



## From the Dean



Dear colleagues

It is hard to believe we are approaching the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> term of 2011! On the other hand, if one thinks back about what has happened since the beginning of the year, one can believe we are well into 2011.

We have successfully managed the student registration processes. A big thank you to all colleagues, academics and support staff, for your professional and friendly participation in these processes.

Last year this time we noticed with concern the drop in first year registrations, in general but also specifically in the degree stream. This year same-date comparisons suggest that our total first year (new) registration will grow by as much as 10%, while registrations within the degree stream will grow by even more. It seems as if total registration (new plus continuing students) will also increase by a small margin (2% to 3%) in spite of the decrease in new registration we had in 2010. It also appears that out post graduate enrolments are on a continuing and healthy growth trajectory

We are also building our reputation in the market as a provider of first choice. This was again demonstrated by the results of the Vice Chancellor's Scholarship programme which was introduced in 2010. Last year 13 of the 23 recipients registered within our faculty. This year, once again, we dominated the outcomes and 13 of the 25 scholarships went to applicants who registered within our faculty. We will follow the progress of this growing group of talented students in our faculty with keen interest.

We have good reason to be excited about 2011. We are working on a number of projects with the potential to take us to a next level. Let me only mention one or two: We have embarked on a major programme renewal initiative. We have already seen some fruits, for example, this year we have launched the BA Development Studies programme at Missionvale and we have more than 30 first year students registered for the programme. A further 16 programmes are either under review or under development, including a number of coursework master's programmes. We are also making good progress with both the hospitality (hotel school) initiative and the relocation of the Business School.

During this year we will also have to engage with a number of challenges. There is a growing consensus that our facilities at 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue are in urgent need of maintenance, upgrade and expansion. We need to deal almost immediately with some of these challenges, for example upkeep and service delivery. Other challenges such as the expansion of the library and adding classrooms and offices will necessarily take longer.

Thank you for your commitment towards making our faculty special. I wish you all the best for the balance of 2011.

## The heart of our Faculty.



Above: Faculty of Business and Economic Science's staff show their strong support for a healthy heart by dressing in red on Valentines day

**Valentines day is all about hearts: chocolate hearts, heart shaped teddies, hearts on cards, but for the Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences, the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2011 was all about healthy hearts!**

Close to 100 faculty staff members dressed in red on Valentines Day to promote awareness of the importance of a healthy heart. This was an act brought on in support of The Heart and Stroke Foundation's annual fundraising and awareness campaign, "I love this."

This campaign encourages all South Africans to take part and show that they love their heart by purchasing an "I love this" sticker for R5 and dressing in red on Valentines day.

According to the Heart and Stroke foundation, heart disease is the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest killer in South Africa, after HIV/AIDS and that 1 in 4 of your female colleagues and 1 in 3 of

your male colleagues can die as a result of heart disease. Having a healthy heart is critical, and building awareness about healthy living is one of the foundation's priorities.

Thank you to all who participated. The Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences raised R500 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. We look forward to making an even bigger impact next year and strive to see all faculty staff in red.



Above: Business School showing how big their heart is when it comes to supporting a needy cause.

## Faculty News

# Why should we join facebook pages?

**FACEBOOK**- a word you here almost everywhere nowadays. Some people even refer to this social media as a revolution. This social networking site has been running for over 7 years, and at the beginning of 2011, NMMU joined this revolution, and we as a faculty are not far behind. There are however many questions surrounding the use of Facebook pages in universities. Beverley Erickson (Senior Electronic Communications Practitioner for NMMU Marketing and Corporate Relations) and Dr Dayan (Marketing Lecturer) took the time to answer some FAQ's.

### What is Facebook?

Facebook is a social networking website which has become an internet phenomenon currently sweeping the globe. Like instant messaging and sites such as YouTube, Facebook is a website which allows you to find friends and communicate with them, share photographs and compare your likes.

### Why did NMMU decide to join the Facebook revolution?

The perception that Facebook is considered as "COOL" and the fact that NMMU is using Facebook could help influence student perception of the brand and service. The institution gets a chance to broadcast and communicate on the same level as students and for the first time in history, convince students, by using "their" media, that there are common values and interests for both the university and its students, that can be achieved together.

### What will the official NMMU Facebook page be used for?

Using Facebook applications can be a great way for communicating promotions, competitions, events, achievements and awards. Again it is another interception point that can be leveraged to entice student engagement with the brand and the service

### Why is it important for Faculties, schools

### and Departments to make use of Facebook?

Because Facebook provides another potential interception point to build the relationship with students, by adding value to their lives.

Activities that are "fun" add value to students

### Who should join these pages?

All students and potential students that want to be associated with the NMMU / Faculty / School and any other

users that feel the information shared could add value to their life

### Why should staff join the relevant Facebook pages?

Because staff are part of the university and as such they should set an example for others. If staff members that work for the university do not feel part of the project, why will students feel part of it ??

Therefore it is important that all staff members join us !

### How does one join go about joining a Facebook page?

Once you are a registered user, search the relevant page you would like to join, and subscribe to it by "liking" the page. Search "Nelson Mandela Metropolitan university" to find the official NMMU Facebook page. (Search "NMMU Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences" to find our faculty page)

### Could you explain the following lingo to the readers?

**Status** - a message you update to tell friends what you're doing

**Wall** - area on your profile where friends post comments or vice versa.

**If staff members that work for the university do not feel part of the project, why should students will feel part of it ??**

## Reading expert boosts skills

Visiting United States academic and author Prof Gretchen Starks-Martin – an expert in the teaching of reading – is boosting the critical reading and thinking skills of students from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University's Thuthuka programme.

Starks-Martin – who is currently visiting NMMU as a Fulbright Scholar Specialist – has presented a series of workshops on critical reading and thinking strategies, focusing specifically on the analysis of case studies. "I have been presenting them with some techniques to identify the issues and come to logical conclusions," said Starks-Martin, who is the executive assistant of the college reading and learning association at St Cloud State University in Minnesota



Thuthuka students with Prof Gretchen Starks-Martin (front row-3rd from left) and Lecturer Lorelle De Villiers (front row - 4th from left)

**Like** – coz you simply "like" it and you think it is cool. On a fan page – clicking "like" means you want to receive regular updates and news from this page.

**Newsfeed** - a constantly updating list of stories about your friends' Facebook activities, located on your homepage



**Marketing Guru's...**(Left) Beverley Erickson and (Right) Dr Oren Dayan are aware of the advantages of using Facebook as a marketing tool

## Faculty News

# Accounting students brighten their future at Umbala Day

**The 200 or so BCom (Accounting) students in the Thuthuka programme recently attended Thuthuka's annual Umbala Day (meaning colour in Xhosa) on Friday the 11th of February 2011.**

It was here that students were encouraged to identify their leadership styles, through a series of workshops. A presentation was made by ethics professor and director of NMMU's Business School, Piet Naude, who spoke on ethical leadership in the accounting profession.

The message to students from SAICA senior executive Chantyl Mulder, who heads up the institute's transformation and growth division, was that leaders needed to choose to have the right attitude. "True leadership is all about the power of your thoughts," she said.



**THUMBS UP:** Colourful Thuthuka students eager to learn at the annual Umbala day 2011.

## Working World Extravaganza

**Working world extravaganza took place from the 9th to the 12th of March this year at the Feather Market Centre.**

The objective of the WWE exhibition is to provide Eastern Cape Grade 12 learners with exposure to various career opportunities and options when they have completed their high school education.

The faculty of Business and Economic Sciences had two stall this year, and was certainly one of the most popular stalls at the exhibition. The most asked about study fields were among Chattered Accountant, Human Resources Management, Business Management, Marketing and Economics.

This year the WWE introduced an evening session from 5pm to 7pm. This gave parents the chance to accompany their children to the exhibition and assist learners in choosing the correct career paths and educational options.

Our Faculty will also be present at the Working World Extravaganza in East London this coming July. We hope to see even more young faces eager to further their future.

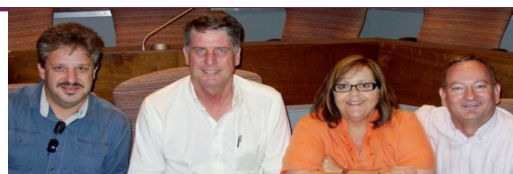
## Management Sciences Doctoral Colloquium

**The School of Management Sciences hosted a Doctoral Colloquium on the 17th and 18th of March this year. This 2 day event took place at the Senate/Council Chambers in the Main Building on South Campus, where PhD students were provided with a friendly, supportive and constructive atmosphere to present their research-in-progress for an open discussion, guided by a panel of experienced researchers.**

Director of School and one of the research experts on the colloquium panel, Prof Miemie Struwig, said the colloquium had two objectives. Firstly to create an opportunity for students to meet and network as it's important to learn from peers. Secondly, to provide students with quality feedback on their presented research so as to enable them to consider alternative views before examiners point it out as limitations.

The colloquium panel consisted of several research experts namely Dr Geoff Goldman (Editor of Accredited Journal Acta Commerci and University of Johannesburg), Prof Graham Stead (Director Doctoral Studies, Cleveland State University, USA), Prof Miemie Struwig (Director Management Sciences NMMU) and Prof Mornay Roberts-Lombaard (Head Doctoral studies, Department of Marketing, University of Johannesburg)

Thirteen PhD students presented their research at the colloquium and after a long day of academic presentations and discussions, the PhD students and their supervisors, the colloquium panel along with several guests enjoyed dinner together to mingle with peers and have informal discussions..



**Above: Colloquium Panel** –(left to right) Dr Geoff Goldman, Prof Graham Stead, Prof Miemie Struwig, & Prof Mornay Roberts-Lombaard.



**Above: International students** –(Left to right): Sebastian Hanhues-Germany, Helen Duh- Cameroon, Milly Kwangala – Uganda, Tohiera Moodien International Office, Hannington Gaya-Kenya, Anne Kiboi – Kenya, Wouter Hensens – Netherlands, Laura Welcker – Germany

## Business School News

# Business School opens Satellite Office in George

The Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) Business School launched its new office in George on March 2.

The opening of the new office, located in 1 Joubert Plaza, Meade Street, George, and the appointment of staff, resulted from the NMMU Business School's need to serve its existing clients in the Southern Cape region but also to address a demand for cutting-edge, quality training programmes in the region.

Around 80 stakeholders in HR, Management, Skills Development, Training, industry leaders, opinion formers, officials in local and provincial government from George and the Southern Cape attended the prestigious launch event that was hosted at the Tramonto Country Estate.

Apart from the NMMU Business School's block release MBA programme presented at the NMMU's Saasveld campus, a basket with 131 short learning, nine skills and five certificate programmes as well as a diploma programme will become available to adult learners and stakeholders in HR, training, talent management and staff development with immediate effect.

At present, training delivery will take place at various sites in George and the Southern Cape, but NMMU Business School is in the process of finalizing a lease for new premises that will become a training delivery point and the Business School's Southern Cape administrative office.

Elsa Myburgh, Manager of NMMU Business School George & Southern Cape, says the Business School will redefine the training landscape.

"The NMMU Business School will support working individuals in their on-going quests for career progression and personal development while enhancing employees and workforces, empowering them to become high-performance assets to employers. This will ultimately contribute to the overall wealth creation, growth and sustainability of

the George and the Southern Cape.

Prof Piet Naude, Director of the NMMU Business School said:

"We create leaders who are innovators and independent thinkers empowered to shape the future by directly contributing to economic prosperity, personal wealth, the upliftment of society and ecological sustainability.

"We also pledge our academic and intellectual resources to support the Southern Cape. We will engage and align very closely with trade, industry and local government over the next few months, and we will not rest until we have contributed significantly. We share the ambition and drive for a beautiful future in this region."

...we will not rest  
until we have  
contributed  
significantly...



Back Row: Melissa Isaacs (Coordinator: Business School George & Southern Cape), Leon Mouton (Director of Leadership Academy), Prof Piet Naude (Director of NMMU Business School), JP Roodt (Head of Marketing and Stakeholder Relations for Business School), Prof Niekie Dorling (Dean of the Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences)

Front Row Elsa Myburgh (Manager of NMMU Business School George & Southern Cape), Kiviet Cewu (Junior Executive: Marketing and Stakeholder Relations), Joey Staphorst (Senior Manager—Customised Learning)

## GM SA sponsors NMMU Business School's new vehicle.



**RIDING IN STYLE...**Professor Piet Naudé, NMMU Business School director, receiving keys to the GM sponsored Crossover SUV Chevrolet Captiva, by Denise van Huysteen, Communications Manager of GM South Africa & Sub-Saharan Africa, as part of a one-year trade exchange agreement between the two organizations.

NMMU Business School Head of Marketing and Stakeholder Relations said the vehicle will be primarily used by management and for visits to NMMU Business School's markets in the Southern Cape and Border Kei region, for executive travel and for marketing and stakeholder relations events.

## Business School News

# Business School host Nelson Mandela Bay HR Forum

**The NMMU Business School hosted the first conference for the Nelson Mandela Bay Human Resource (HR) Forum on 18 March 2011 at the La Colline Country Estate in Theescombe.**

Over 100 HR, training, skills and organizational development practitioners attended the half-day executive conference that featured a variety of cutting-edge talks and presentations on issues impacting on the HR landscape.



According to Charles Du Toit, chair of the Nelson Mandela Bay HR Forum, the event attracted the biggest up come of members to a function in the eight year existence of the Forum.

"The NMMU Business School will continue to enrich the HR community with thought leadership, insights and ideas through experiential events" said JP Roodt of the NMMU

Business School.

Experiential Marketing focuses on making a personalized connection using emotional direct involvement & connects audiences with the authentic nature of a brand through participation in personally, relevant, credible and memorable encounters. Whereas traditional marketing has focused on mass communication using direct persuasion

Topics and speakers included Jason Perry from Algoa FM which did a presentation on social media and HR, Alan Hosking, Editor of HR Future, on human resource and skills development trends for 2011, Prof Dave Berry and Charles Du Toit which talked about talent attraction and retention and Prof Piet Naudé on how the leadership virtues of Nelson Mandela can be applied in the HR environment.



**Above: Captivated audience at Nelson Mandela Bay HR forum**

## Business School Appointments

The NMMU Business School has announced the appointment of several new key staff members this year. The Office of the Director is pleased to announce the appointment of:



Professor Paul Poisat as associate professor. Poisat will be lecturing Strategic Human Resource Management and Organisational Behavior



Dr Patsy Paxton within the Leadership Academy as Manager: Quality, Innovation and Design (QID)



Professor Johan (Koot) Pieterse, professor at the Graduate School, and lecturer in Operations Management and Manufacturing



Peter Grant as relationship officer for overseeing the accreditation and certification MOU between the Business Development Unit (BDU) and the NMMU



Lee-Anne Vasi as tender specialist to support the Leadership Academy in new business development



Hlekani Ndhambi as senior programme specialist in customised learning and in-house training

"We are delighted by the latest academic and administrative staff that will support our existing staff compliment, and our vision of growth and quality training and education," commented Professor Piet Naudé, Director of the NMMU Business School.

## Graduate School announces development of Post-Grad Diploma in Business Admin

Graduate School announces Development of Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration

The NMMU Business School has announced the development of a Postgraduate Diploma in Business Administration. The programme, currently under development, will be presented over one year on a full-time basis or as part-time studies over two year.

"Aimed at graduates, the programme will provide students with broad-based theoretical and practical knowledge of business management and will help graduates once they enter the business world," said Prof Kobus Jonker, Director of the Graduate School.

"The purpose of the qualification is to prepare candidates for senior administration-level and first line management position in the private and development sectors."

The programme curriculum entails modules on NQF level 8 that include: Analytical Decision Making, Entrepreneurship, Financial accounting Aspects, Information Management, Management Accounting, Management and Corporate Government, Marketing Management, Operations Management, Organizational Behaviour and Strategic Management.

## The Strongest Link



**CHAMPIONS** ... Management and Entrepreneurship team, Hassan Mohammed and Lee –Teslin Booysen, proved to be anything but the weakest link in 2nd Avenue's student-lecturer fun event. Faculty staff situated on 2nd Avenue Campus organized a fun orientation event for their students by imitating the popular TV show "Weakest Link" in the Auditorium. A student-lecturer pair represented each department in the game, while the witty Mr Tai-Hing acted as the grueling host. It was clear that the dimmed lights, intimidating music, ticking clock and Mr Tai-Hings insults didn't scare our winners who walked away with a Trophy and several prizes.

## Tourism Students show what they've got

The Department of Tourism is proud to announce that four of their top achieving students, Chido Danda, Bongekile Mathlakwane, Viwe Tilimeni and Candice Schercka have been awarded bursaries to the value of R15 000 from Rennies Travel.



Back Row left to right: Bursary recipients Chido, Viwe, Bongekile, Candice

Front Row left to right: Rennies Travel Regional General Manager- Brenda Hughes, HOD of Tourism Hugh Bartis

## 2nd Avenue News

# An eye-opening experience for HR students

An enthusiastic, diverse team of Human Resources Management students made their way to Jansenville on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of February this year. Here, they assisted Prof

Jonker, Dr Werner and Mr Ngalo with a socio-economic survey commissioned by a private company, Lead Africa, whose mission it is to fast-track real transformation in Africa.

The purpose of this survey was to develop an understanding of the general perceptions and needs of people in the community with regards to the local municipality. This information is part of a bigger project aimed at researching the possible development of a water purification plant for Jansenville. The town is experiencing constant droughts and has to content with borehole water that is not suitable for consumption.

Having access to clean drinking water is a fundamental human right and according to the Department of Water Affairs only 45 per cent of the people living in the Eastern Cape have access to clean drinking water.

This project was a fantastic as well as an eye-opening experience.

More than 200 households were surveyed by the students by means of a considerably lengthy questionnaire. The students excelled at this task and described their endeavours as fantastic but eye opening.

Big thanks to Prof Jonker who afforded the students the opportunity to be involved in this project, as well as to Mr Ngalo and Dr Werner who also assisted in the survey.



**Getting involved....**A diverse group of HR students get involved in the community by assisting in a survey project in Jansenville

Rennies Travel Bursary was launched just over 3 years ago, and is awarded annually to three 2<sup>nd</sup> year students who have performed exceptionally well in their first year. This year, however, Rennies Travel decided that four candidates would each receive the bursary as all students were equally exceptional.

The students will receive a value of R15 000 a year for their 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> years of studying. The bursary is only given to second year students, as the first year is used as an assessment period to see which students qualify.

One of the conditions of the bursary is that the recipients complete their in-service training during their 3<sup>rd</sup> year (required to obtain their diploma) with Rennies Travel as well as work part time with Rennies Travel throughout their second year, when possible.

Congratulations to Chido, Bongekile, Viwe and Candice on winning this prestigious bursary. Thank you to the Department of Tourism.. A special thank you to Rennies Travel for making this possible.



## Briefs

### It's a boy

Razaanah Meyer (Department of Industrial & Organisational Psychology's secretary) had a baby boy, Mikhail (pronounced Meekaeel), on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. Congratulations to her & her husband, Fickry!

### Book on Estuary Valuation Launched



Prof Hosking (Left)  
William Akoto (Right)

A new book on the valuation of freshwater inflow into estuaries has been launched. The book "Valuing preferences for freshwater inflows into selected South African estuaries" was authored by economics department lecturer William Akoto with Prof.

Stephen Hosking as a collaborator. The book addresses the problems caused by reduced freshwater inflows into South African estuaries and highlights the problems inherent in the valuation of estuary services and other environmental resources.

### Financial Planning Textbook

Jackie Palframan is a contributing author in a brand new undergrad textbook for South African Financial Planning students "Fundamentals of Financial Planning" through LexisNexis. This book was launched in Feb 2011 and will be prescribed in all 5 universities offering financial planning courses.



### Congratulations

Monique Addendorf got engaged to boyfriend of 8 years, Aladin on the 29<sup>th</sup> of January. The wedding is set to take place on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2011. Congratulation to Monique and Aladin Sass!

### The Argus is no match for Prof Radder

Prof Gerrit Radder from the School of Accounting took part in his 9th Cape Argus Cycle Tour in Cape Town on Sunday, 13 March 2011. The Argus is one of the biggest social cycle tours in the world with over 32 000 cyclists. This year he finished 3288<sup>th</sup> out of 28907 cyclists and 147<sup>th</sup> from 1912 cyclists in his age group. Prof Radder plans to compete in his 10th Argus next year.



## Staff News

# Congratulations



Prof Piet Naudé Business School Director and newly appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Academic Affairs (as from 1 June) has been awarded the Andrew Murray-Desmond Tutu prize for 2011 for his book Neither Calendar nor Clock - Perspectives on the Belhar Confession.

The prize consists of R15 000 and a gold medal which will be presented to him on 4 May at Neethlingshof in Stellenbosch.

As the winner, Prof Naudé will also be the guest speaker at the Andrew Murray-Desmond Tutu-lecture in Stellenbosch.

Congratulations!



## Prof Miemie Struwig, a Jack of many trades and an Ace of ALL!

We would like to congratulate Prof Miemie Struwig on her achievements listed below:

- Prof Miemie Struwig became a collaborative partner in the Central Office for Business Communication and Marketing of The European Economic Chamber of Trade, Commerce and Industry (EEIG) in Brussels as from 1 March 2011. In this capacity she will assist, amongst others, to develop and implement a Global Commerce Licence (GCL). The GCL project is still in development phase where it involves training people to conduct business on a global level for example training them in business etiquette in the various countries.
- Prof Miemie Struwig has also been selected as panel member for the Full Paper Review panel, for the 8th International Conference on Business Management (ICBM) on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2011 in Sri Lanka (in collaboration with the University of Sri Jayewardenpura, Sri Lanka)



## There's no business like SNOW business



Accounting lecturers, Ansulene Stone (left) and Lorelle de Villiers, (right) playing in the snow on their visit to St Cloud State University in Minnesota, USA, at the end of March this year.

Ansulene and Lorelle were awarded the trip for being the recipients of the "Teacher of the Year" award in the Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences for 2009 and 2010 respectively

They visited two universities in Minnesota, St Cloud State university and St John University/College of St Benedict.

The aim of their visit was to observe how teaching and learning takes place at the universities.

## Student News

### THE HUNT IS ON

The Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences had their students get some post-holiday exercise, by designing a fun scavenger hunt as part of orientation that had students running around South campus.

The fun event, which formed part of the newly designed orientation programme, took place on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February as the last leg of a 2 week orientation.

Students were given cryptic clues about participating lecturers and the different locations, and were sent out to go and find them.

This event allowed students and lecturers to bond on an informal, fun level, as opposed to the formal meetings in the beginning of orientation and the start of class.

### How well do you know your colleagues?

**Below are some of the fun facts used in the above mentioned scavenger hunt. Can you match the facts to the staff members in the faculty?**

- A. This person is celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary this year.
- B. This person has the word "elbow" tattooed on his ankle.
- C. This person's name means "Garden In Paradise"
- D. This person is the mother of two little girls
- E. This person is a huge Manchester United fan.
- F. This person used to be a Student national ballroom and Latin dancer.
- G. This person has three children aging from 6 to 21
- H. This person loves Italian Food

**See answers  
below**

## Dare to Care

### Honour student shows her support for CANSA

Natalie Van Antwerpen, a honours accounting student, decided to loose her locks this March in support of CANSA. The brave young lady participated in a cancer awareness campaign run by KICK (Kids in Christ Kingdom) called "DARE TO CARE," whereby her brown locks were shaven off and made into a wig for a cancer patient. All the funds raised were given to CHOC, a Childhood Cancer Foundation.



Above: (Left) Natalie, with long hair, before the shave. (Right) Natalie looking beautiful with her new hair cut.

## Did you know...

**Did you know that thirteen out of the twenty five recipients of the VC Scholarship have chosen to study within the Faculty of Business and Economic Sciences?**

To obtain this Scholarship, students must have obtained more than 48 points on the APS system, an equivalent of 7 distinctions.

BELOW: First year VC Scholarship recipients posing with their gifts given to them at the Faculty's VC Scholarship Welcoming Lunch.



**Excellence**



**Excellence**



# STUDENT PROFILE

*Lee-Teslin Booysen is an enthusiastic and driven student who is currently studying his BTech in Management. Originally from Missionvale, Lee-Teslin's up-bringing was not a privileged one, but with dedication to his to his studies and involvement with the university he has proved to himself and others, that you can achieve your dreams when he got accepted into a spring exchange programme with partner University Ostfalia in Germany. We interviewed the excited student days before his departure to see how he was feeling.*



**How did you hear about this exchange programme and how did you apply for it?**

My lecturer, Mr Paul Tai-Hing, actually applied for me without my knowledge (Lee-Teslin laughs) He thought it was an excellent opportunity for me and I was grateful to him when he told me he had applied for me. I then got a phone call to say I was accepted into the programme and from there dealt closely with Miss Divinia Pillay at the International Office to organise my trip.

**How did you feel when you heard you were accepted?**

Ecstatic! I have always been fascinated with German history and I couldn't wait to experience and explore the country.

**Have you ever been overseas?**

No, never. I am actually the first in my family to go overseas. I am obviously a little anxious and nervous of what to expect, but I think the excitement takes my mind off how huge this opportunity is.

**Did you ever see yourself going overseas in your future?**

Yes, but I never imagined it would be so soon. I would never have been able to do this if it wasn't for NMMU's exchange programmes. I anticipated going when I become an established businessman, when I have enough money to go. I have always wanted to see how people do things overseas, I want to learn from them and bring new techniques and innovations to South Africa.

**What are your expectations of this exchange programme?**

I am expecting it to be a great learning experience, not just from the programme but from interacting with people from around the world and engaging in cultural exchange. German culture is so different to ours, I am very interested to learn from them. I hope I return with a wider outlook on life and to have broadened my horizons.

**What are you going to focus on when you are over there?**

I am a person that is very involved in the community, and through making acquaintances overseas I hope to build and maintain lasting relationships with the people I meet. Hopefully this will allow me to build a "bridge" between South Africa and Europe that allows for open communication and the exchange of skills, knowledge & new developments.

**What would you like to say to other students who are considering applying to study abroad?**

As an encouragement to other students, I would like to say that life is an opportunity and every day we are faced with choices, but in order to achieve success you should take control of your future, make the right decisions and utilise all the opportunities vacant unto you.

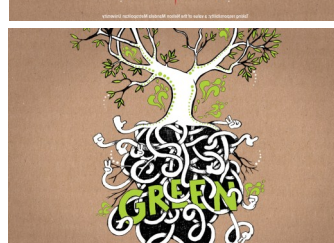
## From the Editor

**"The dictionary is the only place where success comes before work"**

I hope you all enjoyed reading the first edition of the BusEc Newsletter, as much as I enjoyed writing it! I am so glad to be working in such a diverse, successful and driven faculty. There is so much going on, but too little space in a 9 page newsletter to tell it all. Please keep the stories coming, if they weren't used in this edition they might be used in the next edition.

I know I am only here for this year, but I have already learnt so much from working here. I cant imagine how enriched I will be by the end of the year. I look forward to the months ahead and to meeting you all in person (eventually) Lets make this year great by filling it with smiles, memories hard work and success!

**Our Faculty supports  
the values of NMMU**



**Send your  
photos and news to  
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