

A NEW FOOTPRINT FOR STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY

Valuable wetland regains its footing

The Rietenbosch Wetland Restoration Project is putting the University's expertise and resources to work to do ecological recovery and social upliftment in a largely underdeveloped community. When restored, the wetland will be a valuable educational and recreational resource for Rietenbosch Primary School, neighbouring schools and the community. The project is carried out with the enthusiastic help of internal and external partners. Students from the Faculty of Engineering, for instance, are surveying the area to get the planning off on the right foot.

On the photo from the left are

Mr Pat Williams (Circuit Manager, Stellenbosch), Prof Chris Reddy (Curriculum Studies, Faculty of Education), Ms Vera Mukasa (Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs), Mr Pieter Colyn (Langverwacht landscaper), Mr Roy Van Rooyen (Head: Rietenbosch Primary School).



Youth Sport Initiative

The Stellenbosch Soccer Academy at Lentelus was founded as part of the HOPE Project's Youth Sport Initiative. The Academy, on the doorstep of Idas Valley, Cloeteville and Kayamandi, is a significant step ahead towards the University's goal of deploying sport as a strategic asset in a wider context, the transformation of Stellenbosch as a town. This group of soccer enthusiasts came to watch the sod-turning ceremony at Lentelus with (back, from left to right) Prof Julian Smith, Vice-Rector (Community Interaction and Personnel), Mr Greg Federicks of the Local Organising Committee 2010, Prof Russel Botman, Rector, and Prof Leopoldt van Huyssteen, Executive Director: Operations and Finance.



Ukwanda makes its mark in the Overberg

The Faculty of Health Sciences' Ukwanda Rural Clinical School (RCS) at Worcester with satellites at Ceres, Bredasdorp and Hermanus is turning into South Africa's first fully-fledged RCS. Once the buildings have been erected there, up to 30 students will be able to complete their final year of training in a rural environment. In the meantime all the Faculty's students receive two to six weeks of rural training per annum.



Six African universities combine forces

On African University Day the PANGeA (Partnership for a New Generation of African Academics) agreement was signed by SU and five other African universities. The new network, in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences' Graduate School and African Doctoral Academy, aims to strengthen scholarship on the continent through the development of higher education. It extends the University's footprint to countries such as Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda.



Stellenbosch's virtual lead followed by students countrywide

Via the telematic platform, the University makes its expertise available to all South African communities to develop specialised skills in areas crucial to sustainable development: health services, governance, education, and the management of HIV/Aids in the workplace. The Western Cape Department of Education also used the telematic platform for providing additional learning support in six subjects to 14 000 grade 12 learners in various schools. The photo shows the control room from where transmissions are made.



'Teabag' filter brews clean water

An ingenious water filter in the form of a teabag – brainchild of microbiologist and Dean of Science, Prof Eugene Cloete (on photo) – made international news. The filter is being developed by a team of SU microbiologists and polymer scientists to supply clean, germ-free water to vulnerable communities on a large scale. Prof Cloete received a Science for Society Gold Medal from the Academy of Science for South Africa (ASSAf). Polymer scientist Prof Ed Jacobs, who like Prof Cloete has ties with the SU Water Institute, received the Water Research Commission Technical Excellence Award for innovative membrane water purification technology that is commercially viable.



Dreaming a different world for humanity

As partner in a three-year international project on the impact of globalisation on society, the Faculty of Theology joined in thinking through the what and the how of a better world. At the Beyers Naudé Centre for Public Theology, the final report *Dreaming a different world* was handed over to former Archbishop Tutu (front row, middle), our champion of the poor and the marginalised, by Dr Allan Boesak (left), coordinator of the South African task team. The project was started by Dr Johann Weusmann (front, right), Vice-President of the Evangelical Reformed Church in Germany and coordinator of the German task team, and by Prof Thias Kgatla (back, right), Moderator of the Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa. As Prof Nico Koopman (back, left), Dean of the Faculty puts it: "At Stellenbosch, our entire focus is centred on the idea that through science we can help to change the world for the better. With this report, we can make a real difference."

