IN MEMORIAM: ANDRE VAN DER BIJL (PhD)



On 13 October 2020, just over a year ago to date, and amidst our Covid-19 pandemic, one of our founder editorial board members and a good friend, Dr Andre van der Bijl sadly succumbed to cancer after a brave battle with his illness. At the time our 2020 issue of JOVACET had already gone to print, and so the journal was not able to acknowledge his passing, hence our tribute to him in this subsequent issue.

Andre spent many years at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology engaged in teacher education, capacity building of TVET college lecturers, and research in the vocational education sector. In the small South African community of university academics passionate about TVET development, Andre was a stalwart. We participated together in numerous vocational education forums over many years, especially in the lead up to the policy on professional qualifications for lecturers in TVET. Andre worked tirelessly in initiatives towards the development of the new qualifications, eager to see national recognition finally being given to the long-neglected college teaching cohort. Andre was a keen raconteur with a mischievous sense of humour, and always had a story to tell. Even when disagreeing he was never disagreeable, and would willingly concede once he had been convinced of a position. TVET has lost an academic and an advocate who still had so much more to give. We mourn his passing and salute his contribution to the TVET research and development domain. Andre will be remembered with great fondness and much respect.

Joy Papier
Editor-in-Chief: JOVACET