



University of Fort Hare
Together in Excellence

Institutional Advancement



This Week

@FORT HARE Vol 1, issue 9



“Year end is neither an end
nor a beginning but a going on,
with all the wisdom that
experience can instill in us.”

... author unknown

*Thank you to the Advancement
Team and all our readers. Till
we meet again in 2020.*

GLOBAL LEADER CLARIVATE ANALYTICS DELIVERS GIFT TO UFH ACADEMICS



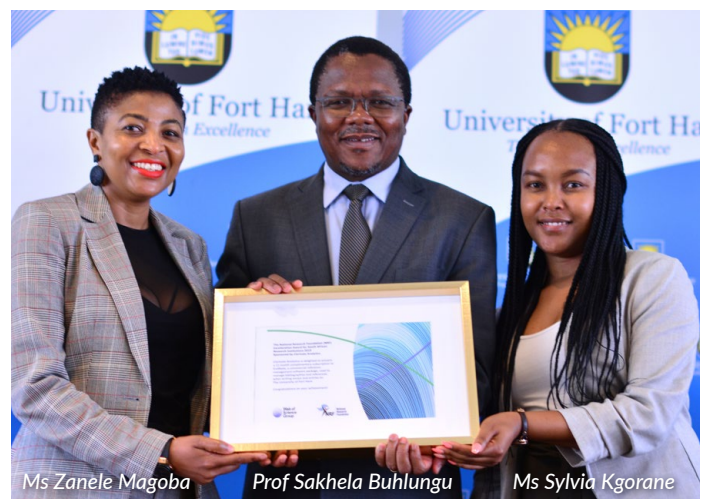
Prof Renuka Vithal

On Monday 11 November, the University of Fort Hare received a 'gift' from Clarivate Analytics, sponsor of the National Research Foundation Excelleration award which the university received during the NRF Awards in September this year. The handover ceremony was witnessed by a full house of senate members who had gathered in Council Chambers for a scheduled senate meeting.

During the handover, Ms Sylvia Kgorane, Clarivate Analytics Representative, congratulated the university on its achievement and shared some background details about the award.

The prize is a 12 months complimentary Endnote subscription, worth \$15 000 USD (R223,415.37). Endnote is a commercial reference management software package that is used to manage bibliographies and references when writing articles and essays. The referencing tool can be downloaded on a laptop.

"The licence will benefit 2000 people and will be a full version of Endnote. After the annual gift, there is a version that can be used indefinitely. In-depth training will be facilitated through the university libraries and an announcement will be made via the library system", she explained.



Ms Zanele Magoba

Prof Sakhela Buhlungu

Ms Sylvia Kgorane

Clarivate Analytics is a global leader in providing trusted insights and analytics to accelerate the pace of innovation. They deliver critical data, information, workflow solutions and deep domain expertise to innovators everywhere. The organisation views itself as a global partner to its customers which include universities, non-profit organisations, funding organizations, publishers, corporations, government and law firms.

This year Clarivate analytics was delighted to show support for acceleration of Innovation in Africa by sponsoring the NRF Excelleration award.

Speaking on behalf of the university, Prof Renuka Vithal (DVC-Academic Affairs), thanked the sponsors and commended academics for their hard work.

"This award reflects the hard work and commitment of our academic staff and everyone else involved. It is remarkable that the university has triumphed in spite of all the challenges it faces", said the DVC.

UFH EMPOWERS WOMEN IN TOURISM



The University of Fort Hare has partnered with the Eastern Cape Parks and Tourism Agency (ECPTA) and Women in Tourism Eastern Cape (WITEC) to empower and upskill women in the tourism industry. The first training session got underway on Wednesday, 6 November, at the 1st Class Manor B&B in East London.

Altogether, 10 mentors and mentees from WITEC attended the first workshop.

The partnership was conceived when two women, Ms Wendy Terblanche - Senior Accounting Lecturer and Deputy Head of the Nkuhlu Department of Accounting, and Ms Nomfundo Zondwa - Manager at ECPTA Regional Tourism Development, struck up a conversation during a business trip in 2018.

"We were sitting next to each other on a flight and we started chatting. I told her [Zondwa] UFH is always looking to collaborate with local communities. The ECPTA offices are so close to our East London offices and I suggest that we should work together sometime. I gave her my card," said Terblanche.

A year later, Ms Zondwa made use of Ms Terblanche's business card and the partnership was forged and sealed with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Through this partnership, lecturers from the university's Accounting and Business Management Departments will train and share knowledge with women who own or co-own small businesses such as Bed & Breakfast establishments to help them sustain their businesses and ultimately survive the tough economy. Training will be provided to business women in and around East London who are affiliated to the WITEC mentorship programme.

This collaboration could not have come at a better time as recent unemployment data from Statistics SA revealed that female unemployment figures continue to rise, highlighting the need and opportunity for women to pursue entrepreneurship as a career.

"The main purpose of the MOU is to set modalities for conducting enterprise support in the tourism industry. This will be achieved through skills development of the WITEC mentorship group, where UFH will share knowledge and upskill tourism mentees and mentors on business operations as required in areas of mutual interest", explained Ms Terblanche.

"The university will facilitate five workshops on business related topics such as financial management, business management, human resources, service excellence and event management", she said.

Zondwa is confident that the University of Fort Hare's contribution will boost local tourism businesses.

Ms Pelisa Kunju, Mentorship Head at WITEC, said business women in the tourism sector will benefit tremendously from this collaboration. "Equipped with the knowledge and skills shared through this partnership, these women will be able to make better informed decisions that will expand their businesses and keep them afloat," said Kunju.

The partnership will run over a course of three months, from November till January 2020, with a high possibility of renewal.

THIS IS A NETWORK OF HELPING HANDS: UFH Graduate's Foundation Contributes to Early Childhood Development Initiatives

Mr Siyasibulela Kepe is bold and wise. And he is 25 years old! He is a University of Fort Hare alumnus and philanthropist who is determined to bring change to the lives of hundreds of primary school learners in his immediate community.

This, he achieves through his foundation, the Kepe Foundation, which hosted its 3rd annual Prize Giving ceremony on 1 November at New Generation Primary School in Egoli Township, East London.

Kepe graduated with a Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting Science during the UFH May graduation this year. However, his passion to make a difference in society became evident in 2017 when he used his R2000 scholarship allowance to establish and register the Kepe Foundation.



Themed "Nurturing Golden Futures", the awards recognise learners who have excelled in academics, sports and arts. On the day, top achievers went home with beautifully framed certificates, medals and trophies.

The highest leadership award, named after Prof Lana Weldon, UFH Associate Professor and Head of Governance

and Auditing Associate at the Nkuhlu Department of Accounting was awarded to the most innovative learner who possesses the best leadership skills. The top learner in Mathematics received the Prof Mamokgethi Phakeng Award, named after SA Mathematician, Researcher and University of Cape Town Vice-Chancellor.

In an interview with *This Week @Fort Hare*, Kepe described the foundation as a network of helping hands that advance early childhood development initiatives to under-resourced primary schools.

"We imagine a province, in fact, a nation where every child has an opportunity to fulfil and maximize their potential. We strive to build mechanisms to develop, design, and birth new initiatives that will ensure fundamental Early Childhood Development reaches and benefits every child, regardless of their circumstances," said Kepe.

In addition to the awards, the foundation also hosts Spelling Bee and reading competitions to address the high rate of illiteracy. It also teaches learners to be financial savvy through a programme called the "Basic Wealth principles for children" which aims to address financial illiteracy using fun, games and songs.

The guest speaker at the awards was none other than our very own Prof Lana Weldon after whom the leadership award is named.

Good Luck to Mr Kepe and his foundation. The future looks very bright.



A Passion for Music and the Community

“Music is how I express myself, I cannot imagine my life without it.”

These are the words of Dr Devandr  Boonzaaier, Music Lecturer and Deputy Head of the Music Department at the University of Fort Hare.



Dr Devandr  Boonzaaier

On 31 October, Dr Devandr  Boonzaaier, an accomplished organist, accompanist and conductor, walked away with the Vice-Chancellor’s 2018 Excellence Award in the Community Engagement Category. This is a well-deserved accolade for the music maestro.

This Week @Fort Hare, spoke to Dr Boonzaaier at the Miriam Makeba Arts Centre where the music department is housed. Suffice to say, a week after receiving the award, he was still beaming with excitement.

“It is a great honour and privilege to be recognised. It is proof of how much I am valued.”

Dr Boonzaaier joined the university in 2016. He teaches music theory, musicology, piano, music and arts administration. He also supervises a number of postgraduate music students. He holds a B Mus (Cum Laude) MMus and a DPhil from Nelson Mandela University. He also has performance diplomas in piano and organ from the University of South Africa (Unisa)

He has performed as a guest organist at large Moravian Music Festivals in Port Elizabeth and Cape Town. In 2017 he presented a research paper titled: *“Moravian Music building bridges in South Africa”* at the Christian Congregational Music Conference at Oxford University.

Dr Boonzaaier’s passion and drive for music started at the tender age of four years when he stood up and conducted the church choir. “Our church choir did not have a conductor and I was

baffled by this and so decided to get up and start conducting”, he chuckled.

In addition to an impressive academic career and decorated achievements, Dr Boonzaaier also has a deep passion for community engagement. It is his love for the community that earned him the VC’s award. When he is not lecturing or supervising students, Dr Boonzaaier can be found either at a local primary school where he spends his time volunteering as choir conductor or organizing Christmas Concerts to raise funds in aid of mentally and physically disabled people.

In 2016, soon after joining the university, Dr Boonzaaier was requested by the principal of AW Barnes Primary School in East London to conduct the school choir. “There was no one to conduct the choir and I agreed without a doubt in my mind.”

Under his direction, the choir has bagged several awards including gold, silver and bronze certificates at the East London Port Rex Lions Eisteddfod in 2017, 2018 and 2019 respectively. He also participated in the ATKV (Afrikaanse Taalen Kultuurvereniging) Applous Regional Choir festivals in 2017 and 2018 and received silver certificates.

His aspiration for the University of Fort Hare is to **“develop an arts and administration programme that is the best on the African continent”**.

With Dr Boonzaaier’s guidance, this is achievable.

HARD WORK PAYS OFF FOR TLC PEER FACILITATORS



The annual Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) year-end Peer Facilitation Certificate Awards ceremony took place recently in honour of the 2019 Peer Facilitators (PFs). The function aims to celebrate and acknowledge contributions made by the TLC PFs towards academic success of fellow students.

About 80 PFs from Alice and East London campuses were lauded for their efforts at the function held at the Blue Lagoon Hotel.

The TLC PF programme is a collaborative learning support system. It is built on best practice principles that aim to effectively facilitate improvement in student learning, the university's student throughput, academic success and student retention. The role of the PFs is to provide support and guidance to individual students and groups to improve their ability to study, take notes, write properly and gain analytical skills.

The facilitators are specifically recruited and trained senior students. The group consists of Language and Writing Consultants, Supplemental Instruction Leaders and Extended Learning Environment Programme (ELEP) Facilitators.

Ms Thandie Mayaphi, TLC Consultant, said the programme does not only assist students who are struggling, but also presents the PFs with an opportunity to gain invaluable work experience while assisting their peers in 'high risk modules'

"Through these programmes, the PFs are equipped with communication skills, effective facilitation skills and their confidence is also enhanced," said Ms Mayaphi.

Delivering the keynote address, Dr Tando Rulashe, Lecturer in the Department of Public Administration and a former TLC PF, motivated the PFs to strive for their best.



A Gift to UFH Choral Music Lovers: *UFH East London Launches Debut Album*



The University of Fort Hare's East London campus choir has released its first album, and contemporary gospel music enthusiasts are in for a treat!

The album offers 10 songs such as *Njengebhadi*, *Kuwe Baba*, *Ndine Ndawo Yam*. It also features a song titled *Ntsebeza* - a dedication to the Chancellor, Adv Dumisa Ntsebeza SC.

The album was released in October and follows the launch of the Alice Choir's debut CD earlier this year. The latter was a great success and received airplay on national radio stations.

Both albums were produced by Mr Ndumiso Mtshali - UFH Music Lecturer.

Mtshali's dream of recording and producing UFH choir albums began in 2015 and became a reality in 2018 when Mr Malinge Gqeba was appointed Dean of Students. It turned out the two shared the same vision.

"Mr Gqeba approached me with his vision of recording the two choirs, unaware that this had been my dream all along."

According to Gqeba's message on the CD sleeve, the songs are meant to **"acknowledge and celebrate our cultural diversity as an institution. The purity of the voices is nothing short of the 'excellence' that the University of Fort Hare has come to be associated with."**

"The songs are signposts to mark our challenges and achievements. When listening to the songs, one becomes part of the university's 103-year history", said Mr Gqeba, an author who recently published his first book.



Mr Ndumiso Mtshali

An excited Mtshali said the next project is to have a mass choir featuring all UFH staff and students.

Copies of the CD are available from Institutional Advancement offices in East London and Alice at R100 per unit.

This Week @Fort Hare wishes the choir all of the best with album sales and future recordings.

LET US OPEN OUR EYES AND SEE HOMELANDS AS SPACES OF OPPORTUNITY:

FHISER Seminar: Debating Deagrarianisation in the Eastern Cape

On 4 November, Professor Paul Hebinck, Associate Professor at Wageningen University in the Netherlands and Adjunct Professor at the University of Fort Hare, presented a seminar entitled: *Debating Deagrarianisation in the Eastern Cape*.

The seminar was hosted by the Fort Hare Institute of Social and Economic Research (FHISER) and took place at the Phyllis Ntantala Collaborative Library in East London.

Prof Hebinck is a rural development sociologist with vast knowledge in land and land-related issues, agrarian reform, agriculture, rural development and rural livelihood as well as re-agrarianisation and re-peasantisation. His fieldwork experience spans over 30 years in countries such as West Kenya, Eastern Cape, Zimbabwe and most recently, Namibia.

His presentation was very insightful. Using aerial photographs and data from interviews he conducted during his fieldwork, the presentation dwelled on longitudinal research on the use of landscape and the nature of rural livelihoods in two Eastern Cape villages, Koloni and Guquka.

The audience consisted of students and academics who were captivated as Prof Hebinck narrated stories of villagers and how the landscape contributes immensely to their livelihood. He gave the audience a sneak preview into how villagers use landscapes for cropping and cultivation practices, as well as gathering of wild plants.

He ended the presentation with a heartfelt plea for more emphasis and debate about deagrarianisation and reactivation of land.

"We need to take re-agrarianisation seriously as much as we need to take deagrarianisation seriously. There is need for more emphasis on government policies and academic debate about the reactivation of land," said Prof Hebinck.

According to him there is need to revisit the idea that homelands are backward and stagnating regions, and to open our eyes and see homelands as spaces of opportunity.

The highly informative presentation, was followed by a rich and vigorous engagement among members of the audience.



Prof Paul Hebinck



GMRDC HOSTS ANNUAL POSTGRADUATE DAY



Dr Tarisai Chikungwa

Mr Wandisile Sixoto

Dr Mamamelela Matlhako

Dr Motsamai Molefe

Mr Jeremiah Olusegun Ljilla

The Govan Mbeki Research and Development Centre (GMRDC) hosted its annual Postgraduate Day on 8 November in Alice.

The open day provides an opportunity for postgraduate students across faculties to present their scholarly work whilst it stimulates academic discussion. The session also allows for a constructive criticism of one's work by peers.

Guest speaker Dr Motsamai Molefe, a Senior Researcher from the Centre for Leadership Ethics in Africa spoke about the importance of investing in Postgraduate students. "If a nation or society is serious about its future it must invest in its postgraduate students, especially in a society that is information and value driven. If South Africa wants to position itself for the future, it should do what leading nations of the world do - invest in its postgraduates students", he said.

Postgraduate students must read constantly and be thoroughly trained in their particular discipline in order to be able to provide solutions to societal issues.

In his concluding remarks Dr Molefe said: "You should not aim to merely finish your research or article, but to produce quality work and master the discipline you are in".

In support, Postgraduate Studies Director, Dr Mamadi Matlhako advised: "Lack of financial support can put a strain on students. Institutions should thus endeavour to provide funding. Also, we need students that look at problems through an interdisciplinary lens".

Dr Matlhako encouraged students to always be ethical when doing their work.





IDAM HOSTS THREE-DAY COLLOQUIUM AND POLICY RETREAT

Earlier this week on 13-15 November, the Institute for Development Assistance Management (IDAM) held a successful three-day colloquium and policy retreat at the East London ICC. The theme of the conference was: South Africa's Consultative Forum on Development Assistance Management: A Reflection on Contextual Factors.

The colloquium was a collaborative effort involving the following entities: UFH, IDAM, Department of International Relations and Cooperation, National Treasury, German Cooperation, GIZ, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

The sessions sought to reflect and deepen understanding of current experiences and practices in the development assistance arena within South Africa, SADC and African Union countries. Participants included scholars, politicians, public and private sector representatives, subject matter experts and UFH staff and students.

The event was officially opened by Dr Ntombovuyo Wayi, Dean of the UFH Management and Commerce Faculty.

Delivering the keynote address, Eastern Cape Premier, Honourable Lubabalo Oscar Mabuyane said the province needs development assistance resources from development agencies representing developed countries.

“Our infrastructure landscape is neglected and needs to be modernised for it to be responsive to the needs of our people and investors. Official development assistance agencies should partner with us to improve socio-economic infrastructure such as water and sanitation, modern schools and health facilities as these will improve the quality of life of our people,” said the Premier.

Discussions and presentations on day two focused on the evolution of development cooperation in South Africa as well as the role of development assistance management in addressing unemployment in our country.

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof Buhlungu, joined the conference on the last day and delivered a short address. He also participated in closing discussions and deliberations on future steps.





UFH TRIO MAKES THE FINAL CUT IN BUDGET SPEECH COMPETITION

Three students from the Faculty of Management and Commerce - Economics department have been selected as finalists in the Nedbank and Old Mutual Budget Speech Competition.

Postgraduate students **Ms Chwayita Mkrola**, **Mr Bekhithemba Qeqe** and **Mr Ndabanhle Manyoni**, final year Economics student, are among the top students from the country's universities who were shortlisted after a rigorous judging process.

The competition has been running for 47 years and challenges economics and finance students to write an essay that speaks to the country's financial landscape. Students are grouped into undergraduate and postgraduate categories and the top 10 are selected from each category.

Therefore - **two out of the Top 10 Postgraduate** students selected nationally are from the University of Fort Hare. Likewise, **one student in the Top 10 undergraduate category** is from the University of Fort Hare!

This year, undergraduate students had to make a case for and against investing in South Africa. Postgraduate students had to write an essay on President Cyril Ramaphosa's initiatives to stimulate economic growth. This includes the \$100bn investment target, the jobs summit and the stimulus package.

The final selection of the top three winners in each category will take place in February 2020 in Cape Town. The finalists have also been invited to the 2020 Annual Budget Speech to be delivered by Finance Minister, Mr Tito Mboweni.

This is a welcome achievement for our trio and a proud moment for the Faculty, Economics department and their mentor – Dr Forget Kapingura.

*May the God of Nokholeji guide them
until the end of the competition.*



- Vice Chancellor's -
Excellence
Awards

AWARDEES: 2018 AND 2019

The recipients of the Vice-Chancellors Awards were selected after a rigorous selection process at Faculty and Institutional level. Explaining the process, Prof Vuyisile Nkonki, Director of Teaching and Learning Centre (TLC) said recipients had their practise scrutinized by the selection board and had to submit portfolios of evidence and solicit referees.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

2018 Experienced Teacher Award

- Ms Bronwyn Batchelor (Institutional Winner)

2019 Experienced Teacher Awards

- Ms Penny Jaffray (Social Science and Humanities Faculty Winner)
- Professor Munacinga Simatele (Institutional Winner)

2019 eLearning Awards

- Prof Willie Chinyamurindi (Management and Commerce Faculty Winner)
- Mr Maliviwe Mpayipheli (Institutional Winner)

2018 Developing Teacher Awards

- Ms Zukiswa Brenda Ntlokonkulu (Health Science Faculty Winner)
- Ms Kim Schmidt (Social Science and Humanities Faculty Winner)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2018 Awardees

- Dr Devandr  Boonzaaier
- Mrs Zukiswa Dasheka
- Dr Winston Hendricks, Mr Thomas Chacko and Dr Simon Luggya (School Based Project)

2019 Awardees

- Dr Nomzamo Dube, Ms Siphamandla Nyambo, Ms Zintle Nguza and Ms Chene Ward (Career guidance for Grad 9 learners in Alice)

- Dr Rianna Oelofsen, Ms Vuya Mazibuko, Dr Chris Allsobrook, Ms Lucille Hendricks, Dr Christine Hobden, Ms Thina Mnonopi, Ms Mellissa Malambile and Dr Bellita Bamda (Anti-GBV grassroots activism, community education and essential services)
- Prof Simon Kang'ethe (For continual excellence in community engagement)
- Dr Arthur Van Coller and Ms Bronwyn Batchelor (Collaboration with Masithethe NGO)

RESEARCH

2018 Emerging Researcher Award

- Dr Tapiwa Shumpa (Faculty of Law)

2018 Senior Researcher Awards

- Prof Abraham Olivier
- Prof Daniel Ter Goon

2019 Emerging Researcher Award

- Prof Sonwabile Mhwana
- Dr Tendai Chimucheka

2019 Senior Researcher Awards

- Prof Willie Chinyamurindi
- Prof Pius Tangwe Tanga



USSA STAFF SPORT PROGRAMME LAUNCH

Members of the UFH Staff Sport joined various representatives from other universities in South Africa at a launch of the University Sport South Africa (USSA) Staff Sport Programme held at the Durban University of Technology on 26 October.

The mission of the staff sport programme is to create an environment which will encourage staff sports people to strive for excellence in the workplace and in sports, while also affording participants the opportunity to interact socially and competitively.

UFH competed in two codes. The netball team made it to the finals but lost to the University of Limpopo (UL). The soccer team reached semi-finals – but also to UL, who became overall winners in the above-mentioned codes.

UFH Staff Sport teams are now preparing to go to Zimbabwe to represent the university at the upcoming Southern African University Staff Sports Association (SAUSSA) tournament scheduled for 29 November to 7 December 2019.



DAVID 'Papa' MOSS RETIRES AFTER FOUR DECADES OF SERVICE

On 31 October staff from the Finance Department bade farewell to Mr David Moss who has been with the university for almost 40 years.

Mr Moss joined the University of Fort Hare in 1981 as a finance clerk. Over the years he rose through the ranks to become a Senior Student Accounts Officer, a position he held until retirement.

Reflecting on his time at the university, Mr Moss who is fondly known as "Papa", said he was grateful to have witnessed how the finance department evolved from manual work to embracing modern day technologies.

The evolution presented travel opportunities for Mr Moss. **"Part of my work was to travel the length and breadth of South Africa to compare notes with other institutions in search of best practice for our university," he explained.**

Papa leaves behind a positive legacy. Over the years he has mentored a number of his colleagues and is viewed as a model accounts officer by many in the university community.

Former colleagues hailed him as very patient and understanding towards everybody. "He has mentored me and showed me the ropes of working in the finance department. I have learnt to execute my responsibilities with dedication and that's all thanks to Papa," said Siphokazi Ntsomi.



Mr David Moss

This Week @Fort Hare spoke to some students who described him as a "darling" who always wore a smile with a jocular yet serious approach when rendering services.

Moss will retire to a quiet life of farming where plans to spend quality time with his grandchildren.

Brains & Beauty



Mr and Miss Fort Hare competition: Top 6 receiving their prizes from the Dean of students and SRC.
Prizes included: laptops, tablets, clothing and shopping vouchers, a photo-shoot etc.

Rest in Peace



MR SIBAHLE MKIVA

First year Bachelor of Library and Information student

The funeral of the late Mr Sibahle Mkiva will take place at his home town Bisho, Hanover Location on Saturday 16 November 2019 at 10h00



Night vigil in honour of Sibahle Mkiva: Alice Campus, 6 November 2019

Upcoming Events

Interactive Meeting with Prof Loyiso Nongxa, Administrator

East London

When: 18 November 2019

Time: 1:45pm till 2:45pm

Venue: Ashton Chubb Auditorium

Bhisho

When: 20 November 2019

Time: 9:30am till 10:30am

Venue: Seminar Room 3

Alice

When: 20 November 2019

Time: 11:30am till 12:30pm

Venue: New Agricultural Auditorium

GMRDC Citation Impact Analysis Workshop

When: 18 November 2019 - Alice Campus

When: 20 November 2019 - East London Campus

UFH Libraries Book Exhibition

When: 18 - 19 November 2019

Time: 9am till 4pm

Venue: Ground Floor Training Room, Phyllis Ntantala Collaborative Library, East London

GMRDC: Mentorship for School Governors in South Africa by Dr Simon Luggya

When: 21 November 2019

Time: 1pm till 2pm

Venue: CLEA Boardroom, Stewart Hall, Alice

Early Childhood Development Centre Book Launch

When: 21 November 2019

Time: 6pm till 8pm

Venue: Miriam Makeba Building, East Londo

GMRDC: The Tripartite Matrix of Information Literacy, Critical Thinking and Every Day Life Information Seeking by Vicki L. Lawal

When: 25 November 2019

Time: 1pm till 2pm

Venue: ICT Boardroom, East London

Livestreaming to CLEA Boardroom, Alice

Psychological Services Centre (PSC) Symposium Theme: Social Perspectives on Violence in South Africa

When: 28 November 2019

Time: 8:30am till 2pm

Venue: Blue Lagoon Hotel and Conference Centre



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your weekly newsletter

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Submission deadline 5pm Tuesdays

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

This is the last edition for 2019