PLANT PATHOLOGISTS FROM UK AND SINGAPORE VISIT FABI

FABI had the pleasure of hosting three internationally renowned plant pathologists on 1 December as part of a celebration of 100 Years of Plant Pathology at the University of Pretoria. Prof Paul Teng of the National Institute of Education at Nanyang Technological University (Singapore), Prof Sarah Gurr and Prof Gero Steinberg both of the University of Exeter, attended the 3rd Global Food Security Conference in Cape Town. On their visit at FABI, they led a round table discussion with a group of FABI staff members, research Fellows and postgraduate students focused largely on developing the careers of scientists. An interesting exercise for members of the group attending the discussion including the visitors was to attempt to describe their work and interests in less than three minutes, which was not an easy task!



From left: Prof Steinberg, Prof Gurr and Prof Teng

The visit was particularly memorable for FABI Director Prof Mike Wingfield as Prof Teng was one of his PhD Professors at the University of Minnesota. The day concluded with a tour to the University of Pretoria Research Precinct where the visitors had an opportunity to see the rapidly growing FUTURE AFRICA Project and to hear more about how it will catalyse interdisciplinary research in Africa from FABI Director designate and Future Africa leader Prof Bernard Slippers.