

Dear CHED colleagues,

In the last few months, I have noticed headlines warning us of mental health issues among staff and students. Many universities including, UCT, have risen to the challenge and are actively working to build cultures and support for staff and students. Whilst the concerns for students are on the increase, we must not forget that our staff are just as important to our sustainability in higher education.

Well-meaning strategies are good but better if implanted across the faculties and campuses, simply stating a commitment to health and wellness is not enough. I urge each one of you to reflect on your own mental health and wellness now when we are all under pressure with workloads and exams etc. Let's act together and promote active lifestyles and mindfulness about our physical and mental health in our departments and faculty.

Consider various options that can get you started talking and engaging on mental and physical health, I can suggest that we start a monthly wellness walk in the department or faculty. This could also lead to networking and engaging, even if this means leaving your warm home to come to campus, then do it.

A quote from the late President Nelson Mandela: "Exercise is the key not only to physical health but to peace of mind."

Naziema Jappie

## STAFF NEWS



### Training of HoDs (HoDEP)

CHED through the ASPD Staff development unit, conducted training in August this year for new HoDs across the university. It was held over two days and the various speakers gave input into the aspects relating to how HoDs function within an academic environment. Dr Jappie presented a session on Collegial Leadership: The Double Edge Sword and Mr Richard Perez from The School of Design Thinking conducted an exciting session with HoDs.



Dr Jappie presented at the HERS-SA Academy on Higher Education Leadership through a Social Justice Lens

## RESEARCH, COLLABORATION & CONFERENCES

The research and development of CEA provides assessment services, run workshops and seminars, and do reliability and validity studies and research. Academic Assessments, Research, Research Reports, Academic Papers, Conferences, Seminars and workshop, and Statistical Analysis.



**Visiting Rutgers University Delegation**  
Visit by delegation from Rutgers University as part of the on-going collaboration and exchange of ideas with post-graduate students.



Dr Jappie attended the IEASA 25th Conference in Durban, South Africa.



Dr Naziema Jappie, attended and presented at the Education & Development Conference in Lisbon, Portugal from 22 to 26 June 2023.



The CEA R&D team, Tatiana Sango and Sanet Steyn, (Left) recently participated in Frontier Research in Educational Measurement (FREMO) 2023 conference organised by the Centre for Educational Measurement (CEMO) at the University of Oslo. At FREMO 2023, the CEA R&D team also had the opportunity to present their research via a poster titled "Mathematics and Academic Literacy: cross-domain analysis in high-stakes assessment for augmented practices in diagnostic interpretation."

## NBT NEWS



Someone old and someone new whom we cherish as part of the CEA family - **Mr Yusrie Ismail** who has worked as a temporary staff for over 10 years was finally appointed as a full-time staff and store clerk in CEA. This has shown that sometimes its not about just a degree, but experience.

NBT Test Dates	Last Day to Register Online	Last Day to Pay Fees	Results Available to Learners	Results Available to Writers
13-May	25-Apr	1-May	21-Jun	22-Jun
20-May	30-Apr	1-May	22-Jun	23-Jun
3-Jun	14-May	20-May	26-Jun	3-Jul
10-Jun	21-May	29-May	3-Jul	10-Jul
17-Jun	28-May	29-May	7-Jul	17-Jul
24-Jun	4-Jun	12-Jun	17-Jul	24-Jul
1-Jul	11-Jun	19-Jun	24-Jul	31-Jul
8-Jul	18-Jun	26-Jun	24-Jul	7-Aug
15-Jul	25-Jun	4-Jul	7-Aug	14-Aug
22-Jul	25-Jun	4-Jul	7-Aug	21-Aug
29-Jul	4-Jul	12-Jul	21-Aug	28-Aug
5-Aug	11-Jul	19-Jul	4-Sep	11-Sep
12-Aug	18-Jul	26-Jul	4-Sep	18-Sep
19-Aug	25-Jul	2-Aug	4-Sep	25-Sep
26-Aug	1-Aug	7-Aug	11-Sep	18-Sep
2-Sep	8-Aug	14-Aug	18-Sep	25-Sep
9-Sep	15-Aug	21-Aug	25-Oct	2-Oct
16-Sep	22-Aug	28-Aug	1-Oct	8-Oct
23-Sep	29-Aug	5-Sep	8-Oct	15-Oct
30-Sep	5-Sep	12-Sep	22-Oct	22-Oct
7-Oct	12-Sep	19-Sep	29-Oct	5-Nov
14-Oct	19-Sep	26-Sep	5-Nov	12-Nov
21-Oct	26-Sep	3-Oct	12-Nov	19-Nov
28-Oct	3-Oct	10-Oct	19-Nov	26-Nov
4-Nov	10-Oct	17-Oct	26-Nov	3-Dec
11-Nov	17-Oct	24-Oct	3-Dec	10-Dec
18-Nov	24-Oct	31-Oct	10-Dec	17-Dec
25-Nov	31-Oct	7-Nov	17-Dec	24-Dec
2-Dec	7-Nov	14-Nov	24-Dec	31-Dec
9-Dec	14-Nov	21-Nov	31-Dec	7-Jan
16-Dec	21-Nov	28-Nov	7-Jan	14-Jan
23-Dec	28-Nov	5-Dec	14-Jan	21-Jan
30-Dec	5-Dec	12-Dec	21-Jan	28-Jan
6-Jan	12-Dec	19-Dec	28-Jan	4-Feb

■ Online test sessions (Pencil and Paper)  
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The Centre for Educational Assessments is home of The National Benchmark Tests (NBT). The purpose of the NBTs is to identify academic potential in any learners who have not had access to adequate schooling and to ensure appropriate learning support when they get to university. The strength of the tests lies in the fact that they contribute to and improve success at higher education institutions.

**There are still a sessions that are open for 2023, see timetable above.**

### NBT INTAKE FOR 2024

CEA has begun the year with an over-arching assessment of the South African National Benchmark Tests (NBT). For 2024 intake 25 testing sessions have been scheduled. The sessions are divided into 16 Pencil and Paper testing, 5 Online testing and 4 Sundays test session from May 2023 to January 2024.

The NBT registrations for 2023 intake will open on 3rd April 2023 for writers who wish to write the NBT for the next coming sessions.

More information on how to register can be found at the NBT website: [www.nbt.ac.za](http://www.nbt.ac.za)



## Brown Bag Seminar

CEA host monthly **Brown Bag Seminars** to discuss commonalities in teaching, learning, assessment, and research. Kindly contact Ms **Tatiana Sango** if you wish to present your research.

**CEA is proud to announce the upcoming DMSRIS Symposium in October 2023 and Standard Setting Exercise**

Ms. Sanet Steyn, AL Research Lead, Ms. Tatiana Sango, Maths Research Lead, Mrs. Precious Mudavanhu, statistician and Mr Emlyn Balarin will be working this together.

This year also marks the year in which CEA conducts the Standard Setting exercise with the assistance of Dr Wanda Swigggett from the Educational Testing Services (ETS), USA.

CEA will be hosting delegates from around the country for both these events.



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