

'Pretoria is SA's most cosmopolitan city'



□ Professor Jonathan Jansen, Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria. **PICTURE KHAYA NGWENYA**



□ Art works on show at the Pretoria Art Museum, one of the city's main attractions.

PICTURE: STEPHANE OOSTHUZEN

Professor Jonathan Jansen is an academic well known for his expert knowledge of general and higher education in the country.

He is currently the Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of Pretoria and was recently appointed by Education Minister Naledi Pandor to restore proper management at the Durban University of Technology.

He will undertake this task for six months.

Jansen is expected to take over the authority of the university's council and will be a one-man council until a new one is appointed at the DUT.

He is tasked with ensuring that a forensic audit at the institution is completed before the end of the year.

How long have you called Tshwane home?

For the past six years!

Where did you go to school and study?

On the Cape Flats, to a school called Steenberg High, tantalisingly close to the beaches of Matzenberg, but could not swim there, of course.

In what part of the city do you live and why did you choose it?

In Menlo Park – it is the secret jewel of Tshwane ... green, leafy, quiet with the most amazing small restaurants (such as Boergeoise) sandwiched between two of the most prestigious schools in Gauteng – Menlo Park Primary and Menlo Park High School.

What do you like most about the capital and its people?

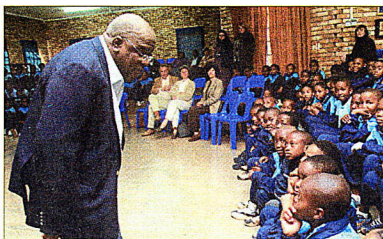
The straight-talking culture of Tshwanians, down-to-earth people who love their country passionately, black and white alike.

Any irritations?

I get really irritated with people who carry stereotypes of Tshwane as an old, conservative, Afrikaans city. It is the fastest-growing, most cosmopolitan and diverse place in the country.

What message do you have for the city authorities?

Take care of the grime of the



□ Professor Jansen speaks to the children of Mthoeng Primary School in Tshwane. He hopes never to tire of learning from young people. **PICTURE: BOXER NGWENYA**



inner-city buildings and stamp out crime, and you will have a truly world class African city; it is within your reach.

Jacarandas, love them or hate them? Why?

I love jacarandas for the same reason I love illegal immigrants; they both come from elsewhere but enrich our culture beyond measure.

Your favourite building in the city?

The Voortrekker Monument – it forces me to think.

Three places in the city you would advise people to visit?

The Department of Science and Technology building for its amazing architecture, the Pretoria Zoo, and the Pretoria Art Museum.

Best places to shop?

The lower floor of the Brooklyn Mall – it has everything.

Best places to relax?

The Botanical Gardens.

What is your perfect weekend?

A morning drive through the Magaliesberg Mountains, followed by lunch at 'Tan' Malles at Hartbeespoort Dam, some afternoon jazz in Mamelodi and an evening braai on the stoep watching the thunderstorms cover the Highveld.

Family?

I am a lucky man: inspirational wife, a model son, a loving daughter and ALL my students.

Pets?

A highly excitable cocker spaniel.

Hobbies/interests?

Playing soccer with my students.

Your best movie ever?

Ghandi.

The last book you read?

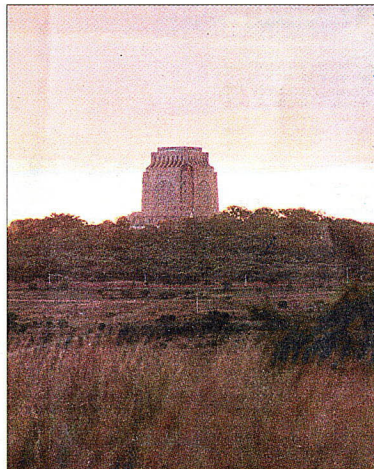
I read five books today. There is no last book.

If you had one wish for yourself what would it be?

That I might never tire of admiring and learning from young people.

And for the city?

That this city, the diplomatic capital of the continent, might become a brightly shining beacon of hope for marginalised people from every where.



□ The Voortrekker Monument is Professor Jansen's favourite building. **PICTURE: LIZA VAN DEVENTER**



A perfect weekend includes lunch at 'Tan' Malles near the Hartbeespoortdam. **PICTURE: JAN DE BEER**