

A message from the Dean

It is a great privilege for me to have this opportunity to congratulate the Department of Surgery on its extensive contribution to the training of medical students over the past 60 years. Let there be no doubt as to the very sound principles of thorough, practical training in surgery that these students have received. The Department of Surgery at the University of Pretoria, Faculty of Health Sciences, School of Medicine, and Pretoria Academic Hospital has contributed to the training of graduates renowned both in South Africa and internationally for their abilities as doctors who can indeed put surgical principles into practice.

The training of postgraduate students by the Department of Surgery has produced outstanding surgeons, both South African and, more recently, from neighbouring countries and overseas. Some have been appointed as Heads of Department at other medical schools and many have delivered excellent service to their communities at large. A number of our graduates who now reside abroad are respected as highly qualified specialists.

As changes have taken place and the Department has expanded over the years, it has trained practitioners in a number of outstanding subspecialties such as Vascular Surgery, Paediatric Surgery, Gastroenterological Surgery and Reconstructive Surgery, among others. The Department has also facilitated the development of many of these subspecialties into departments on their own.

Over and above the training of under- and postgraduate students and the establishment of sub-specialties, the Department of Surgery has made great advances in the area of research and has produced many contributions to surgical conferences and publications, nationally and internationally. The value the Department has added to this country and to academe is immense, and sincere congratulations are in order.

We extend our good wishes to all the role-players in the Department. May you go from strength to strength in the future.



T. J. Mariba

*Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Pretoria*