



SAFRI NEWSLETTER - August 2013

Distance learning programme

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Distance Learning Programme:

2012 & 2013 Fellows started the new module on the 22 July, titled "Understanding and managing others".

Some of the 2012 Fellows had to work hard to catch up the missed modules while away at SAAHE and Session 5 but I am sure are back on track and enjoying this very useful management module

Try to keep up with the TMA's as best possible as it will avoid you having to cope with a backlog later on.

Please let Julia or Dot know if you are facing any difficulties.



*2012 & 2013
Fellows*

DURBAN - Session 5 (2012 Fellows)

2012 Fellows attend Session 5 in Durban

The class of 2012 and Faculty members attending SAAHE, as well as those involved in Session 5 teaching, arrived on the 25 June to a warm and sunny Durban. The Gateway Hotel by the 26th June was buzzing with excitement as medical educationalists arrived from different parts of sub-Saharan Africa and in some cases from even further afield for the SAAHE Conference.

SAFRI members presenting at SAAHE were soon meeting up with one another and members from different years and used the opportunity to share knowledge and experiences from their different areas of interest and expertise.

Session 5 started early on the morning of the 26th June, an account of which can be found on the following page by Hannes Coetser.



Gateway Hotel - Gateway, DURBAN



SAFRI Class of 2012

Special points of interest:

- SAFRI Session 5
- Graduation—2012 Fellows
- SAFRI 5-year Celebration
- SAAHE 2013
- SAFRI Fellows awards & publications
- Important news items from Fellows past and present



SESSION 5 - (continued) *(Special moments and highlights)*

Impression of Session 5 by Hannes Coetser

SAFRI session 5 represented the drawing together of many strings that were certainly very untied a mere year and a half ago. In both a literal and figurative sense, we had all journeyed a long way. SAFRI was celebrating its fifth birthday in style; the 2012 fellows were celebrating our transformation. Friendships forged during the very first rotation were galvanised when we met in Durban, experiences were shared and new knowledge was gained.

About a month before the rotation, the 2012 fellows received a surprise e-mail from Juanita Bezuidenhout, informing us that we had been divided into two teams, tasked with creating and presenting a faculty development workshop on the topics of blueprinting and multiple choice questions respectively. What was intended to be ordinary sessions on singular topics became extraordinary, a culmination of skills and knowledge gained through the fellowship: communicating with colleagues, leadership, conflict management, drawing up a syllabus and developing a workshop, to name but a few.

As the SAFRI rotation and the SAAHE conference coincided, the fellows were fortunate enough to see each other in action during poster and oral presentations. We were struck by how much we have grown as scholars and how confident each fellow appeared.

Undoubtedly, a major highlight of the final rotation was the graduation ceremony. SAFRI faculty, alumni and fellows shared emotional moments as we reflected on what we had meant to and learnt from each other. Allow me to share the comment I made that evening, as I think that it is not only applicable to the faculty, but also the whole teaching community: never underestimate the power that a teacher possesses to speak positivity into the lives of students.

Thank you for believing in us.



2012 Fellows in Session 5



MCQ Team



Blueprinting Team

SAFRI Graduation 2012 Fellows: 29 June 2013

12 SAFRI Fellows received their certificates and SAFRI badges on the 29th June 2013. It was an emotional experience for all who attended as each of the Fellows was introduced by Vanessa and Juanita and then each Fellow was given the opportunity to express their thoughts and feelings regarding their entry and growth in the SAFRI programme, over the past 18 months.

Some of the Faculty also expressed their thoughts on this milestone achieved by the Fellows and it was generally a time of sincere sharing and pride in the Fellows achievements.



Faculty & Fellows at Graduation



Graduating Fellow



Abby & John



Some important people!

SAFRI 5-Year Celebration Dinner

(Special moments and highlights)

The SAFRI 5-Year Anniversary dinner was held at the Gateway Hotel in Durban on Saturday 29th June at 19h00.

58 guests attended with representatives from FAIMER, SAAHE Council, Deans of Universities, SAFRI Faculty and Fellows. It was significant that we had representation by Fellows from each of the years of SAFRI's existence 2008 – 2013.

The large room accommodated 6 round tables of 10 people. The tables were decorated in the FAIMER/SAFRI colours of burgundy and green. The tablecloths were in burgundy with green overlays and serviettes. A glass centre piece supported a container of deep red roses.

On one wall, two screens were erected onto which photos of SAFRI members who attended the various sessions during the past 5-years was projected. There were some very special and humorous moments recorded in these photos which flashed up briefly on a rotating basis.

The Photos were collected by Juanita from various SAFRI members.

Liz Wolvaardt had requested music from all the SAFRI members. They were asked to submit their favourite song, which should also symbolize or remind them of SAFRI.

A very interesting collection of music was obtained which was heard in the background throughout the evening.

Welcome drinks and snacks were served in the foyer, while everyone gathered, before moving into the dining area.

Juanita Bezuidenhout was the master of ceremonies. She welcomed everyone, and gave the first speech, followed by John Norcini and Vanessa Burch. Also Corne Postma a past Fellow spoke on behalf of the Fellows. SAFRI badges were given to some of the special guests by Vanessa. Both Vanessa and Juanita spoke of their past roles in SAFRI and officially handed over the programme leadership to Di Manning and Jacky van Wyk.

The excellent variety of food was served in a buffet style and was followed by desserts, which was equally appreciated and revisited by most. Bottles of red and white wine were available on each of the tables.

At the end some of the fellows expressed their appreciation and joy by treating us to some impromptu dancing.

A great evening was had by all.



The call to dinner!



The fun table!



The important table!



The serious table!



The speech maker!



The mafia!

SAAHE - 2013

(hosted by KwaZulu-Natal University)

SAAHE Conference - Gateway Hotel Durban

Impressions of SAAHE by Abigail Dreyer

As I collected my conference pack to the 6th National conference of the South African Association of Health Educationalists in the foyer of the Gateway Hotel, in Umhlanga, I remember being drawn to the caption at the bottom of the abstract book that read *Inspiring Greatness*. The SAAHE guest speakers had 3 out of the 4 being FAIMER faculty.

The 2012 fellows were feeling inspired already, having completed their final contact session and getting geared to present at the conference. The opening ceremony had a SAFRI presence and so from the start of the conference the SAFRI thread was woven through the tapestry of proceedings. In true KZN style and just like a hot curry, the programme was quite a bit to digest. This resulted in the need to apply principles of sound decision-making combined with principles of tenacity and stick to the decision you made about what sessions to attend. The themes covered community engagement and service learning; teaching, learning and assessment; curriculum; social accountability; e-learning and technology; faculty development; ethics and professionalism; transformation; quality assurance; general health sciences; student selection, support and retention and a theme called work in progress.

A total of 4 oral presentations and 9 poster presentations were done by 2012 fellows and countless workshops, oral presentation and poster presentations by other SAFRI fellows and Faculty.

The photos taken at the final dinner dance hosted by SAAHE definitely tell a story and the evening was clearly a blast!



SAFRI - Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held at the Gateway Hotel on Friday 28 June 2013. Thirty six SAFRI members were present.

Prof Vanessa Burch chaired the meeting.

Important matters arising from the meeting:

SAFRI is now registered as a Section 21 non-profit company (sub-Saharan Africa FAIMER Regional Institute)

The first meeting of the Board of Directors was arranged for the 1 August via SKYPE.

The Directors Report revealed a very impressive list of publications and presentations that have been given by SAFRI Faculty and Fellows during the course of the year. It was decided that more should be done to collect these achievements and that they should be published in a glossy report.

The Financial Report was accepted and together with the Directors Report will be circulated to all members.

SAFRI NEWS ITEMS:

SAFRI is proud to include the following important news items received from Faculty and Fellows.

Please keep your news items coming in, so they can be included in our Newsletters.

Presentations:

Milly Kabanga (SAFRI 2011 Fellow) Uganda

Milly presented her keynote address at the Transforming Health Professionals' Education Conference, 12—14 June 2013, in Nairobi, organized by the Eastern Africa health Professions' Educators Association (EAHPEA), specifically focussing on "Inter-professional and Trans-professional - How to learn with and from other professionals"

Milly tells us that it was a wonderful experience to give this maiden keynote speech. Well done Milly you have made SAFRI proud!



Ludo Badlangana (SAFRI 2012 Fellow) Botswana

I was invited to participate as a faculty member at the International Brain Research Organisation (IBRO) 6th Teaching Tools School and Workshop that was held at Rabat, Morocco from 06th – 12th June 2013. I also presented a lecture on Olfaction.

The course was designed primarily for young faculty who have been teaching an aspect of Neuroscience (such as Neuroanatomy, Neurophysiology, Neuropharmacology) on the African continent for less than five years.

The aim of this School was to provide tools and a framework for teaching Neuroscience in African countries. I learnt so much from this experience. I was able to use my experience in SAFRI to better deliver my presentation and share my love for teaching with an amazing group of people!



Lastina Lwatula (SAFRI 2008 Fellow) Zambia

Lastina recently made two presentations (1 oral and 1 poster) on her work in the region at the ICN Congress in Melbourne, Australia.



Publications:

Gonzaga Mubuuke (SAFRI 2009 Fellow) Uganda

Mubuuke recently published a research article titled: "Participatory action research: the key to successful implementation of innovations in health professions education"; African Journal of Health Professions Education 2013;5(1):pp30—33.

SAFRI as well as Uganda can be proud of your continuing work and research in medical education!



Hester Julie (SAFRI 2010 Fellow) South Africa

A research article by Kennedy, M & Julie, H. "2012 Nurses' experiences and understanding of workplace violence in a trauma and emergency department in South Africa"

UWC Research Repository <http://hdl.handle.net/10566/672>

Another valuable contribution for nurses in South Africa!



Publications continued:

Fikile Mtshali (SAFRI 2008 Fellow) South Africa

Sindi Mthembu (SAFRI 2010 Fellow) South Africa

Fikile and Sindi have published the following article, titled: "[Conceptualisation of knowledge construction in community service-learning programmes in nursing](#)"; *Curationis Journal*, 36 (1) 2013.

A great example of SAFRI collaboration on common areas of interest!



Appointments and Promotions:

Maaike Flinkenflogel (SAFRI 2012 Fellow) Rwanda

Maaike was recently promoted to the acting head of the Family and Community Medicine Department (FAMCO) at the National University of Rwanda.

I am sure the SAFRI Leadership skills will be most useful to you Maaike! We wish you everything of the best as you endeavour to keep advocating and developing family medicine in Rwanda and also improving the training of medical undergraduates in community medicine to ensure that medical doctors are sensitive to the community health needs of the Rwanda population.



Special Visit & Presentations - Stewart Mennin

Stewart Mennin (International Faculty member of FAIMER)

Stewart will be in South Africa in September this year and presenting on the following dates and venues. Please make a note in your diaries if you are able to attend.

- A presentation on issues of integration in curriculum at UCT on Friday 13 September
- A workshop on research in medical education at WITS on 17 September 2013,
- A presentation at a Teaching and Learning Symposium at WITS on 18 September 2013.



Inaugural Presentation - Juanita Bezuidenhout

Juanita Bezuidenhout (FAIMER Fellow 2005, SAFRI Faculty)

Special mention needs to be made of the inaugural presentation which was given by Juanita at the Stellenbosch University on Wednesday 24 July 2013.

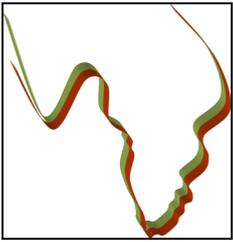
Her lecture title was: "Finding a home for my professional soul"

Some of the SAFRI Fellows and Faculty were able to either listen in or attend this very special occasion, but for those who couldn't, there will be a podcast and a Youtube clip shortly. Juanita has promised to give us the link as soon as it is available.

I am sure Juanita's topic will have resonated with many of our SAFRI Fellows.

Well done Juanita and thank you for making it possible for so many to share in this auspicious occasion with you.





SAFRI

Dept. of Medicine
University of Cape Town
Anzjo Rd
Observatory 7925

Phone: (021)534 8363
Fax: (021)413 0112
E-mail: dbransby@gmail.com
Website: <http://safri.faimerfri.org>



Editor of Newsletter
Dot Bransby

In 2005 the FAIMER programme was expanded to developing countries by setting up regional institutes, 3 in India, 1 in Brazil and 1 in South Africa, based on the USA model, but tailored to the unique local needs of the host country/region.

The sub-Saharan Africa FAIMER Regional Institute (SAFRI) programme is presented by the SAFRI voluntary membership association in Africa in cooperation with FAIMER. It aims to improve the quality of health care of sub-Saharan Africa communities by improving health professions education.

To date there are fellows from South Africa, Sudan, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia, Madagascar, Botswana, Ethiopia, Rwanda and Tanzania.

New additions to the SAFRI - "family"

Benjamin Graham Coetser (Ben) son of Hannes Coetser (SAFRI 2012 Fellow)

Ben was born on 24 May 2013, weighing in at 3.33 kg.

"He is a joyful little boy, loves his evening bath time! The penguin from Uncle Zerihun and the bunny from Aunty Glynis watches over him from his dresser, while he loves listening to the Mr. Men stories that the SAFRI Fellows got him"



Annabelle Jane Rowe daughter of Michael Rowe (SAFRI 2010 Fellow)

Annabelle was born on 3 July 2013, weighing in at 3.3 kg

"She enjoys long walks outside, classical music and bath time. However, she is averse to sleeping at any time during the day or night, and goes to great lengths to avoid this!"

