Information Systems

Staff and a total of 44 post-graduate honours (33), masters (9) and doctoral (2) students engaged in a variety of research projects during the year. Areas of research at the honours, masters and doctoral level included: Human Computer Interaction, Veterinary Informatics, Mobile Computing, Virtual Partnerships, Enterprise Architecture, ICT Education, eGovernment, Sustainable ICT, Health Informatics, Application Development Techniques, eCommerce, Cloud Computing, eLearning and ICT for Development. In addition, some of these research activities benefited from a rich collaborative association with the Department of Computer Science at Rhodes University.

Members of staff and post-graduate students participated in a number of local and international conferences notably: Proceedings of the 40th annual conference of the Southern African Computer Lecturers’ Association (South Africa), Global Telehealth Conference 2010 (Australia), Regional Impact of Information Society Technologies in Africa 2010 (South Africa), and 15th International Business Information Management Association (Egypt).

Journal articles were written by staff and published in international journals including Electronic Journal of Information Systems Evaluation, Information Development Journal, and IADIS International Journal on WWW/Internet.


Mr Chris Upfold is leading the research initiative for the Department’s contribution to the Commerce Curriculum Project which focuses on alternative teaching and learning strategies using ICT’s.

Ms Brenda Mallinson’s on-going appointment as a Research Associate bolstered the area of eLearning, whilst Professor Malcolm Sainsbury, Visiting Professor, spent valuable time in the Department working and collaborating with staff and students in the area of Information Systems Management.

In February 2010, the Department, in conjunction with the Department of Computer Science, again hosted a most successful Eastern Cape ICT Research Rumble attended
by 95 post-graduate students from Walter Sisulu University, Fort Hare University, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University and Rhodes University.

Finally, in an attempt to boost research capacity within the department, staff and senior post-graduate students attended a research capacity building workshop organised by the Commerce Faculty’s Research and Development Committee at the end of October 2010.

Professor Greg Foster
Head of Department

Books/Chapters/Monographs
Foster,G
Thinyane,H, Hansen,S, Foster,G and Wilson,L.

Publications Research Journals in Abstract and/or Full Paper
Mallinson,B and Nyawo,N
Pade-Khene,C
Upfold,C and Liu,H

Other Publications
Mallinson,B

Research Papers Presented at Academic/Scientific Conferences (Proceedings, Booklets and Attendance)

Local Conferences
Magadza,A

International Conferences (In SA)
Mufeti,T and Foster,G

International Conferences (Outside SA)
Foster,G
Thinyane,H, Hansen,S, Foster,G and Wilson,L.
Sewry,D and Benyon,UV

Distinguished Visitors
Sainsbury,M