

SAFRI NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2014

Distance learning programme

Distance Learning Programme:

The SAFRI Distance Learning Portal is up and running smoothly. Fellows are able to access their course material; get course-related updates; chat to other fellows regarding the coursework; and also access their tutor-marked assessments (TMA's).

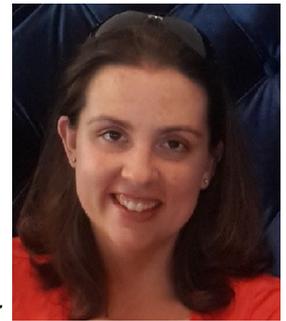
The first year fellows, have just started their Theme 2 module, which deals with *Educational Management and Leadership; Understanding and Managing Self*. Their first TMA is due on 13 April

The second year fellows, are busy with their last distance learning module from **Theme 3: Student Assessment**. Fellows had to choose one elective from the following: *Introduction to Assessment—Overview, OSCE; or MCQ*. Their first TMA is due on 20 April 2014.

I look forward to this new SAFRI distance learning portal being a space where fellows can openly share and learn together!

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on snicol247@gmail.com
Good luck with your studies!!

Susan Nicol



Susan Nicol

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Session 1 and 3 in Cape Town

SAFRI Sessions 1 and 3 in Cape Town

We welcomed 15 new Fellows to the SAFRI programme for Session 1, sadly one of the Fellows Ganiat Omoniyi-Esan was unable to obtain her Visa in time to travel to Cape Town and will therefore only be joining the programme possibly next year. The sessions were held once again at the Newlands Southern Sun Hotel. Session 1 starting on the morning of the 5 March.

The 2013 Fellows joined the new fellows for Session 3 on the 9th March. Poster Day was held on the 10 March and was once again a highlight, proving to be a wonderful opportunity for the 1st Years to see what was install for them and for the 2nd Years to present their work to an appreciative audience, who could also add value and ideas for changes before they present at SAAHE Conference in June 2014.

It was wonderful to finally put faces to the names of those that we had been corresponding with over the previous months. At the end of the time together it was evident that great friendships and future collaborations had been discovered and most left feeling that SAFRI had been a stimulating and worth-while experience.

Our best wishes go to the 2013 Fellows who will be presenting at SAAHE in June later this year.

Special points of interest:

- Distance Learning program continues
- SAFRI Session 1 & 3
- SAFRI Poster Day
- Important news items from Fellows past and present
- Publications & Achievements
- SAAHE 2014 details

SAFRI - 2014

(Session 1 - Reflections and highlights)

SAFRI Session 1: 5 March to 11 March (by Grace Phalwane)

I appreciate and thank SAFRI for my selection onto the programme. It could not have come at a better time! I have been trying to do research but became overwhelmed every time. The lack of knowledge and confidence took its toll on my academic life. I just could not get support to take off, so it has been very hard for me.

Coming over to Cape Town was extremely refreshing! Everything was prepared for us from the reading material, classroom arrangement and all necessary materials at our noses. The manner in which we were welcomed was also good. We did not waste any time but got straight to the programme. I learnt so much to respect time from this exercise. Facilitators were so full of enthusiasm, life and energy, which kept us going every day.

I remembered my undergraduate life, how busy and hard it was. The SAFRI way has been divine; I learnt a lot of things in a funny way, it was enjoyment during learning. I felt so good and purposed in my heart that it is an excellent method and a growing experience came from the hard work.

A small discomfort was working over the weekends! I felt the brain needed time to decode and consolidate the work for maximum learning to occur.

Lastly, I found my research home where things are going to happen.

That gives me so much peace!

I appreciate the opportunity to look back at the programme again.

2014 Fellows - Session 1



SAFRI - 2014

(Session 3 - Special moments and highlights)

SAFRI Session 3: 9 March to 13 March (by Klaus von Pressentin)

On 8 March 2014 the 2013 SAFRI fellows gathered again in Newlands. A year has passed since our last contact session – a year in which we managed to complete an educational innovation project in our own setting, whilst balancing career, family and life. The leap from March 2013 to March 2014, however seemed instantaneous and uninterrupted, when we met again over dinner. The fellow resumed conversations from a year ago and cheerful greetings were extended towards each returning fellow. Stories were shared of personal growth and collaboration opportunities: one of the fellows has visited another fellow in her home country as an invited speaker – a great demonstration of the amazing resource potential of the SAFRI network.

On 9 March 2014 we were greeted by the 2014 fellows with a new SAFRI tradition of dance and song. And then Poster Day 2014 (10 March 2014) was upon us – a day that erased all doubts and anxiety about our projects and posters, as the faculty, visitors and fellows interacted in such a supportive manner and inspired us to build on our projects.

The rest of the contact session consisted of quality educational interaction with each other and the faculty. It was really good to meet with the familiar and new faculty members (including those we recognised as 2012 SAFRI fellows!). The sessions helped us to build on the existing knowledge base of the first contact session and the distance learning material: from conference presentations to curriculum design, from OSCEs to portfolios, and from interactive teaching to faculty development. The challenge of transformative education and learning for the 21st century health professionals was addressed from various angles and it was clear that we should look at a shift towards developing and enhancing graduate attributes in our students and colleagues.

The March 2014 contact session was a balanced combination of fun, teamwork and shared learning. Our friendships have grown and the SAFRI family network has become a tangible reality.

2013 Fellows - Session 3



SAFRI - 2014

(Poster Day)

Feedback on Poster Day by Jose Frantz (Faculty member and 2008 Fellow)

“Well done to the 2013 fellows on presenting some excellent projects.

To the 2014 fellows, it is important to make an impact. In the projects presented, the SAFRI projects were used to:

1. Reach consensus on curriculum alignment;
2. Highlight gaps in existing academic programmes;
3. Create an awareness around a need ;
4. Assess feasibility of introduction of new programmes.

What we need to realise is that all these components or aspects are important for implementing change”

Video coverage of the plenary sessions:

The plenary sessions were videoed and many people have made enquiries about obtaining these recordings. SAFRI is investigating the most efficient and safest method of uploading these recordings for sharing and will notify everyone on the listserv as soon as they are uploaded.



Juanita opening the proceedings



Early start - Jan still eating!



Much to talk about and share!



Visitor from Lesotho with Di & Ralf



Visitor Prof Couper contributes to the discussions



Prof Marietjie de Villiers chairs one of the sessions



Jane Namatovu's Poster



Bernhard Gaede's Poster



Milly Morkel's Poster

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 include in our Newsletters.

New qualification

Liz Wolvaardt (SAFRI Faculty and 2011 Fellow)

Corne Postma (SAFRI Faculty and 2011 Fellow)

Karien Mostert-Wentzel (SAFRI Faculty and 2008 Fellow)

Congratulations to the above 3 SAFRI members who have each obtained their PhD Degrees in the last year.

It was great to have all three of you teaching at the recent SAFRI sessions, putting back into SAFRI all the experience and knowledge you have gained.

I am sure you are a great inspiration and example for the other fellows to strive towards.



Liz Wolvaaardt, Corne Postma & Karien Mostert-Wentzel

Publications:

Ben van Heerden (SAFRI Faculty) South Africa

SAFRI has another book chapter author in Ben! The following news flash was sent out by FAIMER:

“FAIMER is proud to announce the publication of a new book on community based education (CBE) .

Titled: *Community Based Education in Health Professions: Global Perspectives*, the book was published in January 2014 by the World health Organization.

The book’s contributors include FAIMER Fellows Valdes Bollela from Brazil, Dina El-Metwally from Egypt and Ben van Heerden from South Africa.

Well done Ben! You have made SAFRI proud.



Special mention for SAFRI Zimbabweans

Midion Chidzonga (SAFRI 2011 Fellow) Zimbabwe

Rati Ndhlovu (SAFRI 2011 Fellow) Zimbabwe

While Rati was with us at the SAFRI meeting in March 2014, Midion was enjoying the launch and opening ceremony of the Zimbabwe University’s new Department of Health Professions Education.

This must have been a very proud moment for Midion and we wish you both and your department much success in the years ahead.

We look forward to hearing more news and possibly receiving future applicants from this newly established department.



Rati Ndhlovu



Midion in his colourful shirt watches with pride at the Dept of Health Professions Education’s opening ceremony

Reflections of a SAFRI Fellow:

Abigail Dreyer (SAFRI 2012 Fellow)

The following 3 paragraphs were submitted by Prof Ian Couper of Wits University to the FAIMER website which were written by Abigail earlier this year. I am sure some of the old and new Fellows will identify with these thoughts.

1. Have you ever done something and not known what to expect and then get more than you could ever dream? A fellowship that expanded my mind. Friendships that continue to fuel my soul. Mentorships that grow my mind. Resulting in a thinking deep in my mind that makes me want to help change medical education.
2. What started as a small research project led me to a local conference and shortly after to an international conference. Having so much to apply I thought that was the end. The invitation came for me to be part of the giving team. A member of faculty, the right way to give back and grow.
2. What is next? Giving back with a clear intention to see the change. Ready to contribute in the small ways I can. Change can sometimes be slow but that can only keep me inspired to continue relentlessly on the pursuit. The knowledge acquired, the friendships, mentorships and networks make it possible. I am ready!



Abigail Dreyer

Thanks Abby for those inspiring words!

SAAHE - 26 - 28 JUNE 2014

The SAAHE 2014 Conference is being held in Cape Town at the **DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel**. (<http://ht.ly/sXbhE>)

The Upper Eastside
31 Brickfield Rd. Woodstock
Cape Town

It is hosted by the University of the Western Cape, in association with the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, the University of Cape Town and the University of Stellenbosch.



DoubleTree Hilton Hotel

The theme of SAAHE 2014 is *“Convergence and Divergence”*

“How can we come together to figure out ways of doing things differently?”

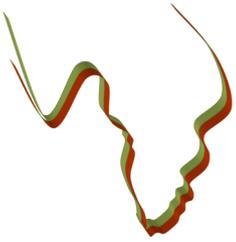
SAAHE Registrations are open:

Early bird rate of R3000.00 up to the 5th May.

Included in your registration:

Conference programme, Attendance at all plenary sessions, Welcome cocktail, Tea Coffee & lunches.

Draft Programme: <http://saahe2014.co.za/programme/>



SAFRI

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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 Southern 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 Southern African 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 SAFRI Arrival

Francois Joshua van Rooyen (born 4 February 2014)

Marietjie van Rooyen (SAFRI Faculty)

Congratulations to Marietjie and her family on the birth of their son Francois born in February this year, weighing in at 3.33 kg.

Sister Mia is thrilled with her new baby brother and real live doll to play with!

Looking forward to having you back with us Marietjie at SAAHE in June and possibly seeing little Francois in person too!

