

# 2016 NURSING REFLECTIONS



## A word from the HOD's desk ...

This is my first year as HOD of the NMMU Department of Nursing Science. I can say that it has been a great privilege for me to be leading such a dynamic and hard working team of committed nurse educators.

However, I wish to extend a word of thanks to Professor Ricks who handed over the reigns of the HOD position in March of this year. She has been a great support to me personally and has generously provided me with much advice and guidance regarding this very challenging, yet exciting role. I wish her all the best with the rest of her career, especially regarding her research projects.

This first nine months as HOD has been full of interesting and exciting activities. We have forged ties with our African neighbours with a number of staff travelling to Tanzania and Zambia to strengthen our academic and teaching links with the continent. We have continued to maintain ties with Scandinavia and the USA. Particularly regarding student exchange and possible future research collaboration.

The department has been heavily involved in the Forum for University Nursing Deans in South Africa (FUNDISA) and the Nursing Education Association (NEA). This year we hosted the FUNDISA student leadership conference, where students from different universities nationally engage in academic debates and other activities.

This year we had to say good bye to a number of our staff members. I wish to especially highlight our long-serving staff members, Prof Nita Strumpher, Dr Suzette du Rand and Mrs Gwen Wood. Thank you so much for all your hard work and commitment over the years. We will also miss Mr Thando Nyangeni who will be embarking on a new venture with Lilitha College—we wish him well with his career.

Finally, it is not possible for me not to mention "fees must fall" as it had a major impact on academic life in 2016. However, the positive outcome was that we as nurse educators pulled together and developed creative ways in which we could assist the learning of our students despite all the challenges. I wish to thank the DNS staff for their dedication to their students.

Wishing everyone a blessed and peaceful 2017.

Portia Jordan

## New Leadership at the Department of Nursing Science



**CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP...** In 2016 Professor Essie Ricks ended her three years as HoD and handed over the reigns to Professor Portia Jordan.

### DEPARTMENT OF NURSING SCIENCE VISION STATEMENT

- \* Serve the community and develop Nursing Science as a distinctive health science through research
- \* Facilitate optimal development of its students at all levels of higher learning in accordance with local and national needs
- \* Participate in and promote the development of the Eastern Cape community.

# International Engagement

## DNS Staff visit Tanzania and Zambia



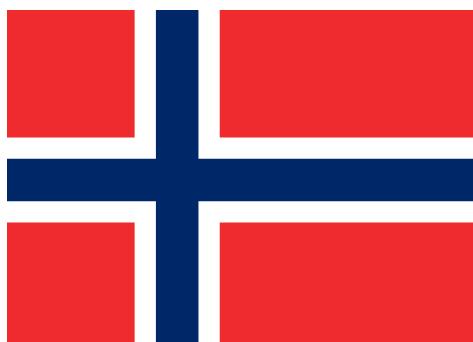
**SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE...** In 2016, a number of DNS staff visited Tanzania and Zambia to learn more about how things are done in these countries and more especially with the purposes of sharing their knowledge and skills with our African neighbours. All staff members who visited these countries expressed what a wonderful experience it was, especially regarding the hospitality of their hosts in the respective countries. Staff who were involved included Prof. Portia Jordan, Prof. Sindiwe James, Dr Suzette du Rand, Dr Maggie Williams, and Mr Thando Nyangeni.

## International Visitors

### Students and Staff from Norway visited in 2016



**All the way from Stord...** Faculty members from Stord are seen here visiting the facilities with Ms Candice Bowers (2nd from left) at Livingstone Hospital.



In 2016, the NMMU DNS had multiple student groups come visit us. The university colleges of South East Norway sent three students from their Vestfold Campus and four students from their Drammen Campus. Both these groups obtained clinical experience in our psychiatric institutions as well as our primary health care clinics. Each group spent 12 weeks with us in the second semester. Thereafter Ostfold University sent out seven students who did clinical work experience in the community sector such as the clinics and home-based care as well as acute care in our hospitals. These students also stayed for 12 weeks. Stordt / Haugesund University College sent eight students who worked in our acute care hospital facilities for a period of 12 weeks. The objective of their visit was to obtain medical and surgical experience in the wards of our hospitals. The DNS also had a three day visit from the academic staff of Agder University in Norway to renew their contract with us and to discuss research opportunities. During this visit we also took them on a tour of the clinical facilities where we place their students.



**All the way from Ostfold University...** (Left photo) Mrs Willie Bouwers, the mentor for the Ostfold students is seen here with four Norwegian students. (Right photo) The full group of Ostfold students socializing during their visit to Port Elizabeth.



# Staff and Student Engagement

## Staff capacitate KwaZulu-Natal Nursing College



**Teaching simulation:** On different occasions in 2016 a number of staff flew to KwaZulu-Natal at the request of KZN College of Nursing to train their staff in using simulation as a teaching and learning tool. Ms Mariana Spagadoros (5th from the right) and Ms Lourett Smith (2nd from the right) are seen here with staff at the Greys Hospital Campus. Other staff who visited KZN were Ms Esme Smith and Ms Nadine Rall.

### FOCUSING ON INTER-PROFESSIONALISM



**Inter-professionalism at work...** Ms Mercia Kramer (2nd from right) of DNS was part of the team that introduced the first inter-professional module for Faculty of Health Science students. Community engagement was a critical component of the module where different professionals learned to collaborate and respect one another's professions, while working together with members of low resource communities.

### Staff celebrating Mandela Day



### STIMELA... NMMU NURSING STUDENTS ON THE PHELEPHEPHA TRAIN



**I'm a train I'm a choaka...** NMMU nursing students worked on the Phelophepha train this year making a difference to communities who do not have access to basic primary health care. It was hard work with little time to socialise, but the students as usual were enthusiastic about their experience.

## Staff Achievements

**Professor Jordan: New fellow of the Academy of Nursing of South Africa (ANSA)!**



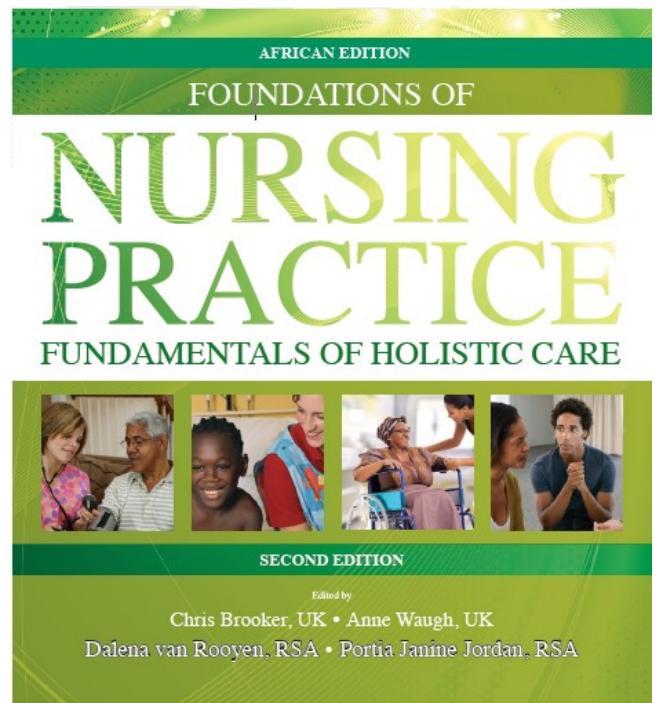
**Proud moment...** Professor Jordan is congratulated by Professor Dalena van Rooyen (also an ANSA fellow) at the ANSA ceremony in Johannesburg in August 2016.

**Congratulations to Dr Williams for being promoted to Associate Professor!**



**Congratulations...** Dr Williams was made an associate professor after undergoing a gruelling interview process for an *ad personam* promotion.

**Congratulations to DNS staff for the latest publication of FOUNDATIONS OF NURSING PRACTICE!**



**Great achievement!** Professor van Rooyen and Professor Jordan edited the latest edition of *Foundations of Nursing Practice* with two UK editors. A number of DNS staff contributed chapters to the book, which is used in universities and colleges throughout South Africa. These included: Mrs Karin Gerber; Dr Wilma ten Ham-Baloyi and Dr Sihaam Jardien-Baboo.

**Well done Ms Mlatsha!**



**Making us proud...** Ms Ayanda Mlatsha has made the Department of Nursing Science proud by being elected to the NMMU Alumni Executive committee.

# Research in the DNS

## Congratulations to Dr Williams! Emerging Researcher of the Year



**AWARD CEREMONY...** Dr Maggie Williams receives the Emerging Researcher of the Year Award from Professor Andrew Leach, DVC Research and Engagement

## NRF GRANT HOLDERS



**ENGAGED IN RESEARCH...** (from left to right) Prof. Jordan, Prof. Ricks, Prof. James and Dr Morton all have been awarded NRF research grants and are currently engaged in a variety of research projects covering nursing research that addresses best practice in acute care settings, mobile health, teenage reproductive health and job satisfaction.

## Dr Jardien-Baboo attends conference in Jordan



Dr Jardien-Baboo travelled to Jordan to attend the International Middle Eastern Nurses' conference in Amman, Jordan in February 2016

## 2016 Publications in the DNS

1. Cronje, J.H., Williams, M., Steenkamp, L., Venter, D. & Elkonin, D. 2016. The quality of life of HIV-infected South African university students: Experiences with the WHOQOL-HIV-Bref. AIDS Care. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/09540121.2016.1234688>
2. Williams, R. & Morton, D.G. 2016. Knowledge of practising radiographers on the supraspinatus outlet projection for shoulder impingement syndrome in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. Radiography. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.radi.2015.10>
3. Ten Ham, W., Minnie, K.C.S., & van der Walt, S.J.C. 2016. Health care professionals' perspectives on the requirements facilitating the roll-out of kangaroo mother care in South Africa. Health SA Gesondheid - Journal of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, 21, 228-237. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hsg.2015.10.005>
4. Ten Ham, W. & Jordan, P.J. 2016. Systematic review as a research method in post-graduate nursing education. Health SA Gesondheid-Journal of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, 21, 20-28. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hsg.2015.08.002>
5. Fernandes, D. & Strumpher, J. 2016. Namibian midwives experiences of partograph use in a regional hospital. Africa Journal of Nursing and Midwifery.
6. Williams, M., Van Rooyen, R.M. & Ricks, E.J. 2016. Accessing antiretroviral therapy for children: caregivers' voices. Health SA Gesondheid - Journal of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences.
7. Jardien-Baboo, S., Van Rooyen, R.M., Ricks, E.J. & Jordan, P.J. 2016. Insights into patient-centred care at public hospitals in Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality. Health SA Gesondheid-Journal of Interdisciplinary Health Sciences, 21, 297-305. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.hsg.2016.05.002>
8. Williams, M., van Rooyen, R.M. & Ricks, E.J. 2016. Provision of antiretroviral therapy for children in Nelson Mandela Bay: Healthcare profession-als' challenges. African Journal of Physical Health Education Recreation and Dance.
9. Bowers, C., Jordan, P. & Morton, D. 2016. Barriers to implementing evidence-based nursing practices in a private intensive care unit in the Eastern Cape. Southern African Journal of Critical Care, 32 (2), 50-54.
10. Jordan, P., Mpasa, F., Ten Ham-Baloyi, W. & Bowers, C. (In Press). Implementation strategies for guidelines at ICUs: A systematic review.

## Prof. James and Mr Sonti attend Midwifery Conference in Athens



Prof James and Mr Sonti presented papers at the 2nd Annual International Conference on Nursing, Athens Greece in May 2016.

## **1st Nursing Education Association (NEA) Student Nursing Conference**

Nearly 850 Nursing Science students from NMMU, Netcare, Life College of Learning, Lilitha College and health care trainees from Midland College recently attended the first NEA conference at NMMU Missionvale Campus. The conference sought to unite the new generation of nurses and to create a platform to discuss the future of the nursing profession. Topics discussed included etiquette and professionalism, the generation gap, nursing specialities and possible career paths. The conference elicited stimulating debates among the students on these topics. Each of the institutions' students also prepared one verse of a song which they then all sang together during the event, creating the unification of "forces" for change. It was a very emotional and uplifting moment at the conference. Owing to its success the conference could become an annual feature.



## Goodbye to Staff Members

A number of staff had to bid farewell in 2016. We were sad to see Prof. Nita Strumpher, Dr Suzette du Rand, Mrs Gwen Wood and Mr Thando Nyangeni leave us. Prof. Strumpher, Dr du Rand and Mrs Wood had all worked in the department for many years, with Prof. Strumpher being the longest with over 30 years in the department. They are all very special people and they will all be missed. Mr Nyangeni was only in the department for a few years but needless to say his presence will also be missed as he embarks on new challenges at Lilitha College of Nursing. We wish them all the best in their new lives outside the department.



**Mrs Gwen Wood**



**Mr Thando Nyangeni**



**Dr Suzette du Rand**



**Staff bidding Prof Nita Strumpher farewell:** (Right) Mrs Bouwers, Prof. Strumpher and Prof. Jordan.  
(Below) Mrs Wood, Ms Mlatsha, Prof. Strumpher, Ms du Plessis, Ms Boyers, Ms Kramer and Ms Adams. (Below right) Ms du Plessis, Prof. Strumpher and Ms Mlatsha

