



Message from the Coordinator's Desk

Greetings EDU family,

It seems like only yesterday when this noble idea of an EDU newsletter was first conceived. I am delighted to be writing in this second issue and would like to congratulate the team who have made this idea a success.

The year is fast drawing to a close and as the anxiety



Mr. Daniel Munene:

levels steadily rise, let us not forget the lovely journey we have been on so far. In August, we

Who are our lecturers?



Dr. Bob Osano (AD Maths Lecturer)

I was born and raised in a small town called Nakuru, situated in the middle of the Kenyan section of the Great Rift Valley that runs through several countries on the eastern side of the African continent, and some Middle Eastern countries. It is 157 km from the Kenyan capital, Nairobi. The town once had an a lake which was home to thousands of 'pink' flamingos, but the lake is drying up, thanks to deforestation and changes in global climate and the flamingos are

leaving. I went to the University of Nairobi (Kenya) for my bachelors and masters degrees, during which I played rugby and soccer for my University teams, and was lucky to grace a few national championships.

I am married to Kendi and we have two very active children. Our Daughter is called Rani (a name made up of the last four letters of the Swahili word *Shuk-rani*, which means gratitude) is 9 years and our son is called Uel (from the three last letters of the name Emmanuel) is 7 years. Swahili is East African lingua franca.

My teaching career began in Nairobi, where I taught mathematics and software development at a number of Kenyan Universities. I had a brief stint as a high school mathematics and computer teacher, during which I also

celebrated our first joint EDU academic excellence awards. The awards are a major highlight of our calendar not only to celebrate academic achievements but also showcase the numerous talents that abound in the unit through poetry, dance and singing. This year's awards were a joyous occasion bringing together staff, students and friends as one family. It is this spirit of togetherness that makes the EDU such a special place.

There have been challenges too; academic, economic and social. And yet with hard work and support all around, we have walked this path together and overcome most of these successfully. As a unit, we continually reflect on our practice and focus on improving the teaching and learning environment. This is an ongoing endeavour and we are committed to these principles.

As we approach the forthcoming exams, let me extend the whole staffs best wishes. You have all worked very hard and we trust that you will give this all your best. We shall support you all the way. For all those who complete their studies this year, the world out there awaits you and may you soar to great heights. Remember to keep in touch. For the continuing students, we look forward to the year ahead and all that it holds for us.

Warmly,

Daniel (EDU Coordinator)

developed commercial software on the side.

I came to UCT in 2003 for a second Masters degree in Astrophysics and Space science, and stayed on for a PhD. I taught MAM1002W (now MAM 1010F & MAM 1012S) in the mainstream from 2004 to 2007, before joining the EDU staff.

What has fascinated me for many years is the different ways in which people learn mathematics. It is my belief that everyone can learn mathematics and that only two things *truly* matter: 1) the desire to learn and, 2) the willingness to put in the 'hours' required. I have seen students who were initially convinced that they had no good grounding in mathematics, or that they came from families where no one excelled in

mathematics, do exceedingly well after realising that a change of attitude was all they needed. My parents, for example, only had the equivalent of a grade 9 education and my only brother hated mathematics and subsequently did poorly in it. None of these things mattered in my case, and they should not matter in anyone's case either.

I have often said that if I were a student, and had to choose between AD and mainstream, I would choose AD anytime.

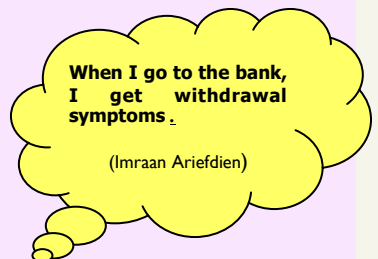
You have a lot of support, which students in the mainstream only dream about. Make use of these, and you will surely succeed.

All the best,

Bob.

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Mrs. Nisreen Narker— AD Economics Lecturer



Nisreen Narker and her family

I am from Cape Town and studied both my undergraduate and postgraduate degrees at UCT. I was unsure about the direction I wanted to take (I was an aspiring CA but I am glad that is not where I ended up!) and it is only when I started tutoring economics for Leonard Smith that some-

thing “clicked” and that is when I developed a passion for teaching.

I have been lecturing Economics at a first year level since 2005. I lecture ECO1110H which is Micro I over the whole year and I also teach part of the Macro I course. During this time I have also been involved in workshops for ECO1011S, ECO2003F and ECO2004S.

My philosophy is “work hard and play harder”. I expect students to attend lectures and apply themselves diligently. I believe that if students manage their time properly by attending and participating in lectures, reading the textbook and attending and completing all tutorials satisfactorily then there should be no need to work for hours over the weekends and stress before

tests and exams. At this level students should be able to take ownership of their own learning while drawing on the resources at their disposal.

I am married to Ibrahim Parker – yes my married surname is Parker – and we have a beautiful daughter Ameera (3). Our family extends to include my two nieces Malika (12) and Shazia (5). I enjoy relaxing with friends and family, going to the park, going for long drives around the peninsula and shopping. My favourite chocolate is Cote d Or (no not Kit Kats) and my favourite music is Barney.

Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave.

What do our students have to say?



Musawenkosi Nxele in the USA

It all began in March 2009 when I decided to apply to the South Africa Washington Internship program (SAWIP), a 6 month program for service and leadership. Having identified my true passion for serving the community, SAWIP endorsed me as one of them. One of the key aspects of the program is an internship in an institution that complements one’s career choice. It came to pass that in June we left for Washington D.C. for six weeks to do our internships as well as get an incredible exposure as young leaders of a total of 12. My internship was at the World Bank Group, under the Internal Communications Division.

It was an awesome experience to be Washington. It is a place of highly educated people in the world, and it is home to many political and historical institutions of the United States. Fortunately, I had the opportunity to go to specially organised meet-

From Soweto to the World Bank by Musa Nxele (AD B Bus Sc)

ings in these various institutions, such as the White House, Capitol Hill, IDASA, SA embassy, UN (New York), IMF, World Bank, etc. Well, I was an employee at the Bank, given the task to research various topics using primarily the latest publications of the Bank. This was of great benefit to me as an aspiring developmentalist.

However, through the many meetings we had about the challenges in Africa, it became clear to me that we have an incredibly wealthy continent that needs leaders. Furthermore, it was in these meetings that we were addressed as the leaders of South Africa, and that was great responsibility. It humbled me, as a young man from Soweto, in an extended degree program, studying using the NFSAS loan, to be elevated to a position of trust as a servant of the people. It positively changed my attitude towards myself, my academics, (whereby I settled for mediocre marks), and my country.

It made me realise that a leader is not just someone who sees ideals and just shouts about them, but one who actually takes strategic action to make manifest his vision. Indeed my name was elevated as one of a leader, but the true challenge is meeting the greatness of my name with a great

character, and character is built through the process of living up to what you speak- a pattern which we lack in most of our leaders.

Upon my return I have become more active to see change in our society, and interestingly I did not come back seeking a “leadership position” to lead. I am working on a program that seeks to alleviate the tragedy of high academic exclusion rates, especially within the extended degree programs. I have recently received support from well respected Dr Mamphela Ramphele and Prof. Max Prize.

Big change started from such small things. I love my people of Africa, of all races and backgrounds, and this is my reason. May that always humble me, but most importantly cause me to remain truthful and full of integrity.

From Soweto to the World Bank is a prophetic metaphor to all who make up their minds to do something about the dreams they profess to have. **I am an example.**



Yvette (AD B Com), Cayden and Wesley

“Barney learns about colour”, “Economics”, “Numbers 1 to 10”, printed Economics & Business accounting lecture slides ... all these lay on the dining room table at 1 am. I stare at the colourful array of books. I have just put Little Mr Adams to sleep and I realise I still have a tut to submit for the next day. I know that I need the sleep desperately as I haven’t had much in the last few days. Little Mr Adams has given me trouble and refused to sleep earlier than 9pm lately. I make my way to the kitchen and put on the kettle; coffee has become my life saver. I quietly pack his nappies, clothes and show-&-tell toy for the next day (this small task will save me about 5-10 minutes the next morning, as I will still need to make lunch and pack in 2 yogurts and 2 fruits). Little Mr Adams likes to eat. As I sit and attempt to figure out how the multiplier affects output and price in the short run, I wonder what little Mr Adams is dreaming about... Little Mr Adams is 2 years old. Little Mr Adams is my son and his name is Cayden.

My name is Yvette, and I am a full-time, 2nd year AD BCom Info Systems student. I started at AD last year, not knowing the great challenges that studying and being a “full-time” mother would be. Initially, it was agreed that Cayden would live with my parents

See Spot Run by Yvette Adams (AD B Com)

overseas whilst I study, but due to unforeseen circumstances, Cayden had to live with me. Academically, UCT is very demanding, and so is being a mother. Cayden needs me as his mother, and he needs to know that I will be there for him no matter what. Try explaining to a 2 year old that you really want to get a First for Business Accounting so ‘he needs to just keep quiet for about 3 hours’. Doesn’t work. Then there is the case of your child being sick at home, and you find yourself having no choice but to stay at home to look after him. Opportunity cost: missed lectures; missed tuts and eventually you have to explain to a tutor that you were not attending lectures due to the fact that you were looking after your child. On occasion, this also doesn’t work.

Presently I am on the EDU Student Interim Committee, and am also working on forming my own society specifically for student-parents on campus. I have set great goals for this society, where parents can find support for the situation they are in, in terms of academics, socially, as well as, re-enforcing the family time that we lose out on. As a parent, I also understand the costs involved in raising a child and thus our society will be donating clothing, nappies etc, on a regular basis. As the society becomes more established, talks about pregnancy prevention, support for teenage parenting and the like will be conducted at high schools. One of the issues we want to focus on is to encourage young mothers to continue with

their studies. This is very important to create a stable future for both mother and child.

More often than not, we as students can find ourselves in the pit of academic uncertainty. In the world of mother and/or parenthood, we find ourselves in a different kind of pit, but definitely one of uncertainty. We suffer from guilt, especially after spending extra time with the books. The time we could have spent with our children is replaced by ‘quality time’ with programming or economics. All we want as parents is what’s best for our children. And as a first-time parent, I’m still figuring out the dynamics of this issue. I’m attempting to be a super mom and a super student. There are sacrifices, in both cases, but I could not have achieved any of it if I didn’t have a really good support structure. I have been blessed to have very supportive parents who provide me with all the resources I need, my sister, who is Cayden’s other mom J, and a wonderful fiancé (and his family) who support Cayden, myself and of course my studies completely. Then last but not least, everyone at AD, especially Portia, Michelle and Sherry. They have really been good listeners and also provided me with options that have enabled a much smoother ride in my academic career these past 2 years.

So, thank you to all of you for giving me the opportunity to be all I can be, not only for myself, but also so that I can be that exceptional mother Cayden deserves in his life.



SIANNA WU

Creative Balancing Pays Off by Sianna Wu (1st year AD B Bus Sc)

sponse to Financial Mail campus’s Big Question and have it published online and in print. Needless to say, my first article question was completely out of my depth and having honour’s students and leading economists responding alongside in the column did little to ease the pressure, but I gathered my wits and had my first article published. Since May 2009, I have become the youngest and least experienced writer to have been published in the column. During the second semester, I had my second article published by FM Campus. It was an exhilarating and extremely gratifying feeling to have my ideas and opinions published and being able to indulge in my love for English and writing. My second article was awarded as the best article of the FM Entertainment Issue and was awarded a generous monetary prize sponsored by Grant Thornton.

I had also concurrently entered a Fashion designing competition that was held

nationwide by an up-and-coming magazine named ALIYANA. During the second semester, I received confirmation that I was one of the 5 designers that are finalists in the competition, and therefore have the opportunity and platform to showcase my own collection at a special launch Fashion show in November.

The fashion show is sponsored by Top Billing, David Morales and House of Marchere and will be broadcasted on Top Billing amongst other press and media. This opportunity was an amazing and extremely high accolade in itself as I had no previous experience or training in the Fashion Industry, only a drive to someday see my drawings come-alive on a runway.

The journey thus far has been extremely rewarding and humbling, as I am learning about an entirely different industry and on the way to turn drawings on paper into a full fashion collection. The gratification and fulfillment of seeing my creative ideas being

implemented into the real-world has fueled my thirst for creation. The process of taking an idea and successfully implementing and realizing it has also contributed to my entrepreneurial experience and ability to innovate. This truly amazing experience and year, thus far, has shown me that nothing is unattainable with hard work, humility, passion and pursuit of excellence.

The ALIYANA magazine and Top Billing Fashion show will commence on the 28th November 2009, watch press for details. Watch this space for what the ending of my 2009 will be.

View my latest article in FM, available at <http://blogs.fmcampus.co.za/question/2009/09/23/how-can-the-entertainment-industry-contribute-to-sas-economy>.

2009 has definitely been the year that I made mine. During the first semester, while balancing an entrepreneurial program with Allan Gray Orbis Foundation and the first daunting exams of my university career, I was searching for a creative outlet in order to pursue my dreams of a writer and artist. After many persistent emails and a combination of personal initiative and good timing – I found what I was looking for. I was given the opportunity to write a monthly opinion-based article in re-



Mark Phillips

BOTTOMS UP! – Academia vs. Industry by Mark Phillips (Final Year AD B Bus Sc)

form yourself from one of life's spectators into a real participant". We all have dreams and desires, but relatively few people have goals. Strongly held wishes do not qualify. Though they begin as dreams, goals are specific objectives, attained only through concentration. We are faced with many challenges and external factors that are placed in the path of so-called self-actualisation. As a final year student, given the current economic and financial conditions we need to consider the options and alternatives available. Specifically, when deciding to enter the business environment or furthering your academic studies.

As Holtz suggests, high achievers know exactly where they want to go. It might be useful to be equipped with a toolbox of some sort to face life's challenges and joys. UCT has equipped us with a mindset for thinking, orchestrating and analysing problems needed in multi-criteria decision making. The main idea is that you can get what you want out of life; all you need to do is make the right choices.

Here are some simple steps to follow in fulfilling your dreams and aspirations.

Firstly, define your objective. Too often people set a difficult task, and then along the way they give up. Goals should be focused on what is achievable. Secondly, put it on paper. Once you have defined your goal, write it down. High achievers trace their accomplishments to the time they committed their goals to paper.

C. Carlson suggests that writing out goals crystallises it in your mind. Thus, it can quickly be evaluated whether decisions will take you toward an objective or away from it. Thirdly, map out a plan of action. Breaking an objective or goal down into smaller problems makes achieving it seem less intimidating. With extensive planning brings purpose and direction.

Fourthly, set a deadline. A goal can be seen as a dream with a deadline. Z. Ziglar suggests that deadlines provide a framework for action and gets us moving in pursuit of our dreams. Fifthly, commit yourself. Set ambitious targets and commit to it. You will find that you can rally resources and networks you never thought you had.

Sixthly, do not fear failure. Usually, it is the anticipation of failure that paralyses, not failure itself. We survive our failures; the difficult bit is picking ourselves up and

trying again. I stress that we have to. Seventhly, Persist and persist some more. Perseverance allows you to back on track when you hit a detour. Along the way to any goal, we are confronted with obstacles.

Belief in oneself can act as an anaesthetic against these setbacks. Finally, it is never too late. Age is not a barrier to achievement. As we mature and learn more, we gain the confidence and experience to take on new challenges. These then, can be seen as an introduction to the power of goals, they give us new energy, new direction, a purpose we might have lacked. They can help us get the most out of life.

In conclusion, we might be faced with a simple choice of academia and industry. However, these are a subset in the pursuit of our goals and dreams. In the words of A. Einstein, "The most beautiful thing we can experience is the mysterious. It is the source of all true art and all science. He to whom this emotion is a stranger, who can no longer pause to wonder and stand rapt in awe, is as good as dead: his eyes are closed."

Consequently, stay foolish, stay hungry; always be willing and able to learn.

Many final year students at this time of the year are faced with a crossroad. We face a simple choice of either specialising further at University or embarking on the journey of challenges and triumphs of industry. The ideal behind both doors is that we would like to make a success of which ever option we pursue. Implicitly, these aside; we all have dreams and goals, and ultimately some mechanism is needed to make them come true.

Years before rising to prominence as coach of the University of Notre Dame's prestigious football team in America, Lou Holtz made a list of 107 things "to do before I die". It covered attending a dinner at the White House to sky-diving. He said, "You trans-

EDU AWARDS EVENING

The annual Education Development Unit (EDU) Commerce academic awards were held on the 14th of August 2009 at Jameson hall in front of a packed audience. The awards not only showcased educational achievements, but a vibrant range of dancing, singing, MC-ing and poetry performed by talented EDU students.

The event opened with an address by Prof. Ian Scott, Deputy Dean of the Centre for Higher Education Development (CHED) and Director of Academic Development at the University of Cape Town. He congratulated the students on their outstanding achievements, gave a history of how Academic development had progressed



Back row: Shanaaz Solomons, Michelle Abrahams, June Pym and Daniel Munene. Front row: Portia Zimu, Katekani Baloyi, Carla Fourie and Sherry Stuart

over the years at UCT and reiterated the important role organisations such as Sanlam had played in the students' success. One of the highlights of the evening was the award for EDU Student of the Year. This is given to the student who is adjudged to be an academic achiever who leads by ex-

ample, is all rounded, motivated, committed, accessible, self-disciplined and possesses humour.

The award went to final year AD B Com student Katekani Baloyi who was elected by the senior EDU students on the following grounds:

- He is a well-rounded person

with a varied number of interests ranging from playing chess and participating in sport to consistently applying himself to his studies while still taking the time to help fellow students on the EDU programme.

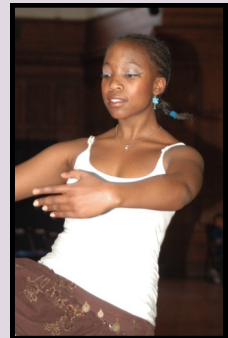
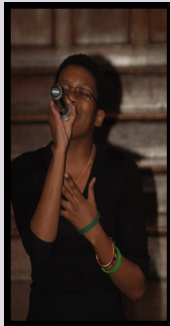
- He has been a mentor, orientation Leader, assisted during induction and registrations and Open Day and was MC at the 2008 awards ceremony.
- The Commerce Magazine, *Student.Com* was his brain child. He sourced a funder and edited the magazine.
- He formed part of finalists in the 2008 Sanlam Competition for Progress and served on the Commerce Student Council.

Katekani received a standing ovation from the 250-strong audience in the historic Jameson Hall.

EDU AWARDS EVENING



MC's for the Night: Loyiso Daka a(Ad B Com) and Raheem Sondag (AD B Bus Sc



The ladies provided entertainment: singing, poetry & dancing



SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Akona Gazi (AD B Com graduate 2008) has been selected to do her Academic Articles at UCT next year. **WE CONGRATULATE HER!!!!**



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Final Exam Period: 2nd—18 November**
- **Graduation B Bus Sc: 15 December at 3pm**
(Lunch with AD B Bus Sc graduants at 12:30 in L Com Level 2 foyer)
- **Graduation B Com: 16 December at 3pmt**
(Lunch with AD B Com graduants at 12:30 in L Com Level 2 foyer)

Please send Newsletter Feedback and Suggestions to:
michelle.abrahams@uct.ac.za

Accounting Jokes by Imraan Ariefdien

(Final Year AD B Bus Sc):

- Why is the mailman so good at accounting?
Because when it comes to general ledger accounts, he really knows how to *post*!
- Hoe weet jy as jou besigheid goed doen?
As dit *Net Profit* maak.
- What do you call a business entity whose only members are blind people?
A *See See*



TUTOR ADVERTS FOR 2010

WANTED... For 2010



Tutors for Economics 1110H and 1110F

Are you...

Outgoing & approachable	Reliable
Timeous	Empathetic
Good listener	Good organisation skills
Dedicated	Tolerant
Patient	Energetic and creative
Able to absorb positive criticism	Fun to be around

Prerequisites

- Must be registered as a third or fourth year CADP student
- Must have achieved a minimum of 65% for Economics 1110H/F or Economics 1010F/S, and Economics 1111F or Economics 1011S, and must have received a minimum of 60% for Economics 2003F and 2004S.

Please note:

Your contract will be for the full 2010 academic year if you tutor ECO1110H. However, if you prove in the first semester to be unsuitable for the position as tutor, you will not automatically be accepted as a tutor for second semester. The contracts for ECO1110F is a one-semester contract. However, good tutors could be offered tutor positions on other economics courses.

Do you think you've got what we're looking for? If so:

- Hand in a copy of your CV to Shanaaz Solomons, Leslie Commerce, Room 2.10
- Closing date for applications is 13 November 2009
- Your CV must be in an envelope
- On the front of the envelope state clearly what position you are applying for i.e. Tutor for Economics. Please indicate your preference 1110H or 1110F.
- Make sure that your CV includes your updated contact details

You are also required to apply for tutor positions on the School of Economics website. Indicate that you would like to tutor ADP.

<http://www.commerce.uct.ac.za/Economics/>

- If you meet the criteria as set out above you will be contacted for an *interview* in February 2010.

REWARD OFFERED!

Department of Statistical Sciences

Opportunities to Tutor EDU STA1101H/F & STA1100S (STA1000) in 2010

The Department will be appointing tutors in STA1101F/ H & STA1100S

We invite you to apply if:

- You have (or expect to get) a good pass in the course concerned
- You are good at, and enjoy, explaining concepts to others
- You are self-disciplined and reliable
- You are willing to attend a short training programme within the department, which may include an interview with the tutorial programme coordinator.

Your duties will include:

- Close liaison with your course convenor
- A certain number of Hotseat, tutorial or lab sessions each week for which you are expected to be prepared
- Participation in any workshops run in your course
- Invigilation and marking

We can offer you:

- A chance to work in a high quality academic department, doing work which is integral to the teaching activity of the department
- A chance to get to know your convenor and other academics from the perspective of a valued colleague rather than a learner
- Intellectual stimulation and the satisfaction of helping someone who is struggling
- A terrific entry on your CV when you leave university- a responsible post as a tutor counts as better than waiting on tables! We will provide a testimonial on request.
- Decent pay

If you are interested and need more information please talk to Mr Low (tim.low@uct.ac.za). Indicating interest will not commit you to anything but will help us in planning our academic year.

If you are not just interested but keen please get an application form either through Reception, Statistical Sciences, Ground Floor, P D Hahn, or from the website at [http:// web.uct.ac.za/ depts/ stats/ studentinfo.htm](http://web.uct.ac.za/depts/stats/studentinfo.htm).

Please note that a letter indicating why you are applying and what your special strengths are should accompany your application when you return your form. Also attach a transcript.

Application deadline is October 23rd 2009.

Tim Low

Course Convenor ADP STA1101F/ H & STA1100S

Room 2.12 P D Hahn Building