

Janet Bell began her career in nursing as a BCur student at the University of Port Elizabeth (now NMMU), continuing later with specialist qualifications in critical care nursing and education through Stellenbosch University. After ten years practising in various critical care environments she moved to Stellenbosch University where she presented the critical care nursing programme and mentored students engaged in research at honours and masters degree level. For her PhD research she applied grounded theory methodology to construct an explanation of how the phenomenon of a 'different and better' nurse and nursing practice is recognised by others. Janet has been involved in research projects, education and professional development work as a consultant to the private, state and academic health care environments. Currently she facilitates the curriculum design and implementation plan for a new Bachelor of Nursing and Midwifery programme to be offered by the Division of Nursing at Stellenbosch University. Janet has particular interests in humanness in health and nursing care, the broad notion of 'good' as this relates to nurses and their practice; the unique value that nurses bring to relationships with patients, their significant others and colleagues; and the ways these insights may be used as grounding for care encounters in the clinical and academic spheres of nursing.