

**N\$2M LAB EQUIPMENT FOR SCHOOL OF NURSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH**

Part of the equipment donated to the School of Nursing and Public Health

By Moses Magadza

The International Training and Education Center for Health (I-TECH), a center in the University of Washington's Department of Global Health in collaboration with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) of the United States of America, donated N\$2 million worth of laboratory equipment and digital video cameras to the School of Nursing and Public Health at the University of Namibia.

Dr. Jeff Hanson, the Country Director for CDC in Namibia, presented the equipment to the Dean of the School, Dr Lischen Haoses-Gorases last Thursday. "We hope that the equipment we are presenting to you today will enable UNAM lecturers and clinical instructors to simulate live service provision, such as deliveries and physical examination of patients ... It will help them build their skills, competence and confidence to provide quality health care

for patients," Hanson said. UNAM has about 800 trainee nurses, some of whom are deployed in rural areas all over the country as part of their internship. Hanson said CDC and I-TECH were committed to strengthening UNAM's distance learning system.

He said UNAM had a difficult mandate to train future generations of Namibian health workers and pledged unwavering support. "The CDC through the United States Government's PEPFAR initiative is a committed partner and will continue to support UNAM to improve the health of all Namibians."

Haoses-Gorases noted the growing ties between UNAM on the one hand and CDC and I-TECH on the other hand, and promised that the donated equipment would be put to intended use. Her deputy, Dr Van der Vyver described the donation as a "milestone in the expansion and development of the Faculty to strengthen clinical practice which forms the backbone of health practice."

**MEDICINE SCHOOL: TWO BUILDINGS READY BY NEXT YEAR SAYS DEAN**

By Moses Magadza



Prof Peter Nyarango

Construction of two buildings at the site of the new School of Medicine is underway and expectations are that they would be ready for use by students next year, the Executive Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Prof Peter Nyarango, has said. "The anatomy and physiology buildings are at an advanced stage of construction and we are optimistic that our students will be able to use them next year," Nyarango, who is also the Founding Dean of the School of Medicine, told Forum Online.

Once operational, the School will do clinical simulations; producing human dummies and creating clinical situations so that students can observe and practice without hurting patients. "Students will learn inserting needles into blood vessels, resuscitation and other procedures before they are allowed to work on patients. This reduces pain and discomfort in patients especially where repeated procedures are involved."

The facilities under construction would also be used by qualified medical practitioners who may wish to learn new techniques such as endoscopic techniques which obviate the need for open surgery. Nyarango said the target was to ensure that all buildings and equipment for the School are in place by 2016.

**ESTATE SERVICE DIRECTOR & DISABILITY UNIT COORDINATOR APPOINTED**

Reino Hasheela

The University has appointed Reino Hasheela as Director: Estate Services from the 1st August 2010. Hasheela joins UNAM from the Namibia Airports Company (NAC) where he was Manager: Technical Services. He is a civil engineer by profession, having obtained a civil engineering degree from Wits University and a Master of Engineering in Project Management from the University of Pretoria.

Hasheela highlighted construction work needed for all faculties, and human resources challenges within his department as some of the key immediate challenges. "A number of campuses need improvement. The Faculty of Engineering & IT and the Medical School are some of those that need a considerable amount of resources," he said. Demand for office space and lecture rooms also form some of the projects that need urgent attention.

Penandino Kandjii was appointed as Disability Unit Coordinator as from 2 July 2010. She previously worked at the Windhoek Technical High School, where she coordinated programmes for learners with disabilities. Her duties included brailing and advising teachers on how to work with learners with different disabilities. Challenges identified includes access to various university buildings by students with disabilities, including the Disability Unit itself. The University has about 25 students with different disabilities, among them hearing impaired, visually impaired and wheelchair bound students.



Penandino Kandjii

**NEUDAMM BRAAI**

The Neudamm campus held a braai on its campus recently. A number of invited staff members from the Windhoek Campus used the opportunity to interact with their colleagues at Neudamm. Many were moved Neudamm's stunning view and camping facilities. Situated close to a dam, the facility boasts a kitchen, shower, and outdoor braaing facilities.

**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: [uoveka@unam.na](mailto:uoveka@unam.na) or [mmagadza@unam.na](mailto:mmagadza@unam.na) and copied to [eaniceto@unam.na](mailto:eaniceto@unam.na)