FAREWELL FOR PROFESSOR KEITH BOLTON

A farewell party for Professor Keith Duncan Bolton, at which the Master of Ceremonies and first speaker was Adjunct Professor Ashraf Coovadia, Head of Department: Paediatrics and Child Health, Rahima Moosa Mother and Child Hospital, was held in the Adler Museum on 22 January 2014. Several speakers spoke most highly about Professor Bolton’s contribution to Wits, the people of Soweto and his tremendous contribution to the Rahima Moosa Mother and Child Hospital over a period of some 40 years, and as Head of Department from 1998 when it was known as the Coronation Hospital. Professor Coovadia mentioned that Professor Bolton was a great leader and excellent clinician who has made Rahima Moosa a sought after hospital for staff and students alike. Professor Mkhululi Lukhele expressed the gratitude of the School of Clinical Medicine to Professor Bolton.

Professor Alan Rothberg said he was a ‘mensch’ – a noble person, a person of character known for his integrity, humanity and generosity who was a gifted and inspirational teacher, a fine role model and fearless advocate for the rights of patients. Professor Sithembiso Velaphi and Dr Lethabo Machaba, a paediatric registrar, spoke movingly about his humanity and Professor Peter Cooper talked about him as the rock in the Department of Paediatrics and of the Faculty. As head clinician in the Nelson Mandela Children’s Hospital project, he was the one who brought the project together and he will remain involved in the project. Professor Bolton responded suitably.

In attendance were members of the Department of Paediatrics at Wits, Faculty members and staff from various disciplines at the Rahima Moosa Mother and Child Hospital. Professor Bolton was accompanied by his wife Vereena, his son Andrew and daughter-in-law Tarren, as well as his brother Tony and sister-in-law Berryll. Hamba kahle Professor Bolton! You will be missed!

Photographs: (left): Professors Alan Rothberg, Pete Thomson, Keith Bolton, Sithembiso Velaphi, John Rodda, Udai Kala; (right): Professors Bolton and Peter Cooper

Photograph: Professors Velaphi, Ashraf Coovadia, Mkhululi Lukhele
CARTA PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE AND PHD GRADUATION SYMPOSIUM

In December 2013, the Wits School of Public Health hosted a combined CARTA Public Health Conference and PhD Graduation Symposium. CARTA, the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa, is an initiative jointly led by Wits and the African Population Health and Research Center in Nairobi which, as its flagship project, has a doctoral programme which recruits fellows from the staff of 9 institutions across Africa. Wits hosted the third cohort of fellows for an intensive four week residential seminar late last year and used the opportunity to expose them to presentations on a wide range of topics in public and population health. The keynote address, “Genetic footprints into the past” was given by Professor Himla Soodyall, from the National Health Laboratory Service Human and Genomic Diversity and Disease Research Unit in the Wits Faculty of Health Sciences.

The School also celebrated the graduation of seven more of its PhD students (photographed above) who completed their degrees between December 2012 and December 2013. Four of the graduates presented summaries of their doctoral work to the appreciative audience that included SPH staff, CARTA fellows and family members.

WELCOME DAY, 24 JANUARY 2014

The Linder Auditorium buzzed with excitement when parents and students attended Welcome Day on 24 January 2014. Guests and students were welcomed by the Acting Dean, Professor Sharon Fonn, after which Health Sciences Students’ Council representative, Mohammed Saloojee, spoke. Students took an abbreviated Hippocratic Oath led by the Assistant Dean: Student Affairs, Professor Thakor Parbhoo, who also addressed and welcomed students to the Faculty. Second year health sciences students take the modified Hippocratic Oath to give them a sense of duty and prepare them for the sensitive and often difficult undertakings that lie ahead during the course of their studies.

Photograph: Students taking the modified form of the Hippocratic Oath

MORE TO BE PROUD OF IN THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE EXAMINATIONS!

We were delighted to hear from Mohammed Tikly, Professor of Rheumatology, that apart from the Wits successes mentioned in the last issue of Health Sciences Review regarding the Wits results in the Colleges of Medicine examinations held in October 2013, a record number of four candidates passed the rheumatology examination. Never in the 12-13 year history of these examinations has a single university produced four successful candidates in one session! What a feather in our caps!

We are pleased to congratulate the candidates: Safoora Karolia, Nadia Nikakhtar, Lai-Ling Winchow and Gareth Tarr (photographed here), as well as their committed and excellent lecturers who ensured that these candidates were so well prepared.
WITSIES MAKING A DIFFERENCE AS TYPHOON YOLANDA WREAKS HAVOC IN THE PHILIPPINES

Photographs: (left): Mandela Medical Center set up by the South African team; (right): Ormoc General Hospital with the roof blown off; Below: Two weary registrars! Drs Robin Lester Charles and Rona Livanos

We were proud to hear from Professor Efraim Kramer, Head: Division of Emergency Medicine, that the South African team which went to the Philippines after the disaster in November 2013 were awarded the Military Civic Action Medal. The role of recipients included the names of Professor Kramer and two Wits registrars who went on the mission: Drs Robin Lester Charles and Rona Livanos. Wits is the only university in South Africa which sent medical personnel on this mission. They treated more than 725 patients, performed ten surgical procedures and transported ten critical patients to functioning hospitals. They also repaired the roof of the hospital where they were deployed in Ormac.

Part of the citation for the award is repeated below:

...for meritorious achievement in the field of civic action through the conduct of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations to the seriously affected areas by the super typhoon “Yolanda”. The catastrophe took its toll by taking 4,011 number of fatalities, 18,557 injured individuals and 1,692 missing with an estimated damage at P12,238,957,457.92 to infrastructure and agriculture. These civilian volunteers as part of the delegates of South Africa consists of 57 members under the umbrella “Rescue South Africa”, landed on 17 November 2013 at Mactan Cebu International Airport on board SAF Air. They brought with them rescue and cleaning equipment and medicines. The total cost of the goods and the conduct of relief operations is valued at 30 million pesos. The group consists of urban search and rescue personnel, trauma response rescuers wherein they provided pre-hospital treatment and other required services. This group has been deployed to Villaba town close to Ormoc City to assist the Philippine Department of Health (DOH), the United Nations World Health Organizations (WHO). They set up a temporary clinic wherein more than 700 patients were treated. The team rebuilt the roof and cleaned the hospital area underneath the roof while the remaining medical supplies were given to Abuyog District Hospital. Imbued with professional expertise and utmost commitment and dedication to render humanitarian operations and assistance, these civilian volunteers in cooperation with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), national government agencies and local government units. Together with their AFP counterparts, they exemplarily displayed the true spirit of inter-operability between countries which resulted to the smooth rehabilitation of the affected areas. By these achievements, above-named civilian volunteers earned distinct credit not only for themselves and for the South Africa nations but to the whole world in the area of humanitarian operations as well.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL DEVERATURDA:

[Signature]

Francisco F. Mendoza, Jr.
Colonel, GSC, PA.
Chief of Unified Command Staff

[Signature]

Lyndon C. Ruiz
CDR PNP
ACUGS for Personnel, IUt

DISTRIBUTION:
CONGRATULATIONS! SENIOR APPOINTMENTS

The three following senior appointments were announced in the School of Clinical Medicine:

HEAD: DIVISION OF CRITICAL CARE UNIT: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR GUY RICHARDS

We warmly congratulate Professor Guy Richards who was recently appointed to the newly created post of Academic Head: Division of Critical Care Unit which falls under the surgical cluster in the School of Clinical Medicine along with surgery and anaesthesia. For the first time all the academic units at the various hospitals will be incorporated into this division, engendering more co-operation between them and enabling senior people/fellows to rotate between the units to gain a better all round experience and see better case mixes and circumstances. Professor Richards says it is a step in the right direction in terms of training specialists and sub-specialists.

Professor Richards is a Witsie! He qualified MBBCh in 1978 and specialised as a physician in 1985. In 1992 he was awarded a PhD. He was trained in both critical care and pulmonology and pays tribute to Professors Saul Zwi and Jeremy Kallenbach who were his mentors.

He has 106 peer reviewed publications in accredited journals and is widely sought after as a speaker both nationally and internationally on critical care topics.

HEAD: DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE: PROFESSOR PRAVIN MANGA

Internal medicine is a huge department which is greatly diverse and spread over three teaching platforms. It boasts 130 consultants/fellows and 110 registrars. It is complex to manage because of its size and geographical distribution. We warmly congratulate Professor Pravin Manga who was recently appointed to the post of Head: Department of Internal Medicine and it will fall on his shoulders to run this department which, as he says, has been well run in the past but not well resourced. As someone who is been in the department for a long time and deputy head for the last five years, he understands the needs and dynamics in the three main areas which are clinical service, teaching and research.

Professor Manga says that the expectation that student numbers will increase will be challenging but the department is prepared for it, with outreach services to hospitals such as Edenvale, Sebokeng and Leratong already functioning. However, this will result in an increased workload which would have to be resourced. He is concerned that it will also take time away from research and to prevent that from happening, more staff will be needed to teach.

In terms of research output the department already produces a significant number of publications accounting for almost a third emanating from the School of Clinical Medicine. The challenge, he says, is not only to maintain this output but increase it. To this end he hopes to create a culture which is research-focused. He believes he has a high calibre team in Internal Medicine that can drive this initiative at registrar and fellowship level. New registrars and fellows will be encouraged to do MMeds via the publication route.

He also is contemplating starting a medical journal in which papers could be published, with the aim to get it accredited in due course.

Professor Manga is a Witsie. He did his registrar training in Internal Medicine at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital. He was always attracted to Cardiology and did his subspecialty Fellowship training in Cardiology at Wits, Natal and at Tulane University in the United States. His PhD thesis was on Mitral Stenosis, which he says was hard work but very gratifying. He has been Academic Head of the Division of Cardiology since 1996.

Professor Manga thoroughly enjoys golf and plays as much as he can in his free time.
We warmly congratulate Professor Trevor Carmichael who was recently appointed to the post of Head: Department of Neurosciences, a post previously held by Professor Girish Modi whose term of office came to an end in late 2013. The department encompasses the disciplines of neurology, ophthalmology, neurosurgery and otolaryngology in the School of Clinical Medicine. Created initially in 2002, it is working well as a cohesive force and Professor Modi was able to lever significant funding to improve the physical infrastructure of the department, including creating an excellent auditorium which seats 100 people and a library, both of which are well used by staff.

Professor Carmichael will be focussing on three areas: providing a supportive environment for researchers to ensure that more of their research is published. He intends to ensure that the university processes will be made much easier for researchers to negotiate. This should rapidly increase the number of MMed degrees awarded. As he says, the research is already there and simply needs to be captured correctly and well. He intends working closely with hospital authorities to boost the clinical side of the department, particularly relating to the filling of staff vacancies and the replacing of old equipment. He would also like to see improved facilities for staff within a larger physical space for everyone to enjoy.

Professor Carmichael is a Witsie, having graduated MBCh in 1977. He was a registrar in ophthalmology from 1982 to 1985, was awarded a PhD in 1991, and a MSc(Med) in biostatistics through the School of Public Health in 2006. He was in private practice from 1986 to 1996, after which he was wooed back to Wits and appointed to the Sam and Dora Cohen Chair of Ophthalmology in 1997.

In his spare time he enjoys riding his 1600cc motor cycle, yachting, particularly on the Croatian coast and photography which has been a hobby since primary school.

---

THE TRIUMPH OF 10 YEARS

Ten years of long, hard research towards the development of an HIV vaccine is showing such positive results that there is renewed optimism in the field. A recent collaborative South African and American HIV research team is conducting key research towards this goal and was described in Wits Weekly issue 3 of 29 January 2014 by team member Dr Penny Moore of the Wits School of Pathology and the Centre for HIV and STI at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases of the National Health Laboratory Service.


Dr Moore says: ‘Recent research and clinical trials mean that we have a better chance than ever before of developing a vaccine for the HIV-1 virus, with which 42 million people are currently infected worldwide, 30 million of them in Africa … In South Africa, millions of people are on antiretroviral drugs or ARVs, which saves their lives but does not solve the problem of halting infection, which is what a vaccine does. … Our approach is to look at people who become infected with HIV and to question how their immune system sees the virus and reacts to the virus, and to ask whether we can learn from that to develop a vaccine’.

Dr Moore gives special credit to Professor Lynn Morris, also of the Centre for HIV and STI and the School of Pathology, who has been her mentor for many years and is a co-author on the paper. 

Read the full story in: Wits Weekly issue 3 29 January 2014
THANK YOU TO THE DONORS IN THE DEANERY! SUBZ SANITARY PANTIES FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Some of you may remember that in August 2013 the Faculty, through the office of Professor Beverley Kramer, adopted the cause of Subz Panties and Pads and Project Dignity - Reusable Sanitary Pads for young girls as part of a National Women’s Month initiative.

Research in South Africa shows that a shocking number of menstruating girls and women do not have access to feminine hygiene products. Many thousands of girls don’t go to school when they menstruate, and some women do not go to work as there may be no means for them to dispose of their menstrual flow. Many use waste paper, leaves and old clothes as sanitary pads. Subz Panties was initiated by Mrs Susan Barnes to assist these women. The panties are made of 100% cotton knit and are fully washable and therefore reusable.

We are delighted to report that Sue Barnes has just won the Clarins Most Dynamic Woman for 2013 award! Over 30 000 packs have been given out over the last three years. The Faculty collected over R2 000 towards the project.

If anyone would like to make a donation, please contact Susan Barnes at 0836618963 or sue@mallards.co.za

INVITATIONS!

FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The Acting Dean, Professor Sharon Fonn, cordially invites you to attend the

Annual Prize-Giving Ceremony

Date: 3 April 2014
Time: 16:00
Venue: CMJ Academic Hospital Auditorium

PROGRAMME

1. Welcome
2. Guest Speaker: Professor Bavesh Kana
3. Presentation of prizes and awards
4. Refreshments: Adler Museum Foyer

Kindly RSVP to Mrs K Naidoo on Kasturi.Naidoo@wits.ac.za
**ETHICS ALIVE**

The faculty of Health sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and the Steve Biko Centre for Bioethics invite you to attend an evening of reflection and debate on

**The Right to Quality Health Care**

*Date:* Thursday, 13 March 2014  
*Time:* 17h30  
*Venue:* Public Health Auditorium, School of Public Health Building, Parktown Campus, University of the Witwatersrand  
*Address:* 27 St Andrew’s Road, Parktown, Johannesburg

**Procedures**

17h30 Welcome Cocktails  
18h00 Symposium  
   *The Right to Quality Health Care*  
   Professor Bouita Meyersfeld (Centre for Applied Legal Studies, University of the Witwatersrand)  
   *The Role of the Office of Health Standards Compliance*  
   Professor Laetitia Rispel (Head, School of Public Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand)  
   *Response*  
   Dr Carol Marshall (Office of Standards Compliance, National Department of Health)  
   Panel Discussion  
   Presentation of Ethics Alive Undergraduate Bioethics Competition Prizes  
20h00 Finger Supper

“it is better to die for an idea that will live, than to live for an idea that will die” – Steve Biko

**Workshops/Seminars/Courses**

**Workshops / Seminars offered in Feb/March 2014**

**28 Feb 2014:** Journal Club  
**12:00-13:00:** CHSE Boardroom (3N08)

**11 March 2014:** Useful Information for newly appointed academics  
**13:30-16:00:** CHSE Boardroom (3N08)

**28 March 2014:** Journal Club  
**08:30-14:00:** CHSE Boardroom (3N08)

Please contact Norman Motlhhabani for bookings:  
011 717 2329 or gobotsamang.motlhhabani@wits.ac.za

And  
Professor Patricia McInerney for more information: 011 717 2073 or Patricia.McInerney@wits.ac.za
SAAHE Northern Region/CHSE

Invites you to a seminar

**Date:** 20 February 2014  
**Time:** 09:00-11:15  
**Venue:** Clinical Skills Unit, CHSE, 3rd Floor, Medical School, University of the Witwatersrand  
Kindly RSVP to Gobotsamang.Motlhohari@wits.ac.za

**Seminar Title:** Standard setting - Helping educators to make accurate decisions by assessment calibration

This interactive session on why and how to "calibrate" your assessments in order to make better pass/fail decisions about students will explain important concepts and principles in health professions education assessment. The Cohen method - an exciting and promising standard setting method, with excellent feasibility and sustainability credentials - will be introduced and research findings shared on its use and application.

There will be something for all colleagues who are involved in health professions education assessment and assessment administration.

Presented by Dr Scarpa Schoeman. Senior Lecturer: Department of Internal Medicine (University of the Free State).

Dr Scarpa Schoeman graduated as a medical doctor with an MBChB degree from Stellenbosch University in 2000. He is a specialist in medical education with a Masters degree in Medical Education (M.Med) from the Centre for Medical Education at Dundee University, Scotland, United Kingdom. He is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy in the United Kingdom and an honorary lecturer at the Centre for Medical and Healthcare Education at St. George’s University of London (SGUL) medical school. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Medical Education Assessment (specifically on standard setting). The title of his PhD thesis is: “Standard Setting for Specialist Physician Examinations in South Africa”

Dr Schoeman has published various peer reviewed articles and presented at international conferences on the topic of medical education. His research interests include assessment and standard setting, mentorship and role modelling, clinical skills learning and development of diagnostic reasoning in students. His clinical interests include emergency and sports medicine, leading him to work in Accident and Emergency units, both in London and Bloemfontein, as well as fulfilling the role of match doctor at various sport events.
2-WEEK COURSE in IMMUNOLOGY

The Department of Molecular Medicine and Haematology, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and the Centre for Vaccines and Immunology, National Institute for Communicable Disease, are pleased to offer a 2 week course in Basic and Advanced Immunology. The course aims to provide a detailed understanding of the principles of immunology as well as bring participants up to date on exciting developments in this fast-moving field.

The focus is NOT on clinical diagnostics or management issues but rather on providing participants with the skills to understand the immunology literature in their field. Speakers and topics will be multidisciplinary and will provide an overview of our current understanding of the various facets of the immune system.

The course will comprise a taught component as well as interactive small group sessions, practical work, small assignments and an examination. The course is ideal for clinicians and scientists (minimum Honours degree). No previous experience in immunology is necessary.

The course comprises 2 full-time weeks. Both weeks are compulsory.

WEEK ONE – BASIC IMMUNOLOGY
10-15 March 2014

WEEK TWO – ADVANCED IMMUNOLOGY
5-10 May 2014

The course is accredited for a certificate of Competence as well as 30 CPD points.

Interested applicants should email course facilitators for more information Dr Elizabeth Mayne elizabeth.mayne@nhls.ac.za or Dr Melinda Suchard melindas@nied.ac.za
Clinical HIV Management course at Wits RHI

The aim of this course is to provide doctors with regional HIV treatment knowledge and expertise, by developing clinicians’ abilities to effectively manage HIV complications and provide leadership in HIV prevention, treatment and care.

The course is full time, Monday to Friday, for two weeks (7h45 – 17h00) in Johannesburg. Daily attendance is compulsory.

**Dates for 2014:**
- 12 – 23 May 2014
- 04 – 15 August 2014
- 10 – 21 November 2014

**APPLICANT PROFILE**

The minimum criteria to apply:
- A medical degree as a minimum level of acceptance
- Experience in the field of HIV Management and treatment
- Willingness and ability to apply knowledge in current work situation and future career.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

Entry on to the course is subject to:
- meeting the above mentioned applicant profile
- a pre-assessment minimum 80% achievement, as well as
- a selection committee decision

**2013 FEES/COSTS**

The total course fees are ZAR 9000.

This includes:
- An amount of R8000 covering costs of all materials, facilitators, certificates, lunch and other refreshments during the course.
- An additional non refundable deposit fee of R1000.

Fees are payable on acceptance to participate on to the course.

**ADDITIONAL COSTS:**

Once selected to participate on the course, participants are responsible for the following:
- Accommodation
- Domestic/International travel and return airport transfers (if applicable)
- Visa costs (if applicable)
- Travel/Medical insurance (if applicable)
- Other costs while on the course: laundry, telephone charges, room service/ additional meals not covered by the course etc.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:**

Should you feel that you meet the minimum requirements for entry on to the course and are able to fund your participation, please request further information from the programme co-ordinator Tshepo Mashao using the following contact details: clinicalhivmanagementcourse@wrhi.ac.za
REGISTER NOW TO ATTEND THE 2ND BIENNIAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN HIV CLINICIANS SOCIETY

Following on from the success of our inaugural conference in 2012, the second SA HIV Clinicians Society Conference will be taking place from 24 - 27 September 2014 at the Cape Town International Convention Centre.

Focusing on clinical content, the conference programme will be fully CPD-accredited for ethics and clinical points.

Benefit from the Early Bird Registration fee of only R2 875.

CALL FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS – SUBMIT TODAY

The Scientific Programme Committee invites the submission of papers of high quality in HIV research.

Abstract submissions will be peer-reviewed for scientific content and presentation. All abstracts must be submitted through the conference website according to abstract submission guidelines. Please refer to the website for details.

We look forward to seeing you in Cape Town!

The Southern African HIV Clinicians Society is a non-profit membership organisation of HIV health care workers committed to providing high quality, evidence-based HIV prevention, care and treatment services.
www.sahivsoc.org

“Local and international speakers will present the latest on treatment, prevention, basic science and ethics to mention a few. We will have lively debates and skills building sessions on the agenda... it is our aim that when you leave, you will be a better HIV clinician.”

Dr Francesco Corradini
President: Southern African HIV Clinicians Society

“Clinical HIV has not showed down – new WHO guidelines for CD4 initiation thresholds have challenged the system, and PMTCT is awash with controversy again. I am aware of several new antiretrovirals about to hit our shores, and further price reductions making old drugs more readily available. Worrying long term side effects with some of our commonly used drugs have started to emerge, and dose reduction studies have suggested we are over dosing our patients. Even air chambers like opportunistic infection prophylaxis and screening, adherence maintenance, and HIV prevention have some fresh studies to help us along. In a confusing world, it's good to get together and hear from the coalface.

So, clear your diaries for 24 - 27 September 2014, as we head for Cape Town again and a dazzling array of excellent opening, skills building sessions, debates, challenging cases and research findings.”

Professor Francesco Venter
Chair: Scientific Committee

For further information contact: Scatterlings Conference & Events
Tel: +27 (0) 11 463 5085 • Fax: +27 (0) 11 463 3265 • Email: fiona@soafriica.com
2014 WITS HEALTH SCIENCES RESEARCH DAY AND POSTGRADUATE EXPO

The 2014 Wits Health Sciences Research Day and Postgraduate Expo presents an opportunity for researchers and students in the field of health sciences to present their papers and posters and engage in discussions covering a variety of relevant topics.

The Research Day Organising Committee is calling for abstracts submission. These can be submitted by staff or postgraduate students in the Faculty of Health Sciences, whether the research has been published or not. Research may be presented as either a poster or an oral presentation. **Substantial prizes/travel awards** will be given for the best poster, best oral presentation and best student oral presentation in each of the five thematic areas:

- Infectious Diseases
- Diseases of Lifestyle
- Education, Policy and Systems
- Molecular and Comparative Biosciences
- Clinical Sciences and Therapeutics for Health

Further information on each theme can be found online at [http://www.witsrd.co.za](http://www.witsrd.co.za) this is also where you can submit your abstract for consideration by the scientific committee. The **deadline for abstract submission is 30 April 2014.**

Please note that **registration** is a separate process – please complete an online registration form, even if you do not wish to present.

If you would like your School/Department/Research Entity to host a stand as part of the Postgraduate Expo, please contact Ms Mandisa Habana (Mandisa.habana@wits.ac.za). For any other queries, contact Mr Moraba Meela (Moraba.meela@wits.ac.za or 011 717 2023).

And finally … We were amused that some of our students were amused at this image!

---

**Health Sciences Review** is published mid-month every month.

The next issue will appear on **14 March 2014**

Deadline for submission of information and pictures: **12 February 2014**

Please send information to:  
adler.museum@wits.ac.za or  
rochelle.keene@wits.ac.za