



DONOR REPORT

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UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE

RECTOR'S MESSAGE

Prof Francis Petersen

Dear donor partners of the UFS

During the first nine months since I joined the University of the Free State as its Vice-Chancellor, some of the most encouraging and pleasurable experiences I've had involved meeting the partners of the UFS and getting to know the projects and initiatives you support. The financial contributions we receive from you allow the UFS to reach out to the community in many ways, from alleviating financial pressure on our students, to promoting excellence in schools, and making possible projects that will lead to innovations that will benefit everyone. I have been struck by the close relationship that exists between the UFS and its constituencies, from our funders and retirees, to our alumni, to thousands of South Africans who look to the UFS as a resource and part of their support system. I wish to encourage and reinforce our role as an institution that responds to the needs of all the people we serve, within and outside the UFS.

In this report, we share a snapshot of your recent cumulative contribution to our University. I thank you for your vote of confidence in the UFS and salute your generosity. I look forward to meeting each one of you in person and encourage you to attend the events that we will host during 2018.

I take this opportunity to wish you all the best for the coming year.

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INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Annamia van den Heever

Raising funds for the University of the Free State is rewarding work. It is a pleasure to engage with our donors who assist our university to expand human knowledge, educate outstanding students to become creative members of society and to advance social and community development. We thank each of our donors – individuals and organisations – for your contribution. Your philanthropy ensures that the UFS continues to make a positive impact in central South Africa that improves quality of life.

The impact of the UFS is considerable in a province that is home to some of the poorest communities in the country. The opportunities created for talented individuals to access higher education are especially important because there is no doubt that having a quality degree can pull individuals – and their families – out of poverty.

In this report we give a brief introduction to some of the initiatives supported by our donors. With it we thank you for that support. In bleak times your giving brings hope and promise of progress. We also say “thank you” to the hard working academic and support staff who also raise funds and, ultimately, make the UFS research, teaching and community initiatives happen.

Donors who would like to visit our campus to see the difference made by their support are welcome to contact us to arrange a campus visit. We would love to show you around and personally to thank you for your interest and support.



UFS DONOR REPORT

Bursaries

Against the background of the massive disruptions to tertiary education from the #FeesMustFall movement in South African universities during most of 2015, the UFS launched a campaign which aimed to raise bursary funding for UFS students.

Because many of our bursary students graduate from a dysfunctional secondary school system and are first generation university students, the UFS has put in place a comprehensive programme to monitor students' progress and provide support focused on maximising students' success by integrating psychosocial and academic support.

No Student Hungry

Research shows that a large number of students are food insecure and often go hungry on a daily basis. The [No Student Hungry food bursary](#) is awarded to students on the basis of financial need, academic excellence and a commitment to serve the community. Students apply for the NSH bursary on an annual basis, and a weekly amount is transferred to the students' university cards which enables them to purchase food at numerous outlets on and off campus.

In 2017 NSH provided funding for 22 000 meals. Since 2011, NSH has funded 183 800 meals, given immediate support by providing 946 food parcels and students have completed 39 760 community work hours.

The Right 2 Learn Campaign

[This initiative](#) was started by UFS students under the leadership of the Student Representative Council and the President of the Bloemfontein Campus SRC, Asive Dlanjwa. Our students decided to do something practical to help their peers, and the focus fell on registration fees, which students must pay at the start of each academic year. Finding the money is a major challenge for many UFS students. The main event for the campaign launch was an 8-day cycle trip from Bloemfontein to Cape Town involving Asive and other cyclists. The tour, which will take place annually, creates awareness for the campaign and celebrates the students' fundraising efforts. The campaign had raised over R100 000 by the third day of the tour. Says Asive: "We collectively have to do everything it takes to improve access to education and provide all families the fighting chance out of poverty."





Make the First 1000 Days Count

The Make the First 1000 days Count initiative focuses on improving mother and child care in the first 1000 days of a baby's life – from conception to age two. This is a critical period during which children's brains develop at an unprecedented rate. Neurological development during this time determines a great deal of every child's future. Yet, in conditions of poverty and attendant malnutrition, this foundation is significantly weakened, and includes possible irreversible damage to children's brain development, poor growth and compromised immunity.

The UFS works in close partnership with the Mother and Child Academic Hospital (MACAH) Foundation which was established to facilitate the development of paediatric programmes and infrastructure at the Universitas and Pelonomi Hospitals. The hospitals serve a vast area from central South Africa and Lesotho. They cater for 250 000 children on a secondary care level and provide tertiary care to a million people.

Components of the campaign initiative are:

Nutrition	Neurodevelopment	Kangaroo Mother Care
Immunisation	Cardiac Outreach	Eye Care
Paediatric Outpatient Care	Maternal Health	Comprehensive Family Planning Services

Schools Partnership Project

The UFS Schools Partnership Project builds leadership and academic capacity in dysfunctional schools in the Free State and Eastern Cape so that learners can access tertiary education. This is done through a mentorship model, where specialist mentors in school management, mathematics, physical science, accounting and English as a Language of Learning spend a day each week at each school. This model supports systemic and sustainable development – the change is systemic, with the focus on teachers who remain in the classroom, rather than learners who move through the system.

The project currently operates in 93 schools in the Free State and Eastern Cape and is having a significant impact on both the grade 12 pass rates as well as the quality of these passes. Three hundred and eight In 2017 more than currently 300 learners from this project enrolled at the UFS.



Science for the Future

Under the “Science for the Future” umbrella, the Family Math and Family Science project promotes innovative and effective mathematics and science teaching and learning in primary schools. The school community benefits from the demystification of maths and science and improved teacher content knowledge through workshops with educators, parents and learners.

The project has also established an interactive learning space on the campus of the UFS which offers training to student teachers and teachers already in the profession.

More than 23 250 participants from 211 schools, predominantly in rural areas, are exposed to learning experiences and workshops using materials provided by the UFS. Teachers are empowered to use everyday material found around the home to develop activities and lesson plans that explain mathematical and science concepts. Parents are involved in their children’s education by attending workshops and using hands-on methodologies to help them with mathematics and science.

Internet Broadcast Project

Many schools in the Free State do not have sufficient resources and teachers often lack motivation and content knowledge to teach optimally. The result is that the education of learners is compromised. The Internet Broadcast Project harnesses technology to provide superior educational opportunities to under-resourced secondary schools, at no cost, to improve learner performance. Solutions are tailored to fit the circumstances of each school.

The project addresses learner and teacher development by broadcasting daily lessons in 16 subjects to high schools. The project installs facilities at each participating school and trains and motivates relevant staff members to use the resources. There are more than 70 schools in the Free State that make use of the service. Lessons are also available on catalogue after they have been broadcast. Participating schools have recorded improved results in assessments since they have been part of the project. More than 300 000 learners and 12 500 teachers in the Free State benefit from the project, which has won several accolades from international education bodies that recognise innovation in education.





University Access Programme

The University Access Programme (UAP) is a programme that offers disadvantaged learners a second chance at gaining admission to tertiary education. Students enrolled in the UAP graduate from mostly dysfunctional schools and their school leaving exam results are often not a true reflection of their potential. The UAP offers a structured programme that affords students the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to be successful at university. Successful UAP students go on to enrol as mainstream students.

The UAP operates in Bloemfontein and in five regions in the Free State and Eastern Cape provinces. Approximately a thousand young people benefit from the programme each year. Students who are enrolled in the UAP receive intensive classes that aim to fill gaps left by the school education system. The UAP is a one-year program, after which successful candidates go on to register as mainstream students at any tertiary institution of their choice.

The Programme for Innovation in Artform Development

The Programme for Innovation in Artform Development (PIAD) is an initiative of the UFS and the Vrystaat Arts Festival. It focuses on how technology, interdisciplinary and experimental art can connect with, and impact on, communities.

PIAD fosters innovation in artform development through a series of First Nations projects, critical debates and PIAD forums, arts or science and interdisciplinary residencies, OPENLab artist laboratories, as well as the production and presentation of challenging new work. For the 2017 edition, PIAD presented as forum keynote speaker Prof JoAnn Kuchera-Morin, director of the Allo-Sphere Research Group at the California NanoSystems Institute at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

Other PIAD projects include international work such as *Giidanyba (Sky Beings)* by Gumbaynggirr artist Tyrone Sheather, consisting of seven figure-like sculptures depicting nocturnal spirits that impart knowledge and guidance to the First Nation Gumbaynggirr people of Australia.

Work by South African artists, all participants in the biannual OPENLab interdisciplinary laboratory, included *In These Streets* by Wile Mgibe, and a live art and dance performance about his personal journey of self-discovery.



Centre for Earth and Space

The University has established a Centre for Earth and Space on Naval Hill in the centre of Bloemfontein. The first component of the facility, the first digital planetarium in sub-Saharan Africa, was inaugurated on 1 November 2013. The Centre includes astronomy activities at the Boyden Observatory Science Centre, an integral part of the project.

In addition to the planetarium, the Centre for Earth and Space is a multi-functional facility which includes:

- an interactive astronomy and exhibit building including an observation platform with the reassembled 27-inch Lamont-Hussey telescope as core exhibit (partial funding secured);
- a building to promote environmental education and conservation; and
- a Science and Sculpture Garden (funding still to be secured).

The digital planetarium and the hall for environmental education are complete, with science communication and education as core functions. The facilities are also used for tourist programmes and as a venue for arts productions and corporate events. As a high impact resource, the Centre promotes the knowledge economy to a cross-section of interest groups, including school learners, academia, the astronomy community and the general public. The university's major funding partners for the project are national, provincial and local government. A number of private and international funders are also on board.

Siyaphumelela (We Succeed)

In 2014 the UFS, along with four other universities, initiated *Siyaphumelela (We Succeed)* aimed at improving student success - particularly through the use of data analytics, and by encouraging inter-institutional collaboration. The five higher education institutions build internal capacity and collaborations between units such as institutional research, information and communication technology, academic development and planning and faculties. The UFS project team comprises staff members from the Directorate for Institutional Research and Academic Planning (DIRAP), Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL), Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and receives strategic support from the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (DVC): Academic. To date, significant strides have been made at the UFS to build internal capacity in data analytics, develop a culture of evidence to guide practice, identify and address gaps in high-risk modules and develop tracking and intervention systems which impact students' success.

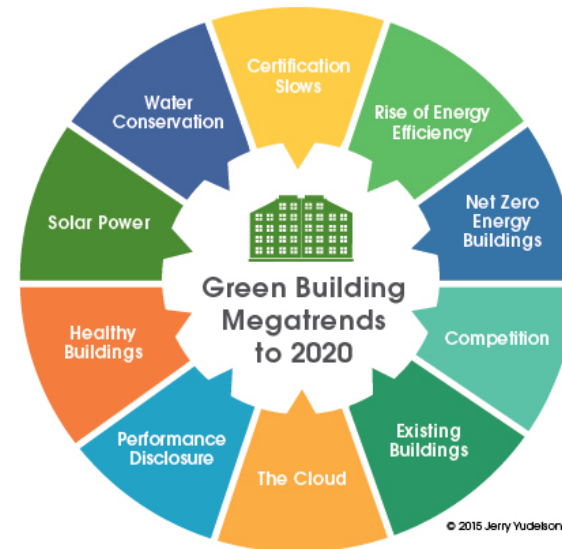


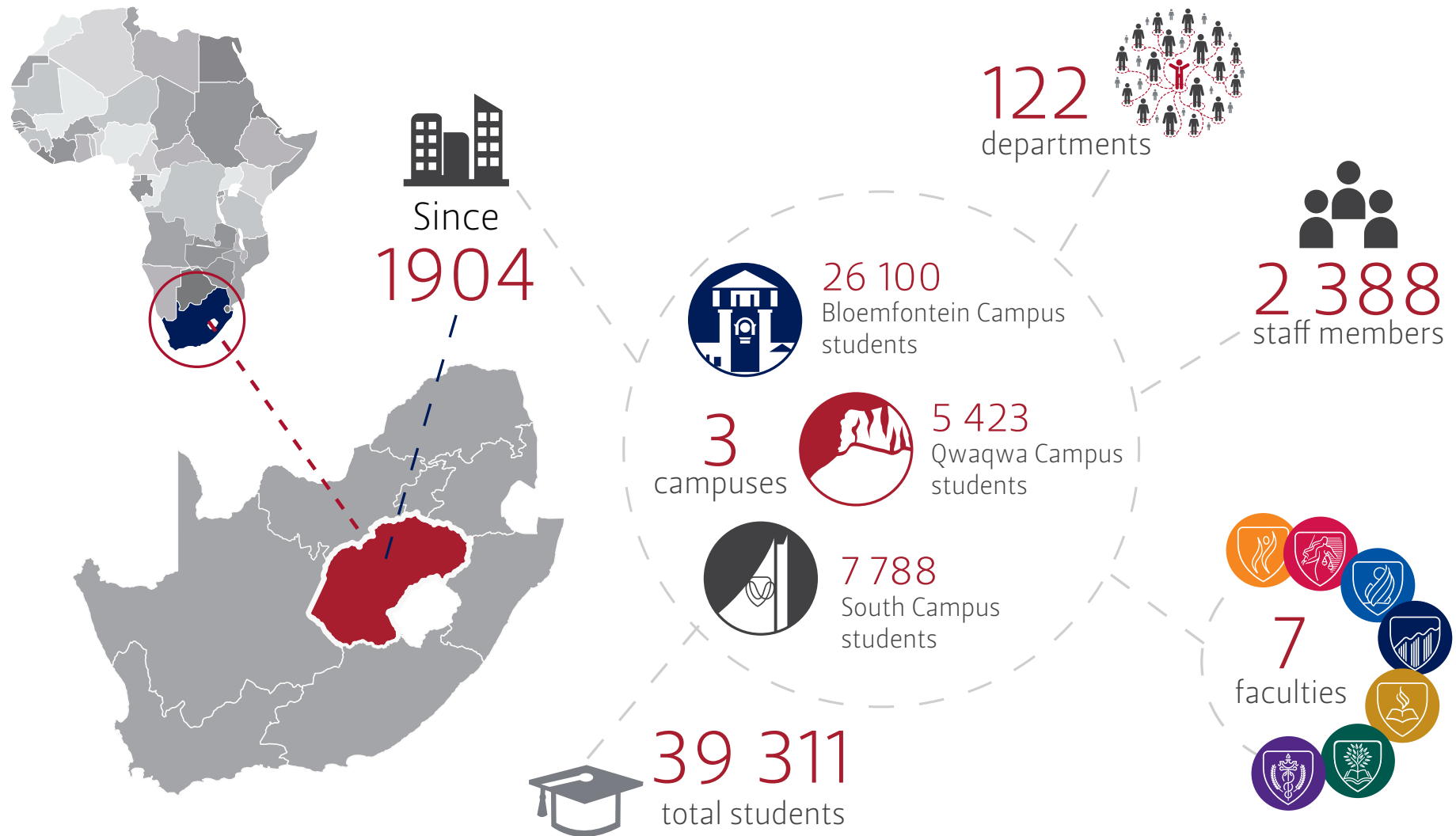


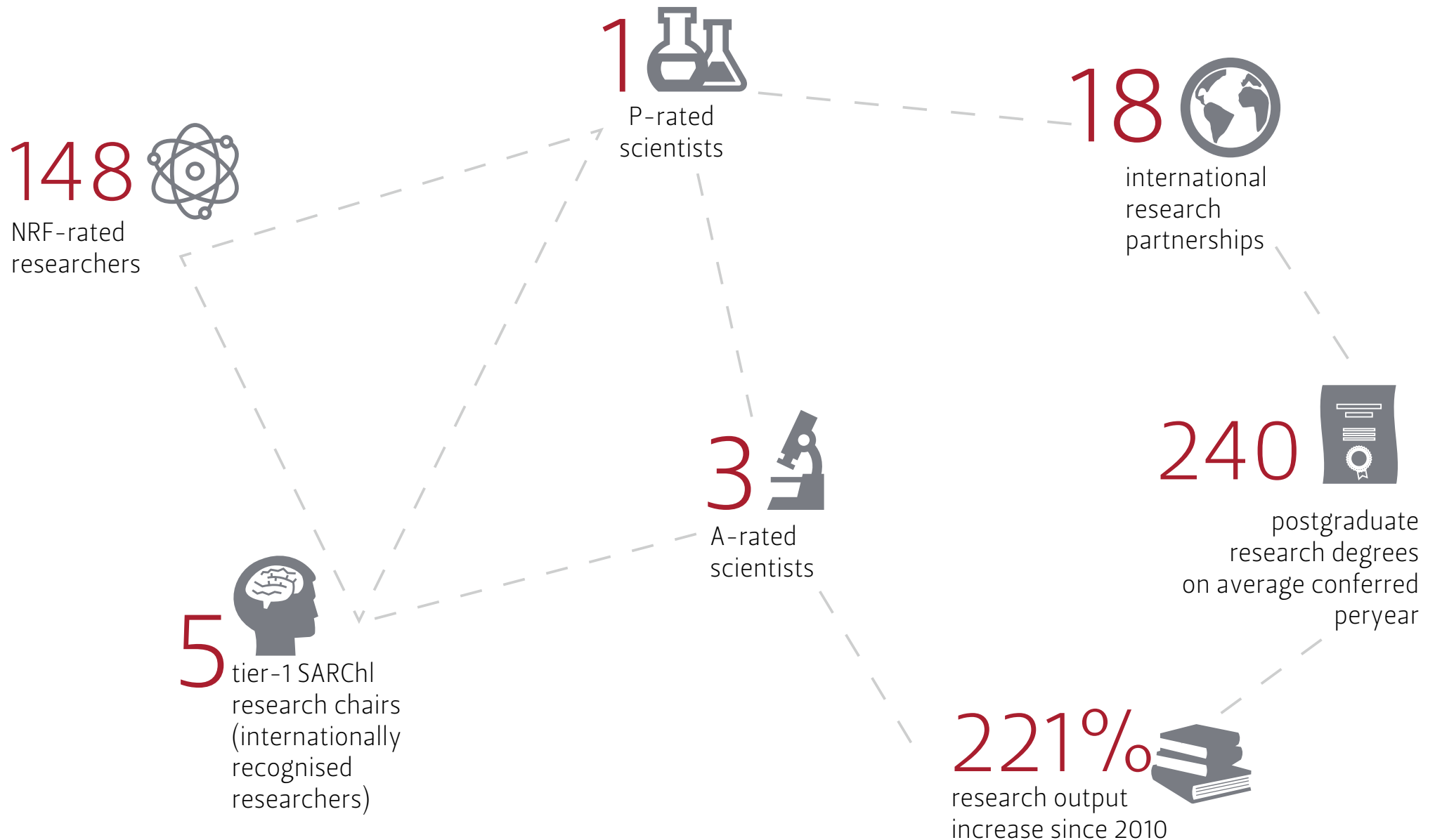
Green Building Mechanical Use Index

Researchers from the UFS and other universities are developing the “green building mechanical use index” to work out the cost benefit ratio of modifying existing homes and offices to promote green energy. The index will be made available across the industry. The need for the index is informed by the growing trend for green buildings throughout the world to address climate change as well as reduce operating costs.

This **circular graphic** depicts the major trends that are considered in the research. Five of the trends have to do with energy, namely, energy efficiency, zero-net-energy, cloud based (and data driven) energy management, energy performance disclosure and solar power.





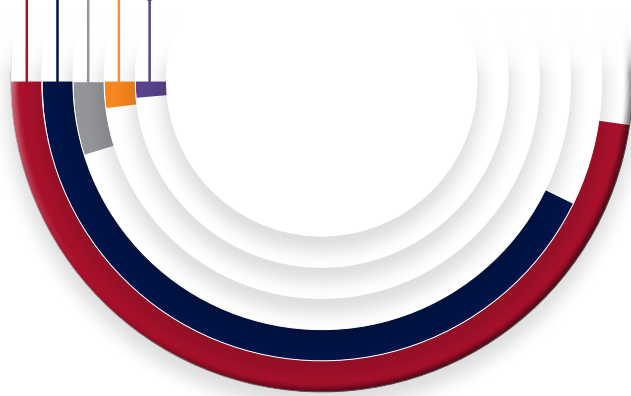


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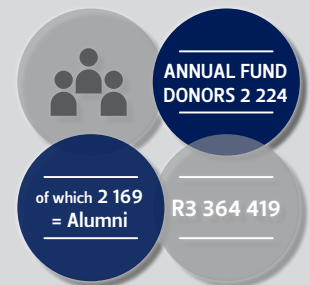
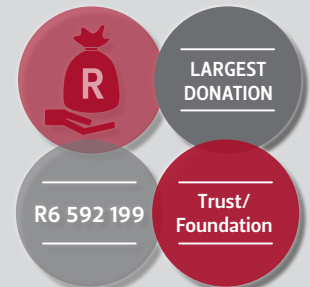
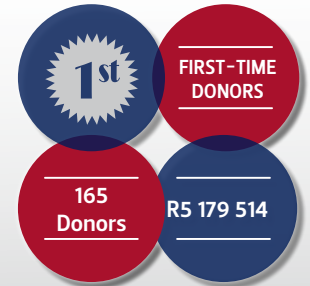
Donor contribution per sector

Private sector	47%	R 34 460 502
Trusts & foundations	43%	R 29 253 929
Alumni	5%	R 3 224 969
Civil society	2%	R1 258 624
Bequests	1%	R 978 840



Donors per contribution category

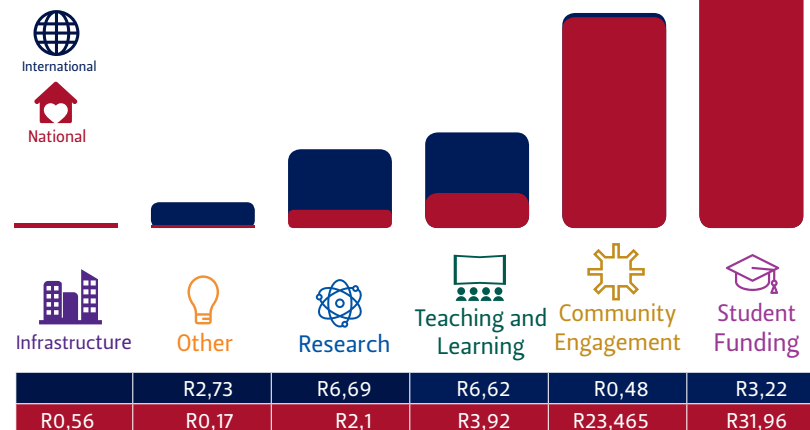
Contribution	Donors
R5 000 000+	5
R1 000 000 – R4 999 999	8
R500 000 – R999 999	8
R100 000 – R499 999	30
R50 000 – R99 999	15
R10 000 – R49 999	40
R1 000 – R9 999	1494
>R1 000	798



Number of donors

Units	%	
2169	91%	Alumni
120	5%	Private sector
35	2%	Other individuals
31	1%	Trusts & foundations
25	1%	Civil society

Giving by purpose (Rm)



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A special thank you to our 2 204 individual donors.

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Tribute

We would like to pay a special tribute to Lord Joel Joffe, philanthropist and friend of the UFS, who passed away in 2017. Lord Joffe was a key part of Mr Nelson Mandela's defence team in the 1963 Rivonia Trial. He was a real gentleman who was very generous with his time and his personal funds in the communities where he lived and worked. An unassuming man, his sharp intellect and sense of humour were matched by a passion for social justice.

Congratulations

Congratulations to the [Kovsie Alumni Trust \(KAT\)](#) on its 21st anniversary. Since its founding, thousands of KAT donors have contributed to the financial support of talented students and enabled them to obtain qualifications from the University of the Free State (UFS).

Donations

If you would like to support any of the UFS initiatives, please go to:

[https://www.ufs.ac.za/giving/institutional-advancement-\(giving\)-home/support-us/donate-here-to-ufs](https://www.ufs.ac.za/giving/institutional-advancement-(giving)-home/support-us/donate-here-to-ufs).

All donations are tax deductible in terms of South African income tax legislation.

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