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Faculty of Veterinary Science

# Community Engagement Newsletter

Faculty of Veterinary Science
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## Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station, Hluvukani Animal Health Centre and Onderstepoort Veterinary Academy

**Dr Louis van Schalkwyk, Mr Jacques van Rooyen & Dr Kings Sibanda**

By now, most people would have heard of the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station, which commenced operations earlier this year. The station is located in the Kruger National Park and has been donated by the late Hans Hoheisen (1930-1994).

He was a keen conservationist and photographer. The station is located in the Sabie River Game Reserve, which borders the Kruger National Park. Dr Hans Dirk Hoheisen-Hoheisen was born in Windhoek, Namibia (formerly South West Africa) and died in Hilton, South Africa (which was a wildlife in itself! This was the biggest donation of its kind ever received by the Kruger National Park and was made by Hans's widow, Ursula Hoheisen-Hoheisen, who passed away last year, aged 92 years.

After some much needed refurbishments and an official re-opening in 2010, the Research Station now falls under management of the Faculty of Veterinary Science, Onderstepoort Veterinary Academy (OVA), at the University of Pretoria. The functional aspect, the other two being the Pharos Parks Foundation and the Kruger National Park, is managed by the OVA's Wildlife Health Research Unit. The station is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities of wildlife, livestock and humans, especially in a transfrontier context. The station is also a "living laboratory" for exclusive use by OVA's other academic units, for undergraduate training and community engagement in the Faculty, University and Veterinary Profession at large.

Situated very close to Orpen Gate in the Kruger National Park, the station has a conference facility, accommodation for 12 people in comfortable, three bedroom units, a small laboratory, storage space, a library and two fully equipped self-catering accommodation units for students and staff. The station is also ideal for research and student projects, as well as a central venue for inter-disciplinary and continuing education conferences and workshops.

Jacques van Rooyen, the station's on-site park ranger and caretaker, is responsible for the day-to-day management of the station. The Station serves as a Project of Pharos Parks Foundation in the area. The Station serves as

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an breeding selection, vessel management, common diseases, nutrition and other topics.

The workshop & feel and the students learn not only through lectures and practicals, but also through visiting farms in the communities and other facilities for investigating the real interaction that will provide valuable training for upcoming community service programmes. Students will be able to see how veterinary medicine and medicine fits into their profession.

Participation in an open workshop, where students from various universities in an area are brought together for investigating the real interaction that will provide valuable training for upcoming community service programmes. Jacques van Rooyen, from the Hans Hoheisen Wildlife Research Station, will be presenting a talk on the Kruger National Park and how community service opportunities are optimised without research, outputs and impact on the Kruger National Park.

There are numerous research opportunities available in a wide variety of fields, including: Wildlife Ecology, Wildlife Nutrition, Immunology, diseases, parasitology, veterinary diseases, reproductive ecology, ecosystems of the people and livestock, Industry, food safety and Wildlife Management. Students will be able to work with DVM and with staff management related studies. The use of ICT's

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information and communication technologies is continuously increasing and students need to be able to use these technologies. Students will be able to use the facilities and equipment and will hopefully be able to the impact of environmental and climatic changes on the health of people, animals and ecosystems.

Research projects conducted from the Research Station are: Ticks and tick-borne diseases, Rabies, Wildlife Ecology, Wildlife Nutrition, Immunology and Wildlife Diseases, Epidemiology of Plant and Microbial Disease along the entire Kruger National Park's ecotone and surrounding Community.

The combination of the Research Station, Hluvukani Animal Health Centre and Onderstepoort Veterinary Academy, provides a unique opportunity for Veterinary Students and Wildlife Health Research Scientists serve as reservoir for various endemic livestock and zoonotic diseases, and provides a unique opportunity for students to conduct a community epidemiology of the Kruger National Park's ecotone. A farmer's only cow from well, water, is sustaining beasts and consumptive water, and the cattle are grazing in the Kruger National Park and drinking water from the Kruger National Park's ecotone and surrounding Community.

**For further information contact:**

Dr Louis van Schalkwyk
Louis.van Schalkwyk@up.ac.za
Hluvukani Animal Health Centre
Jacques van Rooyen
Kruger National Park Veterinary Research Programme
Jacques van Rooyen
jacques.van.rooyen@sanparks.org
Hluvukani Animal Health Centre
Dr Kings Sibanda
Kings.sibanda@up.ac.za; dr.sibanda@hotmail.com

## Education – Engineering a brighter future for animals

**The Society for Animals in Distress is building a brighter future of an Adult Education Programme**

**Jenny Hemelaars**

For some of us, adult literacy classes are a distant memory. However, that is the reality for people who attend the Society for Animals in Distress (SAID) - Greater Menlyn Adult Education Programme, which is a division of the Society for Animals in Distress.

**The Student who came from the Cold**

Let's start with an example of a student who has commenced on her first cutting. Realising that her passion for animals transcended her fear of the cold, she decided to attend the Adult Education Course. Despite her actively participating in the course, she moved to Pretoria, being cans of an allergy and her husband, Hoger Pretoria, she decided to attend the Adult Education Programme. Her husband was so impressed with the information given to her, that he also decided to attend the Adult Education Programme.

Her husband's comment on graduation, as the student, was: "Another wonderful whether that had managed to adequately cope with the cold, and the allergy, and the cold, and the allergy, and the cold, and the allergy, and