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Faculty of
Health Sciences

Fakulteit Gesondheidswetenskappe
Lefapha la Disaense tša Maphelo

2023

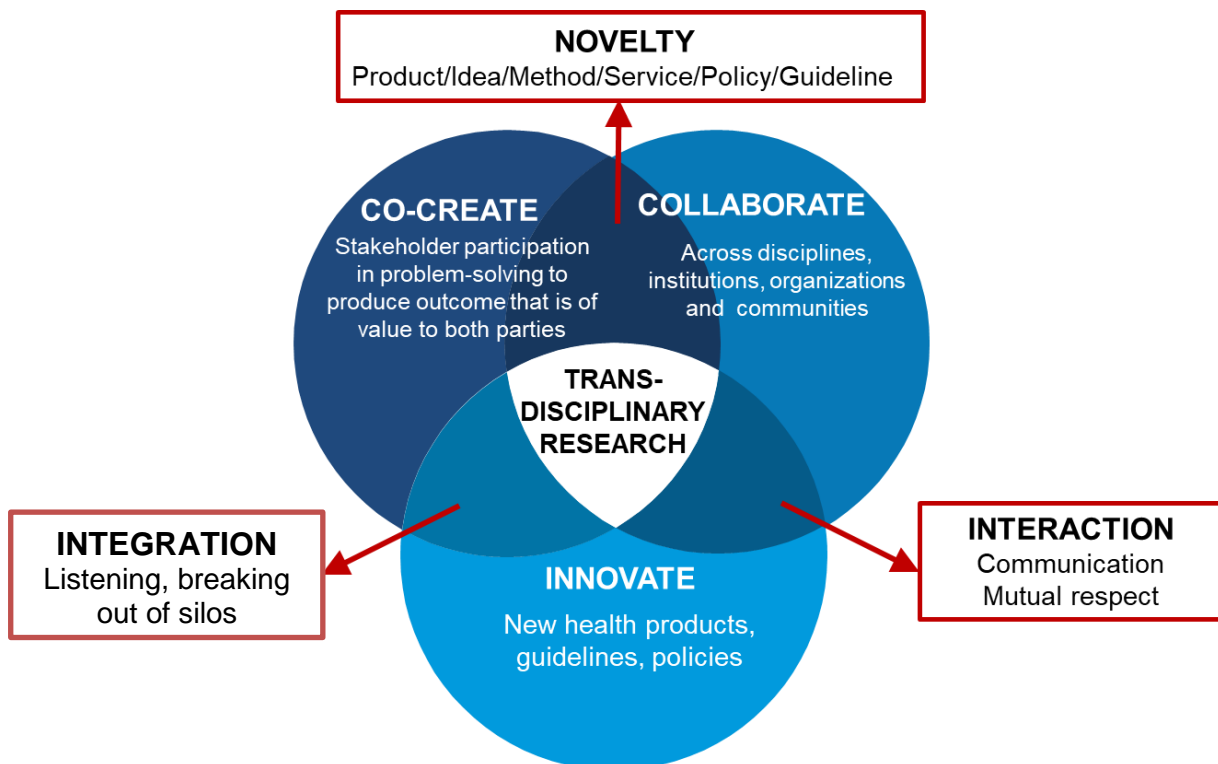
Faculty Research Day Report

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2023 Faculty Research Day Report



About Faculty Research Day

Faculty Research Day is an inspiring annual research conference hosted by the Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) at the University of Pretoria (UP). Organised by the FHS, this event is a platform for staff, students, research entities, and partner organisations to engage, exchange knowledge, and showcase their pioneering research endeavours.



86%

75%

60%

The theme for our 2023 Faculty Research Day, 'Co-create, Collaborate, and Innovate,' harmonises seamlessly with the mission of the FHS Research Office. Our objective is to foster an inclusive, collaborative, multidisciplinary, and transdisciplinary research environment, continually enhancing the visibility and impact of our research. We are dedicated to promoting transformative research initiatives that drive social impact. The event features keynote addresses by experts in topical research areas and thematic oral and poster presentations.

Our Faculty Research Day presents educational opportunities in various forms, including keynote addresses on topical research areas by experts and thematic oral and poster presentations. Furthermore, this annual gathering provides a platform to network, collaborate, and co-create, developing innovative research projects and furthering the Faculty's transdisciplinary research mandate.

Traditionally, FHS Research Day involves undergraduate, postgraduate, and postdoctoral fellows as integral organising team members and critical participants in the Faculty Day program alongside academics. Including undergraduate students in research and creative activities is a focal point for the FHS Research Office. Beyond enriching traditional learning and development, undergraduate research experiences facilitate a deeper understanding of research methods and foster participation in collaborative projects. This involvement aids students in identifying their research niche areas, accelerating their research career trajectories.



Main Sponsors



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Foreword



Professor Tivani Mashamba-Thompson, Chairperson of the 2023 Faculty Research Day

The 2023 Faculty of Health Sciences (FHS) event took place over a single day and garnered participation from 728 individuals, comprising delegates, oral presenters, and exhibitors. The excellent attendance marked an exponential growth compared to previous years. The notable surge in attendance over successive years underscores the heightened engagement of students in research. The Faculty Research Day was well supported by our esteemed partners and sponsors, a

feat facilitated by our exceptional marketing endeavours.

The 2023 Faculty Research Day, the second hybrid iteration hosted by the FHS, transpired on 24 August 2023 at the Tswelopele Building, Prinsloof South campus, UP. This single-day affair was live-streamed to accommodate virtual participation by students, staff, and other stakeholders. Aligned with the Faculty's overarching 2023 theme, the Faculty Research Day adopted the theme "Co-create, Collaborate, and Innovate," calling for research initiatives that entail stakeholder engagement in the design or problem-solving process to yield mutually beneficial outcomes. The event stimulates collaborative endeavours among researchers spanning diverse disciplines and research endeavours aimed at pioneering novel health products, guidelines, or policies.

The 2023 Faculty Research Day steering committee meticulously crafted the event itinerary. Over 170 FHS students and staff participated in the program through oral presentations, poster exhibitions, and panel discussions, complemented by live panel dialogues aligned with the designated subthemes. The FHS research entities and sponsors showcased their contributions outside the event venue, alongside the display of posters throughout the day. With support from the Department of Research and Innovation, an award ceremony was integrated into the event to commend research excellence.

Distinguished guest speakers, alongside established, emerging, and early-career researchers from within the FHS, including postgraduate and undergraduate students, showcased pioneering research initiatives on our hybrid platform. This platform was thoughtfully designed to foster attendee engagement, participation, and interaction among delegates, speakers, and exhibitors, thereby fortifying connections between the current and future research landscapes within the dynamic realm of health sciences.

Efficient knowledge dissemination forms part of the UP's strategic research visibility and impact goals. We remain steadfast in our commitment to developing health solutions in collaboration with stakeholders. The insights shared during this event will be disseminated widely. This report will be distributed to all UP faculties, research offices, and external partners. Knowledge dissemination will be facilitated through science communication articles authored by postdoctoral fellows, undergraduate students, and various science communication platforms. Additionally, all presented posters, predominantly by postgraduate students, will be accessible via the UP-library repository.

Access to the 2023 Faculty Research Day recordings and visual documentation is available via the 2023 Faculty Research Day website.

Programme Structure

The Faculty Research Day committee, led by Prof. Tivani Mashamba-Thompson, the Deputy Dean for Research and Postgraduate Studies at the FHS, meticulously crafted the scientific programme. This comprehensive programme included keynote speeches, panel discussions, and scientific sessions organised around four themes. The programme included workshops and exhibition stands showcasing research entities within the FHS and an open poster exhibition (Figure 1). The complete programme structure is included in the appendices.

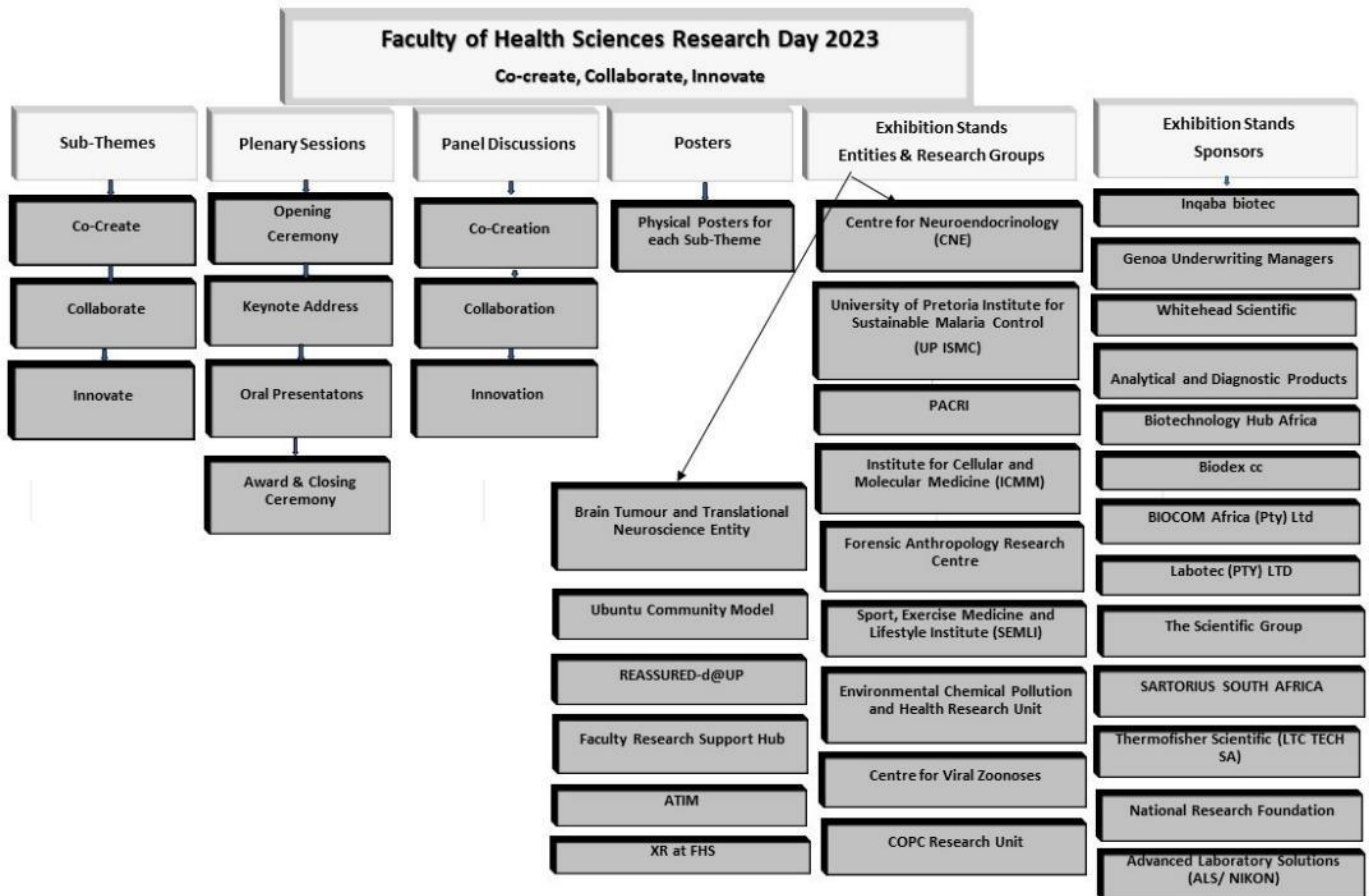


Figure 1: Structure of the Faculty Research Day Programme

Presentations from Selected Abstracts

The call for abstracts for the 2023 Faculty Research Day opened on 18 May and continued to 30 June 2023. Registration opened on 1 June to 23 August 2023. FHS students and staff submitted 169 abstracts duly received by the FHS Research Coordinator, Ms. Anwani Nekhumbe, and subsequently forwarded to the respective Schools' RESCOM Chairs for evaluation by the School abstract review committees.

Following a rigorous review process conducted at the school level, 169 abstracts (comprising 26 oral and 134 poster presentations) were meticulously selected. Table 1 shows the number of oral and poster presentations chosen for inclusion in the 2023 Faculty Research Day.

Table 1: Number of 2023 Faculty Research Day oral and e-poster presentations

Presentation session	Oral presentations	Poster presentations	Total
Co-create	8	0	8
Collaborate	9	63	72
Innovate	9	71	80
Total	26	134	160

Session Description

The program's structure facilitated the attendance of all participants at the keynote speeches before separating into two venues for concurrent oral presentation sessions. These sessions ran continuously throughout the day, allowing attendees to witness esteemed speakers sharing their pioneering research and strategies to effect significant change in the health science field. The table below delineates the different sessions and their respective objectives and durations.

Table 2: Description of various sessions, including the objectives and duration.

Session type	Description	Objectives	Duration/minutes
Plenary session	One standalone keynote address from an expert on research innovation	This session was designed to set the tone and introduce participants to what is done globally.	20
Panel discussions	These sessions included 5-6 panel members (experts) who had wide-ranging discussions on specific topics directed by a discussant. The roundtable discussions ran independently.	The sessions aimed to educate participants on specific topics from different perspectives presented by the panel members.	40
Scientific sessions	These sessions included presentations by invited speakers from within the FHS and supporting entities. The sessions also included the oral presentation of selected abstracts submitted for the conference. The abstract presentations were limited to 10 minutes.	Established and emerging researchers had a platform to showcase their latest research.	70
Poster exhibitions/presentations	The exhibition included posters of selected abstracts submitted for the conference. The posters were arranged per discipline and hosted on the virtual conference platform.	Platform for researchers to showcase their work	All day
Exhibition stands	Slots were offered to the sponsors and partners in research to showcase their work and products. The sponsors fully planned the sessions, and the logistics committee provided technical support.	Opportunity for sponsors to showcase their work and products to congress participants.	All day

Opening Ceremony

Faculty Research Day started with an official opening address delivered by Prof. Tiaan de Jager, the Dean of the FHS and Director of the UP ISMC, besides holding a professorial position in Environmental



Health at the School of Health Systems and Public Health, UP. During his speech, the Dean reviewed the 2024 FHS Faculty plan, emphasising that FHS researchers must co-create, collaborate, and innovate research endeavours. The ceremony attracted a significant turnout, with attendance from FHS students and staff, alongside distinguished guest speakers from the National Research Foundation's Research, Innovation, and Impact Support and Advancement (RIISA) department.

Adding to the ambience, the FHS Choir, under the direction of **Mr. Mpumelelo Manyathi**, captivated attendees with their musical performance, elevating spirits throughout the proceedings. Leveraging the

insights gleaned from navigating the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the FHS is primed to undertake collaborative and innovative research endeavours to address future epidemics and pandemics effectively. The uplifting music served as a conduit for enhanced cognitive engagement, contributing to the satisfaction and well-being of FHS researchers and fostering increased research productivity while mitigating burnout.



FHS Choir singing at the 2022 FHS Research Day

During his opening address, the Dean underscored the imperative of prioritising sustainability. The FHS 2024 plan meticulously outlines deliberate priorities to ensure the FHS's sustainability in fulfilling our mandate. Central to our endeavours is a keen understanding of our primary stakeholders' needs, our students, staff, and the surrounding communities. As we articulate our identity and mission, it is essential to remain attuned to the needs and expectations of these core stakeholders.

Table 3: The high-level action plan illustrates the alignment of the strategic enablers and how it supports the implementation of the strategic vision

Faculty of Health Sciences – Strategy Map 2024			
KEY PRIORITIES			
<p>Student Access and Success: Develop a new generation of health care professionals who are employable, technologically capable, market leading health professionals</p>	<p>Research and Internationalization: Foster a transformed research environment to enable the conduct of research with global relevance and impact</p>	<p>Impact on Society: Contribute to the health and wellbeing of our com</p>	<p>Transformation and Sustainability: Be a thriving, inclusive, diverse culture for our students, academics, faculty and alumni</p>

<p>Strategic Growth – transformed curriculums that aim to improve community engagement, evidence-based practise, clinical acumen, and public health perspectives.</p> <p>Increase experiential and work-integrated learning – ensure students are well prepared for careers.</p> <p>Collaborate with other schools & faculties for innovative programmes to promote transdisciplinary and interprofessional studies e.g. bioengineering.</p> <p>Recruit and retain diverse learners both local and international.</p> <p>Create an environment with early and sensitive risk identification systems for students in need. To avoid late-stage attrition.</p>	<p>Be leaders in knowledge translation and implementation science to advance the impact of our work – enable translation of research into public health impact, university and societal transformation.</p> <p>Create an enabling and sustainable research environment and foster a stronger support network through the Faculty Research Hub.</p> <p>Build strategic partnerships within the university, external public and private as well as a select number of international universities.</p> <p>Support existing and new Research Institutes, Centres and Groups to conduct translational research that matters.</p>	<p>Be cognisant of the community needs, the external environment and be flexible to address the needs.</p> <p>Societal engagement and responsible citizenship. Include local and diverse communities in the co creation of innovations.</p> <p>Leverage the WHO Organization (WHO) designated centre on the Social determinants of health (SDOH) to study and conduct research on the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks.</p>	<p>Ensure equity, diversity and inclusion principles and practices pervade the Faculty.</p> <p>Actively manage the leadership pipeline to ensure continuity and sustainability.</p> <p>Reimagined technologically leading facilities and infrastructure that is conducive to teaching, learning and research of global relevance and impact.</p> <p>Create and sustain strong alumni relationships and increase fundraising through building a philanthropic culture and engagement.</p> <p>Provide resources and a budget to support the faculty transformation activity plan.</p>
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ENABLING FACTORS

<p>Transform curriculum to embed experiential learning, focus on compet</p>	<p>Research programmes that are transdisciplinary, inclusive, innovative and meaningful in order to create impact</p>	<p>Create flexible and dynamic spaces that support research and learning and</p>	<p>Adopt and embed a culture across FHS that supports integration, collaboration and innovation.</p>	<p>Strategic support for leadership development, create champions of change and leverage momentum for change across the faculty.</p> <p>#Lifechangers</p>	<p>Remain committed to meeting the clinical needs, good health and wellbeing of our surrounding communities.</p>	<p>Implement measures to support the physical, mental, and emotional health and wellbeing of staff and students.</p>	<p>Manage resources in a sustainable manner that enables the alignment of human resource roles and resources to support the set strategic priorities and objectives.</p>
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encies and skills training whilst leveraging our strengths and expertise and technology.	locally to globally.	move to develop more core research facilities that promote collaboration.	Breaking down silos			
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SUSTAINABILITY (Financial Resources, Service offering, Infrastructure and Human Resources)

FHS leadership, staff, students, and stakeholders actively engage in the development of 3rd stream income and fundraising opportunities and plans.	Leverage and integrate internal and central resources to support faculty and students; not duplicate investments already provided. Leverage Clinical Training Grant funding.	Promote curriculum transformation and relevance through transdisciplinary and interprofessional studies, leveraging on the research focus areas.	Ensure that the teaching and learning, research and service provision is responsive to the external environment and is translated into public health impact.	Utilize appropriate technology to support processes and create efficiency. Invest in and integrate efficient tools to support our critical processes.	Leverage expertise across faculty – find ways to share resources and expertise to support common competences and curriculum development.	Implement processes to recruit and retain excellent and diverse staff; intentionally involving staff in leadership and governance matters, and offering leadership training.
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Key Points from Faculty Research Day Keynote Addresses



Dr. Gugu Moche, the Acting Deputy CEO of Research, Innovation, and Impact Support and Advancement (RIISA) at the National Research Foundation (NRF), delivered the keynote address. In her presentation, Dr. Moche delved into the prevailing material conditions in the country conducive to co-creation, collaboration, and innovation in terms of research capacity and infrastructure. She started by elucidating the pivotal role of the NRF in championing and advancing research through human capacity building, knowledge creation, and promoting

science engagement. Dr. Moche then examined the current funding landscape, shedding light on whether an enabling environment exists for advancing science, technology, and innovation.

Regrettably, Dr. Moche noted a decline in gross expenditure on research and discovery over recent years, primarily attributed to reduced contributions from the private sector. This shortfall has financially strained government institutions, including the NRF and the Medical Research Council. She presented statistical data on the funding landscape, highlighting key points:

- Of the 378,071 students registered in 2020-2021, the NRF could only fund 10% because of lack of funding.
- Only 16.6% of BSc honours students progressed to master's, with only 3.2% of these advancing to doctoral enrollment.
- The UP stands among the top five institutions in the country regarding research capacity, boasting the highest number of instructional staff with PhD qualifications (69.8% compared to the national average of 48.8%), NRF-rated researchers (631), and South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) chairs.

Dr. Moche stressed the need for a paradigm shift in the current landscape to build capacity and foster collaboration. Despite the abovementioned challenges, she highlighted that South Africa ranks favourably internationally regarding research outputs (32nd out of 214 countries). Moreover, she gave examples of Centres of Excellence (CoEs), such as the Department of Science and Technology (DST)-NRF CoE for Biomedical TB Research at Stellenbosch University, the DST-NRF CoE in Food Security at the University of Western Cape, and the DST-NRF CoE in HIV Prevention at the University of Cape Town. These centres exemplify research entities that facilitate quality research, collaboration, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary research, and innovation.

In conclusion, Dr. Moche reiterated that South Africa faces challenges in terms of funding and infrastructure. She encouraged the pursuit of signature research to foster collaboration with international partners and advocated for seeking funding and partnerships with individuals working within the same field internationally. Such endeavours, she emphasised, would fortify partnerships and facilitate collaboration, cocreation, and innovation.

Programme Directors



Professors Ryan Blumenthal and **Professor Trevor Nyakudya** commenced the day by introducing themselves and acknowledging the Faculty Research Day as a noteworthy occasion, providing FHS staff and students with a valuable platform to exhibit their cocreative, collaborative, and innovative research endeavours. They then introduced the Dean of the Faculty, who officially inaugurated the event with a brief presentation. Prof. Blumenthal also assumed the role of program director for the first oral thematic segment of the event, co-create. **Miss Nobuhle Vanessa Gxekwa** and **Miss Shanna-Lee Bester**, the TURF representatives,

jointly assumed the role of programme directors.

Professor Nyakudya introduced the keynote speaker of the first session under the subtheme 'disruptive technologies'. He also headed up the second session, under the subtheme 'innovate', where he introduced the keynote speaker and the rest of the speakers.



Poster Display and Presentations

In 2023, Faculty Research Day featured 134 traditional posters displayed in the foyer, categorised under the "collaborate" and "innovate" subthemes. Participants could view these posters during comfort breaks and lunchtime throughout the day. The poster display provided students and staff with a platform to showcase their research and engage with others in the academic community.



Oral presentations

Theme 1: Co-creation

The oral presentations within this theme are listed below:

Table 4: Oral presentations presented under the subtheme “Co-create”.

Presenter	Title
Mrs Tania Buys	Creating a curriculum framework for the teaching of vocational rehabilitation as part of the first professional occupational therapy degree
Mr Sibongiseni Nxumalo	Reintegration experiences of clinical research participants into public health services in Johannesburg’s inner city: A qualitative study
Ms Shudufhadzo Singo	Prevalence of single nucleotide variations associated with human leukocyte antigen on the diagnosis of psoriasis patients from a tertiary academic hospital in Tshwane.
Dr Sandisiwe Dyonase	A qualitative study of nurses' knowledge about covid-19 within the context of management of patients in a psychiatric hospital
Ms Mamolwa Motshabi	Healthcare support personnel's understanding of the radiation safety measures in the radiology department: an exploratory descriptive study
Dr Cheval Murugas	Sociodemographic and occupational factors associated with depression and anxiety amongst mental health care Workers.
Mrs Tebogo Mampane	The acceptability of a breast milk bank and donated human milk among mothers in Philadelphia hospital in Sekhukhune district, Limpopo province.
Ms Thalia Campos	In vitro influence of papaverine on proliferation and morphology in cervical tumorigenic cells.

Theme 2: Innovate



Table 5: Oral presentations under the subtheme “Innovate”.

Presenter	Title
Mr Keketso Manchidi	Assessment of dietary diversity of women of reproductive age residing in an informal settlement in Pretoria east, South Africa.
Dr Kuhlula Maluleke	Improving Supply Chain Management for Point-of-Care Diagnostics in Resource- Limited Settings: Policy Brief.
Ms Gabriella Pereira	A pilot study assessing the efficacy of maggot debridement therapy as an alternative debridement technique to standard care with intrasite gel dressings in the treatment of

	chronic, septic wounds in adults.
Dr Rodwell Gundo	Evaluation of an ubuntu-informed training of community health workers on the management of tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS in Gauteng province, South Africa.
Mr Paul Nkuna	COVID-19 call centre undocumented immigrants.
Ms Kaelin Van Zyl	Virulence gene profiles of enteropathogenic <i>Escherichia coli</i> isolated from stool samples of children presenting with diarrhoea in private clinics in Gauteng, South Africa.
Mr Saheed Kakako	Phenotypic profiling of lipograms: Analysis by artificial intelligence.
Dr Nikhil Nowbath	Comparing the medication costs of treating patients with schizophrenia who use cannabis to those who do not.

Theme 3: Collaborate

Program Directors: Prof. Ryan Blumenthal & Ms. Vanessa N. Gxekwa/Prof. Trevor Nyakudya & Ms. Shanna-Lee Bester

A sustainable system encourages learning and collaboration in the community and a health system and always provides more than enough resources.

Table 6: Oral presentations under the subtheme “Collaborate”.

Title	Presenter
Dr Tsholofelo Kungoane	The clinical profile of head and neck Ebv+ B-Cell lymphomas in patients with HIV infection.
Ms Cecilia Moeti	Cultural beliefs influencing the uptake of cervical cancer screening among women in a community healthcare centre in South Africa.
Ms Helena De Villiers	Assessing variation in ear size of South African populations for 3D cranio-facial approximation.
Ms Naledi Mmekwa	Assessing oxidative stress and identifying pharmaceuticals in water sources of Mpumalanga province, South Africa.
Dr Craig Grobbelaar	Development of a portable thermal sensation device for objective assessment of sensory dysfunction.
Prof Bookhan Vinesh	Assessing a student’s knowledge of dental materials during clinical teaching and learning.
Ms Monique Shanahan	Drivers of malaria in the eastern Vhembe district, Limpopo province.
Ms Mamohlotsane Lydia	Efficacy of a novel portable MRI as a screening tool in neonates with NESHIE (neonatal encephalopathy with suspected hypoxic ischemic encephalopathy).
Ms Andrea Prinsloo	The effects of in utero HIV and antiretroviral therapy exposure on infant t-cell and monocyte activation, function, and regulation of immunomodulatory pathways.

Panel Discussions

Faculty Research Day included three panel discussions comprising groups of researchers gathered to discuss their research in front of an audience, in line with the given theme.



Theme 1: Co-creation



Chairperson of the Co-creation panel discussion: Dr. Thabo Hamiwe

Panellists: Dr Kuhlula Maluleke, Dr Candice Hendricks, Prof. Elize Webb, and Dr Melvin Ambele

Key takeaways from the panel discussion

Co-creation in health research is a dynamic process that requires the identification of key stakeholders to ensure successful collaboration and adaptive approaches.

Stakeholders: These include government entities at various levels, healthcare facilities, industry partners for support and innovation, academia for multidisciplinary expertise, and patients as essential contributors to better public healthcare outcomes. ~Prof Elize Webb





An compelling demonstration of co-creation in projects is crucial for securing funding. Funders look for interdependency among stakeholders, clear objectives, interorganisational trust, and adequate resources (time, money, personnel). ~**Dr. Melvin Ambele**

Recruiting stem cell donors of African descent in South Africa is challenging. Co-creation, through focus group discussions involving traditional healers, community leaders, donors, recipients, registry representatives, and clinical experts, is vital to understanding and addressing barriers, aiming for increased donor recruitment. ~**Dr Candice Hendricks**



Resource-limited countries such as South Africa encounter unique challenges such as supply chain management. Co-creation strategies such as the nominal group technique facilitate stakeholder collaboration to design solutions tailored to local needs and resources, ensuring inclusivity and effectiveness. ~**Dr. Kuhlula Maluleke**

Building relationships with stakeholders in the co-creation team is essential to bridge the gap between research and clinical practice. Involving stakeholders in all research phases fosters meaningful communication, incorporates diverse perspectives, and enhances buy-in and project ownership, ultimately translating research into practice and policy. ~**Dr. Tsakane Hlongwane**

Theme 2: Collaborate



Chairperson of Collaborate panel discussion: Dr Camille Castelyn

Panellists: Dr Louisa Seopela, Dr Heleen Roos, Ms Jeanne van Rensburg, Dr Rahaba Marima, and Dr Ross Anderson

Key takeaway points

The multidisciplinary composition of research teams, encompassing various disciplines such as obstetrics/gynaecology and paediatrics, offers diverse perspectives crucial for a comprehensive understanding of

maternal and neonatal health outcomes. Combining expertise from different fields enables holistic evaluation, identifying issues at various stages for early intervention and personalised care. Establishing regular communication channels among stakeholders fosters transparency and trust. ~**Dr. Louisa Seopel**



Collaboration between the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and the Medical Faculty at the UP, focusing on the One Health Model, exemplifies a holistic educational approach. Integrating students from diverse backgrounds promotes interdisciplinary collaboration, equipping future professionals with skills essential for addressing complex health challenges. ~**Dr Heleen Roos**



The Nechi study in South Africa revealed a high incidence of neonatal brain injury due to oxygen deprivation at birth. Incorporating expertise from various molecular fields ensures a comprehensive understanding and facilitates innovative solutions. Collaborative efforts exemplify the importance of multidisciplinary research in addressing complex health challenges. ~**Ms Jeanne van Rensburg**

Collaboration is crucial in neuroendocrinology research, especially in exploring the genetic aetiology of hypogonadism. Pooling expertise and resources enable comprehensive investigations, leveraging specialized technologies and advancing translational applications. Clear research agendas and intellectual property policies are vital for effective collaborative efforts. ~**Dr Ross Anderson**



Exposomic research undertaken by the PACRI offers valuable insights into the complex interactions between environmental factors and health outcomes. Adapting exposomic research in South Africa can inform targeted interventions and public health strategies to reduce cancer risk and improve overall well-being. Establishing a collaborative framework and maintaining open communication is essential for successful interdisciplinary research. ~**Dr. Rahaba Marima**

Theme 3: Innovate



Chairperson of Innovate panel discussion: Dr. Siphesihle Robin Nxele

Panellists: Dr Juanita Mellet, Dr Patrick Ngassa Piotie, Mr Michael Stark & Dr Rodney Hull

Key takeaway points from this theme

Ethical considerations are paramount in innovative multiomics research. As multiomics data are inherently personal, it is essential to fully inform participants about the nature of their consent and to uphold individual privacy. Anonymizing data and controlling access is critical, ensuring that secondary analysis remains secure and confidential. ~ **Dr. Juanita Mellet**



Tailoring innovative interventions to suit the African context is essential for improving diabetes management in the era of artificial intelligence (AI). With the increase in diabetes incidence globally, including in South Africa, where millions are unaware of their condition, better surveillance in primary care clinics is imperative. Digital health solutions can help alleviate the burden on overburdened health systems, enabling remote monitoring of diabetes patients. Engaging stakeholders is critical to ensuring the sustainable implementation of new interventions. ~ **Dr. Patrick Ngassa Piotie**



Personalized oncology has been a longstanding concept, but existing databases primarily cater to European patients, leaving a gap in understanding how this fits within the African context. The PACRI is used to investigate gene expression profiles in African patients with various cancers and comorbidities, including HIV. While artificial intelligence holds promise, ethical considerations remain paramount to maintaining human-centric approaches amid technological advancements. ~ **Dr. Rodney Hull**



The production of nanomaterials capable of delivering therapies can enhance patient compliance and therapeutic efficacy. Advances in biotechnology have enabled the manipulation of DNA, increasing the efficiency of DNA therapeutics. Leveraging these innovations offers promising avenues for improving patient outcomes. ~ **Mr Michael Stark**

Awards Ceremony



Programme Director: **Nthabiseng Nkojoana**, TURF member and 6th-year Medical Student

The Faculty Research Day award ceremony was generously funded by the UP's Department of Research and Innovation (DRI). **Prof. Themba Mosia**, the **Acting Vice**

Chancellor of the UP, graced the occasion as our special guest for the award ceremony. In his closing remarks for the scientific section of the event, he lauded the significant increase in FHS research output in 2021, underscoring its importance before presenting prizes to the winners of each session.



Ms Anwani Nekhumbe diligently managed the adjudication and selection process of the respective award winners with the assistance of adjudicators who served as judges for each session. **Dr. Robin Nxele** coordinated the allocation of awards for this session. The FHS choir added to the celebratory atmosphere by joining this session to congratulate the winners and mark the conclusion of a successful event.



FHS Choir in the Awards Ceremony

Table 7: List of prizes

Best Oral Presentation	Type of award	Value in Rands
Postgraduate student:		
Honours	Local conference travel grant	R2 500.00
Master's	Local conference travel grant	R2 500.00
Doctoral	Local conference travel grant	R2 500.00
Emerging academic	International conference travel grant	R5 000.00
Advanced academic	International conference travel grant	R5 000.00
Best Poster		
Student Poster prize (1st prize: R500 Bookmark voucher, R300 Marketing voucher, R200 Lunch voucher. 2nd prize: R250 Marketing voucher, R150 Lunch voucher. 3rd prize: R100 Lunch voucher)		
Academic Poster prize (1st prize: R750 Marketing voucher, R350 Bookmark voucher, R250 Lunch voucher. 2nd prize: R300 Marketing voucher, R200 Lunch voucher. 3rd prize: R150 Lunch voucher)		
Postgraduate student		
Honours	Poster prize	R1 500.00
Master's	Poster prize	R1 500.00
Doctoral	Poster prize	R1 500.00
Emerging academic	Poster prize	R2 000.00
Advanced academic	Poster prize	R2 000.00
Other		
Best exhibition stand by an entity	1st prize: R10 000 towards research + Postdoctoral Fellow 2nd prize: R5 000 towards research + Postdoctoral Fellow 3rd prize: Postdoctoral Fellow	
TOP 3 FHS Champions of Research Visibility and Impact 2023	R1000 prize for three winners	R3 000.00

The following recipients received awards within their respective sessions that were run over the two days of the event:

Best Oral Presentation

Honours: Ms. Shudufhadzo Singo, Department of Immunology

Masters: Ms. Gabriella Pereira, Department of Pharmacology

Doctoral: Ms. Monique Shanahan, School of Health Systems and Public Health

***Emerging Academic (Postdocs, Lecturers, Senior Lecturers):** Dr. Rodwell Gundo, Department of Nursing Science

Best Poster

Honours: 1st Prize: Miss Christie Megaw, Department of Pharmacology; 2nd Prize: Ms Kaelin van Zyl, Department of Medical Microbiology; 3rd Prize: Ms Maxine Hannan, Department of Physiology

Master's: 1st Prize: Miss Priyal Mistry, Department of Medical Immunology; 2nd Prize: Miss Dianay Maans, Department of Physiology; 3rd Prize: Miss Kirsten Regan, Department of Anatomy

Doctoral: 1st Prize: Ms Monique Piderit, Department of Human Nutrition; 2nd Prize: Mr Sunday Ntuli, Department of Anatomy; 3rd Prize: Ms Fatima Barmania, Department of Immunology

Emerging Academic: 1st Prize: Ms Lindokuhle Phiri, Department of Physiology 2nd Prize: Dr Anri Human, Department of Physiotherapy, 3rd Prize: Dr Juanita Mellet, Department of Immunology

***Advanced Academic:** 1st Prize: Prof Sandra Spijkerman, Department of Anaesthesiology; 2nd Prize: Prof Ronell Leech, Department of Nursing Science; 3rd Prize: Prof Mthunzi Ngcelwane, Orthopaedic Surgery

The Best Exhibition Stand by an Entity Award: This year, we had three winners: 1st Prize: Institute for Cellular and Molecular Medicine (ICMM) 2nd Prize: Forensic Anthropology Research Centre (FARC), 3rd Prize: Sport, Exercise Medicine and Lifestyle Institute (SEMLI)

Faculty of Health Sciences Champion of Research Visibility and Impact: These are the three researchers whose research is visible and has a societal impact; their 2022 research is highly cited in policy documents, patents and mentions on social media. Their ORCID is fully populated and linked. In no particular order: Prof Soma-Pillay, Prof Veronica Ueckermann, Prof Wanda Markotter

Vote of Thanks

Prof. Tivani Mashamba-Thompson extended special gratitude to all keynote speakers, presenters, and event sponsors, recognising their invaluable contributions. She expressed heartfelt appreciation to the presenters, attendees, and the steering committee of the 2023 Faculty Research Day. Prof. Mashamba-Thompson offered special thanks to the logistics and planning committee, commending **Mrs. Gertrude Mamabolo** and **Ms. Anwani Nekhumbe** for their exceptional event management efforts. She also acknowledged the outstanding contributions of the Faculty Communications and Marketing Manager, **Ms. Sindisiwe Kubeka**, and **Mrs. Karen du Preez**. Additionally, Prof. Mashamba-Thompson recognized the FHS research support hub interns and the team of volunteers for their dedication and hard work.



Mashamba-Thompson's vote of thanks and special appreciation to the logistics and planning committee



2023 Faculty Day Volunteers

At her closing address, Mashamba-Thompson announced the following research initiatives as part of the 2024 FHS Research implementation plan:

In alignment with the country and the UP's priority area of 'developing future research leaders', she invited TURF student leaders Ms. Nobuhle Gxekwa and Ms. Emily MacGregor to announce and launch the undergraduate research methods course. The concept for this course originated from discussions held during the 2022 Faculty Research Day. Prof. Mashamba-Thompson tasked undergraduate student leaders representing various student bodies within the FHS with engaging in a panel discussion to explore reasons for the lack of undergraduate student participation in research. Student engagement was hindered by a limited understanding of the nature and scope of research, along with common myths surrounding research. These misconceptions included beliefs that research was reserved solely for postgraduates, was exclusively lab-based, and that students felt overwhelmed and unsure of where to start. These concerns can be addressed by establishing an Undergraduate Research Methods Course. This course, designed for non-degree purposes, aims to equip undergraduates with comprehensive research knowledge and introduce them to research concepts early in their academic journey.

The enrolment form for this course was made available on August 24 2023, accessible via the [link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeLKpytQwyyJzOuV9Jnw_hiGCv98IjyaHncfJRuAz6kwwA60w/viewform) below:



Undergraduate students launching the undergraduate research methods course

Prof Mashamba-Thompson concluded her vote of thanks by inaugurating the social event, the culminating session of the 2023 Faculty Research Day. This event was designed to foster a networking environment, facilitating the initiation of new collaborative research projects among researchers.

2023 Faculty Research Day Committee

Scientific Committee

The 2023 Faculty Research Day was organised by a diverse and dynamic team comprising members from various FHS departments and UP Library Services. Their affiliations and pictures are listed below. The scientific committee was pivotal in conceptualising the conference program, selecting speakers, and engaging key stakeholders to enhance participant engagement. Notably, the adjudicators for the Faculty Research Day also served as members of the scientific committee. Prof. Mashamba-Thompson led this committee, providing guidance and leadership throughout the planning process.



Prof. Razia Khammissa
HOD: Periodontics and Oral
Medicine (RESCOM Member)



Prof. Kitty Uys
HOD: Occupational Therapy
(RESCOM Member)



Prof. Tahir Pillay
HOD: Chemical Pathology
(RESCOM Member)



Prof. Joyce Shirinde
Head of Division: Behaviour and
Health Management Sciences
(RESCOM Member)



Ms Kabelo Kgarosi Library
Manager



Mrs Natasha Jeftha
Grant Manager



Left to Right: Ms Sebueng Ramatsokotla, Ms Anwani Nekhumbe, Ms Thato Serite, and Mr Darren Chetty

Names of the Adjudicators

The names of the adjudicators and the types of projects they reviewed are listed in Table 10.

Table 8: Faculty Research Day adjudicators and type of research reviewed.

Adjudicator	Type of research to review
Dr Marissa Balmith	Poster
Prof Isabel Coetzee	Poster
Dr Brian Flepisi	Poster
Dr Mlindeli Gamede	Poster
Dr Abe Kasonga	Poster
Prof Marleen Kock	Poster
Miss Gabi Kruger	Poster
Prof Janet Mans	Poster
Mr Henry Msimango	Poster
Ms Claudina Nogueira	Poster
Prof Michael Pepper	Poster
Miss Andrea Prinsloo	Poster
Dr Heleen Roos	Poster
Mr Okuhle Sapo	Poster
Prof Prashilla Soma	Poster
Dr Cheryl Tosh	Poster
Dr Astrid Turner	Poster
Dr Iman van den Bout	Poster
Dr Chantal van Niekerk	Poster
Ms Thato Serite	Poster
Ms Takalani Makhanthisa	Poster
Dr June Serem	Poster
Dr Melvin Ambele	Poster
Dr Ross Anderson	Poster

Prof Peet du Toit	Poster
Dr Machel Leuschner	Poster
Dr Emmanuel Matsebatlela	Poster
Prof Sim Mayaphi	Poster
Prof Joji Mercier	Poster
Mrs Shamiso Mlambo	Poster
Dr Nkhensani Mogale	Poster
Prof Joyce Mothabeng	Poster
Dr Thandi Mhlanga	Poster
Prof Claire Newton	Poster
Dr Sean Patrick	Poster
Dr Joyce Shirinde	Poster
Dr Michelle Visagie	Poster
Dr Thabi Soul	Poster
Dr Andrea Ellero	Poster
Mr Bright Appiah	Poster
Dr Janine Fourie	Poster
Dr Pooveshni Naidoo	Poster
Dr Maurine Musie	Poster
Dr Nombulelo Sepeng	Poster
Dr Martin Vorster	Poster
Dr Tshepiso Mfolo	Poster
Ms Asnath Motsepe	Poster
Ms Germaine Lovric	Poster
Dr Sanele Ngcobo	Poster
Dr Rodney Mudau	Poster
Dr Anri Human	Poster
Dr Carel Viljoen	Poster
Mrs Muhle Komati	Poster
Mr William Masinga	Poster
Dr Thabo Hamiwe	Poster
Mr Marius Loots	Poster
Ms Jade Naicker	Poster
Dr Rivak Punchoo	Poster
Mrs Phumudzo Tshiambara	Poster
Dr Celia Filmalter	Poster
Mrs Kapari Mashao	Poster
Dr Kuhlula Maluleke	Poster
Dr Robin Nxele	Poster
Prof Alfred Musekiwa	Oral
Prof Razia Khammissa	Oral
Prof Albert van Schoor	Oral
Prof Alisa Phulukdaree	Oral
Prof Marthie Ehlers	Oral
Prof Candice van Wyk	Oral
Prof Joji Mercier	Oral
Mr Keith Ncube	Oral
Prof Ahmed Bhayat	Oral
Prof Leanne Sykes	Oral
Prof Friede Wenhold	Oral

Mrs Hafsa Essop
Ms Maureen Chilufya

Oral
Oral

Logistics and Planning Committee

The 2023 Faculty Research Day Organizing Committee, under the leadership of **Mrs Gertrude Mamabolo** and **Ms Anwani Nekhumbe** as chairpersons, comprised dedicated FHS staff members. This committee included individuals from the Dean's office staff and various departments, such as marketing and operations. Their primary responsibility was to meticulously coordinate multiple aspects of the event, including sponsor invitations, website management, and oversight of all logistical arrangements, including delegate registration and management of both online and in-person attendance. The committee worked closely with the Scientific Committee to ensure seamless communication and coordination with delegates and presenters in preparation for the event.



*Mrs Gertrude Mamabolo
(Research Office)*



*Ms Anwani Nekhumbe
(Research Office)*



*Mrs Natasha Jeftha
(Research Office)*



Ms Jacqueline Mabokela (Dean's Office)



Mrs Samantha Hodgson (Dean's Office)

2023 Faculty Research Day Evaluation Findings

A total of 89 (approximately 12% of attendees) responded to the Google form evaluation. Of these, 48 were from the School of Medicine, six were from the School of Dentistry, 10 were from the School of Healthcare Sciences, seven were from the School of Health Systems and Public Health, and the remaining were from other departments. The school with the most responses was the School of Medicine.

Most respondents (88.8%) attended the event in person, while 11.2% attended online (Figure 1).

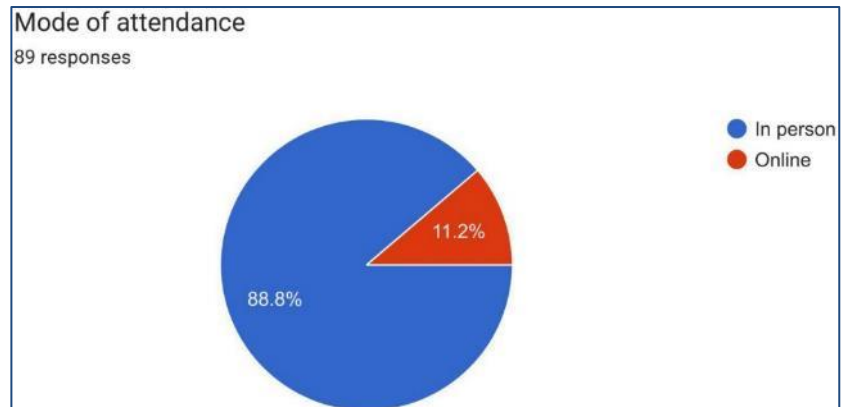


Figure 1: Research day mode of attendance

The respondents highlighted oral presentations (65.2%), followed by entity exhibition stands (53.4%) and poster viewing (52.3%) as the most interesting sessions/aspects of the 2023 Faculty Research Day (Figure 2).

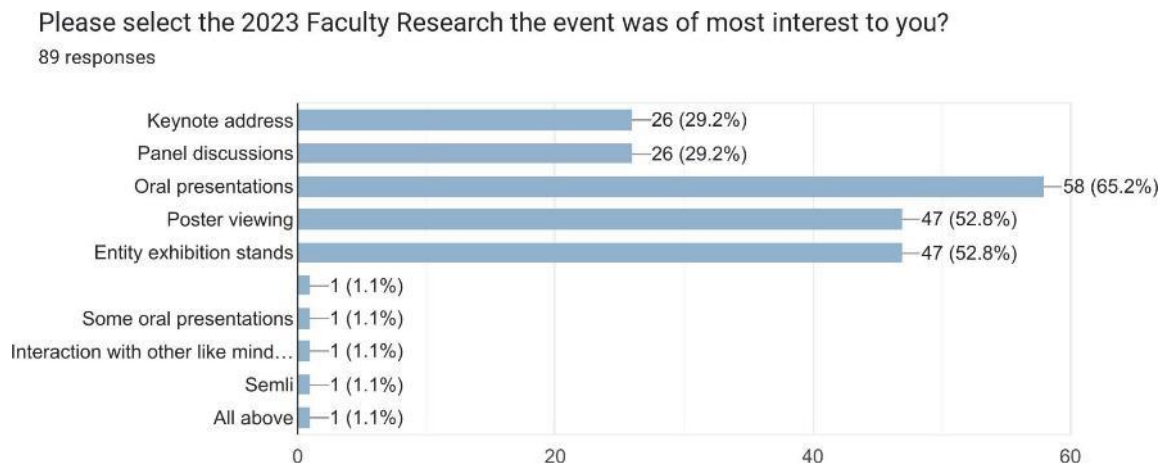


Figure 2: Most interesting aspects of Faculty Research Day

The format/programme, website, venue, catering and communications leading up to the event were highly rated by respondents (Figure 3).

On a scale from 1 - 5, please rate your experience with the following, with 1 being low and 5 being high.

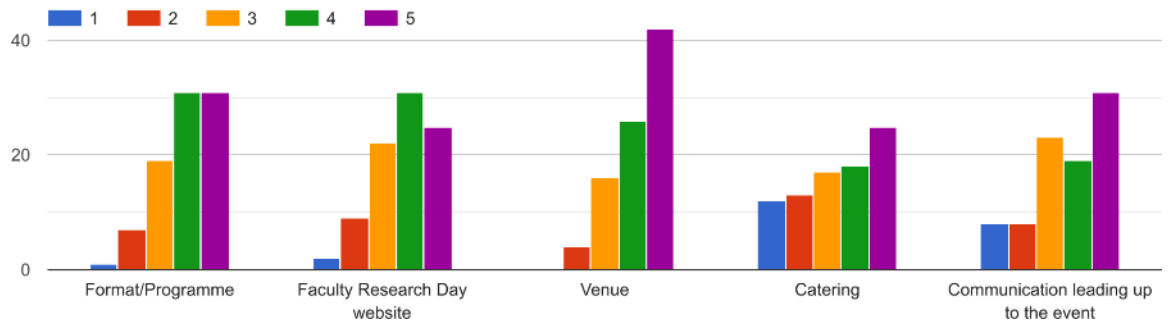
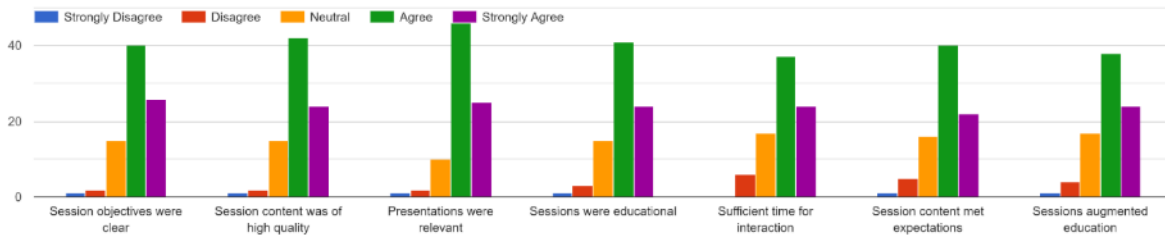


Figure 3: Rating of Faculty Research Day components.

All Faculty Research Day sessions were highly rated on the following aspects (Figure 4):

1. Clarity of the session objectives
2. Quality of the event sessions
3. The relevance of the presentations
4. Clarity of panel discussions
5. Potential educational impact of the session
6. Adequacy of the time slot for the session
7. Adequacy of the content for the session

Theme 2: Collaboration



Theme 3: Innovation

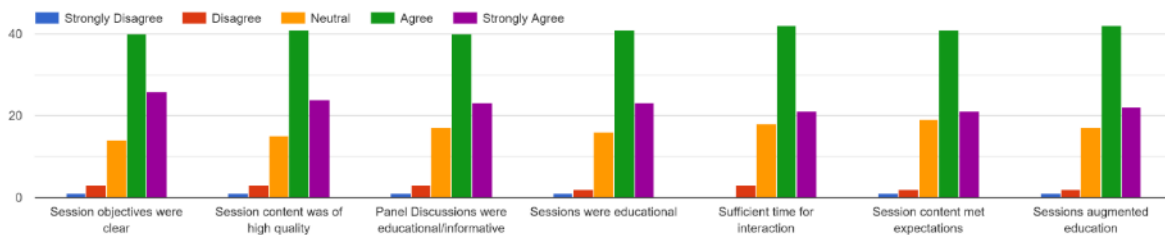


Figure 4: Rating of the different Faculty Research Day sessions

A total of 76.4% of the respondents indicated that they are likely to recommend Faculty Research Day to a friend or colleague, which suggests that Faculty Research Day was well received (Figure 5).

How likely are you to recommend FHS Faculty Research Day to a friend or colleague?

89 responses

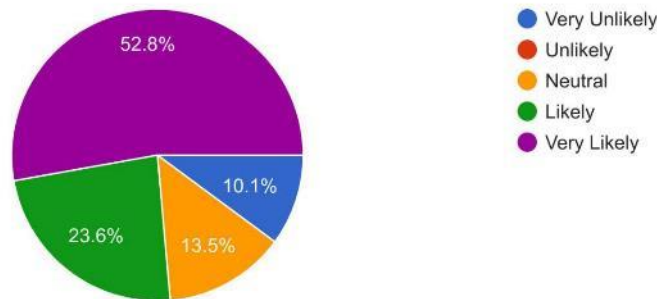


Figure 5: Recommendation of Faculty Research Day.

The respondents provided constructive comments and suggestions, as summarised in Figure 6, which will be considered when planning Faculty Research Day 2024.

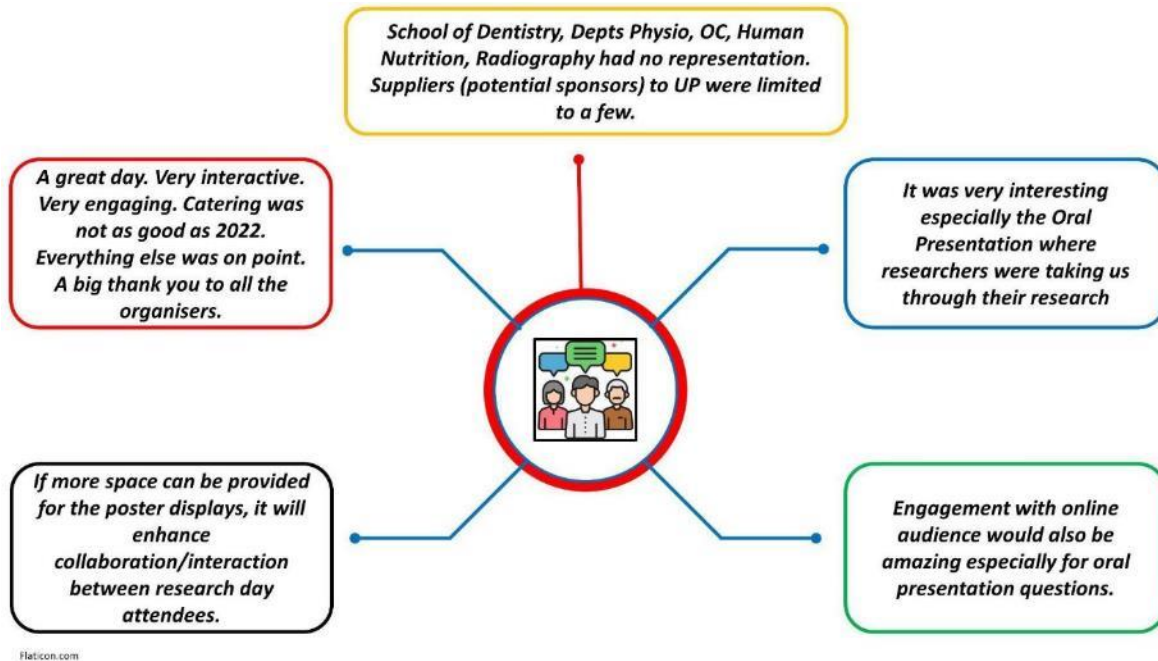


Figure 6: Constructive comments and suggestions by respondents.

Acknowledgements

Program directors of 2023 Faculty Research Day: Prof. Ryan Blumenthal, Ms Vanessa N. Gxekwa, Prof. Trevor Nyakudya, and Ms Shanna-Lee Bester.

Keynote speaker Dr Gugu Moche for honouring our invitation and for the insightful keynote address

Ms Maureen Moyo Chilufya, Mr Keith Ncube, Ms Thato Serite and Mrs Natasha Jeftha for contributing to the authorship of the first draft of the 2023 Faculty Research Day Report together with Prof. Tivani Mashamba-Thompson.

Dr Cheryl Tosh for editing the 2024 Faculty Research Day Report.

Mrs Karen du Preez for supporting FHS faculty days and preparing the venue for the event.

Prof. Tiaan de Jager for assisting with advertising and the supporting organising team for 2024 Faculty-Research Day.

2023 Faculty Research Day Steering Committee

2023 Faculty Research Day Scientific Committee

The undergraduate students who assisted in putting together the panel discussion were led by their peers and those who facilitated it.

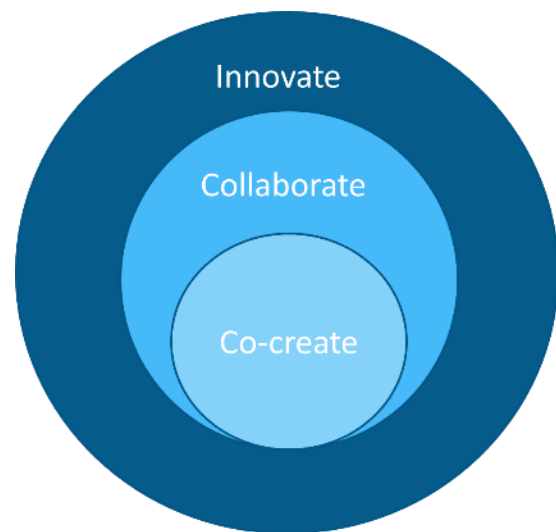
All external sponsors for sponsoring this event.

Eyscape photography and the production team for documenting all aspects of Faculty Research Day.

All volunteers who gave up time to assist in the smooth operation of the event.

UP Security Services and Technical Services assisted with preparing the venue.

Amor caterers for their culinary delights.



Appendices

[LINK TO THE FACULTY DAY PROGRAMME](#)

THEME: *CO-CREATE, COLLABORATE, INNOVATE*

VENUE: TSWELOPELE BUILDING, PRINSHOF

SOUTH CAMPUS DATE: THURSDAY, 24

AUGUST 2023

FACULTY RESEARCH DAY PROGRAMME

CO-CREATE, COLLABORATE, INNOVATE

TSWELOPELE BUILDING, PRINSHOF SOUTH
CAMPUS THURSDAY, 24 AUGUST 2023



Faculty of
Health Sciences
Fakuleit Gesondheidswetenskappe
Lefapha la Disaense tša Maphelo

Make today matter

07:00 07:50	Registration	
08:00 08:15	Welcome and Opening – Prof Tiaan de Jager Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences Lecture Hall 1	
08:15 08:25	Faculty of Health Sciences Choir Lecture Hall 1	
08:30 09:10	Keynote Address: “Co-Create, Collaborate, Innovate” - Dr Gugu Moche Acting Deputy CEO: Research, Innovation and Impact Support and Advancement (RIISA), National Research Foundation Lecture Hall 1	
	Programme Directors: Prof Ryan Blumenthal & Ms Vanessa N. Gxekwa	Programme Directors: Prof Trevor Nyakudya & Ms Shanna-Lee Bester
09:20 10:00	Parallel Session: 1 Oral Presentations (10 min each) Theme: Co-Create Lecture Hall 1, Tswelopele	Parallel Session: 2 Oral Presentations (10 min each) Theme: Innovate Lecture Hall 2, Tswelopele
09:20	2023142 Oral Presentation: Mrs Tania Buys Title: Creating a curriculum framework for the teaching of vocational rehabilitation as part of the first professional occupational therapy degree.	2023152 Oral Presentation: Dr Lerato Motimele Title: COVID-19 Vaccination of Undocumented and Hard-to-Reach Populations.
09:30	2023153 Oral Presentation: Mr Sibongiseni Nxumalo Title: Reintegration experiences of clinical research	2023159 Oral Presentation: Dr Kuhlula Maluleke Title: Improving Supply Chain Management for Point-of-Care

POSTER DISPLAY 7H00 -17H00

		participants into public health services in Johannesburg's inner city: A qualitative study.		Diagnostics in Resource-Limited Settings: Policy Brief.
09:40	<u>2023116</u>	Oral Presentation: <u>Ms Shudufhadzo Singo</u> Title: Prevalence of Single Nucleotide Variations Associated with Human Leukocyte Antigen on The Diagnosis of Psoriasis patients from a tertiary academic hospital in Tshwane.	<u>2023055</u>	Oral Presentation: <u>Ms Gabriella Pereira</u> Title: A pilot study assessing the efficacy of maggot debridement therapy as an alternative debridement technique to standard care with intrasite gel dressings in the treatment of chronic, septic wounds in adults.
09:50	<u>2023004</u>	Oral Presentation: <u>Dr Sandisiwe Dvonase</u> Title: A qualitative study of nurses' knowledge about covid-19 within the context of management of patients in a psychiatric hospital	<u>2023131</u>	Oral Presentation: <u>Dr Rodwell Gundo</u> Title: Evaluation of an ubuntu-informed training of community health workers on the management of tuberculosis, HIV and AIDS in Gauteng province, South Africa.
10:10 10:40	Panel Discussion on the Co-Creation Theme (Chair: Dr Thabo Hamiwe) - Tswelopele Square (30 min each) 1. Dr Melvin Ambele - Senior Research Officer 2. Dr Candice Hendricks - Paediatric Clinical Haematologist 3. Dr Tsakane Hlongwane - Specialist Obstetrician and Gynaecologist 4. Dr Kuhlula Maluleke – Point-of-Care Diagnostics Researcher 5. Prof Elize Webb - UP Diabetes Research Centre			
10:40 11:00	Tea/Coffee Break			
11:05 11:45	Parallel Session: 3 Oral Presentations (10 min each) Theme: Collaborate Lecture Hall 1, Tswelopele		Parallel Session: 4 Oral Presentations (10 min each) Theme: Co-Create Lecture Hall 2, Tswelopele	
11:05	<u>2023120</u>	Oral Presentation: <u>Dr Tsholofelo Kungoane</u> Title: The clinical profile of head and neck Ebv+ B-Cell lymphomas in patients with HIV infection.	<u>2023137</u>	Oral Presentation: <u>Ms Mamoilwa Motshabi</u> Title: Healthcare support personnel's understanding of the radiation safety measures in the radiology department: an exploratory descriptive study.
11:15	<u>2023139</u>	Oral Presentation: <u>Ms Cecilia Moeti</u> Title: Cultural beliefs influencing the uptake of cervical	<u>2023010</u>	Oral Presentation: <u>Dr Cheval Murugas</u> Title: Sociodemographic and occupational factors associated

		cancer screening among women in a community healthcare centre in South Africa.		with depression and anxiety amongst mental health care Workers.
11:25	<u>2023082</u>	<u>Oral Presentation: Ms Helena De Villiers</u> <u>Title:</u> Assessing variation in ear size of South African populations for 3D cranio-facial approximation.	<u>2023147</u>	<u>Oral Presentation: Mrs Tebogo Mampane</u> <u>Title:</u> The acceptability of a breast milk bank and donated human milk among mothers in Philadelphia hospital in Sekhukhune district, Limpopo province.
11:35	<u>2023148</u>	<u>Oral Presentation: Ms Naledi Mmekwa</u> <u>Title:</u> Assessing oxidative stress and identifying pharmaceuticals in water sources of Mpumalanga province, South Africa.	<u>2023024</u>	<u>Oral Presentation: Ms Thalia Campos</u> <u>Title:</u> In vitro influence of papaverine on proliferation and morphology in cervical tumorigenic cells.
12:00 12:30	Panel Discussion on the Collaboration Theme (Research Entities – Chaired by Dr Camille Castelyn– Tswelopele Square (30 min each)) Panelists <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Louisa Seopela - Obstetrician and Gynaecologist/Lecturer 2. Dr Heleen Roos - Public Health Medicine Specialist and Lecturer 3. Ms Jeanne van Rensburg - ICMM Project Manager 4. Dr Rahaba Marima - PACRI Senior Scientific Researcher 5. Dr Ross Anderson – Researcher: Centre for Neuroendocrinology 			
12:35 13:15	<i>Viewing of Posters</i>			
13:15 14:15	<i>Lunch</i>			
14:20 15:10	Parallel Session: 5 Oral Presentations (10 min each) Theme: Innovate Lecture Hall 1, Tswelopele		Parallel Session: 6 Oral Presentations (10 min each) Theme: Collaborate Lecture Hall 2, Tswelopele	
14:20	<u>2023158</u>	<u>Oral Presentation: Mr Paul Nkuna</u> <u>Title:</u> COVID-19 call centre undocumented migrants.	<u>2023026</u>	<u>Oral Presentation: Dr Craig Grobbelaar</u> <u>Title:</u> Development of a portable thermal sensation device for objective assessment of sensory dysfunction.

14:30	2023133	Oral Presentation: <u>Ms Kaelin Van Zyl</u> Title: Virulence gene profiles of enteropathogenic <i>Escherichia coli</i> isolated from stool samples of children presenting with diarrhoea in private clinics in Gauteng, South Africa.	2023168	Oral Presentation: <u>Prof Bookhan Vinesh</u> Title: Assessing a student's knowledge of dental materials during clinical teaching and learning.
14:40	2023097	Oral Presentation: <u>Mr Saheed Kakako</u> Title: Phenotypic profiling of lipograms: Analysis by artificial intelligence.	2023149	Oral Presentation: <u>Ms Monique Shanahan</u> Title: Drivers of malaria in the eastern Vhembe district, Limpopo province.
14:50	2023155	Oral Presentation: <u>Dr Moshao Makhele</u> Title: Trends and distribution patterns of infant mortality and maternal HIV positivity in South Africa: A decade review (2007 - 2016).	2023146	Oral Presentation: <u>Ms Mamohlotsane Lydia</u> Title: Efficacy of a novel portable MRI as a screening tool in neonates with NESHIE (Neonatal Encephalopathy with Suspected Hypoxic Ischemic Encephalopathy).
15:00	2023009	Oral Presentation: <u>Dr Nikhil Nowbath</u> Title: Comparing the medication costs of treating patients with schizophrenia who use cannabis to those who do not.	2023101	Oral Presentation: <u>Ms Andrea Prinsloo</u> Title: The effects of in utero HIV and antiretroviral therapy exposure on infant t-cell and monocyte activation, function, and regulation of immunomodulatory pathways.
15:20 15:50	<p>Panel Discussion on the Innovation Theme (Chair: Dr Siphesihle Robin Nxele) – Tswelopele Square (30 min each)</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Juanita Mellet - Postdoctoral Fellow 2. Dr Rodney Hull - PACRI Research Manager 3. Dr Patrick Ngassa Piotie - UP Diabetes Research Centre 4. Mr Michael Stark - MSc Human Physiology Student 			
15:50 16:00	Comfort Break			
16:00	Faculty of Health Sciences Choir			

16:30	Awards Ceremony: Prof Themba Mosia – Interim Vice Chancellor Tswelopele Square
16:30 16:45	Closing remarks: Prof Tivani Mashamba-Thompson – Deputy Dean: Research and Postgraduate Studies Tswelopele Square
16:45	Social Function & FHS Launch of Undergraduate Research Course Tswelopele Square

SPONSORS

