

The way forward

The emphasis over the past year has been on further consolidation of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre for Urban Health as a partnership. This has been achieved through the initiation and implementation of a number of joint projects and programmes. Key among these has been the commencement of the Health, Environment and Development Study in Johannesburg, in which all of the partner Organizations are vital participants, the ongoing Registrars' Environmental Health Placement Programme and sharing in the challenge of hosting the Seventeenth Annual Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology. Over the next year, efforts will continue regarding the building of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre as a partnership.

A key concern for the future is the way in which the Centre will "add value" to existing initiatives

and how the Centre identifies and responds to critical research questions. In this regard, an important event on the Centre's calendar will be the strategic planning meeting scheduled for 29 November 2005. Among the objectives of the meeting will be to:

- * review the terms of reference;
- * decide on critical future projects;
- * develop a fund-raising strategy;
- * develop a strategy to increase the Centre's relevance to the World Health Organization-AFRO; and to
- * initiate the development of a 'marketing/communications' strategy.

An important output of the strategic planning meeting will be a five-year plan that will guide the Centre in the years to come. Input from the Advisory Panel will be of particular importance in this regard.

Annexure 1: Members of the advisory panel

- * Dr Thuthula Balfour, Development Bank of Southern Africa
- * Ms Jackie Friedenthal, Department of Science & Technology
- * Professor Trudy Harpham, South Bank University, London (chairperson)
- * Professor Anthony Mbewu, South African Medical Research Council
- * Professor Sue Parnell, University of Cape Town
- * Dr Ram Saloojee, Gauteng Provincial Legislature
- * Dr Tim Wilson, National Department of Health



Annexure 2: Key individuals who participated in the work of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre in 2004/5

Brendon Barnes, South African Medical Research Council
Debashu Basu, University of Johannesburg
Refik Bismillah, City of Johannesburg
Daphney Conco, South African Medical Research Council
Thea de Wet, University of Johannesburg
Tanya Haman, University of Johannesburg
Anthony Joffe, University of the Witwatersrand
Xoliswa Kupiso, South African Medical Research Council
Mpule Mdlalose, Independent Student
Peter Manganye, City of Johannesburg
Benny Maphaka, City of Johannesburg
Angela Mathee, South African Medical Research Council
Mirriam Mogotsi, South African Medical Research Council
Nisha Naicker, University of the Witwatersrand
Shan Naidoo, University of the Witwatersrand
Vathiswa Papu, South African Medical Research Council
Sinola Rajaram, University of Johannesburg
Halina Röllin, South African Medical Research Council
Mike Rudolph, University of the Witwatersrand
Joseph Shikwambane, University of Johannesburg
Rochelle Spadoni, South African Medical Research Council
Frikkie Swanepoel, City of Johannesburg
Andre Swart, University of Johannesburg
Elizabeth Thomas, South African Medical Research Council
Margaret Westaway, South African Medical Research Council
Carmen Whittle, University of Johannesburg

Annexure 3: Media coverage (selected press releases)

<http://www.themercury.co.za/index.php?fSectionId=283&fArticleId=2813141>

The Mercury website screenshot shows a news article titled "Medical council warns of 'lead poisoning' toys". The article discusses a report by the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) stating that young children are at particular risk from lead poisoning because they put toys and other objects in their mouths and may swallow lead-based paint chips. The article mentions that the council has measured extremely high concentrations of lead in certain painted children's toys in South Africa, some as high as 2.5 times the permitted level. It also notes that the council has warned parents to avoid toys with high levels of lead and to avoid toys that have been painted with lead-based paint. The article is dated 27 July 2005.

<http://www.suntimes.co.za/2003/07/27/news/gauteng/njhb03.asp>

The Sunday Times website screenshot shows a news article titled "Clearing the air". The article discusses the presence of lead in the environment, particularly in toys, and the health risks it poses to children. It mentions that the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) has warned that young children are at particular risk from lead poisoning because they put toys and other objects in their mouths and may swallow lead-based paint chips. The article also notes that the council has measured extremely high concentrations of lead in certain painted children's toys in South Africa, some as high as 2.5 times the permitted level. The article is dated 27 July 2005.

<http://www.scienceinfrica.co.za/2003/june/child.htm>

The Science in Africa website screenshot shows an article titled "Children are major victims of environmental pollution in South Africa". The article discusses the impact of environmental pollution on children's health in South Africa. It mentions that the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) has warned that young children are at particular risk from lead poisoning because they put toys and other objects in their mouths and may swallow lead-based paint chips. The article also notes that the council has measured extremely high concentrations of lead in certain painted children's toys in South Africa, some as high as 2.5 times the permitted level. The article is dated 27 July 2005.

<http://www.mrc.ac.za/pressreleases/2005/14pres2005.htm>

The MRC Publications, press releases website screenshot shows a press release titled "High lead levels in some painted toys in South Africa". The press release discusses the findings of the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) regarding lead levels in toys. It states that the council has measured unacceptably high concentrations of lead in certain painted children's toys in South Africa. The source of the lead is the paint on the toys, and the council has warned that young children are at particular risk from lead poisoning because they put toys and other objects in their mouths and may swallow lead-based paint chips. The press release is dated 27 July 2005.

Annexure 4: Publications & other outputs (2004-2005)

I. Articles in Press in Indexed Journals

1. Basson CD, Norris SA, MacKeown JM, Pettifor JM. Eating attitudes in a group of 11 year old girls. *Nutrition* 2005 (in press).
2. Jewkes RK, Gumede T, Westaway MS, Levin J, Dickson-Tetteh K, Brown H, Rees H. Why are women still aborting outside designated facilities in Metropolitan South Africa? *British Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology* 2005.
3. Westaway MS. A longitudinal investigation of satisfaction with personal and environmental quality of life in an informal South African housing settlement: Doornkop, Soweto. *Habitat International* 2005 (available online from 23 December 2004).
4. Steyn NP, Senekal M, Norris S, Whati L, MacKeown J, Nel J. Estimation of food portion size by means of dietary aids. *Asian Pacific Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 2005.
5. Mathee A, Röllin H, von Schirnding Y, Levin J, Naik I. Reductions in blood lead levels among school children following the introduction of unleaded petrol in South Africa. *Environmental Research*.

II. Published Articles

1. Barnes BR. Interventions to reduce child exposure to indoor air pollution in developing countries: behavioural opportunities and research needs. *Children, Youth and Environments* 2005; 15(1):67-82.
2. Barnes BR, Mathee A, Moiloa KR. Assessing child time-activity patterns in relation to indoor cooking fires in developing countries: a methodological comparison. *International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health* 2005; 208(3):219-25.
3. Barnes BR, Mathee A, Krieger L, Shafritz L, Favin M, Sherburne L. Testing selected behaviours to reduce indoor air pollution exposure in young children. *Health Education Research* 2005; 19(5):543-50.
4. Barnes BR, Mathee A, Shafritz L, Krieger L, Zimicki S. A behavioural intervention to reduce child exposure to indoor air pollution: identifying possible target behaviours. *Health*

Education and Behaviour 2004; 31(3):306-17.

5. Barnes BR, Moiloa KR. Domestic energy use, time activity patterns and risk of burns amongst children less than five years of age in rural South Africa. *African Safety Promotion* 2004; 2(2):28-34.
6. Basson SC, Norris SA, MacKeown JM, Pettifor JM. Eating attitudes of pre-pubertal females in the Birth-to-Twenty Study. *South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 2004 17:S3 (abstract).
7. Charlton KE, Brewitt P, Bourne LT. Sources and credibility of nutrition information among urban South African women, with a focus on messages related to obesity. *Public Health Nutrition* 2004; 7(6):801-11.
8. Ezzati M, Bailis R, Kammen D, Holloway T, Price L, Cifuentes L, Barnes BR, Chaurey A, Dhanapala K. Energy management and global health. *Annual Review of Environment and Resources* 2004; 29:383-419.
9. Few R, Gouveia N, Mathee A, Harpham T, Cohn A, Swart A, Coulson N. Informal subdivision of residential and commercial buildings in Sao Paulo and Johannesburg: living conditions and policy implications. *Habitat International* 2004; 28(3):427-42.
10. MacKeown JM, Faber WM. Frequency of consumption of cariogenic food items by 4-24 month-old children: comparison between two rural communities in KwaZulu/Natal, South Africa. *International Journal of Food Science Nutrition* 2005; 56:95-103.
11. MacKeown JM, Faber WM. Frequency of food items consumed by young rural and urban African children - essential knowledge to provide dietary advice in caries prevention. *International Dental Journal* 2004; 54:284-90.
12. MacKeown JM, Faber M. Frequency of food items consumed by young rural and urban African children - essential knowledge to provide dietary advice in caries prevention. *South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 2004;17:S16 (abstract).
13. MacKeown JM, Pedro TM, Norris SA. Energy, macro-and-micronutrient intake among a true

- longitudinal group of South African adolescents at two interceptions: the Birth-to-Twenty (Bt20) Study. *South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition Annals of Metabolism* 2005; 49(1):S94 (abstract).
14. MacKeown JM. Sugar and dental caries - an update. Nutrition Department, Sugar Association of South Africa, "No beating about the sugar bush." *South African Sugar Association* 2005; 10 (abstract).
 15. Mathee A, von Schirnding Y, Montgomery M, Röllin HB, Norris S, Naik I. An overview of lead poisoning in South African Children: the hazard is at home. *Epidemiology* 2005; 16(5):S136 (abstract).
 16. Mathee A, von Schirnding Y, Montgomery M, Röllin H. Lead poisoning in South African children: the hazard at home. *Reviews in Environmental Health* 2004; 3-4.
 17. McVeigh JA, Norris S, De Wet T. The relationship between socio-economic status and physical activity patterns in South African children. *Acta Paediatrica* 2004; 93(7):982-8.
 18. Montgomery M, Mathee A. A preliminary study of residential paint lead concentrations in an African city; Johannesburg. *Environmental Research* 2005; 98:279-83.
 19. Pedro TM, MacKeown JM, Norris SA. Individual food item intakes of a true longitudinal group of South African children between 1995-2003: the Birth-to-Twenty (Bt20) Study. *South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition Annals of Metabolism* 2005; 49(1):73 (abstract).
 20. Richter LM, Norris S, De Wet T. Transition from Birth to Ten to Birth to Twenty: the South African cohort reaches 12 years of age. *Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology* 2004; 18(4):290-301.
 21. Röllin HB, Mathee A, Levin J, Theodorou P, Wewers F. Blood manganese concentration among first-grade school children in two South African cities. *Environmental Research* 2005; 97:93-99.
 22. Röllin HB, Mathee A, Levin J, Odland JØ. Levels of persistent toxic substances (pts) in blood from delivering women from selected areas of South Africa. *Epidemiology* 2005; 16(5):S145 (abstract).
 23. Röllin HB, Mathee A, Levin J, Theodorou P, Naik I, Tassell H. Examining the association between manganese and lead blood levels in school children in four selected regions of South Africa. *Epidemiology* 2005; 16(5):S150 (abstract).
 24. Röllin HB, Mathee A, Bruce N, von Schirnding Y, Levin J. Comparison of indoor air quality in electrified and un-electrified dwellings in rural South African villages. *Indoor Air* 2004; 14(3):208-16.
 25. Steyn NP, Senekal M, Norris S, Whati L, MacKeown J, Nel JH. The development and testing of 2-dimensional drawings and 3-dimensional food models to estimate food portion size in 12-13 year old children in the Birth-to-Twenty cohort in Johannesburg. *South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 2004; 17:S25 (abstract).
 26. van der Merwe J, Marais D, Bourne LT. A qualitative assessment of the preliminary Food Based Dietary Guidelines for infants 6-12 months of age in the greater Oudtshoorn area. *South African Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 2004; 17(2):S38.
 27. Westaway MS. A longitudinal investigation of quality of life in a disadvantaged South African community. *Epidemiology* 2005; 16:S115.
 28. Westaway MS, Seager JR, van Zyl DG. The effects of social support on health, well-being and management of diabetes mellitus: a black South African perspective. *Ethnicity & Health* 2005; 10:73-89.
 29. Westaway MS, Maluka CS. Are life satisfaction and self-esteem distinct constructs? A black South African perspective. *Psychological Reports* 2005; 97:567-75.
 30. Westaway MS, Seager JR, van Zyl DG, Oosthuizen H. The Diabetes Treatment Satisfaction Questionnaire (DTSQ): a cross-cultural South African perspective. *Diabetes Care* 2004; 27:618.
 31. Westaway MS, Maluka CS. The impact of chronic diseases on the health-related quality of life of South Africans. *South African Medical Journal* 2004; 94:937.
- ### III. Book Chapters & Book Reviews
1. MacKeown JM. Focus on carbohydrate research: sources of carbohydrates in the diet and relationship to dental caries and obesity among young children and adolescents. Nova Science Publishers, Hauppauge, New York 2005 (in press).

2. Mathee A, von Schirmding Y, Pick W. Johannesburg: an African Healthy City. In Healthy Cities in Developing Countries - lessons to be learned. Ton van Naerssen and Francoise Barten (eds). Nijmegen Studies in Development and Cultural Change 2004; Vol 38.
3. Röllin HB. The socio-economic impacts of artisanal and small-scale mining in developing countries (invited book review) Journal of Cleaner Production 2005; (in press).

IV. Reports

1. Bourne LT, Hendricks M, Mzamo B, Goeiman H, Siegfried N. "Masiphuhlise"- The Bloekombos Integrated Nutrition Programme: Lessons learnt and experiences gained, 2004.
2. De Wet T. Tracking Guidelines for the Young Lives International Childhood Poverty Study, 2004.
3. Luck K, De Wet T. Global and local communities: Research priorities in Johannesburg. Thought paper no. 5 for National Research Foundation, 2004.
4. Richter LM, Cameron N, Norris SA, Del Fabro G, MacKeown JM. Birth to Twenty Research Programme Dissemination Report, Johannesburg: University of the Witwatersrand, 2004.
5. Thomas EP, Colvin M, Rosen SB, Zuccarini C, Pelzer S. Buffalo City HIV Prevalence and Costing. Johannesburg and Buffalo City Municipality, East London, 2005.
6. Westaway MS. Determining the effects of integrated service delivery on health, well-being and quality of life in Orange Grove and surrounding suburbs (Greater Johannesburg): Phase 2. Pretoria, Medical Research Council, 06 October 2005.
7. Westaway MS, Maluka CS. Determining the effects of integrated service delivery on health, well-being and quality of life in Orange Grove and surrounding suburbs (Greater Johannesburg): Phase 1. Pretoria, MRC, 2004.

V. Conference Presentations

1. Barnes BR. The politics of environmental health education in developing countries. International Society of Critical Health Psychology. 4th Annual Conference, Sheffield, England, March 2005.

2. Barnes BR. Interventions to reduce child exposure to indoor air pollution in developing contexts: conceptual gaps and research needs. 18th Environmental Health Conference, Gaborone, Botswana, November 2004.
3. De Wet T. Young Lives Child Poverty Study: Workshop planning next survey round in Peru, India, Ethiopia and Vietnam, Brighton, UK, 07-13 November 2004.
4. De Wet T. Forum 8: Global forum for health research to achieve the Millennium Development Goals - Long term studies in the developing world, Mexico City, USA, 16-20 November 2004.
5. De Wet T. 3rd Informal consultation on the Potential for longitudinal Child Environmental Studies in the Developing World, Cuernavaca, Mexico, 20-24 November 2004.
6. De Wet T. Planning a qualitative study: Understanding community response to the availability of Antiretroviral Therapy in South Africa, Center for Disease Control (CDC, Atlanta), Tulane University (USA), University of the Western Cape (UWC), Rand Afrikaans University (RAU), at RAU, Johannesburg, 11-15 October 2004.
7. Joffe AL. "Missing Statistics - The Case of Road Accidents." 17th Conference of International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, 13-16 September 2005 (Poster).
8. MacKeown JM, Cleaton-Jones PE, Norris SA. Longitudinal group nutrient intake of children at four interceptions. Department of Paediatrics, University of the Witwatersrand Research Day. Nursing College, Coronation Hospital, 5th June 2004.
9. MacKeown JM, Faber M. Frequency of food items consumed by young rural and urban African children - essential knowledge to provide dietary advice in caries prevention. "Diversity in Nutrition" Nutrition Congress 2004. 20th Biennial Congress of the Nutrition Society of South Africa and the 8th Biennial Congress of the Association for Dietetics in South Africa. ATKV Goudina Spa Holiday Resort, Worcester, Western Cape, 23-27 August 2004.
10. MacKeown JM. Sugar and dental caries - an update. Invited speaker at the 2005 Sugar and Health Symposium: No beating about the sugar bush. Ubizane Wildlife Reserve,

Zululand, KwaZulu/Natal, 8-10 May 2005.

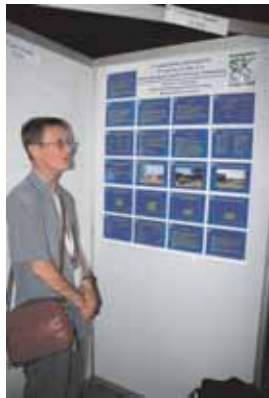
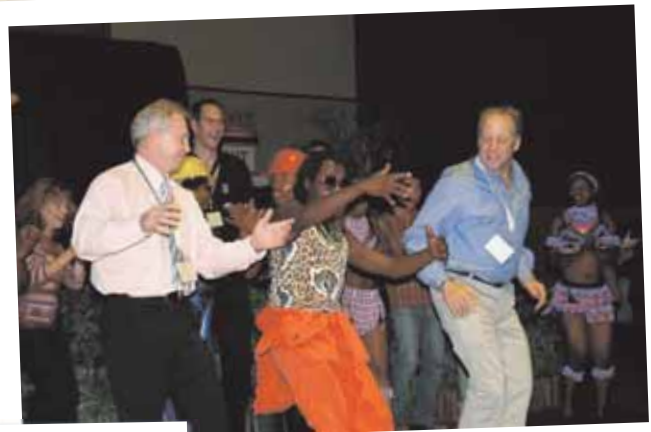
11. MacKeown JM, Pedro TM, Norris SA. Energy, Macro-and micronutrient intake among a true longitudinal group of South African adolescents at two interceptions (2000 and 2003): Birth-to-Twenty (Bt20) Study. Nutrition Safari for Innovative Solutions - 2005. 18th International Nutrition Congress. ICC Durban 19-23 September 2005.
12. Mathee A, von Schirnding Y, Montgomery M, Röllin HB, Norris S, Naik I. An overview of lead poisoning in South African children: the hazard at home. 17th Conference of International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, 13-16 September 2005 (oral).
13. Röllin HB, Mathee A, Levin J, Odland JØ. Levels of persistent toxic substances (PTS) in blood from delivering women from selected areas of South Africa. 17th Conference of International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, 13-16 September 2005 (oral)
14. Röllin HB, Mathee A, Levin J, Theodorou P, Naik I, Tassell H. Examining the association between manganese and lead blood levels in school children in four selected regions of South Africa. 17th Conference of International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, 13-16 September 2005 (oral).
15. Tamm N, Westaway MS, Moyes J, Moitse K, Radebe M, Rees H. Development of a quality of life assessment tool as part of an antiretroviral therapy (ART) study in South Africa. 12th Priorities in Reproductive Health and HIV Conference Stellenbosch, 18-21 October 2005 (poster).
16. Thomas EP. HIV and informal settlements. WITS informal settlements conference in November 2004.
17. Westaway MS. A longitudinal investigation of quality of life in a disadvantaged South African community. 17th International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) Conference, Johannesburg, 13-16 September 2005 (poster).
18. Westaway MS, Seager JR. Satisfaction with service delivery in a disadvantaged South African community. (Paper). Sixth International Conference of the International Society for Quality of Life Studies (ISQOLS): Advancing Quality of Life in Turbulent World Philadelphia, 10-14 November 2004 (paper).

VI CD-ROM

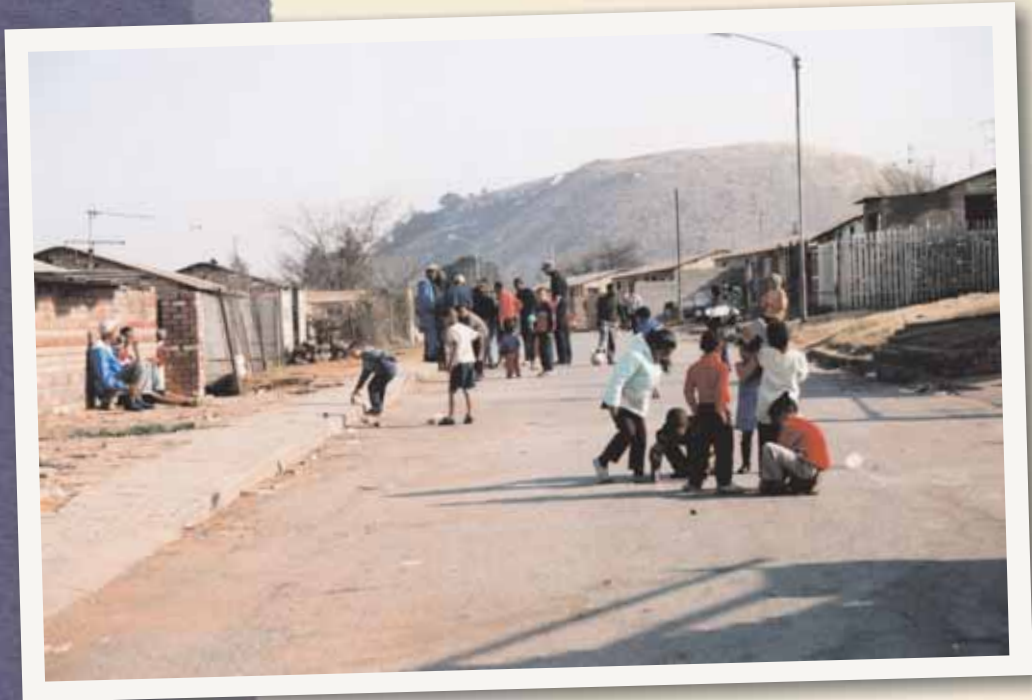
1. MacKeown JM, Petro TM, Norris SA (2005) Energy, macro-and-micronutrient intake among a true longitudinal group of South African adolescents at two interceptions: the Birth-to-Twenty (Bt20) Study. In: CD-ROM Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism. Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Nutrition 19th-23rd September 2005, Durban, South Africa. "Nutrition safari for innovative solutions" Eds: Vorster HH, Blaaw R, Dhansay MA, Kuzwayo PMN, Moeng TL, Wentzel-Viljoen E, 2005:1-2.
2. Pedro TM, MacKeown JM, Norris SA. Individual food item intakes of a true longitudinal group of South African children between 1995-2003: the Birth-to-Twenty (Bt20) Study In: CD-ROM Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism. Proceedings of the 18th International Congress of Nutrition 19th-23rd September 2005, Durban, South Africa. "Nutrition safari for innovative solutions" Eds: Vorster HH, Blaaw R, Dhansay MA, Kuzwayo PMN, Moeng TL, Wentzel-Viljoen E, 2005:1-6.

VI DISSERTATIONS

1. Joffe AL. Environmental Component of the Burden of Disease in Children in South Africa. College of Public Health Medicine of South Africa (long dissertation).
2. Joffe AL. South African's Access to Water, Sanitation and Waste Removal. College of Public Health Medicine of South Africa (short dissertation).



*With the transition to democracy,
there has been a dramatic shift in the scope of work of
environmental health practitioners (EHPs)*



*- from a focus on control to one of development
and change facilitation, especially in informal settlements...*

*Photos by Angela Mathee, Brendon Barnes and Greg Marinovich
Design by Andrew van der Merwe and Cyrille Rosier*