## **FABI SHINES AT AUTUMN GRADUATION**

Fifty postgraduate students affiliated with FABI were awarded their degrees at the Autumn Graduation Ceremony of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences on April 18. FABI applauds the 12 PhD, 14 MSc and 25 BSc Honours graduates capped on the day. Listed below are the graduates and the titles of their dissertations as well as the Honours students with projects in FABI over the past year.



#### **PhDs**

Dr Gerda Fourie:

Evolution of mitochondrial genomes in the Fasarium fujikuroi species complex

Supervisor: Prof ET Steenkamp

Co-supervisors: Prof BD Wingfield, Prof MJ Wingfield, Dr NA van der Merwe

### Dr Luke Jimu

Diseases and pests of *Eucalyptus* species in Zimbabwe with particular reference to Teratosphaeria stem canker

Supervisor: Prof J Roux

Co-supervisors: Prof MJ Wingfield, Dr E Mwenje

## Dr DongHyeon Lee

Biology of Ceratocystis albifundus and Ceratocystis pirilliformis in South Africa

Supervisor: Prof MJ Wingfield

Co-supervisors: Prof J Roux, Prof BD Wingfield

#### **Dr Waheed Mahomed**

Describing the continuum of salicylic and jasmonic acid mediated defence responses in the avocado-Phytophtora cinnamomi interaction

Supervisor: Prof N van den Berg

Co-supervisor: Dr BG Crampton

### **Dr Ronishree Mangwanda**

Transcriptomic responses of host and fungal pathogen in the *Eucalyptus* grandis and Chrysoporthe austroafricana interaction

Supervisor: Dr S Naidoo

Co-supervisor: Prof AA Myburg, Dr NA van der Merwe

## **Dr Ritesh Mewalal**

Functional characterisation of cell wall-related proteins of unknown function (CW-PUFs)

in Arabidopsis thaliana

Supervisor: Prof AA Myburg

Co-supervisor: Dr E Mizrachi

External co-supervisor: Prof SD Mansfield (University of British Columbia, Canada)

**Dr David Read** 

Overcoming bias in Citrus tristeza virus (CTV) genotype detection and a population study of CTV within Southern African Star Ruby grapefruit orchards

Supervisor: Prof G Pietersen

### Dr Markus Wilken

Mating in Ceratocystis

Supervisor: Prof BD Wingfield

Co-supervisor: Prof MJ Wingfield



### MSc

Khumbuzile Bophela

Enterobacter and Xanthomonas species associated with blight and die-back of Eucalyptus

Supervisor: Prof TA Coutinho

Co-supervisor: Prof SN Venter

# Vanessa Cronje

Infection and colonization of onion seedlings by Pantoea ananatis and P. allii

Supervisor: Prof TA Coutinho

Co-supervisor: Prof N van den Berg

Herman de Bruin

Characterising the diversity of *Beauveria* species infecting insects in South African

plantations

Supervisor: Prof B Slippers

Co-supervisor: Dr ZW de Beer

Simone Fouché

Molecular characterisation of an accessory chromosome of Fusarium circinatum

Supervisor: Prof ET Steenkamp

Co-supervisor: Prof BD Wingfield, Dr MPA Coetzee

**Claire Melinda Martin** 

Elicitation of medicinally active dicaffeoylquinic acid derivatives from Helichrysum

populifolium (Asteraceae)

Supervisor: Dr Bridget Crampton

External co-supervisors: Dr I Gazendam (Agricultural Research Council); Dr HM Heyman

(Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, USA)

**Rofhiwa Nesamari** 

Identification of diseases and pests of cycads in South Africa

Supervisor: Prof J Roux

Co-supervisor: Prof TA Coutinho

Gi Yoon Shin

Investigation of the genetic diversity of Pantoea ananatis

Supervisor: Prof SN Venter

Co-supervisor: Prof TA Coutinho

Kirsti Snyders

Detection and isolation of homogeneous genotypes of Citrus tristeza virus for use in virus

control through cross protection

Supervisor: Prof Gerhard Pietersen

**Collins Tanui** 

Characterising quorum sensing regulation of virulence in *Pectobacterium* 

carotovorum subsp. Brasiliensis

Supervisor: Prof LN Moleleki

Stephanie van Wyk

Molecular characterisation of the growth rate determining quantitative trait locus in *Fusarium* 

circinatum

Supervisor: Prof ET Steenkamp

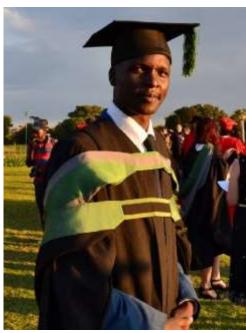
Co-supervisor: Prof BD Wingfield, Dr L de Vos, Dr NA van der Merwe

**Andi Wilson** 

Sexual Reproduction in the Genus Huntiella

Supervisor: Prof BD Wingfield, Dr MA van der Nest







## **BSc Honours students affiliated with FABI:**

Gabriella Barnard, Johnathan Bredenkamp, Katrien Brown, Edohan Clasen, Donovin Coles, Esna du Plessis, Stephanus Engelbrecht, Hanlica Erasmus, Juanita Hanneman, Candice Herd, Xongani Khoza, Nadine Koen, Marike Louw, Malebo Makunyane, Katlego Masike, Wilma Nel, Alandie Nieuwoud, Monique Otto, Naomi Park, Shamara Polliack, Robyn-Leigh Smith, Catherine Tatham, Azille Schulze, Elzette Wentzel and Catherine Wickham.