof Shirley-Anne Boschmans spent two weeks in St Louis, Missouri working with Profs Ken Schafermeyer and Amy Tiemeier. During the visit the partners worked on a text book they are developing for Pharmacy Technicians. The text book is contextualised to the South African setting and should be completed by the end of the year.



Teri-Lynne Fogarty, the Hospital Pharmacist in St Louis, Prof Kevin Mallinson, Prof Shirley-Anne Boschmans and Prof Amy Tiemeier (STLCOP)

While at STLCOP Prof Boschmans was invited to participate in a cultural diversity symposium held on campus. Prof Boschmans' presentation was entitled "The making of a multicultural university" which provided the audience with a glimpse into the development of the current higher education system in South Africa. She ended the presentation with a video clip of the NMMU Choir singing their tribute to Madiba on his 94th birthday which the audience loved. The time in St Louis did not consist of work alone and a visit to an ice hockey game was a wonderful new experience. The game included all the classic components of an ice hockey game – skilful stick work, rapid intricate passes and even the inevitable fight!

The visit was a great opportunity to learn more about the practice of pharmacy and pharmacy education in the United States. We would like to thank STLCOP for their hospitality and the American International Health Alliance's HIV/AIDS Twinning Center for their support.

### Message from Head of Department .....

October already! It is hard to believe. The Pharmacy Department has been so busy that time seems to have passed in a blur. Therefore, we apologise for the late arrival of the first newsletter of the year. If activity is a sign of life the Pharmacy Department staff and students are full of life! Please share our activities with us through the various articles in the newsletter. We congratulate all the students who passed their June modules but especially the top achievers in each year who are to be congratulated. Sadly we had to say farewell to Elsabe Newman who has moved on to a well deserved retirement. We will miss you Elsabe and appreciate all your contributions to the Department. Our students not only excel in their academic activities but also in the sphere of sport with achievement in athletics and hockey – share in this news on page 14.

From the Pharmacy Department we wish you well for the remaining months of the year . . .



**Farewell from a dear staff member ...**

As I stop to think back on my era at the university, I can classify the time into; Technikon days, UPE days and NMMU days. A wonderful shared journey with colleagues, staff, friends, representatives from different companies, pharmacies, hospitals, clinics and of course countless students. All have touched my life in various ways for which I am grateful. Indelible memories!

Now the new era of retirement starts and I can classify the time into; healing days, charity days, sport days, relaxing days and creative days. A new journey begins with new travellers. New memories will be made.

Time to say farewell to all and thank you for the privilege I have had of sharing knowledge and working together.

May our paths continue to cross.

Regards Elsabe Newman



Prof Shirley-Anne Boschmans, Elsabe Newman, Prof Ilse Truter and Dr Sue Burton at the farewell for Elsabe. She will enjoy retirement after many years of dedicated service to the Pharmacy department and will focus on her health and her many charity work with moms and their toddlers from the Walmer and also at the Animal Welfare shop, Wagtails.

Thank you Elsabe for the friendship, collegiality and your contributions to the Pharmacy Department !

All the best for your future, The Pharmacy Department



## Pharmacy Department at NMMU Open Day - 2015



The Pharmacy Department contributed again to the NMMU annual Open Day this year. The theme was 'Focus on your future'

The Department used the occasion to focus on the variety of career options available in pharmacy. We had a game where learners had to match an out-of-focus picture with a description and picture of Community, Hospital, Industrial, Wholesale and Academic pharmacy. Medirite sponsored a hamper, which was won by a grade 11 learner from Pearson High School, Kerry Pattinson.

Both staff and students contributed to making the pharmacy stall fun and interactive, and we hopefully inspired quite a few learners to consider studying towards a career in pharmacy.

Even, Diba The Dolphin - the NMMU mascot, was inter-



Kerry Pattinson from Pearson High School - the winner of the Medirite hamper

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## South Africa's first group of Pharmacy Technicians celebrate their new qualification in style

**This year NMMU Pharmacy Department were proud to watch the historic first cohort of Pharmacy Technicians in South Africa receive their Advanced Certificates in Pharmacy Technical Support on the 21st April 2015.**

Thanks to the generous sponsorship from American International Health Alliance (AIHA), we were able to host a celebration dinner for Port Elizabeth's newest pharmacy mid-level workers in Port Elizabeth's oldest restaurant, Old Austria, the night before their certificate ceremony. Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and St Louis College of Pharmacy have a twinning partnership facilitated by the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) and funded by the Presidents Emergency Fund for HIV and Aids (PEPFAR). The overall goal of the twinning partnership is to strengthen the Pharmacy Technician (PT) and Pharmacy Technical Assistant (PTA) programmes at NMMU.

It was a night filled with happy reunions, speeches and celebrations. The top three academic students were awarded certificates by our Head of Department, Prof Shirley-Anne Boschmans and the AIHA representative Ms Loveness Satande. In first place was Miss Shanté Gerber, second place Miss Siphokazi Matika and third place Miss Megan Felix.

We are very proud of these students and excited about the impact this qualification will have on healthcare provision in South Africa, in particular with the introduction of NHI. We look forward to training many more technicians and watching them grow into and fulfil their role in the multidisciplinary healthcare teams where they are employed.



In the front center : Miss Siphokazi Matika (3rd),  
Miss Shanté Gerber (1st) and third place Miss Megan Felix (2nd)





## Three more VC Scholars in Pharmacy



Since the launch in 2009 of the prestigious Vice-Chancellor's Scholarship Programme, with the aim of attracting top students to NMMU and to recognise and reward high achievers - numerous Pharmacy students have been recipients of this scholarship. In 2015 the department has three new VC scholars in first year :

- **Beinda Odei-Addo**



I attended Westering High school, and decided to pursue a career in pharmacy due to my love for biology and science. Passing matric exams with high enough marks definitely was not an easy task, but with hard work I was able to achieve this. My hard work paid off, and I was gratefully awarded with the VC scholarship. I did not always know what I wanted to study, but as

the years went by it became easier and easier to decide. I knew that NMMU had the best Pharmacy department and since I live in Port Elizabeth, it was the obvious choice.

At school, I was involved in a number of activities including hockey, choir and tutoring. I am an outgoing person, I enjoy interacting with people and learning from others. Being at NMMU as a VC scholar whilst studying pharmacy is one of the greatest opportunities I could have been blessed with and I cannot wait until I successfully complete my degree .

- **Anandi Botha**

After my school career, I can describe myself as the product of hard-work, perseverance and constructive pressure. I am a well-balanced and diligent learner. Giving my various leadership roles I have held thus far, I strive to apply these obtained leadership skills throughout my studies at NMMU, and throughout my journey as a Pharmacist one day. My aspiration for working in the Medical field inspired me to initially become a doctor or pursuing any health-related career. Consulting some

doctors, teachers and career-advisors, all the signs on a very vague path, lead me on the road to Pharmacy. My love for Science and hunger for knowledge of Health Science serves as my incentive to excel in this profession and to help save the lives and maintain the health and welfare of South-African citizens. I consider Pharmacy to be a calling, rather than an occupation.

In a nutshell: I chose Pharmacy because I have always dreamt of being a superhero.

- **Kalyn Beach**

I matriculated at Gill College in Somerset East in 2013, with 6 distinctions, as well as second class-position. I came first in Physical Sciences, second in mathematics and first in languages in the Graaff-Reinet district. I was honoured by the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University with the Vice-Chancellor's award and chose to study BSc (biochemistry). I completed the first year of that degree in 2014 and then in faith decided to

make a change to Pharmacy, which I am currently studying as a first year. I discovered my love for chemistry while studying BSc, I have also always dreamed of working in the health sciences and serving the community, pharmacy is an excellent choice which allows me to do both. There is such a diverse range of options within this profession, pharmacy is a well-rounded career and there are many job opportunities.

NMMU's Department of Pharmacy embodies all the values of the university, the resources available to us as students are exceptional. We are all fortunate to be here and I encourage you to take nothing for granted.





## Pharmacy Oath and Awards Ceremony



The Pharmacy Department's Oath Ceremony was held on the 18th April 2015 in the North Campus Auditorium. The BPharm graduates proudly pledged the Pharmacist Oath in English or isiXhosa - the young Pharmacists say the Pharmacy Oath in front of friends, family, colleagues and staff, committing to practice in an ethical, professional manner when they enter the workplace.



The function also included an award ceremony in which academic excellence was recognized. The top student of each year of Pharmacy received sponsored prizes :

BPharm 1 (PSSA Award), BPharm 2 (Alpha Pharm Award), BPharm 3 and BPharm 4 (Clicks Awards) as well as an awards medal from the Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences. Prof Ilse Truter, the MC for the evening, presented the prizes and Prof Gareth Killian presented the medals to our top BPharm students from 2014. (cont. on pg 7)



Edrich Louw (1st year), Yasmine Khan (2nd year), Roxanne Gerber (3rd year), Mayi Nanyonga (4th year) and Prof Ilse Truter



**Awards Ceremony (cont.)**

Roxanne Gerber (right ) and Mayi Nanyonga (left) with Eugene Owen from Clicks



**Presen-**

**tations to the Top Achievers in Final year - 2014**



▶ Mayi Nanyonga, Top final year student, receiving her awards from Prof Gareth Kilian and Prof Ilse Truter



The awards for the top BPharm Graduates went to : (from L to R) - Larita van Wyk (4th), Elize Slabbert, (5th) Prof Ilse Truter, Francois Olivier (2nd) and (below) Kailyn Davies (3rd) ▼





# GRADUATION ....

## GRADUATION CLASS OF 2015



As part of the Annual Graduation Celebrations, the Pharmacy Department organize and host a Graduation dinner every year for the graduating Pharmacy class. Once again the dinner was held at the Old Austria Restaurant, on the 18th April, the evening was special with excellent service, food and entertainment and also gave an opportunity for the new pharmacists to be able to see their classmates as well as their lecturers with whom they had spent so many hours during their time at NMMU. The evening was enjoyed by staff and graduates alike. We were fortunate to have Dr Reddy's Laboratories sponsor the evening and Tony Lloyd joined us.

Good luck to all graduates for their future careers !





## The Top Pharmacy Student Achievers in the June Exams

BPharm 4 - Top Achievers June 2015	Weighted Avg
VAN ROOYEN RR MR	91.7
GERBER RB MISS	91.4
NKOMO J MR	83.3
LEE CS MISS	80.1
BASI H MISS	79.5
MZANA A MS	79.2
VAN NIEKERK M MISS	79.0
MAMETJA MB MISS	77.3
MADIKIZELA M MR	76.1
YASAMIN SHIRAZI B MS	76.0
BPharm 3 - Top Achievers June 2015	Weighted Avg
KHAN YM MISS	91.3
MBLATSHWA SN MR	82.0
FISH ML MISS	80.4
HALGREEN KC MISS	80.0
NANKUMBA AM MS	79.0
DU PREEZ SD MISS	78.9
JANSEN KK MISS	78.8
HOFFMANN RM MISS	78.8
JANSEN MA MRS	77.8
EKSTEEN B MRS	76.3
BPharm 2 - Top Achievers June 2015	Weighted Avg
KAMAU HN MS	89.3
MOOSA N MISS	86.0
LOUW EE MR	84.0
VAN HALL R MR	83.3
EVANS TV MISS	82.3
BHAT S MISS	81.0
OTTO SE MS	79.8
LIU HC MR	79.0
NDYAREEBA KK MISS	78.5
MOOLMAN CM MISS	78.0

BPharm 1 - Top Achievers June 2015	Weighted Avg
BEACH K MISS	91.0
NAMBOOZE J MS	85.8
BOTHA A MISS	85.2
MAWOMBEKE WA MS	83.3
SAYWOOD TK MISS	82.6
BODE AC MISS	82.4
MASONDO HN MISS	82.2
DU PLESSIS KI MISS	82.1
MC CLUNE LC MISS	81.4
WEBBER AC MR	81.0
KRUQULO A MR	80.3
MALAN RA MR	79.4
ODEI-ADDO B MISS	79.3

PT - Top Achievers June 2015	Weighted Avg
SHUBANE J MR	85.5
NOMDOE SM MISS	82.7
CONSTANTINOU N MISS	81.7
HEUNIS R MISS	81.4
CWELANA T MS	81.0
HORRMANN J MISS	80.6
JAFTHA J MISS	80.4
DANIELS TS MS	80.2
JORDAAN BB MR	79.8
PAKATI L MS	77.3

PTA - Top Achievers June 2015	Weighted Avg
MANTHE KT MISS	84.7
DRURY WQ MR	84.5
DAWSON E MS	83.6
KIRTON SJ MR	83.1
TSHUME PA MISS	82.8
JORDAN K MISS	82.1
MC FARLAND C MISS	81.7
LOTTERING MJ MR	81.3
NTAMEHLO NY MISS	80.6
FOURIE D MS	80.6
MITCHELL N MISS	79.8
LOGGENBERG E MR	79.4



Well done



## Pharmacy



## Slipper Day

Congratulations to Ilse Truter, Teri-Lynne Fogarty and Monique Klitsie on being nominated as the Academic representatives on the Cape Midlands PSSA Executive Committee.

Pharmacy Ball  
31 October 2015

### Pharmacy Staff to Visit St Louis College of Pharmacy

Three of the academic staff; Lia Kritiotis, Janet Barry and Celeste Naude, will be travelling to St Louis, USA during the September vacation period. They will spend the time at experiential sites as well as at the St Louis College of Pharmacy and the St Louis College of Health Careers where a pharmacy technician programme is presented.

This is a wonderful opportunity for our staff to experience pharmacy experiential training as well as observe pharmacy technicians in the workplace and the training of pharmacy technicians in the USA. The three staff members will be bringing back their findings and ideas to enrich our training programmes. This exchange opportunity has been made possible with funding from the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and CDC/South Africa, through the American International Health Alliance's HIV/AIDS Twinning Center. The Pharmacy Department's twinning partner, the St Louis College of Pharmacy (STLCOP), has assisted in setting up all the exchange activities in St Louis and will be coordinating activities for the three staff member.

A special thank you to Amy Tiemeier and Ken Schafermeyer from STLCOP for their assistance.

### NO MORE STANDING WHILE WAITING . . .

Pharmacy students no longer have to stand in the foyer or sit on the stairs while waiting for practicals to commence. Airport-style, polished steel benches have been provided in the foyers. Five benches, each seating four students, have been added to the general foyers on both the 3rd and 2nd floors of Building 12 where the Pharmacy Department is situated. The benches make an excellent addition to the previously bare general foyer area and certainly are practical in relieving weary legs! Clicks Pty Ltd sponsored the benches – a sponsorship greatly appreciated by the students.

With the growing student numbers in the Pharmacy Department the work and seating areas provided for students within the Department are insufficient to cater for all student needs, The benches in the general



foyer are, therefore, used not only by student waiting to enter laboratories for practical sessions but in addition they are used throughout the day by students needing place to sit and work and/or hold discussions or study sessions.



The Department thanks their generous sponsors Clicks Pty Ltd.



## **An update on Pharmacy Staffing matters**



- **Celeste Naude** is appointed permanently, teaching in the Higher Certificate Programme, she has been a contract associate lecturer in the Department since 2014. While working as a pharmacy technician in London for 10 years, she gained a wealth of experience and knowledge on pharmacy mid-level workers. "I am very privileged and proud to be part of NMMU, producing the first qualified pharmacy technicians in SA."
- **Monique Klitsie** has recently made the jump from retail to lecturing pharmacy practice here at NMMU. "I have thoroughly enjoyed lecturing since day one, as every day is a brand new challenge with something new to learn around every corner."
- Welcome back to **Karen Jones**, who returned after maternity leave and the birth of her daughter, Chelsea - congratulations !
- **Staff on sabbatical**
  - Two academic staff members are not seen in the Department very often at the moment. Both Mrs Jane McCartney and Mrs NomaChina Kubashe have received funding from the NRF to support a sabbatical. They will both be using the time on sabbatical to complete their PhD studies.
  - **Mrs Kubashe** has been on sabbatical from April and will be away for the remainder of the year. We wish her well with her studies and look forward to having her back next year.
  - **Mrs McCartney** will be taking a one year sabbatical and will be on sabbatical during the 2nd semester this year and continue on sabbatical until June 2016. Due to the lack of a suitable replacement for ZCL 401 Jane has agreed to continue with normal ZCL 401 lecturing until end of October, while on sabbatical, when she will recommence her research data collection phase.
  - Welcome to **Keri Killian** who will be presenting Jane's 2nd year lectures while she is on sabbatical.
  - We wish them well with their research and the completion of their PhD degrees.
- Welcome to **Celeste Farmer**, she joined the Pharmacy Department on 1 June 2015 as an Associate Lecturer - supporting the PT/PTA programme and the ZPS stream. She holds a B.Sc. degree in Microbiology and Physiology, B. Sc. Honours degree in Physiology and B. Pharm (cum laude) degree from the University of the Western Cape. She completed her internship and community service at Tygerberg Hospital in Cape Town and has worked in various different sectors of pharmacy including private and public hospital sector, community pharmacy sector, managed healthcare sector and warehousing and distribution.
- A warm welcome (although she has been with us for some time) to **Phumeza Tsewu** who has been appointed to the position of ZPS Technician in a full time capacity.
- Congratulations and welcome to **Uyanda** who is joining the Pharmacy Department staff as a permanent staff member, laboratory assistant in the ZCP stream
- Welcome to **Karen Weyer** who has joined in supporting with administration of all of the Department's externship programmes in the Department. Karen has been appointed in a 25hr per week contract position.
- **Caroline Bowker** (20 hrs per week contract) has been appointed against the Eden Grant to assist with development work welcome.
- **Anu Gosai** will be leaving us, as she looks forward to the birth of her daughter in September. We are hoping that she will be joining us in a curriculum development capacity in a 5/8 position in January and February next year. All the best Anu.
- **Onge Jack** will continue in the contract secretary position until the end of the year.



Welcome to the Pharmacy family.

## The Student Support Project

The Pharmacy Department is instituting a system to identify students who might need support in terms of the academic component of the programme. The underlying principle behind this project is to enable the Department to provide support and assistance to students who are encountering difficulties with their studies. The aim is to create an enabling environment. The Department values all our students and our endeavor is to ensure that our students experience within the department is an enabling, stimulating, positive experience and allows them to develop and become part of the larger pharmacy family.

### The aim of this project is to:

- Determine at an early stage students who might be at risk of not being successful in a module
- Consult with the student to determine the factors that responsible for the poor achievement
- Together with the student devise a strategy to remediate both the module specific and other factors impacting on achievement
- Track student progress
- Students will be advised and supported in obtaining assistance with his/her studies.

### The process will be as follows:

- A form will be placed in the student test book if the received test results indicates an academic achievement at a level that may require support.
- As indicated on the form, student to contact the lecturer concerned for module specific remediation as well as the Student Support Officer in the Pharmacy Department - Ms Hannah Pretorius.



Hanna is a NMMU graduate, she work at St Albans prison dispensary (community service) , then in production at Aspen, specifically the Oral Contraceptives facility. She moved to the UK with her husband, work for a small specialized distributor - the department covered all Regulatory & Quality Assurance aspects of the business, including Medical information, Pharmacovigilance and Clinical Trials. Since their return home - she has worked in various sectors - corporate and independent retailers; private hospital pharmacy; pharmacy benefit management at medical aids and now academia.

In the department she will be responsible for :

- ⇒ Coordinating the 4th year clinical programme hospital rotation through Provincial Hospital
- ⇒ Student Support in the department to identifying those students that are struggling academically and assist them in obtaining the necessary assistance so that they can achieve success in their studies.

I am undeniably a “people’s person”, every job has seen me interacting with people in one form or another and that has been soul-satisfying. Please feel free to contact me with any queries concerning the Student Support Project.

**Hannah.Pretorius@nmmu.ac.za**



## Marketing activities at the WWE

The **Working World Exhibition (WWE)** was held at the Nelson Mandela Stadium, it is the most comprehensive and cutting edge exhibition - designed to empower Grade 11 & 12 learners from schools in PE and surrounding areas, for the world of work. The exhibition repackages the essential components of career guidance programmes into an interactive experience with which the learners can identify and find it very meaningful. A large number of experts sharing opportunities in careers of skills shortages, bursaries and entrepreneurship are available to assist scholars. All the Faculties of NMMU was also represented - Mrs Janet Barry and a few undergraduate students introduced the careers available in Health Science Faculty to the visiting scholars, and specifically in Pharmacy.



## NMMU Hospital Programme



The annual NMMU Hospital Programme for final year pharmacy students began in April this year and will run through to October. The fourth year students currently rotate amongst Dora Nginza, Elizabeth Donkin, Livingstone and Provincial Hospital Port Elizabeth. This photograph was taken at Dora Nginza in the new Out Patients Pharmacy Training Room that has been made available for our morning registration and feedback meetings. It is noticeable how smart and professional the students look in their white NMMU dispensing jackets, with name badges and lanyards.

**Is this what you call a drive through pharmacy?**

**Pensioner floors it into Durban pharmacy** - 2015-06-25 12:54

Durban - An elderly woman was injured when her car smashed through a pharmacy shop front in Durban North on Thursday. Her car came to rest inside the pharmacy, laying waste to several rows of shelving.

Crisis Medical spokesperson Kyle van Reenen said that the woman, who sustained moderate injuries, had lost control of her car while attempting to park. "While attempting to park at a local pharmacy in Durban North, her car smashed through the glass windows before coming to a stop inside the store," he said. "Remarkably, no one else sustained any injuries. The driver was treated on scene before being taken to a nearby hospital for further care by Crisis Medical. The driver alleges that the accelerator got stuck whilst she was parking, causing her to lose control of the vehicle."

**Jose Pearson TB Hospital visit**

PEPSA committee members visited the Jose Pearson TB Hospital on 25th April 2015. This was part of the community outreach that the association takes part in. The initial plan was to make cupcakes for the 193 patients that were reported to have been present at the hospital at that particular time. We would then hand the cupcakes out, and if possible play and interact with the younger patients.

Unfortunately due to miscommunication, there was a bit of a struggle in finding the hospital – I can safely say that we were lost on the road for a good 2 hours or so. Now due to this misadventure, our initial plans fell through. We arrived at the hospital at around 12:30 pm, and due to time constraints, we didn't manage to spend as much time as we had anticipated spending with the patients. We met up with Sister Rance, who was the nurse on duty. Of the 193 patients, 6 of them were children, and we did manage to spend just a few minutes with them – very happy lively kids they were. All in all, the trip was a pleasant one, we had 200 cupcakes made and safely delivered. We had a great time, and hopefully we'll be able to spend more time next time.

**Pharmacy Department's Sport Stars**

- Megan Lake represented NMMU at the Varsity Athletics in Potchefstroom and Stellenbosch

- Six Pharmacy students were members of the Eastern Province Madibaz Hockey Team that played in the South African Ladies Country Districts (SACD) tournament, 12 -18 July where the EP team received bronze.

- \* Megan and Sarah Fish
- \* Jade and Kalyn Beach
- \* Alison Septoo
- \* Namatai Mtisi



**Eastern Province Madibaz**

**Back Row (Left to Right):** A. Septoo; J. Beach; J. Every; C. Voster; N. Schroeder; M. Fish; L. Kops; R. Thomson; L. Botha; M. Adams; N. Mtisi; S. Fish.

**Front Row:** A. Prinsloo (Ass. Coach); K. Beach; C. Clohessy (Capt.); C. Vaghi (Coach); T. Nomdoo; D. O'Reilly; Q. Levey (Manager).