

SkillSTALK @HWSETA

Eskom, the HWSETA and Siemens Join Forces to Establish Legacy Skills Development Project

August 2017

The marginalisation of young people in South Africa is primarily manifested in high youth unemployment - currently hovering at 50.9%. Now more than ever, youth targeted interventions are needed to enable young South Africans to actively participate and engage in society and the economy.

Skills development remains a top priority in the country and whilst the achievement of critical mass is desirable, quality in the form of sustainable projects that will offer long-term benefits to project recipients, as well as to society and the economy at large, are an important factor in addressing the country's skills mismatch. A market gap exists to finding and appointing professional black youth owned (BYO) companies in the field of safety, health, environment, risk management and quality (SHERQ).

With this in mind, the Health and Welfare Sector Education and Training Authority (HWSETA), Eskom and Siemens have partnered to provide 15 black South African youth from the Nkangala District of Mpumalanga with comprehensive, accredited, academic, and work-based practical training in the professional field of SHERQ.

The project was launched at a function hosted on-site at Eskom's Kusile Power Station in Mpumalanga on 28 June 2017.

Continues on page 4

In this issue

Page 5

Eight Down ... One to Go ...

Page 7

Project Feedback – Faculty of Veterinary Science UP

Page 12

National Skills Conference 2017

Page 15

Stakeholders Weigh in at Collaboration Session



The 15 learners selected from over 400 applicants who will over the next two years undergo intensive training in safety, health and environment.



higher education
& training
Department:
Higher Education and Training
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Health and Welfare Sector
Education and Training Authority
HWSETA

A word from the CEO

I am writing this article in my role as Acting CEO for the HWSETA, following the sad departure of Yvonne Mbane at the end of January this year. Mrs Daphne Theaker is currently the Acting Chief Financial Officer and Mr Nishal Singh is filling Ms Theaker's role as Financial Manager. My appointment as Acting CEO has co-incided with the wrapping up of the 2016/17 financial year, as well as the audit process managed by the Auditor-General South Africa.



I am pleased to say that we concluded the financial year having successfully achieved 95% of our targets against the Annual Performance Plan. A noteworthy conclusion to the 2016/17 financial year was the successful payment of R313 million in discretionary grant funding. To achieve this, staff in the HWSETA pulled out all the stops, working on weekends and public holidays. My sincere thanks to everyone who went over and above the call of duty to realise this achievement.

It has been an extremely busy first half of the year. We opened our new Bloemfontein office on 31 May 2017, which provided us the ideal opportunity to interact with our stakeholders in the Province. The opening of the Bloemfontein office now means that there is only one more province to go and then we will have provincial representation in all nine provinces. The official opening of a provincial office in Nelspruit is imminent and we will once again use this opportunity to interact with stakeholders from Mpumalanga.

On 28 June 2017, the launch of an exciting partnership between the HWSETA, Eskom and Siemens that will see 15 youth from Mpumalanga establish a future in the safety, health and environment industry, took place at Eskom's Kusile Power Station. Feedback from our stakeholders operating in the industries we serve is crucially important to our skills development mandate. With this in mind, on 3 July 2017, we held a stakeholder collaboration session with many of our key stakeholders.

The full story on this event can be found on page 15.

In March this year, the HWSETA participated in the National Skills Conference hosted by the National Skills Authority. The HWSETA participated in Commission 3 "Improving NSDSIII implementation 2017-2020". Both the Chairman of HWSETA Board, Dr Confidence Moloko and I delivered presentations at the event. At the gala event, the HWSETA was recognised by the National Skills Authority for the clean audits that have been achieved by the HWSETA over the previous three financial years. Whilst visiting the HWSETA stand at the exhibition, Dr Moloko suggested that we produce a career guidance brochure aimed at younger children. Our Marketing Department sprung into action and the final version of the brochure is about to go to print. Take a look at page 6 for a glimpse of what to expect.

On this upbeat note, I would like to thank staff at the HWSETA for the work they have done in the first half of this year. Their help and contributions has assisted me a great deal in the role I currently fill.

Until next time, take care.

Elaine Brass
Acting CEO

Editorial Information

Editor: Elfrieda Tyrer, Marketing Manager

Editorial Contributors:

Dhesan Govender, Marketing Officer

Mosima Mehlahe, Marketing Administrator

If you wish to be added to the HWSETA database to receive this quarterly newsletter and other communication from the HWSETA, please send an e-mail to Dhesan Govender at dhesang@hwseta.org.za

Annual General Meeting 2017

The HWSETA will this year host its Annual General Meeting on Friday, 27 October 2017 in Durban, KZN. At the AGM, the HWSETA will review and adopt the:

2016/17 Annual Financial Statements of the HWSETA
2016/17 Annual Performance of the HWSETA
Report of the Auditor-General

Details on timing and venue will be available as from 1 October 2017 on the HWSETA website www.hwseta.org.za or alternatively contact Mosima Mehlahe on 011 607 6924 or e-mail mosimam@hwseta.org.za

A Sad Farewell to an Inspirational Leader

At the end of January 2017, the HWSETA bade Ms Yvonne Mbane a sad farewell. Ms Mbane joined the HWSETA in September 2012 as Chief Executive Officer and during her four and a half year tenure with the organisation, she not only made her presence felt within the HWSETA, but also within other higher education and training structures, such as the Department of Higher Education and Training.

Well known for her sharp wit and no-nonsense approach to getting the task at hand completed, Ms Mbane was well respected by staff within the organisation, as well as by her peers within the skills development environment. Ever a proponent of the importance of continuing one's education, Ms Mbane herself successfully completed an MBA during her time at the HWSETA.

Ms Mbane successfully guided the organisation to three clean audits and will also be remembered for the important work she did in regards skills development within the veterinary sector.

The HWSETA Board, members of the Executive and staff wish Ms Mbane well in her future endeavours and will never forget the sterling contribution she made to skills development within the health, social development and veterinary sectors.



Ms Yvonne Mbane is seen here with Chief Jongilanga Sicgau at the launch of the partnership between Alfred Nzo Development Agency and the HWSETA on 26 May 2016. The project launched was for the training of 400 individuals, cooperatives and small businesses in various animal health skills. Of the 400 training recipients, 200 would receive training in entrepreneurial skills.



Anyone who ever heard Ms Mbane deliver an address would agree that she was an excellent and motivational speaker. She was successfully able to keep the attention of her audience and her excellent sense of humour often came out during her addresses. Ms Mbane is seen here as the guest speaker at the Walter Sisulu University oath taking ceremony in December 2016. Ms Mbane is reported to have received a standing ovation for her address at the event.



“The sustainability of skills development initiatives is an important success factor. The HWSETA, Eskom and Siemens alike believe that this project will emerge as a legacy project and offer tangible long-term benefits to the learners involved, as well as to the niche SHERQ environment.”

Eskom, the HWSETA and Siemens Join Forces to Establish Legacy Skills Development Project

Continued from page 1

Ten of the 15 youth will become equal partners in Kusile Leroo Consulting (Pty) Ltd., a for profit company that has been established through a Memorandum Of Understanding between Eskom Holdings Ltd., the HWSETA and Siemens (Pty) Ltd. This project will serve as the vehicle to train the BYO shareholders in Eskom and Siemens SHERQ methodologies, as well as afford the company opportunities to conduct reviews and audits on Eskom and Siemens permanent and project sites.

Kusile Leroo Consulting (Pty) Ltd. will become a company mentored and trained by industry stakeholders in power generation and distribution as well as achieve structured and fast-tracked skills development and transfers which would normally only be achieved in a 5-7 year working experience window.

The company will also receive Eskom and Siemens endorsements for projects successfully completed which, in turn, will give Kusile Leroo the market credentials to market itself as a professional company to other state owned or private companies in both upstream and downstream industries.

Rita Nkuhlu, Siemens executive director comments, “Siemens is proud to be a partner with Eskom and the Health and Welfare SETA in this project. We place great importance on the development of the youth of our country and this is a particularly important project, as young people have been empowered with skills to make a contribution in a niche market area.”

This sentiment is echoed by Mr Abram Masango, Eskom’s Group Executive for the Group Capital, but he adds: “Eskom takes full ownership of its role in making the lives of people better, but more than this we have an obligation to improve the lives of people within the communities we operate in.”

This thinking spearheads Eskom’s approach to sourcing both contract and full time employees, as well as products and services from the communities in which they operate. Eskom’s community-driven approach is clearly evident at both the Medupi and Kusile power stations.

In 2013, the Honourable Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Blade Nzimande called on South African organisations, whether public or private, to open up their places of work as places of training for young people and the uptake to this call has been significant.

More recently, the Honourable Minister, urged players in the public and private sectors to join forces in the development and implementation of programmes that would result in our country’s youth receiving meaningful skills development support.



Ms Refilwe Motau, Enterprise Development Manager at Eskom, Mr Zukile Mvalo Deputy Director-General: Skills Development Branch at DHET and Mrs Elaine Brass, Acting CEO for the HWSETA.

The Kusile Leroo project directly answers the call for organisations to open up their places of work as places of training. It is also a prime example of how public-private partnerships can directly impact skills development in the country. In fact, this partnership extends beyond being just a public-private partnership in that a parastatal has been added to the mix.

Refilwe Motau, Enterprise Development Manager at Eskom, who has been a driving force behind the project since inception, says: “As shareholders of the company, learners will receive opportunities to tender for SHERQ consulting services with Eskom and Siemens. They will also receive intensive training in business management and along with coaching and mentoring they will be on a good footing to start their business practice in especially undeveloped and rural areas.”

“This unique partnership provides the HWSETA with a pilot SHERQ project and we view this project as an important first step towards the support of Black Youth Owned companies in the professional subcontracting of environment, health and occupational safety,” comments Dr Confidence Moloko, Chairman of the HWSETA Board.

The remaining five learners selected to participate in this project will receive funding to cover their studies in SHERQ, and they too will receive work-based practical training in the professional field of SHERQ.

The sustainability of skills development initiatives is an important success factor. The HWSETA, Eskom and Siemens alike believe that this project will emerge as a legacy project and offer tangible long-term benefits to the learners involved, as well as to the niche SHERQ environment.



The launch event was well attended by senior people representing the HWSETA, Eskom and Siemens, as well as several other key industry stakeholders.

Eight Down ... One to Go ...

Since the HWSETA was established in 2001, it has changed and grown in line with legislation governing the operations of South Africa's 21 SETAs. However, 2013 was an important year for the HWSETA as it was during this year that the Honourable Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Blade Nzimande called on South Africa's 21 SETAs to make their services more accessible to rural communities through partnerships with TVET colleges. In line with this call, the HWSETA has successfully established several satellite offices at TVET colleges across the country.

Also during 2013, the HWSETA Board made a decision to decentralise its operations and establish fully-fledged Provincial Offices in several main centres across the country. Initially, offices were established in the Gauteng, Eastern Cape, Western Cape Limpopo and KZN provinces and each of these offices was quickly capacitated with the requisite staff. The KZN office would assume responsibility for the Free State, the Northern Cape was serviced from the Cape Town office, the Gauteng office covered North-West and Mpumalanga

fell within the Limpopo's area of responsibility.

Although this enabled more effective stakeholder service than previously, the vast geographic distances that stakeholders from the Free State, North-West, Mpumalanga and Northern Cape needed to travel to access HWSETA services resulted in the HWSETA Board taking the decision to establish provincial offices in the remaining four provinces.

On 22 July 2016, the HWSETA officially opened its Northern Cape office in Kimberley and on 8 December 2016, the North West Provincial office was opened in Mahikeng. With seven provinces in the bag, the HWSETA worked hard in the first half of 2017 so that the Bloemfontein office was able to open.

The official opening of the Bloemfontein office on 31 May 2017 took place directly after an HWSETA Board Stakeholder Interaction session that provided HWSETA Board members and Executive Managers the ideal opportunity to openly communicate with stakeholders on a variety of topics and issues.



Left to Right: Teboho Moleko, ETDPS SETA; Dr Johann Bezidenhout from the University of the Free State; and Roger Maretele from Kabelo Golf estate



Left to Right: Nkgala Mokoena, Youth in Action; Malehlohonolo Lethuko, Youth in Action; Melita Ramokoatsi, Youth in Action; Doreth Le Roux, NOSA Centra Region; Mitzi van Derlinde, Hertzogville – Lesedi Hospice; and Annemarie de Necker, Hertzogville – Lesedi Hospice.



Dr Confidence Moloko, Chairman of the HWSETA Board, officially opened the Bloemfontein Office.



“Not only have these successful learners taken an important step towards their future careers in social services, but they will be able to make a positive contribution towards the skills mismatch that exists in the sector.”

– Ms Welekazi Mangaliso, HWSETA

HWSETA Funded Social Auxiliary Learnerships Completed in Eastern Cape

Numerous national policies and constitutional principles impact strategic planning and service delivery within South Africa’s social development sector, of which one is the National Development Plan (NDP). The NDP envisages a social development system that provides social protection and adequate social welfare services for vulnerable groups, children and the elderly.

Whilst the NDP recognises the need for these vital social development interventions, the reality on the ground is that a skills mismatch exists. The training of social workers, specialist social workers, community development workers, ECD practitioners, child and youth care workers, as well as social auxiliary workers is an important priority.

In 2013, the Department of Higher Education and Training called on South Africa’s 21 Sector Education and Training Authorities to join forces with TVET Colleges across the country so that the SETAs would not only be able to drive skills development initiatives in consultation with TVET Colleges, but at the same time make the services of the SETAs more accessible to the citizens of our country, particularly those living in rural areas.

This call by the DHET, the fact that partnerships with training institutions have been an integral aspect of the HWSETA’s operations since its inception, and the need to positively address the skills mismatch in the social development sector prompted partnership negotiations between the HWSETA and King Hintsa TVET College in 2013. During these negotiations King Hintsa TVET College was called on to apply for accreditation from the HWSETA to offer the Social Auxiliary Work Level 3 qualification.

Once this had been finalised, the HWSETA entered into a learnership agreement that would see 100 learners participating in



the learnership for the Social Auxiliary Work Level 3 qualification. In terms of this agreement, King Hintsa would provide not only the theory component of the learnership, but also support the learners with placement in suitable workplaces.

The Provincial Department of Social Development in the Eastern Cape, as well as Mnquma Municipality were approached to assist with providing workplaces for the 100 learners.

The partnership between the HWSETA and King Hintsa TVET College was officially launched at an event held on 21 March 2014 at King Hintsa’s Butterworth Campus. The Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training, the Honourable Mr Mduzuzi Manana attended the event, as did the Chairman of the HWSETA Board, the CEO and other Executive Managers from the HWSETA.

80 of the initial 100 learners successfully completed the learnership and graduated on 6 March 2017. Welekazi Mangaliso, Provincial Manager for the HWSETA in the Eastern Cape, during her address at the event said: “Not only have these successful learners taken an important step towards their future careers in social services, but they will be able to make a positive contribution towards the skills mismatch that exists in the sector.”

Career Guidance Information Updated

The delivery of career guidance services is an important mandate for the HWSETA. Over the last six months the HWSETA’s Marketing Department has been working hard to produce updated career guidance information that is made available to learners and any other interested stakeholders at career guidance events, online, as well as in the HWSETA’s offices across the country.

In addition, to the ‘traditional’ career guidance information that is required by young people, the HWSETA has launched a career guidance booklet aimed at children aged 5 to 8.

Copies of any career guidance material can be requested from the HWSETA by contacting Mosima Mehlahe in the Marketing Department on tel. 011 607 6924 or e-mail mosimam@hwseta.org.za



Project Feedback

Faculty of Veterinary Science – University of Pretoria

During the 2015/16 financial year, the HWSETA Board approved funding to the value of R15 million for the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Pretoria. The funding was allocated for eight key projects, including: 20 undergraduate student bursaries for first year students; work integrated learning for final year students; undergraduate research bursaries; 42 postgraduate student

bursaries; skills laboratory teaching aids; training of 20 learners in the manufacturing of teaching aids; an 'Adopt a School' pilot project; and articulation with agricultural colleges.

In the first half of 2017, the HWSETA touched base with the Faculty of Veterinary Science on project progress.

Research Bursaries



Seen here from left to right are Bellona Sakong, Dr Thanyani Ramadwa, Dr Hein Stoltz and Dr Gareth Zeiler.

An important skills development mandate for the HWSETA is to develop research capacity and scientific leadership for scholars to become established researchers, as well as to contribute to the body of knowledge by promoting research themes, fostering stakeholder partnerships through collaborative research and establishing innovative research projects within the sectors it represents.

Four academics from the Faculty of Veterinary Science briefly discussed what they are utilising the funding provided by the HWSETA for.

According to Dr Gareth Zeiler, during an anaesthetic a domestic cat is four times more likely to die than a dog would be in a situation where something goes wrong and the patient requires fluids. Insufficient clinical information exists on the safety of administration of fluids in cats. The research bursary funding supplied by the HWSETA will enable Dr Zeiler to research 'Fluid Management in Domestic Cats'.

The study will comprise data collection during 2017 and results are due for release in 2018. It is anticipated that the findings of this study will not only be useful to the treatment of domestic cats in South Africa, but internationally too.

The subject of Dr Hein Stoltz's research study is parasite resistance in cattle. The Mnisi Community situated in the north-eastern reaches of Bushbuckridge in Mpumalanga is home to 50 000 head of cattle and

the area in which Dr Stoltz is conducting his research. His research aims to benefit not only cattle farmers, but the state too, as the state veterinary services play a critical role in animal health in rural communities.

Dr Thanyani Ramadwa has been undertaking breakthrough research on the subject of natural alternatives to current drugs. His research focuses on the development of complementary or replacement drugs derived from plants and has proved particularly helpful in addressing anti-microbial drug resistance.

Staying on the subject of drug resistance, Bellona Sakong's research being funded by the HWSETA, focuses on developing a natural, local, less costly product able to address the challenge of drug resistance in small ruminants such as sheep and goats.

Bellona is a shining example of the benefits of hard work in achieving one's goals. After completing a Btech in Animal Production at Tshwane University of Technology, she went on to complete her honours degree at the University of Limpopo. This 41 year old mother of two, then went on to achieve her Masters Degree, Cum Laude, at Onderstepoort. She is now working towards her PhD and looks forward to adding the title 'Doctor' in front of her name in 2018. She says that "Perseverance is the mother of success" (young people take note!).

“The free movement of wildlife brings wild animals in closer contact with pastoralist communities, their livestock, and their companion animals. This closer contact increases the risk for the transmission of infectious pathogens between multiple hosts, including humans, which necessitates disease control measures.”

A Unique Approach to the Concept of ‘One Health’ A close look at the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Platform

The University of Pretoria’s Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Platform (HHWRP) consists of three units: the Mnisi Community Programme (MCP), the Hluvukani Animal Clinic (HAC) and the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station (HHWRS). Each contributes to the “One Health” research and training focus of the Platform at the community-conservation interface.

The Faculty has an established research programme within the Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) of southern Africa. These large protected areas straddle neighbouring countries allowing wildlife to move freely between protected areas across national borders. However, the free movement of wildlife brings wild animals in closer contact with pastoralist communities, their livestock, and their companion animals. This closer contact increases the risk for the transmission of infectious pathogens between multiple hosts, including humans, which necessitates disease control measures in and around TFCAs.

Over and above the risk of disease transmission, the interaction between communities and conservation areas poses many more threats, such as human-wildlife conflict and the indiscriminate use of natural resources. Yet, it also provides opportunities to work with multidisciplinary teams across the wildlife-livestock interface to develop sustainable utilisation models for natural resources, access and benefit sharing models, and new policy approaches to these complex matters. Through a unique approach to research and training at the community-conservation interface in TFCAs, the HHWRP contributes to conservation, rural development, and capacity building.

HHWRS is a research and training station managed by the University of Pretoria as part of a collaborative agreement with the Peace Parks Foundation (PPF) and Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency (MTPA). The Station is situated at the Orpen gate of the

Kruger National Park in the Mpumalanga Lowveld.

The MCP is a research and community engagement programme designed to facilitate under and postgraduate research and training activities of the UP in the Mnisi community. The Mnisi Study Area surrounds the Hluvukani village and is close to the HHWRS.

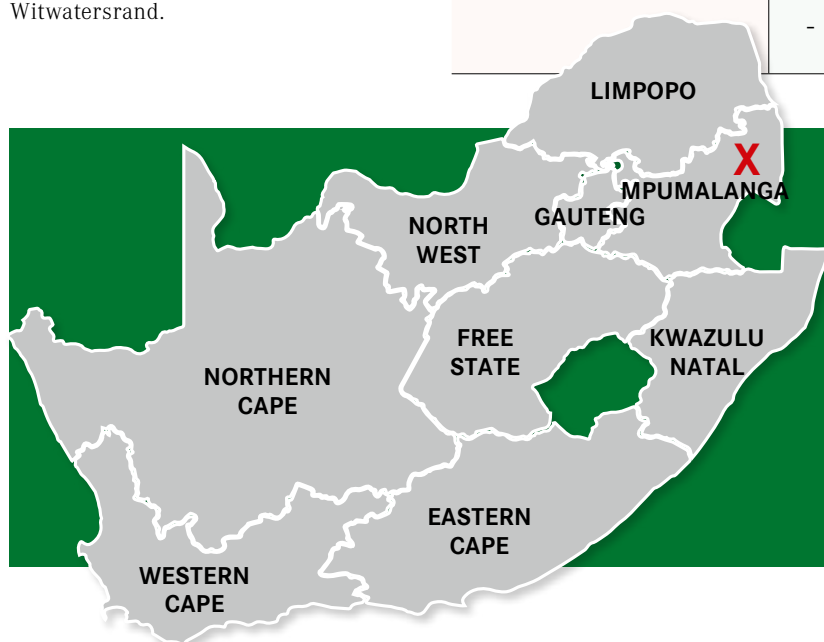
The Mnisi Study Area consists of approximately 30 000 hectares of communal farmland that largely belongs to the Mnisi Traditional Authority, as well as two provincial game reserves: Manyeleti Game Reserve which is open to the Kruger National Park, and the Andover Game Reserve. Research and development projects focus mainly on applied One Health, zoonoses, parasitology, rangeland ecology, wildlife health and conservation, livestock health and production, market access, and value chain development. Research findings are fed back to reserve management or community participants through feedback sessions and workshops.

There have been farmers’ days with a range of topics, including training workshops for emerging farmers on disease identification and control. At the heart of the MCP are ten highly committed and talented Environmental Monitors (EMs). These community members are hosted by the MCP but are paid through a multistakeholder partnership between the Department of Environmental Affairs and the Kruger to Canyon Biosphere Reserve. The EMs assist with the implementation of all the research, training and community engagement projects of the MCP.



The HAC has been a training clinic for final year veterinary students since 2008. It was created through a partnership with the Mpumalanga Veterinary Services (MVS) to provide a clinic-based veterinary service to the local community and for UP staff and students to assist with disease control activities of MVS. HAC is a favoured two-week rotation for local and foreign veterinary students as they get to see a wide variety of interesting veterinary cases, interact with the local farmers and animal owners, give educational talks at the schools and have an interaction with the medical students from University of Witwatersrand.

ONE HEALTH PLATFORM		
RESEARCH AND POSTGRADUATE TRAINING	RESEARCH, TRAINING AND INFRASTRUCTURE	UNDERGRADUATE TRAINING AND CLINICAL SERVICES
MNISI COMMUNITY PROGRAMME	HANS HOHEISEN WILDLIFE RESEARCH STATION	HLUVUKANI ANIMAL CLINIC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research, postgraduate training and community engagement in a resource-poor community Longitudinal, multidisciplinary research approach Putting research into use through ongoing community upliftment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and training facilities in a conservation area Infrastructure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Laboratories Animal holding facilities Auditorium and library Student accommodation Permanent staff and state veterinarian 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One Health training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interaction between veterinary and medical students In-service training of veterinary students Daily clinical and ambulatory services Building awareness with farmers and school children on animal welfare and zoonoses



Situated in the North Eastern part of Mpumalanga Province, Bushbuck Ridge is home to over 500 000 people, 80 000 head of cattle and covers an area of 10 250km². The area has been identified as one of South Africa's 14 rural poverty nodes. Within the north-eastern reaches of Bushbuckridge one will find the mainly Shangaan-speaking Mnisi community with a long and proud history under the leadership of the Mnisi Traditional Authority (MTA). The Mnisi community is home to the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Platform (HHWRP).



Participation in mandatory cattle dipping by all livestock owners is strictly controlled by State Veterinary Services

“The research platform and clinic had been targeted for closure due to financial constraints, however funding received from the HWSETA prevented this and the project was able to remain accessible as a valuable training facility for students.”

Professor Darrell Abernethy, Dean for the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Pretoria, describes the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Platform as: “One of the most valuable field visits for our students as it exposes them to rural communities, smallhold farmers, poverty alleviation, state veterinary work and local schools.”

“Surveys of students and graduates show that they found the time spent in the area life changing and an essential preparation for their move after graduation into Compulsory Community Service,” he adds.

The research platform and clinic had been targeted for closure due to financial constraints, however funding received from the HWSETA prevented this and the project was able to remain accessible as a valuable training facility for students. Elfrieda Tyrer, Marketing Manager for the HWSETA, visited the facility in March 2017.



Professor Darrell Abernethy, Dean for the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Pretoria

An Experience Unlike Any Other

“When I first chatted to Professor Darrell Abernethy and Rene Perridge, responsible for Public Relations at UP’s Faculty of Veterinary Science, about the HHWRP they literally oozed passion for the project. I must admit that my initial thinking was that they must be somewhat biased (people often are when talking about something that is proudly their own) but I could not have been more wrong in my thinking.

I arrived at the HHWRP in the late afternoon after stopping at the HWSETA’s new Nelspruit office site. That evening, I met Dr Louise Biggs, a senior lecturer and the Manager of the Hluvukani Animal Clinic. The first thing that struck me about Dr Biggs is how much she loves what she does and also how much she loves animals. She provided me with a rundown on what was planned for the next day.

We got off to an early 5am start. After Doctor Biggs introduced me to the four students on that specific rotation, I met Dr Jacques van Rooyen, a lecturer at the UP Faculty of Veterinary Science, as well as the HHWRP Platform Manager. Dr van Rooyen was to serve as my host for the day.

From the moment I met Dr van Rooyen, he spoke excitedly about the project and what it means to the community in which it operates, but very importantly his focus as a scientist on the concept of ‘one health’.

One Health can be described as the integrative effort of multiple disciplines working locally, nationally and globally to attain optimal health for people, animals and the environment. Together, these disciplines make up the One Health triad that operates on the basis that each is inextricably connected to the others in the triad. The link between human health and animal health is a key factor in the funding decisions made by the HWSETA in regards projects with a veterinary focus.

Our first stop was the Hluvukani Animal Clinic where Doctor Biggs discussed with the four students and the environmental monitors on duty what was on the schedule for the day. An important topic of discussion was the approach to be used at the cattle dip tanks in the midst of a foot and mouth disease (FMD) outbreak. The protocols to be followed during an FMD outbreak are very stringent and are the domain of the State Vet in the area.

An FMD outbreak presents numerous problems for the affected community and the parties involved in containing the spread of the disease. However, an FMD outbreak at a training facility such as this one, whilst unfortunate, does provide valuable experience to veterinary students who may very well find themselves faced with a similar situation during their compulsory community service.



A rural house call to assist with sick dog



Veterinary student treating sick cow under the watchful eye of Dr Louise Biggs



The veterinary students educate primary school learners on the importance of animal health

The weekly cattle dipping is mandatory and strictly controlled by the state veterinary services. The intervention not only provides protection against tick-borne diseases for the cattle at no cost to the owner, but at the same time allows for the state veterinary services to keep an eye on the health of the animals, as well as serve as an early warning system in the event of an outbreak of a disease such as FMD.

During the approximately five hours at the cattle dipping tanks, the veterinary students were able to treat several cattle for various health issues under the watchful eye of Dr Biggs who has many years of experience dealing with large animals.

I got an opportunity to chat to the students. They all shared the same sentiment that whilst the time they spend at HHWRP is hard work and long hours, it is invaluable in terms of what they learn. All of the students spoke very highly of Dr Biggs and expressed how knowledgeable she is and what an excellent teacher she is.

After a very hot morning at the cattle dipping tanks, the students visited a local primary school where they put on a small production for the learners on the importance of animal health. The children were delighted and entertained by the acting talents of the students.

Before returning to the animal clinic, a house call was made to a gentleman who was concerned about his dogs eyes that were very red and swollen. The owner of the dog suggested that the dog may have

been the victim of snake venom. This particular clinical case once again proved the value of exposing students to rural animal health care.

On this particular day, the students returned to the camp before it got dark – but this is rare as the students and Dr Biggs often work until 7 or 8 at night.

Words cannot explain how I felt at the end of the day as I had experienced something truly amazing. With my HWSETA hat on, I perceive that the funding provided by the HWSETA for this project is money exceptionally well spent as this is a project that literally ‘ticks many boxes’ in terms of skills development and sustainability.

On a personal level, and as an animal lover, what I witnessed in my short time at the project, I realised that the work being done by the permanent team, as well as the veterinary students on site for a two-week rotation is incredible.

In closing, it was a privilege and a pleasure to spend time with Dr van Rooyen, Dr Biggs, the four students and the environmental monitors at this very special project that is in my opinion a shining example of how skills development in action benefits the people and animals resident in a community.”

Written by Elfrieda Tyrer
Marketing and Communications Manager HWSETA

Undergraduate Studies

The students featured in this photograph have all received financial aid as a result of funding provided by the HWSETA. Access to study at the Faculty of Veterinary Science is highly competitive as there are a limited number of slots available and many more applicants than can be accommodated.

What this means is that each of these young people has worked very hard academically and has achieved excellent results in school. However, many deserving young students are concerned about ‘how’ they will be able to afford their studies. Speaking to these bursary recipients, the following phrases (or similar) came up often:

“Being accepted to study veterinary science was a dream come true, but I was very stressed about how I would be able to finance my studies”

“Receiving this bursary has lifted a huge burden off my shoulders”

“My parents had applied for and received a loan, but the huge debt after finishing my studies is a very scary thought”

“Receiving this bursary means that I do not need to stress about money and can focus on my studies”



Front row from left to right: JD Letseng, Quintin Keele, Andrea Lau, Elsje Malan, Robin Milne, Kevasha Govender, Cara Noble and Aminisha Somers

Back row from left to right: Gawie Jacobs, Kgopotso Mabote, Angelique Doyle, Cherné Fortuin, Stefan de Bruin

“At its essence, the National Skills Conference is about the future of our country. It is about the skills and the capabilities that will enable our young people to build a prosperous, equitable and just society. It is mainly about ending the cycle of poverty,”

– Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, Deputy President of Republic of South Africa

National Skills Conference 2017

Skills Development for an Integrated and Differentiated Post-school Education and Training System “Past, Present, Future”.

Collaboration between numerous public and government entities, educational institutions, training providers, as well as private organisations is an important aspect of the success of South Africa’s skills development mandate.

The buy-in to this thinking was clearly demonstrated at the National Skills Conference held from 23 to 24 March 2017 at the Saint Georges Hotel in Pretoria. The event, hosted and organised by the National Skills Authority (NSA) in conjunction with the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET) provided the ideal opportunity for all the relevant stakeholders to discuss and debate skills development in the country.

Speaking at the conference Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa said: “Gathered here today are South Africans from all corners of our land, people with different backgrounds, different responsibilities, different perspectives, but who share a common vision of a united, non-racial, non-sexist and prosperous society.”



From left: Busisiwe Madisha, Helia Aucamp – AMPATH; Thilivhali Netshiongolwe – HWSETA; Anneke Naude - Netcare and Lebogang Moono - HWSETA.



“At its essence, the National Skills Conference is about the future of our country. It is about the skills and the capabilities that will enable our young people to build a prosperous, equitable and just society. It is mainly about ending the cycle of poverty,” he added.

The conference was complemented by an informative career exhibition for learners from grades 10 to 12 who were bussed in from surrounding areas.

Representatives from all 21 SETAs, as well as relevant universities

and technical vocational education and training colleges gathered to deliver a top quality career development experience ensuring scholars garnered the knowledge required to make informed career decisions.

The HWSETA took the opportunity to connect with some of its stakeholders. Netcare, Life Healthcare, Ampath and the South African Social Security Agency (SASSA) joined the HWSETA on its stand at the exhibition to provide advice and exposure to possible career paths that learners may wish to consider in the future.



From left: Lerato Monyatsi, Moheen Roode – Life Heath Care; Happiness Zwane and Mmasetena Makhafola - SASSA.

Pure Maths?

Maths Literacy?

Pure Maths?

Maths Literacy?

Pure Maths?

Give Yourself a
Head Start with
Pure Maths

▲ Did you know?

- Our world is ever changing and today we rely on mathematics in ways we could not imagine thirty years ago
- Mathematics touches every part of our lives
- A strong background in pure mathematics can assist you in entering your chosen course of study
- Pure mathematics is a prerequisite for many fields of study such as engineering, natural science, information technology and medicine
- Many of the fastest growing occupations today are related to pure mathematics
- Pure mathematics will train you to think logically, critically and analytically
- Maths literacy is not an alternative to pure mathematics

A couple of compelling reasons to seriously consider taking pure mathematics to Grade 12 wouldn't you say?

But ... the prospect of pure maths is one that terrifies many young people. It's a no brainer really. If you are good at maths or believe you can pass it through sheer hard work and determination, then you really should consider taking it as a subject in Grade 10. It can only benefit you in the future.

▲ For career information contact:

HWSETA on 0800 864 478 or hwseta@hwseta.org.za

OR

The National Career Advice Portal

Toll Free Number: 086 999 0123

SMS/Text Message: 072 204 5056

Email: careerhelp@dhet.gov.za

Website: <http://ncap.careerhelp.org.za>

Good Luck!



Stakeholders Weigh In at Collaboration Session

To achieve success, the skills development activities undertaken by the HWSETA should be based on the specific requirements of the health, social development and veterinary sectors. To this end, the HWSETA's Acting CEO, Mrs Elaine Brass, hosted a stakeholder collaboration session on 3 July 2017 in Gauteng.

The event was held to: discuss skills development needs in organisations; identify new learning programmes and learnerships that are critical to enable an organisation to meet its key deliverables; identify areas of growth and training priorities in the next five years; consider a new direction in terms of qualifications; auxiliary qualifications needed by the Health and Social Development Sectors; as well as the challenges and possible solutions around the workplace as a training space.

The event kicked off with presentations from the National Departments of Health and Social Development, the Nursing Education Association, Life Healthcare, Mediclinic and Netcare. The content of the presentations covered the short- and long-term needs of organisations, employment opportunities within the sector, training requirements, HR strategies, and advice for the HWSETA from stakeholders.

Thereafter, the following presentations were delivered:

- The Role of NHN in Influencing Supply & Demand of Skills in the Sector – National Hospital Network

- Professionalisation of Child and Youth Care Workers: Implications for Skills Planning in RPL and Continued Training – South African Council for Social Service Professionals
- The Implementation of New Nursing Qualifications and Strategies – South African Nursing Council and their impact in the Sector
- Strategies that can impact the Health of Animals in Rural areas and subsistence farming – South African Veterinary Council
- Occupations in Demand in the Pathology Sector: Professional and Others – Ampath
- Occupational categories, Scope of Practice and new Developments in Health Professions – Health Professions Council of South Africa
- Skills Development Needs – Labour

“The event proved to be enormously beneficial and the information gained from our valued stakeholders will definitely inform the activities of the HWSETA going forward,” comments Mrs Elaine Brass, Acting CEO for the HWSETA.

Smiles All Round

Changing the lives of the underprivileged is a collective responsibility and requires commitment from individuals and organisations across the country. The HWSETA, GKLM Event Group and Aganang FM all participated in a 'Back to School' event hosted by the Kenneth Kaunda District Municipality in February this year. The HWSETA purchased school shoes and stationery for children from the district.



Head Office Contact Information

Head Office

17 Bradford Road
Bedfordview
Johannesburg
011 607 6900

Toll free number: 0800 864 478
hwseta@hwseta.org.za
www.hwseta.org.za

Provincial Offices

The HWSETA's decentralisation process that has seen the establishment of provincial offices around the country in the last couple of years has been successful in meeting the needs of stakeholders in the provinces they serve. The provincial offices can be contacted as follows:

Gauteng

563 Old Pretoria Main Road
Midrand Business Park
Midrand
011 205 0200

Eastern Cape

Phase 2A Waverly Office Park
Phillip Frame Road
Chiselhurst
East London
043 726 9406/7

Kwa-Zulu Natal

Clifton Place Ground Floor
19 Hurst Grove
Musgrave
Durban
031 202 5972/3

Free State

47 Kellner Street
Bloemfontein
051 430 2134/78

Limpopo

4A Landross Mare
Polokwane
015 295 4302/3

Mpumalanga

The Outpost Centre
Cnr Van der Merwe & Ehmke Streets
Nelspruit
Tel: 013 762 3027

Northern Cape

Royalyard Park, Unit 17
No. 9 Jacobus Sit Avenue
Royalglen
Kimberley
053 831 1338

North West

Suite No.3 Total Mafikeng Complex
Cnr Nelson Mandela Drive and Shippard Street
Mafikeng
018 381 1192

Western Cape

Tijger Park Office Park
Ground Floor
Willie van Schoor Avenue
Bellville
Cape Town
021 914 1058

Satellite Offices

In addition to provincial offices, the HWSETA's national presence has been boosted through the establishment of satellite offices at selected TVET Colleges. The satellite offices can be contacted as follows:

Eastern Cape

PE TVET College
139 Russell Road
Richmond Hill
041 509 6332

Free State

Flavius Mareka TVET College
Mphohadi campus
Corner Tang Street

KwaZulu Natal

Coastal KZN TVET College
1621 Hospital Road
Ozwathini
032 294 0013

Limpopo

Letaba TVET College
Bock C Industrial Road
Giyani
015 812 0265

Mpumalanga

Gert Sibande TVET College
11 Mel Mentz Street
Ermelo
2350
017 811 1752

North West

Taletso TVET College
Leah Mangope Highway
Lehurutshe
018 363 3017