



## PRE-SCHOOL TEACHERS SHOULD BE TRAINED AT UNIVERSITY – PROF. OJALA



The training of kindergarten and pre-school teachers should be at University degree level, if any country is to make strides in early childhood development. Speaking at a public lecture entitled Aspects of Curriculum Development of Early Childhood Development & Education – University of Helsinki Professor of Pre-school Education and Early Childhood Development Mikko Ojala said this is one of the reasons behind Finland's success in the education sector.

“Early childhood development in Finland starts from the age of one to six years,” he explained. He told the audience that Finland had merged colleges of education into the country's universities in 1995, saying kindergarten and pre-school teachers have since been trained by universities. Ojala further said the country's universities also designed the curriculum of kindergartens and pre-schools. Teachers were also obliged to come up with Individual Learning Plans for students experiencing learning difficulties.

Universities offered a Bachelor of Education degree focusing on early childhood development, which enabled graduates to not only work in pre-schools but day care centers as well.

While Finnish municipalities owned day care centers, they resolved to have the Ministry of Education take care of their administration, with the Ministry of Social Affairs & Health acting as the operational head.

## SCHOOL OF VETERINARY ON CARDS

By Esau Nowaseb



The Faculty of Agriculture & Natural Resources (FANR) in partnership with major stakeholders such as MAWF, Directorate of Veterinary Services (DVS) and Namibia Veterinary Council (NVC) organized a one-day workshop at Safari Hotel on 24th March 2010 to facilitate a discussion and exchange of ideas in order to establish if there was a need to start a veterinary school at UNAM.

The workshop confirmed that there was indeed a need for a school of veterinary medicine in Namibia to train more Namibian nationals in veterinary science in order to meet the critical shortage of qualified veterinary personnel in the country. The workshop was officially opened by Agriculture Minister John Mutorwa. The workshop concluded with a recommendation for the establishment of a reference group in the form of National Steering Committee to take the process forward

Twenty-six participants were present which included veterinary practitioners, meat industry representatives, representatives from farmers' unions and farming community, meat inspectors, UNAM Vice-Chancellor Prof Lazarus Hangula, PVC: AA & R Prof Osmund Mwandemele, UNAM lecturers / professors, as well as officials from Ministry of Agriculture, Water & Forestry, including its previous Permanent Secretary Mr Andrew Ndishishi.

## SANUMARC DONATES SEEDLINGS TO COMMUNITY PROJECT



Two staff members from the Sam Nujoma Marine and Coastal Resources Research Centre (SANUMARC), Fidelis Mwazi (Researcher: Coastal Agriculture and Plant Biodiversity) and Nangula Amutenya (Technologist: Mariculture) donated cabbage and spinach seedlings (picture 1) on behalf of SANUMARC to the Tulongeni Gardening Project in Henties Bay on Wednesday, 7 April 2010.



Present at the handover ceremony, were three student interns from the Polytechnic of Namibia. After handing over the seedlings to the two women at the projects the staff and students assisted with transplanting the seedlings, as part of community work.

## QUOTES & PHRASES

### LIFE

“Life is like a wheel, sometimes you're at the top, sometimes you're at the bottom.”

*Philippine Saying*

### GENEROSITY

Generosity lies less in giving much than in giving at the right moment.

*Jean De La Bruyere*

Think of giving not as a duty but as a privilege.

*John D. Rockefeller*

## STAFF URGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO NEWSLETTER

You are again kindly reminded to send contributions, story ideas on major developments and highlights in your faculties and departments and adverts for the next edition of the Forum Online to: [uhoveka@unam.na](mailto:uhoveka@unam.na) and copied to [eaniceto@unam.na](mailto:eaniceto@unam.na)