

FABI SPOOF 2013: “FRIDAY THE 13TH”

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This year it was the privilege of FABI to welcome our honoured guest Prof George Hudler, founder of the Society for the Presentation of Outrageous Findings (SPOOF) Epsilon chapter, to the ‘Friday the 13th’ FABI SPOOF. SPOOF is an event that challenges our creative minds in presenting something entertaining and bizarre, research related, but fictitious. Each research group was challenged to write an abstract which captivates, fascinates and inspires us. A prize is awarded for best abstract. This Year the Plant Science Auditorium hosted the 2013 FABI SPOOF for the first time.

The FABI Social Club was instrumental in co-ordinating and ‘kitting out’ the venue according to the Friday the 13th theme. On entry, everyone embarked on a creepy and daunting outlook with fortunes revealed by Gypsy fortune teller, Amy Visser. This was followed by all being tempted with un-fortunate cookie snacks. FABIANS were both frightened and mystified by the appearance of Leather face (Hardus Hatting) and the re-awakening of Frankenstein’s monster (Robert Baker) by our Master of Ceremonies, Dr Frankenstein (Barend van Vuuren).

SPOOF presentations started with the “Friday the 13th thesis thriller” presented by the FABI Social Club, setting the scene for unravelling truths by Prof George Hudler’s presentation entitled “Unveiling Corporate Conspiracies: SPOOF AND THE YOGURT AFFAIR”. Each FABI research group had outdone themselves - their presentations were both captivating and highly amusing.

Cold shivers went down the spines of FABIANS as they entered through butcher door strips to the Plant Science Roof. Eyes widened in panic on seeing spiders spinning webs to open umbrellas to ghosts flying in the wind, with flashing bloody body-part centrepieces to animated Willow Creek crime-scenes. This was a scene set to amaze and enthrall whilst dinner was served.

The Prestigious FABI SPOOF awards followed after dinner. Awards for Best Abstract and Best Presentation were awarded to the Cereal Foliar Pathogen Research Group, a new research group under the management of Dr Bridget Crampton. Dreading World War Z, Best Dressed

Male was awarded to Lucas Shuttleworth and Best Dressed Female was awarded to Prof Jolanda Roux.

