

Education Faculty Q1 Update

From the Dean's Desk - 10 April 2022



Time to Celebrate!

Big news this quarter is that the Centre for Social Development has a new director, in the form of Dr Fortunate Gunzo. Fortunate has already proven her ability to work well with the CSD team and key partners, and we wish her great fulfilment in helping CSD shine in its important work with communities and educators.

Prof Kenneth Ncgoza continues to inspire our Faculty and students, and in January he received his NRF rating as a C2 scholar. In April we were once again able to hold an in-person Graduation to award and confer new qualifications and celebrate the fruits of years of hard work. Congratulations to all our graduates and their mentors.



Acting HoD in CHERTL, Dr Mandy Hlengwa, celebrates with newly capped Dr Priya Vallab

Time to Give Thanks

As each graduand crosses the stage, there flows behind them an entire system of people who make this success possible. Thank you to all the administrators, Faculty Officer, Registrar's Division, the supervisors at the coal face but also every lecturer and course coordinator who over years engaged these graduands. A special thank-you to former Dean Di Wilmot and the HoD teams with Callie Grant and Jo-anne Vorster at the helm, as it is under their leadership that the class of 2022 studied and thrived. And thank you to each student for bringing their hopes, passion and hard work.



Supervisor Lausanne Olvitt, super-administrator in the Registrar's Secretariat Varonique Sias, Supervisors Ingrid Schudel & Heila Lotz-Sisitka with new docs & Injairu Kulundu-Bolus

Time to Welcome new Staff!

Several new colleagues joined the Faculty, which now has a 112-person strong staff body! The CSD was delighted to appoint Jerry Lepheale and Heide Kuhlane. Injairu Kulundu-Bolus is settling into the ELRC and Lauren Aspeling (pictured here with Nhlanhla and Caroline) takes up the roles of Teaching Practice Coordinator and Academic Development, the latter during Caroline's sabbatical. Following a successful VAC meeting we will advertise more posts soon! May each one of our new appointees find their own ways to express their amazing talents, while contributing to the success of the whole.



And Plan some More!

The first quarter is behind us. The Self Evaluation Reporting to the CHE in January showed us some gaps as reported in the Faculty Board meeting. Together with the mapping out of our Academic Project in October - December last year, and the strategic planning in (e.g.) RUMEP, the ELRC and departments, we have some clear directions for going forward, but also a need to articulate our visions and decisions to each other, and consolidate or expand as needed. Our planned Brand Strategy also needs attention. We'll therefore aim to meet early in Q2 as a Faculty, to pick up our shared planning and update the Strategic Plan. Until then, thank for your hard work and support, and enjoy a few days off in the month ahead. Refresh, revive, and return energized with new ideas and contributions. These will always be welcome!



Time to Plan ...

From 21-25 March staff, deans and HoD Kavish Jawahar met with students and officials in Namibia. In addition to it being a teaching trip to engage the Faculty's new and returning Namibian students, the focus was on strategic planning with Executive Director in the Ministry of Basic Education, Arts and Culture, Sanet Steenkamp, here pictured signing the MoA between Rhodes and the National Institute of Education Development. One outcome was an agreement to hold a Graduation Celebration for Namibian students who graduated since 2020. This is planned for 6 May and DVC Prof Mmabokang Monnapula-Mapesela will attend. With the assistance of Zintle Songqwaru, now based in Namibia, the planning will be extended to the Ministry of Higher Education and University of Namibia. Watch this space for more outcomes!



