The department was delighted to have the continued support of industry partners Singular Systems, Business Systems Group (BSG) and Open Box.

Staff and postgraduate students presented research at the following local and international conferences:

- 1st Pre-ECIS Special Interest Group for ICT in Global Development (SIG GlobDev) Workshop on ICT and Sustainable Development, Barcelona, Spain.
- 6th International Development Informatics Association, Istanbul, Turkey.

The Department of Information System’s research focus areas include: Cloud Computing, Human-Computer Interactions, Health Informatics, Business Analysis, Social Networks, Virtual Partnerships, IT in Education, ICT for Development, Service Management, and IT Governance. These activities produced one (1) book chapter, six (6) journal articles, and nine (9) conference papers in 2012.
Elearning Update 2012, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Emerge 2012, Johannesburg, South Africa.
Strategies to Overcome Structural Poverty and Inequality in South Africa: Towards Carnegie III, Cape Town, South Africa.

Postgraduates/Graduations

Staff and a total of forty-three (43) postgraduate students, (thirty (30) honours, eleven (11) masters and two (2) doctoral), engaged in a variety of research projects during the year. At the graduation ceremony in April 2012, we celebrated the graduation of one (1) Masters student (Bokang Mthupha) and thirty (30) Honours students.

Distinguished Visitors/Overseas Visits

Ms Brenda Mallinson’s on-going appointment as a Research Associate bolstered the area of eLearning, whilst visiting Professor Sue Conger (University of Dallas) spent valuable time in the Department working and collaborating with staff and students on various research projects. In addition, visiting Professor Malcolm Sainsbury spent time in the department teaching in the area of Information Systems Management.

Significant Research Aligned Events

The Department of Information Systems, in conjunction with Computer Science, again hosted the annual Eastern Cape ICT Research Rumble at the Gavin Relly PostGrad Village, Rhodes University. The event was a collaborative meeting between the Departments of Computer Science and Information Systems at Rhodes University, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, Walter Sisulu University, and the University of Fort Hare. The conference was a great success and promises to foster greater research collaboration between these Universities.

Dr Caroline Khene participated in two research projects. In the Siyakula Living Lab, she led the development of a sub-committee to support the ethical coordination of the project in rural areas. She also participated in the Sundays River Valley Municipality Workshop on Water in collaboration with the Institute of Water Research at Rhodes University. This workshop brought together internal and external stakeholders of the municipality to identify challenges in water service delivery and propose possible solutions to address these challenges. Dr Khene participated as an Information Systems expert to discuss possible ICT initiatives to support service delivery operations within the municipality.

Finally, the department was delighted to have the continued support of industry partners Singular Systems, Business Systems Group (BSG) and Open Box who all contributed towards our Research and Development Fund. The fund continues to support research efforts and staff development in the department.

Professor Greg Foster
Head of Department
Books/Chapters/Monographs


Distinguished Visitors

S Conger, University of Dallas, Irving, USA Lecture and Research. August 2012.

Prof M Sainsbury, OwIT, Johannesburg, South Africa. Lecture. September 2012.

Peer Reviewed Subsidy-Earning Journal Research Publications

Khene, C.J.


Khene, C.J. and Sewry, D.A.


Mufeti, T.K., Foster, G.G. and Tzortzis, A.


Peer Reviewed Subsidy-Earning Journal Research Publications

Krauss, K.E.M.


Mthoko, H.T.W. and Khene, C.J.


Schlenkrich, L. and Sewry, D.A.


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

Alstoun, G. and Upfold, C.T.


Fengu, N.C. and Krauss, K.E.M.


Freeme, D.M. and Gumede, P.S.


Khene, C.J.


Krauss, K.E.M.


Mallinson, B.J.


Thorne, J.-P.


Mallinson, B.J.


Thorne, J.-P.


Mallinson, B.J.