



## Vice-Chancellor engages with Academic and Support Staff of the School of Medicine

The Vice Chancellor Prof Peter Mbatia continues with his visits to Schools as part of his crusade to entrench the centrality of the academic project at SMU. His recent stop was at the School of Medicine (SOM) where he engaged with academic and support staff in the School, and also held a dialogue with Heads of Departments (HODs) and Chairpersons of the Academic Committees.

Prof Risenga Chauke the acting Dean of the School of Medicine gave an overview of the School's operations and outlined the School's strategic plan. During his presentation Prof Chauke raised the challenges posed by the COVID-19 regulations and its impact on the holistic training of medical students, given that online training creates the risk of students having limited clinical exposure,

*continues to page 2...*

### IN THIS EDITION



Vice-Chancellor visit to the School of Pharmacy **p3**



Focus on Research **p4**



SMU Annual Fund Raising **p6**



SMU/DGMAH vaccinates Bader SA employees **p7**



**p14**

which is a basic tenet of medical training. He also added that SOM is developing a plan to increase the output of postgraduates and PhD's.

The Heads of Departments also got an opportunity to brief Prof Mbatlana on their operations and also shed some light on some of the challenges they face in their work, calling upon the VC to intervene in certain specific cases. It was also noted that the SOM currently offers the Emergency Medical Care (EMC) programme which was introduced in 2016, but that there should be improvement on marketing the programme to attract more students. Prof Mbatlana advised the School to consider marketing the programme within the SADC region and beyond as one of the strategies to strengthen and grow the EMC programme at SMU.

Another positive development from the School is that the Department of Radiography has recently been accredited to offer a Bachelor of Radiology Honors' programme. On the other hand, there is a challenge of lack of adequate resources to acquire cutting edge technology and this has in a way weakened its capacity to grow. There is a need to invest in imaging technology.

Further, the SOM has identified the development of short courses as an area to be explored for financial sustainability, and new programmes must be introduced to increase student numbers towards this aim. A revised MBChB 1 curriculum will

be introduced in 2022, and this will introduce opportunities for collaboration and integration in all the first and second year categories.

In response to issues that were raised, Prof Mbatlana expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to engage with academic and support staff, and encouraged the academics to speak out and have their voices heard in the health education discourse, and in so doing contribute towards fostering culture change at SMU. He congratulated them for the good work they were doing in the core business of Teaching, Learning, Research and Community Engagement, and challenged them to seize the opportunity to tell their stories, using the University platforms available. Prof Mbatlana also added that academics need to utilise their skills, the facilities and infrastructure to explore opportunities generated by the demands of the 4th Industrial Revolution and COVID-19 challenges, in order to bring about financial sustainability to the SMU academic enterprise.

The VC later went on a walk about at the Dr George Mukhari Academic Hospital (DGMH) where he visited the Ophthalmology Department and the Paediatric wards. He interacted with staff members in the wards to learn more about their experiences and inspected the facilities with the Acting Deputy Dean of the School of Medicine, Prof Dini Mawela. The VC visits engender much excitement and encourage employee engagement, which is much needed at the University.



## Editorial Team

Odette Ramsingh *Editor in Chief* | Phaladi Seakgwe *Editor* | Dineo Motshegare *Graphic Designer* | Tumelo Moila *Writer* | Maditsi Matlala *Writer*

## CONTACT US

E-mail: [phaladi.seakgwe@smu.ac.za](mailto:phaladi.seakgwe@smu.ac.za)  
**Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University**  
Molotlegi Road | Ga-Rankuwa | Pretoria 0204



## Vice-Chancellor visit to the School of Pharmacy

Vice-Chancellor, Prof Mbatj, visited the School of Pharmacy on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September 2021. As the principal academic and administrative officer of the University, the aim of the visit by Prof Mbatj was to get a better understanding of the School, in line with his pursuit for all the Schools in the University to take center stage in terms of the academic project, and make SMU the best institution in health sciences education. The Vice-Chancellor was welcomed by the Dean of the School, Prof Patrick Demana. Prof Demana briefed the VC on the history of the School of Pharmacy at SMU stemming from its predecessor institutions, Medunsa, and the University of Limpopo (Medunsa Campus), including on the partnership that the institution has had for some time with Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) with regard to its offer on the BPharm degree programme regarding pharmaceutical laboratories services. Prof Demana thanked the VC for his efforts to expeditiously ensure the current construction of the two state of the art laboratories i.e. the Pharmaceuticals Lab with a Sterile Unit, and the Pharmaceutical Chemistry Lab, which is expected to be completed by the end of October 2021. This matter is critical given that the accreditation of the BPharm degree programme by the South African Pharmacy Council hinges on the completion of these two laboratories. Prof Demana also gave a brief high level overview of the School of Pharmacy in terms of its structure, strategy and operations.

After meeting the Dean, the VC proceeded to meet all members of the School Executive Committee (EXCO). All HoDs used this opportunity to engage the VC on the strengths and challenges experienced by their Divisions. The VC was very impressed to note that despite the challenges of postgraduate laboratories that the School has, there is a high number of postgraduate students registered in the School, comprising a total of 156 postgraduate students registered for various postgraduate degrees as of 2021. The School strongly believes that this number can be higher if the School has postgraduate laboratories, as currently the throughput of the postgraduate students is somewhat hampered by this. EXCO members also proudly highlighted uniqueness of the Radio Pharmacy postgraduate programme which is only offered at SMU throughout the African continent! VC advised the School that it should endeavor to get funding from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, to support students from Africa attending such a course at SMU, but also to explore research funding for specialized equipment needed for Radio pharmacy. As for the undergraduate programme, the VC was informed that the unique problem-based learning BPharm programme is an excellent programme but issues around SMU culture appear to affect the programme, and VC responded that we all need to work together in order to alleviate this challenge. The School student support personnel who is a co-opted member of School EXCO took this opportunity to highlight to the VC student issues, primarily relating to the deep SMU cultural issues.

After meeting the School EXCO, the VC proceeded to meet staff members (academics and support) of the School. Staff members were visibly excited to meet the VC, and they highlighted issues that they would like VC to attend to. Some of the issues raised related to the administration organogram and contact details at SMU, the problems with Responds and lack of follow up on students who cheat in assessments, the lack of balance in staff input/output partly due to working from home, and again the culture issues (role of staff/student, lack of respect, lines of communication, etc).

VC responded that all these issues are being attended to and we all need to work together as one family throughout the whole University to make it success. He emphasized that performance management contracts and the culture compact that was signed recently, if lived by all, will go a long way in turning the institution around.

Overall this visit by the VC was extremely fruitful, as he understood the School better in terms of teaching, learning and research matters, including administrative issues. The whole School felt invigorated, and promised the VC that despite the challenges facing SMU in general, they would continue doing their best to make SMU a better institution for all!!!

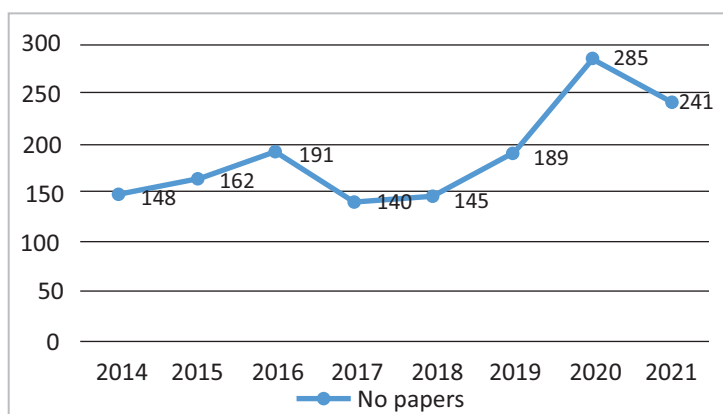
# Focus on Research



**The Director - Prof M Seheri: Research, Postgraduate studies and Innovation (Prof M Seheri) reports to the Office of the DVC: Research, Postgraduate Studies and Innovation.** Three strategic research priorities are supported by the Directorate; (1) achieving research of the highest quality and integrity, (2) supporting and developing people (students and staff) and (3) enhancing societal impact (including stimulating economic and workforce development) that transforms the lives of ordinary people.

Some recent most notable achievements in research endeavours supported by the Directorate are:

- Research output trend analysis shown in the accompanying graph shows a steady upward trajectory in the university publication rate since 2015



- MeCRU Clinical Research Unit participates in conducting clinical trials e.g. Sisonke for the J&J vaccine, and most recently Sinovac in children
- Training initiatives for the National Health Quality Improvement Plan through the National Department of Health received a R7.5 million grant award from HWESETA to provide training to managers at a national level
- The Electron Microscope Unit received a National Equipment grant award from the Department of Science and Innovation in partnership with the NRF to support the purchase of a R30 million JEOL F200 High Resolution Transmission Electron Microscope (HRTEM) that will be commissioned at SMU early 2022.
- In achieving our mandate to provide a conducive research environment to staff and postgraduate

## Research Information Management

Responsible for coordination and recording of all Research output publications in indexed databases/ journals, books and published conference proceedings which meet the criteria as DHET accredited articles. Promote publication in accredited journals.



**Mrs E Mfete**

Research Information Officer  
E-mail: [elsie.mfete@smu.ac.za](mailto:elsie.mfete@smu.ac.za)

## Grants Management

Responsible for bringing in 3<sup>rd</sup> stream income through external research funding (grants), as well as creating and advancing research collaborations and Partnerships with other academic institutions.



**Ms W Motsatsi**

Coordinator: Grants and Strategic Partnership  
E-mail: [winnie.motsatsi@smu.ac.za](mailto:winnie.motsatsi@smu.ac.za)

## Capacity Development

Research capacity development (RCD) initiatives are implemented to support staff members and postgraduate students with various activities, e.g. Short courses; Research Development Programme (RDP), Postdoctoral Research fellows, Supplementary Staff Employment Programme (SSEP), Research Capacity Development workshops for supervisor and postgraduate students, NRF Ratings, Future Professors Programme, and the Nurturing of Emerging Scholars.



**Mrs F Malamatsho**  
 Coordinator: Research Capacity  
 Development  
**E-mail:** fulufhelo.malamatsho@smu.ac.za



**Ms L Phiri**  
**Coordinator:** Animal and Human  
 Research Ethics  
**E-mail:** lorato.phiri@smu.ac.za

**Postgraduate Funding**

Management of postgraduate funding at the institution is supported through the provision of funding to Honours, Masters, and Doctoral (PhD) students. The Postgraduate funding office informs and updates postgraduate students and staff of available national and international bursaries and scholarship opportunities.



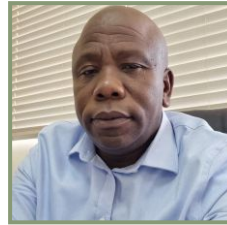
**Ms J Matenji**  
 Postgraduate Funding Officer  
**E-mail:** jadah.matentji@smu.ac.za

**Ethics review of research proposals**

Sefako Makgatho University Research Ethics Committee (SMUREC) is the official registered body responsible for independent review of all health research at the University before commencement of a study. The Committee functions to protect the rights, dignity, safety, welfare and best interests of all human participants and animal subjects (including human biological materials and data collection) involved in research at the University.

**Technology Transfer Office**

SMU Council recently approved incorporation of the Technology Transfer Office in the structure of the Research Office to ensure compliance with Section 17 of the Intellectual Property Rights, Publicly Financed Research and Development Act, 2008 (Act No. 51 Of 2008). National traction is maintained through an agreement with NIPMO to provide technical support for IP Management and patent registration. An MOA with TIA assists in commercialisation of innovative research outcomes that may have economic potential. The Office works closely with CfERI and explores innovative business ideas emanating from strident Entrepreneurs that may have IP potential.



**Mr M Sebola**  
 Project Coordinator: Office of  
 Technology Transfer  
**E-mail:** momohlatlego.sebola@smu.ac.za



# SMU Annual Fund Raising

# day

"All proceeds to benefit needy students"

**Time** Tee-off: Shotgun start @ 09h30  
Registration: 08h00  
Format: Scramble  
Entry fee: R3 200 per four-ball (includes green fees, golf carts, half way, prize-giving function and more)  
Sponsorships: Banners around a Green or tee @ R2 200  
Watering holes available @ R3 100  
Exhibition at registration is R3200

**Venue** Blue Valley Golf and Country Estate Golf Course

Please pay as soon as possible  
by no later than Friday,  
29 October 2021.

Booking will only be secured once  
payment has been received.

**RSVP by 15 October 2021**

E-mail: GolfDay@smu.ac.za  
or babalwa.luphondo@smu.ac.za

**Date: 18 November 2021**

Follow this link to RSVP online:

<https://forms.gle/31U56j5gTtwzKvat8>



## SMU welcomes ER24 Emergency Medical Services to enhance quality health services for students



It is with great excitement that we notify you about the appointment of ER24 Emergency Medical Services. This appointment addresses concerns that were raised by students about limited Emergency Medical Services. The initiative forms part of the strategic objectives of the Department of Student Affairs and Residences and is envisaged to enhance quality health services for SMU students. Further details about procedures for accessing ER24 services will be provided in due course by the Campus Health Clinic.



# SMU/DGMAH vaccinates Bader SA employees

**T**he SMU/DGMAH vaccinators under the leadership of Dr Matsontso Mathebula recently visited Bader premises in Rosslyn to vaccinate employees of the company. **Focus on SMU Reporter** interviewed various team members to get more insight on the vaccination outreach.

**Why did you decide to roll out the vaccination programme at Bader premises, instead of them coming to the SMU/DGMAH vaccination centre?**

This outreach activity was part of putting into action the mission and vision of SMU – to meet the health needs of the individual, the family, the community, and the population. We also have adequate vaccinators and the vaccines.

**How many people did you target at Bader and how many were able to receive the jab?**

The target for the day was to vaccinate 200 people. The SMU/DGMAH team vaccinated 32 people specifically, however, in total more people (180) were vaccinated on the day, as there was also a team from Gauteng Department of Health working collaboratively with the SMU/DGMAH team.

**Are there plans to roll out the same programme to other neighbouring firms in the Rosslyn area?**

Definitely. We will provide updates on developments.

**Which criteria was used to visit and roll out the vaccination programme at the firm premises?**

Communities reach out and request that the SMU/DGMAH site visit them.

**To date, how many people have been jabbed at SMU/DGMAH vaccination centre?**

We have recently gone over the 1000 mark. The uptake is increasing daily.

**How are you encouraging hesitant individuals who qualify to receive the jab?**

Community engagement and education is continuing. The vaccinator team visits DGMAH every morning and provides health education to patients who are in outpatient clinics waiting for consultation with doctors. All SMU social media platforms are used to send out messages on vaccination. A survey was distributed to study the factors contributing to vaccine hesitancy in the campus amongst students. We also have radio station activities to reach out to broader communities.

**Kindly share with us any other information that you deem necessary.**

The visit resulted in networking with a sister from another factory in Rosslyn who requested that we visit her factory as well. She will take the responsibility to organize everything and inform us of the dates. SMU/DGMAH is happy to support and engage with the communities around us.

# Student Affairs Celebrates Heritage Day

The Department of Student Affairs and Residences hosted a lunch hour session to affirm its commitment to embrace diversity amongst all students at the University, foster inclusion, respect differences and value contributions of all stakeholders. In her welcome address, Dr Irene Mohasoa, the Executive Director for Student Affairs and Residences indicated that as part of the transformation agenda, the department will strive towards providing culturally sensitive support services around race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, and religion and ensure that they recognize the unique needs of all students at the University. They further commit to continue empowering staff members to pay attention to multi-cultural issues and meet the needs of all students. In conclusion, Dr Mohasoa recommended that the Department of Student Affairs and Residences should collaborate with other academic and administrative departments to empower all students towards their academic and personal goals.



# Pharmacy student clinches Clinical Skills Competition



Final Year Pharmacy student Thikedzo Selapyana clinched the Clinical Skills Competition during the recently held South African Pharmaceutical Students' Federation (SAPSF) Conference. Focus on SMU reporter held a one on one interview with Thikedzo to understand how he managed to win the competition.

**Focus on SMU (FoS):** What are the objectives of the Clinical Skills Competition?

**Thikedzo Selapyana (TS):** The competition aims to allow pharmacy students from different institutions to show their clinical & pharmaceutical care skills through solving a real-life case.

**FoS:** Why did you enter the competition?

**TS:** I joined the competition just for fun initially. The pressure came in as I realised that SMUAPS were the champions of the competition 2 times in a row, and my fellow students told me that they trust me to bring it back home for the third time. That is when I decided to go the extra mile with my research on the case because I knew what winning the competition means for SMUAPS as the defending champions of the competition.

**FoS:** Which other institutions participated in the competition?

**TS:** Five institutions that participated in the competition are, TUT, UKZN, University of Limpopo and Wits University as well as SMU, which was represented by me.

**FoS:** In which category did you participate?

**TS:** There were no categories; each institution had to choose at least two people to represent them, from SMU no one was willing to participate, and I had to join the competition alone.

**FoS:** As a winner, what did you receive for your efforts?

**TS:** I received a signed book *“Finish with a bang”* written by

Mr Nhlanhla G Mafarafara, a pharmacist who did his Masters of pharmacy in public health at SMU, and is currently a pharmacy manager at Matlala district hospital as well as the founder of Faraz Creationz, a publishing company.

**FoS:** Which criteria were used to decide the winner?

**TS:** The chairperson of the SAAHIP Limpopo Branch Mr Rhulani Maluleke and Mr Mafarafara selected the winners. The criteria to choose the winner was the quality of the information provided, and this included the choice of the medication for the patient in the case and providing valid justification on why that medication. The choice of the medication was based on comparing the drug-drug interaction volume of distribution (looking at whether the drug is lipophilic or hydrophilic as well as the protein binding of the medications) and most importantly taking into consideration Antimicrobial stewardship.

**FoS:** What does winning the competition mean for your career?

**TS:** Winning the competition has added to my confidence when it comes to bringing out the best in me in providing quality health care services and improving the quality of life of patients. The competition has also served as a stepping-stone for my career because I have made acquaintances with influential people in the profession through a simple competition, and I believe this will be beneficial career-wise and in my professional development in the coming future.



# The Department of General Surgery Obtains 100% Pass rate in Final FCS (SA) examination

The Department of General Surgery under the guidance of Professor Zacharia Koto who won the SASSiT Swann-Morton Silver Scalpel Award in teaching, has managed to produce a 100% pass rate of surgical specialists at the recent College of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA) exams. The department's surgical registrars who achieved a 100% pass rate and are actively involved in research are Dr Cecil Pule, Dr Tebo Mosasi, Dr Tumelo Matlala, Dr Lerumo Motla, Dr Thegesh Naidoo, Dr Kennedy Mngoma, Dr Tom Mtshali, and Dr Kenny Mongwe. The sub-speciality fellows are Dr Imraan Sardiwalla (Certificate in Gastroenterology, HPB), Dr Legae Mogase (Certificate in Vascular Surgery), Dr Shumani Makhadi (Certificate in Trauma Surgery).

SMU as a Health Sciences University is on a mission to educate people about health-related matters and make a meaningful contribution especially during these difficult times of Covid-19. According to Prof Koto, SMU is esteemed among Harvard University, Oxford University. In 2019, SMU surgeons got a 100% pass rate during the Fellowship of the College of Surgeons (FCS) exams as well. This excellent spirit of education continues to blossom.

The surgeons, who passed, have knowledge and skills from a pioneer in laparoscopic procedures in the management of trauma patients in South Africa. These graduates are now following in his footsteps as a chief surgeon and a researcher who excelled in laparoscopic aortobifemoral bypass graft in South Africa in 2012 without complications.

The Department of Surgery at SMU has fewer financial resources, but despite this it has proven that it can be counted and participate in multiple research projects on par with well-resourced institutions.

The Registrars are now recognising and producing a variety of papers, which are published in different reputable journals as part of their MMED program, and the Department has been participating in many clinical trials that add value to the overall information database.

The total number of Registrars who completed FCS (SA), under the leadership of Prof Koto, are 51. He has committed himself to developing and teaching others.

# Clinical Trials Laboratory behind many successful projects at SMU



**A**t the time that Professor JHR Becker joined the Department of Surgery in March 2013, the Clinical Trials Laboratory was an unused student laboratory, totally derelict, dilapidated, dirty and non-functional. He approached the Medi-Clinic Hospital Group to support the upgrade and to equip the research laboratory into what the University has today. A project that cost around R1 Million.

The employees that started working at the Clinical Trials Laboratory alongside Prof JHR Becker and Prof MZ Koto were Sr Sibongile Ndlovu, Matlou Mabitsela and later joined by Branny Mthelebofu as a small team. The team is also made up of temporary employees comprising of pharmacists (Wandisile Grootboom and Ellen Makopo) and nurses (Lindiwe Rambau, Khomotso Mokoka, and Glenda Mahlangu). This Clinical Trials Laboratory is currently run by numerous experts conducting trials and other research projects of which the leading researchers continue to do tremendous work. The Principal Investigators are Prof JHR Becker, Prof MZ Koto and Prof N Tshifularo. The lab also collaborates with pharmaceutical companies, clinical research organizations, international universities (such as Harvard University, Oxford University, etc.). The laboratory also assists postgraduates (MMED registrars) with research projects that are published in reputable journals.

## The following is a summary of the current and completed clinical trials/projects

- **Research Title:** *Multicentre, international, randomized controlled trial of tranexamic acid (TXA) versus placebo and, using a partial factorial design, of a perioperative hypotension-avoidance versus hypertension-avoidance strategy.*  
**Status:** Started in 2018 and currently in progress

**Patients Enrolled:** three patients  
**Principal Investigator:** Prof JHR Becker

The aim of the trials is to determine if TXA was superior to placebo for the occurrence of life-threatening, major, and critical organ bleeding, and non-inferior to placebo for the occurrence of major arterial and venous thrombotic events; and to also determine the impact of a hypotension-avoidance strategy versus a hypertension-avoidance strategy on the risk of vascular death and major vascular events in patients who are followed for 30 days after noncardiac surgery.

- **Research Title:** *A Phase 2/3 Open-label, Randomized, and Active-controlled Clinical Study to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, Efficacy and Pharmacokinetics of MK-7655A in Pediatric Participants from Birth to Less Than 18 Years of Age with Confirmed or Suspected Gram-negative Bacterial Infection.*

**Status:** Started in 2019 and currently in progress  
**Patients Enrolled:** Two patients (SMU was the first site to successfully enrol the first two patients globally).  
**Principal Investigator:** Prof JHR Becker

The aim of the study is to evaluate the safety and tolerability of imipenem/cilastatin/relebactam in pediatric participants from birth to less than 18 years of age with confirmed or suspected gram-negative bacterial infection involving primary infection types (hospital-acquired bacterial pneumonia/ventilator-associated bacterial pneumonia (HABP/VABP), complicated intra-abdominal infection (cIAI), or complicated urinary tract infection (cUTI).

- **Research Title:** *A Phase 2, Randomized, Active Comparator-Controlled, Multicentre, Double-Blind Clinical Trial to Study the Safety and Efficacy of Ceftolozane/Tazobactam (MK-7625A) Versus Meropenem in Pediatric Subjects with Complicated Urinary Tract Infection, Including Pyelonephritis*

**Status:** Started in 2018 and is completed

**Patients Enrolled:** zero patients

**Principal Investigator:** Prof JHR Becker

This was a Phase 2 randomized, active comparator-controlled, multicentre, double-blind trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of ceftolozane/tazobactam (MK-7625A) versus meropenem in pediatric subjects from birth (defined as >32 weeks gestational age and ≥7 days postnatal) to <18 years of age with cUTI, including pyelonephritis.

- **Research Title:** *“A Phase 2, Randomized, Active Comparator-Controlled, Multicentre, Double-Blind Clinical Trial to Study the Safety and Efficacy of Ceftolozane/Tazobactam (MK7625A) plus Metronidazole versus Meropenem in Pediatric Subjects with Complicated Intra-Abdominal Infection”*

**Status:** Started in 2017 and is completed

**Patients Enrolled:** Six patients (SMU was amongst the top sites in terms of participants' recruitment globally. Our site also passed Quality Assurance Audit with minor findings)

**Principal Investigator:** Prof JHR Becker

To evaluate the safety and tolerability of ceftolozane/tazobactam plus metronidazole compared with that of meropenem in male and female subjects from birth (>32 weeks gestational age and ≥7 days postnatal) to <18 years of age with complicated intra-abdominal infections.

- **Research Title:** *A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Clinical Trial to Evaluate the Safety, Tolerability, Pharmacokinetics, and Efficacy of a Single Infusion of Bezlotoxumab (MK-6072, Human Monoclonal Antibody to C. Difficile Toxin B) in Children Aged 1 to <18 Years Receiving Antibacterial Drug Treatment for C. Difficile Infection (MODIFY III)*

**Status:** Started in 2017 and is currently in progress

**Patients Enrolled:** Zero patients

**Principal Investigator:** Prof JHR Becker

This aim of the trial is to evaluate the PK, safety, and tolerability of bezlotoxumab and secondary objectives are to estimate the rates of CDI recurrence and sustained clinical response through 12 weeks following a single-dose infusion in participants with CDI aged 1 year to <18 years.

- **Research Title:** *Phase 3 study of IV to oral 6-day Tedizolid Phosphate compared with 10-day comparator in subjects 12 to <18 years with cSSTI*

**Status:** Started in 2015 and is now completed

**Patients Enrolled:** Zero patients

**Principal Investigator:** Prof JHR Becker

This was a phase 3 trial of IV to Oral 6-day Tedizolid Phosphate compared with a 10-day comparator in subjects 12 to <18 years with complicated skin and soft tissue infection (cSSTI). This trial aimed to compare the safety of IV and/or Oral 6-day 200 mg tedizolid phosphate with a 10-day comparator (IV and/or Oral) in subjects 12 to <18 years with complicated skin and soft tissue infection.

- **Research Title:** *Global Anticoagulant Registry in the FIELD observing treatment and outcomes in patients with treated acute Venous Thromboembolic Events in the real world (Protocol: Tr108889)*

**Status:** Started in 2014 but is completed

**Patients Enrolled:** 84 patients

**Principal Investigator:** Prof MZ Koto

The study aimed to describe the acute, sub-acute and extended duration of anticoagulation management, clinical and economic outcomes in patients with treated acute VTE (DVT and PE) in the real-world setting.

- **Research Title:** *A phase 3, multicentre, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study of oral Ozanimod as induction therapy for moderately to severely active Crohn's disease*

**Status:** Initiation phase

**Patients Enrolled:** N/A

**Principal Investigator:** Prof MZ Koto

This is a Phase 3, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled study to determine the effect of oral ozanimod as induction treatment for subjects with moderately to severely active CD, defined as a CDAI score ≥ 220 to ≤ 450.

- **Research Title:** *Demonstrate the efficacy of ozanimod compared to placebo on the induction of clinical remission*

**Status:** Initiation phase

**Patients Enrolled:** N/A

**Principal Investigator:** Prof MZ Koto

This is a multicentre, double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled study to determine the effect of once-daily, oral administration of 80 or 100 mg MGL-3196 versus matching placebo on NASH. Patients who qualify for study inclusion will be randomized in a 1:1:1 manner to receive MGL-3196 100 mg, MGL-3196 80 mg, or matching placebo given orally once daily in the morning for up to 54 months. The randomization will be stratified by Baseline type-2 diabetes status (presence/absence) and fibrosis.

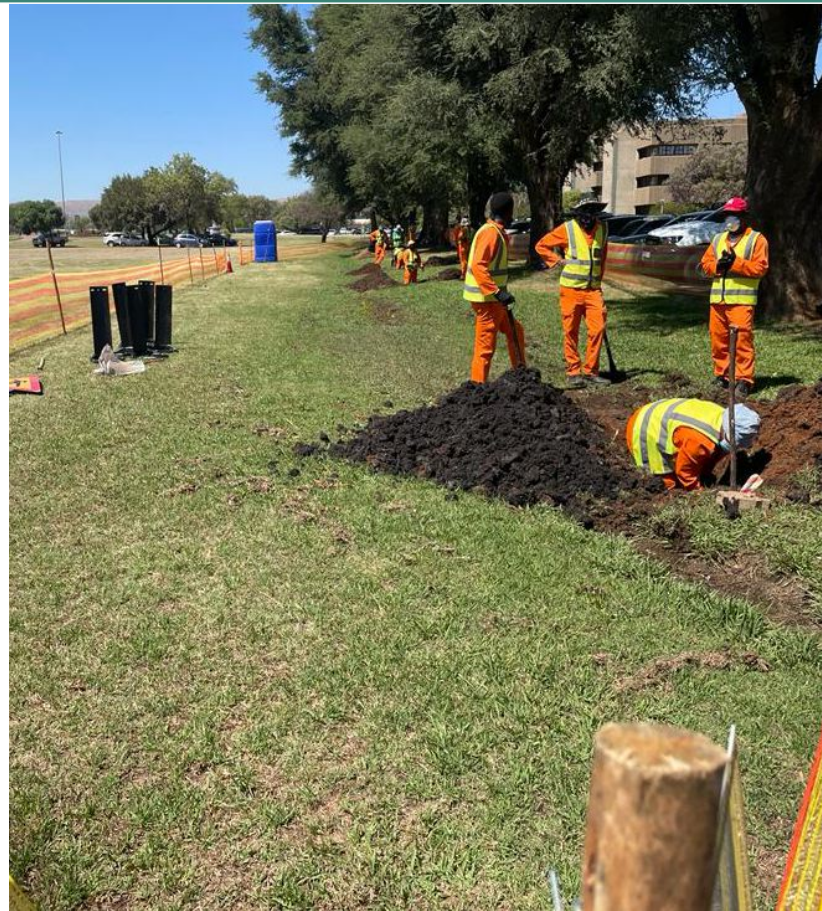
# Road and Gate closures

The SMU Campus is undergoing extensive renovations with the aim of giving the University a 'new look and feel'. During this process there will be much activity in respect of individuals entering and exiting the Campus, and as such the safety of all students and employees remain a top priority for the University.

Due to the services undertaken by the Bulk Services Contractor, the SMU community can expect disruptions from Gate 6 to the Main Gate from 11 - 15 October 2021. The SMU community is urged to be vigilant and to be mindful of the danger tapes and the working areas, as they move across Campus.

The road between Gate 6 and the T-junction before the ATMs will be closed from 18 - 29 October 2021. Those needing access to the Transportation Department or the Clinical Pathology Building can still use Gate 6. The parking area in front of the Transportation Department will also be affected, therefore no cars will be allowed to park there, however, pedestrians will still be allowed to pass through Gate 6.

Members of the SMU Community are requested to observe these measures as the University continues to create a safe and beautiful environment and home for all our students and employees.



# Upcoming

# EVENTS

## Educator Reflections in the School of Medicine:

### Theme:

*Times of turbulence -  
Sustaining a vigorous  
Humanity*

**DATE: 18 October 2021**

**TIME: 13h00 - 15h00**



**Prof A Pistorius**  
Clinical Psychologist and  
Academic



**Brightness Mangolothi**  
Director: HERS-SA

### PROGRAMME:

Chair | Prof Mawela | Acting Deputy Dean SOM

13:00:	Opening & Welcome Introduction of guests
13:05 - 13:15:	Presentation: Turbulent times, the stress response and impact on human relations <b>Prof A Pistorius</b> <i>Clinical Psychologist and Academic</i>
13:20 - 13:50:	Presentation: Academia: an unfortunate breeding ground for rudeness and/or bullying <b>Brightness Mangolothi</b> <i>Director: HERS-SA</i>
13:50 - 14:20:	<b>Panelists:</b> Brightness Mangolothi Academic staff member: Dr C Tshepuwane Alumni: TBC Prof A Pistorius
14:30 - 15:00:	<b>Open Discussions</b> - Giving feedback that builds confidence and inspires learning. How can each of us contribute to a vigorous humanity in addressing the challenges?

### Please follow the link:

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_OTIInzY1NGItMGEzMi00ZmYwLWE10DEtYWYyZjRkMWMYnDBk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22a4ba450a-f2ef-4658-9311-1e8d8a06683c%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%22c03822e3-ec68-4cc8-808c-cbdf6ecb7659%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_OTIInzY1NGItMGEzMi00ZmYwLWE10DEtYWYyZjRkMWMYnDBk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%22a4ba450a-f2ef-4658-9311-1e8d8a06683c%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%22c03822e3-ec68-4cc8-808c-cbdf6ecb7659%22%7d)