

## SARETI NEWSLETTER: 2008 –2010

This is our fifth newsletter and as our regular readers know, SARETI is a research ethics degree programme based at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in partnership with the University of Pretoria, training African health professionals for the African research context. SARETI is funded by a competitive grant to UKZN from the US Fogarty International Center of the US National Institutes of Health. This newsletter will discuss our activities from March 2007 until early 2010 and serves to update our readers about some of our activities during this period. We begin with updates on all SARETI scholars for the classes of 2008, 2009, and 2010:

### 1. SARETI SCHOLARS AND FELLOWS

#### 1.1. SCHOLARS OF 2010

Our final call for applications for Phase II of the SARETI programme went out in August 2009 and attracted 28 applications from 13 countries throughout the continent. This being the year in which our second African Health Research Ethics Symposium is held, we were only able to offer places to two scholars, which made the selection process extremely difficult. Ultimately, we chose:

- |                         |          |           |
|-------------------------|----------|-----------|
| ○ Dr Patrick Okonta     | Nigeria  | MPH       |
| ○ Mr Farirai Mutenherwa | Zimbabwe | M Soc Sci |



**Class of 2010 with SARETI UP Staff**

From left to right: Dr Theresa Rossouw (exec), Dr Patrick Okonta (2010 scholar), Mr Farirai Mutenherwa (2010 scholar), and, Ms Faith Seme (project administrator).

## 1.2. SCHOLARS OF 2009

We sent out our call for applications in July 2008 for the class of 2009 and had 39 applicants from 13 countries in Africa. We were honoured that so many African health professionals considered SARETI as a platform for training in research ethics. As in 2007, selection proved to be very competitive. We selected three men and one woman, representing several fields of health care.

- Our 2009 Scholars were:
  - Dr Odidika Umeora Nigeria MPH
  - Mr Primus Chi Cameroon MPH
  - Dr Babatunde Adewale Nigeria M Soc Sci
  - Ms Sithembile Ruzariro Zimbabwe M Soc Sci



**Class of 2009 taking a break from lectures at the UP campus**  
From left to right: Ms Sithembile Ruzariro (Zimbabwe), Dr OUJ Umeora (Nigeria), Mr Che Primus Chi (Cameroon), and, Dr Babatunde Adewale (Nigeria).

## 1.3. SCHOLARS OF 2008

For the class of 2008 we had 34 applicants from 11 countries that applied for the fully funded scholarship for the Masters degree in research ethics in response to our call for applications in August 2007. Selection was very difficult, since the applicants were all in possession of the necessary qualifications needed for selection. We selected two men for the MPH degree and two women for the M Soc Sci degree, representing several fields of health care.

- Our 2008 Scholars were:
  - Dr Felix Chukwuneke Nigeria MPH
  - Dr Lumuli Mbonile Tanzania MPH
  - Ms Boitumelo Mokgatla-Moipolai Botswana M Soc Sci
  - Ms Nancy Soko Zambia M Soc Sci



**Class of 2008 with SARETI Exec members**

Clockwise from left to right: Dr Theresa Rossouw (exec), Dr Lumuli Mbonile, Prof Mariana Kruger (exec), Dr Felix Chukwuneke, Prof Doug Wassenaar (exec), Ms Nancy Soko, Ms Boitumelo Mokgatla-Moipolai, Ms Debbie Marais (project manager).

#### 1.4. CURRENT ACTIVITIES OF OUR PAST SCHOLARS AND FELLOWS

Our SARETI students and fellows are very active in research ethics and it is with great pleasure that we share in their achievements.

##### ***Masters Scholars 2008***

###### **Dr Lumuli Mbonile (Tanzania)**

Dr Mbonile completed his coursework in 2008 and returned to Mbeya Referral Hospital in Tanzania. He is conducting his SARETI thesis research supervised by Prof Doug Wassenaar, investigating parents'/guardians' perceptions of the rights, risks and benefits associated with research involving minors. He is now a member for the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) Institutional Review Board (IRB). He presented a paper at the "*Communicable diseases and research ethics in Sub-Saharan Africa*" course, organised by the Ivo de Carneri Foundation, Milan, Italy, attended by participants from Sub-Saharan Africa and Europe, and was an attendee of the "*Ethics in Clinical Trials*" Workshop in Cape Town, hosted by the NIH Fogarty Center, the University of Cape Town and the South African Disease Clinical Training Program. He is in the process of establishing an REC at the Public Health Laboratory Ivo de Carneri on Pemba Island, Zanzibar, as well as a Community Advisory Board at Mbeya Referral Hospital. He was an invited keynote speaker at the 6<sup>th</sup> European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health's "*Equity, Human Rights and Access to Care*" conference in September 2009. He is currently doing two studies on ethics of research in children and marginalised groups (commercial sex workers, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transsexuals and intersexuals), because there is little guidance on researching these groups which are the focus of much current HIV and TB research in Africa.

**Dr Felix Chukwuneke (Nigeria)**

Dr Chukwuneke is completing his SARETI/UP MPH research protocol on the attitude and knowledge of ethical guidelines in clinical research among medical researchers in Nigeria, under the supervision of Prof Mariana Kruger. He has been appointed member of the Federal Medical Centre Abakaliki Ebonyi State REC and a staff member of the University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital in Enugu. He was a guest lecturer at the “*Global Bioethics and African Conception of Bioethics*” workshop, Nigerian Medical Association, in Ebonyi State. He is currently writing a chapter for a bioethics medical textbook which will be published by the University of Nigeria’s College of Medicine, Enugu, where he teaches research ethics to public health students.

**Ms Boitumelo Mokgatla-Moipolai (Botswana)**

Ms Mokgatla-Moipolai returned to Botswana after completing her coursework for the SARETI/UKZN MSocSci in 2008 and is currently conducting research regarding the enrolment of children into clinical trials under the supervision of Prof Mariana Kruger. She is the secretary of the Princess Marina Hospital REC and has presented at the “*Drafting Standard Operating Procedures for human subject research in Botswana*” meeting hosted by the Ministry of Health. She gave a lecture regarding the role of RECs at the Princess Marina Hospital and is regularly consulted on research protocols and standard operating procedures by the Ministry of Health of Botswana. Ms Mokgatla-Moipolai was voted the best student of 2008 and was awarded sponsored attendance at the 2009 PRIM&R conference in the USA. She has recently been appointed project manager of the MARC/SARETI project (see item 5 below).

**Ms Nancy Soko (Zambia)**

Ms Soko is currently doing her research proposal for her SARETI/UKZN MSocSci research in Zambia under the supervision of Prof Doug Wassenaar after completing her coursework in 2008. Her study is on the legal, policy and institutional frameworks that inform RECs in Zambia. She is a consultant for the Channel Foundation in Zambia, and attended the Community Health Research Course conducted by Family Health International. She is currently a member of the Tropical Diseases REC and developed the Standard Operating Procedures and Ethics Guidelines for this committee.

***Masters Scholars 2007*****Dr Dickens Aduda (Tanzania)**

Dr Aduda has completed his research on the ethics of screening procedures under supervision of Prof Nhlanhla Mkhize. He completed his coursework for the SARETI/UKZN MSocSci in 2007 and returned to Tanzania, where he works as programme coordinator for the Male Circumcision Roll-Out Programme in Nyanza Province. He wrote a research manual for the Nyanza Provincial Hospital. He is also in the process of institutionalising the local Nyanza Provincial Hospital IRB and developing standard operating procedures. He presented a poster regarding the ethical-legal complexities of microbicide studies involving adolescents. Dr Aduda is the project manager on a new randomised control trial on Zinc supplementation to treat chronic suppurative otitis media in school going pupils in Kenya, a collaborative study between Kenyatta National Hospital, the University of Nairobi and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Dr Aduda is also on a studentship tuition for a Doctoral programme (PhD) in Public Health and Epidemiology, due to be registered in the course of 2010.

**Dr Kolawole Oyedeji (Nigeria)**

Dr Oyedeji has returned to Nigeria after completion of his coursework for the SARETI/UKZN MSocSci in 2007. He is currently conducting his research regarding ethics review systems in the South Western geopolitical zone of Nigeria under supervision of Prof Mariana Kruger and hopes to complete in 2011. He has been a key member of the Nigerian *New HIV Vaccine and Microbicide Advocacy Society* in Nigeria, and has contributed to ethics training workshops for lay monitors and lay members of RECs.

**Dr Asungushe Kayombo (Tanzania)**

Dr Kayombo is currently conducting research towards the SARETI/UP MPH Master's dissertation under supervision of Prof Graham Lindegger, after completing the coursework in 2007. His research is on participants' perceptions of the information provided in HIV vaccine trials in Tanzania. He has been appointed a member of the Lake Zone REC. In October 2008 he gave an invited lecture entitled "Respect for persons, beneficence and justice in research ethics", at a workshop hosted by MITY. He was also an invited facilitator at an EDCTP workshop in March 2009, where he discussed the composition, functions and operations of RECs, as well as the models of RECs and the ethics review process. He also attended the EU's first workshop of Research Ethics Regulatory Authorities in Africa in 2009.

**Ms Evelyn Anane-Sarpong (Ghana)**

Ms Anane-Sarpong completed her coursework in 2007 and has successfully completed her SARETI/UP MPH research investigating the perceptions of stakeholders of qualitative health research ethics in Ghana, under supervision of Prof Doug Wassenaar. She is active in developing guidelines for research ethics at the KNUST Medical School and teaching hospital, as well as being the administrator of the Committee on Human Research, Publications and Ethics (CHRPE) in Ghana. She was voted best student of 2007 and has been awarded a SARETI international conference attendance grant.

***Fellows 2006***

As 2006 was the last year of the first four-year funding cycle 2003–2006, SARETI only selected non-degree fellows for modular training in research ethics.

**Mr Cuthbert Kabero Butendeli (Tanzania)**

Mr Butendeli completed all the teaching modules of SARETI regarding health research ethics in 2006 and returned to the Kilimanjaro Centre for Community Ophthalmology at Tumaini University in Northern Tanzania. He is a member of the local REC and teaches Bioethics as part of the MSc Clinical Research course at the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College. He is now registered for an MPhil towards PhD in International Health at the University of Bergen, Norway. His studies are being funded by the Norwegian Education State Education Funds "Lanekassen". His research will focus on the ongoing debate about the concept of exploitation in health and medical related research ethics in developing countries.

**Dr Olubayo Fasola (Nigeria)**

Dr Fasola also completed the SARETI health research ethics modules, whereafter he returned to Nigeria and his former position at the University of Ibadan.

**Dr Olawunmi Fatusi** (Nigeria)

Dr Fatusi is currently a member of the *New HIV Vaccine and Microbicides Advocacy Society* national ethics committee. She participated in the New Delhi Microbicides Conference and has presented lectures on ethical issues in epidemiological research at Obafemi Amolowo University in 2007. She was funded to attend the 9<sup>th</sup> Global Forum on Bioethics in Research, New Zealand, but could not attend due to visa problems.

**Ms Caroline Gikonyo** (Kenya)

Ms Gikonyo was also a fellow in 2006 and returned to her post at the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI). She has subsequently chaired the Communication Committee, advising research teams on informed consent forms, assisting researchers in ethics in their research protocol development and attended KEMRI Scientific Coordinating Committee meetings. She is a co-author of four 2008 KEMRI Kilifi research ethics publications (see publications by SARETI students, below).

**Mr Yandisa Sikweyiya** (South Africa)

Mr Sikweyiya completed the SARETI fellowship in 2006 and returned to his research position at the South African Medical Research Council (MRC) at the Sexual Violence Research Initiative. He is currently a member of the Faculty of Health Sciences Ethics Review Committee of the University of Pretoria. He is developing a PhD protocol regarding research ethics guidelines for sexual violence research.

**Prof Muhsin Aboud** (Tanzania)

Prof Aboud completed the SARETI Ethics Review Committee Training Programme in 2006 as a partially self-funded fellow. He is active in research and was appointed Associate Dean, Postgraduate Studies and Research, School of Medicine, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. He was also re-appointed as a member of the College REC and of the Expedited Review Committee. He currently serves as the chair of the *Tanzania Medical Journal* editorial Board. He conducted a one-day research seminar at the School of Medicine, collaborating with a SARETI graduate, Joyce Ikingura. He also participated in the Regional East African Community Health Policy Initiative seminar.

***Update on Masters Scholars and Fellows 2005***

**Ms Janelisa Musaya** (Malawi)

Ms Musaya graduated with a SARETI M Phil from the University of Pretoria at the end of 2009 supervised by Prof Nhlanhla Mkhize. Her field of research was a critical review of the ethics of media reporting of clinical or medical research. She was actively involved in giving ethical guidance to the Rota vaccine project and is currently offering the same guidance at a neonatal malaria vaccine project.

**Dr David Irabor** (Nigeria)

Dr Irabor is active in teaching ethics to undergraduate students and has published three ethics papers to date (see SARETI student publications, p. 11).

**Dr Elizabeth Kwagala (Uganda)**

Dr Kwagala is active in teaching research ethics at Makerere University, Uganda and has supervised seven Masters students to date. She has acted as an external examiner for SARETI and has published a paper in *Ethics & Behavior* (in press 2010) with Prof Wassenaar on payment issues in HIV/AIDS research in Uganda. She was a co-facilitator of the “Ethical Issues in Research among people living with HIV/AIDS” workshop, hosted by TASO-Uganda and the sponsor was KIT-Netherlands.

**Ms Ratsie Ratsaka-Mothokoa (South Africa)**

Ms Ratsaka-Mothokoa is on the SARETI international advisory board, teaches in SARETI modules and contributed to the SARETI Faculty Planning Meeting in 2009.

**Masters Scholars and Fellows 2004**

**Ms Awa Keita (Mali)**

Ms Keita completed her SARETI M Phil in Research Ethics and obtained her degree from the University of Pretoria in September 2008. She also got married and we wish Awa and her husband, Philippe, the best for the future.

**Congratulations Awa!**



**Ms Rosemary Musesengwa (Zimbabwe)**

Ms Musesengwa completed her SARETI MPH degree at the University of Pretoria in September 2008. She is active in the National Health Research Ethics Forum of Zimbabwe, teaches research ethics at the Zimbabwean MRC and improves national research ethics guidelines. She attended the UNAIDS research ethics workshop in Umhlanga Rocks, South Africa in 2009 as an invited participant.

**Dr Aceme Nyika (Zimbabwe)**

Dr Nyika is the ethics coordinator of the African Malaria Network (AMANET) in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, which has launched an Africa-based on-line research ethics training course and is actively involved in TRREE, a Swiss-based EDCTP funded on-line research ethics training resource for Francophone and Anglophone African countries. He was invited to attend the UNAIDS AAVP consultation on convergent ethical issues in HIV, TB and malaria vaccine trials held by AAVP in Umhlanga Rocks, Durban in 2009. He has contributed to a successful SA MRC research ethics grant application with Profs D Wassenaar and K Moodley (University of Stellenbosch). A paper from his SARETI thesis has been published in *Ethics & Behavior* (2009). He has published several other peer-reviewed research ethics papers on topics relevant to health research in Africa (see student publications, p. 11).

**Dr Moses Limo (Kenya)**

Dr Limo is active in teaching ethics to under- and postgraduates at Edgerton University in Kenya and participated in hosting a recent UNESCO ethics workshop. Dr Limo was selected to attend the 9<sup>th</sup> Global Forum on Bioethics in Auckland, but had visa problems.

**Dr Wellington Oyibo** (Ethiopia/Nigeria)

Dr Oyibo is active in teaching ethics and is writing a paper on standards of care in international collaborative research in developing countries. Dr Oyibo is currently involved in ethics capacity building in Asmara, Eritrea, where research ethics is beginning to emerge. A one-week research ethics training workshop was conducted which drew Eritreans from several professional associations. Faculty from the Orotta School of Medicine and the College of Health Sciences also participated with members of the ethics committee of the Ministry of Health. The workshop was sponsored by WHO and was held in December 2009. Dr Oyibo is also involved in the restructuring of the REC of the College of Medicine, University of Lagos, Nigeria. He states that he has had an interesting and exciting journey since completing his ethics fellowship in 2004 and thanks SARETI for mentoring him.

**Mr Paul Ndebele** (Zimbabwe)

Mr Ndebele has taken up a senior ethics position at the University of Botswana and is in the final stages of writing up his SARETI PhD under the supervision of Prof Doug Wassenaar. He is on the editorial board of four peer-reviewed journals.

## **2. SARETI PROGRAMME AND STAFF ACTIVITIES**

- SARETI held a planning meeting at OR Tambo International Airport in January 2009 to discuss curriculum and funding re-application for the third four-year cycle. This meeting was well attended by SARETI teaching staff and valuable input was received.
- Both Professors Wassenaar (Biomedical Research Ethics Committee, UKZN) and Kruger (Faculty of Health Sciences Ethics Review Committee, University of Pretoria) were appointed as chairs of their respective university biomedical/health research ethics review committees in 2008. Prof Kruger is now deputy chair of the Ethics Review Committee 1 at the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Stellenbosch since May 2009 after her resignation from the University of Pretoria.
- Prof Mariana Kruger has taken up the position of executive head of department of Paediatrics and Child Health at the University of Stellenbosch after working 20 years in Kalafong Hospital, University of Pretoria. She continues however with her commitment to her role as co-PI in SARETI and module coordinator of 3 modules, as well as research supervision of SARETI students.
- Prof Mariana Kruger was an invited keynote speaker at the SASPEN conference in March 2010 “The ethical approach to evidence-based medicine”, and gave a keynote address at the 2010 9th International Society of Paediatric Oncology (SIOP) Meeting in Africa (Ghana) on “*The rights of sick children*”.
- Prof Kruger presented a paper at the 2009 SIOP conference in São Paulo, Brazil.
- Prof Wassenaar, as chair of WHO/UNAIDS African Ethics, Law and Human Rights group, co-hosted a UNAIDS research ethics training workshop, which was also attended by Prof Kruger (SARETI Exec) and Ms Musesengwa (SARETI scholar) in Durban in 2009.
- Prof Kruger attended a workshop entitled “*Research ethics committees: Help or hindrance?*” organised by University College London in London, 12–13 November 2009.
- Prof Wassenaar was a member of organising committees for the 8<sup>th</sup> Global Forum on Bioethics in Research, Lithuania, 2007 and the 9<sup>th</sup> Global Forum on Bioethics in Research, Auckland, New Zealand, 2008.



- Prof Wassenaar presented a paper on “*Ethical issues in psychological research*” at the 11<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Psychology, Oslo, Norway, 2009.
- Prof Wassenaar attended a workshop on ethics and genetic research at King’s College, London, May 2008.
- Professor N Mkhize was appointed the Head of the School of Psychology, UKZN in 2008, and Deputy Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Development & Social Science in 2010.
- Professor Wassenaar serves on the advisory boards of NIH/FIC Bioethics training programmes in Malawi, Egypt, Nigeria and of TRREE.
- Professor Wassenaar was appointed chair of the Wellcome Trust funding programme on International Public Engagement in Research as well as serving on the funding committee of the Biomedical Ethics programme of the Wellcome Trust.
- Professor Wassenaar conducted a retreat for the members of the Ethics Review Committee of the WHO in Geneva in 2008.
- The SARETI scholars of 2008 and 2009 attended the Kennedy Institute Intensive Bioethics Programme at Georgetown University respectively in June 2008 and June 2009.
- The SARETI scholars of 2008 and 2009 also attended the Johns Hopkins Research Ethics Summer Schools in July 2008 and July 2009 respectively.
- Prof Kruger presented “*Parental ART refusal in HIV paediatric practice – Important for an ethical agenda for health promotion*” at “Setting an ethical agenda for health promotion” conference in Ghent, Belgium, 19–20 September 2007.
- Professor Kruger participated in the *National Bioethics Forum: Stem Cell Banking in 2007* and was elected as the ethicist for the National Public Stem Cell Banking steering committee.
- Professors Wassenaar, Mkhize and Kruger participated in an ethics meeting at KEMRI in Kilifi, Kenya, in July 2007.
- Professors Wassenaar and Kruger were invited to attend the European Union Workshop: *Ethics, Research & Globalisation*, in Brussels, May 2007.

### 3. SARETI EXECUTIVE, LECTURING STAFF and INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY BOARD:

- **The SARETI Executive for 2008/9 is:**
  - *Prof Doug Wassenaar:* *Principal Investigator*
  - *Prof Mariana Kruger:* *Co-Principal Investigator (Pta)*
  - *Prof Nhlanhla Mkhize:* *Deputy Co-Principal Investigator (KZN)*
  - *Dr Theresa Rossouw:* *Deputy Co-Principal Investigator (Pta)*
  - *Prof Carel IJsselmuiden:* *Senior Executive Member*
  - *Prof Linda Richter:* *Executive Member: Consultative Basis*
  - *Mrs Carla Pettit:* *Administrator (KZN)*
  - *Ms Joyce Jakavula:* *Administrator (Pta) till January 2009*
  - *Mrs Faith Seme* *Administrator (Pta) from February 2009*
- The SARETI Executive met regularly in either face-to-face meetings or facilitated through video conferencing. The meetings included regular contact with the group of Scholars.

- SARETI academic staff have contributed papers and presentations at several recent international and national meetings and congresses.
- **Other Key SARETI academic staff for 2008/9/10 are:**
  - *Ms Kitty Grant*                                      *Prof Tiaan de Jager*
  - *Dr Lizette Schoeman*                              *Prof Pieter Duvenage*
  - *Mrs Marzelle Haskins*                              *Adv Ann Strode*
  - *Prof Graham Lindegger*                              *Dr Eftyhia Vardas*
  - *Ms Cathy Slack*                                      *Dr Neil McKerrow*
  - *Mr Doug Mansfield*                                  *Ms Melisa Stobie (to Nov 2008)*
  - *Ms Muriel Mushariwa*                              *Dr Nyameka Mankayi (to Nov 2009)*
  - *Ms Nicole Mamotte*                                  *Mr Vernon Solomon*
  - *Prof Ronald Nicolson*                              *Dr Pam McLaren*
  - *Dr Lyn Horn*    *Ms Zaynab Essack*
- SARETI is supported by our distinguished SARETI International Advisory Board whose members are:
  - *Prof Salim Abdool Karim (CAPRISA, UKZN, South Africa)*
  - *Prof Karniyus Gamaniel (University of Maidiguri, Nigeria, former SARETI Fellow, 2003)*
  - *Dr Reidar Lie (NIH & University of Bergen, Norway)*
  - *Prof Ushma Mehta (University of Cape Town, South Africa)*
  - *Dr Pauline Mwinzi (KEMRI, Kenya)*
  - *Ms Matsie Ratsaka-Mothokoa (National Department of Health, South Africa, former SARETI Fellow, 2005)*
  - *Dr Maurizio Salvi (European Commission, Belgium)*
  - *Dr Godfrey Tangwa (University of Yaounde, Cameroon)*

**SARETI Project managers/administrative support staff:**

During 2008 we had to accept the resignations of two key project management staff: Ms Debbie Marais decided to pursue her second Masters degree, this one in Counselling Psychology (now graduated *Summa Cum Laude!*) and Ms Joyce Jakavula resigned to complete her MPH and begin a career in a new organisation. All who interacted with SARETI through these two extremely competent and helpful key staff members will remember their skill, competence and loyalty to SARETI. We wish them both well and have remained in ongoing contact. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Faith Seme to the Pretoria SARETI office and Mrs Carla Pettit to the UKZN SARETI office. Carla and Faith have ensured a smooth transition and the SARETI executive expresses its appreciation for supporting our complicated operations with efficiency and good humour.

## Cumulative SARETI Student Research Ethics Publications:

- Ateudjieu, J., Williams, J., Hirtle, M., Baume, C., **Ikingura, J.**, Niaré, A., & Sprumont, D. (2009, in press) Training needs assessment in research ethics evaluation among research ethics committee members in three African countries: Cameroon, Mali and Tanzania. *Developing World Bioethics*, doi:10.1111/j.1471-8847.2009.00266.x
- Chukweneke, F.N.**, Onwuekwe, I.C., & Ekwueme, O.C. (2009). The use of placebo in clinical trials: An overview of the ethical issues involved for the protection of human research participants. *Journal of College Medicine*, 14(1), 85-89
- Gikonyo, C.**, Bejon, M., Marsh, V., & Molyneux, S. (2008). Taking social relationships seriously: Lessons learned from the informed consent practices of a vaccine trial on the Kenyan coast. *Social Science & Medicine*, 67, 708-720.
- Ikingura, J.K.**, Kruger, M., & Zeleke W. (2007). Health research ethics review and needs of institutional ethics committees in Tanzania. *Tanzanian Health Research Bulletin*, 9(3), 154-158.
- Irabor, D.O.** (2006). Informed consent for surgery: A historical review. *West African Journal of Medicine*, 25, 301-304.
- Irabor, D.O.**, & Omonzejele, P. (2007). Local attitudes, moral obligation, customary obedience and other cultural practices: Their influence on the process of gaining informed consent for surgery in a tertiary institution in a developing country. *Developing World Bioethics* ISSN 1471-8731 (print); 1471-8847 (online) doi:10.1111/j.1471-8847.2007.00198.x
- Irabor, D.O.** (2009) The 'difficult surgical patient' in a developing world context. How cultural beliefs, local customs and superstition affect surgical treatment. *Eubios Journal of Asian and International Bioethics* 19(3), 81-83.
- Kilama, W., & **Nyika, A.** (2009). Guest Editors. Health Research in Africa: Ethical and Practical Challenges. *Acta Tropica*, 112(1).
- Kwagala, E.**, Wassenaar, D.R., & Ecuru, J. (2010, in press). Payments and Direct Benefits in HIV/AIDS related Research Projects in Uganda. *Ethics & Behavior*.
- Manafa, O.**, Lindegger, G., & IJsselmuiden, C. (2006). Informed consent in a clinical trial: participants satisfaction of the consent process and voluntariness of participation. *Online Journal of Health Ethics*, 1(1).
- Manafa, O.**, Lindegger, G., & IJsselmuiden, C. (2007). Informed consent in an antiretroviral trial in Nigeria. *Indian Journal of Medical Ethics*, 4, 26-30.
- Marsh, V., Kamuya, D., Rowa, Y., **Gikonyo, C.**, Molyneux, S. (2008). Beginning community engagement at a busy biomedical research programme: Experiences from the KEMRI CGMRC-Wellcome Trust research programme, Kilifi, Kenya. *Social Science & Medicine*, 67, 721-733.
- Nyika, A.**, Wassenaar, D.R., & Mamotte, N. (2009). The effect of relationships on decision-making processes of women in Harare, Zimbabwe. *Ethics & Behavior*, 19(3), 184-200.
- Nyika, A.** (2007). Ethical and regulatory issues surrounding African Traditional Medicine in the context of HIV/AIDS. *Developing World Bioethics*, 7(1), 25-34.
- Nyika, A.** (2009). Animal Research Ethics in Africa: an overview. *Acta Tropica*, 112(1), S48-S52.
- Nyika, A.** (2009). Ethical and practical challenges surrounding genetic and genomic research in developing countries. *Acta Tropica*, 112(1), S21-S31.
- Nyika, A.** (2009). Professional ethics: an overview from health research ethics point of view. *Acta Tropica*, 112(1):S84-S90.
- Nyika, A.** (2009). The ethics of improving African traditional medical practice: Scientific or African traditional research methods? *Acta Tropica*, 112(1), S32-S36.
- Nyika, A.**, Kilama, W.L., Chilengi, R., Tangwa, G.B., Tindana, P., **Ndebele, P.**, & **Ikingura, J.K.** (2009) Composition, training needs and independence of ethics review committees across Africa: Are the gate-keepers rising to the emerging challenges? *Journal of Medical Ethics*, 35, 189-193. doi:10.1136/jme.2008.025189.
- Nyika, A.**, Kilama, W.L., Tangwa, G.B., Chilengi, R., & Tindana, P. (2009). Capacity building of ethics review committees across Africa based on the results of a comprehensive needs assessment survey. *Developing World Bioethics*, 9(3), 149-156.
- Obonyo, C., **Omondi, D.S.A.**, & Mwinzi, P. (2008). Public health crisis after the election violence in Kenya. *Lancet*, 371, 1319-1321.
- Starling, B., Kamuya, D., **Gikonyo, C.**, Molyneux, C.S., & Marsh, V. (2007). Utafiti in coastal Kenya. *Science and Public Affairs*, 10-11 (June 2007).

## Recent Publications by SARETI Staff:

- Barsdorf, N.**, Maman, S., Kass, N., & **Slack, C.** (2009). Access to treatment in HIV Prevention Trials: Perspectives from a South African community. *Developing World Bioethics*. doi:10.1111/j.1471-8847.2009.00265.x
- Durrheim, K., Boettiger, M., **Essack, Z.**, Maarschalk, S., & Ranchod, C. (2007). The colour of success: A discursive exploration of black academics' experiences of affirmative action. *Transformation*, 64, 112-139.
- Essack, Z.**, Koen, J., **Barsdorf, N.**, **Slack, C.**, Quayle, M., Milford, C., **Lindegger, G.**, Ranchod, C., & Mukuka, R. (2009). Stakeholder perspectives on ethical challenges in HIV vaccine trials in South Africa. *Developing World Bioethics*. doi:10.1111/j.1471-8847.2009.00254.x
- Essack, Z.**, & Quayle, M. (2007). Students' perceptions of a university access (bridging) programme for social science, commerce and humanities. *Perspectives in Education*, 25(1), 71-84.
- Essack, Z.**, **Slack, C.**, Koen, J., Gray, G. (2010). HIV prevention responsibilities in HIV vaccine trials: Complexities facing South African researchers. *South African Medical Journal*, 100(1) 45-48.
- Feucht, U.D., Kinzer, M., & **Kruger, M.** (2007). Reason for Delay in Initiation of Antiretroviral Therapy in a population of HIV-Invected South African Children. *Journal of Tropical Paediatrics*, 53(6), 398-402.
- Furnham, A., Ndlovu, A., & **Mkhize, N.** (2009). Gender differences in multiple intelligences: A comparison of a South African sample. *South African Journal of Psychology*, 39(2), 157-168.
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#### 4. Strengthening African Research Ethics Committees’ capacity for ethical review of HIV prevention research

The [Ethics, Law, and Human Rights Collaborating Centre](#) (ELH) of the WHO/UNAIDS African AIDS Vaccine Programme (AAVP) works to facilitate the ethical conduct of HIV vaccine trials in selected African countries proximal to trials. In 2009 ELH secured competitive funding from the [European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership](#) (EDCTP) to sponsor five African Research Ethics Committee members each year from 2010–2012 to attend two SARETI intensive training modules on *Institutionalising Ethical Review of Health Research* and *Ethical Issues in HIV Vaccine Trials* developed and hosted by SARETI at UKZN. Last year’s successful applicants (funded by UNAIDS AAVP) were Dr Alaba Oni (Nigeria), Ms Catherine Machyo (Kenya), Dr Rekha Kumar (Botswana), Dr Samuel Malamba (Uganda), and Prof Tsehayneh Kelemu (Ethiopia). Further information on scholarships to attend these modules in 2010–2012 can be obtained from Ms Nicole Mamotte at [aavp1@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:aavp1@ukzn.ac.za).



**UNAIDS AAVP-funded short-term SARETI fellows 2009**

*Back Row:* Dr A Oni (ELH), Dr OUJ Umeora (SARETI)

*Middle Row:* Dr T Kelemu (ELH), Dr S Malamba (ELH), Dr B Adewale (SARETI), Ms C Machyo (ELH)

*Front Row:* Mr P Chi (SARETI), Dr R Kumar (ELH), Ms S Ruzariro (SARETI)

## **5. Mapping African Research Ethics Capacity (MARC)**

SARETI is pleased to announce a partnership with the Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) in the EDCTP-funded Mapping African Research Ethics Capacity (MARC) project (Prof Carel IJsselmuiden is the Project Director). MARC is a three-year programme aimed at mapping health research ethics and drug regulatory activities in Africa. MARC will link ethics review capacity with COHRED's Health Research Web platform (HRWeb) ([www.healthresearchweb.org](http://www.healthresearchweb.org)). The current HRWeb pages on sub-Saharan Africa include high quality up-to-date information on ethics capacity and regulatory activities and other international investments in ethics review capacity building. Through MARC, this self-updating 'map' of health research ethics review and clinical trial regulatory training activities will provide current ethics review and regulatory information in Africa.

SARETI, as the African host of the project, has committed to providing the space and supervision for the Senior Research Officer of MARC to be hosted by SARETI at the Pietermaritzburg campus of UKZN. As SARETI is an educational initiative, all its students can benefit from direct interaction with the Senior Research Officer and the HRWeb ethics data.

The primary objectives of MARC are:

1. To map health research ethics capacity and clinical trial regulatory activities in Africa.
2. To adapt HRWeb as platform to include all collected information per country.
3. To provide regular analyses and reports on ethics review capacity.
4. To initiate partnership and developmental activities that will assist in translating the information gained in the mapping into meaningful action to strengthen health research ethics review capacity in Africa.

Ms Boitumelo Mokgatla-Moipolai (Botswana), a recent SARETI student, has been appointed to manage MARC from July 2010. For more information on the MARC project, visit HRWeb at <http://www.healthresearchweb.org> or contact the interim Senior Research Fellow, Debbie Marais on +27 (0)33 260 6135 or [maraisd@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:maraisd@ukzn.ac.za)

## **6. SARETI III: The Future**

The current (second) SARETI funding cycle ends at the end of 2010. We are already preparing our competitive re-application to our generous funders, the US NIH Fogarty International Center. The results of our application will determine whether SARETI III commences in 2012. We will apply for interim funding for 2011 and will let all interested parties know the outcome of these applications as soon as possible.

## **7. AHRES II 2010**

The SARETI Executive is currently preparing the second African Health Research Ethics Symposium (AHRES), which is scheduled to take place at the Protea Hotel, Umhlanga Rocks, Durban, South Africa. Tentative dates for this year's AHRES are 29<sup>th</sup> September to 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010, to be confirmed. Details of the symposium will be posted on the SARETI website at <http://shsph.up.ac.za/sareti/sareti.htm>.

The aim of AHRES is to bring together all graduates of the SARETI programme, the SARETI executive, and International Advisory Board members. It is a forum for SARETI graduates to present their research work in the field of health research ethics and demonstrate how they have implemented their SARETI training in their home countries. This forum will also allow SARETI trainees to build a collective identity and to network with trainees from similar programmes and with African experts in this area. The International Advisory Board will be invited to participate in presentations and programme evaluations, and to increase networking further. Supplementary funding for non-SARETI attendees is being applied for from the Wellcome Trust, who generously supported AHRES in 2006.

## 8. Thanks

- The SARETI Executive thanks the following persons for their active contributions to and support of the SARETI programme:
  - Dr Nancy Kass, Dr Adnan Hyder and Mr Joe Ali at Johns Hopkins University for generously hosting our students every year since 2002 during the Bioethics and Epidemiology summer school and ensuring their attendance at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics Annual Intensive Bioethics Course at Georgetown University.
  - All SARETI academic and teaching staff for making this programme possible.
  - Professor Peter Cleaton-Jones of the Steve Biko Bioethics Centre, University of the Witwatersrand for acting as our external examiner over the years.
  - Professor Kuku Voyi, former Head of the School of Health Systems and Public Health, University of Pretoria.
  - Members of the SARETI International Advisory Board for support and contributions on various matters.

We welcome your comments on this newsletter and any other aspect of the SARETI programme. Please direct these to Carla Pettit: [pettitc@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:pettitc@ukzn.ac.za)

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## South African Research Ethics Training Initiative SARETI

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