

## FABI SOCIAL CLUB ACTIVITIES

The FABI social club committee consists of MSc and PhD students from the different research groups in FABI. All students are expected to serve on the committee for at least a term of one year. It is the role of the committee to organise the various functions that give the staff and students the opportunity to mingle socially.

The monthly tea that takes place on the first Wednesday of every month is one of these functions. Special teas are also sometimes organised when visitors, like our Deputy Minister of Science and Technology, Mr Derek Hanekom, visit FABI.



**Left: Mr Derek Hanekom & Prof Mike Wingfield; Right: Fabians enjoying refreshments**

We have special seminars when scientists from other institutions visiting FABI present formal and informal talks to FABIans. The social committee is responsible for supplying refreshments after the seminars. Prestige seminars are given by FABIans on completion of their MSc or PhD degrees. This is a cause for great celebration and the social club organises a small party after each seminar.

The social committee also organises the four official team building functions annually. The welcoming breakfast takes place in January at the start of the academic year. In the middle of the year they organise SPOOF (Society for the Presentation OF Outrageous Findings). This function has a different theme every year and the social committee usually start preparing the décor and invitations weeks in advance.



**Left: SPOOF 2004 – Where in the World is FABI? Middle: SPOOF 2005 – Movie Night in Hollywood; Right: SPOOF 2006 – The Pirates Realm.**

Spring day is celebrated with a light lunch that the committee prepares for all FABIans to enjoy.



The year-end function (or Christmas party) is also a big event and will be held on 4 November at the Transvaal Museum this year. It promises to be one of the highlights of the 2006 FABI social/team building calendar and another event that will be enjoyed by all.

Our thanks go to the social club committee for all their hard work in ensuring that all FABIans feel part of the wonderful FABI “family”.



**Left: Some Fabians at the year-end function at the Botanical Gardens in 2005; Right: Special guests at the 2005 End of year Party, Prof Crewe and Prof Jansen with Prof Wingfield.**