



## ***Agricultural Business Chamber Landboubesigheidskamer***



### **MEDIA RELEASE**

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#### **ABC Centenary Bursary funding student for further studies in the field of agribusiness**

The Agricultural Business Chamber (ABC) has strengthened its existing links with South African Universities through the introduction of the Centenary Bursary for a student registered for a Masters or PhD degree in either agricultural economics or agribusiness management at any recognised SA university.

The Centenary Bursary has been launched in honour of those ABC members who recently celebrated their Centenary, i.e. NWK, Suidwes Landbou, Senwes and NTK. The bursary is intended to inspire students to contribute towards a positive agribusiness sector in South Africa, through the knowledge gained by their studies.

The bursary was awarded on merit, based on the applicants' study record to date, as well as the relevancy and contribution of the field of research to agribusiness. The standard of CV's received from applicants was extremely high.

The 2011 bursary has been awarded to Jan Greyling who is registered for a Masters degree in Agricultural Economics at the University of Stellenbosch (US). The panel was impressed with his academic achievements as well as his leadership skills. Jan completed his Hons BSc (Agric) cum laude in 2010 while also being a member of the Student Representative Council (SRC) at US. In 2010 he became Chairman of the SRC.

Jan grew up on a farm in the Wakkerstroom area and completed his matric at the Boland Agricultural High School in the Paarl, where after he worked for a harvesting contractor in the USA for one year before starting his studies in BSc Agric in 2006 at US.

Jan is not yet sure what direction his career will follow after completing his studies. He says he enjoys farming, especially spending time behind the steering wheel of a tractor on a grain farm, however a career in the academia or in agribusiness seems equally attractive.

Fortunately his studies don't limit him to a career in only agricultural economics, instead they prepare him to understand agricultural systems in general and provide him with a platform from which to launch his career in the agricultural industry, says Jan. "I think the role of agriculturists will become more important in future. The number of agriculturists in the field is decreasing at a significant rate, while the number of people who need to be fed is increasing and our resources are increasingly coming under pressure as the competition for energy, land and water increases. The opportunities and challenges for agriculturalists will continue to increase even more in future".



Prof Mohammad Karaan (Dean: Faculty of AgriSciences at the University of Stellenbosch), Jan Greyling and Dr John Purchase (CEO: Agricultural Business Chamber).

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