



Here we go! The Board of the SU Sport Performance Institute (SUSPI) comprises Prof Tom Park, Dean of the Faculty of Education; Ms Helette Pieters, Company Secretary; Mr Louis Alberts, CEO: Medi-Clinic; Prof Estian Calitz, Executive Director: Finance at Stellenbosch University; Mr Jannie Durand, CEO of VENFIN; Prof Liesbeth Botha, Executive Director: Innovation and Commercialisation at Stellenbosch University; Prof Julian Smith, Vice-Rector: Operations; and Mr Rob Benadie, CEO of SUSPI.

New Sport Performance Institute - a home for all

A whole new world of possibilities opened up for Stellenbosch University (SU) when the long-awaited SU Sport Performance Institute (SUSPI) was finally established in September.

Various role players at SU have been dreaming about a world class sports institute for Stellenbosch for a number of years. Their hard work eventually paid off when the Institute was officially established as a corporate company this year.

The Institute will strive to be a home for all athletes, coaches and administrators – local and international. It will primarily focus on providing world class services in four main fields, namely sport science, sport medicine, education and community programmes across sport, wellness and fitness, and the provision of sport facilities and accommodation.

“The SU Sport Performance Institute will offer its services to elite athletes of various sports codes, as well as the person who simply wishes to improve his or her fitness and wellness,” says Prof Julian Smith, Vice-Rector: Operations, who helped to develop the University’s sports plan that gave birth to the Institute.

According to Mr Robert Benadie, who was appointed as CEO, the vision of the Institute is: “To be a world-class sports training, education and research centre, dedicated to enhancing the role of

Stellenbosch University as an active agent in the development of South Africa through the medium of sport.”

He added: “Many academic staff and other individuals have worked extremely hard over the last few years to get us in the position that we are now in. A bold but achievable vision has been set and it is the Institute’s job to professionally steer us towards our vision.”

SUSPI is a company wholly owned by SU, and forms part of the portfolio of Prof Liesbeth Botha, Executive Director: Commercialisation and Innovation. Prof Botha said that Stellenbosch’s sporting history and the facilities available made it an obvious place to start such a company. “We have always had a truly wonderful sporting history, incredible facilities and of course the unique Stellenbosch environment. We are now focusing on ensuring that these sport assets are optimally utilised to assist athletes and others such as coaches to better prepare themselves for peak performance,” said Prof Botha.

The Institute will cooperate closely with various University departments as well as the Sports Bureau and the Sport Science and Physiology Department. Clients will be offered a unique and comprehensive package of services that meets their needs.

To achieve this, a professional team of fulltime SUSPI employees is being established. The Sport Science and Medicine division will be led by Dr Pierre

Viviers supported by Dr Karin Hugo, manager of Sport Science. Mr Hein Swanepoel and Ms Didi Tourel will continue to manage the current Gymnasium, which is now a division of SUSPI. Ms Janet Baxter will lead the Learning division, which will primarily focus on establishing SUSPI as a leading provider of sport, wellness and fitness related short courses.

There have been some exciting infrastructure developments: a world-class recovery centre is currently being built at the Sports Science Department, Sport Medicine offices are busy being incorporated at the Biokinetic Centre, the University residence Huis Neethling has been dedicated to SUSPI as athlete accommodation and is being upgraded, and a new floor for the DF Malan indoor centre is on its way.

According to Smith and Benadie the US wants to utilise sport as a strategic asset. “The main task of the Institute’s management team will be to generate an income by commercialising the Institute as a brand. All profits generated will be re-invested into sport at the University.”

“The Sports Bureau will continue to operate as a separate entity while conducting work that is complementary to the work being done by the Institute. We are working within the context of Team Stellenbosch,” says Smith. 

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Die **Maties-rugbyklub** het weer 'n suksesvolle seisoen beleef. In die WP se Super A-liga het hulle vir 'n rekord tiende agtereenvolgende keer die Groot Uitdaag-trofee verower. Verder spog die Klub met 54 spelers wat vanjaar vir die WP se onderskeie spanne uitgedraf het, waaronder 10 spelers in die WP Curriebekerspan se begin-vyf-tiental. Die Klub het weer aan die Nasionale Klubrugby-kampioenskappe deelgeneem, maar onverwags in die eerste ronde vasgeval, maar nietemin die Plaatkompetiese gewen.



BO: Die FNB Matiespan wat die Nasionale Klubkampioenskappe se Plaatkompetiese gewen het.

Die **Maties-netbalklub** het vanjaar tweede geëindig by die SASSU-toernooi en spog met 23 spelers in Boland se onderskeie spanne. Boland is vanjaar as die nasionale kampioen gekroon. Vyf Maties is ook opgeneem in die SA o.21-span en twee in die SA o.19-span, terwyl Claudia Basson Maties in die Proteaspan verteenwoordig het.

Robert Honiball van die **Maties-gimnastiekklub** het by die Suid-Afrikaanse Gimnastiek-kampioenskap die individuele algehele tweede plek uit 16 deelnemers in die senior Olimpiese-afdeling behaal. In die finaal vir seniors was hy eerste op die ringe, tweede op die brug en derde op die rekstok.

Danksy die nuwe kunstras-waterbasis-hokkiebaan kon die **Maties-hokkieklub** vir die eerste keer in die geskiedenis 'n hokkietoets in Stellenbosch aanbied. Die Spar Suid-Afrikaanse vrouehokkiespan het in Julie dié toetsreeks van vier toetse teen Indië met 3-0 gewen, en altesaam nege van Maties se vroue is opgeneem in die nasionale span wat aan die Wêreldbeker Hokkie-toernooi in Spanje deelgeneem het.

Eric Rose-Innes het op sy beurt die Maties in die nasionale Wêreldbekermanspan verteenwoordig. Verder het Maties se vroue-hokkiespan die WP Grootuitdaagliga vir 'n rekord sewende agtereenvolgende jaar gewen. Die Maties se vroue- en manspan het ook die geskiedenisboeke herskryf deur albei die goue medaljes by die Suid-Afrikaanse Studente-sportunie-(SASSU)-toernooi te verower.

LINKS: Die Spar SA Vrouehokkiespan het nie net die Indiese Vrouehokkiespan geklop nie, maar het ook 'n paar toekennings vir hulle ongelooflike spel verdien. Hier oorhandig Roelf Venter, Uitvoerende Bemerkingsbestuurder van die Spar Groep, die trofee vir Speler van die Reeks aan die SA en Matie hokkiespeler Taryn Bright.



BO: Janus Robberts en Janice Josephs is aangewys as die US se Sportman en Sportvrou van Jaar. Hier is mnr Joep Loots wat die trofee namens Josephs ontvang het, prof Julian Smith, Viserektor (Bedryf) en Robberts.

Die **Maties-atletiekklub** loop breëbors aangesien die Universiteit se Sportman én Sportvrou van die Jaar uit dié klub se geledere kom. Janus Robberts en Janice Josephs het onderskeidelik met die louere weggestap by vanjaar se US Erekleuredinee. Die jong Robert Oosthuizen het ook die Klub se naam hoog gehou by die 2006 IAAF Wêreld Atletiek-kampioenskappe wat in Augustus in Beijing, China, plaasgevind het. Hy het die goue medalje ingepalm om sodoende Maties se nuwe wêreldkampioen te word.

Die **Maties-judoklub** se Paul Young is vanjaar aangewys as Suid-Afrika se top-judoka nadat hy twee goue medaljes by die Suid-Afrikaanse Kampioenskappe ingepalm het.

In September het **Ilse Hayes** (links) en Fanie van der Merwe, albei sportwetenskapstudente aan die US, aan die Atletiek Wêreldkampioenskappe vir Persone met Gestremdhede deelgeneem. Beide atlete het medaljes huis toe gebring. Ilse Hayes het bronsmedaljes verower in die 200 m en 400 m vir die visueelgestremde klas T13, terwyl Fanie van der Merwe 'n silwermedalje verower het in die 200 m vir persone wat serebraal gestremd is, klas T37.



Drie van die **Maties-fietsryklub** se lede, Dan Craven, Erik Kleinhans en Jaco Wasserfall, het in die tweede helfte van die jaar teruggekeer van hul Europese veldtog, waar hulle waardevolle ondervinding opgedoen het. In hul afwesigheid het Michael Sowerby baie goed gevaar op die pad en Arno Viljoen (foto) uitstekend op sy bergfiets, deur podiumplekke in 'n paar nasionale wedrenne te kry. Stephan Heroldt het ook uitstekend gevaar by die Paralimpiese Spele in Switzerland, waar hy 'n bronsmedalje gewen het. Een van die Klub se gestremde atlete, Chris Wagner, het 'n silwermedalje by die Wêreld Driekamp-kampioenskappe gewen.