



News Report 2013

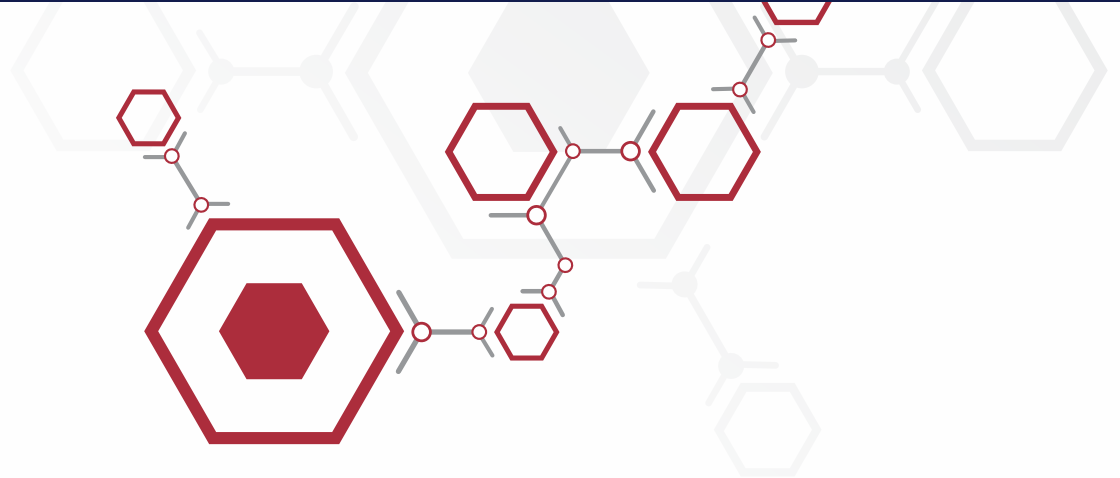
**Centre for Health Systems
Research & Development**

Sentrum vir
Gesondheidsisteenavorsing &
Ontwikkeling

UNIVERSITY OF THE
FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE
VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA
FREISTATA



UFS·UV
HUMANITIES
GEESTESWETENSAPPE





News Report 2013

Centre of Health Systems Research & Development
Sentrum vir Gesondheidsisteamnavorsing & Ontwikkeling

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2013 YEAR IN RETROSPECT TERUGBLIK OP DIE JAAR

The year 2013 was the 21st year of existence of the Centre for Health Systems Research & Development (CHSR&D).

For the year we report:

- Two completed projects.
- Five completed master's degree studies.
- Two new projects.
- One chapter.
- Six accredited articles.
- Seven international conference presentations.
- Thirteen national and local conference and other presentations.
- One completed doctoral degree study.
- One ongoing doctoral degree studies.
- Five completed master's degree studies.
- Seventeen ongoing master's degree studies.
- Two master's degree courses presented.

We are thankful for funding received in 2013 from Technology, Research, Education and Technical Assistance for Tuberculosis (TREAT TB), International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUTLD) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through Desmond Tutu Tuberculosis Centre (DTTC), University of Stellenbosch; Department of Community Health (UFS); Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) through the University of British Columbia (UBC); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American International Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center and the National Research Foundation (NRF); Directorate Research Development (UFS) and Strategic Academic Cluster for New Frontiers in Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development (UFS).

CHSR&D researchers, support staff and students are thanked for their scholarship, entrepreneurship and hard work.

Prof Christo Heunis
Director

Die jaar 2013 was die 21ste jaar van die bestaan van die Sentrum vir Gesondheidsstelselnavorsing & Ontwikkeling (SGSN&O).

Vir die jaar rapporteer ons:

- Twee voltooide projekte.
- Vyf lopende projekte.
- Twee nuwe projekte.
- Een hoofstuk.
- Ses geakkrediteerde artikels.
- Sewe internasionale konferensievoordragte.
- Dertien nasionale en plaaslike konferensie en ander voordragte.
- Een voltooide doktorsgraadstudie.
- Een lopende doktorsgraadstudies.
- Vyf voltooide meestersgraadstudies.
- Sewentien lopende meestersgraadstudies.
- Twee meestersgraadkursusse aangebied.

Ons is dankbaar vir die befondsing wat in 2013 van Technology, Research, Education and Technical Assistance for Tuberculosis (TREAT TB) en die International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUTLD) en die United States Agency for International Development (USAID) deur Desmond Tutu TB Sentrum (DTTS), Universiteit Stellenbosch; Department Gemeenskapsgesondheid (UV); Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) deur University of British Columbia (UBC); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American International Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center en die Nasionale Navorsingstigting (NNS); Direkoraat Navorsingsontwikkeling (UV) en die Strategiese Akademiese Kluster Nuwe Baanbrekers-terreine in Armoede vermindering en Volhoubare Ontwikkeling (UV) ontvang is.

SGSN&O navorsers, ondersteuningspersoneel en studente word vir hulle vakkunde, entrepreneurskap en harde werk bedank.

Prof Christo Heunis
Direkteur

THE CENTRE FOR HEALTH SYSTEMS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Background, mission, focus areas and aims

Established at the University of the Free State (UFS) in 1993, the CHSR&D stems from a rich tradition of research and training in medical sociology and sociology of health and health care. The Centre was founded specifically to address the need for social scientific and operational research and related skills in the field of health and health care. It has accumulated commendable experience and expertise in a number of fields of study and methodological approaches and maintains several local, national and international research collaborations and partnerships.

The Centre's mission is to generate and disseminate scientific knowledge and to act upon the prevailing policy, information and development needs of South Africa and its population in order to inform new policies, strategies and practices in the health systems at the local, provincial and national levels. The Centre is also committed to capacity development and postgraduate training in the domain of health systems studies.

The main focus areas:

1. The South African health system: structure and dynamics.
2. Health policies, management, programmes, institutions, human resources and related information.
3. TB prevention and control and TB-HIV programme integration.
4. HIV/AIDS and sexual and reproductive health.
5. Occupational health and related information systems.

The common denominator in all the Centre's research and development (R&D) and postgraduate training is its focus on the social (read: systems and patient/client/user) aspects of health systems, services and programmes for epidemic control.

Social R&D in the Centre takes the form of health systems research/studies, operational research and monitoring and evaluation. Given the complexity of the challenges of health, disease, epidemics, health systems and health care facing South Africa and the African continent, the need for multi disciplinary foci, skills and methodological approaches is paramount. This need is met in the Centre's research staff and associate establishment comprising academics trained in (medical) sociology, (research) psychology, education, and development studies, as well as in a variety of quantitative and qualitative research approaches and methodologies.

The Centre has set the following aims to realise its mission:

1. Meet the need for multi disciplinary R&D in the domain of health, health systems and health care.
2. Generate and disseminate research findings and information in respect of health, health systems and health care, and guide implementation of research findings into policy, management and practice.
3. Inform the strengthening of health systems with a view to greater equity, effectiveness and efficiency.
4. Actively involve staff, students and stakeholder groups in feedback on health R&D activities.
5. Provide postgraduate training and expand expertise in health, health systems and health care-related R&D.

CHSR&D STAFF



*Prof Christo Heunis
Director*



Dr Michelle Engelbrecht



Dr Asta Rau



Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen



Dr Gladys Kigozi

SENIOR RESEARCHERS

RESEARCHERS



Nandipha Jacobs



André Janse van Rensburg



*Belinda Jacobs,
Financial Officer*



*Bridget Smit,
Administrative Officer*



*Theresa Neuhoff,
Data Manager*

SUPPORT STAFF



*Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola,
Assistant Officer*



*Prof Dingie van Rensburg
(CHSR&D), Professor Extraordinary*



*Prof Helen Schneider
(School of Public Health, University of the Western Cape), Professor Extraordinary*



*Prof Herman Meulemans
(Department of Sociology, University of Antwerp), Senior Research Associate*



Prof Edwin Wouters (Research Centre for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies, Department of Sociology, University of Antwerp)

SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATES



*Prof Noddy Jinabhai
(School of Family & Public Health Medicine, University of Kwa Zulu-Natal)*



*Dr Francois Steyn
(Department of Social Work and Criminology, University of Pretoria)*



*Dr Kerry Uebel
(FSDoH; Department of Internal Medicine, UFS)*



*Letshego Nophale
(FSDoH)*



*Dr Hlengiwe Mdebuka
(Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology and Research, University of Cape Town)*

RESEARCH ASSOCIATES

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Prof Christo Heunis was elected as the Vice-Chairperson of the Free State Provincial Health Research Committee.

André Janse van Rensburg received an Erasmus Mundus EU-SATURN Grant to assist with his PhD studies, partnering with the University of Ghent.

Dr Gladys Kigozi was selected for the Vice-Chancellor's Prestige Scholars Programme (PSP).

Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola obtained her National Senior Certificate.

Staff development initiatives

Dr Michelle Engelbrecht attended a workshop on Mixed Methods Research, UFS Postgraduate School, 19 August and Mendeley Reference Manager, UFS Postgraduate School, 15 March.

Prof Christo Heunis attended a workshop on Performance Management, UFS Performance Management Team, 3 October; Workshop on Mixed Methods Research, UFS Postgraduate School, 19 August; Improving Communication through Performance Management, UFS Performance Management Team, 7 August; Indaba on National Health Insurance, UFS Faculty of Health Sciences, 6 May; and Mendeley Reference Manager, UFS Postgraduate School, 15 March.

Belinda Jacobs and Bridget Smit attended a Cognitive Management and Leadership Development course presented by Performance Development Interactive, UFS, 2-4 September.

Nandipha Jacobs attended a workshop in scientific writing skills for theses and dissertations, Language Centre, University of Stellenbosch 15-16 April.

André Janse van Rensburg attended a Special Synchronicity Forum of CHVI-funded Canadian and African prevention and vaccine teams – An African Forum: Canada's Global Health Research Initiative, Entebbe, Uganda, 17-19 January.

Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen and André Janse van Rensburg attended the UFS and SANTRUST PhD Proposal Development Programme.

Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola attended an Office Professionals – Administration Assistant course presented by Performance Development Interactive, UFS, 6-8 March.

Dr Asta Rau attended a SPSS course, UFS, 14-17 October.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Operational Research Assistance Project (ORAP): Assessment of factors associated with high 2-month sputum smear non-conversion of new smear-positive TB patients in the Free State

Mentor:

Prof Nulda Beyers (Desmond Tutu TB Centre, Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Stellenbosch University)

Principal investigator (all nine provinces):

Brenda Smuts (Desmond Tutu TB Centre, Department of Paediatrics and Child Health, Stellenbosch University)

Principal investigators (Free State Province):

Sonja van der Merwe (Tuberculosis Management Directorate, FSDoH) and Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D)

FSDoH researcher:

Dr Perpetual Chikobvu (Health Information, Research and Training Directorate, FSDoH; Department of Community Health, UFS)

CHSR&D researcher:

Dr Gladys Kigozi (CHSR&D)

Background and aims:

The Desmond Tutu TB Centre implemented a four-year Operational Research Assistance Project (ORAP), in which a series of academic institution-government health programme partnerships were established as the basis for a programme of operational research development and implementation. The goal was to build the operational research skills of South African health care professionals at local, provincial, and national levels while carrying out TB-related operations research in each province. In the Free State, the provincial TB Management Directorate, the Health Information, Research and Training Directorate and the CHSR&D partnered to examine the factors that contribute to a high 2-month smear non-conversion rate among treated new smear-positive TB patients.

The study, firstly, sought to determine these factors in a population of new sputum smear positive TB patients in the Free State Province, and secondly, examined sex-specific trends in 2-month sputum smear non-conversion in new sputum smear-positive TB patients.

Research strategy and key findings/recommendations:

A record review was conducted on routine administrative data (2003-2009) to compare sputum smear converting and non-converting patients in respect of a number of independent variables. The quantitative design entailed a record review and analysis of the data for the entire population of new smear-positive pulmonary TB diagnosed patients in the provincial TB database from January 2003 to December 2009. It was established that overall 2-month sputum smear non-conversion rates were 12.5% in males and 9.3% in females. By 2009, males had 60.0% higher risk of non-conversion than females. Given the importance of 2-month sputum conversion as an indicator of TB programme performance, this male-female differential is of concern. These findings suggest that the TB DOTS programme in the Free State needs to pay closer attention and provide better support to male TB patients to adhere to treatment.

Two manuscripts have been accepted for publication respectively in *Public Health Action* and *Journal of Public Health in Africa*.

Funding:

TREAT TB and International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUTLD) and United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through Desmond Tutu Tuberculosis Centre (DTTC), University of Stellenbosch.

COMPLETED PROJECTS

Factors that attract and retain doctors to work in rural areas in South Africa

Principal investigator:

Dr André Rose (Department of Community Health, UFS)

CHSR&D staff:

Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Bridget Smit, Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola

Background and aims:

The shortage of doctors in the rural areas of South Africa is a formidable challenge. There are, however, doctors who are willing to work in rural areas despite the challenges. The aim of this qualitative cross-sectional study was to understand the factors that attract and retain doctors to rural areas and to inform the development of strategies to improve the retention of doctors in these areas.

Research strategy and key findings/recommendations:

An appreciative inquiry methodological approach was used during data collection through focus group discussions and in-depth interviews. Data collection took place during the Public Health Association of South Africa (PHASA) and Rural Doctor's Association of South Africa's (RuDASA) joint conference in Bloemfontein, 5-7 September among a purposive sample of 14 rural doctors who attended the event. Audio recordings of the interviews and focus group discussions were transcribed and content analysis was conducted.

The factors determining the stability of the rural health force are multifaceted with a complicated link between intrinsic and extrinsic factors. Intrinsic themes which emerged included having a calling to work in an area, and a community affiliation. Extrinsic themes related to geographic location, diversity of work, team work, functional referral networks and strong management and leadership structures. Functional clinical support and referral structures were observed to be crucial to influencing retention in rural areas. Current retention strategies are based on reasons people move but these strategies are failing. A paradigm shift is required to understand the reasons why health professionals remain in rural areas and to develop strategies to encourage such.

An article has been submitted.

Funding:

Department of Community Health (UFS) and CHSR&D.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Tool, weapon or white elephant? Assessing the application of a state-of-the-art information system created for use in occupational health in South Africa

Project leader:

Prof Jerry Spiegel (UBC)

UBC staff:

Prof Annalee Yassi, Dr Elizabeth Bryce, Lyndsay O'Hara, Steve Barker and Rabia Khan

CHSR&D staff:

Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Dr Asta Rau, André Janse van Rensburg, Belinda Jacobs, Theresa Neuhoff, Bridget Smit and Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola

Department of Community Health (UFS) staff:

Prof Willem Kruger

Department of Informatics and Computer Science (UFS) staff:

Dr Eduan Kotze

FSDoH staff:

Lucky Nophale (Provincial Occupational Health Unit)

Background and aims:

The goal of the project is to evaluate the use and the perceived usefulness and impact of introducing an occupational health information system (OHASIS – Occupational Health and Safety Information System) to improve the health, safety and overall well-being of health care workers in a setting where contextual factors limit the systematic use of relevant information.

Specific objectives include to:

- Ascertain the purposes for which the information system is used.
- Assess the process flow of information.
- Evaluate if information has resulted in reduced risk and other positive or negative outcomes.
- Identify and compare the perceptions of various stakeholders regarding the ease of use and utility of OHASIS.
- Assess the factors encountered in the process of technology transfer to the research site from Canada.

Research strategy and progress:

This project is a longitudinal pre-post mixed method study at three sites: Pelonomi, Universitas and Bongani hospitals. By 2013, OHASIS was available at all three hospitals and occupational nurses and health and safety representatives were trained on its use. During 2014, individual interviews and focus group discussions will be undertaken to determine who uses the system, for what purposes as well as the perceived usefulness thereof.

Funding:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) through the University of British Columbia (UBC).

ONGOING PROJECTS

Non-uptake of HIV counselling and testing among TB patients – Part II: Evaluation of professional and community health worker training and mentoring interventions to improve TB patients' uptake of HIV counselling and testing in the Free State

Principal investigator:

Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D)

CHSR&D staff:

Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Dr Gladys Kigozi, Nandipha Jacobs, Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Dr Asta Rau, Belinda Jacobs, Theresa Neuhoff, Bridget Smit and Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola

Background and aims:

This project is a Public Health Evaluation (PHE) in the form of a quasi-experiment and uses a pre-post intervention comparative design. The aim is to increase the uptake of HIV counselling and testing (HCT) by TB patients through implementing, evaluating and comparing the (cost-) effectiveness of three different training and mentoring interventions among professional nurses and community health workers (CHWs). The PHE is taking place in four sub-districts in the Free State, randomly assigned to intervention and control groups. The CHSR&D is conducting this project in partnership with the Tuberculosis Management Directorate and the HIV & AIDS/STI and CDC Directorate of FSDoH, and as training partners, 1) University Research Co, LLC (URC-SA); 2) the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD); and 3) Right to Care.

Research strategy and progress:

Three training and mentoring interventions were implemented in 2013: the first, training and mentoring of professional nurses in provider-initiated counselling and testing (PICT); the second, training and mentoring of CHWs to encourage and counsel TB patients to undergo HIV testing and to teach them to administer and interpret the HIV rapid test; and the third, training and mentoring on both of these models. Measurement of the impact of training and mentoring interventions include, firstly, interviews with nurses, CHWs and patients; secondly, collection of patient-specific TB, HIV and HCT and routine programme statistics; and thirdly, collecting costing information in order to measure the cost and cost-effectiveness of the different interventions. Training is expected to be completed by July 2014, upon which a six-month mentoring period will follow and the follow-up survey will be conducted early in 2014.

Funding:

The project is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center, and the National Research Foundation (NRF).

ONGOING PROJECTS

Implementing and evaluating a workplace TB and HIV screening and treatment programme for health care workers: A randomised controlled trial in the Free State, South Africa

Principal Investigator (Canada):

Prof Annalee Yassi (UBC)

Co-investigator (South Africa):

Dr Kerry Uebel (Centre for Excellence, FSDoH, CHSR&D)

CHSR&D team:

Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Dr Asta Rau, Dr Gladys Kigozi, Prof Christo Heunis, Ega Janse van Rensburg Bonthuyzen, André Janse van Rensburg, Nandipha Jacobs, Theresa Neuhoff, Bridget Smit, Jo-Ann Lebaka-Ntlola and Belinda Jacobs

FSDoH team:

Letshego Nophale (Provincial Occupational Health Unit) and Dr Perpetual Chikobvu (Health Information, Research and Training Directorate)

UBC team:

Prof Jerry Spiegel, Dr Elizabeth Bryce, Lyndsay O'Hara, Dr David Moore, Dr Jane Buxton, Dr Mark FitzGerald, Dr Carlo Marra and Jackie Siegel

NIOH:

Dr Muzi Zungu

Background and aims:

This initiative developed out of findings from a series of research projects on occupational health and safety (OHS) conducted over several years by the CHSR&D in partnership with the Global Health Research Programme at the UBC, and the FSDoH. It investigates the health of health care workers (HCWs). More specifically, the trial aims to determine if a combined workforce and workplace intervention can improve health outcomes of HCWs and strengthen occupational health and infection control services in hospitals in the Free State province in South Africa.

Research strategy:

A pragmatic, cluster randomised controlled trial is being conducted at 27 public hospitals in the Free State. All hospitals will receive bi-annual workplace infection control assessments as well as workplace follow-ups when staff are diagnosed with active TB. All hospitals also provide access to voluntary and confidential TB screening and testing as well as HIV counselling and testing, TB prophylaxis for HIV-positive staff and TB treatment. In intervention hospitals, staff will conduct workplace assessments quarterly. The research team will monitor these reports and assist staff in implementing recommended infection control improvements. In intervention sites, staff, in addition, have access to HIV treatment at the occupational health unit (OHU).

Progress and preliminary findings:

In preparation for the trial, 40 occupational health nurses were trained in the management of primary conditions including TB and HIV (PALSA PLUS training) as well as in diagnosis, management, classification and registration of TB cases. As a result of this training, the nurses from the 27 OHUs were authorised by their Chief Medical Officers to provide TB treatment to staff members. The fifteen nurses from the intervention OHUs were authorised to provide HIV treatment including antiretroviral treatment for staff from their hospitals. Furthermore, the research team has been assisting the FSDoH in the process of updating provincial policies on TB infection control which will include the workplace assessments.

ONGOING PROJECTS

Implementing and evaluating a workplace TB and HIV screening and treatment programme for health care workers: A randomised controlled trial in the Free State, South Africa

A baseline facility assessment was undertaken at all 27 OHUs investigating the available human, infrastructural and equipment resources at OHUs, as well as services provided by the OHUs. Identified problems at some of the OHUs included insufficient human resources and a lack of basic equipment. Standard TB and HIV care were not always offered at all OHUs. Lack of confidentiality at the OHUs as well as the presence of HIV stigma in the workplace was also reported.

Furthermore, a questionnaire was developed to measure HIV and TB stigma among health care workers. It was piloted in one large Free State hospital, which is not part of the trial. Two hundred and twenty questionnaires were completed by a sample of health care workers broadly representative of all staff categories. Analyses of pilot data showed that the validity of the instrument is robust.

Funding:

Canadian Institutes of Health Research(CIHR) through the University of British Columbia (UBC).



Back row:

Prof Jerry Spiegel (UBC), Prof Annalee Yassi (UBC), Dr Kerry Uebel (FSDoH), Dr Asta Rau, (CHSR&D), Lucky Nophale (FSDoH), Simphiwe Mabhele of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), La Toya Stone (FSDoH) and Nandipha Jacobs (CHSR&D)

Front row:

Batseba Rametse (FSDoH), Menge Nkoba (FSDoH), Duncan Moeketsi (FSDoH) and Dr Michelle Engelbrecht (CHSR&D)

ONGOING PROJECTS

Mosamaria AIDS Ministry: Evaluation of the Orphans and Vulnerable Children's (OVC) programme in Bloemfontein and Botshabelo

Project leader: Dr Asta Rau

CHSR&D staff:

André Janse van Rensburg, Dr Gladys Kigozi, Nandipha Jacobs, Prof Christo Heunis, Jo-Anne Lebaka-Ntloa, Theresa Neuhoff and Belinda Jacobs

Department of Sociology (UFS) staff:

Prof Jan Coetzee

Counselling Centre (UFS) staff:

Kurhula (Penny) Mathumbu

Background and aims: Mosamaria AIDS Ministry, founded in 2003, is a registered Non-profit Organisation (NPO) and Faith Based Organisation (FBO) working with disadvantaged communities in Bloemfontein and Botshabelo. The evaluation focuses on Mosamaria's Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) programme, which serves 650 children. It aims to provide Mosamaria with research-based evidence on programme implementation, outcomes, programme logic and design in terms of fitness-to-purpose, effectiveness, relevance, and sustainability. The information generated can be used by Mosamaria to plan strategically for the development and ongoing improvement of the OVC programme. It will also provide a strong evidence base to support future funding applications and assist donor decisions in a

funding climate characterised by 1) diminishing funds for HIV/AIDS, and 2) donors that favour and fund proposals with a strong evidence-base.

Research strategies: Initial meetings and a scan of records confirmed that the programme is evaluable. Key components of the programme being evaluated are 1) support for food security; 2) health care education; 3) child protection; 4) educational support; 5) economic strengthening of the family; and 6) psychosocial support. Because the programme has never been evaluated before we chose to conduct a process evaluation, with key foci of this approach leading the design. This forms the basis for a full outcome evaluation in the future. There is also a theory-driven component where the programme theory/rationale will be explored in order to 1) ascertain how, and how well, interventions match the desired processes and outcomes of the programme, and 2) identify internal and external assumptions underlying the programme logic. Key findings were presented to Mosamaria's manager and to the programme co-ordinators. A workshop is planned to harness the on-the-ground expertise of facilitators in finding solutions to implementation challenges identified in the process evaluation of the OVC programme.

Funding: Directorate Research Development (UFS) and Strategic Academic Cluster for New Frontiers in Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development (UFS).



Back row: Nandipha Jacobs (CHSR&D), Letshego Rapulana (Mosamaria), Tshidi Ntho (Mosamaria), Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D), Baeto Mogoera (Mosamaria), Dr Gladys Kigozi (CHSR&D), Tshidi Bohloko (Mosamaria), Dr Asta Rau (CHSR&D), Masechaba Masoetsa (Mosamaria), André Janse van Rensburg (CHSR&D), Dinah Motsumi (Mosamaria) and Kesebeloang Setlogelo (Mosamaria)

Front row: Kelebogile Ditema (Mosamaria), Thandiwe Lefosa (Mosamaria), Mamokete Mokhele (Mosamaria), Ruth Sentimile (Mosamaria), Trudie Harrison (Mosamaria) and Shakes Mogoro (Mosamaria)

NEW PROJECTS

Developing, implementing and testing a multifaceted intervention to improve TB prevention and infection control in PHC facilities in the Free State

Project leaders:

Dr Michelle Engelbrecht and Prof Dingie van Rensburg

CHSR&D staff:

Prof Christo Heunis, Dr Gladys Kigozi, André Janse van Rensburg, Dr Asta Rau, Nandipha Jacobs, Belinda Jacobs and Bridget Smit

CSIR staff:

Katekani Ngobeni

Background and aims:

South Africa has one of the worst TB epidemics in the world. Among the 22 high-burden countries in 2012, South Africa had the highest TB incidence at 1 000/100 000 population. Amid multiple factors, the country's TB epidemic is aggravated by its high HIV prevalence and poor implementation of TB prevention and infection control (TP & IC) measures in public health care facilities. In light of these challenges, our study aims to research and develop, implement and test a multifaceted intervention strategy to enhance TP & IC in PHC facilities.

Research strategy:

A pre-post intervention design will be used comprising an intervention (Mangaung Metropolitan) and a control (Fezile Dabi) district. A first arm will involve pre- and post-intervention facility assessments of TP & IC policies, activities and measures, including interviews with professional nurses and community health workers (CHWs) working in the TB programme at all 82 clinics across both districts. In addition, exit interviews with

general and TB patients will be conducted at each facility in order to gain an understanding of patients' knowledge, attitudes, beliefs and practices about and related to TB transmission as well as the acceptability of precautionary measures. A second arm will purposely select experts in the domains of TP & IC; managers at national, provincial and district levels; and health care workers (HCWs) (nurses and CHWs) and patients (TB and general patients) from the intervention clinics to participate in group discussions and interviews to inform the development of the intervention. The multifaceted intervention to be implemented at the 44 PHC facilities in Mangaung Metropolitan will entail a number of primary intervention activities including: 1) training sessions for HCWs on TP & IC; 2) TB education and awareness campaigns for staff and patients; 3) nominating HCWs to be responsible for IC; 4) monitoring the implementation of the TB screening tool; 5) scaling up IPT implementation; and 6) encouraging HCWs' uptake of TB and HIV testing.

Lead by the CHSR&D, a team of researchers and domain experts from the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), FSDoH, UFS, Institute for Tropical Medicine (ITM), University of Antwerp and the Urban Institute will collaborate in the research, development, implementation and testing of the multifaceted intervention.

Funding:

National Research Foundation (NRF).

NEW PROJECTS

Assessing the implementation of the Integrated School Health Programme (ISHP) in Maluti-a-Phofung

Project leader:

Prof Christo Heunis

CHSR&D staff:

Nandipha Jacobs, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen and Bridget Smit

Department of Community Health (UFS) staff:

Dr Tladi Ledibane

Background and aims:

In 2012, the Integrated School Health Policy (ISHP) and accompanying Implementation Guidelines were released in South Africa. This policy forms part of government's Primary Health Care (PHC) Re-engineering Programme and is designed to offer a comprehensive and integrated package of health services to all learners across educational phases. As one of the three important components of the PHC re-engineering process, the strengthening of school health services will contribute to the strengthening of the district health system.

Research strategy:

The research will be conducted in Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality, located in Thabo Mofutsanyane – the only National Health Insurance pilot district in the Free State. The aim of the study is to describe the implementation of the ISHP in Maluti-a-Phofung. More specifically the objectives are to: 1) assess the capacity and resources available for implementation; 2) identify barriers that hamper implementation; 3) detect enabling factors and successful aspects of implementation; and 4) disseminate best practises and barriers to ISPH implementation with relevant recommendations to policymakers, managers and practitioners.

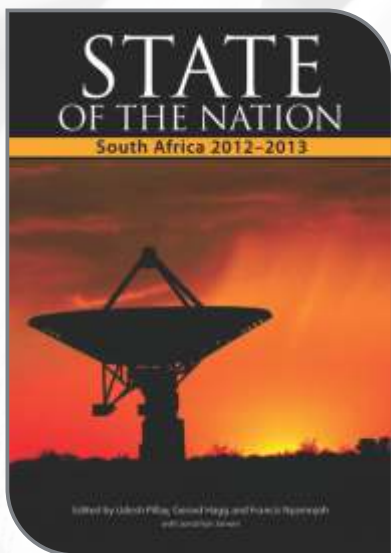
Ethical clearance from the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Education (UFS) was obtained and the research has been authorised by the FSDoH.

Funding:

Strategic Academic Cluster on Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation (UFS).

PUBLICATIONS

Chapters in books



Van Rensburg HCJ & Heunis JC

Towards greater equality and equity: Introducing health and environment. Introduction to Part 4. In: Pillay U, Hagg G and Nyamnjoh FC, with Jansen JD, (Eds).

State of the Nation: South Africa 2012-2013: Addressing inequality and poverty. Pretoria/Cape Town: HSRC Press: 469-484. ISBN: 978-0-7969-2422-3.

Accredited journal articles

Coetzee JK, Elliker F & Rau AHM

Training for advanced research in the Narrative Study of Lives within the context of political and educational transformation: A case study in South Africa. *Forum Qualitative Social Research* 14(2): Art 8.

Engelbrecht MC & Janse van Rensburg AP

Tuberculosis infection control practices in PHC facilities in three districts of South Africa. *Southern Africa Journal of Epidemiology and Infection* 28(4): 221-226.

Heunis JC, Wouters E, Kigozi NG, Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E & Jacobs N

TB/HIV-related training, knowledge and attitudes of community health workers in the Free State Province, South Africa. *African Journal of AIDS Research* 12 (2): 113-119.

Janse van Rensburg AP & Van Rensburg HCJ

Nurses, industrial action and ethics: Considerations from the 2010 South African public-sector strike. *Nursing Ethics* (1)19.

Uebel KE, Joubert G, Wouters E, Mollentze WF & Van Rensburg HCJ

Integrating HIV care into primary care services: quantifying progress of an intervention in South Africa. *PLoS One* 8(1): e54266.

Uebel KE, Lombard C, Joubert G, Fairall LR, Bachmann MO, Mollentze WF, Van Rensburg HCJ & Wouters E
Integrating of HIV care into primary care in South Africa: Effect on survival of patients needing antiretroviral treatment. *JAIDS – Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes* 63(3): e94-e100.

PRESENTATIONS

International conference presentations

Heunis JC

Preparedness for task shifting of TB/HIV services: an exploratory study among community health workers in the Free State Province, South Africa. 44th Union World Conference on Lung Health, Paris, France, 30 October - 3 November. Abstract no. OP-270-03 in *The International Journal of Tuberculosis and Lung Disease* 17(12) Supplement 2: S408-409.

Kigozi NG

Factors associated with high pre-treatment sputum smear grading in new sputum smear-positive tuberculosis patients in the Free State Province, South Africa. Symposium for Emerging Scholars in Health, Nairobi, Kenya, 15-18 July.

Kigozi NG & Heunis JC

Strengthening collaboration between TB and HIV/AIDS programmes: TB patients' perspectives about the role of DOT supporters in improving access to and uptake of HIV counselling and testing. 6th SA AIDS Conference, Durban, 18-21 June. Abstract no. 2288681. <http://www.saaids.co.za/>

Kigozi NG & Heunis JC

Association between two-month sputum smear conversion and treatment outcome for new smear-positive pulmonary TB patients in the Free State. 19th Conference of The Union Africa Region, Kigali, Rwanda, 20-22 June. Abstract no. 554. <http://www.rwandatbforum.org/images/bookofabstracts.pdf>

Liataud A, Yassi A, Engelbrecht MC, O'Hara LM, Rau A, Bryce EA, Spiegel JM, Uebel K, Zungu M, Roscoe, D, Janse van Rensburg A & Nophale LE

Building capacity to design, implement and evaluate participatory action research projects: Decreasing the burden of HIV and promoting and protecting the health and safety of the health care workforce – A South African Canadian collaboration. Afri-Can Forum: special synchronicity forum of CHVI-funded Canadian and African HIV prevention and vaccine teams. Entebbe, Uganda, 17-19 January. Abstract no. 020 in *Open Medicine* 7 (3 Suppl): S1-S72.

Rau AHM

Evaluation as a research platform for empowering and strengthening civil society organisations. 11th European Sociological Association (ESA) Conference, Turin, Italy, 28-31 August.

Stern E, Rau AHM & Cooper D

Reappraising men's sexual and reproductive health perceptions and practices from the life history narratives of South Africans living in a time of HIV/AIDS. South African AIDS Conference, Durban, 18 - 21 June.

PRESENTATIONS

National and local conference and other presentations

Engelbrecht MC, Yassi A, Spiegel JM, Janse van Rensburg A, Lockhart K & Nophale LE

Protecting the health of health care workers at three large hospitals in the Free State Province. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Heunis JC, Jacobs N, Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E & Kigozi NG

Preparedness for task shifting of TB/HIV services: a baseline survey among community health workers in the Free State. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Jacobs N, Booysen F & Wouters E

Sexual abstinence and the protective role of bonding social capital among antiretroviral treatment (ART) patients in the Free State: a prospective cohort study. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Janse van Rensburg AP, Engelbrecht MC, Spiegel JM, O'Hara LM, Bryce EA, Nophale LE, Rau AHM & Yassi A

Occupational health and safety of hospital nurses in the Free State: Results from a baseline assessment. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E, Jacobs N, Kigozi NG, Engelbrecht MC & Heunis JC

Task-shifting in practice: activities performed by community health workers in three local service areas of the Free State. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E, Jacobs N, Kigozi NG, Engelbrecht M & Heunis JC

Clinic-based lay health workers in the Free State: What are their roles? Medical Faculty Forum, UFS, Bloemfontein, 30 August.

Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E, Jacobs N, Kigozi NG, Engelbrecht M & Heunis JC

Task-shifting in practice: activities performed by

community health workers in three local service areas of the Free State. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, UFS, Bloemfontein, 20 September.

Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E & Rose A

The factors that attract and retain healthcare workers to rural areas in South Africa. 9th PHASA/AFPHA Conference, Cape Town, 24-27 September.

Kigozi NG, Chikobvu P, Heunis JC & Van der Merwe S

Association between two-month sputum smear conversion and treatment outcome for new smear-positive pulmonary TB patients in the Free State. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Kigozi NG, Chikobvu P, Heunis JC & Van der Merwe S

Factors associated with high pre-treatment sputum smear grading in new sputum smear-positive tuberculosis patients in the Free State Province. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Rau AHM, Uebel KE, Wouters E, Engelbrecht MC, Buxton J, Siegel JM, Moore D, Kigozi NG, Jacobs N, Nophale LE & Yassi A

HIV and TB stigma among healthcare workers: A pilot survey in a large Free State hospital. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Rose A & Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen E

Factors that attract South African healthcare professionals to and retain them in rural areas. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

Uebel K, Yassi A, Rau AHM, Engelbrecht MC, Nophale LE, Fitzgerald M, Bryce E, Buxton J, Moore D & Chikobvu P

Implementing and evaluating a workplace TB and HIV screening, prevention and treatment programme for health care workers: a randomised controlled trial protocol in the Free State. Free State Provincial Health Research Day, 20 September.

POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION AND COURSES PRESENTED

Completed doctoral degree studies – with supervisors

Uebel K

PhD (Internal Medicine): *Developing, implementing and evaluating a practical approach to integrating HIV care into primary health care services in the Free State.* Prof Willie

Mollentze (Department of Internal Medicine, UFS) and Prof Dingie van Rensburg (CHSR&D).

Current doctoral degree studies – with supervisors

Jacobs N

PhD (Development Studies): *Individual and situational determinants of sexual risk behaviour during the scale-up of antiretroviral treatment in the Free State.* Prof Frikkie Booysen

(Department of Economics, UFS) and Prof Edwin Wouters (Department of Sociology and Research Centre for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies, University of Antwerp).

Completed master's degree studies – with supervisors

Khan R

Master's in Science (UBC – Canada): *Stigma and confidentiality as barriers to uptake of HIV counselling and testing by healthcare workers in hospitals in Free State Province, South Africa.* Prof Annalee Yassi, Dr David Moore, Dr Jane Buxton (University of British Columbia) and Dr Asta Rau (CHSR&D).

Peresu E

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Kids having kids: Factors associated with and strategies to reduce teenage pregnancy among women attending antenatal services at Ubombo Hospital, Swaziland.* Dr Gladys Kigozi and Prof Christo Heunis (both CHSR&D).

Maphosa T

Master's in Development Studies (Centre for Development Support [CDS], UFS): *Elimination of Paediatric HIV a reality? An interim assessment of the implementation of the PMTCT program in Mutare, Zimbabwe.* Dr Asta Rau (CHSR&D).

Sibaya-Chimedza I

Master of Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *A case study evaluating the wife-accompaniment policy for long-distance truck drivers as a HIV and AIDS prevention strategy at Unifreight Pvt Ltd. in Zimbabwe.* Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D).

Nyamukapa D

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Self reported sexual behaviour among medically circumcised males in Harare and Kadoma, Zimbabwe.* Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D).

POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION AND COURSES PRESENTED

Ongoing master's degree studies – with supervisors

Dembe M

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Exploring perceptions of the effectiveness of a Médecins Sans Frontières HIV/AIDS prevention programme focused on women and girls, Buhera District, Zimbabwe.* Prof Christo Heunis and Dr Michelle Engelbrecht (both CHSR&D).

Gwara S

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *The impact of inadequate water supply and sanitation on people's health: a case study of Budiro 5 high density suburb of Harare Metropolitan Province in Zimbabwe.* Prof Christo Heunis and Dr Gladys Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Khomani F

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *HIV testing and counselling uptake in facility and community based models in Malawi.* Dr Gladys Kigozi (CHSR&D).

Hasonga N

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *The perceived health consequences of gender based violence among women supported by Plan International in Chibombo District in Zambia.* Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D).

Makgoe MIK

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Evaluating the use of PHC mobile clinics as a strategy to improve health care in the Motheo District.* Dr Michelle Engelbrecht (CHSR&D).

Masango M

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Sexuality education in the era of HIV/AIDS amongst adolescent girls: A case study of Zengeza high school in Chitungwiza high density suburb of Zimbabwe.* Dr Michelle Engelbrecht and Dr Gladys Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Mashapa F

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Reasons for low uptake by men of voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) services in Swaziland: a case study of the New Start Programme.* Prof Christo Heunis and Dr Gladys Kigozi (both CHSR&D).

Mbumwae M

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Teenage pregnancy in Mongu District: Implications for policy and youth development.* Nandipha Jacobs (CHSR&D).

Mhiti SB

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *An assessment of psychosocial support interventions: the case of orphan and vulnerable children in Harare, Zimbabwe.* Dr Michelle Engelbrecht (CHSR&D).

Moshabesha M

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *The extent and predictors of consistent condom use among youth attending an adolescent-friendly health facility in Maseru, Lesotho.* Nandipha Jacobs (CHSR&D).

POSTGRADUATE SUPERVISION AND COURSES PRESENTED

Ongoing master's degree studies – with supervisors

Motsumi M

Master's in Gender Studies (Gender Studies Programme, UFS): *The relationship between the presence of a social support system and adherence to treatment by women living with HIV in the South African Post Office (Witwatersrand Region)*. Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D) and Nadine Lake (Gender Studies Programme).

Pheleka V

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Livelihood Strategies for people living with HIV/AIDS in Chainda Community of Zambia*. Prof Christo Heunis and Nandipha Jacobs (both CHSR&D).

Sampa B

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Factors associated with men's participation in antenatal care in Kanbumba, Zambia*. Dr Michelle Engelbrecht and Prof Christo Heunis (both CHSR&D).

Sibaya-Chimedza I

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *A case study evaluating the wife-accompaniment policy for long-distance truck drivers as a HIV and AIDS prevention strategy at Unifreight Pvt Ltd. in Zimbabwe*. Prof Christo Heunis (CHSR&D).

Sibhensana B

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *The influence of social protection programmes on the livelihoods of Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Daveyton Area: Gauteng East*. André Janse van Rensburg (CHSR&D).

Sosono N

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Access to bursaries among orphans and vulnerable children in Nsanje District, Malawi*. Nandipha Jacobs (CHSR&D).

Williams H

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS): *Palliative care in the correctional setting: challenges and opportunities*. André Janse van Rensburg (CHSR&D).

Postgraduate courses presented

Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Prof Christo Heunis, Nandipha Jacobs, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Dr Gladys Kigozi and Dr Asta Rau

Master's in Africa Studies (Centre for Africa Studies, UFS)
ADD 707: Health and Health Care in Africa

Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, Prof Christo Heunis, Nandipha Jacobs, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Dr Gladys Kigozi and Dr Asta Rau

Master's in Development Studies (CDS, UFS) MDS 712/713:
Health, HIV/AIDS and Development

VISITORS TO THE CHSR&D



Visitors from University of British Columbia, Canada



Jackie Siegel, School of Population and Public Health – To undertake supervised research for his MPH practicum, May.



Anjali Ravat, School of Population and Public Health – To collect data for her doctoral study on the impact of integrating HIV treatment, care and services in primary health care in the Free State, February.



Lyndsay O'Hara, School of Population and Public Health – To collaborate on RCT and data collection for her doctoral study on the record linkage between PERSAL (human resource database) and ETR (electronic TB register) to determine the incidence rate of TB among health care workers in Free State, February.



Profs Jerry Spiegel and Annalee Yassi, School of Population and Public Health – To collaborate on RCT and OHASIS projects, February and October.



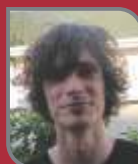
Nathan O'Hara, School of Population and Public Health – Data collection for his master's study on a best-worst scaling experiment to estimate the relative importance of attributes that might affect a health care worker's decision to utilize TB screening services in Free State, February.



Visitors from University of Antwerp, Belgium



Caroline Masquillier, Department of Sociology and Research Centre for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (CELLO) – To further her doctoral research on the moderating role of family dynamics in treatment of adults living with HIV/AIDS in the Free State Province, January.



Prof Edwin Wouters, Department of Sociology and Research Centre for Longitudinal and Life Course Studies (CELLO) – To conduct research and participate in collaborative proposal development, January.

VISITORS TO THE CHSR&D



Visitor from Institute of Social Studies in The Hague, The Netherlands



Dr James Warner Bjorkman, Professor Emeritus of Public Policy and Administration – To explore possibilities for comparative research on reforms in health systems with special attention to South Africa, India and Brazil, March.

Photo: Dr Gladys Kigozi, Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, André Janse van Rensburg, Prof James Bjorkman, Prof Christo Heunis, Dr Asta Rau and Nandipha Jacobs



Visitors from Columbia University in the City of New York, USA

Prof Catherine Cleland (International Health Systems Consultant) & **Prof Rosemary Barber-Madden** (Clinical Professor Emerita of Public Health) – To conduct an external evaluation of the American International Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center programme, February.



Visitors from National Association of State and Territorial Apprenticeship Directors (NASTAD), USA



Prof Lucy Slater (Director, Global Program) & **Cassiem Khan** (Country Director, South Africa) – To discuss collaborating in response to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) research funding announcement, November.

Photo: Cassiem Khan and Profs Lucy Slater and Christo Heunis

VISITORS TO THE CHSR&D



Visitor from University of Basel, Switzerland



Prof Manfred Max Bergman, Chair in Methodology and Political Sociology – To discuss possible collaboration in project development and provide and overview of mixed methods research designs, March.

Photo: Dr Gladys Kigozi, Prof Christo Heunis, Nandipha Jacobs, Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen, Prof Max Berman, Dr Michelle Engelbrecht, André Janse van Rensburg, Roger Kruger (student) and Dr Asta Rau



Visitors from United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Lesotho

Dr Lillian Marutle (UNFPA Representative Lesotho) and **Nestor Owomuhangi** (International Programme Specialist) – To discuss collaboration in conducting the National Needs Assessment for Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) in Lesotho, April.



Visitors from Statistics South Africa

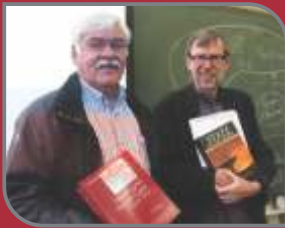
Thabo Letsoalo, Olvin Chakela, Albert Matsebatlela and Tshepang Chueu - To present Census 2011 community profile results and demonstrate the SuperCross application, January.

VISIT TO ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS IN BELGIUM AND GERMANY

Prof Dingie van Rensburg

During May and June, Prof Dingie van Rensburg undertook two visits to various overseas academic and research institutions, respectively in Belgium and Germany. The first visit was from 15 May to 2 June. In Germany he met with Prof Siegfried Geyer, Director: Institute for Medical Sociology and research leader: Medizinische Soziologie, of the Medizinische Hochschule Hannover (Medical School Hannover). Discussions

related to his group's research foci, as well as the state and trends in German and European medical sociology. In Düsseldorf he visited senior professor, Prof Johannes Siegrist, former Director and research leader at the Institut für Medizinische Soziologie at the Heinrich Heine University in Düsseldorf and had discussions on his current research, and on the state and trends in German medical sociology.



Profs Dingie van Rensburg
and Wim van Damme



Prof Anne Buvé



Prof Dingie van Rensburg
and Dr Leen Rigouts



Prof Piet Bracke



Profs Dingie van Rensburg
and Johannes Siegrist



Profs Dingie van Rensburg,
Francis Van Loon, Caroline
Masquillier and Prof Herman
Meulemans

In Belgium he visited colleagues at the University of Louvain, emeritus Prof Jef Verhoeven at the Department of Sociology and Dr Caroline Gijssels, Research Manager of the Research Institute for Work and Society (HIVA). From Louvain he proceeded to Antwerp, where he had a series research project-related discussions on TB prevention with researchers at the Department of Sociology (Profs Herman Meulemans, Francis Van Loon, Edwin Wouters and doctoral student Caroline Masquillier), and at the Institute of Tropical Medicine

(Profs Anne Buvé, Bob Colebunders, Wim Van Damme, and Dr Leen Rigouts). With a view to future collaboration and exchange, he also visited Prof Piet Bracke, Head of the Department of Sociology, University of Ghent.

The second visit from 11 to 20 October – on invitation of the University of Antwerp to the ten-year jubileum celebrations of the amalgamated University on 15 October – was to Antwerp only.

VISIT TO ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS IN BELGIUM AND GERMANY

On 15 October, Prof Van Rensburg participated as invited podium guest (with Prof Herman Meulemans) on the keynote: "Universiteit Antwerpen: grenzeloos zijn: de universiteit als een plek midden in de wereld, waar kennis grenzeloos is", and with specific reference to Nelson Mandela, as icon for "de universiteit zonder grenzen".

On 17 October he was guest professor at the Department of Sociology (University of Antwerp) and

presented to master's students and staff on the theme: "South Africa's health system and policies: evolution, structures, deformities, deficiencies".

On 18 October he presented a guest lecture for staff and postgraduate students at a Seminar of the Institute of Tropical Medicine on "Recent reforms of the South African health system: a cure-all or heading for disaster?"

OTHER NEWSWORTHY EVENTS

Prof Christo Heunis

- Represented the UFS Faculty of the Humanities on the UFS Faculty of Health Sciences Faculty Board.
- Served as member of the Free State Provincial Health Research Committee.
- Served as member of the Research Committee of the Health Systems Trust.
- Reviewed articles for *African Journal of AIDS Research* and *Journal of Public Health Policy*.
- Attended a consultative meeting on the National Health Insurance plan, Pretoria, 8 November.
- Attended the National Department of Health Budget Votes Speech, Cape Town, 15 May.
- Attended the National Tuberculosis Workshop, Pretoria, 11 April.
- Attended a country seminar of the Flemish Inter-University Council (VLIR-UOS) University Cooperation for Development, Johannesburg, 12 April.
- Attended the National Consultative Health Forum, Boksburg, 28 March.
- Attended 9th PHASA Conference in collaboration with AFPHA, Cape Town, 24-27 September.

Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen

- Attended 9th PHASA Conference in collaboration with AFPHA, Cape Town, 24-27 September.

Dr Asta Rau

- Served as a member of the UFS Faculty of Education Ethics Committee.
- Served as a member of the UFS Faculty of Humanities Ethics Committee.
- Examined a UCT Master's thesis in Public Health

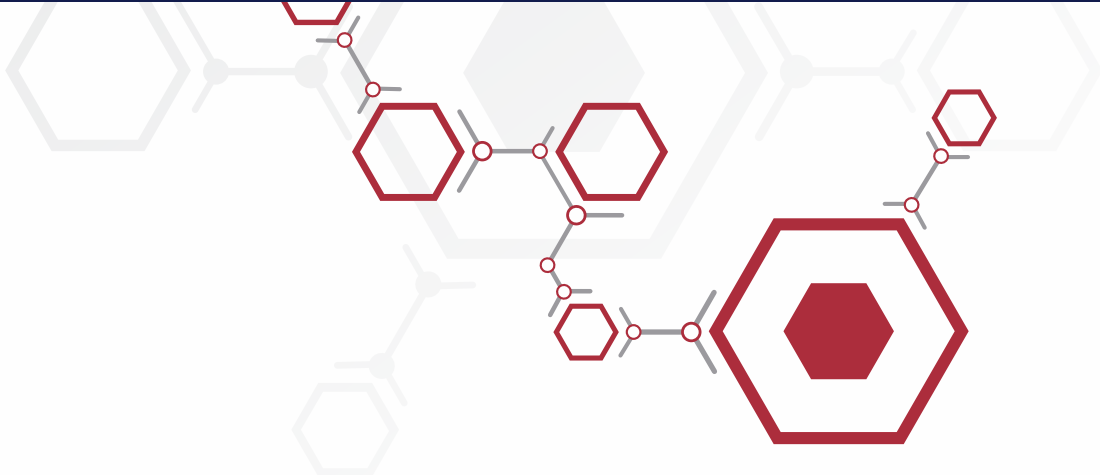
Prof Dingie van Rensburg

- Reviewed articles for *Development Southern Africa* and *Global Health Action*.
- Reviewed chapters for *South African Health Review 2013*.

GRATITUDE

With this News Report, we express our sincere gratitude to all those funders who in recent years, and especially during 2013, so generously supported the efforts of the CHSR&D in its endeavours to contribute to a better society and health system in the Free State and South Africa:

- African-Asian Society (AAS)
- American International Health Alliance (AIHA) HIV/AIDS Twinning Center funded by CDC through PEPFAR
- Andrew Mellon Foundation
- Atlantic Philanthropies
- Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)
- Bristol-Myers Squibb
- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA)
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR)
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC USA, South Africa)
- Department of Community Health, UFS
- Department for International Development (DfID, UK) via HLSP
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ) via Health Focus GmbH
- Desmond Tutu TB Centre (DTTC), Stellenbosch University
- Development Cooperation Ireland (DCI)
- Development Economics Research Group (DERG), World Bank
- Directorate Research Development, UFS
- Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (DDCF)
- European Union (EU)
- Flanders International Cooperation Agency (FICA)
- Ford Foundation
- Free State Department of Health (FSDoH)
- Global Health Research Initiative (GHRI)
- Health Systems Trust (HST)
- HIVCare (an operating division of Medicross Healthcare Group)
- Infectious Disease Epidemiology Unit (IDEU, University of Cape Town)
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC, Canada)
- International Projects Advisory Service (Ipas)
- International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease ("The Union")
- Joint Economics, Aids and Poverty Programme (JEAPP)
- Medical Research Council of South Africa (MRC)
- National Research Foundation of South Africa (NRF)
- Netherlands Support Programme, World Bank
- Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA)
- Programme to Support Pro-Poor Policy Development (PSPPD)
- Research Matters (IDRC)
- Save the Children (UK)
- South African-Flemish Bilateral Scientific and Technological Cooperation Programme
- South African Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU)
- State University of New York Downstate Medical Center (SUNY-DMC)
- Strategic Academic Cluster for New Frontiers in Poverty Reduction and Sustainable Development, UFS
- Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
- Technology, Research, Education and Technical Assistance for Tuberculosis (TREAT TB)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United States President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)
- United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
- University of British Columbia (UBC)
- University of the Free State (UFS)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- WK Kellogg Foundation



Centre for Health Systems Research & Development Sentrum vir Gesondheidsisteamnavorsing & Ontwikkeling

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