



PROFESSOR
JONATHAN JANSEN

FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS

A commemorative journey







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JONATHAN JANSEN

2009 - 2016



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INTRODUCTION

Prof Jonathan David Jansen was appointed as Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the University of the Free State (UFS) on 1 July 2009.

He provided visionary and inspirational leadership during his tenure and has led the university through challenging and complex times. He gradually won respect and admiration for the university around the country and throughout the world.

The university community expresses its appreciation for Professor Jansen's energy, drive, and commitment to what he called 'the Academic Project' and 'the Human Project'. He relentlessly pursued academic excellence in teaching and research across the campuses. He played a leading role in pursuing integration on campus and modelling the embrace of those regarded as different by colour, class or creed. He extended the reach of the university's resources and expertise to 'turn around' schools and recruit talented students from poor communities. As a courageous public figure, he brought prominence to the university in the national consciousness on matters of education, reconciliation, and social justice.

With this Commemorative Book, the University of the Free State expresses its appreciation to its Thirteenth Rector in more than a century, for his contribution as a capable, energetic, compassionate, and dedicated leader.

He was the right leader at the right time for campus and country.



UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA





The Main Building on the Bloemfontein Campus, where Prof Jansen's office was situated.



Prof Jonathan Jansen is Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the University of the Free State and President of the South African Institute of Race Relations. He holds a PhD from Stanford University, a MS degree from Cornell University, and honorary doctorates in Education from the University of Edinburgh (Scotland), Cleveland State University (USA), and the University of Vermont (USA). He is a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association and a Fellow of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World.

His book 'Knowledge in the Blood: Confronting Race and the Apartheid Past' (Stanford 2009) was listed as one of the best books of that year by the American Library Association. His book, 'Schools that Work', uses video documentaries to capture what happens inside disadvantaged schools which nevertheless produce the best results in Physical Science and Mathematics in South Africa; this book has been sent to every high school in the country. He also wrote popular books like 'Great South African Teachers' (with two students), 'We need to talk', and 'We need to act' (2013), and he is a columnist for The Times.

In 2013, he was awarded the Education Africa Lifetime Achiever Award in New York and the Spendlove Award from the University of California for his contributions to tolerance, democracy, and human rights. 'Knowledge in the Blood' also won the Nayef Al Rodhan Prize, the largest award from the British Academy for the Social Sciences and Humanities, for its contribution to scholarly excellence and transcultural understanding. His book, 'Leading for Change: race, intimacy and leadership on divided university campuses' is an account of the challenges and achievements of transformation at the University of the Free State.





“I was really, really fortunate to have been Vice-Chancellor at a time when Dr Khotso Mokhele was my Chancellor, and Justice Ian van der Merwe my Council Chairman. You will not find two more distinguished leaders in higher education for a time such as this.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

A PLACE LIKE THIS

The University of the Free State (UFS) is one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in South Africa. It opened its doors in 1904 on the Bloemfontein Campus with six students in the Humanities.

Today, the UFS has grown to more than 34 000 students, spread across seven faculties on three campuses.

In addition to the founding campus in Bloemfontein, the university has a South Campus in Bloemfontein, and the Qwaqwa Campus in the Eastern Free State (one of the nine provinces of South Africa). The South Campus provides alternative access to higher education for high school learners who did not initially gain the required marks for degree studies; South Campus is also home to innovations in online technologies providing distance education to in-service teachers and high school learners across the country.

With a footprint stretching over 48 satellite campuses and with more than 50 international agreements and leading researchers serving in top positions of international organisations, the UFS brings education to all corners of South Africa, establishing itself well in the world of higher education.

Through the Human and Academic Projects, the UFS is a university internationally recognised for human reconciliation and compassion, as well as for excellence in academic achievement.

Inspiring excellence. Transforming lives. These objectives are the driving forces at the heart of the UFS.

The Bloemfontein Campus.







The Bloemfontein Campus



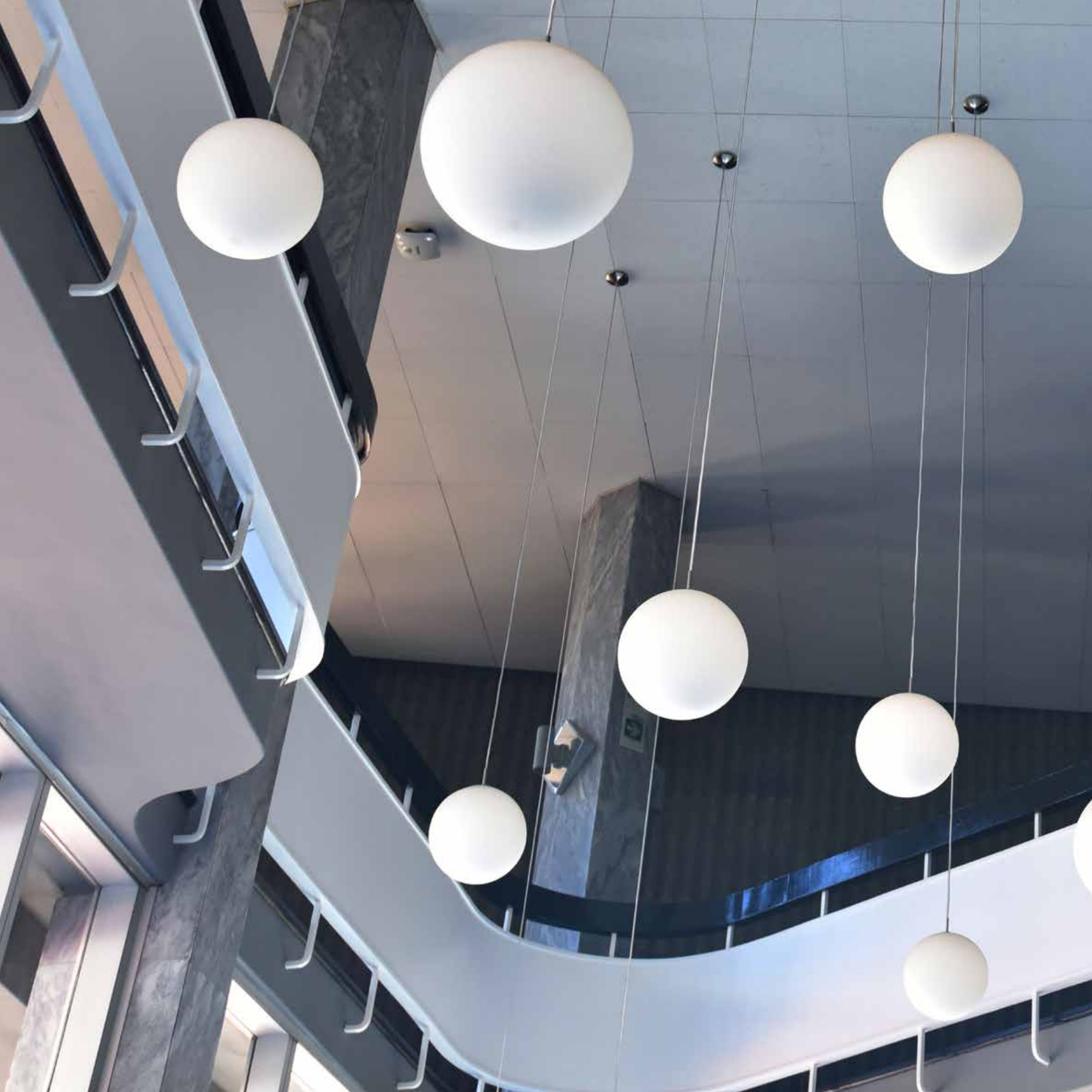


The Qwaqwa Campus in the Eastern Free State



The South Campus in Bloemfontein







“I have learnt that in leadership, clarity of purpose matters.”

Every day I go to work with two simple goals in mind: to enable my students to learn to live together; and to ensure that in the heart of the country we build a university that insists on high-quality education for every student.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

STARTING OFF



STARTING OFF

Prof Jonathan Jansen was inaugurated as the 13th Vice-Chancellor and Rector of the University of the Free State on 16 October 2009.

The week preceding the inauguration was filled with various activities, such as a student leadership seminar, panel discussions, academic seminars, welcoming functions for staff, students and other stakeholders, and a music concert presented by the university's Department of Music.



Prof Frederick Fourie, former UFS Vice-Chancellor and Rector, congratulating Prof Jansen.



Prof Jansen dedicated his inaugural lecture to struggle hero, Adv Bram Fischer. His daughters, Ilse Wilson (left) and Ruth Rice, were honorary guests.







Prof Jansen with his family, Sara-Jane, Grace, and Mikhail Jansen.



Sibongile Khumalo, South Africa's first lady of song.



Mannini Mokhothu and Antjie Krog, South African poet, academic, and writer.

Prof Jansen with three of the former Rectors of the UFS: Prof Frederick Fourie (2003-2008); Prof Stef Coetzee (1997-2002); and Prof Francois Retief (1989-1997).



“In a globally competitive world,
a university stands or falls by the quality of its degrees.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

ACADEMICS, FIRST OF ALL

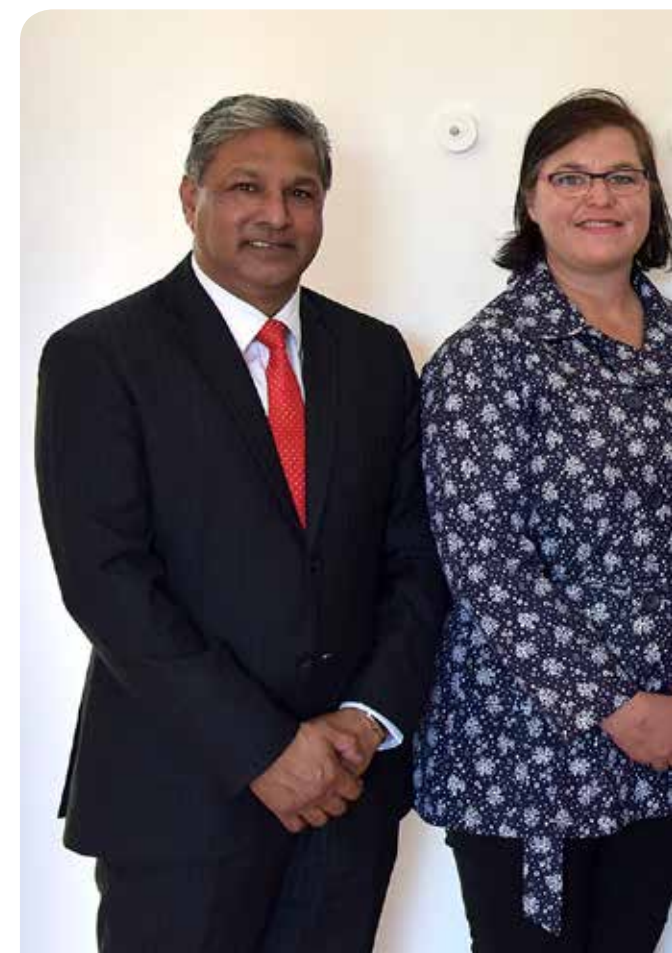
ACADEMICS, FIRST OF ALL

The Academic Project was at the heart of the transformation drive in the past seven years. “A university stands or falls by its academic reputation, nothing else,” insisted the Rector. This drive resulted in an increase in the student pass rate from 71,80% in 2009 to 81,28% in 2014. Research flourished in this period, which saw more academic staff with doctoral degrees (an increase of 13,5% since 2010), rapid growth in research outputs (articles published in accredited journals increased by 39% from 2010 to 2015), and the number of postdoctoral researchers increased by 505% from 2010 to 2016.

The UFS is now one of the leaders in the country regarding the production of scholarly books, with three Mandela Rhodes scholars and several international awards for science, research, communication, and transformation. The university attracts leading professors from all over the country and other parts of the world, and for the first time in history two researchers received A-ratings from the National Research Foundation (NRF). We now have the largest number of NRF-rated researchers on our campuses, an increase of 33% between 2010 and 2015, as well as five chairs from the South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI).



The UFS Book Prize for Distinguished Scholarship was initiated in 2014 to bestow recognition upon outstanding publications produced by staff. Dr Christian Williams was the recipient of the book prize in 2016.






Dr Gansen Pillay, Deputy CEO of the NRF; Prof Corli Witthuhn, Vice-Rector: Research; Prof Melanie Walker, Senior Research Professor and Director of the Centre for Research on Higher Education and Development and DST/NRF Chair in Higher Education and Human Development; and Prof Maxim Finkelstein from the Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Science, and the only A-rated researcher in 'Probability and Statistics' regarding Mathematical Sciences in the country; and the Rector, Prof Jansen.

The Vice-Chancellor's Prestige Scholars Programme (PSP), which was established in 2010, supports the accelerated scholarship of junior UFS faculty in the first five years after achieving a PhD degree. These prestige scholars participate in an intensive support programme, including international placement and intensive mentorship. Since the inception of the programme, two Fulbright scholars; two NRF Y1-rated scholars; one NRF Blue Skies research project, and eleven NRF-funded Thuthuka projects were produced.





STUDENTS AT HEART

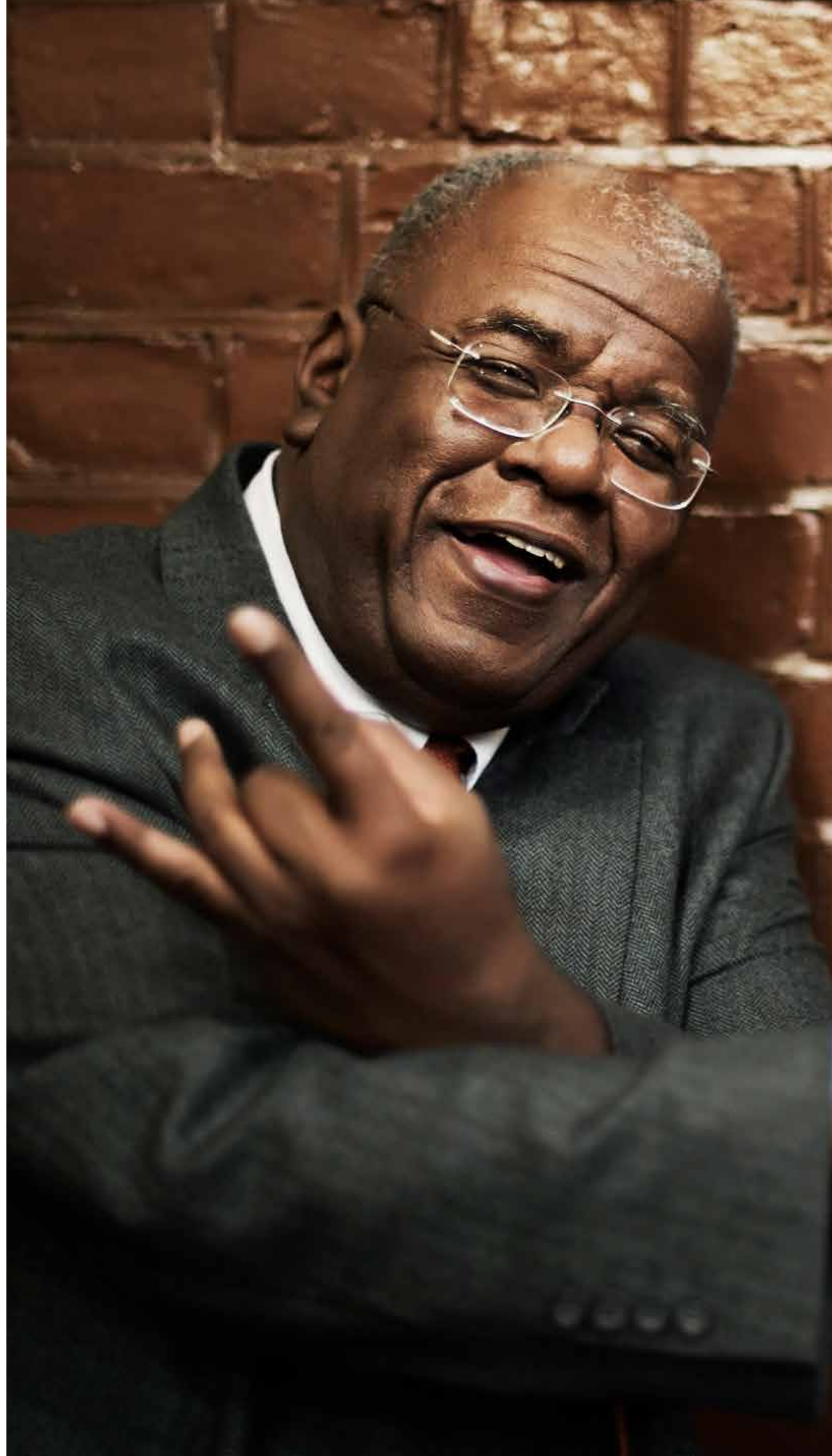
“The wonderful thing about working in education is that every day you bump into young people who remind you what an amazing future the country has as we prepare this next generation of leaders.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

STUDENTS AT HEART

What distinguishes the UFS is the time, energy, and funding invested in the undergraduate student experience by the university's senior leadership team.

The Rector's open-door policy established him as one of the few university leaders who provided an opportunity for students to meet and talk with their leader on a regular basis in his ground-floor office. His availability to students on social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook, the biannual personal visits to student residences, student visits to the Jansen home (sometimes uninvited), the open-air 'Talk to me' sessions, and the regular breakfasts in the office with small groups of students, are some of the ways in which he lived his motto of 'students come first'. Initiatives such as the welcoming back of students at the entrance of the university after the holidays, and serving ice cream to students during the summer term were familiar sights on the campuses.



“I always knew that young people have the capacity for love and for reaching out, but to be able to see that on a daily basis, has been such an inspiration.

I am so optimistic about this country’s future because of our young people.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

Since the Rector started the No Student Hungry Bursary Programme (NSH) in 2011, more than 650 students on all three campuses have received nutritional assistance.

Staff, students, businesses, foundations, and communities contribute to the programme, thereby changing the lives of more and more students each year. In 2015, ten NSH students completed their degrees, five with distinction.



Dr Carin Buys, NSH patron; Nicky Abdinor, inspirational speaker; Ms Grace Jansen, NSH patron; and Redi Tlabi, journalist and radio talk show presenter at the launch of the programme.



Zelda la Grange, personal assistant of former President Nelson Mandela, during an NSH fundraising event held on Nelson Mandela Day on the Bloemfontein Campus.



In 2014, the NSH 1000/33 Stride campaign raised substantial funds for the programme.



The innovative Core Curriculum, UFS101, was designed to encourage critical thinking competences among students and to give them the opportunity to gain access to knowledge beyond the specific qualification for which they were registered. "Students need to be educated before they are trained," the Rector used to say.





“Loving people who look like you is easy; expanding that embrace to those who appear different is the real measure of being human.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN







“During my time at the UFS I witnessed gradual changes in the relationships between students in general, but black and white students in particular.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN





“There will be much more hurt before our country is healed, but it will be the Kovsie doctors, psychiatrists, and teachers applying the plasters and it will be the Kovsie architects, quantity surveyors, jurists, and farmers building and regulating a new country.”

MARZANNE LOMBARD

Proud former member of Soetdoring Residence;
and member of Welwitschia Residence.





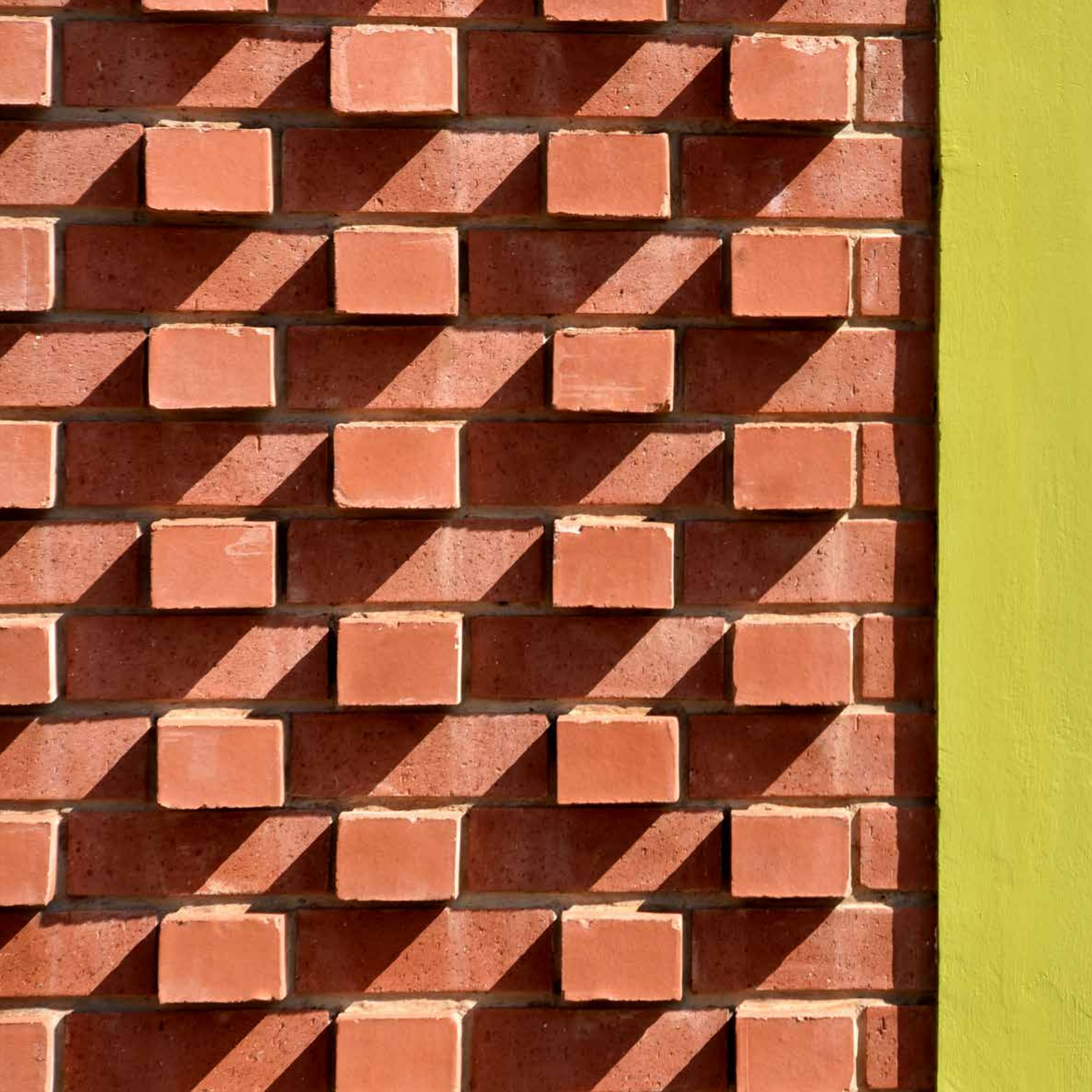




“I want to thank you for your leadership as students. You led then, and now, through the power of your example as leaders. Not through anger and violence but through generosity and inclusion. Not by sowing sectarianism but by building solidarity. Not by breaking down but by building up.”

LEADERS IN TRANSITION FUNCTION | MAY 2016







The main entrance to the Bloemfontein Campus.



The main entrance to the Qwaqwa Campus.

NEW

INFRASTRUCTURE

The transformation of the UFS is most visible in the brand-new infrastructure that lights up all three campuses: New and innovative student residences, new research facilities and computer laboratories, new lecture halls, and public spaces.

Other new developments include KovsieGear – a merchandise shop for the university, the first ever on-campus hotel called KovsieInn, KovsieFit, a gymnasium for staff and students, and a walking trail for unwinding on the Bloemfontein Campus. Several buildings were also renovated or refurbished.



The Visitors Centre on the Bloemfontein Campus.



A lecture facility on the South Campus.



The Amphitheatre on the Qwaqwa Campus,
which serves as a recreational space for students and staff.



The Bloemfontein Campus



Some of the new residences on the Bloemfontein Campus.



The Bloemfontein Campus



KovsieInn.



Education Building.



Astro hockey field.



UFS Business School.



Elevators, such as this one, assist with increased accessibility to buildings.



KovsieFit.



Madelief residence.



The Bloemfontein Campus



Genetics Building.



Renovations to the Urban and Regional Planning Building.



Muller Potgieter Building.



Increased access control.



Office buildings, such as the Flippie Groenewoud Building, were upgraded.



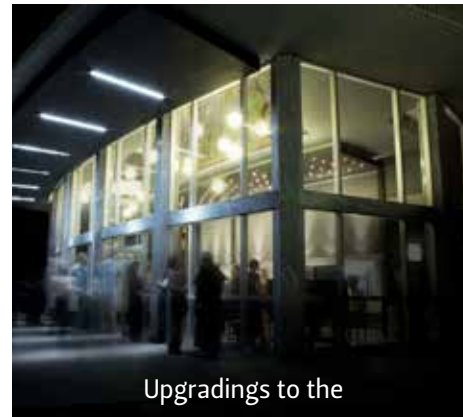
Rock climbing wall.



Education Auditorium.



Harmony residence.



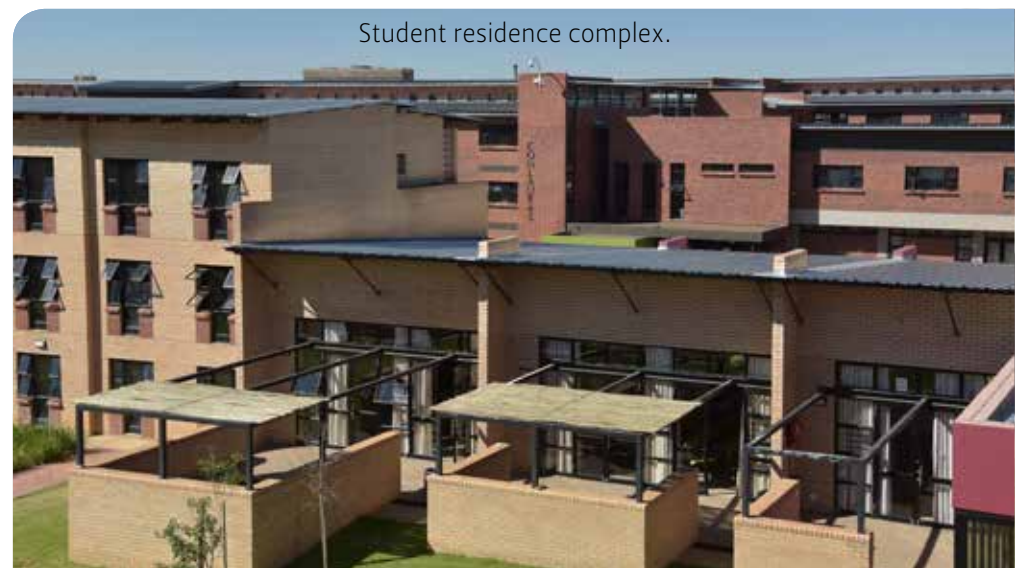
Upgradings to the
Wynand Mouton Theatre.



School of Nursing training facility.



Thakaneng Bridge.



Student residence complex.

The Qwaqwa Campus in the Eastern Free State



Main entrance to the campus.



Residence for postgraduate students.



Sports facility.



Computer laboratory.



Student residences.



Tshimolohong residence.



Science and Geography Buildings.

The South Campus in Bloemfontein



Student residence.





Madiba Arena.





“Nothing is more powerful than an idea
whose time has come.”

VICTOR HUGO



INNOVATION

Innovation was everywhere, especially in the university's many ceremonies. Academics lined up outside the graduation hall to applaud every graduate as they entered those doors for the last time. Open Days became family outings with high-powered laser shows and top musical acts on stage. The Rector and his wife personally served his favourite Cape foods – cabbage stew, as well as sweet potato and custard, to visiting parents. Campus entrances gained a new architectural face with a brand-new security system that made the campuses safer. A new Postgraduate School created, for the first time, a dedicated community of senior students. And flipped classrooms became the new word as the Centre for Teaching and Learning redesigned teaching and learning.

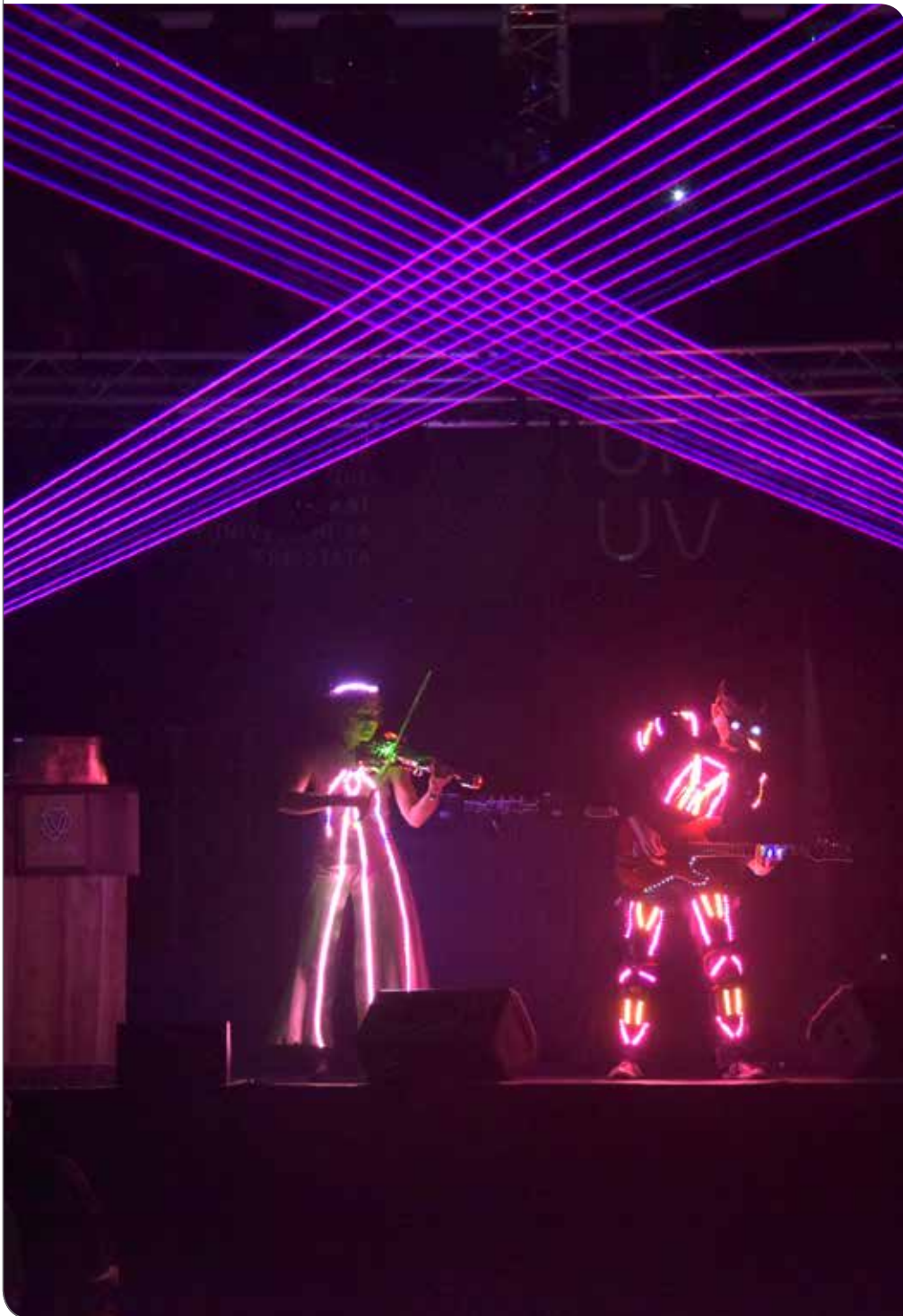


First-year welcoming ceremonies.





Open Days.



“I could not hold those tears back: professors welcoming and applauding as we entered the Callie Human Centre. That was the best time of my life.

I’m a first-generation student and ever since I have graduated, my parents’ and sister’s lives have changed significantly.”

SELLO ISAAC MAZIBUKO



Graduation ceremonies on the Bloemfontein and Qwaqwa Campuses









“When a Kovsie graduate walks down the street, something must distinguish him/her from other graduates. Our graduates must be able to work anywhere in the world.”

PROF JONATHAN
JANSEN







“Time after time I have been surprised by the capacity of young people for change.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

ON A GLOBAL STAGE



ON A GLOBAL STAGE

It was always the Rector's conviction that the best way of breaking the isolation of students in central South Africa and challenging inherited knowledge and beliefs, was through exposure to the best universities in the world by means of student placement and exchange, during which time our first- and second-year students would learn the craft of leadership in diverse societies.





The Leadership for Change (L4C) Programme is a study-abroad experience for first-year students, teaching them leadership skills. Graduates from this programme serve in student leadership structures and lead on campus as mentors in residences, members of house committees, primes, chairpersons of associations, members of the Student Representative Council, and as Presidents of Student Councils.





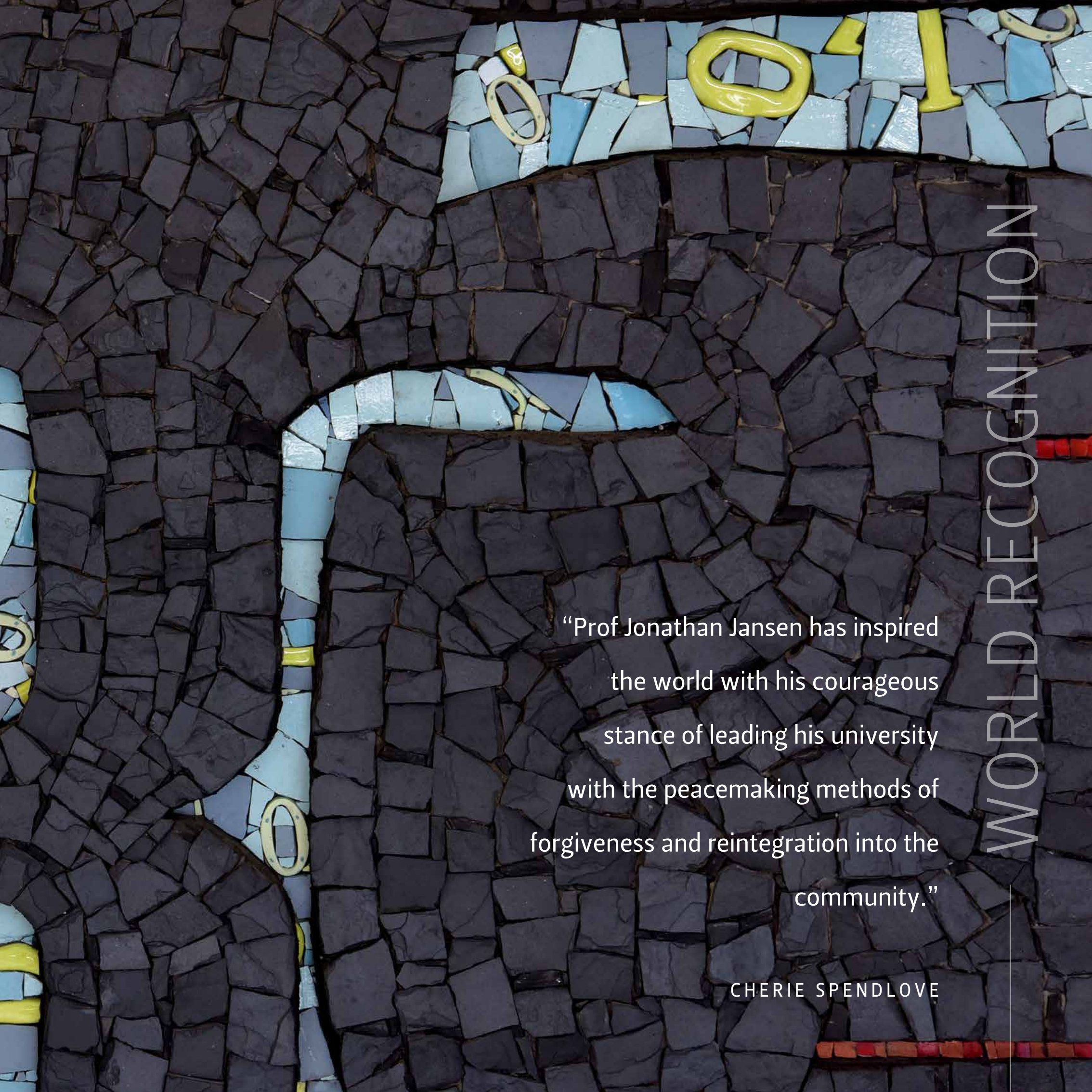


Initiated in 2012, the Stanford Sophomore College is an immersive learning experience where UFS students attend intensive three-week seminars at Stanford University with students from that campus and from the University of Oxford.

The Global Leadership Summit, an outcome of the Leadership for Change Programme, took place on UFS campuses in 2012 and 2015. Student and staff delegates from universities in Asia, the USA, and Europe engaged intensely in critical dialogue with UFS students on issues of change leadership, diversity, and reconciliation in higher education.







“Prof Jonathan Jansen has inspired
the world with his courageous
stance of leading his university
with the peacemaking methods of
forgiveness and reintegration into the
community.”

CHERIE SPENDLOVE

WORLD RECOGNITION

In May 2010, the Honorary Doctor of Higher Education Administration degree was conferred on Prof Jansen by the Cleveland State University in the USA.



WORLD

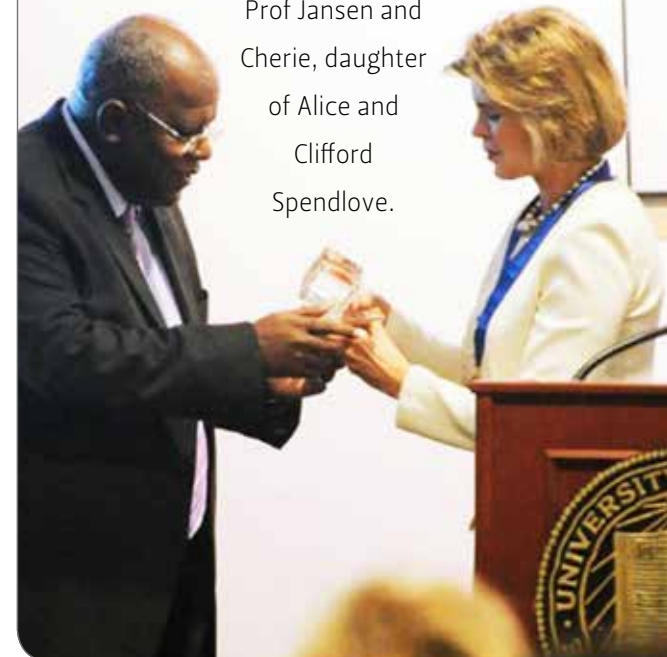
RECOGNITION

Prof Jansen is regarded as one of the leading academics and intellectuals in South Africa. His approach towards reconciliation, social justice, hope, and healing, as well as the role he has played to create a more humane university environment, have been recognised nationally and internationally.

In June 2013, Prof Jansen was awarded the Education Africa Lifetime Achiever Award in New York, USA. With him are Mr Ebrahim Rasool, former South African Ambassador to the United States, and Michelle Miller, correspondent for CBS News.



In October 2015, Prof Jansen was one of three inaugural recipients of the Stanford Graduate School of Education's Excellence in Education Award. He was honoured as an advocate for intellectual freedom and for leading the UFS towards racial integration. The award was handed to him at Stanford University in Palo Alto during the Graduate School of Education's Alumni Award reception. Here he is with Prof Ann Lieberman, senior scholar at Stanford University.




Prof Jansen and Cherie, daughter of Alice and Clifford Spendlove.



In October 2013, Prof Jansen received the prestigious Alice and Clifford Spendlove Prize in Social Justice, Diplomacy and Tolerance from the University of California, Merced, in the USA.

In May 2014, Prof Jansen received the Honorary Doctor of Letters degree from the University of Vermont in the USA.





“The Greek roots of this word means
metamorphosis – a deep change
in one’s identity into something
colourful, beautiful, new.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

DRIVING TRANSFORMATION

DRIVING TRANSFORMATION

While the UFS had been moving faster than any other former white university in changing the demographics of the student body, it was clear that deep changes were needed in the institutional culture and practices of a campus that is more than a century old. And so, over the past seven years, the UFS embarked on changes of its systems and symbols long before there was a movement calling for things to fall.

The Language Policy was reviewed and changed in response to student submissions at an inclusive Student Assembly. The curriculum was reviewed and changed, starting with a common core set of modules (UFS101) which educated students broadly across disciplines on tough questions in science and society. The new professors programme, called the Vice-Chancellor's Prestige Scholars Programme, sought to accelerate the development of a new generation of senior academics, even as the Senior Professors Programme was launched to recruit leading scholars from around the world. The Institute for Reconciliation and Social Justice (IRSJ) was initiated in order to raise the difficult issues of race, gender, sexuality, and inclusion by means of difficult dialogues and critical research across campuses. The Centre for Teaching and Learning was established to accelerate the chances of academic success of talented students from disadvantaged schools. The South Campus was resourced to enable second-chance opportunities for students who did not qualify to enter mainstream degrees on matriculation from high school, and the Postgraduate School was established specifically to provide advanced research training to post-baccalaureate students.

In short, transformation at the UFS was both social and academic, personal and collective, administrative and intellectual, teaching and learning, research and service, people and programmes. Residences were integrated, language divisions dissolved, and campus cultures made more inclusive.

We have a long way to go, as could be expected of an old university with deeply entrenched values and beliefs. But the UFS, despite ongoing challenges, is still regarded as a beacon of transformation, considering the distance already travelled from an unequal and divided past.





The Student Assembly of 28 April 2015, during which submissions about aspects such as language, signs, and symbols were made by staff and students.

The Johannes Brill Building on the Bloemfontein Campus, where the Postgraduate School is situated.



To express the value of human togetherness and solidarity across social and historical divides, the names of some buildings on the Bloemfontein Campus have been changed. For example, the name of the CR Swart Building was changed to the Equitas Building in 2015.



The Institute for Reconciliation and Social Justice (IRSJ) has developed into a critical space that brings different voices, ideas, and practices together to advance the Human and Academic Projects of the UFS. Students, staff, and community members meet here to find ways of engaging with diverse views, realities, and aspirations.





RECONCILIATION

“What makes it possible for South Africans to reconcile is the realisation of our sticky entanglement from the past and our mutual vulnerability in the present.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

RECONCILIATION

In its mission and practice, reconciliation would become the one commitment that distinguished the UFS from any other university in the world. Both critics and supporters of the reconciliation mission of the university understood that this was what the UFS stood for. No doubt, the origins of this commitment to bring not only students, but also staff, together across the dividing lines of race and ethnicity, lay in the Reitz scandal. And yet, in every crisis the university faced since Reitz, it always sought to deal with issues of student discipline with both justice and reconciliation in mind.

For the UFS leadership, it was one thing to issue a punitive sentence, but then what? How could something good come out of something bad? How could reparation and restitution play a role in bringing perpetrator and victim together again? How could healing follow harm in the lives of campus citizens? We found that reconciliation is very hard work that cannot be enforced; it is a voluntary act made possible only by the willingness of those injured after acts of hurt and harm that allows the act of coming together.

And yet, our experience at the UFS has been that in most cases of conflict, students would open the door to the possibility of *'toenadering'* (coming together) and would sometimes insist from the beginning that they did not wish the perpetrator to be punished. What they did seek, however, was acknowledgment of wrongdoing and recognition for the victim. This approach, advocated by Prof Jansen, will surely continue to distinguish the work of our university.





Members of the Rectorate in 2016 were, from the left, front: Dr Karen Lazenby, Registrar: Systems and Administration, Prof Jonathan Jansen, Vice-Chancellor and Rector, Dr Lis Lange, Vice-Rector: Academic, Dr Gift Vinger, Registrar: Governance and Policy, and Prof Nicky Morgan: Vice-Rector: Operations. Back: Prof Corli Witthuhn, Vice-Rector: Research. Above: Dr Choice Makhetha, Vice-Rector: Student Affairs and External Relations.

“Without the incredible skills set and work ethic of this team, I would not have been able to lead.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN



The #FeesMustFall student protest action in October 2015.

“As a university, we have worked very hard to undo the harm and damage done in the past to people and to our country. The way we do that, is to create opportunities for reconciliation and bringing people together.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN





A walk for peace and justice organised by the Campus Ministries Forum and South African Council of Churches (Free State) after the student protest action that took place on the Bloemfontein Campus in February 2016.





HONOURING THE GREATS

“Whenever I fear for our future,
or feel the heavy burden of leadership,
I remember the giants among us,
and walk boldly into the night.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

HONOURING THE GREATS

A number of honorary doctorates were awarded to movers and shakers in the worlds of literature, economics, medical science, global finance, peace-making, journalism, and philanthropy. Special and honorary lectures were also presented by leading national and international figures.



Dr Oprah Winfrey, philanthropist, 2011.





Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Nobel Laureate, 2011.





Ms Leah Tutu, activist, 2013.



Adv Thuli Madonsela, Public Protector, 2012.



Nadine Gordimer, Nobel Laureate, 2012.



Dr Beverly Daniel Tatum (right), President of Spelman College, 2013.



Prof Martha Nussbaum (left), world-famous philosopher, 2012.



Dr Reuel Khoza, former chair of Nedbank, 2016.



Prof Zakes Mda, famous novelist, 2013.



Dr Max du Preez, activist journalist under apartheid, 2016.



Prof Martha Minow, Dean of the Harvard Law School, 2014.



Dr Trevor Manuel, former Minister of Finance, 2016.




Prof Joel Samoff, Stanford Professor and host to UFS students, 2016.



Dr John Samuel, former CEO of the Nelson Mandela Foundation, 2015.





“It is not only in the classroom that
Kovsies produced World Champions
recognised for their humility
and humanity despite amazing
achievements.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

THE HOME OF CHAMPIONS

THE HOME OF CHAMPIONS

Over the past few years, a number of individuals and student groups performed nationally and internationally. This includes achievements on academic level, as well as in the arts, culture, sports, and other areas.



Candice Thikeson, Mandela Rhodes Scholar, Bright Young Mind, and recipient of the 2016 Abe Bailey Travel Bursary.



Wayde van Niekerk, 2015 IAAF Men's 400 m World Sprint Champion and 2016 Olympic record-breaking Olympic Gold Medallist.



Dr DW Bester received a DPhil in Statistics from Oxford University in the UK in 2016. This Kovsie graduate was selected as Rhodes Scholar in 2011.



Louzanne Coetzee, world record-holder in the 5000 metres T11. Here she is with her guide, Khotahiso Mokone.



Rolene Strauss, Miss World 2015.



Johan Cronjé, South African record-holder in the 1500 metres.



Shimlas, 2015 Varsity Cup Champions.



Oupa Mohoje, the first black Shimla captain, Springbok rugby player, captain of the South African A team, and the Toyota Cheetahs.

“Live your dream. Not my dreams or your parents’ dreams, but your dream, whether it is to be the best in sports, arts, culture.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN



2014 Varsity Netball Champions and winners of 2014 National Premier League.



KovieTennis, 2014 USSA Champions.

“Thank you for making Kovies such an inspirational space. A space where we can grow and a space where the ‘impossible’ becomes a reality. I am a proud Kovie ambassador!”

SIBUSISO TSHABALALA, former UFS student.



Nicole Walraven, 2015 SA under 21 Women's Hockey Player of the Year.



Veritas, 2015 National Sêr Champions in the ATKV University Sêr Competition.

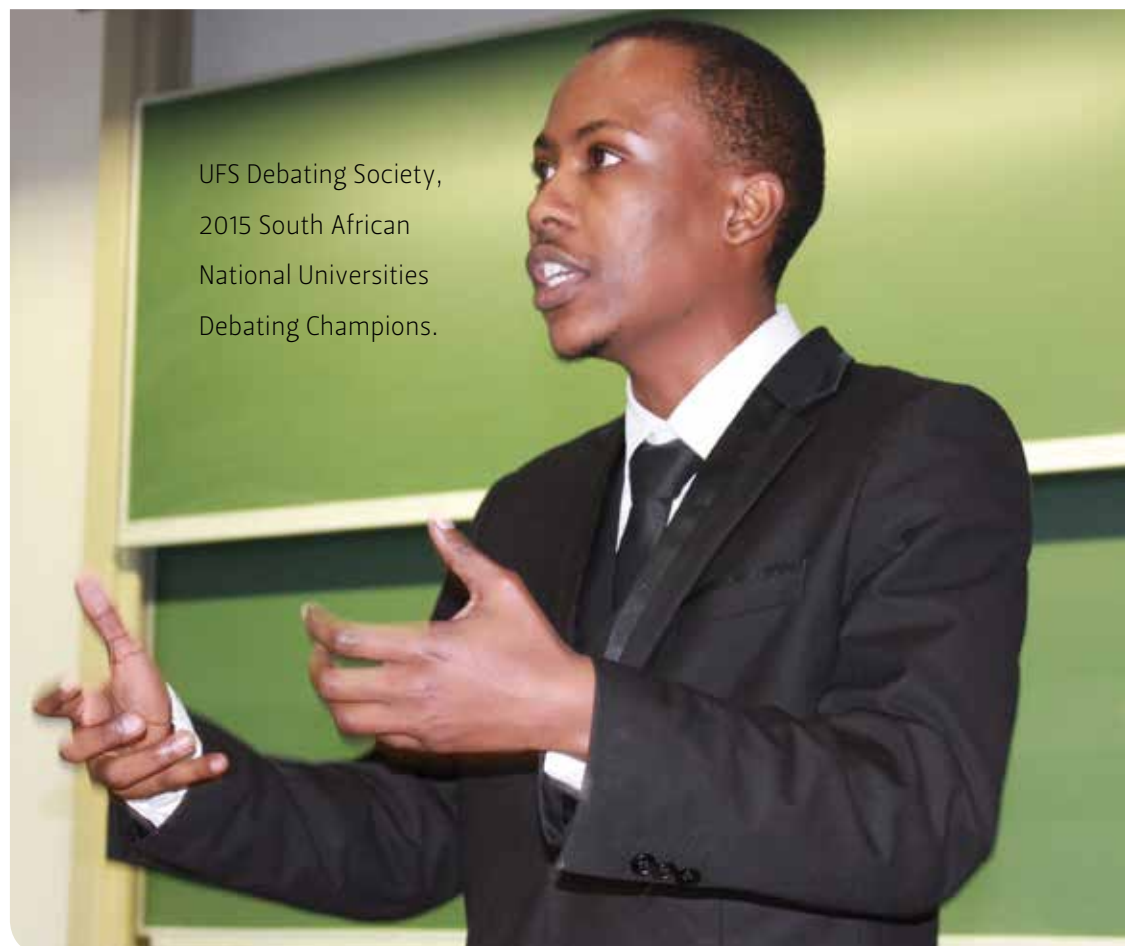


Varsity Sevens Champions 2015.

Marjolein, second place in the 2015 ATKV University Sêr Competition.



UFS Debating Society,
2015 South African
National Universities
Debating Champions.



Elzane van der Berg,
Deaf Miss South
Africa 2014.



Andricia
Hinkermann, Miss
Earth South Africa
Finalist 2015.





FIXING SCHOOLS

“We have not exhausted the search for ideas available to us to change our country or our continent.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

FIXING SCHOOLS

The Rector's life is about changing schools. He not only served as a high school Biology teacher in his first job, but studied schools and school change for most of his life as a Professor of Education.



The highly regarded Schools Partnership Project uses recently retired Science and Math teachers and principals as mentors to educators in underperforming high schools in the urban and rural Free State. The turn-around in the academic performance of these schools has been nothing short of astounding.



The First-generation Student Project selects talented Grade 10-11 learners to do actual first-year university courses over three years in preparation for coming to the UFS when they matriculate. In 2015 and 2016 altogether 97 Grade 12 learners from the project were admitted to the UFS.



The Extreme Makeover for Schools Project assists schools in need of physical upgrading and renovation. The university uses its suppliers to deliver free services where possible, and raises funds from big donors to support school renewal projects.





“A South African university cannot, given our history, wait for students to show up at the gates of the Academy. Our role is to build bridges for the talented poor to access what they never thought possible – a degree from a leading university.”

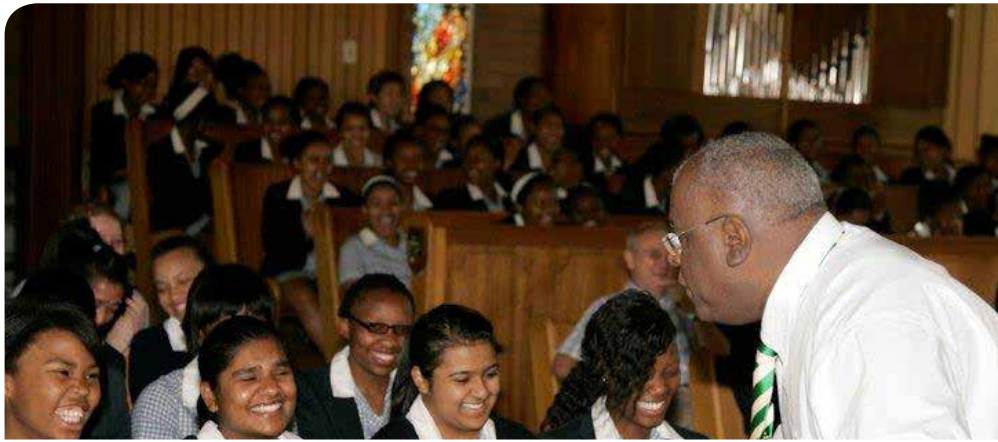
PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

REACHING OUT

REACHING OUT

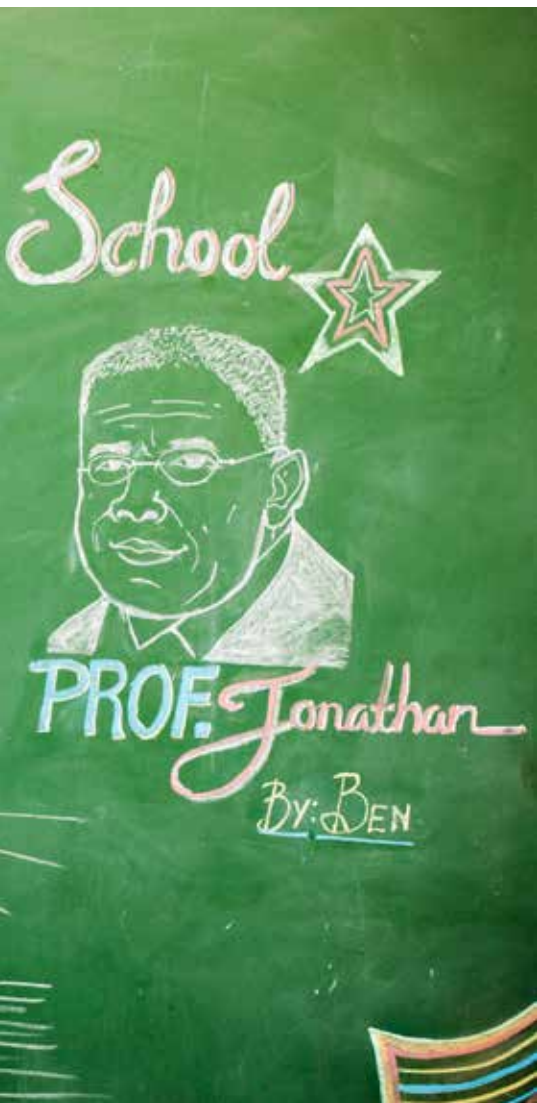
Another great passion of Prof Jansen was his visits to schools across the country and neighbouring countries to recruit top students, in order to create a cosmopolitan campus that houses the leading thinkers of tomorrow.





“In a world where great leadership is sorely lacking, Kovies aims to create leaders who will stand up and be counted in difficult circumstances.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN







“I discovered that the university provides its leaders with a unique platform not only to speak truth to power; but to lend expertise for nation-building, and to give voice to those on the margins of society.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

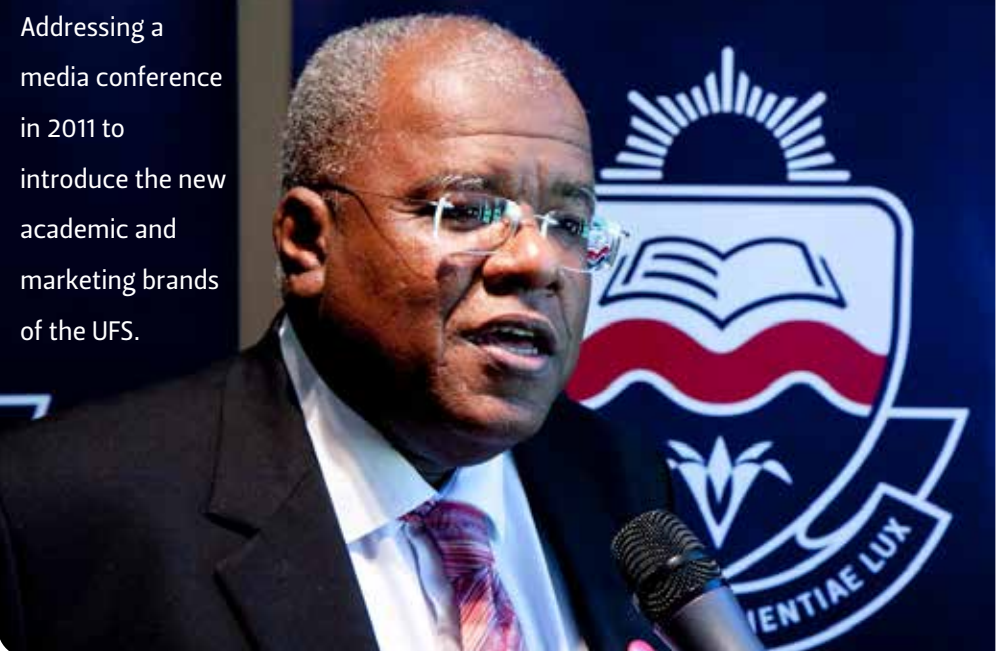
As a prominent public figure and opinion maker in the media, Prof Jansen addressed audiences across the country through lectures, workshops, seminars, and speeches on topics as diverse as leadership, reconciliation, education, and organisational change.

His column in *The Times* has become a popular weekly read for many South Africans, and the unique way in which he uses real-life examples of his experiences as a leader, continues to capture the hearts and minds of readers. He writes popular and accessible academic books, and the launching of his books offer another platform for addressing pressing issues in schools and society.

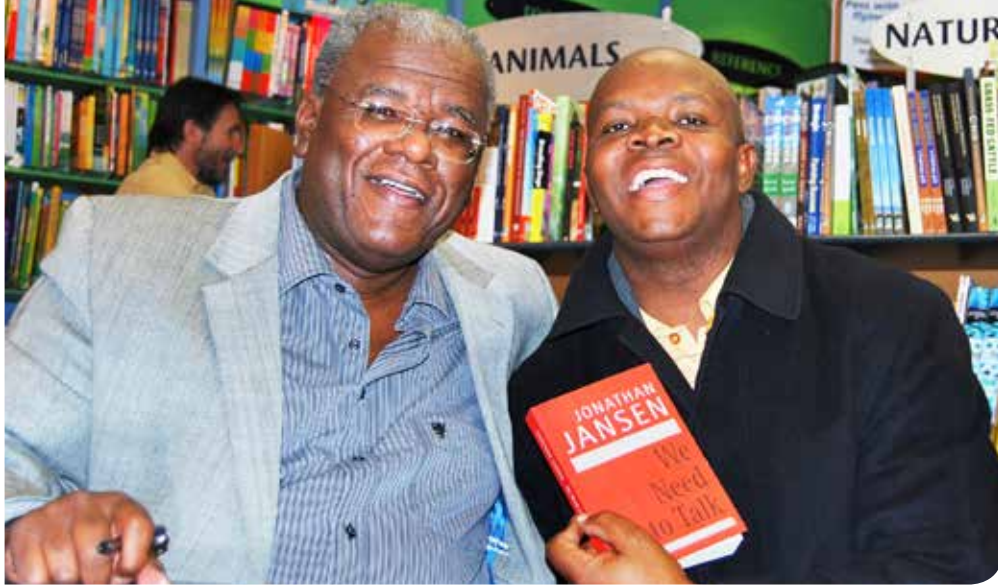
One of his passions was the raising of funds for key initiatives, such as the Schools Turnaround Project and bursaries for academically deserving students who do not have the financial means to pay for their studies. He met with many existing and potential donors and raised large amounts for this purpose. He established the UFS Student Bursary Fund Campaign in 2016 and will continue to raise funds in order to feed hungry students.



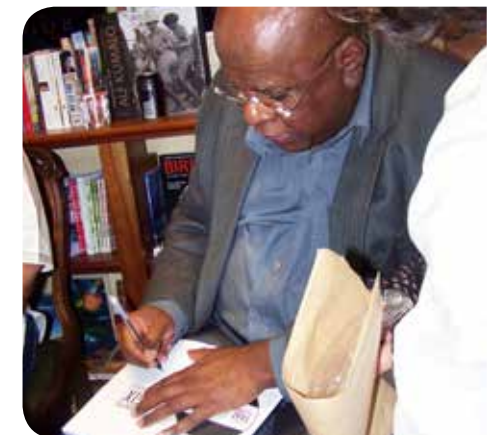
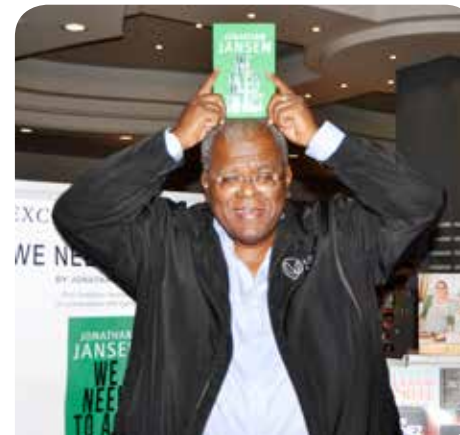
Addressing a media conference in 2011 after the Reitz reconciliation ceremony.



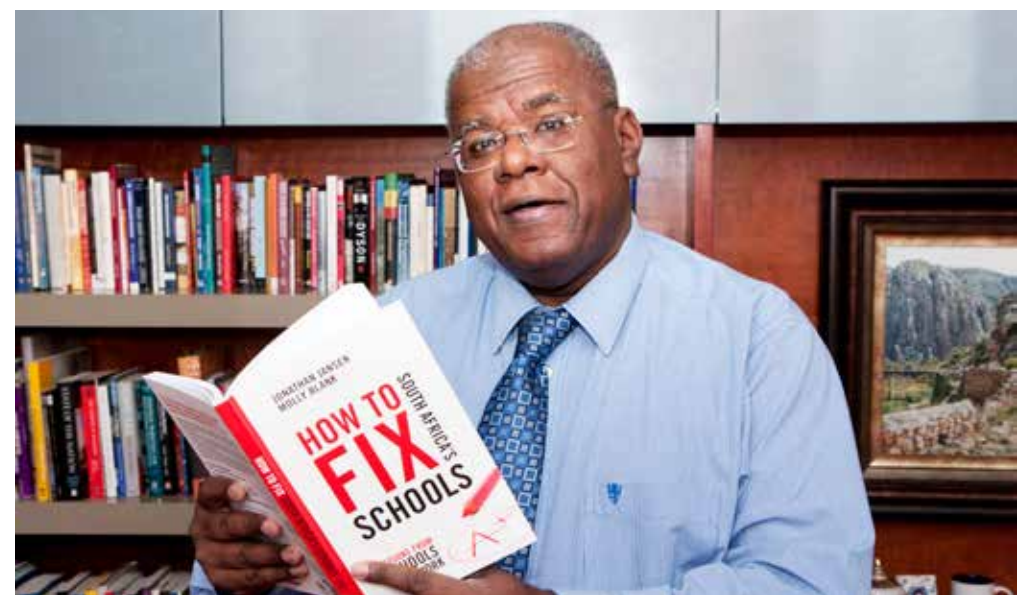
Addressing a media conference in 2011 to introduce the new academic and marketing brands of the UFS.

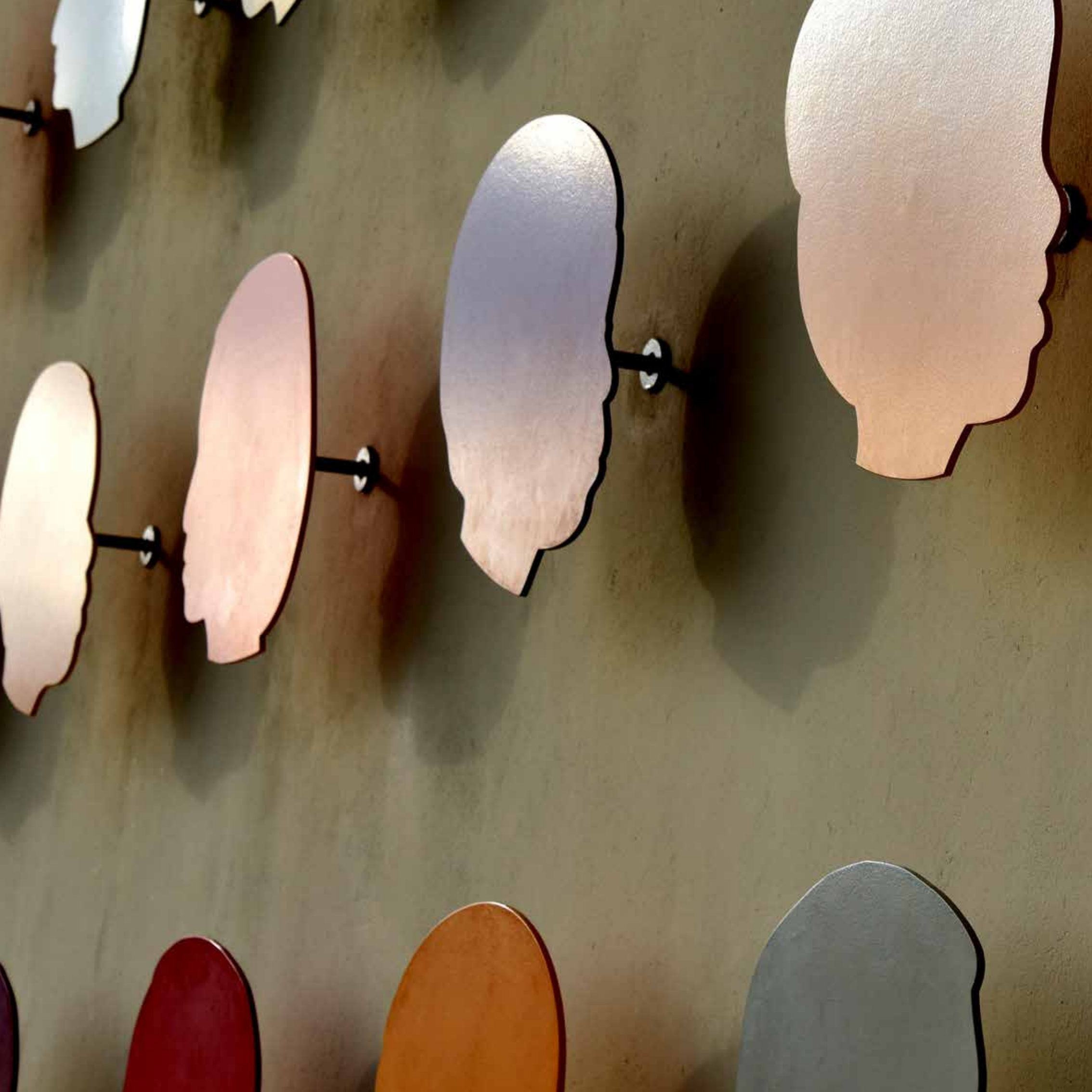


At a fundraising event for the Beds of Hope campaign were Mr Harold Serebro, non-executive Director of Altech; Prof André Venter, Head of the UFS Department of Paediatrics and Child Health; Ms Grace Jansen, Prof Jansen, and Ms Ruda Landman, non-executive Director of Media24 and former co-presenter of the current affairs television programme, Carte Blanche.



An interview with Mr Bongani Bingwa in 2013, for an insert on the current affairs television programme, Carte Blanche.





The background is a textured, light-colored surface. It features several paper cutouts: a large, irregularly shaped yellow cutout at the top, a dark red cutout at the bottom left, and a dark red cutout at the bottom right. A thin, vertical white line runs down the right side of the page.

TALK TO ME

“Nothing satisfies campus citizens
more than the feeling that
they are being heard.”

PROF JONATHAN JANSEN

TALK TO ME

Prof Jansen spent the first few months on the job listening intently to staff, students, and the broader community, asking about their expectations for the university. This unique approach to engage with staff and students continued throughout his time at the university.

The Rector's 'Talk to me' staff-and-student engagement project became one of his signature initiatives on the three campuses. The format offered opportunities for staff and students to talk to the Rector about any concerns they might have – even if only to pose for a selfie!

Through his electronic communique, the Monday Bulletin, he wrote to staff on a regular basis about matters at the university, providing them the opportunity to write back on matters of policy and practice at the university.







A SNAPSHOT OF THE JOURNEY



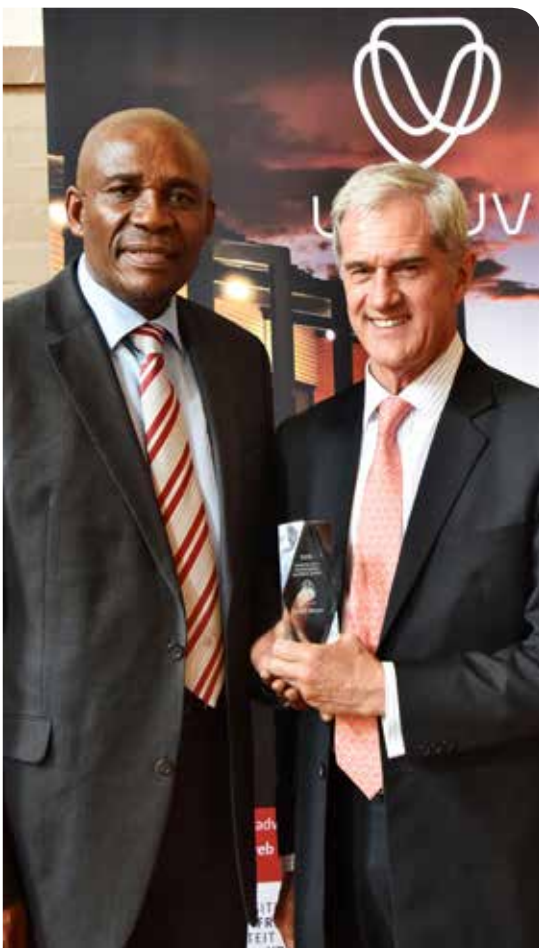
“The first time I visited your office, I was nervous and I was not sure what to expect. After telling you my story, the only thing you asked me was, “What makes you wake up every morning?” since you have never seen such braveness in a young woman. At that point I cried because no one has ever said that to me or even had so much faith in me – although I didn’t know you and just heard people talking about you. I remember when I failed two modules and I called you. At the time you were in the US and you told me to hang on – you would call after you return. And you did. Just like any father who cares would do.”

UFS STUDENT



“The weak
can never
forgive.
Forgiveness
is the
attribute of
the strong.”

MAHATMA
GANDHI



COUNCIL 2015

FRONT

Dr Gift Vinger,
Dr Lis Lange,
Dr Choice Makhetha,
Prof Jonathan Jansen,
Justice Ian van der Merwe,
Mr Willem Louw,
Dr Susan Vosloo,
Prof Nicky Morgan,
Dr Karen Lazenby.

2ND ROW

Mr Kgotso Schoeman,
Mr Lindokuhle Ntuli,
Prof Gert van Zyl,
Prof Helena van Zyl,
Prof Daniella Coetzee,
Ms Susan van Jaarsveld,
Prof Johan Grobbelaar,
Ms Cornelia Faasen.

3RD ROW

Dr Balekile Mzangwa,
Mr Ryland Fisher,
Ms Likeleli Mphutlane,
Dr Willy Nel,
Ms Lacea Loader.

4TH ROW

Mr Jonathan Crowther,
Ms Loraine Roux,
Prof Prakash Naidoo,
Mr Dan Mosia,
Mr Henry Madlala,
Dr Jacobus Potgieter.

5TH ROW

Mr Christo Dippenaar,
Mr Paseka Sikhosana,
Mr Derek Foster,
Mr Chris Liebenberg.

ABSENT

Mr Ndaba Ntsele,
Prof Corli Witthuhn,
Mr Tate Makgoe,
Mr Sidney Kgara,
Ms Suraya Jawodeen.









“The
road to
freedom
is via the
cross.”

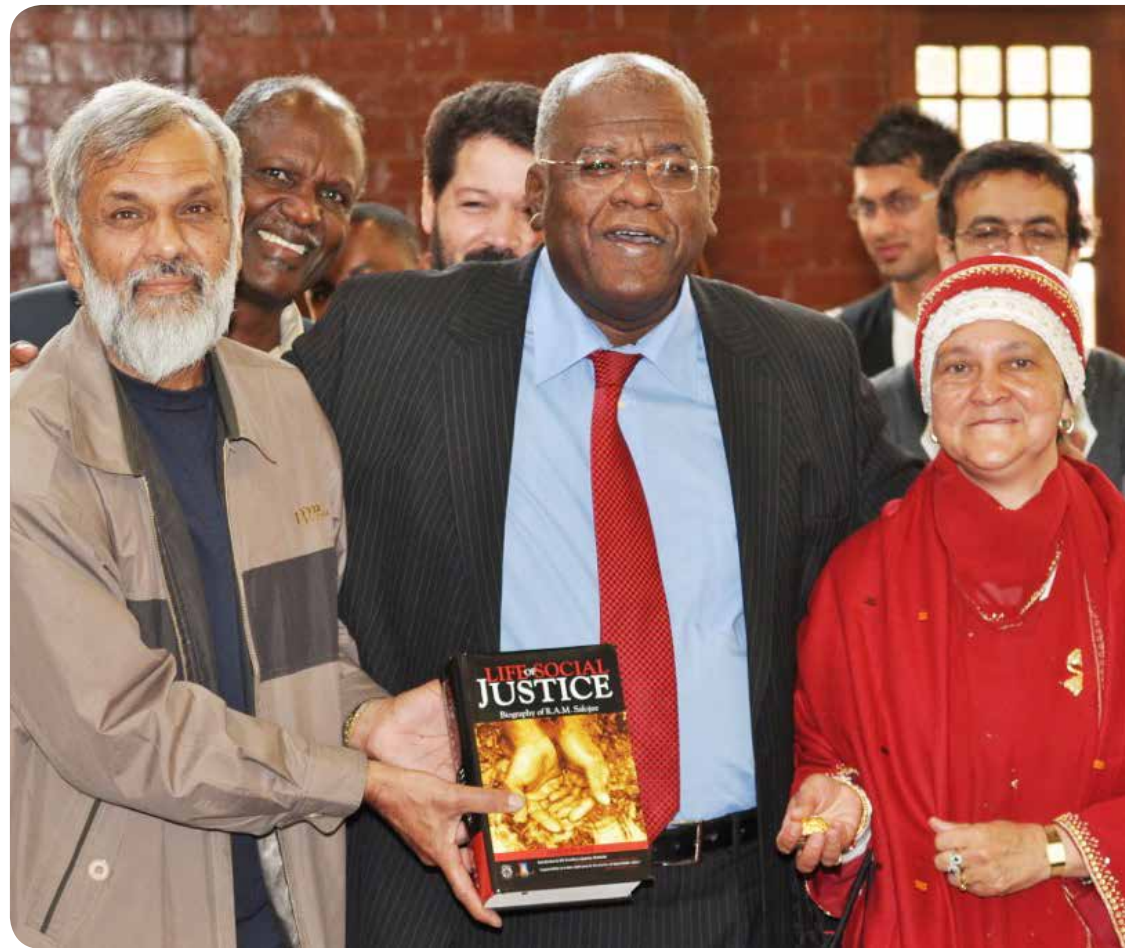
CHIEF ALBERT
LUTHULI





“What has happened at the University of the Free State in terms of racial reconciliation, of peace, of harmony, of one heart understanding and opening itself to another heart, is nothing short of a miracle. It is truly what the new South Africa is all about.”

DR OPRAH WINFREY





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WE PREPARE
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GENERATION
OF
WORLD-
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Transforming lives





“At the University of the Free State I sensed a broad feeling of positive inclusivity, which I have not experienced on any other campus.”

DR MAX DU PREEZ

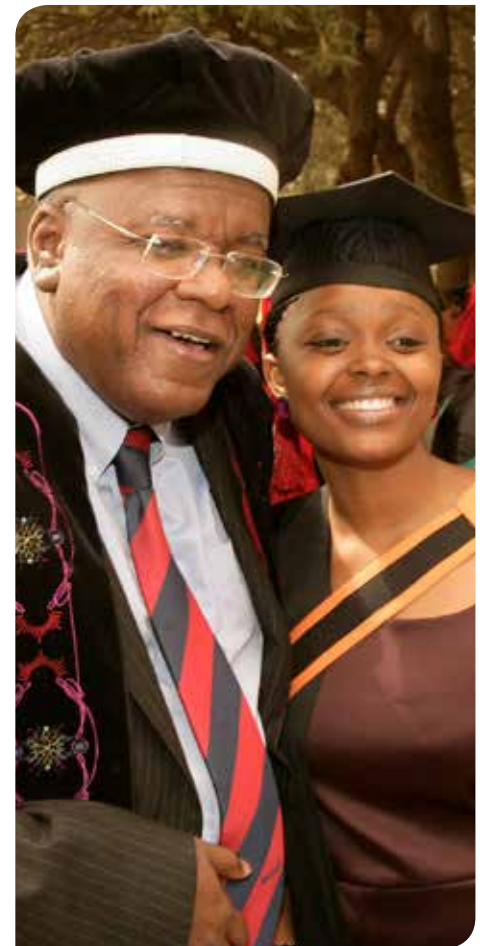






“There were many dark moments when my faith in humanity was sorely tested, but I would not and could not give myself up to despair.”

NELSON
MANDELA







UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE
UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT
YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA