

CONGRATULATIONS TO CTHB/TPCP STUDENTS AND STAFF IN 2012 AND EARLY 2013

Each year FABlans excel in their pursuit of excellence and in finding ways of extending the boundaries. 2012 and early 2013 is no exception as we have to congratulate many FABlans on awards received.

We congratulate all students who graduated in 2012 and at the April graduation ceremony in 2013. Our 13 CTHB/TPCP supported honours graduates included **Robert Backer, Kay Bophela, Caitlin Botha, Roux-Le Botha, Petrus Erasmus, Malegola Mohlala, Israel Radebe, Danielle Roodt, Kerryn-Leigh Scheepers, Vimbai Siziba, Stephanie van Wyk** (all from UP), **Wesley Hattingh** (Univ of the Witwatersrand) and **Violet Simataa** (University of the Free State). Of this group five have registered for an MSc in FABI, and both Wesley Hattingh and Violet Simataa are continuing with their MScs.

Congratulations to the **MSc graduates** of 2012 and April 2013 – **Johan van der Linde, Melissa Simpson, Chrizelle Beukes, Marcele Vermeulen, Felix Fru, Dina Gomez, Barrie Christie, Annie Chan, Gaby Carstensen, Kerry-Ann Pillay, Lunghile Mthombeni, Mmatshepho Phasha, Katrin Fitza, Juanita Engelbrecht (cum laude) and Angelica Marsberg at FABI** who graduated in 2012 and **Gugu Khubeka, Valery Molota, Godfrey Kgatle, Zander Human, Jan Nagel (cum laude) and Pathie Sibanda** who will graduate in April 2013. Of the MSc graduates, 12 have registered for a PhD degree.

We congratulate the following FABlans who received their PhD degrees in 2012: **Ali Adawi, Albe van der Merwe, Wilhelm de Beer and Lieschen de Vos**. Congratulations also to **Matsepo Taole** who will graduate in April 2013.



A large group of FABlans associated with the CTHB/TPCP attended the Southern African Society of Plant Pathology (SASPP) meeting in Klein Kariba, Bela Bela in January 2013. The performance of FABlans – in every way – was spectacular. **Anandi Reitman (photo left) and Darryl Herron photo (photo right)** received best speaker and poster awards. **Johan van der Linde** was awarded the John and Petakin Mildenhall award for PhD students and **Prof Bernard Slippers** received the Van der Plank award.



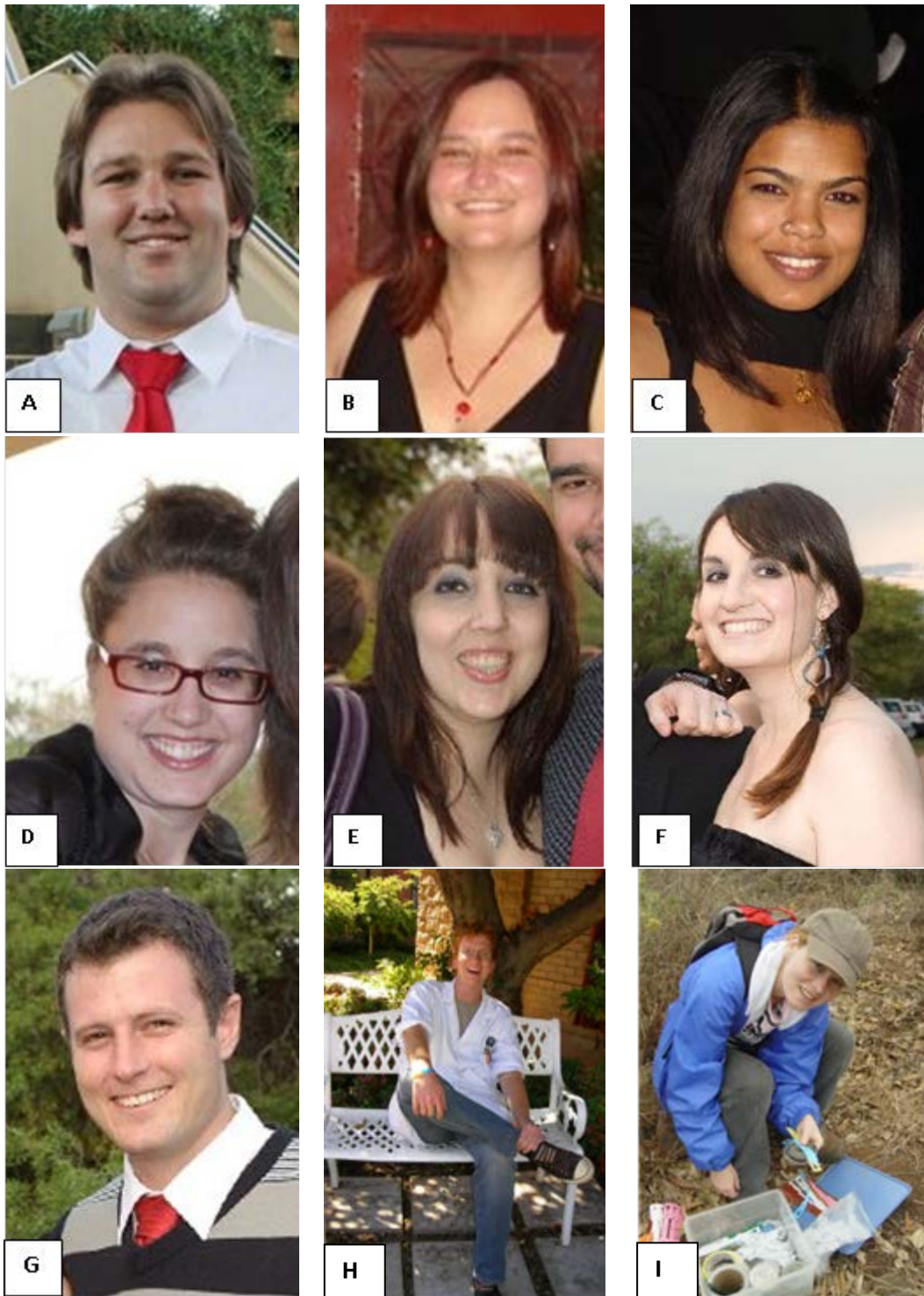
Marike du Plessis won the prize for the best MSc student oral presentation at the Southern African Society for Systematics Biology Conference held in Arniston during July 2012.

Prof Jolanda Roux is congratulated on receiving an NRF B2 rating – this puts her amongst the top tier of academics in South Africa and represents tremendous and well deserved recognition from her peers globally.

Prof Mike Wingfield is also congratulated on the many accolades received in 2012 and 2013. He was awarded two Honorary Doctorates - the first from the University of British Columbia, Vancouver Campus on 21 November 2012 and the second from North Carolina State University in May 2013. He received the Johanna van Westerdijk award from the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures (CBS) Fungal Biodiversity Centre in 2012. This award is conferred by the Netherlands Academy of Sciences on special occasions to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the

culture collection of the CBS Fungal Diversity Centre, marking a distinguished career in mycology. In 2013 he was also the worthy recipient of the African Union Kwame Nkrumah Continental Scientific Award for 2012 – the top scientific award given by the AU to an African scientist.

The TPCP/CTHB team will strive to maintain this wonderful record of achievements in the year which lies ahead.



Masters graduates: A. Jan Nagel. B. Marcele Vermeulen. C. Kerry-Anne Pillay. D. Katrin Fitza. E. Melissa Simpson. F. Angelica Marsberg. G. Barrie Christie H. Johan van der Linde. I. Chrizelle Beukes.



Masters graduates: A. Felix Fru. B. Annie Chan. C. Gugu Khubeka. D. Zander Human. E. Juanita Engelbrecht. F. Mmatshepho Phasha. G. Gaby Carstensen.



PhD graduates: A. Lieschen de Vos. B. Wilhelm de Beer. C. Matsepo Taole. D. Albe van der Merwe.