(NIOH), have been conducting ground-breaking research on mining-related diseases.

“The new partnership with Anglo American is particularly important, as the University was founded on the School of Mining almost a century ago,” said Swanepoel. “Mining continues to play a central role in shaping the social, political, economic and health landscape of South Africa and Africa today, where mining activities are rapidly expanding.”

“Mining and occupational hygiene and health are inseparable and there is a severe shortage of occupational hygienists in South Africa and Africa. This, together with insufficient resources to support occupational hygiene, compromises the ability of the industry to protect and promote the health and wellbeing of employees,” said Swanepoel.

The new Chair will build on the Wits School of Public Health track record and strengthen occupational hygiene by increasing the number of masters and PhD graduates, as well as postdoctoral fellows. Cutting edge research will enhance the health and wellbeing of workers in various industries.

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ABOUT ANGLO AMERICAN
Anglo American is a global and diversified mining business that provides the raw materials essential for economic development and modern life. Our people are at the heart of our business. It is our people who use the latest technologies to find new resources, plan and build our mines and who mine, process and move and market our products – from bulk commodities and base metals to precious metals and diamonds (through De Beers) – to our customers around the world. Our diversified portfolio of products spans the economic development cycle and, as a responsible miner, we are the custodians of precious resources. We work together with our key partners and stakeholders to unlock the long-term value that those resources represent for our shareholders, but also for the communities and countries in which we operate – creating sustainable value and making a real difference. Our mining operations, growth projects and exploration and marketing activities extend across southern Africa, South America, Australia, North America, Asia and Europe.

ABOUT THE WITS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
The Wits School of Public Health (WSPH), Faculty of Health Sciences, is a multi-disciplinary school, committed to high quality teaching, research and service, while making significant contributions to health policy, nationally and internationally. It is one of the largest schools of public health in South Africa with an international reputation for its teaching programmes. The undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programmes embrace a range of public health disciplines including; community medicine, epidemiology and biostatistics, health policy and systems, occupational health, rural health, and social and behavioural change communication.

SAQA approves Occupational Hygiene undergraduate degree at North-West University

SAQA (South African Qualifications Authority) approved a professional four-year Bachelor of Health Sciences in Occupational Hygiene degree. First enrolment at the North-West University (NWU), Potchefstroom Campus, will be in 2016.

Establishment of a Research Niche Area, which will be known as the Occupational Hygiene and Health Research Initiative (OHHRI), was recently approved by the University’s Senate. If approved by the Council of the NWU, the research niche area will commence with its research activities in January 2015.