

Best Wishes!

- to SMU from SADA and the SADJ



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A birthday is the anniversary of the birth of a person, or figuratively of an institution. Birthdays are celebrated in numerous cultures, often with birthday gifts, birthday cards, a birthday party, or a rite of passage.

Birthdays are very significant in people's lives because they signify growth and maturity. Many religions celebrate the birth of their founders or religious figures with special holidays (i.e., Christmas, Mawlid, Buddha's Birthday, and Krishna Janmashtami).

In the academic space "Birthdays" can be celebrated with, amongst many forms, a Festschrift.

A Festschrift contains original contributions by the honoured academic's close colleagues, often including their former doctoral students. It is typically published on the occasion of the honouree's retirement, significant birthday, or another notable career anniversary. A Festschrift can be anything from a slim volume to a work in several volumes.

This year the SADJ is celebrating the Sefako Makgatho Health Science University (SMU) as it celebrates FIVE years since its inauguration. Five years is known as the wood anniversary - Wood symbolizes strength of a bond. Wood is durable and long-lasting, indicating a solidified relationship. In this case this would be the relationship that SMU has formed with many stakeholders including with SADA. Although 5 years seems very infantile, SMU bears a very rich history as an institution because it was formed from a very momentous institution in the history of the Republic of South Africa and Africa. Having produced some of the African giants in the discipline of Health Sciences and continuing to do so through this new institution.

The original history of the institution can be traced back to 1976 however this new university was formed on 1 January 2015 and this year they decided to celebrate this revolutionary occasion, as we all know that there is a distinction between birthday and birthdate.

The SADJ and SADA would like to congratulate SMU on this milestone and wish them all the best for the many more years to come as they continue to produce professionals (undergraduate and post-graduate) that will make a meaningful contribution to society. We would like to thank all the academics for the meaningful contributions to the SADJ, through the managing editor, editorial team and the authors without these contributions the SADJ would never be published in the manner that it does and with such rich content. SADA has also

worked very closely with some academic staff members from SMU to provide some continuous professional development programs to the oral health practitioners, which is a legislative requirement by the HPCSA to ensure ethical, good and most current service provision to patients, for that we are eternally grateful.

In line with the mission of the university to "Provide high-quality primary health care-oriented health sciences research, education and services. Produce a cadre of health professionals with the transformative leadership capacity to identify, analyse and address the health needs of the individual, the family, the community and the population." We would like to pledge our support and solidarity to the university in ensuring that this is a mission that is achieved, because the good health of our society counts on it.

Moving forward we hope to strengthen our relations for the betterment and progression of the oral health profession and health in general.

Happy birthday!!! SADA hopes all the university's birthday wishes and dreams come true.

