## **FABI STARTS 2018 ON A HIGH NOTE**

FABI never really closes but the group enjoys a 'quieter time" over the Christmas season, which is the South African summer vacation period. Then, early in January, FABI holds an annual "start-up" event to plan for the year ahead. A festive mood prevailed at the opening of FABI on 15 January as the Institute celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Concurrent with Prof Bernard Slippers taking the helm as the Institute's new Director, Founding Director, Prof Mike Wingfield opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. Before handing over to Bernard, stripped off his shirt to reveal the new FABI t-shirt worn underneath, celebrating FABI's "20-year Road to Research Excellence". This is also the theme for the FABI 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary symposium to be held on 24 and 25 January.



Bernard welcomed everyone back from their festive season break and congratulated FABIans on the hard work that continues to make FABI the success that it is. He expressed his enthusiasm and excitement regarding the many opportunities that lie ahead for FABI and the FABIans.

The traditional annual group photo was taken before everyone moved back to

FABI to enjoy a delicious breakfast and have an opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues after the festive season break.

