



## NEWSLETTER OF THE ANATOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA 2016

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From the editor's corner

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45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa

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International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA)

Thanks for your help!

And so another year is creeping to an end... It has been a very busy and successful year based on all the achievements, awards, prizes, grants, publications, graduations, workshops, collaborations, conferences, etc. included in the following pages – Congratulations to all!

I would like to thank each and every one for their kind contribution to the newsletter, especially the "ASSA liaison officers" from each of the institutions for ensuring that all the news from their respective institution are included in ASSA 2016 newsletter.

A special thanks to Mr Leon du Plessis for his assistance with the editing and publishing of the annual newsletter. Your help is much appreciated!

Wishing you all the best,

*Desiré Brits*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF ASSA

Dear colleagues,

I am writing this message while sitting at home with Wits being closed – like many of you, anxious about what the rest of the academic year will hold for us. I think it is all of our utmost hopes that we will be able to see through another successful academic year and I wish you all of the best for the remainder of the year. This year was quite a busy one for ASSA. We have submitted a letter to the HPCSA outlining our stance on the teaching of Anatomy and the fact that we support teaching by means of dissection or at least prosected specimens. I hear that it has been well received, but we are still awaiting a formal response. Many of our members have been quite active in the media, with many interviews relating to body donation. ASSA has now also received a certificate to indicate that we are recognized by SACNASP. Our website was also very active and received a number of visitors. It was used as a site for various advertisements for conferences, events, job openings etc.

I was also interested to see that there were quite a few academic posts in anatomy departments advertised from all over the country. This is very encouraging and it is good that opportunities are opening up for our graduates. Please encourage all of the new appointees to join ASSA!

Our 44<sup>th</sup> Annual conference was hugely successful, and we would once again like to thank Sanet van Zyl and Daleen Raubenheimer (Department Basic Medical Sciences, University of the Free State) and their team for organizing this event and for their hospitality. We enjoyed coming to Bloemfontein very much. Next year it is Cape Town: 23 – 26 April 2017 and we are already looking forward to Club Mykonos!

I would like to extend my gratitude to the members of the ASSA Council for their hard work and dedication. Our mailing group is quite active, and I am grateful for your quick responses. Thank you for your support and continued hard work and the leadership you provide in the society.

I wish everyone a successful end of the academic year, and a restful festive season.

*Professor Maryna Steyn*



## 44<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ANATOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (ASSA 2016)



ASSA 2016, Bloemfontein Hotel Spa and Conference Centre, Bloemfontein, Free State

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa (ASSA) was hosted by the Department of Basic Medical Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Free State (UFS). The Bloemfontein Hotel Spa and Conference Centre served as venue for this event from 8-11 May 2016. A total of 123 national and international delegates attended the conference, had the opportunity to present research results and to exchange ideas and key developments in the field of Anatomy, while enjoying the warm atmosphere among colleagues. This year's conference theme was *'Anatomy – Inspiring Life into Learning'*.

Two workshops, a Forensic Anthropology- and a Clinical Anatomy workshop formed part of the pre-conference activities. The theme of the Anthropology workshop was *'Standard operating procedures in the laboratory'*. Dr. J. Myburgh and Prof. E.N. L'Abbé arranged this workshop and it was chaired by Dr. J Myburgh and Ms B. Speed. The guest speaker, Col. L. Rossouw from the SAPS, provided valuable insight into the service of the police with regards to victim identification. She also informed all attendees about the best approach to

collaboration between the SAPS and the various forensic anthropology laboratories. Prof. M. Steyn provided useful insight into establishing a forensic anthropology laboratory, where after a representative from the different universities with laboratories informed everyone about their respective activities at the particular laboratory; University of Pretoria, University of Cape Town and University of Stellenbosch - the latter two working in collaboration in the Western Cape. Dr. Myburgh concluded the workshop by providing clear-cut and practical guidelines on standard operating procedures in a Forensic Anthropology laboratory, including all the aspects of running such a laboratory.

The Clinical Anatomy workshop was titled *'Modern trends in Diagnostic Imaging and Interventional Radiology'*. The workshop was arranged and chaired by Prof. G. Lebona, Mrs P. Pillay and Dr. S. van Zyl. Key note speakers included Prof. C.S. de Vries and Dr. S.F. Otto from the Department of Clinical Imaging Sciences (UFS), and Dr. J. Basson from the Department of Neurosurgery (UFS). Delegates were fascinated by the modern interventional

radiology techniques Prof. de Vries illustrated for intracranial vessel aneurisms and reconstruction, and by Dr. S. Otto's presentation on 3T brain imaging for cranial nerves. Dr. Basson elaborated on modern interventional trends in Neurosurgery that incorporate neuro-navigation, neuro-endoscopy, intra-operative cerebral video-angiography and 5-ALA guided glioblastoma resection.

Prof. T. Verschoor from the UFS delivered the Tomson-Stibbe lecture in honour of Tomson and Stibbe, two pioneering anatomists who established the first anatomy schools in South Africa. His presentation at the conference incorporated *'The impaired physician'* and wellness of Health Science educators. The academic programme stretched over a period of two and a half days and showcased research from which selected papers will be published in the journal, *Clinical Anatomy*. The scientific programme included forty-nine oral presentations and thirty-three poster presentations. Presentations covered a broad spectrum of interesting topics, including clinical- and comparative anatomy, physical- and forensic anthropology, cell and molecular biology, histology, embryology and medical

education. Forty-one students presented their research to the scientific anatomy community present at the conference, thus providing an excellent opportunity for students to gain experience and to interact with colleagues.

On Wednesday, 11 May 2016, the conference came to an end with a technical discussion, chaired by Dr. Henk Potgieter from the Department of Basic Medical Sciences (UFS), on *'The Training of Anatomy Technicians in South Africa'*. Lively discussions ensued and it was soon clear that no formal programs currently exist for the training of anatomical technicians at any other university in South Africa. The Department of Basic Medical Sciences at the UFS has a formal in-house training programme in place and accommodates trainees from other universities on request.

The Department of Basic Medical Sciences was privileged to host the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa (ASSA) and we trust that all attendees enjoyed visiting Bloemfontein.

*Dr. Svan Zyl*

*Chair: Organising Committee, ASSA 2016*



*Gala dinner theme: Masquerade Bal*

# 45<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE ANATOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA (ASSA 2016)



Dear ASSA members,

As Chairperson of the Organising Committee, I would encourage you all to head South and Southwest to attend the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of ASSA at Club Mykonos near Cape Town. The dates are Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> to Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. The Saturday and Sunday will be dedicated to pre-conference workshops and seminars for our various Interest Groups. On Saturday there will also be a workshop at UCT on various techniques used for plastination, aimed at our technical colleagues. The conference kicks off officially on the Sunday late afternoon with the welcome function.

This year's conference will draw attendance from our colleagues involved in teaching and research in the field of Anatomy in the broadest of senses. The topics that we will be covering include clinical and applied anatomy, histology and cell biology, developmental embryology, biological and forensic anthropology, comparative anatomy, structure and function, medical education, anatomical techniques, to name only the main themes.

There is an interesting revival taking place in Medical Education that is reminiscent of Renaissance philosophy, whereby educationalists are looking at the blending of Science and Humanities, in this case, creativity and art. For this reason, we will be hosting

workshops and offering presentations about the role of art in Anatomy. Along with our colleagues at Elsevier, we are thrilled to be hosting Dr Carlos Machado at our conference whom you all know as the current medical illustrator for the famous collection of Netter's atlases. We hope that this fresh theme for ASSA will be an enjoyable one and will provide opportunities for us to exchange ideas on technology that is becoming available and best educational practices. This conference is an excellent opportunity for you to meet with our colleagues involved in similar fields, share views, and create an opportunity for networking, collaboration, sharing of technical information and the building of trust relationships. As always, we extend a warm welcome to all our sponsors who share our interest in improving our teaching and research.

The beautiful resort of Club Mykonos lies on the West Coast outside Cape Town and has been recently extensively upgraded as a conference and holiday venue. Everything that you need for the duration of the meeting is on site. The relatively informal conference dinner on Tuesday evening will have a marine theme. The reason why we decided on these specific dates for our conference is to enable you to stay on in Cape Town for the long weekend that follows on our meeting, if that idea appeals to you.

I am looking forward to meeting you all in the Western Cape in April, 2017 at what promises to be a most stimulating and enjoyable event!

*Prof Graham Louw*

*Chair: Organizing Committee, ASSA 2017*

**International Symposium of Clinical and Applied Anatomy (ISCAA 2016)**

Prof Sanet Kotzé presented at the 2016 (ISCAA) in Budapest, Hungary in September which was hosted by the Hungarian Anatomical Society. She was the only delegate from South Africa to attend this conference which highlighted various aspects of clinical and applied anatomy and anatomical education research. Many of the contributions were from experienced clinicians with an interest in clinical anatomy as well as from established career anatomists. However, there was also a strong representation from postgraduate students and postdoctoral students and it was heartening to see the enthusiasm of young clinicians and future career anatomists for the subject of anatomy.



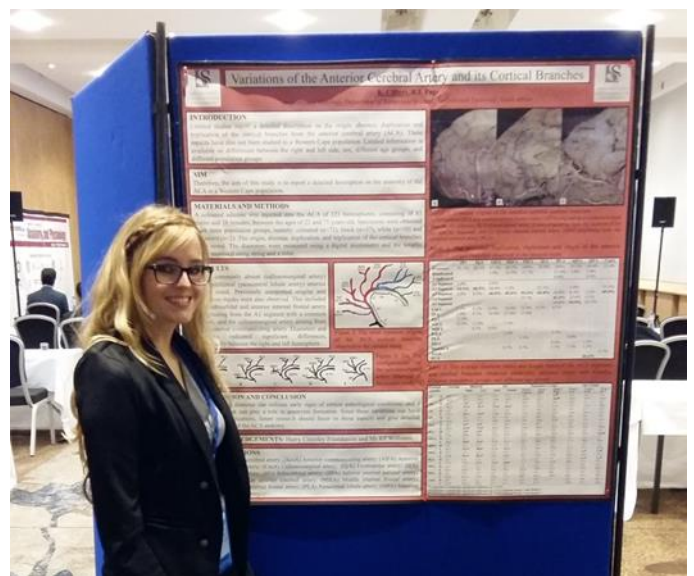
*Prof Geoffrey Meyer from the School of Anatomy, University of Western Australia in Perth is the coordinator for histology in FIPAT and is the creator of “Meyer’s Histology” as well as “Histology -online”; both are extensive collections of learning and teaching resources for studying histology online. Prof Meyer is keen to help SA histology lecturers to make more use of his online resources*

**International Conference on Anatomy and Physiology**

Ms Karen Cilliers (PhD student) and Ms Jacklynn Walters (Master’s student) attended the inaugural International Conference on Anatomy and Physiology in Birmingham, UK on August 11-13 2016. Their contributions, a poster and an oral presentation respectively, were very well received. The conference included oral and poster presentations, on a variety of subjects of anatomy and physiology.



*Prof Kotzé with Prof David Kachlic from the Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic in front of their respective posters. Prof Kachlic is one of the advisors of the Federative International Programme for Anatomical Terminology (FIPAT)*



*Karen Cilliers presented a poster on the “Variations of the Anterior Cerebral Artery and its Cortical Branches” and Ms Walters did an oral presentation on the topic “Tuberculosis and visceral rib lesions in the Kirsten Skeletal Collection”. This was a good conference for studies that include both anatomy and physiological aspects.*

## **Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine**

The third workshop on Cell Biology and Regenerative Medicine (CB/RM) was jointly organized by STIAS (The Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study) and the African Academy of Sciences (AAS) from 27<sup>th</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016. The Islet Research laboratory lead by Dr V Tchokonte-Nana hosted young African Scientists, affiliates of AAS. Dr V Tchokonte-Nana also visited the Centre of Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell research at Liv Hospital in Istanbul, Turkey in July 2016. During this visit, Profs Erdal Karaoz and Oktar Asoglu, Head of the Centre and Medical Director of Liv hospital/Dean of the Medical Faculty respectively, indicated their interest in collaborating with the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences of the Stellenbosch University.



*From right to Left: Prof E. Karaoz, Dr V Tchokonte-Nana, Prof O. Asoglu*

## **ASSA 2016 Conference: Students, students, students!**

This year our department put its money where its mouth is by allowing a whopping 7 students to attend ASSA in Bloemfontein with Ms Mandi Alblas accompanying them. Five of the 7 were first time presenters and ASSA newbies! We are all very proud of their achievements, notably Danni Pereira with her best poster presentation. Well done all!



*SU ASSA 2016 group  
FLTR back: Karin, Simoné, Rita, Jackie.  
FLTR front: Danni, Chris, Danélle and Mandi*

## **Blended Learning at SU**

Ms Mandi Alblas attended a Blended Learning Short Course presented by Stellenbosch University's Centre for Learning Technologies. Blended learning is a form of education where at least a part of the course is presented via digital and online media, allowing students to decide for themselves when and where the learning will take place. Although the course was theory based, it had a practical component which helped to overcome the fear of using technology associated with blended learning. The course was well constructed and presented online with assignments to complete each week over a 6 week period. There was an introductory workshop on the first day to explain what is expected and a closing workshop on the last day.

## **Cadaver platform in Anatomy - beyond undergraduate teaching**

Historically, anatomy at South African tertiary institutions has focused on undergraduate teaching. Since 2006, Anatomy and Histology at Stellenbosch University has ventured into the domain of hands-on training of registrars and the retraining of specialists by making dissection hall facilities and the cadaver platform available to the most prominent manufacturers of surgical equipment and implantation devices like Medtronic, Stryker, Zimmer, Werkomed, Smith and Nephew, Southern Medical to mention a few. Our

department has also made the cadaver platform available for the cadaver workshop of the Congress of the International Maxillo-Facial-Oral Surgery Society (2014) and the world; the Congress of the International Society of Aesthetic Medicine (2012). Feedback from organizers and delegates from these two Congresses made particular mention of the quality of service received and the quality of the specimens made available for surgical training. Medtronic, a major manufacturer of surgical equipment expressed interest in developing a world-class surgical training facility at Stellenbosch University. Consequently, during 2016, the division of Anatomy and Histology made an underutilized dissection hall available which was converted into a state-of-the-art surgical training facility (SunSkill), primarily for Neurosurgery training but also used for other surgical disciplines such as orthopaedic training of surgeons in hip and knee replacement, arthroscopic techniques and pelvic reconstruction.



*The SunSkill Laboratory, the new world-class post graduate surgical training facility at Stellenbosch University was inaugurated on 19 July 2016*

*Professor Sanet Kotzé*

**Walter Sisulu University  
Human Biology Department,  
Division of Morphological Sciences**

**2016 Staff members**



*Standing FLTR: A/Prof Abura, Ms Shauli, Dr. Akpa, Dr Jimoh, Ms Kolosa, Dr Mwesigwa  
Sitting FLTR: Mr Shopo, Ms Mnini, Dr. Milanes, A/Prof Gari and Mrs Umapathy  
Photographer: Mr Buswana*

**Research**

The Physiology Division of the Department researches the effects of indigenous plants commonly used by the rural population in the Eastern Cape.



*Ms Shauli technically supervises post graduate students in their histological studies in animal models*



*Two Master students (Mr. Vuyo and Mr. Kayode) are working in the Histology research lab, which is well equipped with Leica instrumentation*



## **Conference participation**

At the 2016 ASSA Conference Ms. Shauli presented a paper on toxicity investigations of a medicinal plant indigenous to South Africa that has shown anti-microbial activity against all drug resistant strains of Mycobacterium tuberculosis.

In 2015 the first UNIVEN-WSU Research Conference was hosted by Walter Sisulu University with the theme 'Research and Innovation for Sustainable Development and the Transformation of Society'. Ms Shauli presented a paper reporting the histological findings in livers of rats fed with a plant commonly used by rural populations in the Eastern Cape. She was nominated for the best presenter and received an award in the category 'Established Researcher' sub-theme 'Research, Teaching and Learning in Higher Education'.

In September 2015 the South African Association of Health Educationalists (SAAHE) joined The Network: Towards unity for Health in the organization of the Bambanani Conference in Gauteng. Its theme "Education for Change" motivated health educators from different parts of the world to present experiences supporting how education has a key role in involving students to promote healthier communities. In June 2016 the higher institutions of the Eastern Cape Province organized the SAAHE Conference in Port Elizabeth, its theme "Transformative Health Education in Motion" moved to transformative education – the aims of health educationalists in South Africa. A/Prof. Myra Gari attended both conferences; in the first one presenting experiences extracted from the diaries of second year medical students during their COBES (Community Based Education and Service) placements in rural hospitals, and in the second one organizing a symposium together with colleagues from UKZN and UCT named: 'Participatory and interactive methods for engaging students in learning: Are they transformative if they don't take account of student diversity?'

## **Technical Staff Development**

Thanks to the collaboration with the Division of Anatomy of the University of the Free State, Mr. Buswana, a new technical staff who recently joined the gross anatomy lab, was trained by colleagues of this institution free of charge. We are grateful for their gesture, and want to again say "THANK YOU!".

The talk delivered by Prof Smit from the University of Namibia shed light onto training of technical personnel in gross anatomy, such that our Department has initiated the enrollment of Mr. Buswana at the UK college of Anatomical Sciences to start in 2017.



*Mr. Buswana employing his technical skills*

## Education

Student centered learning and community based education are the pedagogical strategies practiced in all degrees offered by the Faculty of Health Sciences at WSU. Our division hosts and serves various modules and we design learning environments to fulfil these aims for courses including; e.g. medicine, clinical associates, orthotics and prosthetics and nursing.



Two top photos are medical and nursing students interacting in histology practicals and gross anatomy classes respectively. Two photos at the bottom are first and second year medics in their COBES experience

*Ms Mathulo Shauli*

## University of the Witwatersrand School of Anatomical Sciences

The School of Anatomical Sciences welcomed three new lectures to the team, Dr Nanette Briers, Dr Tanya Calvey, Mrs Anja Meyer and Dr Candice Small. Three staff members also obtained their PhD's, Dr Richard Chawana (Wits Health Science Consortium) Dr Desiré Brits and Dr Olatunbosun Olaleye (School of Anatomical Sciences & School of Oral Health Sciences).

Prof M Steyn, Head of the School of Anatomical Sciences, received accreditation as a Forensic Anthropologist - level 1 from Forensic Anthropology Society of Europe (FASE), making her one of only two accredited forensic anthropologists in South Africa, and the only South African to be accredited from FASE. One of the aims of FASE is to manage a system of

accreditation of Forensic Anthropologists and form part of the International Academy of Legal Medicine. No system for such accreditation exists in South Africa. Prof Steyn has now also been elected to serve on the Advisory Board of FASE. The aim of this board is to strengthen the scientific capacity and the international network of FASE. Prof Steyn was also appointed as the Associate Editor for the South African Journal of Science for Anthropology, Archaeology and Palaeontology.

At the end of year (2015) Medical Student Council (MSC) awards ceremony, Mr. Thabiso Tshabalala was recognised as "The most influential lecturer of the year 2015 (MBBCH I and II)". This esteemed title goes to a lecturer nominated and voted for by the medical students. To be nominated for this prestigious award one must have shown evidence of excellence in facilitating student learning and must also show commitment that goes beyond classroom teaching.



Mr. Thabiso Tshabalala winner of the MSC's "The most influential lecturer of the year 2015 (MBBCH I and II)"

Professor Lynne Schepartz from the School of Anatomical Sciences and Dr Temitope Esan from the Faculty of Dentistry, Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU) also celebrated the finalisation of a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Wits researchers and OAU in Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Prof Schepartz supervises Dr Esan's PhD studies on permanent tooth emergence and dental development in children from Diepsloot. They also have a forthcoming

paper in the *Annals of Human Biology* on their research in the School of Anatomical Sciences' Raymond A. Dart Collection of Human Skeletons entitled "Third molar impaction and agenesis: Influence on anterior dental crowding".



*Professor Lynne Schepartz Dr Temitope Esan from the Faculty of Dentistry, Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU)*

Prof Kramer, in her capacity as President of the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA), recently visited South Korea for the meeting of the Korean Association of Anatomists (KAA) which was held in the Seorak Mountains, south of Seoul. Prof Kramer was delighted to find a very large, active Anatomical Society (around 1000 members including students) who are producing excellent science. Approximately 350 members attended the Congress. Of interest was the number of clinicians who participated in the Congress and who are doing anatomical research. It appears also that many clinicians work in Anatomy Departments. There are 41 Medical Schools in Korea with dedicated anatomists, which explains the huge number of members in the Society.

The KAA were most hospitable and caring.



*Prof Kramer with some of the KAA senior members at a dinner held in the King's House in Seoul*

Prof Kramer also visited two research laboratories and hospitals while in Seoul. One of the labs was that of Professor Han-Sung Jung of Yonsei University. Professor Jung's PhD was supervised by world-renowned Wits alumnus Lewis Wolpert, so it was great for her to meet someone with a South African connection although the PhD was undertaken in the UK!. Both the laboratories she visited were exceptionally busy with many postgraduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

Prof Kramer was also shown the dissection laboratories at both the Dental and the Medical Schools at Yonsei University and found that these laboratories are much like ours. However, the Korean Institutions do not have any problems with the acquisition of bequeathed bodies and thus have a relatively plentiful supply for their students (see Park et al. *Anatomical Sciences Education* 4: 33-38, 2011).

In general Prof Kramer describes Korea an amazing country with beautiful forested areas. The anatomists are very dedicated to their discipline, have active terminology, education and international committees which mirror that of the IFAA and often communicate with the IFAA through Plexus.

Should any ASSA members wish to visit the Korean anatomists and need to have a contact, please contact Prof Kramer and she will try to set this up.

## **Visiting Scientists**

Professor Bidmos from the Division of Anatomy, Department of Surgery, University of Toronto (Canada) recently visited the School of Anatomical Sciences. During his visit Prof Bidmos, who is passionate about students and teaching, assisted with practicals and dissections for the medical as well as the physiotherapy and occupational therapy students. Prof Bidmos also presented a talk entitled “In search of accurate estimation of living stature from Fully’s method” which outlined his research in the renowned Raymond A. Dart Collection of Human Skeletons, housed in the School of Anatomical Sciences. This talk highlighted numerous gaps in biological anthropology and offered staff and postgraduate students valuable insight regarding possible research projects and future collaborations. During his visit Prof Bidmos also attended the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern African (ASSA) where he further engaged and networked with researchers from Southern Africa. This visit was funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF).



*Prof Bidmos alongside Prof Steyn during his visit to the School*

## **Conference attendance**

### **44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa (ASSA)**

The 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa (ASSA) was hosted

by the Department of Basic Medical Sciences, University of the Free State at Bloem Spa Hotel & Conference Centre, Bloemfontein, 8 – 11 May 2016. This conference covered a variety of research topics including clinical anatomy, histology & embryology, neuroscience and biological anthropology to name but a few. The conference was attended by a number of staff and students (including PhD, MSc and Honours level) from the School of Anatomical Sciences who presented almost 20 oral papers and posters.

Dr. T Calvey won the Bob Symington Award for the best young oral presenter for “A neuroanatomical evaluation of cholinergic, catecholaminergic, serotonergic and orexinergic neural systems in mammals pertaining to the phylogenetic affinities of the Chiroptera”, while the work by Mrs. JE Asouzu-Johnson titled “The effect of atrazine on the histology and connective tissue profile in cardiac myocytes and Purkinje fibers of *xenopus* frog” received the 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up prize for this award. Ms. K Pather shared the first runner up prize for the Antoinette Kotze Award for the best first time oral presenter for “Platelet-rich plasma induces alterations in ultrastructure and TGF- $\beta_1$  expression in hormone-dependent breast cancer cells” while Dr. D Brits’s presentation “Undergraduate Health Science student attitudes towards body donation” won the first runner up prize for the Hanno Boon Award for the best medical education oral presentation. The poster “The *Sternalis* muscle in a South African cadaver: A case report” by Mr. JG Davimes was the 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up for the SV Naidoo Award for the best poster presentation.

Professor M Steyn was also invited to give a presentation during the Forensic Anthropology Interest Group (FAIG) workshop on her expertise on establishing a forensic anthropology laboratory. During the conference Dr. Brits was also elected as the Honorary Editor of Proceedings: ASSA Newsletter.

## 7<sup>th</sup> Cross Faculty Symposium

Mr. Josh Davimes, a PhD student, recently attended the 7<sup>th</sup> Cross Faculty Symposium hosted by the University of the Witwatersrand. During this symposium Mr. Davimes presented some of the results from his MSc work in a poster entitled “Nuclear organization and morphology of the sleep related nuclei in the brain of the Arabian oryx, *Oryx leucoryx*” and won third place, jointly with Nomagugu Ndlovu. This work focused on the examination of the Arabian oryx’s sleep neuroanatomy.



*Mr. Josh Davimes receiving his award from Prof Professor Zebulon Vilakazi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research and Postgraduate Affairs, University of the Witwatersrand*

## Sleep

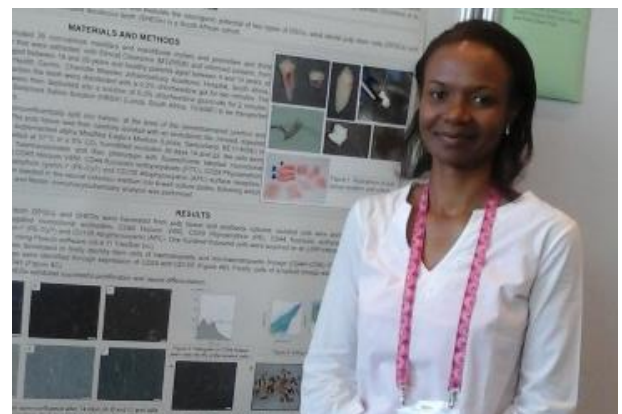
Mr. Davimes also attended the Sleep conference held in Denver, Colorado, USA. The conference was held in June this year and was an international meeting place for basic, clinical and translational sleep and circadian rhythms research. Mr. Davimes was awarded funding for the conference from the Sleep Research Society. He was also competitively selected to present at the society’s annual data blitz event called Club Hypnos which was held during the conference. Mr. Davimes was part of the early investigator group with three other sleep researchers that won the overall data blitz cup. Mr. Davimes also presented a poster on his research entitled “A possible non-photic primary Zeitgeber seasonally entraining dual-phasing in the Arabian oryx”.



*Event emcee Patrick Fuller and Sleep research society President Allan Pack (to the left) along with Joshua Davimes, Michele Bellesi, Jordan Gaines and Nelly Papalambros*

## International Neurotrauma Society (2016)

Dr Nyota Masumbuko Kahamba, from the School of Anatomical Sciences and the School of Oral Health Sciences attended the 12<sup>th</sup> International Neurotrauma Society (INTS) symposium held at in Cape Town at the Cape Town International Convention Centre. During this symposium Dr Masumbuko Kahamba presented the final results of her MSc research in a poster entitled “Neurogenic Differentiation of Human Dental Pulp Stem Cells” and won the award for best poster presentation, which was sponsored by the European Brain Injury Consortium (EBIC). Dr Masumbuko Kahamba’s research was supervised by Prof Amadi Ihunwo (School of Anatomical Sciences) and Prof Meer (Department of Oral Pathology).



*Dr Nyota Masumbuko Kahamba*

*Dr Desiré Brits*

It certainly has been an eventful year and we gladly reflect on a few of our highlights. The department experienced a big change as our beloved and ever-expanding Pretoria Bone Collection was relocated to a new venue on the Prinshof Campus. The new collection space boasts separate rooms for cranial and postcranial skeletal remains. The space previously allotted to the bone collection is currently being renovated for a wet laboratory to be used for workshops and post-graduate teaching and skills development. The department welcomed two new staff members this year, Ms Leandi Liebenberg and Ms Joy Ndalane. Dr Michael Kenyhercz from the University of Tennessee was also appointed as Extraordinary Lecturer in the department. We are extremely proud of our staff members and post-graduate students who graduated from the University of Pretoria, with one PhD, six MSc degrees and twelve Honours degrees awarded throughout the year.



*Pretoria Bone Collection manager, Gabi Krüger (left), and Physical Anthropology section head, Prof Ericka L'Abbé (right) in the new Pretoria Bone Collection space.*

### **Conferences**

Fourteen staff members and six students from the Department of Anatomy attended the 44<sup>th</sup> annual ASSA conference hosted by the University of the Free State. We are proud of Mrs Alieske Hagg and Ms Sabashnee Govender who were awarded the shared first and second runner-up prizes respectively for the Antoinette Kotze award for best first time oral presenter.

Dr Natalie Keough and her MSc student Ms Martie du Toit attended the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Combined Orthopaedic Association Congress in Cape Town to present their poster on the "Macroscopic Anatomy of the rotator cuff complex".

Prof Ericka L'Abbé attended the 68<sup>th</sup> annual scientific meeting of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences in Las Vegas, NV. She presented a poster on the "Reliability of biomechanical descriptors to assess blunt force injuries on the cranium" in collaboration with a number of international and local researchers.

Prof Megan Bester attended the Antimicrobial Peptide Symposium in Montpellier, France where she presented a poster with Prof Anabella Gaspar on "Antifungal properties of the antimicrobial peptides Os and Os-C derived from a defensin of the tick *Ornithodoros savignyi*".

Dr Amélie Beaudet and Ms Marine Cazenave attended the 85<sup>th</sup> meeting of the American

Association of Physical Anthropologists in Atlanta, GA. Ms Cazenave presented a poster on “The inner structural organization of a (likely) paranthropine patella from Swartkrans Member 2 (SKX 1084): human- and nonhuman-like features” and Dr Beaudet presented preliminary findings for the study on “Reconstructing early hominin brain evolution from South African Australopithecus endocasts”.

Prof Albert van Schoor received an invitation to co-organise and attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> Hanno Boon Dissection Masterclass. The masterclass is hosted by the Department of Anatomical Sciences, St. George’s University in Grenada, WI from 5 – 13 December 2016. Dr Natalie Keough will also be attending the masterclass. Ms Marelise Schoeman will be presenting a poster on “The creation of an arterial anatomy reference dataset for a South African population” at the Winter Scientific Meeting of the British Association of Clinical Anatomists in Leeds, UK in December.

### **Workshops**

The 5<sup>th</sup> Cochlear Implant and Advanced Temporal Bone Dissection Course was presented in the department from 11 – 13 October 2016. All in all about 125 delegates attended the course. Various workshops were presented during the course, namely a Southern ENT/Cochlear™ NucleusR Surgical Masterclass, a Southern ENT/Cochlear™ BahaR Surgical Masterclass, the Pretoria Nerve Facial Course and a Temporal Bone Dissection Course. The course was very well attended by national delegates and international guests from the fields of otorhinolaryngology and audiology to name a few. The practical sessions were presented with the aid of the latest state of the art surgical equipment and microscopes supplied by industry.



*Faculty involved in the 5<sup>th</sup> Cochlear Implant and Advanced Temporal Bone Dissection Course. From left to right: Prof Peter Weber (Mt Sinai System, USA), Dr Roelien Free (Gröningen, Netherlands), Dr Elizabeth Toh (Lahey Clinic, USA), Prof Erwin Offeciers (Antwerp, Belgium), Dr Louis Hofmeyr (SACIG, RSA), Dr Kurt Schlemmer (SACIG, RSA), Prof Marius Bosman (Dept of Anatomy, RSA) and Dr Tommie Bingle (Neurosurgeon, RSA).*



*Dr John Callaghan (Private ENT surgeon, 90 years young and still active in practice) receiving the Distinguished member award from Dr Louis Hofmeyr at the 5<sup>th</sup> Cochlear Implant and Advanced Temporal Bone Dissection Course.*



*Prof Offeciers demonstrating a procedure on the Zeiss Neurosurgical microscope at the 5<sup>th</sup> Cochlear Implant and Advanced Temporal Bone Dissection Course.*

## **Research**

Congratulations to Prof Albert van Schoor who received a Y1 rating from the NRF for the period of 2016 – 2021.

Ms Alison Ridel, a PhD candidate from Toulouse is currently conducting her research with the department on the reconstruction of the nose in facial approximations through sponsorship with AESOP plus. She is evaluating known techniques for nose approximations on South Africans and is in the process of developing an automatic nasal reconstruction technique from unknown cranial remains. The research is conducted under the guidance of Prof Anna Oettlé and Prof Ericka L'Abbé from the Department of Anatomy as well as Prof Vandermeulen from the Catholic University Leuven (Belgium) and Dr Fabrice Demeter from the Natural History Museum in Paris. Ms Ridel is joined in the department by three French researchers sponsored by the AESOP plus programme. Dr Amélie Beaudet is completing a postdoctorate fellowship, while Ms Marine Cazenave and Ms Charlotte Theye are PhD candidates.

*Ms Leandi Liebenberg*

**University of Pretoria**  
**Department of Anatomy and Physiology,**  
**Faculty of Veterinary Science**

## **Undergraduate teaching**

Amidst trying times we have completed our anatomy course with the second year veterinary students. What a joy this year was! For the first time in the Faculty, the second-year veterinary course, which includes anatomy, was presented in a mini block system. We saw the students for 6 blocks which totalled 43 days over the period from February to October. Blocks were intense, but the reward was high. During the block period we had use of the time between 08:00 and 17:00. Students soon objected to afternoon dissections and rescheduling was performed to

avoid this where possible. The day before the test was also made lecture-free to accommodate learning. Students were self-motivated as at the end of the block was a test. It was a dream to be an anatomy demonstrator when all the pressure was on the student to perform and learn the work. Although it may have made students tired, it did result in a better success rate. By the same benchmark in 2015, only 48 students had a progress mark of below 50% in 2016, in contrast to the 95 students in 2015. Exam marks must still come in, but we are holding thumbs that the success rate would have improved. This year was a prime example of how students organise their lives around tests and how assessment drives learning. The block system will run again in 2017 and we look forward to the new academic year.

## **Departmental happenings, achievements, visits and visitors**

The department welcomed new leadership this year with Prof Andre Ganswindt becoming the new Head of Department. This followed the 4 consecutive terms of Herman Groenewald and he rightfully experienced a restful year in 2016 while Andre took over the reigns. The Department also welcomed Antoinette Buys to the Electron Microscopy Unit. She has already registered for her PhD on “The bacterial and fungal bionomics of the Nile crocodile (*Crocodylus niloticus*) egg in relation to the eggshell and eggshell membrane anatomy and microstructure”. Christine Steyn has handed in her MSc dissertation for examination and all going well hopes to graduate in 2017. Congratulations go out to her in advance. John Soley has been awarded the status of Emeritus Professor which is well-deserved after his 40 years of service. Two staff members received NRF-ratings in 2016. John Soley was re-awarded a C3 rating while Martina Crole was awarded a Y1 rating. This was celebrated by the University of Pretoria at a prestigious awards event held in April. Martina was an invited



participant in the 2016 OER Convening, Nairobi, Kenya, 17-18 May held at the beautiful Windsor Golf Hotel. OER Africa is a Saide initiative and they have been actively involved in the Faculty of Veterinary Science supporting the use of OER's. Martina has also been invited to contribute to an educational training course at Tsolo College, Mthatha from 21-22 November.

### **Local conferences**

John Soley, Martina Crole, Christine Steyn and Ellene Kleyn attended the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual ASSA Congress in Bloemfontein. Martina presented her teaching innovation in veterinary anatomy and received the Hanno Boon Award for the Best Medical Education Oral presentation. John Soley received the Honorary Member Award at the Gala Dinner and now joins a growing list of esteemed ASSA members. Christine delivered a fascinating talk on the muscles of the thoracic limb in the ground pangolin and Ellene presented a poster showing the first results from her MSc on the eye muscles in the ostrich and emu. John, Martina and Antoinette will also be attending and presenting at the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Microscopy Society of Southern Africa (MSSA) Conference to be held at The Boardwalk Convention Centre, Port Elizabeth, 29 Nov – 4 Dec, delivering talks on the outer dense fibres in ratite sperm, finite elemental modelling of the ostrich bill tip, and the chorioallantoic membrane vascularisation in chicken eggs, respectively.

### **International conferences**

Lizette du Plessis and John Soley attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial meeting of the Association for Applied Animal Andrology (AAAA) as well as the International Conference of Animal Reproduction (ICAR) in Tours, France. John was one of the plenary speakers at the AAAA meeting and gave a lecture entitled: "A comparative overview of the sperm centriolar complex in mammals and birds: Variations on a theme", while Lizette gave an oral presentation on the effects of the GnRH vaccine Improvac®

on testicular tissue in young stallions at the same conference. Lizette, who serves on the Board of Directors of the Association, was also the guest editor for the international peer-reviewed journal, Animal Reproduction Science, which published all the plenary talks of the AAAA as full papers as well as the abstracts of all the oral and poster presentations. The ICAR meeting followed on the AAAA conference. Lizette presented a poster at the ICAR meeting detailing the first recorded incidence of a Sertoli cell tumour in the ostrich. John, Martina and her MSc student, Esther Meusel attended the Joint Conference of the 31<sup>st</sup> Conference of the European Association of Veterinary Anatomists (EAVA) and the 42<sup>nd</sup> World Congress of the World Association for the History of Veterinary Medicine (WAHVM) from 27-31 July, Vienna, Austria. Esther presented the "Osteology of the carpal region of the southern white rhinoceros (*Ceratotherium simum simum*)" and John presented on "Sperm head shaping in ratites: new dimensions, yet more questions".

*Dr Martina Crole*

**Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences  
University  
Department of Anatomy**

### **Workshops**

This year the Department of Anatomy, Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University has been involved in co-hosting two workshops. This includes the Plastic Surgery Workshop which was hosted by Baroque Medical from 13-14 August 2016 and the Otorhinolaryngology workshop, which was presented on 6 October 2016.

### **Conference participation**

Four staff members attended the 44<sup>th</sup> ASSA Conference held in Bloemfontein; Mr HR Human, Prof GT Lebona, Ms G Venter and Ms

N Mogale. Two of the attendees, Ms G Venter and Ms N Mogale both presented oral presentations entitled “Prevalence of the psoas minor muscle in a sample of South African adult cadavers” and “The anatomical variations of the lateral circumflex femoral artery and the lateral femoral cutaneous nerve relating to the anterior approach of minimally invasive total hip arthroplasty”, respectively.

Ms Nkhensani Mogale also attended and presented at the 13<sup>th</sup> International meeting of the Combined Orthopaedic Association (COMOC), Cape Town International Convention Centre, 11-15th April 2016. Her oral presentation was titled “The anatomical variations of the lateral circumflex femoral artery and the lateral femoral cutaneous nerve relating to the anterior approach of minimally invasive total hip arthroplasty”. This research was also presented at the Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University Research Day, 23-25th August 2016 and was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> place for the best postgraduate student paper.

**THE ANATOMICAL VARIATIONS OF THE LATERAL CIRCUMFLEX FEMORAL ARTERY AND THE LATERAL FEMORAL CUTANEOUS NERVE RELATING TO THE ANTERIOR APPROACH TO MINIMALLY INVASIVE TOTAL HIP ARTHROPLASTY SURGICAL PROCEDURE**



Nkhensani Mogale<sup>1,2</sup>, Nanette Briers<sup>3</sup>, SAS Olorunju<sup>4</sup>, Steven Matshidza<sup>5</sup>

1. Department of Anatomy and Histology, Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University
2. Department of Anatomy, University of Pretoria
3. Department of Anatomy, University of the Witwatersrand
4. Biostatistics Unit, MRC
5. Department of Orthopaedics, University of the Free State

*Ms Nkhensani Mogale*

**University of Kwazulu-Natal  
Clinical Anatomy, School of Laboratory  
Medicine and Medical Sciences,  
College of Health Sciences**

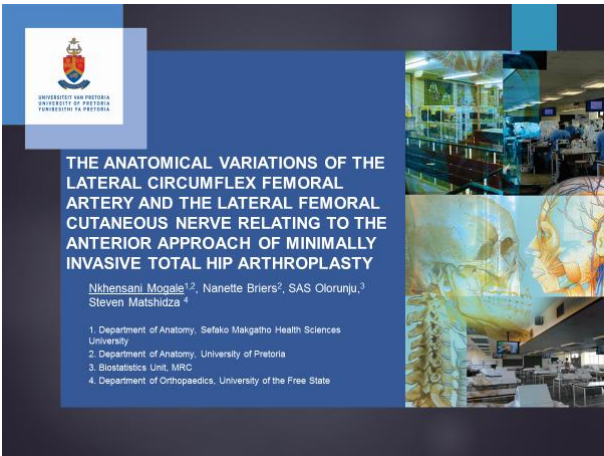
Congratulations to the researchers within the Morphology and Andrology Group (MAG) - Clinical Anatomy led by Dr OO Azu. This year has been pleasantly eventful for the group as they have received a number of prestigious research grants namely:

- Testicular morphology and endocrine perturbations in experimental diabetic animals under antiretroviral therapy and the role of *Hypoxis hemerocallidea*. NRF Competitive Grant for Rated Researchers. 2016-2018.

- Flow characterization in sleep disordered breathing. College of Health Sciences Young Researchers Competitive Grant 2016-2018.

[http://chs.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/newsletter/CHS\\_Newsletter.sflb.ashx](http://chs.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/newsletter/CHS_Newsletter.sflb.ashx)

- Nanotechnology-Based Solutions for Infectious Diseases (NSID): In vivo bio-distribution studies, quantification (using stereological tools) of pathological aberrations in testis and brain following nano-based delivery systems for antiretroviral drugs. <http://nanotechnology.ukzn.ac.za/Nanohealth.aspx>





*The Morphology and Andrology Group (MAG) led by Dr OO Azu (left)*

### **International Conference / Workshop on Plastination:**

The Morphology and Andrology Group (MAG) - Clinical Anatomy in conjunction with the International Society for Plastination (ISP) announces the first ever meeting/workshop/conference on plastination in Africa. The 12<sup>th</sup> International Interim meeting/conference/workshop on Plastination will be hosted by the University of KwaZulu Natal, Durban in July 2017. <http://clanatomy.ukzn.ac.za/Homepage.aspx>

See you all there!

### **Postgraduate students**

Postgraduate student achievements:

Congratulations to all our postgraduate students for participating in a number of local, national and international symposia.

### **PhD student wins R15 000 prize at College of Health Science Symposium**

University of KwaZulu-Natal PhD student in Clinical Anatomy, Miss Sundika Ishwarkumar won second prize of R15000 for her poster presentation at the College of Health Sciences Research Symposium. Miss Ishwarkumar's study was entitled, "The mandibular condyle: An osteometric evaluation in a Black KwaZulu-Natal population." Her study aimed to document the shape and size of the mandibular condyle and determine their relationship with regard to age, sex and race (if any). The manuscript for this project was accepted for publication in the International Journal of Morphology.

### **Research development grant awardees in Clinical Anatomy**

Mrs Pamela Pillay, Mrs Brenda De Gama and Miss Nerissa Naidoo were awarded research development grants by the College of Health Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. They will be attending the 64<sup>th</sup> National Conference of the Anatomical Society of India in Jodhpur, Rajasthan from 28 November 2016 to 1 December 2016. They will be presenting aspects of their doctoral studies, all of which are due for submission for examination this year.



*Winners of the research development grants by the College of Health Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal.  
FLTR back: Pamela Pillay, Brenda De Gama  
FLTR front: Nerissa Naidoo, Sundika Ishwarkumar*

### **Inspire mobility scholarship: PhD in Clinical Anatomy**

Miss Nerissa Naidoo recently completed a 6-month PhD mobility scholarship at Ghent University in Belgium. This mobility scholarship, was funded by the INSPIRE Project of the Erasmus Mundus Programme, started on 16 September 2015 and ended on 16 March 2016. She was based at the Department of Physical Medicine and Orthopaedics. During her visit, she explored an aspect of her PhD that employed the use of 3D-CT imaging reconstruction and ultrasonography, both of which are novel imaging techniques that provided an internationally unique stance to her

PhD study. This proved to be a rare opportunity as Miss Naidoo was able to learn and practice these techniques and procedures. As a developing country, there is much need for an international milieu, therefore this experience enabled her to establish a niche area within Anatomy and adopt a global outlook.

*Ms Carmen Rennie*

## University of Namibia Department of Anatomy

Here at UNAM we are very pleased to announce that we had NO disturbances to our academic programme as is the case across the border. For that we applaud our students and the University Management team who was able to organise a settlement with the SRC on outstanding student fees.

Finances remains a critical issue and we had to cut back on several important issues this year. If Council agree (and that is a big if in this financial climate) we will be starting four “new” programmes next year! Dentistry is in an advanced stage of development and we hope that the new buildings will be finished by June next year. Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy curricula were approved by Senate and we are seeking the go ahead from Council to start as soon as money is available. A postgrad Diploma and Specialist degree will also be on offer in Anaesthesia in cooperation with Cardiff University in Wales. Looking forward and remaining positive, we will then be advertising several new posts at UNAM in 2017!

In the Anatomy Department, we are working around the clock to get everything ready for the opening of our Anatomy Resource Centre on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November this year. This was made possible with the transfer of the museum collection from Bristol University in the UK, with the help of the Institute of Anatomical Sciences

and their “Pot Reclamation Scheme”, to Namibia. We are really proud with what was achieved.



*The Anatomy Resource Centre, to be opened on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November 2016*

We were fortunate to welcome back Dr Quenton Wessels from Lancaster University who re-joined our Department in July, after an absence of almost three years. He settled in very quickly and we are pleased to have him back.

Another lecturer position was filled by a local Namibian lady, Mrs Albertina Iikasha, who will eventually take up a position in Histology. Her main focus is ethnomedicinal plants and I hope to get her to join ASSA.

We have also advertised and offered an Associate Professorship and can't wait for the new staff member to join the team.

As with most of us, we are finishing the academic semester in two weeks' time and then the exams are lurking around the corner! Best of luck to you ALL and more specific to those of you with extended academic programmes because of disruptions!

*Professor Jan Smit*

### **New academic staff members**

Earlier in 2016, the Division of Human Biology welcomed two new members of academic staff:

Dr Victoria Gibbon

(<http://www.humanbiology.uct.ac.za/hub/news-victoria-gibbons>) as a Senior Lecturer in Biological anthropology and Ms. Kentse Mpolokeng as an Assistant Lecturer in Anatomy (<http://www.uct.ac.za/dailynews/?id=9682>). Ms Mpolokeng holds an nGAP position. Both new staff members are active ASSA members, also forming part of the ASSA 2017 organising committee.



*The new academic staff members, Dr Victoria Gibbon (left) and Ms. Kentse Mpolokeng (right)*

### **Students featured in media**

From the Division of Clinical Anatomy and Biological Anthropology at UCT so far in 2016, two of our students have received some good media coverage.

- Dr. Kavita Lakha recently graduated from our Division and currently works for the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA). Her research was showcased in the UCT news and can be viewed at:  
<http://www.research.uct.ac.za/pioneering-research-gives-hope-bereft-families>
- The research by Mr. Devin Finaughty, a PhD student in the Division under the supervision of Prof. Alan Morris, has also been showcased in the media and the University as well. For more information on his research please visit any of the following three links:

1. <http://www.timeslive.co.za/sundaytimes/stnews/2016/03/13/Dead-pigs-offer-new-insight-into-unsolved-Cape-Flats-murders-video>
2. <http://mq.co.za/article/2016-02-18-how-dead-pigs-can-help-nail-killers>
3. [http://www.uct.ac.za/dailynews/?id=9604&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Hidden%20galaxies%20and%20bodies%20of%20evidence%20%20Research%20at%20UCT%20-%20February%202016%20%20Batch%201&utm\\_content=Hidden%20galaxies%20and%20bodies%20of%20evidence%20%20Research%20at%20UCT%20-%20February%202016%20%20Batch%201+CID\\_b4a6506742f912c8e2019f3e7f4965f5&utm\\_source=Campaign%20Monitor%20newsletter%20traffic&utm\\_term=Bodies%20of%20evidence%20the%20forensic%20anthropologists%20advancing%20local%20knowledge](http://www.uct.ac.za/dailynews/?id=9604&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Hidden%20galaxies%20and%20bodies%20of%20evidence%20%20Research%20at%20UCT%20-%20February%202016%20%20Batch%201&utm_content=Hidden%20galaxies%20and%20bodies%20of%20evidence%20%20Research%20at%20UCT%20-%20February%202016%20%20Batch%201+CID_b4a6506742f912c8e2019f3e7f4965f5&utm_source=Campaign%20Monitor%20newsletter%20traffic&utm_term=Bodies%20of%20evidence%20the%20forensic%20anthropologists%20advancing%20local%20knowledge)



*Images pertaining to student research*

## Student

### Awards

- Mr. Devin Finaughty was amongst those chosen from an international pool of nominees to receive an award in the AAAS/Science Program for Excellence in Science. The program “recognizes the achievements of selected students and young investigators, and enhances their educational experience and laboratory performance by providing them with links to leading scientific resources as well as connections to colleagues worldwide.” Devin says with this award “I am able to give back and contribute to the advancement of our “local and lekker” science, both for the good of South Africa and the global community as a whole!”.
- Ms. Elizabeth Potter an MSc student supervised by Dr. Jacqui Friedling won a prize on her Honours thesis at the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual ASSA Congress 2016 for the best first-time presenter.

### Workshop attendance

- Miss Elizabeth Potter attended a Geometric Morphometrics Workshop hosted by a pioneer in the field of GM Prof Klingenberg. This was hosted by the University of Stellenbosch from 24 - 29 October 2016. Why: To equip attendees with theoretical and practical understanding of Geometric Morphometrics, as well as the potential research applications into morphological variation and homology within the field of anatomy.
- Miss Stevie Biffen attended the International Conference on Brain Imaging.

*Dr Victoria Gibbon & Ms Kentse  
Mpolokeng*

The Department of Human Anatomy and Physiology (HAP) added a new undergraduate Anatomy and Physiology for Biokinetics module, to the now totalling 55 different Anatomy and/or Physiology modules at 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year level offered for the 11 different programmes housed in the Faculty of Health Sciences. All programmes within the Faculty of Health Sciences are also in the process of re-circulation of which we have this year successfully introduced amended and additional modules.

As always, HAP hosted its annual community engagement project with IH Harris primary school in Doornfontein, and decided this year to get back to mother earth, propagate a healthy diet and spread a bit of knowledge regarding where veggies come from. The staff spent a fun-filled, getting-dirty morning with representative children from each school-grade building a vegetable garden. Tires, painted on site, were filled with a variety of seedlings which were carefully planted and nurtured. Everyone enjoyed every moment, although it was a bit difficult to propagate eating the veggies that we planted such as spinach, cauliflower and green beans....to both HAP staff and children alike! There was a bit of seriousness as well, as HAP staff also presented grade 7 learners with book prizes for the best progress in Mathematics and Science.

Shahed Nalla attended a variety of workshops and published follow-up data on *Homo Naledi*. Pilani Nkomozepe is progressing well on his PhD studies, Nkosi Xhakaza registered for his PhD and Erna Bruwer completed her Diploma in Health Sciences education.

We are again expanding the HAP family with Bianca Thomas (physiologist) being the proud mommy of a little girl and Pilani Nkomozepe

becoming a dad for the first time in December this year.

have information on the change of venue for the 2019 IFAA Congress soon.



Two of the IFAAs programmes, the Terminology Programme and the Education Programme, are making great strides in their work. Please continue to regularly view the IFAA website at [www.IFAA.net](http://www.IFAA.net) for updates from these programmes and from the other IFAA committees. Please also ask members of your association to view the website regularly and to engage and respond to these documents. I also wish to appeal to you to link your association's website to that of the IFAA.

In addition to the IFAA executive meeting, the Federative International Programme on Anatomical Terminology (FIPAT), also met in Göttingen. Attached is a photograph of some of the members who attended the FIPAT meeting.

*Dr Elaine Swanepoel*

## News from the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA)

### News from the IFAA Executive Committee

I bring you warm greetings from the International Federation of Associations of Anatomists (IFAA) which held its annual executive committee meeting in Göttingen, Germany in September in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Anatomische Gesellschaft.

We had robust and engaging discussions and we hope to be in communication with ASSA soon about new suggestions and improved mechanisms of engagement between the IFAA and its member associations. We would urge you to respond to these documents when they reach you in the near future. A change to the IFAA Constitution was also recommended and a referendum document will soon be sent to the ASSA President for consideration. We will also



*From left to right: Secretary, Professor Pierre Sprumont (Switzerland), Professor Sergey Dydykin (Russia), Professor Bev Kramer (South Africa), Professor Alesandro Riva (Italy), Professor Bernard Moxham (UK) and the Chair of FIPAT, Professor John Fraher (UK). Photo courtesy of Dr Marina Kapitonova (Malaysia) who was taking the photo, and is in the inset to the left of the main photo*

The name of the Chair of ASSAs terminology committee, Dr Natalie Keough, was passed on to the Secretary of FIPAT who has already been in contact with her regarding the terminology group.

The IFAA appreciates the hard work that all associations do in growing and supporting the discipline of anatomy. We value your input and, in fact, urge you to make suggestions and send input from your association. These suggestions or comments can be made either to the Secretary-General of the IFAA, Professor Friedrich Paulsen, or to the Chair of the relevant IFAA programme or committee. The names of the Chairs appear on the IFAA website at [www.IFAA.net](http://www.IFAA.net)

In addition, I urge you and your association to send information to Plexus, the newsletter of the IFAA. This newsletter supports the IFAA associations in disseminating their news globally

With warm anatomical wishes,

*Professor Beverley Kramer*

*President: IFAA*

**Feedback from the (IFAA) Executive meeting, Göttingen, Germany**

At the recent meeting of the IFAA Executive held in Göttingen, Germany in September, the Committee developed a number of proposals to enhance the interaction of member Associations with the IFAA and *vice versa*. As a great admirer of epithelia-mesenchymal interactions and the reciprocal interactions that take place between these tissues during development, I like to think of the interactions between the member Associations and the IFAA in the same way - as reciprocal interactions!

As it was felt that it is important that international anatomists belonging to the IFAA assemble for discussion and debate on a more regular basis, the Executive Committee has agreed that there shall be two Federative International

Congresses during the 5-year term of office of the Executive Committee. In addition, in order to ask member Associations to engage more regularly with the IFAA, the member Associations are being asked to:

1. Provide information concerning the Association's President (or equivalent), Treasurer (or equivalent), and delegates to the IFAA so that information residing with the IFAA is up-to-date.
2. Respond to official requests from the IFAA's Federative International Programmes and Committees – for example, in the review of the Terminologies or contributions to core syllabi.
3. Have on the business agenda of the Association, 'International Affairs' that include matters relating to the IFAA.

We thus hope that there will be a better flow of information, and growing of the discipline of anatomy, through the reciprocal interactions between the member Associations and the IFAA.

Please feel free to raise any suggestions for the IFAA either through the Executive Committee of ASSA or directly with me.

Best wishes,

*Professor Beverley Kramer*

*President: IFAA*



## Thanks for your help!

A special word of thanks to Mr David Chorn (University of Aberdeen), Prof Marius Bosman (University of Pretoria), Prof Beverley Kramer (Wits) and Prof Stephen Carmichael (Mayo Clinic) for their feedback regarding the mystery ASSA photo and the ASSA emblem. Some feedback below.

### 1. Do you remember?

Where was the picture taken?

*University of Natal or University of Cape Town?*

When was the picture taken?

*Around 1983-1985?*

What was the occasion?

*One of the annual meetings of the Anatomical Association of Southern Africa*

We were also able to put some names to the faces ☺



### 2. ASSA emblem

According to information received the striking ASSA emblem was accepted in the early 1980's. The late Prof HPA de Boom (erstwhile HOD of Veterinary Anatomy at Onderstepoort and multilingualist) with assistance from Prof Malan Ardon (Head of Department of Anatomy, University of Stellenbosch) and others proposed and designed the emblem. The centaur, which consist of a human torso and an animal body, was chosen to indicate the involvement of both human and veterinary anatomy. The stars represent the Southern Cross to indicate ASSA's position in the southern hemisphere while the Latin inscription "É corpore veritas" literally means "The truth of the body".

