

NUST ups the ante on technology

NUST has launched a pilot project which makes iPads available to students and staff members in the Emergency Medical Care programme. The initiative is aimed at facilitating teaching and learning with new innovative endeavours. The iPads were availed earlier this year by PC Centre and they are collectively valued at N\$132 000.

The devices are programmed with Applications that allow students to perform medical procedures on patients in a virtual set-up, thus reducing the amount of face-to-face teaching.

The Vice-Chancellor, Dr Tjama Tjivikua said a paradigm shift is needed for meaningful change to take place within the learning system.

"How do we make our educational system relevant to the changing needs of our times? How do we ensure that more of our staff members are trained so as to harness the potential offered by the range of emerging technologies? What types of innovative pedagogic practices should our staff introduce to cater for the needs and preferences of the new student? How do we enhance the alignment between universities, the labour market and the needs of young people?" Tjivikua asked.

He added that these are the questions the University will have to collectively find answers to as it is "Re-imagining University Engagement in the Knowledge Economy".

Fidelius Kanyetu, one of the students shared his experience: "Initially I was sceptical about the project as I felt having an iPad would be a distraction to my studies, but now I have a completely different experience. I am managing my schedule better and I am also interacting more effectively with my classmates."

Core Group South Africa provided training on the use of the devices and this has empowered lecturers to collaborate, remediate, problem-solve, assess and communicate to further enhance learning.

There are future plans to roll-out the project to other programmes at the Institution.



Front from left: Wynand Diergaardt, Deputy Director: Centre for Open and Lifelong Learning; Nadine Seymour, Head: Department of Health Sciences; Matthew Grose, Commercial Director: Core Group Africa; Dr Sehaam Khan, Dean: Faculty of Health and Applied Sciences; Alex Zacharia, Owner: PC Centre; Dr Tjama Tjivikua, Vice-Chancellor: NUST; Joseph Gandiya, Co-owner: PC Centre; Dr Delvaline Möwes, Director: Centre for Open and Lifelong Learning and Vinay Juggoo, Business Development Africa Manager: Core Group Africa, pictured with students and staff.

Sanlam increases capital for start-ups



Ilke Platt-Akwenye, Marketing and Communications Manager: Sanlam Namibia (third from left) and Dorothea Mischo, Director: NBII (fourth from left) pictured with winners of the competition, and NBII staff.

Sanlam Namibia has announced that as from this year, winners of the annual Sanlam Innovation Works Competition will receive N\$50 000 each to boost their businesses. Previously the beneficiaries received N\$20 000 each.

The Competition provides a public platform to offer start-up funding for projects at early-stage developments that address key issues in innovation. In the ever-changing industry, Sanlam Namibia believes that innovation can have an impact on all members of society. The winners will receive mentorship, training and advisory services from the Namibia Business Innovation Institute (NBII), and Sanlam Namibia.

The winners are Foster Digital Education Group, Lomoshi Trading, Omuro Firefighters, Stec Leather and Worldview Investments.

These start-ups were selected from over 80 entrants for having the most viable business plans. Addressing the group, Ilke Platt-Akwenye, the Manager for Marketing and Communications of Sanlam Namibia, said: "It is important to 'teach

you how to fish' and to support you along the way with mentorship and training in order to make your businesses more sustainable, than just to hand you the fish."

The chosen start-ups focus on a range of innovative ideas from soilless farming to the manufacturing of eco-sustainable toilets.

Dorothea Mischo, reassured the entrepreneurs that they will receive all the assistance they need to ensure their success. "You will be mentored for an 8-month period, but please remember that our doors are open to you even after this time has lapsed."

The entrepreneurs with the project that proves to be the most viable will be awarded an additional N\$25 000 at an awards ceremony taking place in November.



Ralf Uunyuni, a NUST alumnus, photographed at a car show in Switzerland.

Alumnus shares Swiss experience

As part of the B360 Education Partnerships Internship Programme, Ralf Uunyuni, a Bachelor of Economics graduate, spent three months working at Credit Suisse, commonly referred to as the Swiss Bank. Uunyuni was still a NUST student at the time and this was part of his Work Integrated Learning (WIL) programme.

Through B360, European experts teach at institutions of higher education in Africa on a voluntary basis and African students complete internships in Europe. Students apply for the positions through NUST and afterwards interviews are conducted to select the 'cream of the crop'.

"Working at the Swiss Bank was not only a chance of a life-time for me, but it gave me the opportunity to put my theoretical knowledge to practice. My tasks were not a walk in the park. Each day the work became more demanding, but I am grateful because I had many colleagues to help me so I managed to handle the pressure," Uunyuni said. His tasks were mainly focussed on the investment services of the bank.

"I would really urge my fellow young people

to take advantage of the many opportunities available to travel abroad. I have become a more open-minded person, someone who wants to learn new things and invest in my country. One of my highlight was going to a car show in Geneva. I will never forget this experience," he added.

The students' air tickets to Switzerland are sponsored by B360 and they are totally immersed in the Swiss business culture and social life as they are also accommodated by host families.

Being a Swiss-based organisation, B360 places students at companies in Switzerland such as Credit Suisse, Deloitte, KPMG and Swiss Quality Testing Services. In the past three months, seven NUST students have benefitted from this programme.

YOU ARE INVITED TO A BUSINESS BREAKFAST:

Belinda Holdsworth, Site Manager in External Manufacturing, Biologics at F Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd (Switzerland), and Joe Wildfire, Knowledge Manager at F Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd (Switzerland) will facilitate a Business Breakfast titled: *Change Management in today's Times of Austerity*.

Date: 07:15-09:30

Fee: N\$250

Venue: Harold Pupkewitz Graduate School of Business

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