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SCIENCE
NATUURWETENSKAPPE
EYOBUNZULULWAZI

Kom gesels saam by wetenskapkafees by Woordfees

Jannie Hofmeyer is vanjaar die gespreksleier vir die Fakulteit Natuurwetenskappe se gewilde wetenskapkafees by die Woordfees. Met ŉ wye belangstelling in die natuur- én sosiale wetenskappe, bring dié uitgelese emeritus-professor in biochemie en biokompleksiteit, ŉ nuwe dimensie aan vanjaar se onderwerpe – van die siel van die muur en swermintelligensie, tot heuningbostee, genetiese toetse, en die normalisering van informaliteit.

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Epidemiologist warns about Covid-19 in Africa

We can expect to know within the next month whether the novel corona virus has found its way to Africa. In the meantime, all efforts to halt or slow the spread of the virus are still our best line of defense. So says Prof Juliet Pulliam, an expert in the modeling of infectious diseases in resource-limited countries. She is also director of the South African Centre of Excellence for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis, hosted at SU.

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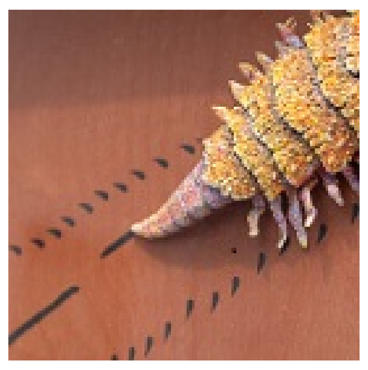
"Klip met skilpadspore" se glorie na 58 jaar herstel



Amper 60 jaar nadat die "Klip met die skilpadspore" vanaf 'n plaas in die Sandveld verwyder is om in die voorportaal van die Kamer van Mynwese-gebou by die US uitgestal te word, het die familie onlangs die geleentheid gehad om die uitstalling te besigtig. Mev. Lettie Veldsman, dogter van die destydse plaaseienaar mnr. Maans Visser, en haar man, het verlede maand ook 'n gedenkplaat wat die vindplek van die klip herdenk, in ontvangs geneem.

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The value of water

Flowing along the foothills of Papegaaiberg in Stellenbosch, the Plankenbrug River runs close to an informal settlement where more than 5500 inhabitants have access to only 150 communal toilets and 57 taps. Without adequate water and sanitation services it is not only the people living in Enkanini that are suffering, but also the nearby river. This is why Dr Leanne Seeliger could not sit idly. As a senior researcher and specialist in environmental ethics at the SU Water Institute, her research ethos is about impact and effecting change, as quickly as possible. And this is where the educational environmental course Iqhawe Lemvelo (nature hero) comes in.

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In other news

Dr Margaret Blackie: US Onderriggenoot 2020

Dr. Blackie, 'n senior lektor in die Departement Chemie en Polimeerwetenskap, is met ingang 2020 as US Onderriggenoot aangestel.Sy het 'n PhD in sintetiese chemie van die Universiteit van Kaapstad. Die hoofdoel van haar navorsingsprojek is om akademiese personeel in "STEM"-dissiplines toegang te verleen tot die analitiese hulpbronne wat in die suite instrumente bekend as "Legitimation Code Theory" ("LCT") beskikbaar is.

Du Plessis: expert in advanced manufacturing

An expert in 3D technologies at SU, Prof Anton du Plessis, was recently recognised by the Department of Trade and Industry for his contributions towards leading South Africa into the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Wiskundige vereer vir uitstaande navorsing

'n Professor in toegepaste wiskunde aan die US, Prof André Weideman, het die Suid-Afrikaanse Wiskundige Vereniging se 2019 toekenning vir uitstaande navorsing ontvang. Dit gee erkenning aan die belangrike bydrae wat hy tot navorsing op die gebied van wiskunde in Suid-Afrika gelewer het.

Prof Piet Steyn awarded RSSA's Marloth medal

Prof Piet Steyn, emeritus professor in organic chemistry and former senior director of research at SU, is the recipient of the Royal Society of South Africa's (RSSAf) Marloth medal for 2020, in recognition of "a highly distinguished career in advancing his discipline, organic chemistry, in the service of science and mankind".

Dekaansmedaljewenner: wees vasberade en werk konstant

Matthew Greenwood is die 2019 ontvanger van die Fakulteit Natuurwetenskappe se Dekaansmedalje. Hierdie silwer medalje word jaarliks toegeken aan 'n honneurstudent wat die hoogste gemiddelde persentasie behaal het oor die verloop van die BSc-, sowel as die Honneurs BSc-programme. Greenwood het beide bogenoemde grade met onderskeiding behaal en is tans besig met sy MSc in genetika.