

THE DA VINCI INSTITUTE

THE CATALYST NEWSLETTER

A PERSON THAT BRINGS ABOUT CHANGE/TRANSFORMATION



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We would like to welcome all of our Academic & Field Supervisors on our journey to advance the research experience for our students, and to improve communication between our colleagues

Yip, it's that time of year again!

Students need to submit their final dissertations and theses by end February for graduation on 17 September 2014. There will be only one annual graduation ceremony from 2014 onwards which will usually take place round about September. The more reason to work with your students towards the next deadline in February 2015. Always see our website for the latest submission and graduation information www.davinci.ac.za

Student tracker system

Some supervisors are concerned as their students either disappear along the way or they cannot track their progress. For this reason we have created a Student tracker on the Moodle system. This will trace progress between the student and supervisor for possible intervention. Every time the student submits his/her document both academic and field supervisor will receive an email message to log into the Moodle system to download the document for revision. Upload will again be via Moodle and each action is logged. Supervisors will receive a message in their mailboxes concerning the login and application procedures.

Da Vinci is committed to improve the student and supervisor communication, thereby ensuring student throughput at a better pace and within the registered period.

A master student is registered for four years while a doctoral student is allowed six years – although, by then the research and application should already be obsolete.

Publishing

In the current world of research an academic institution gets recognised by its number of publications in scholarly journals.

To improve article publishing it has become compulsory for a PhD student to submit a publish-ready article with the thesis, preferably writing with the supervisors.

This is one of the Da Vinci Institute's focus areas in which the Research office wants to progress with excellent vigour during 2014.

Contact Marthie de Kock at marthie@davinci.ac.za if you want to publish a scholarly article on your own or with your student

The next Publishing workshop will take place on 4 & 5 April 2014. You have a choice to attend one of these publishing workshops. More information to follow.

Graduation: 6 December 2013

This year's summer graduation, held at the Bytes Technology Centre in Midrand on the 6th of December was one of the most memorable graduation ceremonies that The Da Vinci Institute has been honoured to host thus far. Da Vinci's guest speaker, Prof Roy Marcus, founder and Chairman of The Da Vinci Institute paid tribute to the late and great Nelson Mandela, who voiced his concern for the state of education in South Africa, shortly after becoming state president, which was the catalyst for Da Vinci's Mode 2 form of education. The event was also emotional in that it had been announced that morning to the world that Madiba had passed away the previous night.

Graduation is all about the graduates who have had to work long and hard to achieve their well deserved qualifications. However, this year the most notable accolade had to go to Dr Loraine Laubscher, who received a standing ovation when her academic supervisor presented her laudation and called her onto stage to be sashed and receive her PhD qualification. What singles Dr Laubscher out is that she is Da Vinci's most unwavering student yet, having received her qualification at the tender age of 83.



Prof Roy Marcus, Dr Don Beck, Dr Loraine Laubscher, Dr Rica Viljoen, Prof Bennie Anderson

For any contributions or ideas about the newsletter, please contact Marthie de Kock marthie@davinci.ac.za or Storm Thomas storm@davinci.ac.za

Visit our website www.davinci.ac.za

The Supervisor and the Curiosita forum – role and position

'Curiosita' was originally one of Leonardo da Vinci's principles referring to an insatiably curious approach to life and an unrelenting quest for continuous learning.

The Curiosita forum is a monthly colloquium for contemporary thinking on the Management of Technology, Innovation and People in a systemic context, hosted by the Academic faculty of The Da Vinci Institute. It involves a community of enquirers including PhD students who raise burning issues concerning their work based challenges and application as experienced during their PhD research journey, or are interested in supporting their co-researchers in their journey.

Debates include experts from the business environment, Da Vinci staff and other interested individuals who assemble to present and discuss interesting topics, and to provide mutual support in the quest for continuous learning.

The Curiosita forum strives for enhanced participation and discourse for greater experiential learning to capture Aristotle's notion of Dialectic rather than that of Rhetoric speech. The idea is to create a Da Vinci research and expertise community in order to:

- facilitate the execution of quality research by Da Vinci students, faculty and associates
- allow an opportunity for Da Vinci researchers to obtain experience in presenting their research verbally to experts in the corporate world, and to obtain feedback and input on their research
- to provide mutual support by sharing knowledge, experiences, contacts, tips and techniques within the research and corporate community, and
- to provide formal input on research methodology to the Da Vinci research community.

Next Curiosita

Tuesday 25 February 2014 15:00 for 15:30 – 18:00

The Da Vinci Hotel & Suites – Sandton

No. 2 Maude Street, Corner 5th Street

We invite you to join us at this month's colloquium

Guest Speaker: Mr Sam Tsim

President & Chairman of Cometsa Group

The Da Vinci Laureate Award

This year, The Da Vinci Institute awarded The Da Vinci Laureate: Social Architecture to Dr Ali Bacher who has been an advocate for social change in our country during most of his sporting and professional life. A world renowned former cricketer and medical doctor, Ali Bacher headed the South African Cricket Union and the SA Cricket Board. Dr Bacher was recognised for his contributions regarding the repositioning of society as a sustainable community.



Prof Bennie Anderson, Prof Roy Marcus, Dr Ali Bacher, Mr Edward Kieswetter, Mr Sechaba Motsieloa

Meet Dr Rica Viljoen



Academic Supervisor at The Da Vinci Institute. She presents international business consulting and organisational development strategy facilitation. Her work spans across industry boundaries in numerous countries for example, America, Peru, Australia, Mali, Ghana, Namibia, Tanzania and South Africa.

Rica's personal goal is to assist individuals and organisations in crystallising their intent in a sacred way, thus leaving a legacy of strong, individualised leaders.

Specialities: Spiral Dynamics, Qualitative and organisational research, Rogerian facilitation, Psycho-analytical facilitation, Business consulting, Strategy facilitation, Executive coaching.

Other contributions: Developer of the Benchmark of Engagement Framework and Inclusivity Theory. Developer of the Congruence Report that studies people organisational congruence and people national cultural congruence. Working closely with Loraine Laubscher to continue her important work in Africa and other developing countries in Spiral Dynamics or Human Niches and in Value Circles.

Speaking on *The relevance of global talent management to Public & Private Enterprises in South Africa*

Featuring PhD student: Darlene Kalonji

Absa Business Banking, Customer Experience

Topic *Microfinance in Africa: A Survey*

The Following Curiosita: 25 March 2014