

MOBILE ANIMAL CLINIC FOR VETERINARY STUDENTS

The University of Namibia recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Baines Vetcare Mobile and Animal Clinic on cooperation regarding the practical training of Veterinary students, as well as providing veterinary community service. This follows the partnership of a Mobile Animal Clinic with Dr Ian Baines, owner of Baines VetCare Mobile Animal Clinic.

Speaking at the official signing and launch of the Mobile Animal Clinic, Pro-Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Professor Frednard Gideon labelled the signing of the agreement an "exciting and unique" moment, while re-emphasising the stance that the University has taken in prioritising

projects synonymous in interaction with surrounding communities.

"The launch of the mobile animal clinic is a response to our commitment to promoting community engagement by the University," said Professor Gideon. "It will serve as a training platform for our students, but will also perform free surgical sterilisation of 100 dogs and cats every month", he added.

Dr Baines, meanwhile, expressed his delight over the occasion saying he was "honoured and humbled" to be a part of the initiative.

"This is a way we can reach out to communities while also training students in veterinary fields. It can only benefit the School of Veterinary

Medicine moving forward," he said.

The objectives of the memorandum include facilitating the collaboration of UNAM and the clinic in the continuous improvement of the various schools at UNAM and its training and research programmes. It also serves to ensure that the provision of education and training to the various Schools' students meets the national standards and requirements as provided for by Namibian law.

The Mobile Animal Clinic will concentrate on low income communities and its routes will go as far as Rundu and Katima Mulilo in the North East, as well as Bethanie and Lüderitz in the South.



AMTA MOTIVATES STUDENTS TO PURSUE AGRICULTURE



Mr Lucas Lungameni, Managing Director of the Agro-Marketing and Trade Agency (AMTA), was the keynote speaker at the recent annual Ogongo Campus Awards Ceremony, where AMTA sponsored trophies for all students pursuing the Bachelor of Science programmes at Ogongo Campus.

Mr Lungameni, a proud UNAM alumni, stressed the importance of pursuing studies and careers in agriculture and related fields, to a developing nation like Namibia. He pointed out that although Namibia is endowed in natural resources, such as water and land for agriculture production, "we are limited by a shortage of human resources that is required to utilise these resources effectively".

New challenges of disease outbreaks and climate change, require new technological innovations in all aspects related to food production, including, but not limited to plant and animal genetics, agricultural biotechnology, agricultural economics, agribusiness management, agricultural engineering, natural resources management and environmental science.

He informed the audience that agriculture careers span the whole value chain, that is from primary production, to food processing, marketing and management. The AMTA MD emphasised that most advanced nations developed through progression in agriculture production, as he reminded the students to be proud of their qualifications and be ready to serve and contribute to the socio-economic development of Namibia.

This year's Awards Ceremony was jointly sponsored and supported by local businesses, specifically, Tuyapeni Trading Enterprise, Nedbank, Oshakati Pharmacy, Standard Bank, AMTA and NORED. Oshakati Pharmacy Donated an impressive floating trophy for the award of the Most Exemplary Student of the Campus, while the trophies for the Diploma in Agriculture and the Diploma in Natural Resources Management were sponsored by Standard Bank and Nedbank, respectively

UNAM AND BREMEN MINISTER OF SCIENCE CONSIDER AREAS OF COOPERATION

The University of Namibia last week hosted a "successful" round-table discussion with a delegation from the City of Bremen, Germany. The aim was to identify possible areas of cooperation in science and higher education between the City, and its Universities.

Acting Vice Chancellor of the University of Namibia at the time, Professor Frednard Gideon, expressed his delight over the meeting and pointed to the "already existing relationship" between UNAM and the City of Bremen as cause for optimism on the outcomes of the deliberation.

The discussion, which was directed towards scientific fields, particularly Marine biology and Marine Engineering, as well as health, economics and education related fields, attracted local dignitaries from the Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Innovation, Namibia University of Science and Technology, National



Commission on Research Science and Technology, National Planning Commission, Namibia Qualifications Authority, Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund and Namibia Training Authority.

Speaking at the event and leading the delegation, the Minister of Science, Health and Consumer Protection for the City of Bremen, Honourable Professor Dr Eva Quante-Brandt said she was "honoured and delighted" to be part of the delegation deliberating

on this discourse.

"We are motivated by our desire to bring healthcare to the people, as well as to improve the education of people working in the healthcare sector by improving their skill-set through training," said Dr Quante-Brandt. The German delegation included members from the City University of Applied Sciences, University of Bremen, as well as ZMT Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research.