

SAFRI NEWSLETTER - JULY 2014

2013 SAFRI Fellows Graduate!

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The Faculty and 16 graduating Fellows from the Class of 2013 gathered outside the Harlem Venue at the DoubleTree Hotel on the evening of the 28th June 2014. Drinks and snacks were available to a very happy and relieved group of fellows and their supervisors, creating a very fitting end to a successful and enjoyable SAFRI Session 5 and SAAHE Conference.

It was soon time to gather in the traditional SAFRI circle for the graduation ceremony. Vanessa opened the ceremony and presented the certificates to each of the Fellows, after mentioning a few interesting facts about each one. Dot then presented the graduates with their SAFRI badge. Once this part of the ceremony was completed, the Fellows were given an opportunity to respond by sharing their experiences in the SAFRI Fellowship and reflections on their past 18 months. We had some interesting surprises in that Milly prepared her reflections in the form of a poem and Rainy delivered hers through song. It was an emotional time for most, with touches of humour, sadness, relief and appreciation.



2013 Fellows sitting in the traditional SAFRI circle

Bill Burdick, who clearly had made a point of getting to know a bit about each one of the Fellows, spoke to them and encouraged them to continue to be active members of the SAFRI/ FAIMER family.

Congratulations and good wishes go to all the 2013 graduates!

Special points of interest:

- SAFRI Journey Reflections
- Learning program continues
- Important news items from Fellows past and present
- Publications & Achievements



A proud night to remember for the 2013 SAFRI Fellows!

SAFRI / SAAHE 2014 Journey

by Ruebecca Ebrahim

The SAFRI journey began with Session 1 in March 2013 in Cape Town, the destinationSession 5 and SAAHE in June 2014 in Cape Town. All land transport and accommodation arrangements were left in the very capable hands of Dot. We arrived in Cape Town with anticipation, met the Faculty and other Fellows, “crossed the river”, discovered our leadership styles and were introduced to Poster Day 2013. Along the way (with the help of our Gantt charts), we completed the Distance Learning Modules, submitted our Tutor-Marked Assignments (TMAs) and continued working on our Posters for Session 3.



The 2013 Fellows' Journey ...

With Dot and Jo hot on our heels, the year passed quickly and Session 3 was upon us. We were pleasantly surprised and warmly received by the 2014 Fellows. Faculty and Fellows supported and encouraged each other on Poster Day - another highlight of the journey. As we gallery walked and jig sawed through the Principles of Learning and Interactive Teaching, we were reminded that learning can be fun. This was followed by more Module Activities, more TMA's, and more reminders from Dot and Susan, as preparation for Session 5 and SAAHE continued.

There were hugs and warm greetings as we reunited in a surprisingly warm Cape Town for Session 5 and SAAHE. The Blue-printing and MCQ workshops were planned and executed with collaboration and teamwork. The feedback session was a valuable teaching and learning experience, with positive feedback and constructive criticism. Our mentors provided guidance during the article writing clinic, which got the ball rolling towards publication.

The welcome address by Michael Rowe (2010 SAFRI Fellow) marked the opening of the SAAHE 2014 Conference. I found the presentation by Brian O'Connell (UWC Rector and VC) thought provoking, and the keynote address by Jason Frank provided food for thought - how can we improve alignment between the education of health professionals and the health needs of the populace?

The wide range of topics covered in the workshops and the oral and poster presentations ensured that delegates were motivated. Jason Frank's workshop on an 'Introduction to competency-based medical education' stimulated discussion on the quantity, quality and relevance of health education.

During the workshop 'A novice's guide to contemplating PhDs', Christina and Liz provided motivation, guidance to useful websites and reading material, and a 'PhD pack' (consisting of tissues and something stronger).



2013 Fellows at SAAHE 2014



Liz had all the knowledge for the “PhD pack” !

Liz Wolfaardt pictured here at her PhD graduation

Continued ... SAFRI / SAAHE 2014 Journey

Those SAFRI Fellows who were making their debut presentations, and those of us who did poster presentations, were encouraged by the presence of Fellows and Faculty in the audience to provide moral support. It was a proud moment when two of our own (SAFRI Fellows) were announced as recipients of the 1st and 2nd poster prizes - Congratulations **Ronel Maart** and **Di Manning**, and some of our posters were mentioned as 'worth looking at'.

The SAAHE conference closed with a light lunch that was in keeping with the high standard of the conference, venue and meals. I look forward to attending and indeed participating at SAAHE in the future. SAFRI session 5 ended with Faculty and Fellows reflecting on the journey, poetry and song, some tears and lots of laughter. We received our SAFRI badges and certificates, which are testament to our achievements over the past 18 months. I would like to thank the SAFRI/FAIMER Faculty and the 2013 Fellows once again, it was mentorship, leadership and friendship that contributed to the success of this journey.

SAFRI Session 5 and SAAHE 2014.....the destination?

I think not!..... we continue the Medical Education journey in pursuit of knowledge that will allow us to become the change we want to see in health professionals of the future.

Ruebecca Ebrahim
Lecturer
Unit for Academic Literacy
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Ronel Maart Di Manning
Winners of the Poster Prizes



2013 Fellows sharing a meal



Bonding time for 2013 Fellows!

Promotions and Appointments

Congratulations to our fellow SAFRIans ... We know you'll knock their socks off!

- ◇ **Champion Nyoni** promoted to Head of Department: Midwifery and Reproductive Health for the Paray School of Nursing in Lesotho.
- ◇ **Dr. Klaus von Pressentin** appointed as Senior lecturer and EuropeAid research project co-ordinator for the Division of Family Medicine and Primary Care, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Stellenbosch University.
- ◇ **Fasika Gebrekirkos** has been appointed as head of the head of Health Professions unit.
- ◇ **Ronel Maart** was appointed Deputy chairperson of Student affairs committee in 2014.

Reflections of a SAFRI 2013 Fellow

by Enoch Sepako

A Journey Worth Travelling

To an outsider, the SAFRI programme may appear to be another one of those programmes where people learn little and simply go through the motions. However, I found out that there was so much more to this programme - right from the first session on the first day!

One specific learning experience I had, was when I met my mentor for the first time to go through my research proposal. I thought I had a solid, tight and well thought-out proposal - but I was wrong! I was challenged to dig deeply into my proposal and unpack every detail. It was only then that I realised that my proposal was not as solid as I thought. My thought processes were challenged as I had to learn to ask 'why' on many different levels and from many different angles. This exercise (and the many that followed) greatly sharpened my critical thinking skills.

The fellowship enriched me on so many levels, but also brought about a lot of opportunities and expectations from my institution. I was asked to take on a number of responsibilities. For example, I was asked to facilitate a postgraduate module (Methods and Techniques in Medical Education); 'kick-start' the Department of Medical Education (together with two other SAFRI fellows); and facilitate the development of an e-learning strategy for my institution.

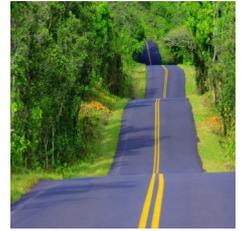
Before joining SAFRI, I would have either said 'No' or struggled with these additional responsibilities and tasks. However, SAFRI has given me the confidence to say, 'Yes, I can!'; the tools to carry out the mandate; and a community of fellow SAFRIans, with whom I can bounce ideas around and rely and call upon when in need.



My journey isn't over ... a masters in health professions education is on the cards!

Enoch Sepako
SAFRI Fellow 2013
Lecturer

Department of Biomedical Sciences and Department of Medical Education
University of Botswana



Condolences

We are sad to announce the passing of **Prudencia Mweemba** of the University of Zambia. She was a SAFRI applicant in 2012 and passed due to ill health.

She was remembered by her colleagues as a stalwart in the nursing profession. She had been the president of the General Nursing Council of Zambia and head of department in the Department of Nursing Sciences. She contributed much to the improvement of the department by the introduction of distance learning for nurses; together with preparations to introduce a system of CPD for nurses and midwives in the country of Zambia.



REMINDER — YOUR SAFRI NEWS ITEMS!

SAFRI is proud to include news items received from Faculty and Fellows. Please keep your news items coming in, so they can be include in our Newsletters.

Publications

- ◆ **van Schalkwyk, SC., Bezuidenhout, J., Conradie, HH., Fish, T., Kok, NJ., van Heerden, BH. & de Villiers, MR.** (2014). ‘Going rural’: driving change through a rural medical education innovation. *Rural and Remote Health*, 14: 2493.
- ◆ **Keiller, L. & Hanekom, S.** (2014). Strategies to increase clinical reasoning and critical thinking in physiotherapy education. *South African Journal of Physiotherapy*, 70(1): 8-12.
- ◆ **Postma, TC & White, JG.** Developing clinical reasoning in the classroom – analysis of the 4C/ID-model. *European Journal of Dental Education*. 2014 May 9.doi:10.1111/eje.12105 (Epub ahead of print)
- ◆ **von Pressentin, KB. (co-author of a chapter in the textbook), Clarke, M; et. al.** (2014) *Vlok's Community Health, 6th Ed; JUTA.*



L. Keiller

C. Postma



K. von Pressentin

Distance Learning Programme

Congratulations to the 2013 SAFRI Fellows for successfully completing all their distance learning modules and now graduating in June 2014! I have no doubt that the information and skills that you learnt from the distance learning modules will be put into your everyday practices and make you a better educator, leader, health professional and person.



The 2014 SAFRI Fellows are making good progress with their distance learning modules. They are currently busy with a Theme 2 (***Educational Management and Leadership***) module on Understanding and managing Others. Thereafter, the fellows will be starting with their first elective module - Leadership in Health Professions Education; Leading and Managing Projects or Managing and Leading Change.

Lastly, fellows are reminded to use the “Module Discussions” forum on the SAFRI portal, in order to share ideas and help each other with the module content.

Enjoy your studies!

Susan Nicol

Distance Learning Administrator

Tracking the progress of a 2011 SAFRI Fellow ...

Mike Kagawa was selected to be a part of the National Continuing Professional Development (CPD) committee. This is a committee of the Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council, a statutory body in Uganda that registers and monitors professional practice for all Uganda's Medical and Dental practitioners.

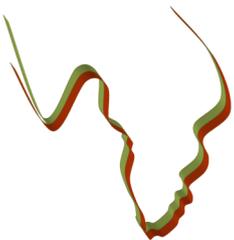
"I'm sure my SAFRI training and interest in health Professions education has led me to this. My thanks to FAIMER for making this possible!"

Mike has recently received notification that his application to complete a Doctorate of Philosophy Degree in Health Professionals Education has been approved. His study topic is ...

"The workplace as a learning environment, the case for Mulatto National Referral and Teaching Hospital"



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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.