



## **Research Project on the Histories of Universities in South Africa**

### **Archiving South African Universities Programme: 18-19 March 2024**

#### **Ali Mazrui Centre for Higher Education Studies, University of Johannesburg**

Auckland Park Kingsway Campus: Office: B Ring 214. Cnr Kingsway and University Road.

The Research Project on the Histories of Universities in South Africa (RPHUSA) aims to encourage and produce rigorously researched, critical institutional histories of universities, historical scholarship on the development of the overall university system and on aspects of universities from a historical perspective.

RPHUSA has established a network of scholars across South Africa and beyond who are undertaking work on various fronts. It is supported by several universities, the Mellon Foundation and the National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences.

This second workshop of the RPHUSA will focus on institutional archives and historical methods in an effort to address several related questions:

- How, in what ways and to what extent does the development of South Africa's university system reflect and impact the economic, social and political priorities of the state during different historical periods?
- What role did universities play in the apartheid state's efforts to entrench segregation and develop its bantustans?
- How has the historical legacy of universities, both Historically Advantaged Universities (HAUs) and Historically Disadvantaged Universities (HDUs), shaped the landscape of post-1994 universities in South Africa?
- To what extent do institutions' archives enable us to narrate these histories?

The workshop brings together scholars who have written histories of universities or are working on such histories, and early career scholars, postdocs and PhD students who are linked in different ways to the Research Project on the Histories of Universities in South Africa (RPHUSA) with the following aims:

1. To share work in progress and developments to date related to the ongoing research of the RPHUSA.
2. To discuss sources, and institutional archives in particular, in regard to this work. Sharing experiences of navigating source material across disparate institutions promises to be a fruitful way to share ideas, methodologies, and best practices, as well as to consider the broader landscape of researching higher education in South Africa.

3. To brainstorm collaborative grant applications that members of the network might pursue, in order to support ongoing research into the history of universities and higher education in South Africa.	
<b>Day 1: Sunday, 17 March 2024</b>	
09.00 - 18.00	Arrival of participants (Check into Southern Sun Hotel, Rosebank)
<b>Day 2: Monday, 18 March 2024</b>	
08.30 - 09.00	Departure of participants for AMCHES
09.00 – 09.10	Welcome – Director of AMCHES, Prof. Emmet Woldegiorgis
09:10 - 09.35	Opening remarks and update on Research Project on the Histories of Universities in South Africa – Saleem Badat (UFS)
09.35 – 09.50	Outline of programme - Anne Heffernan (Durham)
09:50 -10.10	<i>Tea Break and Photo shoot (20m)</i>
10.10 - 12.15	<p>Panel 1: Work in progress reports (I)</p> <p>Panelists: Albert Grundlingh (SU) – Stellenbosch history  Rebecca Swartz (UFS) (UFS) – UFS history  Tshepo Moloi (UJ) and Logan Govender (UJ) – UJ history  Bronwyn Strydom (UP) – UP history</p> <p>Chair: Paul Maylam (RU)</p> <p>Panelists will present current work in progress on HAI’s as part of the RPHUSA, reflecting on research questions, sources, methods, and plans for publication and dissemination of research.</p>
12:15 – 13.15	<i>Lunch (60m)</i>
13.15 - 15.00	<p>Panel 2: Work in progress reports (II)</p> <p>Panelists: Reatile Moncho (UFS) – Limpopo history  Tigere Muringa (UFS) - Zululand history  Aradhana Ramnund-Mansingh (DUT) – DUT history  Saleem Badat (UFS) UDW edited collection</p> <p>Chair: Luvuyo Wotshela (UFH)</p> <p>Panelists will present current work in progress as part of the RPHUSA, reflecting on research questions, sources, methods, and plans for publication and dissemination of research.</p>
15:00 -15.20	<i>Tea Break (20m)</i>

15.20 – 17.20	<p>Panel 3: Working within and across institutional archives</p> <p>Panelists:  Anne Heffernan (Durham)  Luvuyo Wotshela (UFH)  Karen Harris (UP)/Bronwyn Strydom (UP)  Janeke Thumbran (RU)</p> <p>Chair: Rebecca Swartz (UFS)</p> <p>Panelists will reflect on experiences working within and across institutional archives, with consideration of what material has (and has not) been preserved, as well as issues of accessibility.</p>
17.20 – 17.30	Closing remarks
18:00 -	<i>Dinner</i>
<b>Day 3: 19 March 2024</b>	
09.00 - 10.30	<p>Discussion of key benefits and challenges in researching the histories of universities</p> <p>Chair: Janeke Thumbran (RU)</p> <p>Based on the presentations on day 1, are there shared issues that we can identify across some or all of the institutions in question? Are there methodological challenges that we could collaborate on to address?</p>
10:30 – 10.50	<i>Tea Break (20m)</i>
10.50 - 12.00	<p>Discussion on future collaborations and possible grant applications</p> <p>Chair: Tshepo Moloi (UJ)</p> <p>This session will use break-out groups to brainstorm areas for collaboration on grant proposals either from the RPHUSA network or from groups of scholars within it. These might address topics including (but not limited to) archives and access to sources, new research methodologies, and policy implications for research into the contemporary history of universities.</p>
12:00 – 12.30	Next steps (research, dissemination of research, collaborations (continuing and new, future workshops, etc.)
12.30 – 12.45	Concluding Remarks and Close of Workshop
12:45 – 14.00	<i>Lunch (75m)</i>
14.00 –	<i>Departure of participants</i>

## **Participants**

Saleem Badat (UFS)

Luvuyo Wotshela (Fort Hare)

Paul Maylam (Rhodes)

Albert Grundlingh (Stellenbosch)

Logan Govender (UJ)

Karen Harris (UP)

Shireen Motala (UJ)

Anne Heffernan (Durham)

Janeke Thumbran (Rhodes)

Bronwyn Strydom (UP)

Rebecca Swartz (UFS)

Tshepo Moloi (UJ)

Aradhana Mansingh (DUT)

Tigere Muringa (UKZN)

Reatile Moncho (UKZN)