

VISION130
Renew and Reimagine
towards 2034



EXCELLENCE



GRADUATION CEREMONY

MONDAY | 9 DECEMBER 2024
14:30

Faculties of The Humanities, Natural and Agricultural Sciences,
and Theology and Religion

Higher certificates, advanced diplomas, bachelor's degrees,
honours degrees, postgraduate diplomas, master's degrees, and
doctoral degrees



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

PROGRAMME

9 DECEMBER 2024 | 14:30

BLOEMFONTEIN CAMPUS

CONSTITUTION OF THE CONGREGATION

OFFICIAL WELCOME

MUSICAL ITEM

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE

NATIONAL ANTHEM OF SOUTH AFRICA

DISSOLUTION OF THE CONGREGATION

PLEASE NOTE

List of candidates receiving degrees, diplomas, and certificates:

Degrees, diplomas, and certificates of candidates who are unable to attend the graduation ceremony will be conferred in absentia.

An* next to a name indicates that the degree, diploma, or certificate is awarded with distinction.

By attending the graduation ceremony, you agree that the UFS may use photographs taken by the official photographer in which you appear for marketing purposes.

By attending the graduation ceremony, you agree that the UFS may use video footage taken by the official videographer in which you appear for marketing purposes.





Nkosi sikelel' iAfrika

NATIONAL ANTHEM OF SOUTH AFRICA

Maluphakanyisw' uphondo lwayo,
Yizwa imithandazo yethu,
Nkosi sikelela, thina lusapho lwayo.
Morena boloka setjhaba sa heso,
O fedise dintwa le matshwenyeho,
O se boloke, O se boloke setjhaba sa heso,
Setjhaba sa South Afrika -
South Afrika.

Uit die blou van onse hemel,
Uit die diepte van ons see,
Oor ons ewige gebergtes,
Waar die kranse antwoord gee,
Sounds the call to come together,
And united we shall stand,
Let us live and strive for freedom,
In South Africa our land.

In order to maintain the dignity of the ceremony, you are requested to take note of the following:

- Please stand as the procession enters the hall
- Do not move around during the ceremony in order to take photos
- Please refrain from unacceptable actions such as whistling
- Please put your cellphone on silent so as not to disturb the proceedings
- We strive to conduct the ceremonies in a dignified manner
- Please do not leave the hall before the graduation proceedings have been concluded
- Family and friends who are unable to attend may watch the full graduation ceremonies through our livestream link at <https://livestream.ufs.ac.za>.



BLOEMFONTEIN, QWAQWA, AND SOUTH CAMPUSES

ABOUT THE UFS

The University of the Free State (UFS) has a proud history as one of the oldest institutions of higher education in South Africa. It opened its doors in Bloemfontein in 1904 as the Grey University College, with six students in The Humanities. Today it is a multi-campus institution, with two diverse campuses in Bloemfontein and one in Qwaqwa in the scenic Eastern Free State, accommodating more than 39 000 students in its seven faculties (Economic and Management Sciences, Education, Health Sciences, The Humanities, Law, Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Theology and Religion), with a significant number of international students and associates, and an ever-widening scope of active involvement in and contribution to its surrounding communities.

For the past 120 years, the UFS has been delivering quality graduates who have made their mark in various sectors. What sets the institution apart is its holistic student support initiatives, enabling it to achieve some of the highest success rates in the country. Delivering students who are in high demand in the global job market remains a top priority. An established network of industry partners and close collaboration with the public and private sectors, as well as a continuous process of transformation and curriculum renewal, dovetail to produce highly employable graduates.

UFS research efforts are driven by dedicated scholars, some of whom are international leaders in their fields, with industry and social impact and real-world application.

Through the principle of engaged scholarship, the UFS responds to societal needs by using its scholarly and professional expertise with an intentional public purpose and benefit.

The UFS is an institution that goes all out to provide its students and staff with an outstanding university experience. Everything the institution does is rooted in its values of excellence, innovation and impact, accountability, care, social justice, and sustainability.

The UFS aspires to be a research-led, student-centred, and regionally engaged university that contributes to development and social justice through the production of globally competitive graduates and knowledge. Our *Vision 130* is an elaboration of our strategic intent to reposition the university for 2034, when we will commemorate our 130th anniversary.

Inspiring excellence, transforming lives through quality, impact, and care.

UFS Honorary Awards | UFS Honorary Doctorates

1950	GLP Moerdyk – DLitt (h.c.)	B Kok – DPhil (h.c.)	PA Verhoef – DTh (h.c.)		
1951	NC Havenga – LLD (h.c.)	WP Venter – DCom (h.c.)	L van den Heever – LLD (h.c.)		
1952	Thos Blok – DEd (h.c.)	JJN Cloete – DAdmin (h.c.)	HA Wessels – LLD (h.c.)		
1955	SHS Rubidge – DSc (h.c.)	FC Fensham – DLitt (h.c.)	A du P Heyns – DMed (h.c.)		
1958	CR Swart – LLD (h.c.)	JW vd Riet – DPhil (h.c.)	JJF Durand – DPhil (h.c.)		
1959	CA v Niekerk – LLD (h.c.)	BJ Meyer – DSc (h.c.)	JA Groenewald – DSc (h.c.)		
1958	CPB Brink – LLD (h.c.)	N van Uden – PhD (h.c.)	WH Neuser – DTh (h.c.)		
1959	CF Visser – DEd (h.c.)	MG Corbett – LLD (h.c.)	M Ramos – PhD (h.c.)		
1960	DB Bosman – DLitt (h.c.)	JS Rabie – DLitt (h.c.)	SJ Terreblanche – DCom (h.c.)		
1961	SP le Roux – DScAgric (h.c.)	SS Brand – DCom (h.c.)	T Moss – PhD (h.c.)		
1962	DF Malherbe – DLitt (h.c.)	JWL de Villiers – DSc (h.c.)	PV Cox – PhD (h.c.)		
1963	GH v Rooyen – MA (h.c.)	GT Fagan – DArch (h.c.)	BJ (Bannie) Britz – DArch (h.c.)		
1966	SPE Boshoff – DLitt (h.c.)	JH Hofmeyer – PhD (h.c.)	KPD Maphalla – PhD (h.c.)		
1967	T Boydell – DPhil (h.c.)	E v Heerden – DLitt (h.c.)	D Ferreira – DSc (h.c.)		
1968	ES Botes – DEd (h.c.)	JP Louw – DLitt (h.c.)	JC Look – PhD (h.c.)		
1969	PE Rousseau – DSc (h.c.)	H Olivier – DSc (h.c.)	LTC Harms – LLD (h.c.)		
1970	EH Louw – LLD (h.c.)	JD Anderson – DMed (h.c.)	2010	P Gordhan – PhD (h.c.)	
1971	EN Roberts – DSc (h.c.)	RR Arndt – DSc (h.c.)	BBS Ngubane – PhD (h.c.)		
1972	JGF (Kaalkop) vd Merwe – DCom (h.c.)	SJ Naudé – LLD (h.c.)	AH Strydom – PhD (h.c.)		
1973	HF Verwoerd – DLitt et Phil (h.c.)	JJ Human – DPhil (h.c.)	M Jones – PhD (h.c.)		
1974	PSZ Coetzee – DPhilTh (h.c.)	JA Myburgh – DMed (h.c.)	D Tutu – DTh (h.c.)		
1975	PJ du Toit – DSc (h.c.)	JP vd Walt – DSc (h.c.)	P Fourie – DLitt (h.c.)		
1976	MS Louw – DCom (h.c.)	WA Landman – DEd (h.c.)	OG Winfrey – DEd (h.c.)		
1977	SM Naudé – DSc (h.c.)	WL Mouton – DPhil (h.c.)	RWM Frater – PhD (h.c.)		
1978	LC Steyn – LLD (h.c.)	WDO Marasas – DSc (h.c.)	A Sawyer – DEd (h.c.)		
1979	BJ Vorster – LLD (h.c.)	NE Wiehahn – LLD (h.c.)	RJ Goldstone – LLD (h.c.)		
1980	SJ Naudé – DCom (h.c.)	AP Brink – DLitt (h.c.)	ER v Heerden – DLitt (h.c.)		
1981	CW (Nellie) Swart – DPhil (h.c.)	B Hurwitz – DPhil (h.c.)	M Nussbaum – DLitt (h.c.)		
1982	AJJ Wessels – DCom (h.c.)	FC Müller – DMed (h.c.)	OW Prozesky – MD (h.c.)		
1983	GS Nienaber – DLitt (h.c.)	FM Claerhout – DPhil (h.c.)	FDJ Brand – LLD (h.c.)		
1984	HO Mönning – DSc (h.c.)	JJF Hefer – LLD (h.c.)	2013	ZKG Mda – DLitt (h.c.)	
1985	N Diederichs – DCom (h.c.)	S Nigam – DSc (h.c.)	2014	ML Blum – PhD (h.c.)	
1986	RS Verster – DPhil (h.c.)	WL Nkuhlu – DCom (h.c.)	L Mulvey – DLitt (h.c.)		
1987	LW Hiemstra – DPhil (h.c.)	MA Ramphela – DPhil (h.c.)	2015	L Brahimi – DPhil (h.c.)	
1988	PJ Meyer – DPhil (h.c.)	HJO van Heerden – LLD (h.c.)	JM Samuel – DEd (h.c.)		
1989	PJ Nienaber – DLitt (h.c.)	FJ van der Merwe – PhD (h.c.)	MA Oduyoye – DTh (h.c.)		
1990	De la H de Villiers – DScAgric (h.c.)	MH Daling – DCom (h.c.)	JD Sacks – DEcon (h.c.)		
1991	GJ Stander – DSc (h.c.)	TN Liversedge – PhD (h.c.)	RJ Khoza – DEcon (h.c.)		
1992	AJA Roux – DSc (h.c.)	I Mahomed – LLD (h.c.)	TA Manuel – DEcon (h.c.)		
1993	SP Botha – DSc (h.c.)	BP Gilbertson – DCom (h.c.)	M du Preez – PhD (h.c.)		
1994	EM van Zinderen Bakker – DSc (h.c.)	NR Mandela – LLD (h.c.)	J Samoff – DPhil (h.c.)		
1995	HB Thom – DEd (h.c.)	EC Taglauer – DSc (h.c.)	F Hafajee – PhD (h.c.)		
1996	2000	BH Meyer – PhD (h.c.)	2017	PH Holloway – DSc (h.c.)	
1997	2001	BAK Rider – LLD (h.c.)	2018	M Botha – LLD (h.c.)	
1998	2002	CF Slabber – PhD (h.c.)	2019	BL Fanaroff – DSc (h.c.)	
1999	2003	JM Stetar – DEd (h.c.)	2020	J Mofokeng wa Makhetha – DLitt (h.c.)	
2000	2004	EWA de Corte – DEd (h.c.)	2021	MB Molemela – LLD (h.c.)	
2001	2005	HA Serebro – DPhil (h.c.)	2022	ZM Yacoub – LLD (h.c.)	
2002	2006	AG Sykes – DSc (h.c.)	2023	SM Pityana – DPhil (h.c.)	
2003	2007	S Badat – DPhil (h.c.)	2024	RJ van Niekerk – DLitt (h.c.)	
2004	2008	R Bringle – DPhil (h.c.)		WK Byanyima – PhD (h.c.)	
	2009	J de Wet – DMus (h.c.)		DM Davis – LLD (h.c.)	
	2010	CF Fauconnier – DSc (h.c.)		DE Moseneke – LLD (h.c.)	
	2011	GJ Gerwel – DPhil (h.c.)		AL Sachs – LLD (h.c.)	
	2012	WD Jonker – DTh (h.c.)		MJ Wingfield – DSc (h.c.)	
	2013	A Krog – DLitt (h.c.)		M Musk – DDiet (h.c.)	
	2014	K Mokhele – DPhil (h.c.)		A Ekwamu – DSc (h.c.)	
	2015	CJC Nel (Posthumous) – PhD (h.c.)		D Pepler – DSc (h.c.)	
	2016	L Quayle – DMus (h.c.)		PCJ Vale – PhD (h.c.)	
	2017	T (Karel) Schoeman – DLitt (h.c.)		2024	Salim Abdool Karim – PhD (h.c.)
	2018	YK Seedat – DMed (h.c.)		Thabo Cecil Makgoba – PhD (h.c.)	
	2019	MK Seely – DSc (h.c.)		Murray Leibbrandt – PhD (h.c.)	
	2020	C Seerveld – DPhil (h.c.)		Bineta Diop – PhD (h.c.)	
	2021	F van Z Slabbert – DPhil (h.c.)			
	2022	JC Steyn – DLitt (h.c.)			

Shields of Honour, Council and Chancellor's Medals

1994	Prof FO Müller (Shield of Honour)	Prof SA Petersen (Shield of Honour)		
1995	RE Schoombie (Shield of Honour)	Ludo Helsen (Shield of Honour)		
1996	Prof FO Müller (Chancellor's Medal)	2008	Prof JU Grobbelaar (Council Medal)	
1997	RE Schoombie (Chancellor's Medal)	2009	Mrs AM Dippenaar (Chancellor's Medal)	
1998	Prof S Mittman (Shield of Honour)	2010	Dr H Verster (Chancellor's Medal)	
1999	Prof M Jansens (Shield of Honour)	2014	Mr JL Pretorius (Chancellor's Medal)	
2000	Prof CJC Nel (Chancellor's Medal)	2014	Mr AD Osler (Chancellor's Medal)	
2001	Prof C Swanepoel (Chancellor's Medal)	2016	Ms M van der Merwe (Chancellor's Medal)	
2002	WJ (Hansie) Cronje (Shield of Honour)	2017	Ms JS Isaacs (Chancellor's Medal)	
2003	Prof David Justice (Shield of Honour)	2019	Mr JF de Villiers (Chancellor's Medal)	
	Prof P Rosseel (Shield of Honour)		Ms EM Oosthuizen (Council Medal)	
	Prof MJ Viljoen (Chancellor's Medal)		Dr N Pearce (Chancellor's Medal)	
	Prof PC Potgieter (Chancellor's Medal)		Mr N Janse van Rensburg (Council Medal)	
	T Moss (Shield of Honour)		2022	Prof MG Lötter (Chancellor's Medal)
	Prof CD Roode (Chancellor's Medal)		2023	Prof SC Brown (Council Medal)
	Prof HC Janse van Rensburg (Council Medal)			

Welcome to the graduation ceremony of the University of the Free State (UFS).

Today is indeed a special day. Few occasions hold as much significance as your graduation, both for you and for those who have supported you along the way. Many of you have had to overcome a lot during your journey to get here today. Many of you are the first in your families to reach this significant milestone. You have earned this moment, and you should be extremely proud of your achievement.

Graduands, you have had the honour of studying at a 120-year-old institution. Always acknowledge and recognise the significance of your achievements as you transition from being a University of the Free State (UFS) student to a UFS graduate.

As you step into the world beyond the University of the Free State, remember that your education is a powerful tool. I urge you to use it to create positive change, to question the status quo, and to pursue your passions with determination. The future may seem uncertain, but it is filled with possibilities waiting for your unique talents and contributions.

Although the mission of our university has always been to equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to make a difference in your field of study, we are also mindful that values are just as important for you to make a difference in your community. The UFS places great emphasis on ensuring that students and staff have an outstanding university experience. In our pursuit of excellence, we are proud that our environment is conducive to intellectual and personal growth. As such, our values of excellence, innovation and impact, accountability, care, social justice, and sustainability are embedded in all activities across the institution.

As you embark on your next adventure, carry with you the lessons learned and the courage to forge your own path. The world is full of challenges, but it is also full of opportunities.

Celebrate your success, cherish the memories, and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead. The world is yours to explore, and we cannot wait to see all the amazing things you will do and accomplish.

Congratulations to all our Kovsie graduands. May you have continued success in all your endeavours!

Best wishes

PROF A RHODA
ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL | UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE

Welkom by die Universiteit van die Vrystaat (UV) se gradeplegtigheid.

Vandag is voorwaar 'n spesiale dag. Min geleenthede hou soveel betekenis in as 'n mens se gradeplegtigheid, sowel vir julle as vir diegene wat julle langs die pad ondersteun het. Baie van julle moes baie te bowe kom tydens julle reis om vandag hier te wees. Baie van julle is die eerste in julle gesinne wat hierdie belangrike mylpaal bereik. Julle het hierdie oomblik verdien en julle kan baie trots wees op jul prestasies.

Graduandi, julle het die eer gehad om aan 'n 120-jaar-oue instelling te studeer. Erken en herken altyd die betekenis van julle prestasies waar julle nou beweeg van studente van die Universiteit van die Vrystaat (UV) na UV-gegraduateerdes.

Waar julle die wêreld buite die Universiteit van die Vrystaat betree, onthou dat julle opvoeding 'n kragtige hulpmiddel is. Ek doen 'n beroep op julle om dit te gebruik om positiewe verandering teweeg te bring, om die status quo te bevraagteken en om julle doelwitte met vasberadenheid na te streef. Die toekoms mag dalk onseker lyk, maar dit is gevul met moontlikhede wat wag op julle unieke talente en bydraes.

Alhoewel die missie van ons universiteit nog altyd was om julle toe te rus met die kennis en vaardighede wat nodig is om 'n verskil in julle studieveld te maak, is ons ook bedag daarop dat waardes net so belangrik is vir julle om 'n verskil in julle gemeenskappe te maak. Die UV lê groot klem daarop om te verseker dat studente en personeel 'n uitnemende universiteitservaring het. In ons strewe na uitnemendheid is ons trots daarop dat ons omgewing bevorderlik is vir intellektuele en persoonlike groei. As sodanig is ons waardes van uitnemendheid, innovasie en impak, aanspreeklikheid, omgee, sosiale geregtigheid en volhoubaarheid ingebed in alle aktiwiteite oor die instelling heen.



Waar julle nou die volgende avontuur aanpak, neem die lesse saam wat julle geleer het asook die moed om julle eie weg te baan. Die wêreld is vol uitdagings, maar dit is ook vol geleenthede.

Vier julle sukses, koester die herinneringe en omhels die geleenthede wat voorlê. Die wêreld is oop vir julle om te verken, en ons kan nie wag om al die wonderlike dinge te sien wat julle sal doen en bereik nie.

Baie geluk aan al ons Kovsie-graduandi. Mag julle volgehoue sukses in al julle ondernemings hê!

Beste wense

PROF A RHODA
WAARNEMENDE VISEKANSLIER EN PRINSIPAAL | UNIVERSITEIT VAN DIE VRYSTAAT

Re a le amohela moketeng wa kabo ya dikgau wa University of the Free State (UFS).

Kajeno ke letsatsi le ikgethileng e le kannete. Di mmalwa ketsahalo tse bohlokwa hofeta letsatsi la dikapeso bophelong ba hao, bakeng sa hao le ba o tshehedieng tsela ena kaofela. Bongata ba lona le ile la lokela ho feta maimeng leetong la lona ho fihla mona kajeno. Bongata ba lona le ba pele malokong a lona ho fihlella ketsahallo ena ya bohlokwahadi. Le o sebeditse motsotso ona. Mme le lokela ho ba motlotlo ka katleho ya lona.

Ho lona ba phethileng dithuto tse hodimo kajeno, le na le tlotla ya ho ithutela setheong se lemo di 120. Ananelang ke hona kamehla le ho amohela bohlokwa ba katleho tsa lona jwalokaha le fetola sebopelo ho tloha ho ba baithuti ba Yunivesithi ya Freistata ho beng ba phethileng dithuto tse hodimo UFS.

Ha le nka bohato ba ho fetela ka nqane ho Yunivesithi ya Freistata, hopolang hore thuto ya lona ke sesebediswa se matla. Ke le kgothalletsa hore le e sebedise ho tiisa phetoho e molemo, ho botsa boemo ba ditaba le ho tsitlallela tjantjello tsa lona ka boitelo. Bokamoso bo ka shebahala bo sa tsitsa, empa bo tletse kgonahalo tse emetseng talente tsa lona tse ikgethileng le bonkakarolo ba lona.

Le ha sepheo sa yunivesithi ya rona esale e le ho o hlahlella ka tsebo le bokgoni bo hlokehang ho etsa phapang lekaleng la hao, re boetse re nahanela hore metho e bohlokwa ho wena ho etsa phapang setjhabeng moo o dulang teng. UFS e hatella bohlokwa ba ho netefatsa hore baithuti le basebetsi ba natefelwa ke boteng ba bona yunivesithing. Tsitlallelong ya rona ya bokgabane, re motlotlo ka ho ba sebaka se nweesang kgolo mothong le mahlaleng. Feela jwalo, metho ya rona ya bokgabo, boiqapelo le tshusumetso, boikarabelo, tlhokomelo, toka ya botho le botsitso bo kenyelleditswe mesebetsing yohle ya rona jwalo ka setsi sa thuto.

Jwalokaha le nka leeto bohato ba lona bo latelang, tshwarang ho lona dithuto tseo le ithutileng tsona hammoho le sebete sa ho hatela pele tseleng tsa lona. Lefatshe le tletse diphepetso, empa hape le tletse menyetla.

Ketekang katleho ya lona, balallang mehopollo ya tse fetileng mme le akareletse tseo le yang le di tobile. Lefatshe ke la lona ho ka le etela, re lebeletse ho bona tsohle tse makatsang tseo le ka di fihlellang.

Katleho le mahlonono ho lona kaofela ba phethileng dithuto tse phahameng mona Kovsies. Eseka le ka ba le katleho e tswelletseng hohle moo le yang teng.

Ditakaleto tse ntle

PROF A RHODA
MOTLATSA MOKANSLIRI YA TSHWERENG MOKOBOBO LE HLOHO YA YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA

OFFICE-BEARERS



Prof BF Mohale
Professor of Practice (JBS)
CHANCELLOR



Prof A Rhoda
PhD (UWC)
**ACTING VICE-
 CHANCELLOR AND
 PRINCIPAL**



Mr D Noko
**HND Mechanical
 Engineering (UJ)**
CHAIR OF COUNCIL



Prof V Reddy
PhD (UKZN)
**DEPUTY VICE-
 CHANCELLOR:
 RESEARCH AND
 INTERNATIONALISATION**



Prof P Naidoo
PhD (VISTA)
**DEPUTY
 VICE-CHANCELLOR:
 OPERATIONS**



Dr M Qhobela
PhD (KSU)
**DEPUTY
 VICE-CHANCELLOR:
 INSTITUTIONAL CHANGE,
 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS
 AND SOCIETAL IMPACT**



Prof P Burger
PhD in Economics (UFS)
**ACTING DEPUTY
 VICE-CHANCELLOR:
 ACADEMIC**



Mr T Hlasho
MPhil (NMU)
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:
 STUDENT AFFAIRS**



Mr NN Ntsababa
MPA (NMU)
REGISTRAR



Prof P Ngobeni
DTech (TUT)
**CAMPUS PRINCIPAL:
 QWAQWA CAMPUS**



Dr PD du Toit
PhD (UFS)
**PRESIDENT OF
 CONVOCATION**



Pfarelo Maphangula
**PRESIDENT GENERAL:
 INSTITUTIONAL STUDENT
 REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL**

DEANS



Prof FE Prinsloo
MCom(Acc) (UPE) CA(SA)

ACTING DEAN:
ECONOMIC AND
MANAGEMENT SCIENCES



Prof LC Jita
PhD (MSU)

DEAN:
EDUCATION



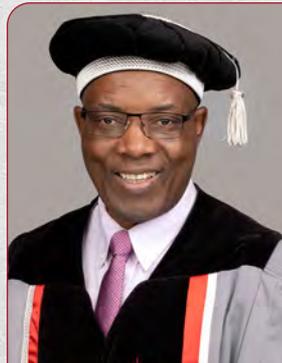
Prof GJ van Zyl
PhD (UFS)

DEAN:
HEALTH SCIENCES



Prof MA Masoga
PhD in Philosophy (UFS)

DEAN:
THE HUMANITIES



Prof SD Kamga
LLD (UP)

DEAN:
LAW



Prof P Oberholster
PhD (UP)

DEAN:
NATURAL AND
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES



Prof JS Klaasen
DTh (US)

DEAN:
THEOLOGY AND RELIGION

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT GUEST SPEAKER

H.E. Ms Bineta Diop



Bineta Diop has been the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on Women, Peace, and Security since 2014. Having led numerous peace-building programmes to enhance women's participation in peace processes, she was central in achieving gender parity within the African Union Commission in 2003, the adoption of the Solemn Declaration on Gender Equality in Africa (2004), and the adoption of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (2003). She led the establishment of the Gender is My Agenda Campaign Network (GIMAC) and the African Women Leaders Network – a powerful force for change with more than 35 chapters throughout Africa.

As a member of the International Commission of Jurists and a long-time Senegalese women's rights activist, Diop has participated in reconciliation processes in Burundi, Liberia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as in election observation missions in several countries. She currently serves on a commission of inquiry into violence against women in South Sudan.

A passionate advocate for women's economic empowerment throughout her career, she founded the Empowering Women in Agriculture Initiative in Africa (EWA) and Femmes Africa Solidarité (FAS), an international NGO working to foster, strengthen, and promote the leadership role of women in conflict prevention, management, and resolution in Africa.

Diop received numerous honours and awards. In 2011, Time Magazine named her one of the 100 Most Influential People in the World. She studied Management in Paris, France, and Public Relations and Communication in Lausanne, Switzerland. She received an honorary doctorate from the United Nations-mandated University for Peace in 2012 and an honorary doctorate from Middlesex University in London, UK, in 2014.



DEAN |

PROF MA MASOGA

CERTIFICATES

HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN HUMANITIES COMMUNICATION STUDIES AND ANTHROPOLOGY

MOLETSANE, Thato

HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN HUMANITIES COMMUNICATION STUDIES AND PSYCHOLOGY

CINDI, Bongwiwe

KHASU, Mmadillo Precila

MAKORO, Relebohile

MALINGA, Palesa Patricia

MBENGO, Amanda

MOKOLOKO, Dikeledi Portia

MPATLOANE, Boitumelo Stephine

NKOPANE, Rethabile Poelano

RADEBE, Dimpho Eunice

THIPE, Tebogo

TSHABALALA, Mbali Maggie

TSHABALALA, Tshepo Bethuel

HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN HUMANITIES COMMUNICATION STUDIES AND SOCIOLOGY

HLOPHE, Asanda Snikiwe

KUBHEKA, Melusi Sifundo

MALULEKE, Malwandla

MASEKO, Fumane Josephina

MOOROSI, Tshiliso Beenard

MXABANISI, Thobane Asanda

MZANA, Thabo

NGOBESE, Bikwaphi

NQAYI, Inganathi

NXUMALO, Ayanda Thobeka

QWANYASHE, Abone

RADEBE, Phindile Relebohile

SALEMANE, Tsiu Jan

SOOLO, Lerato Karabo Caswell

TEMA, Nandipha

THEJANE, Moleboheng

ZONDO, Mngqobi

HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN HUMANITIES POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PSYCHOLOGY

MALOTLE, Tokelo

MBOBO, Sakhumzi

METHULI, Praisegod Kwanele

SIMELANE, Malekgetho Monica

SKOERE, Khahliso Violet

HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN HUMANITIES POLITICAL SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY

MAXILANE, Tshepo

HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN HUMANITIES PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

HEIN, Joslynn Raylene

DIPLOMAS

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION

TOWNSEND, Suzelle Margaret

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

BUTHELEZI, Njabulo College

CHIBI, Sibongile Pretty

DLEPHU, Nosipho

GAMA, Hlengiwe

KHANYILE, Zenande Neliswa

KHOZA, Nompumelelo Jessica

KHUMALO, Noluthando

MASONDO, Sandile Praisewell

MAZIBUKO, Khethiwe

MDHLETSHI, Celiwe Boitumelo
Rejoice

MLAMBO, Samukelisiwe
Fransisca

MNISI, Nikiwe Mikkie



MOKHONDANA, Thato Junior

MOLOI, Nolwazi

MVELASE, Zevile Thandeka

NTHEJANE, Selinah

NTLHAKENG, Elizabeth Manuku

NZIMANDE, Nkosikhona

SIBAYA, Nani Grace

SOKHELA, Nomvuselelo

THWALA, Banele Pamela

TSEHLO, Kekeletso

TSHABALALA, Vusimuzi

XEGWANA, Alfred Azola

ZONDO, Asande

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN COMMUNICATION STUDIES

SEIKANENG, Obakeng

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION

BOTSANE, Bonolo

CHICHONGUE, Phephisile
Daphney

LETEBELE, Tshiamo

MATOLO, Pulane Sisi

MEINTJIES, Dyllin Andrinn

MNQATU, Tina Dimpho

MOEMISE, Kganya

MOLOI, Tshepang

OLIPHANT, Priscilla Felicia

TENYANE, Lwanele

TIHAOLE, Mamokete Mary

TSOTETSI, Tumelo Godfrey

ZONDO, Mpathoni Nokukhanya

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN INTEGRATED ORGANISATIONAL COMMUNICATION

MOTAUNG, Tau Jacob Raymond

NGUBANE, Siyabonga Eric

QOKELA, Thabang Joseph

SIGO, Thami Emmanuel

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN JOURNALISM

BHEMBE, Mbali

LEKHAFOLA, Mamosoeu
Untlutile

BACHELOR OF ARTS MAJORING IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCE AND PSYCHOLOGY

MAHAO, Mamokhoele Pricilla

VAN NIEKERK, Amörette

BACHELOR OF ARTS MAJORING IN ENGLISH AND SESO THO

NDHLEBE, Anna Qhoshiwe

BACHELOR OF ARTS MAJORING IN PSYCHOLOGY AND ENGLISH

MAZIBUKO, Nokuphila
Nokukhanya

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

BANDA, Banele

DUBE, Nokukhanya Tinah

ERASMUS, Dewald

JANSEN, Juanique Jaydean

JANTJIES, Loyiso Basetsana

KEITH, Louwna Dorothy

KHEMISI, Sesi

KHWAZA, Eric

KOZA, Teboho Johnny

KUBHEKA, Siphелеle Nozibusiso
Sandisiwe

LEBOHO, Matome Marlise

LESENYEHO, Bontle Gwyneth

LETSIRI, Thenjiwe

MADLALA, Philasande Cebo

MAGUBANE, Liziwe Samantha

MAGWAYI, Phamela

MAHOSI, Mpho Rose

MAMABOLO, Amogelang Merlina

MANANA, Bongiwē Sana

MARABE, Morongwa Jostinah

MASIZA, Siliziwe

MATHIBE, Omphemetse Monica

MDLADLA, Nkosinathi Emanuel

MEJE, Keabetswe Valentia



MKHIZE, Nompilo Nicole
MMUSIEMANG, Tumiso Theodora
MOEKETSI, Lesedi Angela
MOETI, Moleboheng Naledi Thato
MOHLAMME, Lerato Boitumelo
MOHOKARE, Diemiso Nelly
MOIKETSI, Puleng Charity
MOKGOSI, Kefiloe Florencia
MOKOENA, Tumelo Starvos
MOLEFE, Refiloe
MOLOI, Ntsoaki Jacqueline
MOLOTSI, Tyrone Katlego
MOTHOBBI, Rapelang Clement
MTETWA, Musa Kavin
MWEZA, Siyamthanda
NDLOVU, Moses
NDLUMBINI, Asive
NGCOBO, Londiwe Charity
NKWALE, Masego Galaletsang
NOMDLOMBOYI, Sibulele Vivian
NTSHINGILE, Nokuthula Rose
NTULI, Samkelo
NXAWE, Somilangaye
RABANYE, Karabo Thabo
RAMOTLOU, Nthabiseng Mokgadi
SESING, Oratile Nomfundo
SHABANGU, Zanele
SHUPING, Magadi Poli
SIBEKO, Simphiwe
SOSIBO, Nomvula Nokubonga
THAELA, Lebohang Theophilus
TSHWENE, Realeboga Kenneth
VILJOEN, Elrike

XABA, Thembinkosi Erick
XHALABILE, Nontuthuzelo Victoria

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND PSYCHOLOGY

LETLALA, Nthabiseng
MBELE, Nam Manase
MONTSHO, Karabo Downey
NYAPHULI, Mamello

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND SOCIOLOGY

MOKHELE, Kamohelo Bridgette
MOTSOERE, Sebolelo Constance

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN CRIMINOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY

NDLOVU, Asande Siyanda
Kwanele

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN INDUSTRIAL PSYCHOLOGY AND PSYCHOLOGY

HOAEANE, Bonolo Nkgetheng
MHLANGA, Todva Reitumetse
MOSIMANE, Masedi
NGCOBO, Tswarelo Asindiswa

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND CRIMINOLOGY

NININI, Bonginkosi Mpumelelo
Hendrik

SINGAMA, Mfundo Loyd

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN POLITICAL SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY

SESING, Katleho David

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN PSYCHOLOGY AND SOCIOLOGY

MAPHIKE, Sampie Samuel

SEKESE, Prudence Nielson Junior

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN SOCIOLOGY AND CRIMINOLOGY

MAPHANGA, Siduduziwe Silindile

SEWELO, Letlhogonolo

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MAJORING IN BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

MCHUNU, Nonhlelelo Queen



HONOURS DEGREES

BACHELOR OF ARTS HONOURS WITH SPECIALISATION IN PHILOSOPHY

RADISE, Rethabile

MASTER'S DEGREES

MASTER OF ARTS IN FILM AND VISUAL MEDIA

MYENI, Mpendulo

Dissertation Title: FROM
COMPACT TO IMPACT:
NARRATIVE-RHETORICAL
AFFORDANCES OF THE
SHORT FICTION FILM IN
CONTEMPORARY SOUTH
AFRICA

Supervisor: Mr DC Cloete

Co-Supervisor: Prof A Van
Jaarsveld

MASTER OF ARTS IN GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION

BOSMAN, Luyolo George

GQALANE, Vusumzi

HOLENI, Rifumuni Bridget

MAHOA, Siphon*

MOKGOPANYANE, Thatoyaone

WILLIAMS, Simone Varity

ZOLA, Tankiso David

ZULU, Zibusiso Sifiso

MASTER OF ARTS WITH SPECIALISATION IN AFRICAN LANGUAGES

MBHELE, Jane Rethabile

Dissertation Title: A CRITICAL
ANALYSIS OF POLITENESS
STRATEGIES IN SELECTED
SESO THO DRAMA LITERARY
TEXTS: MADIBA HO PSHA A
MAHOLO AND TAHLEHO

Supervisor: Dr Dr BD Letlala

Co-Supervisor: Dr EN Malete

MOCHOBOROANE, Mamosili
Nthabiseng Alice

Dissertation Title: THE
MORPHO-SYNTACTIC AND
SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF
SESO THO LOCOMOTIVE
VERBS

Supervisor: Dr EN Malete

MOKONE, Pulane Flora

Dissertation Title: THE
PORTRAYAL OF MYTHICAL
CHARACTERS IN SESO THO
LITERARY TEXTS: CHAKA AND
SENKATANA

Supervisor: Dr BD Letlala

Co-Supervisor: Dr EN Malete

MASTER OF ARTS WITH SPECIALISATION IN ANTHROPOLOGY

NTSHINGA, Khanya Bonolo

Dissertation Title: AN
ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY
OF INFORMAL CAREGIVERS
IN MANGAUNG TOWNSHIP,
BLOEMFONTEIN

Supervisor: Prof TS Petrus

MASTER OF ARTS WITH SPECIALISATION IN ENGLISH

MAKANHIWA, Theresa*

Dissertation Title: SPACE,
PLACE AND MIGRANT
SUBJECTIVITIES: A STUDY OF
FOUR AFRICAN MIGRATION
NOVELS

Supervisor: Prof O Nyambi

Co-Supervisor: Dr NS Motahane

MASTER OF ARTS WITH SPECIALISATION IN FRENCH

LAMBRECHTS, Calista*

Dissertation Title: J'ACCUSE,
THE POLANSKI FILM WITHOUT
ENGLISH SUBTITLES. AN
INVESTIGATION INTO FRENCH
ANTI-SEMITISM, THE #METOO
MOVEMENT AND CENSORSHIP

Supervisor: Prof N Morgan

MASTER OF ARTS WITH SPECIALISATION IN HISTORY

LEPHOTO, Tokoloho Hope*

Dissertation Title: A HISTORY
OF USING LITERARY AND



PERFORMANCE ART TO
DEPICT BLACK URBAN LIFE IN
APARTHEID JOHANNESBURG:
1948-1994

Supervisor: Dr LPC Passemiers

Co-Supervisor: Prof C Twala

MDLALANA, Juliet Bukeka

Dissertation Title:
COLONIALISM, JUSTICE, AND
THE CASE FOR CLIMATE
REPARATIONS IN AFRICA: AN
HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Supervisor: Dr MM Oelofse

**MASTER OF ARTS WITH
SPECIALISATION IN POLITICAL
SCIENCE**

**JANSE VAN RENSBURG, Willem
Jacobus***

Dissertation Title: THE
DILEMMAS OF DISCOURSES
AND DEFINITIONS OF
TERRORISM IN WEST AFRICA

Supervisor: Dr A Grobbelaar

STROEBEL, Rudolph George

Dissertation Title: WHAT
MAKES A REVOLUTION
SUCCESSFUL? A COMPARATIVE
STUDY OF THE BULLDOZER
AND ORANGE REVOLUTIONS IN
SERBIA AND UKRAINE

Supervisor: Dr A Grobbelaar

**MASTER OF HEALTH SYSTEMS
STUDIES**

MAEKO, Naum Mahlatse

Dissertation Title: SEXUAL
AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH
SERVICES: EXPERIENCES AND
VIEWS OF YOUNG ADULTS AND
PROVIDERS IN SOSHANGUVE

Supervisor: Prof JC Heunis

Co-Supervisor: Prof NG Male

MASTER OF PSYCHOLOGY

MORGAN, Kitso Ikageng

Dissertation Title: SOCIAL
DREAM DRAWING AND
A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW
OF ADAPTATION AS
A PSYCHOLOGICAL
RESPONSE TO DIVERSITY
AND DISRUPTION OF
SOUTH AFRICAN STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVES

Supervisor: Dr NT Pule

Co-Supervisor: Dr FN Tadi

**MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
IN CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY**

EKSTEEN, Natasha Jacoleen

JOHNSTON, Helen-May

LE ROUX, Maria Catherina

**MODUANE, Motlogeloa
Rearabetsoe Sanana**

NAIDOO, Kelsy Abriana

RAMAVHOYA, Mavhungu Jodale

**MASTER OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
WITH SPECIALISATION IN
SOCIOLOGY**

MKUNGEKA, Phelokazi*

Dissertation Title: COVID-19
VACCINE HESITANCY IN THE
SOUTH AFRICAN CONTEXT: A
SOCIAL MEDIA PERSPECTIVE

Supervisor: Prof K De Wet

Co-Supervisor: Mr HMvE
Combrink

**MASTERS OF SOCIAL
SCIENCE IN COUNSELLING
PSYCHOLOGY**

ODENDAAL, Lara



DOCTORAL DEGREES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN ANTHROPOLOGY

SHANGE, Nombulelo Tholithemba

Nombulelo Tholithemba Shange was born in Kwa Mashu, KwaZulu Natal in 1988. She matriculated in 2005 at Port Shepstone High School. She studied at Rhodes University, first as a Fine Arts student, after some challenges and discovering her passion for Sociology, she pursued her studies in Sociology and Political Science. She also achieved her Honours and Masters degrees at Rhodes University. Shange relocated to South Korea and became an elementary school English teacher. She has also occupied roles in the environmental justice NGO space and has held different roles in different universities, including Rhodes University, UKZN and finally, UFS.

With her thesis titled: **IDENTITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL HARMONY AS PRACTISED BY TABLE MOUNTAIN DOCTORS: A STRUGGLE OVER LAND AND AFRICAN HEALING SYSTEMS**, Shange tracks the Mountain Doctor's way of life, healing methods and relationship with ecology. Mountain Doctor symbolism and worldview of land is more than just a resource. Land is a sacred reference point anchoring humanity materially and spiritually. Neoliberal valuation of land as a resource is perceived as harmful to ecology and African spirituality. This viewpoint challenges the African Amazon development in Cape Town. Through combining ethnography, grounded theory, engaging heritage institutions and archives, and 'thick descriptive' approaches, by the end of the study she discovered a new research methodology - called *ukuthunywa* - useful to work with a resilient community, that judges the researcher as much as the researcher analyzes the community. Shange demonstrates the ideological aspects of identity and influences existential and African cosmological views.

Supervisor: Prof MP Sithole

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN COMMUNICATION SCIENCE

MBONG SHU, Victorine

Victorine Mbong Shu was born in Wum-Cameroon on 8th July 1977. She matriculated at the Bilingual Grammar School, Molyko-Buea, Cameroon in 1996. She obtained a BSc Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Buea in 1999, Hons, Media Studies, University of Witwatersrand in 2010, Masters, Communication Studies University of Johannesburg in 2014, and PhD, Communication Science UFS in 2024. Her career started as a corporate communicator in Yaounde, Cameroon in 2000. She worked as a salesperson from November 2002 and became a researcher in 2003. She started her own training and publishing company, Profounder Intelligence Management Services in May 2007.

With her thesis titled: **SEXUALITY COMMUNICATION IN AFRICAN FAMILIES: THE DYNAMICS OF OPENNESS AND CLOSEDNESS**, the candidate contributes to scholarship on family sexuality communication within African families. Most African parents of adolescents in South Africa evade talking sex and sexuality with adolescents, while adolescents would rather talk with siblings, peers, or learn from school. With this contribution, the candidate attempts to get families to talk age-appropriately, while respecting each other's boundaries. This qualitative study of 20 parents of adolescents and 20 young adults, found family communication on sexuality to be minimal, clouded



by communication rules; some unique to Africans in South Africa. Findings are that varying boundary coordination often means talks lead to turbulence between family members. Results which caution parents and adolescents on how to better communicate on these topics will make great reference for institutions and policymakers. The candidate has presented at three conferences. She's submitted a paper for publication.

Supervisor: Prof D Breshears

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN ENGLISH

MHUNDURU, Heziwell

Heziwell Mhunduru was born in Chiredzi, Zimbabwe, on 20 August 1967. He matriculated at Chindunduma High in Shamva (1987). He obtained a BA English and Communication Studies at the University of Zimbabwe (2003), a BA Honours in English at The Namibia University of Science and Technology (2011) with distinctions in Literary Theory, Oral Literature in Namibia, Research Methods, Sociolinguistics, Stylistics and Dissertation. He obtained a Master of Arts with specialisation in English with The University of the Free State (2015). Mhunduru started teaching in 1991 in Chivi, Zimbabwe and is Chief Education Officer at Gems Valley Academy in Namibia.

With his thesis titled: **LITERARY ARCHIVES OF THE NAMIBIAN GENOCIDE: AN ECO-CRITICAL REFLECTION**, Heziwell Mhunduru contributes to scholarship on the intersections of genocide, environmental destruction, and racism. Focusing on selected literary texts — *Mama Namibia* by Mari Serebrov, *The Scattering* by Lauri Kubuitsile, *The Weeping Graves of Our Ancestors* by Rukee Tjingaete, and *The Lie of the Land* by Jasper D. Utley — Mhunduru examines the lasting trauma of the genocide on the Herero and Nama people, with a particular focus on its severing of socio-cultural connections to the land and physical environment. The novels depict the disruption of traditional practices and eco-cultural bonds by German colonial violence. Drawing on ecofeminist and Marxist ecocritical theory, Mhunduru highlights how the texts explore dispossession, environmental degradation, and social fragmentation. His research offers new insights into how literature mediates the long-term ecological, racial and cultural trauma of the Namibian genocide.

Supervisor: Prof HJ Strauss

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN GOVERNANCE AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATION

MATANGA, Matamela Hendrick

Matamela Hendrick Matanga was born in Kutama Tshikwarani Village in Louis Trichardt on 23 January 1972. He matriculated at the Kutama Secondary School in 1995. He obtained the BA in Education in 1999, and the BA Hons in 2000 at the University of Venda. He obtained the MA degree in Governance and Political Transformation in 2017 at the University of Free State (UFS). He pursued the PhD in Governance and Political Transformation at the UFS from 2018 to 2024. He started his career as Administration Clerk in 2002 at the South African Police Service in Giyani. He was later appointed as Director in the Department of Economic Development in Polokwane in 2010. At present he is a Director in the Department of Education Limpopo.

With his thesis titled: **RESPONSIBLE FISCAL GOVERNANCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA WITH FOCUS ON THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE OF THE LIMPOPO PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE**, the



candidate contributes to the field of Public Governance, specifically Public Fiscal Governance. With this contribution, he provided a deeper understanding of fiscal governance, particularly within the context of South Africa and specifically the Limpopo province. The results of this investigation exhibit the obstruction of the functions of a Public Accounts Committee due to lack of capacity and political interference, impeding effective oversight over fiscal governance. He proposes an independent Fiscal Council using the Strengthened Fiscal Governance Model. This model includes institutional placement of a Fiscal Council on provincial and national levels towards independent fiscal oversight, forecasting and policy development.

Supervisor: Dr CM Gouws

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN HISTORY

HOVE, Baldwin

Baldwin Hove was born in Mberengwa, Zimbabwe on the 20th of November 1985. He completed his secondary education at Musume High School in Mberengwa in 2004. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts Honours Degree in War Studies from the University of Zimbabwe in 2008, a Master of Arts in Development Studies and a Postgraduate Diploma in Education from the Midlands State University (Zimbabwe) in 2012 and 2016 respectively. Baldwin started his career as a teacher in Zimbabwe in 2009. He also taught at universities that include the Zimbabwe Open University (ZOU), and the University of the Free State (South Africa).

With his thesis titled: **THE ROLE OF STUDENTS IN THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE OF ZIMBABWE: A CASE OF CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SECONDARY BOARDING SCHOOL STUDENTS IN SOUTHWEST ZIMBABWE, C.1966 – 1979**, the candidate makes a major historical intervention was in democratising the history of the liberation war by adding the lived experiences of secondary school students in the liberation war of Zimbabwe to the existing body of knowledge. Using a social history approach where oral interviews and archival sources were amongst the major sources, the thesis captured the war memories of students and brought to light both the mundane and heroic students' activities during the liberation war. The thesis argues that secondary school students in the liberation war were not a homogenous grouping as their activities were shaped by various factors such as the geographical location of the schools, religion, students' interaction with warring parties and influence of non-student actors including parents and teachers.

Supervisors: Dr TC Moloi and Prof B Dube

LEFUO, Elisha Masilonyane

Elisha Masilonyane Lefuo was born on 4 April 1964 in Bloemfontein. He received his secondary education in Bloemfontein, where he matriculated at Lereko Secondary School in 1984. He obtained the degree BA Ed in 1989 from Vista University (Bloemfontein); BA Hons (History) in 1993, University of the Free State; MA degree (History) in 1996, University of the Free State; and the PhD (History) in 2024 at the University of the Free State. He started his career as a teacher in Bloemfontein in 1990. At present he is an educator at the Vulamasango Senior Secondary School in Bloemfontein.

With his thesis titled: **THE AZANIAN PEOPLE'S ORGANISATION: AN ANTI-APARTHEID STRUGGLE, BLOEMFONTEIN, 1978-1994**, the candidate contributes to the South African liberation historiography, focusing on



the role of AZAPO in Bloemfontein. Using oral testimonies and archival material, the study provides a 'bottom-up' approach on the history of AZAPO and how the organisation shaped the country's political climate between 1978 and 1994. Using oral testimonies and archival material, the study posits a new dimension and interpretation of the country's liberation history. The study provides details on why and how AZAPO was marginalised from the mainstream liberation organisation's history. Using an insider's perspective, the candidate succeeded in demystifying the 'one-sided' narrative and discourse of the South Africa's liberation struggle. Through empirical findings that highlight the 'neglected' and 'hidden' histories of liberation movements/organisations such as AZAPO, the study opens debates on re-examining the roles played other liberation movements/organisations.

Supervisor: Prof C Twala

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

MHLANGA, Kowanai

Kowanai Mhlanga was born on 01 May 1974 in Chipinge District in Zimbabwe. He obtained his primary education at Chiriga Primary School from 1981 to 1987 and enrolled at Chikore High School from 1988-1993. He went to the University of Zimbabwe from 1994 to 1996, where he obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree. He obtained a Master of Science degree in Rural and Urban Planning at the University of Zimbabwe in 2006. He started his career as a secondary school teacher in Chipinge District in 1997. In 2024 he was appointed as a lecturer in the Department of Sustainable Development at Bindura University of Science Education, Zimbabwe.

With his thesis titled: **POLITICAL ECONOMY OF URBAN SETTLEMENT DEMOLITIONS AND STATE POWER IN ZIMBABWE: A CASE STUDY OF HARARE METROPOLITAN PROVINCE SINCE 2013**, the candidate contributes to understanding the political economy of urban demolitions in Zimbabwe and the constitutional issues surrounding urban housing rights. He highlights the complexities in democratic governance where constitutional protections often clash with institutional practices and political interests. Key results show that, despite the 2013 constitutional reforms intended to protect settlers' rights, demolitions in Harare continue without following legal protocols. These findings reveal that institutional, behavioral, and legal bottlenecks have limited the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC)-led authorities in transforming demolition practices. Additionally, outdated post-colonial legislation based on Roman-Dutch law supports evictions without compensation, worsening informal settlers' vulnerabilities. The absence of specific legislation to enforce Section 74 has enabled these unregulated demolitions, emphasizing the need for reform to align planning laws with constitutional protections and social justice in governance.

Supervisor: Dr MM Hansen

Co-Supervisor: Prof G Mukwada

SIBANDA, Wisdom

Wisdom Sibanda was born in Chipinge on 27th August 1968. He received his secondary education in Mutare, Manicaland, Zimbabwe, where he matriculated at St Augustine's secondary School in 1989. He obtained the Bsc Hons degree in Politics and Administration in 1996, Masters in Environmental Policy and Planning degree in 2005. He started his career as Administrative Officer in Mutare in 1997. In 1999 he was appointed in the Department of Local Government Public Works and National Housing as Assistant District Administrator before joining several organizations that include World Food Programme (2002-06), Culture Fund (2007-11), Concern WorldWide (2012-



13), International Organization for Migration (2020-21), and at present he is Programmes Coordinator at Christian Care in Zimbabwe since 2014.

With his thesis titled: **PARTICIPATION OF REFUGEE WOMEN IN WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE PROGRAMMES: REFLECTION ON THE EXPERIENCES OF REFUGEE WOMEN IN THE TONGOGARA REFUGEE CAMP, ZIMBABWE**, the candidate explores the gender-WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene) dynamics in Zimbabwe's Tongogara Refugee Camp through a feminist political ecology lens, revealing how gender inequalities hinder effective WASH project implementation. Despite women refugees' extensive knowledge of water resources, decision-making remains male-dominated, leading to WASH governance structures that disadvantage women. Using sixty-eight household interviews, in-depth interviews with officials, focus groups, and participant observations, the study's thematic analysis highlights minimal progress in promoting gender equality in WASH, with prevailing top-down governance structures reinforcing male privilege. This inequality exacerbates vulnerabilities for women, resulting in increased domestic and sexual gender-based violence, family discord, and resentment toward male authority figures. The study concludes that WASH governance issues amplify in disaster situations, recommending a participatory, bottom-up approach for more equitable and effective WASH policy implementation.

Supervisor: Dr MM Hansen

Co-Supervisor: Prof G Mukwada

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY WITH SPECIALISATION IN SOCIOLOGY

MASENYA, Dimakatso Veronica

Dimakatso Veronica Masenya was born in Polokwane on the 26th of December 1986. She received her secondary education in Emalaheni where she matriculated at Liberty Christian College in 2005. She obtained a BA degree in Anthropology and Geography at the University of the Free State in 2010, Honours degree in Anthropology in 2011 (UFS), Masters' degree in Sociology in 2015 and a PhD in Sociology and anthropology in 2024 at the University of the Free State. She started her career as a facilitator in the anthropology department in 2009. In 2021 she was appointed in the Anthropology department as a lecturer at the University of the Free State.

With her thesis titled: **THE AFTERLIFE OF DEATH: UNDERSTANDING DEATH PRACTICES**, the candidate makes a contribution to death studies. She captures the process of an individual's afterlife of death, using both autoethnographic and ethnographic encounters. Applying Actor Network theory, municipal officials from the cemetery and environmental health divisions, morticians, religious and spiritual leaders, insurance consultants, and community elders, are identified as knowledge keepers responsible for the successful transitioning of both the deceased and their survivors. From the moment death is announced to the end of the mourning period, she attempts to trace these legislative, societal and cultural networks and protocols put in place in response to death in Bloemfontein. The investigation reveals the urgent need to find solutions that address the lack of regulations within the funerary industry, inclusive of Indigenous burial protocols, which currently left unattended are believed to negatively affect the lives of mourners and society at large.

Supervisor: Prof K De Wet

Co-Supervisor: Prof R Gordon



DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (JOINT DEGREE: VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT AMSTERDAM)

NTSELE, Busisiwe Octavia

Busisiwe Octavia Ntsele was born in diaspora in a small village in the Kingdom of Eswatini called Ticantfwini on 12 January 1980. She received her primary and high school education in Manzini at St Michaël's, where she obtained her O level. She proceeded to obtain a Bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Eswatini in 2004. An honours degree in Sociology from the University of Johannesburg in 2012 and a Master's in International Human Rights Law from the University of Witwatersrand in 2014. In 2015 she joined the UFS in pursuit of a Doctorate whilst also employed as a research assistant. In 2016, she was awarded the Desmond Tutu Fellowship which allowed her to conduct a double degree, whilst also lecturing at Sociology during 2016. She has been involved in multiple engaged scholarship projects whilst completing her PhD and she believes in being the change she wants to see.

With her thesis titled: **A CRITICAL STUDY OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AT A SOUTH AFRICAN UNIVERSITY**, her research utilises a qualitative research methodology to capture thick and rich descriptive data which helped in developing in-depth knowledge of community engagement and engaged scholarship as conducted by scholars within the UFS. The case study design was identified as the most suitable platform for the exploration of real life contexts; firstly, of community engagement from the voices of community recipients/beneficiaries of these programmes; secondly, understanding scholarship of engagement from the narrative of UFS staff members who work or have once worked on these programmes; thirdly by describing the experiences of students enrolled in community service modules, and lastly it captures the views of policy makers involved in conceptualising these programmes.

Supervisors: Prof H Ghorashi and Prof F Petersen

Co-Supervisors: Prof F Kamsteeg and Prof K de Wet



DEAN | PROF PJ OBERHOLSTER

DIPLOMAS

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT

SIBIYA, Solomon

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE

BOSHOFF, Henning-Pieter

CEBEKHULU, Ntokozo Lunga

DELL, Tristan Miles

FALTEIN, Somila

MAPHALALA, Mthobisi Mawande

MATU, Pumeza Penelope Hazel

MGABHI, Bandile

MOLEFI, Dimpho

MOTAKE, Retshedisitswe Cynthia

NTOZAKHE, Mpumelelo

SERAPELO, Bothlokwa

SESING, Thabo Samora

SHABALALA, Sibongile

SOYA, Athandile Patience

TSHABALALA, Jabulile
Lindokuhle

VISSER, Gerrit Andreas

BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE MAJORING IN AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT

JOSANE, Bonolo

MAKAULA, Balungile

MRUBATA, Kwakhanya

SANOKE, Reabetswe Tshepiso

TSHAZI, Ncumisa

VERSFELD, Michelle*

YAWA, Luhle

ZUMA, Luyanda Vusi

BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE MAJORING IN ANIMAL PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

MASITENG, Mangaka

SHABA, Keneuwe Rethabile

WENTZEL, Juan Frederick

BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE MAJORING IN CROP PRODUCTION MANAGEMENT

MULDER, Andries Hermanus

VAN DER SANDT, Hendre

BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE MAJORING IN MIXED FARMING MANAGEMENT

MABELA, Kagiso

TONSING, Tiaan

VILJOEN, Reinier Juan

BACHELOR OF ARCHITECTURE

MPOFU, Darlington

BACHELOR OF COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

DLAMINI, Djama Dennis

MAHLANGU, Johannes Sifiso

MANAGA, Bongani Alpheus

MANANA, Innocent

MANYERUKE, Lario Rangarirai

MBANYELE, Talent

NEMUKULA, Phathutshedzo

PEREIRA, Caesar Sunny

SIBANYONI, Doctor Siphon

SIBIYA, Nozipho Zanele

SIDOGI, Elelwani Mukonazwothe

BACHELOR OF CONSUMER SCIENCE

MORATA, Olebogeng Ishmael

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

BEUKES, Christiaan George

DE KOCK, Michiel Josias

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MAJORING IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

MNGUNI, Busisiwe



**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
MAJORING IN COMPUTER
SCIENCE AND BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT**

MAPHUTHA, Katlego

MOLEBATSI, Thoriso Joel

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
MAJORING IN COMPUTER
SCIENCE AND CHEMISTRY**

POOLO, Obakeng Thapelo

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN BEHAVIOURAL
GENETICS**

MOFOKENG, Lerato Katleho
Hope

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN BIOLOGICAL
SCIENCES**

CEDRAS, Britney Nicolle

KGWADI, Boitumelo

MALINGA, Minenhle

MANYANYE, Tshepang Malefane

MOTHUPI, Ohentse Ronald

NKUNA, Hlobisile Petunia

SENAMA, Dineo Faith

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN BOTANY AND
PLANT PATHOLOGY**

MEYER, Gilbert Miles

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN CHEMICAL AND
PHYSICAL SCIENCES**

BUTHELEZI, Smanga

MAGASELA, Sikhumbuza

MAKOLE, Neo Isaac

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN FORENSIC
SCIENCE**

MAKHETHA, Vuyiswa

VAN DER WATT, Karalee

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN GENETICS AND
MICROBIOLOGY**

BARNARD, Dewan

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN GENETICS AND
PHYSIOLOGY**

LEBOTSA, Rapolomeetse
Vanessa

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN GENETICS AND
ZOOLOGY**

GAILELE, Ogone

POTO, Mmasetshaba Rosina

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN GEOGRAPHY**

GAMA, Siphosethu

LOUW, Cerenio Warren

MVELASE, Bathabile

SHIKWAMBANA, Emilda

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN GEOGRAPHY
AND ENVIRONMENTAL
SCIENCE**

MCHUNU, Phumla Michelle

NGOBENI, Ripfumelo Camilla

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN GEO-
INFORMATICS**

JOHNSON, Alvir Laurent Henry

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN GEOLOGY**

MATLOGA, Mogale Nestor

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN MATHEMATICS
AND MATHEMATICAL
STATISTICS**

KOMANI, Lilitha

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH
SPECIALISATION IN GEOLOGY**

SELEPE, Khutjo



HONOURS DEGREES

BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE HONOURS MAJORING IN AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT

METSEEABENG, Rorisang
Reitumetse

BACHELOR OF COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS HONOURS

DHLAMINI, Daluxolo

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS MAJORING IN APPLIED STATISTICS

PITSO, Katlego Joy

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS MAJORING IN GEOHYDROLOGY

MATHABELA, Nando
MOAHLOLI, Thuso

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS MAJORING IN ZOOLOGY

BLAYI, Leah Liyabona
MOHOHLO, Kopano Makotedi
MZILENI, Ikhoimihlali Natania

MASTER'S DEGREES

MASTER OF AGRICULTURE WITH SPECIALISATION IN FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY

MBONGO, Mantombi Lydia

Dissertation Title: THE ROLE OF EXTENSION OFFICERS IN PROMOTING FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY AMONG THE SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN XHARIEP DISTRICT

Supervisor: Prof JA Van Niekerk

Co-Supervisor: Mrs H Van Der Merwe

MASTER OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT

BAPELA, Mamatee Beauty
KORIE, Nkopane
NKUNA, Shivasa Richard

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE MAJORING IN AGROMETEOROLOGY

MAKUYA, Vuwani

Dissertation Title: DROUGHT IMPACTS ON POTENTIAL MAIZE YIELD IN THE FREE STATE PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA

Supervisor: Dr WA Tesfahuney

Co-Supervisors: Dr ME Moeletsi and Dr Z Bello

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE MAJORING IN AGRONOMY

SIMELANE, Bandile

Dissertation Title: AGRONOMIC RESPONSE EVALUATION OF MAIZE TO PLANTING DATE IN A SEMI-ARID CLIMATE

Supervisor: Prof GM Ceronio

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE MAJORING IN ANIMAL SCIENCE

SCHOLTZ, Jana

Dissertation Title: THE STRESS RESPONSIVENESS OF HABITUATED AND NON-HABITUATED MERINO TYPE SHEEP DURING ELECTRO-EJACULATION

Supervisor: Dr HA O'Neill

Co-Supervisor: Dr A Maqhashu

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE MAJORING IN PLANT BREEDING

SEFUME, Lesole David*

Dissertation Title: IMPACT OF WATER-LIMITED-STRESS ON THE PHYSIOLOGY, MORPHOLOGY AND NUTRITIONAL QUALITY OF DRY BEAN

Supervisor: Dr R van der Merwe

Co-Supervisor: Dr MJ Moloi



MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NANOSCIENCE

KHESWA, Nikiwe

MABE, Mamello Patience*

MOGASHOA, Madimetja Matloga
Harry

TSHEHLA, Paulos

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

KOTZE, Hendrik Christiaan*

Dissertation Title: THE IMPACT
OF CLIMATE VARIABILITY ON
WATER USE BEHAVIOUR FOR
COMMERCIAL SUGARCANE
PRODUCERS IN THE IMPALA
IRRIGATION SCHEME OF
KWAZULU-NATAL, SOUTH
AFRICA

Supervisor: Prof YT Bahta

Co-Supervisors: Mr MA Monteiro
and Prof H Jordaan

STRYDOM, Jan Daniel

Dissertation Title:
DECOMPOSING INTENSIVE
AND EXTENSIVE MARGINS
OF IRRIGATION WATER
DEMAND USING A WATER
PROGRAMMING MODEL

Supervisor: Prof B Grove

Co-Supervisor: Prof N Matthews

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN AGROMETEOROLOGY

SETHABELA, Axinia Majwalane

Dissertation Title: COMPARING
WATER ALLOCATION
QUOTAS WITH IRRIGATION
REQUIREMENTS AS
ESTIMATED BY SAPWAT4 IN
SOUTH AFRICA

Supervisor: Dr WA Tesfuhoney

Co-Supervisor: Dr AS Steyn

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN ASTROPHYSICS

KULIK, Daniel Moses*

Dissertation Title:
RELATIVISTIC
MAGNETOHYDRODYNAMIC
SIMULATIONS OF EJECTA IN
AGN JETS

Supervisor: Prof B van Soelen

Co-Supervisor: Mr IP van der
Westhuizen

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN BEHAVIOURAL GENETICS

MÜLLER, Sheriska

Dissertation Title: SOME
GENOTYPIC DIFFERENCES
IN VULNERABILITY AND
RESILIENCE AMONG
INDIVIDUALS IN HIGH-STRESS
ENVIRONMENTS

Supervisor: Mrs Z Murray

Co-Supervisor: Mr SH
Meyerowitz

WIID, Shannon Leigh*

Dissertation Title: GENETIC
DIVERSITY OF SOME
CIRCADIAN REGULATORY
GENES IN MALE JUVENILE
DELINQUENTS

Supervisor: Mrs Z Murray

Co-Supervisor: Ms S Burger

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN BIOCHEMISTRY

MARINKOV, Marko*

Dissertation Title: APPLICATION
OF A STRUCTURE-BASED
CLASS SPECIFIC MOLECULAR
INFORMATION SYSTEM OF
THE CYTOCHROME P450
MONOOXYGENASES FOR
UNDERSTANDING IN-CHAIN
HYDROXYLATION

Supervisor: Prof MS Smit

Co-Supervisor: Prof DJ
Opperman

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN BOTANY

HENEMA, Nontuthuko Precious*

Dissertation Title:
CHARACTERISATION
OF ENDOPHYTIC
MICROORGANISMS FROM
WEED LEAVES FOR
ENHANCING *FUSARIUM*
VERTICILLIOIDES TOLERANCE
IN ZEA MAYS

Supervisor: Dr A Gokul

Co-supervisor: Prof A Klein



MALEKANA, Lesego Mohlamme

Dissertation Title: IMPACT OF INVASIVE ROSACEAE ON PLANT DIVERSITY ALONG ELEVATION GRADIENTS IN THE MALOTI-DRAKENSBERG

Supervisor: Prof VR Clark

Co-supervisor: Dr G Martin and Prof S Steenhuisen

ZONDO, Siphephelo Nkosenhle Nicholas

Dissertation Title: MECHANISTIC INTERACTIONS OF β -GLUCANASES AND PEROXIDASES IN CELL WALL-ASSOCIATED *DIURAPHIS NOXIA* RESISTANCE IN WHEAT

Supervisor: Dr MS Mafa

Co-supervisor: Dr L Mohase and Dr VL Tolmay

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN CHEMISTRY

RADEBE, Mothepane

Dissertation Title: SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERISATION OF COPPER ORGANOMETALLIC COMPOUNDS WITH POSSIBLE MESOGENIC PROPERTIES LINKED THROUGH BIS (GAMMA SUBSTITUTED) BETA-DIKETONATO LIGANDS REINFORCED WITH GRAPHITE

Supervisor: Mrs MA Malimabe

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN CONSUMER SCIENCE

MOAGI, Sandile Fortunate*

Dissertation Title: NIXTAMALIZATION OF NOVEL MAIZE SNACKS: JUST-ABOUT-RIGHT SENSORY ANALYSIS AND CONSUMER PERSPECTIVES

Supervisor: Dr A Du Toit

Co-Supervisor: Dr JF Vermaas

TOM, Ingah

Dissertation Title: FUNCTIONAL FOODS FROM CACTUS PEARS: CRACKERS AND HEALTH DRINKS

Supervisor: Prof M De Wit

Co-Supervisor: Dr A Du Toit

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN FORENSIC GENETICS

MANQANA, Matthews Mthetheleli

Dissertation Title: EXPLORING THE TECHNIQUES AND CHALLENGES FOR RECOVERING HUMAN TOUCH DNA FROM POACHED WHITE RHINO (*CERATOTHERIUM SIMUM*)

Supervisor: Dr K Ehlers

Co-Supervisor: Prof JP Grobler

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN GENETICS

NOTANI, Madingaka Dorah*

Dissertation Title: PREVALENCE OF APOL1 GENE RISK VARIANTS IN HIV-POSITIVE COMPARED TO HIV-NEGATIVE INDIVIDUALS WITH EVIDENCE OF KIDNEY DISEASE

Supervisor: Dr GM Marx

Co-Supervisor: Prof BF Bisiwe

PIETERSEN, Anneli

Dissertation Title: SURVEILLANCE OF SARS-COV-2 IN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS (WWTPS) AROUND THE MANGAUNG MUNICIPAL METRO, FREE STATE PROVINCE

Supervisor: Dr MF Maleka

Co-Supervisor: Prof JP Grobler and Dr GM Marx

VRIES, Nadine Janet

Dissertation Title: SIMPLE SEQUENCE REPEATS (SSRS) IN THE CLIVIA MINIATA TRANSCRIPTOME, THEIR IDENTIFICATION AND VALIDATION IN DIFFERENT SUBPOPULATIONS OF GENUS

Supervisor: Dr MF Maleka

MASTER OF SCIENCE MAJORING IN GEOHYDROLOGY

FISCHER, Christian Erling*



Dissertation Title: THE IMPACT OF CO-DISPOSAL INTO THE WESTERN BASIN ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL WATER QUALITY

Supervisor: Dr E Lukas

Co-Supervisor: Dr R Hansen

MALULEKE, Ntsako Victor

Dissertation Title: INVESTIGATING GROUNDWATER ABSTRACTION IMPACTS ON SURFACE WATER LEVELS AND SURFACE WATER – GROUNDWATER INTERACTION WITH ANALYTICAL AND NUMERICAL MODELS

Supervisor: Dr AJ Allwright

MBONAMBI, Lihlithemba Siphokazi

Dissertation Title: INVESTIGATION OF GROUNDWATER WITHIN THE EASTERN LIMB OF THE BUSHVELD COMPLEX, SOUTH AFRICA

Supervisor: Dr AJ Allwright

NAPE, Tlotliso Ellius*

Dissertation Title: MODELLING GROUNDWATER RECHARGE IN A DUAL MEDIA AQUIFER SYSTEM

Supervisor: Prof A Atangana

PHIKISO, Zininzi*

Dissertation Title: INTEGRATING REMOTE

SENSING AND AIRBORNE GEOPHYSICAL INFORMATION FOR MAPPING GROUNDWATER POTENTIAL ZONES IN THE NORTHERN CAPE

Supervisor: Prof FD Fourie

THEKO, Thato Isabella

Dissertation Title: GEOHYDROLOGICAL MODELLING TO DETERMINE CUMULATIVE IMPACT ON GROUNDWATER AT THE LETSENG DIAMOND MINE, LESOTHO

Supervisor: Dr AJ Allwright

Co-Supervisor: Dr T Shakhane

VAN DYK, George Pieter

Dissertation Title: NUMERICAL GROUNDWATER MODELLING AS A TOOL TO QUANTIFY SHALLOW AQUIFER WATER INGRESS INTO MINE RELATED OPEN VOIDS

Supervisor: Dr AJ Allwright

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN GEOLOGY**

KAPAPILO, Angela*

Dissertation Title: EVALUATION OF MAXIMUM GRADE CONTROL SAMPLE SPACING IN GEOMETALLURGICAL DOMAINS THAT MINIMISE ORE MISCLASSIFICATION

Supervisor: Prof EJM Carranza

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN INTEGRATED
WATER MANAGEMENT**

MAKHERA, Maanda Kilfat

MATHIVHA, Rofhiwa Nathaniel

NKOSI, Sakhile Musa Matthews

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN MATHEMATICAL
STATISTICS**

MONARENG, Joy

Dissertation Title: MODELLING TIME-DEPENDENT PAIRED COMPARISONS USING SOCCER DATA

Supervisor: Dr MR Sjölander

MUSHORI, Providence

Dissertation Title: EXTREME VALUE ANALYSIS AND APPLICATION OF THE EFFICIENT MARKET HYPOTHESIS ON BITCOIN PRICE RETURNS

Supervisor: Prof D Chikobvu

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN MICROBIOLOGY**

BELTER, Bernadette*

Dissertation Title: THE EXPRESSION OF SARS-CoV-2 PROTEINS IN *YARROWIA LIPOLYTICA*

Supervisor: Prof RR Bragg

Co-Supervisor: Dr C Tolmie and Dr CE Boucher



CHRISTIANS, Byron Jarrad Martin

Dissertation Title: THE EFFECT OF DIFFERENT GLUCOSE CONCENTRATIONS ON CRYPTOCOCCAL GROWTH AND VIRULENCE

Supervisor: Prof OM Sebolai

Co-Supervisor: Prof J Albertyn, Prof CH Pohl-Albertyn and Dr OMN Gcilitshana

LOURENS, Tristen

Dissertation Title: INVESTIGATING THE LIPASES OF THE MULTI-DRUG-RESISTANT YEAST, *CANDIDA AURIS*

Supervisor: Prof J Albertyn

Co-Supervisor: Prof CH Pohl-Albertyn

SENOKOANE, Retshegofaditswe

Dissertation Title: INFLUENCE OF THE DELETION OF *FET99* ON LIPIDS AND FLUCONAZOLE SUSCEPTIBILITY OF *CANDIDA ALBICANS*

Supervisor: Prof CH Pohl-Albertyn

Co-Supervisor: Prof J Albertyn

SWART, Ryno

Dissertation Title: NOVEL APPLICATION OF *GANODERMA LUCIDUM* TO PRODUCE ANIMAL FEED FROM AGRI-WASTE

Supervisor: Prof BC Viljoen

Co-Supervisor: Ms L Steyn

**MASTER OF SCIENCE
MAJORING IN RISK ANALYSIS**

O'CONNOR, Vittorio Jaydon

Dissertation Title: ALGORITHMIC TRADING AND FORECASTING OF THE AUD/USD EXCHANGE RATE THROUGH MULTIVARIATE RISK ANALYSIS USING MULTIPLE LINEAR REGRESSION MODELS

Supervisor: Mr F Koning

MASTER OF URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING

LUKHOZI, Siphokazi

MALATJI, Ntokozo Polite



DOCTORAL DEGREES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

JANUARIE, Deidré Arntrud

Deidre Arntud Januarie was born on 16 August 1973 in Rehoboth, Namibia. She matriculated at Dr. Lemmer High School in 1991. She obtained a B.Sc. in Agriculture (1995) and a B.Sc. Honours (1997) at the University of Stellenbosch, a M.Sc. in Animal Science (2000) at Oklahoma State University in the USA and a Post Graduate Diploma in Education (2002) at the University of Namibia. Her career started as Agricultural Training Officer at the Neudamm Agricultural College (1996) and a schoolteacher at Etosha High School (2003). In 2009 she was appointed as an Agricultural Researcher and is currently the Deputy Director for Livestock Research and Production at the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform.

With her thesis titled: **GENETIC AND PHENOTYPIC CHARACTERIZATION OF THE INDIGENOUS SANGA CATTLE OF NAMIBIA**, the candidate contributes to studying the genetic diversity of Namibia's indigenous cattle. With this contribution, she attempts to determine whether indigenous Sanga cattle ecotypes in Namibia are genetically different from each other as well as from their South African counterparts, if crossbreeding with exotic breeds is diluting the indigenous gene pool, and through selection signature analysis identified candidate genes that were selected for in the different ecotypes. This study showed the value of the indigenous cattle, especially in the face of climate change, that conservation and sustainable use of the indigenous cattle is crucial and that appropriate breeding strategies could be developed using the adaptive characteristics of the indigenous cattle. Tradition, culture and environment indeed play an important role in the selection of traditional Sanga animals in Namibia.

Supervisor: Prof FWC Neser

Co-Supervisor: Prof ED Cason and Prof JP Grobler

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN AGRONOMY INTERDISCIPLINARY

ALLEMANN, Ingrid

Ingrid Allemann was born on 7 January 1989 Pretoria, Gauteng. She matriculated at St Michaels School for Girls in 2007. She graduated with a BSc degree at the University of the Free State in 2012 and a Masters of Botany in 2016. Her career as a high school science teacher began in 2017 and now teaches Cambridge Biology as well as Life Sciences and Physical Sciences in the National Curriculum.

With her thesis titled: **ALLELOPATHIC PROPERTIES OF AMARANTHUS CRUENTUS**, the candidate contributes the field of Agronomy by deepening our understanding of allelopathy, a concept that may influence future crop production. The findings underscore the significance of research into *Amaranthus cruentus*, both as a potential food source for a growing global population and its impact on crop production as a weed. The results demonstrate that *Amaranthus cruentus* has considerable potential as a nutritious food source with high mineral content. However, its allelopathic properties warrant equal attention, as stress conditions trigger the release of allelochemicals that can



adversely affect surrounding crops. Therefore, comprehending its dual role as a food source and natural herbicide, along with its implications as a weed, is vital for sustainable crop production

Supervisor: Dr E van der Watt

Co-Supervisor: Dr G Coetzer

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN ANIMAL SCIENCE

PYOOS, Georgette Maree

Georgette Pyoos was born on 25 October 1989 in Durban in the province of Kwa-Zulu Natal. She matriculated at Fairvale Secondary High School in 2007 and later attained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture from UNISA in 2015. She graduated with a B-Tech Honors Degree in Animal Science in 2016 and a Master of Science Degree in Agriculture at the University of the Free State in 2019. Her career started as a student volunteer in 2014 at the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) at the Irene campus in Pretoria. She is currently appointed as a Junior Researcher at the ARC.

With her thesis titled: **BREED GENETIC AND HETEROSIS EFFECTS ON VARIABILITY OF GROWTH AND EFFICIENCY TRAITS IN BEEF CATTLE IN SOUTH AFRICA**, the candidate evaluated the effect of breed genetic and heterosis on growth and efficiency traits in different crossbred beef cattle genotypes. Differences in plasticity are reported, which demonstrates the degree to which animals respond to environmental changes. These alterations can be either permanent or temporary. Low levels of plasticity indicate robustness to the environment. These results demonstrate that crossbreeding can potentially aid in alleviating poverty by improving production efficiency, improve food security by increasing the supply of beef in South Africa and improve sustainability through a balance of meat production relative to the animal's carbon footprint. The information from this study can be use by extension officers to assist emerging farmers in choosing bulls that will produce beef more efficiently and facilitate their entry into commercial market.

Supervisor: Prof FWC Nesor and Dr MD MacNeil

Co-Supervisor: Prof MM Scholtz

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN CHEMISTRY

JACOBS, Frederick Jacobus Francois

Frederick Jacobus Francois Jacobs was born on 20 September 1994 in Polokwane, South Africa. He completed his matric in 2013 at Nelspruit High School in Nelspruit, South Africa. The following year he enrolled for a BSc. degree majoring in Chemistry and Information Technology at the University of the Free State. He obtained his BSc. degree in 2016 and enrolled for BSc. Honors degree specializing in Chemistry which he obtained in 2017. He continued his studies by pursuing a MSc. degree in Chemistry which he completed in 2020.

With his thesis titled: **RHENIUM MODEL DRUG DEVELOPMENT ON THE INTEROPERABLE INTERFACE BETWEEN SMALL MOLECULE AND MACROMOLECULAR STRUCTURE**, the candidate investigated, from an



interoperable structural perspective, the development of novel model compounds for future development into lead-like/drug-like compounds. This included ligand systems which contains chemical functional groups intended to facilitate biological interactions. Metalation of these ligands to rhenium, cobalt and copper resulted in several novel metal complexes. SCXRD analysis of the complexes (together with other spectral characterisation techniques such as IR and NMR) indicated that multi-metallic manipulation was achievable with these compounds. Specific focus was placed on highlighting the interoperable differences between chemical and macromolecular crystallography. His research contributes to the knowledge of bioinorganic chemistry pertaining to organometallic complexes in large biological structures.

Supervisor: Prof A Brink

VAN STADEN, Christo

Christo van Staden was born in Pretoria on 12 June 1996. He received his secondary education in Pretoria, where he matriculated at the High School Centurion in 2014. He obtained the degree B.Sc. in 2017, B.Sc. Hons in 2018, the degree M.Sc. (Chemistry) with distinction in 2020 and the PhD in 2024 at the University of the Free State. His career in chemistry started in the Chemistry department at the UFS in June 2024 with a contract appointment as a research scientist where he is leading the development of a new stable isotope laboratory.

With his thesis titled: **STRUCTURAL AND COMPUTATIONAL EVALUATION OF 0/DIMERIC Au(I) AND Ag(I) BIS(DIPHENYLPHOSPHINO)AMINE COMPLEXES**, the candidate makes a significant contribution to the field of coordination chemistry, specifically Gold(I) aurophilic and Silver(I) argentophilic interactions in bimetallic complexes. The effects of size variation of the substituents on the Bis(diphenylphosphino)amine ligands and different counterions on metal-metal bonding distances are evaluated using both experimental and computational techniques. This study provides a foundation for understanding how to manipulate and enhance metal-metal distances to optimise applications across different fields.

Supervisor: Prof HG Visser

Co-Supervisor: Prof M Schutte-Smith and Dr DV Kama

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

MALETI, Tipson

Tipson MaletI was born on 14 December 1972 in Gutu, Zimbabwe. He matriculated at Dewure High School in 1990. He attained a Diploma in Education at Belvedere Teachers College in 1997 and a Higher National Diploma at Harare Polytechnic in 2000. He graduated with a BTech Hons (Information Technology) degree at the Harare Institute of Technology in 2012 and an MCom (Information Systems) at the Great Zimbabwe University in 2014. He started his career as a teacher in 1998. In 2015, he was appointed as a Lecturer and rose through the ranks to become Dean of Students at Solusi University.

With his thesis titled: **DECODING THE DEBUGGING PROCESS: AN EXPLORATION OF SELF-THEORIES, CHALLENGES, AND STRATEGIES TO INFORM A TAILORED INSTRUCTIONAL APPROACH FOR NOVICE PROGRAMMERS**, the candidate contributes to the field of computer science education by exploring how the debugging skills of novice programmers can be enhanced through the application of self-theories and the Decoding



the Disciplines (DtD) framework. Maleti developed tailored instructional strategies to improve novices' debugging abilities by addressing learning bottlenecks and fostering a growth mindset. Using a mixed-methods approach, the study unfolded in four phases: identifying participants' mindsets, pinpointing debugging challenges, uncovering experts' debugging strategies, and implementing instructional interventions. The findings revealed that explicit mental models and collaborative, inquiry-based learning strategies significantly improved novices' debugging skills and fostered a growth mindset. This research highlights the importance of addressing self-theories and applying expert mental processes to help novice programmers overcome debugging challenges, contributing valuable insights to programming education.

Supervisor: Prof L Nel

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATICS

MASE, Mokotsolane Ben

Mokotsolane Ben Mase was born on 12 March 1983 in Senekal, Free State, South Africa. He received his secondary education in Senekal, where he matriculated at the Ithabiseng Secondary School in 2002. He obtained a BSc IT degree in 2007, BSc Honours (Computer Information Systems) in 2010, a Postgraduate Certificate in Education in 2012, and an MSc (Computer Information Systems) in 2014, all from the University of the Free State. He started his career as a junior lecturer in 2008 and is currently a lecturer in the Department of Computer Science at the University of the Free State, QwaQwa campus.

With his thesis titled: **ADVANCING THE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT OF NOVICE PROGRAMMERS THROUGH METACOGNITIVE SCAFFOLDING: A CUSTOMISED NEO-PIAGETIAN STAGE MODEL**, the candidate contributes to the field of computer science education by exploring how novices' basic programming skills can be enhanced through the use of a metacognitive scaffolding model. A theoretical Staged Collaborative Metacognitive Scaffolding (SCoMS) model was developed to provide structured support for novices in acquiring basic programming skills. Using a mixed-methods approach based on the Frameworks for an Integrated Methodology, the study comprised three research phases. Phase 1 identified common errors in code writing, while Phase 2 focused on common errors in code explanation. In Phase 3, the proposed SCoMS model was evaluated through an experimental case study. The study showed promising results, providing evidence that the model has the potential to gradually enhance the basic programming skills novices need to become competent programmers.

Supervisor: Prof L Nel

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

JOSE MOISES, Deolfa Rute Joao

Deolfa Jose Moises was born on 22 September 1989 in the Windhoek, Namibia. She matriculated at Centaurus High School in 2007 and later attained a BSc. Honours degree in Microbiology and Biochemistry from the University of Namibia in 2015 and an MSc. in Microbiology in 2017. In 2019, she obtained a Master of Integrated Water Resource Management Degree from the Namibia University of Science and Technology.

With her thesis titled: **ANALYSIS OF THE OPERATIONAL FLOOD EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IN THE KABBE CONSTITUENCY- ZAMBEZI REGION, NAMIBIA**, the candidate contributes to scientific research, strategic design



and implementation of impact-based flood early warning systems (FEWS) within diverse socioeconomic and environmental contexts. Using a multivariate qualitative approach, she interviewed disaster management officials and conducted focus group discussions with residents from flood-impacted communities in northeast Namibia to dissect the operationalisation of the national FEWS. While some good practices were noted, the system was technocratic, highly disintegrated and bureaucratic, with community-driven initiatives as separate entities. This positively correlated with the area's recurrent and seemingly unmitigated flood impact. The design of a conceptual framework for community-based FEWS is applicable in diverse socioeconomic and environmental constructs, the study argues that although financial investment in these systems is often inadequate, early warning systems are essential to the fight against climate change.

Supervisor: Dr O Kunguma

LUM, Sonita Awah

Born in the vibrant city of Bamenda, Cameroon, on October 23, 1996, Lum Sonita Awah is a dedicated scholar and lifelong learner. She did her high school at Government Bilingual High School Mbatu before earning a BSc in Geography from the University of Buea in 2014. Her pursuit of knowledge led her to achieve an MSc in Natural Resources and Environmental Management from the same institution in 2016. Embracing her passion for environmental sustainability, Lum embarked on her PhD journey at the University of the Free State in 2021. Her academic journey exemplifies a steadfast commitment to scholarly excellence and professional growth.

With her thesis titled: **DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED FLOOD MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR COMMUNITY RESILIENCE THROUGH SYSTEMS THINKING IN LIMBE, CAMEROON**, the candidate, by using a participatory systems thinking approach, the study developed an integrated framework for flood resilience to address the recurring threat of coastal flooding in Limbe, Cameroon. This innovative research combined qualitative and quantitative methods to capture the complex dynamics of flood risk and community vulnerability. A vital contribution of the study is creating a community-based resilience framework that integrates system dynamics, multi-hazard risk driver analysis, community capitals, and stakeholder engagements, offering a holistic approach to strengthening resilience, especially for coastal cities and communities. The findings provide valuable insights for a range of stakeholders, from policymakers to urban planners, by offering practical solutions to mitigate flood impacts. The study's interdisciplinary approach and its focus on participatory modeling have the potential to transform flood risk management strategies, improving resilience in vulnerable coastal communities.

Supervisor: Prof JA Belle

Co-Supervisor: Dr YS Nyam and Dr IR Orimoloye

MUYAMBO, Fumiso

Fumiso Muyambo was born on January 21, 1972, at Mt Selinda Mission Hospital in Chipinge, Manicaland province, Zimbabwe. She completed high school at Mt Selinda High in 1991 and earned a BSc (Hons) in Political Science and Administration from the University of Zimbabwe in 1995. In 2005, she earned a BSc in Counseling from the Zimbabwe Open University, and a Master's Degree in Disaster Management from the University of the Free State in 2015. In 2021, she embarked upon her PhD studies at the University of the Free State, reflecting her commitment to lifelong learning and professional development.

With her thesis titled: **DEVELOPING A RESILIENCE MODEL USING A COMPREHENSIVE MULTI-HAZARD RISK ANALYSIS AND DISASTER RISK REDUCTION STRATEGIES FOR EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS IN**



QWAQWA, SOUTH AFRICA, the candidate developed a comprehensive framework for disaster risk reduction and resilience to address the growing threat of climate change-related extreme events in QwaQwa, South Africa. The research combined quantitative and qualitative methods, enabling a pragmatic and in-depth understanding of complex community experiences and perspectives. The study contributed in developing a novel resilience framework that integrates multi-hazard risk analysis and community capitals, providing a holistic and evidence-based approach to enhancing resilience. The findings of this impactful research will benefit a diverse range of stakeholders, from researchers to policymakers, water resource managers by offering a practical solution to mitigate the devastating impacts of extreme weather events. The study has the potential to transform disaster risk reduction strategies and improve the well-being of vulnerable communities.

Supervisor: Prof JA Belle

Co-Supervisor: Dr YS Nyam and Dr IR Orimoloye

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN ENTOMOLOGY

BADENHORST, Hannelene

Hannelene Badenhorst was born in Kimberley on 17 April 1990. She received her secondary education in Kimberley, where she matriculated from the Northern Cape High School in 2008. She obtained her B.Sc. degree in 2011, B.Sc. Hons in Entomology in 2012, and M.Sc. in Entomology in 2016, all at the University of the Free State. She started her career as a farm manager in the Kroonstad district following completion of her Ph.D. studies in 2024.

With her thesis titled: **ECOLOGY AND DIVERSITY OF SPRINGTAILS AND SPIDERS IN THREE BIOMES IN CENTRAL SOUTH AFRICA**, sampling along a longitudinal transect, she demonstrated declining species richness and abundance of springtails, but not spiders, from the mesic eastern Free State to the arid Nama Karoo of the Northern Cape. She found distinct springtail and spider assemblages occurring inside active and abandoned snouted harvester termite mounds compared to the surrounding grassland in the central Free State. In a study of the genetic diversity of cyphoderid springtails in the Free State, she reported both widespread and geographically localized species, with contrasting specificity regarding occupation of ant or termite nests or being microhabitat generalists. Finally, she analysed the gut content of an African springtail for the first time, finding significant differences between the bacterial and fungal communities in their guts and those of termitaria soils. Two papers have been submitted for publication so far.

Supervisor: Prof CR Haddad

Co-Supervisor: Dr C Janion-Scheepers and Dr M Gryzenhout

FOURIE, De Villiers

De Villiers Fourie was born in Newcastle, Kwazulu-Natal on the 15th of December 1980. He received his secondary education in Bloemfontein, Free State, where he matriculated from Jim Fouche High School in 1998. He obtained a B.Sc. in Entomology and Zoology in 2002. Honours in Entomology in 2003 and his Masters in Entomology in 2007, all from the University of the Free State. Initially working as a part-time time lecturer and contract research assistant, he was appointed as a full-time lecturer at the Department of Zoology and Entomology of the UFS in 2013, where he is still currently employed.



With his thesis titled: **IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF PYRETHROID RESISTANCE IN TWO-SPOTTED STINK BUG, *BATHYCOELIA DISTINCTA* (HEMIPTERA: PENTATOMIDAE) ON MACADAMIA IN SOUTH AFRICA**, the candidate contributes to the broad understanding of pesticide resistance and management in South African macadamia orchards. Approaching this challenge in a holistic and novel manner, the focus was on providing practical feedback to the industry, increasing awareness, promoting integrated management and aiding in filling the significant knowledge gap regarding resistance management in South African macadamia orchards. The study identified significantly reduced pyrethroid efficacy in the target species using targeted pesticide assays. Furthermore, the study included the bioinformatic identification and PCR amplification of target regions encoding for the most common type of pyrethroid resistance, a novel finding regarding stink bugs in general. Aiming at contributing to the macadamia grower community in a novel and practical manner, industry driven management tools were developed to aid in future resistance management.

Supervisor: Dr VR Swart

Co-Supervisor: Dr PS Schoeman and Prof JP Grobler

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

ADDO, Samuel Elvis

Samuel Elvis Addo was born on 4th December 1963 in the Volta Region of Ghana. He obtained an Advanced Level Certificate at Mawuli Secondary School, Ho, in 1984. He later attained a Diploma in Mathematics in a first-class category at the University of Education, Winneba, in 1993. He graduated with a BA Statistics at University of Ghana in 2000 and a Master of Arts in Environmental Management and Policy at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana. His career as a teacher began in 1993, and he rose through the ranks to become a lecturer at Valley View University, Ghana.

With the thesis titled: **GHANA'S MINERALS AND MINING POLICY REFORMS INCLUDING ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES: THE CASE OF TARKWA-NSUAEM MUNICIPALITY**, the candidate contributes to scholarship on Ghana's minerals and mining policy reform' impact on the environment, focusing on how Ghana's mining liberalisation open the economy for mining companies to use environmentally polluting surface and heap leach mining. Using a mixed method approach, Addo sampled 384 respondents to understand and explain how mining liberalisation has contributed to environmental degradation in mining communities in Ghana. While mining liberalisation has contributed to Ghana's economic gains, the government's focus on attracting foreign investment has inhibited the creation of appropriate environmental laws to ensure sound environmental management. The study argues that despite the environmental externalities of surface and heap leach mining, the government has failed to improve the mining and environmental laws due to fears of deterring the inflow of new investment or causing industrial flight.

Supervisor: Prof OO Ololade

Co-Supervisor: Prof JGL Marais

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN GEOLOGY

NETHENZHENI, Sedzani Shane

Mr Nethenzheni currently works for the scientific division of water and sanitation in the Municipality of Cape Town.

With his thesis titled: **ASSESSMENT OF THE DITRIMENTAL IMPACT OF LANDFILL LEACHATE ON THE LOCAL GROUNDWATER QUALITY AND THE SUITABILITY OF CAPE FLATS AQUIFER FOR DRINKING WATER, CITY**



OF CAPE TOWN, WESTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA, the candidate specialises in applied hydrogeochemistry, especially related to water use and application in an around the city of Cape Town. His research is focussed on diverse aspects, such as the suitability of water for human and animal consumption, for agriculture and the impact of water use activities on water resources

Supervisor: Dr R Hansen

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT

LE ROUX, Jason Paul

Jason le Roux was born on 10 August 1993 in Trichardt and matriculated at Hoërskool Secunda in 2011. He obtained a BSc in Geography in 2015 and an Honours in Geography and Environmental Science in 2016, followed in 2020 by an MSc in Environmental Management (cum laude), from the University of Pretoria, where he also received academic colours. He began his career as a freelance wetland consultant in 2017 and joined the Agricultural Research Council in 2020 to pursue a PhD in Integrated Water Management. He currently serves as a soil science researcher at the Agricultural Research Council.

With his thesis titled: **THE IMPACTS OF DEGRADATION ON PEATLANDS: UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF DESICCATED AND BURNT PEAT ON THE HYDROLOGY OF PEATLANDS IN THE MAPUTALAND COASTAL PLAIN**, the candidate advances knowledge in wetland management amid environmental degradation. The candidate studied peatlands that experienced peat fires due to water table drawdown linked to anthropogenic pressures and climate change. Using an eco-hydrological approach, he analysed water table dynamics in relation to altered surface morphology and hydraulic properties and contextualised these findings with site-specific groundwater flows. The candidate compared these results with a stratigraphic analysis conducted on a peatland affected by a late Pleistocene historic peat fire. His study revealed that while degradation results in unfavourable hydraulic properties, it aligns surface morphology with the water table, creating conditions for wetland functionality. Various management options are presented, encompassed in the argument that restoring high water tables enhances ecosystem service provision.

Supervisor: Dr P Grundling

Co-Supervisor: Prof P Whittington

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN MATHEMATICAL STATISTICS

LANGSTON, Amy Francis

Amy Francis Langston was born on 5 November 1996 in Johannesburg. She matriculated from Winterberg Agricultural High School in 2014 and continued her education at Rhodes University, where she obtained a Bachelor of Science degree with distinctions in Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics in 2017 and a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree in Mathematical Statistics with distinction in 2018. She was awarded the Patrick and Margaret Flanagan Scholarship to study toward a Master of Research degree in Advanced Statistics at the University of Glasgow, Scotland. This was awarded to her with distinction in 2020. She began her career in 2021 as a Lecturer in the Department of Statistics at Rhodes University, where she still works today.



With her thesis titled: **THE GENERALIZED POLYA PROCESS AND ITS APPLICATION TO RELIABILITY MODELING**, the candidate makes a remarkable contribution to the theory and applications of stochastic point processes. Most of the current models in the literature, for simplicity, are built using the assumption of independence of point processes on the past, which is often not the case in practice. Using the generalized Polya process, the candidate had generalized numerous results that were previously obtained only for the memoryless Poisson process. Specifically, the new models of maintenance to describe various repair processes in reliability modelling within the framework of the generalized Polya processes are proposed and justified. As an application, the corresponding optimal age replacement policy is defined for each of these models, optimal solutions are obtained and supporting numerical illustrations are presented.

Supervisor: Prof M Finkelstein

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN MICROBIOLOGY

BISSCHOFF, Eduvan

Eduvan Bisschoff was born in Bloemfontein on 09 December 1993. He received his secondary education in Bloemfontein, where he matriculated at the Bloemfontein high school in 2012. He obtained a bachelor's degree in microbiology in 2015, Hons in 2016, MSc in 2018, and his PhD in Microbiology in 2024 at the University of the Free State. At present, he is a Project Specialist at Parexel.

With his thesis titled: **INVESTIGATING THE MOLECULAR MECHANISMS BEHIND ANTIFUNGAL RESISTANCE IN CANDIDA AURIS**, the candidate investigated the role of the ABC transporters in drug resistance and pathogenicity in the yeast *Candida auris*. An effective gene editing tool for *C. auris* was developed to enable targeted genetic modifications for validating gene functionality. This was followed by investigating the ABC transporters' effect on virulence by subjecting *Caenorhabditis elegans* to *C. auris* infections and performing death assays of all the constructed mutants and wild-type strains. Results indicated that most of the transporters, especially the SNQ2 transporters, are involved in virulence. However, the mechanism behind this phenomenon is currently unknown. The study emphasises the critical importance of understanding and addressing *C. auris* as an emerging pathogen and has potential implications for developing more effective treatments and prevention strategies against this increasingly concerning fungal threat.

Supervisor: Prof J Albertyn

Co-Supervisor: Prof CH Pohl-Albertyn

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

DE BRUYN, Melanie Anne

Melanie de Bruyn grew up in the Vaal Triangle where she matriculated from Sasolburg High School in 2007. In 2010 she obtained her BSc degree followed by her BSc Hons (with distinction) in 2011. Both these qualifications were obtained at the UFS in the field of genetics. She completed her Master's degree in Agriculture (with distinction) at CUT in 2014 where she worked in the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences. She currently works as a research consultant and holds a part-time position in the Department of Sustainable Food Systems and Development, where she assists postgraduate students with their research.



With her thesis titled: **CROP SYSTEMS FOR SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN THE NORTH-WESTERN FREE STATE, SOUTH AFRICA**, the candidate contributes to the field of sustainable agriculture. Using an interdisciplinary approach of social and natural sciences she determined the views and perceptions of local farmers on crop diversity and investigated the environmental, social and economic effects of including soybean and cover crops in rotation with maize. The social science aspect of the study revealed that North-Western Free State farmers recognised the potential benefits of crop diversification and were moving away from crop specialisation. The natural science findings of this study further revealed that maize-soybean rotational systems-maintained soil health, provided nutritional benefits and improved crop production and productivity. Therefore, this study contributed to ensuring sufficient and nutritious food production, while conserving and improving the soil and environment.

Supervisor: Prof JA van Niekerk

Co-Supervisor: Dr AA Nel

WESSELS, Carel Hercules

Carel Hercules Wessels was born in Senekal on 1 July 1978. He received his secondary education in Steynsrus, where he matriculated at the High School Steynsrus in 1996. He obtained the degree B. Agric. in 2005, B. Agric. Hons in 2007, the degree of Magister in Sustainable Agriculture in 2015, and the PhD in 2024 at the University of the Free State. He is currently working at the Agricultural Research Council - Natural Resources and Engineering since 2009.

With his thesis titled: **EXPLORING THE POOR UPTAKE OF NEW AGRICULTURAL-BASED TECHNOLOGIES IN RURAL COMMUNITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA**, the candidate aimed to improve poverty in rural communities in South Africa by investigating the socio-economic factors that could affect the adoption of improved agricultural technologies. The study analysed technology exchange tools, such as demonstration plots, practical hands-on training, support from the Agricultural Research Council technical assistants, farmers' information days, focused group discussions, formal presentations, video clips, posters, flyers, training manuals, and 3-dimensional scale models, when introducing new agricultural technologies to small-scale farmers from Krwakrwa and Upper Ncera villages in the Eastern Cape.

Supervisor: Dr JJ Anderson

Co-Supervisor: Prof JA van Niekerk

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY MAJORING IN ZOOLOGY

FOSTER, Tamson

Tamson Foster was born on 9 April 1984 in Cape Town, Western Cape. She matriculated in 2001 from the Settlers High School and commenced her undergraduate studies in 2002 in the Department of Biodiversity and Conservation Biology at the University of the Western Cape. Here, she obtained her BSc in 2005, followed by an Honours BSc degree in 2006, and an MSc in 2008. She was an employee of the University of the Free State from 2014 until the end of 2022 and registered as a part-time student for a PhD in the Department of Zoology and Entomology in 2018.

With her thesis titled: **PHYLOGEOGRAPHY, MORPHOLOGY, REPRODUCTION AND ACTIVITY PATTERNS OF THE GREATER PADLOPER, *HOMOPUS FEMORALIS* (REPTILIA: TESTUDINIDAE)**, the candidate significantly



advanced our knowledge on one of South Africa's small tortoise species in terms of its genetic diversity, possible drivers of its distribution, morphological adaptations, and aspects of its life history. Although mitochondrial and nuclear DNA analyses confirmed its low genetic diversity, the mitochondrial markers nevertheless found a signal of incipient cladogenesis. Its distribution appears to have been shaped by climatic oscillations and geological processes. Larger female size probably resulted from fecundity selection while notably smaller male size is likely an adaptation for greater mobility and mating. Eggs in females during spring and summer suggests that reproduction occurs during the warm and rainy seasons. Activity patterns also correlated with variations in ambient temperature and rainfall, home ranges of females exceeding those of males. Three manuscripts are in preparation for publication.

Supervisor: Prof NJL Heideman

Co-Supervisor: Prof JP Grobler



DEAN |
PROF JS KLAASEN

CERTIFICATES

**HIGHER CERTIFICATE IN
THEOLOGY**

DASTILE, Lulamela
JADEZWENI, Athenkosi
KWATANA, Yolanda
LELE, Anele
MAKUWA, Flint Mabatane
MASANGO, Naledi Nomakhwezi
MBATHA, Noxolo Samkelisiwe
MOTHELESI, Oratile
NCENJANA, Yanda
NCUBE, Mpho Junior
NGEVAYO, Zezemihla Lean
NKOMO, Rethabile Christinah
NOHOLOZA, Vuyokazi
NTAMBO, Masiviwe
NYAWOSE, Lithalethu
Nonkululeko
NYAWUZA, Mbuso
SOKO, Felicia Sbongile
THEKISO, Bianca Amogelang
TSOTETSI, Palesa Lisa

DIPLOMAS

**ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN
THEOLOGY**

BINGO, Putsoetsile Walter
POOE, Itumeleng Edward*

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

BACHELOR OF DIVINITY

LESIA, Omolemo Sechaba

MASTER'S DEGREES

**MASTER OF THEOLOGY
WITH SPECIALISATION IN
MISSIONOLOGY**

TSHUMA, Sitholubuhle

Dissertation Title: AN
ASSESSMENT OF THE
MISSIONAL STRATEGIES
OF UCCSA IN UPINGTON TO
ADDRESS POVERTY

Supervisor: Prof E Baron



DOCTORAL DEGREES

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THEOLOGY WITH SPECIALISATION IN BIBLE TRANSLATION

MOHOKARE, Sesheme Meshack

Sesheme Meshack Mohokare was born in Thaba Nchu on May 6, 1966. He matriculated from Mariasdal Secondary School in 1984. He holds several degrees, including a BTh (1989), B. Com in Financial Management (2016), BTh Hons (1989), B.Ed (Hons) in Education Management (2006), MPA (2009), MTh in Practical Theology (2018), and a Higher Diploma in Education (1996). He is an ordained minister of URCSA and has worked as a lecturer at Thaba Nchu College of Education. He was a member of the SMT at Leratong and Kgololosego Secondary Schools. Currently, he serves as an Assistant Director at the Department of Community Safety, Roads, and Transport.

In his thesis titled: **TRANSLATING ANIMAL NAMES IN THE SESOTHO BIBLE: A COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS**, the candidate explored the problem of how animal names can be meaningfully translated in Sesotho and other indigenous African languages using a complexity approach, incorporating semiotics, alterity, and metaphoric analysis. His methodology comprised: First, to consider the zoological identification of the biblical animals. Second, to identify the differences and similarities between the animals in the Bible and the indigenous Sesotho terms and their respective metaphorical uses. Lastly, to incorporate ecological and ethical considerations involving the translation of animal names. This study will greatly influence future Bible translation projects as well as the current revision of the 1989 Sesotho Bible by the Bible Society of South Africa.

Supervisor: Prof TJ Makutoane

Co-Supervisor: Prof JA Naudé

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THEOLOGY WITH SPECIALISATION IN PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

MAPHALLA, Lefu Tefo

Lefu Tefo Maphalla, born on 6 July 1968 in QwaQwa, Free State, South Africa, matriculated from St. Paul's High School in 1985. He obtained a National Diploma in Plant Production at Mangosuthu Technikon in 1998, as well as a B.Tech and M.Tech in Agriculture from the Central University of the Free State in 2001 and 2004, respectively. He obtained a B.Theology Honours from the South African Theological Seminary (SATS) in 2016 and a Master of Practical Theology (Cum laude) from the University of the Free State (UFS) in 2020. He is an ordained minister in Dynamic Life Pentecostal Church of Christ in Bloemanda, Bloemfontein.

With his thesis titled: **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OF PENTECOSTAL CONGREGATIONS IN MANGAUNG TOWNSHIP: A PRACTICAL THEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION**, the candidate contributes towards the understanding of children's ministry as a collaborative and intergenerational effort between parents, teachers, and children, with the parents as the primary role players. A qualitative research methodology was used: in-depth interviews with teachers, pastors, and focus group interviews with parents were conducted. It was found that the ministry lacks resources, mainly in the form of buildings and facilities, a shortage of teachers, and a lack of support from the parents. It is recommended that there be a clear vision for the ministry; recruit, train, and retain teachers;



invite parents to the ministry; theologically ground them to understand their responsibility, as well as train, equip and support them. The children should be allowed to make inputs in the ministry.

Supervisor: Prof WJ Schoeman

VAN SCHALKWYK, Hester Helena

Hester Helena (Elna) van Schalkwyk was born in Hoopstad on 25 February 1963. She received her secondary education in Hoopstad where she matriculated from the Hoërskool Hoopstad in 1980. She obtained the degree B.Diac. in 1983 and B.Diac. Hons in 1984 from the Huguenot Kollege/UNISA (both degrees with distinction). She started her career as a social and youth worker at the Dutch Reformed Church in Randfontein. Early in the new millennium, she started her own practice, *The Playshed*, in Hoopstad. She graduated in 2019 with a MA degree in practical theology (pastoral care) from the University of the Free State.

With her thesis titled: **NARRATIEWE PASTORALE SPEL EN GEMARGINALISEERDE GEMEENSAPPE**, the study resulted from the increasing inability of emotional communication experienced within marginalised communities. This therapeutic challenge is supported by the status of therapy in marginalised communities which is very often determined by the following margins that were considered: cognitive abilities, post-traumatic stress disorders, as well as conditions of chronic stress and the absence of pastoral assistance, due to a shortage of financial support. The above reasons propelled the researcher to investigate an interdisciplinary playful pastoral approach to which people in marginalised communities can relate and which would provide an articulation space for the emotional language of the participants as co-researchers. The research is documented via an (auto)biographical journey reflecting a narrative, participatory approach, incorporating interdisciplinarity, resulting in the use of creativity as modus. An accessible board game, which was developed as a direct result of the research, is already fruitfully used in pastoral therapeutic environments.

Supervisor: Prof JA van den Berg

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN THEOLOGY WITH SPECIALISATION IN SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

MALOWA, Rose Besnart

Rose Malowa was born on 24 September 1977 in Lusaka, Zambia. She completed her primary education at St. Patrick's Girls School in 1990 and her secondary education at Leopards Hill Secondary School in 1996. She obtained a diploma and bachelor's degree in theology from Justo Mwale Theological College and was ordained as a minister by the Reformed Church in Zambia in 2001. She graduated with a master's degree in theology from the University of the Free State in 2010. During her ministry, she served as the first female in the position of synod vice-secretary, and as a board member of the Council of Churches in Zambia. Currently, she is teaching as adjunct lecturer at Justo Mwale University, in Lusaka.

With her thesis titled: **AFRICAN WOMEN AND SPIRITUALITY: A STUDY OF NARRATIVES AND AGENCY**, the candidate contributes to scholarship on Christian spirituality and African Theology. The thesis explores the plight of women in Africa and, more specifically, in Zambia and the church. Despite commendable social changes, patriarchy still inhibits women's agency. The research addresses a hiatus in current theology, by focusing on the notions of "narrative" and "agency", and by investigating the question as to whether narrating a spiritual journey could contribute to the enhancement of women's agency. By employing auto-ethnography as research method in addition



to a literature study, the researcher could narrate the personal story of her spiritual journey, her struggle to assert her agency, the critical role of a Church Women Fellowship, and the continued impact of traditional Nsenga culture. The conclusion of the study to approach African womanist spirituality from the explicit combination of agency and narrative, using auto-ethnography as method, makes a definitive scholarly contribution.

Supervisors: Prof R Venter and Prof J Meyer



2024

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