## INSTITUTIONAL INTERNATIONALISATION

### REPORT



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- Nelson Mandela



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## EDITORIAL





nternationalisation of higher education has undergone a paradigm shift in the last decade. From its roots in international education, it has evolved into a comprehensive process that permeates all spheres of the core business of a university. In the UFS context, agility and resilience allowed the University to strengthen its internationalisation process, despite the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. The sustained growth in internationally co-authored publications is perhaps the most significant indicator for the continued growth of the global connectedness of the UFS.

Highlights of the year under review include the virtual celebration of Africa month, which took place in May 2021. Inspired by the shocking news of the damage to the University of Cape Town's African Studies collection received shortly before the celebration of African unity, it was themed 'One Africa together forever – solidarity in knowledge production and recording'. The diverse contributions during the virtual commemoration highlighted the University's commitment to creating a diverse, challenging intellectual environment.

Besides, we continued strengthening our collaborations and partnerships in Africa and the Global South and established several new cooperations. We focused on renewing the international student administration process. The strengthening of excellent international student services will provide the foundation for the future growth of international student numbers.

It was possible to sustain some of our student exchange programmes despite the lockdowns through virtual mobility, which refers to the use of technology to facilitate the participation of a student in studies for credit at a higher education institution in another country for a limited time, without physically leaving home. Through engagements such as those in the iKudu project, we strengthened Internationalisation of the Curriculum (IoC), which integrates Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) virtual exchanges.

Virtual collaboration and communication was prerequisite to the successful continuation of the UFS internationalisation process in 2021. We laid the foundations for the future digitalisation of internationalisation at the UFS in the year under review. Besides, the University strengthened its scholarly engagement with the internationalisation process and held a colloquium which explored shifting drivers for internationalisation of higher education in an unpredictable world.

#### CORNELIUS HAGENMEIER





### DATA ON INTERNATIONALISATION



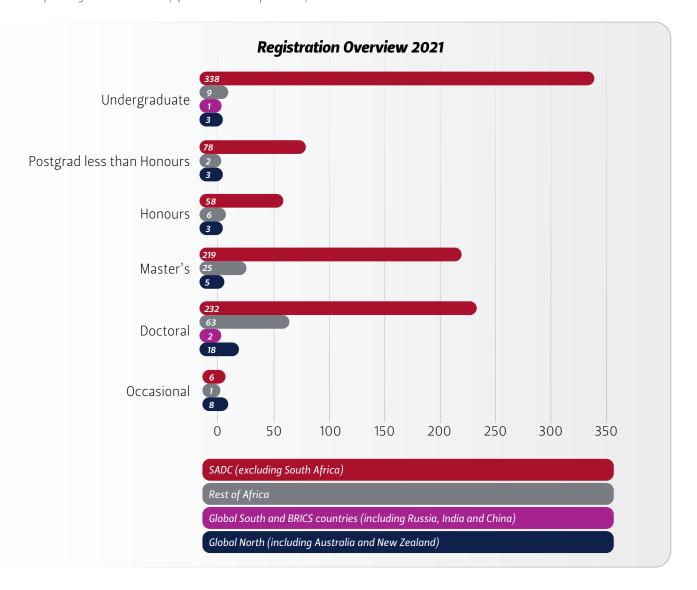
The recently promulgated Policy Framework for the Internationalisation of Higher Education in South Africa¹ directs that "The reporting on internationalisation must be contextualised by institutions to reflect progress made within the institution against its goals for internationalisation."² The university context is an important factor which should be considered when assessing progress. Data on Internationalisation provide important indicators to measure the university's progress towards achieving its internationalisation agenda. Apart from the measurability aspect, this data also assist the university in being accountable and provides visibility to the process both within the institution and with external stakeholders such as governments, funders, and ranking agencies.

Listed below are a set of indicators which depict the international footprint of the UFS in relation to its international student profile, registration of international students per faculty and campus, number of international postdoctoral research fellows appointed to the UFS and provide a worldview synopsis of the UFS' international collaboration with institutions globally. The dataset includes a summary of international research contracts in which the UFS was actively involved in 2021. Bearing in mind the contextual element noted above, the indicators above should be interpreted contextually.

#### **International Student Registration Overview 2021**

For the 2021 academic year period, Graph 1 below indicates that 1 103 international students were enrolled at the University of the Free State. Considering context socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the world over, the UFS was able to attract a reasonable number of international students to its university.

Graph 1: Registration overview (update with new information)

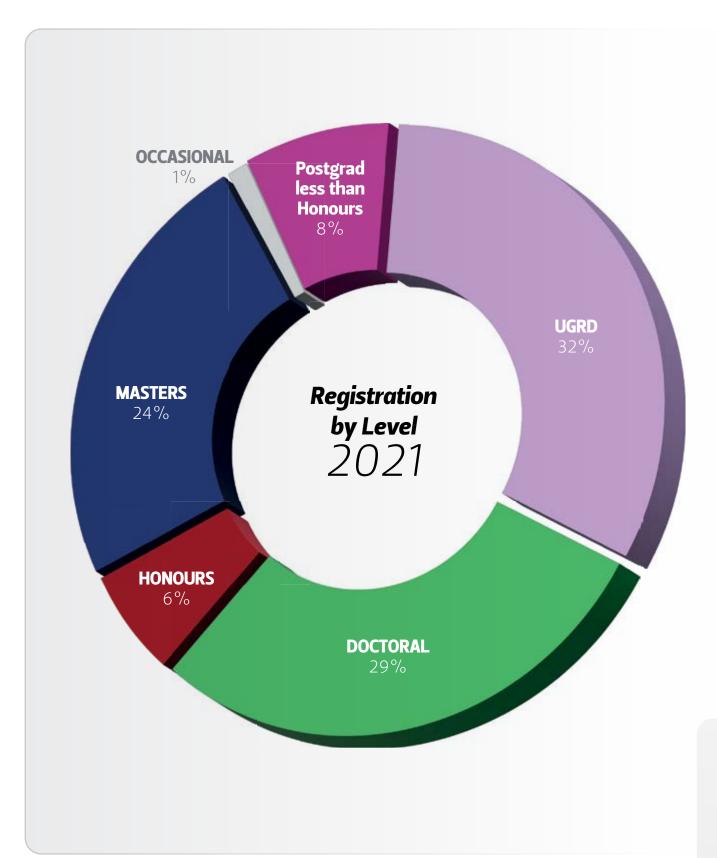


Department of Higher Education and Training [DHET] (South Africa) (2020). Policy Framework for Internationalisation of Higher Education. *Government Gazette* no. 43872. Pretoria: Government Printer.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. clause 10.2.1.

In terms of registrations by level, Graph 2 below indicates parity between the UFS's international undergraduate, Master's and PhD enrolments, the UFS is focusing on increasing its Master's and PhD registrations in order to improve its research outputs and impact.

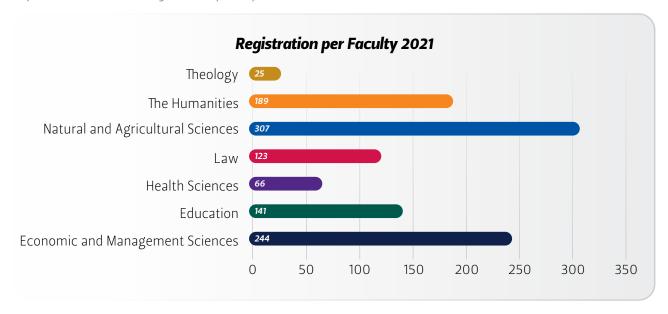
Graph 2: International student registrations by level of study



#### International student registrations per Faculty

As indicated in Graph 3 below, the academic programmes from the Faculties of Natural and Agricultural Sciences and Economic and Management Sciences remain highly attractive for international students, based on the stimulating curriculum and the connection and interactions with communities and industry.

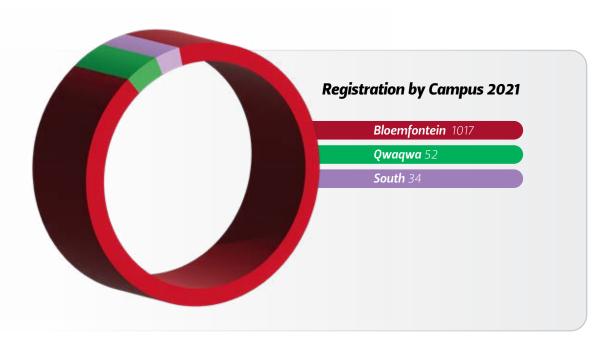
Graph 3: International student registrations by Faculty



#### **International Student Registrations by Campus**

The UFS is a multi-campus institution. In the 2021 academic year, 52 international students were registered at the Qwaqwa Campus, 34 on the South Campus and 1017 on the Bloemfontein Campus. While the international student numbers remain steady, efforts are strengthened specifically to increase international registrations on the Qwaqwa Campuses.

Graph 4: Registration by Campus



In 2021, as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was not possible to host exchange students at the UFS. Instead, virtual mobilities were implemented, which refer to the use of technology to facilitate a student's participation in studies for credit at a higher education institution in another country for a limited time without physically leaving home.

FIRST SEMESTER 2021 INCOMING VIRTUAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS	SECOND SEMESTER 2021 INCOMING VIRTUAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS
3	5

#### **Graduation Overview**

For the 2021 academic year, the UFS celebrated a total of 319 international graduates, which is significant, given the post-COVID-19 context. 297 graduated from the Bloemfontein Campus, 11 from the Qwaqwa Campus and 11 from the South Campus.

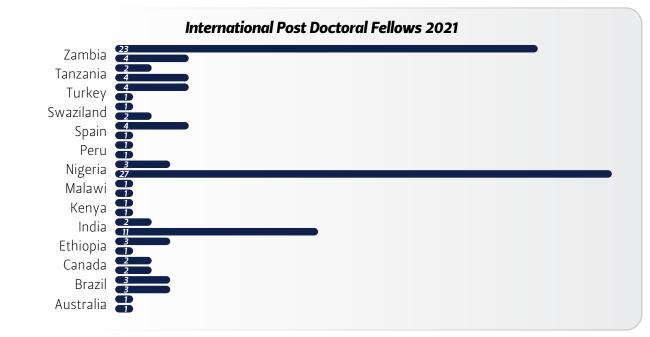


## NTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

#### **International Postdoctoral fellows**

In 2021, the UFS hosted 111 international postdoctoral fellows. The majority of the postdoctoral fellows hailed from Nigeria and Zambia. Compared to the 2020 total of 89, the number of international postdoctoral fellows significantly increased by 22.

Graph 5: International postdoctoral fellows



Information extracted from UFS Power Heda on14 December 2021

#### Overview of worldwide collaboration by UFS

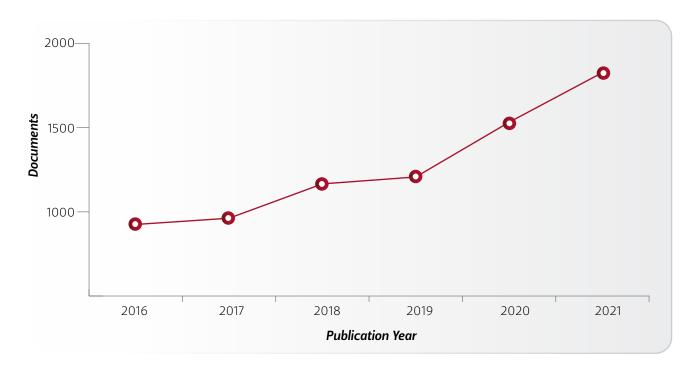
Graph 6: Geographical spread of co-authored scientific publications<sup>3</sup>

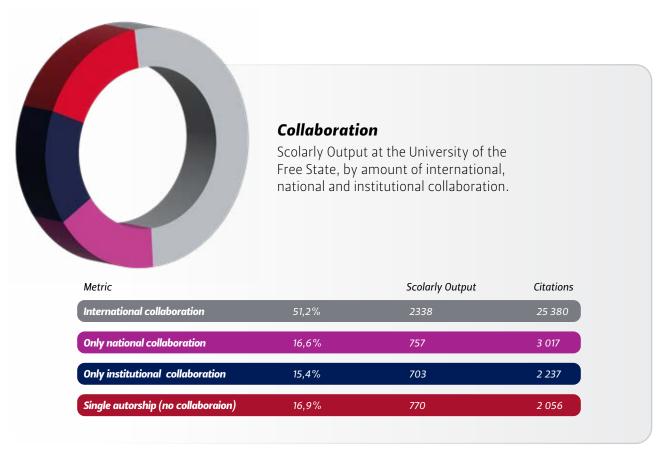


	COLLABORATING	CO-AUTHORED PUBLICATIONS
Region totals Worldwide	2 771	3 836
Africa	345	2 422
Asia Pacific	692	989
Europe	936	1 217
Middle East	215	399
North America	456	572
South America	127	144

<sup>3</sup> According to information extracted on the 15 December 2021 from the Scival Research Management system, for the year period 2019 to 2021, the University of the Free State has been collaborating with 2 771 institutions and co-authored a total of 3 836 scientific publications.

The graph below indicates the steady increase of scholarly output by the University of Free state from 926 documents in 2016 up to 1827 in 2021.







## INSTITUTIONAL NARRATION

This section of the report highlights the efforts of the UFS as an institution to strengthen and advance internationalisation across its three campuses.



SECTION



### UFS participates in the drafting of the 2021 African Governance Report



Pictured above: Dr Marinkie Madiope and Ms Nombulelo Shange

The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), in collaboration with the African Governance Architecture (AGA), hosted a two-day validation workshop in Pretoria on 14 and 15 December 2020. The main goal of the meeting was to draft and adopt the 2021 African Governance Report (AGR). The UFS was involved in this process through the continued work by the Principal of our South Campus, Dr Marinkie Madiope, Prof Puleng LenkaBula, Vice-Rector: Institutional Change, Student Affairs and Community Engagement, and Ms Nombulelo Shange from the Department of Sociology. A key strategy for the AGR is to help move Africa towards the Agenda 2063 goals and to turn Africa into a global powerhouse, while achieving the pan-Africanist goals regarding a united, self-reliant, and thriving Africa.

Driving the research agenda on the African continent is also a top priority for the AGR. According to Prof Edward Maloka, CEO of the APRM, the AGR 2021 reveals important ways Africa could change the trajectory of global governance, economic development, and environmentally sustainable practices. Technological advances, together with the rapidly changing political economies of global governance, have spurred on a burst of interest in Africa's futures. Consequently, the AGR 2021 will be an invaluable instrument through which multidisciplinary sciences can constructively formulate development plans, perform thorough risk analyses, and steer governance and related institutions towards attaining their development goals.

#### UFS and ILI-SACE to collaborate on a series of joint teaching initiatives

The University of the Free State's (UFS) Faculty of Law and the ILI-South African Centre for Excellence (ILI-SACE) have fostered a significant collaboration that will see the two institutions cooperate on a series of joint initiatives and offer short learning programmes (SLPs) in the following focus areas: The World of In-House Counsel, Corporate Finance for Lawyers and Mediation, which will be launched from the first quarter of 2021. ILI-SACE is a new centre of law, business, finance, and governance based in Sandton, Johannesburg and is affiliated to the Washington-based International Law Institute (ILI) and the International Law Institute – African Centre for Legal Excellence based in Kampala, Uganda. It is committed to providing ground-breaking and state-of-the-art executive education for Africa's lawyers, business managers, and government regulators, and to expose professionals to best practices from around the globe to help them adapt to the dramatic changes in law, finance, business, technology, and government regulations that occur in Africa and elsewhere.

#### Reimagining universities for student success

Ensuring student success requires collective action. The Student Success Collaborative Forum (SSCF) of the UFS hosted a webinar under the auspices of University South Africa (USAf) to establish the SSCF, which aims to bring together different government, business, civil-society, bursary-provider, and student-success initiatives and universities to look at ways of enabling student success better. The panellists shared innovative approaches to improve student success in the USA and South Africa. International panellists included William Moses, the Managing Director: Education from the Kresge Foundation, USA, and Dr Tim Renick, the Executive Director, National Institute for Student Success from Georgia State University, USA.

#### Prof Philippe Burger, part of global Lancet COVID-19 Commission Task Team

The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted operational activities the world over, claiming more than two million lives and sparing no region. The Lancet COVID-19 Commission seeks to address some of the urgent unsolved challenges most of the poor and vulnerable populations, low-skilled persons and refugees were affected by, thereby assisting to provide a global response to the pandemic. Prof Philippe Burger, Professor of Economics and Pro-Vice-Chancellor: Poverty, Inequality and Economic Development from the University of the Free State was selected to serve as a member of the commission's Fiscal Policy and Financial Markets task force. The eleven members of the task force include two Nobel prize laureates in economics, as well as academics and public-policy specialists from across the world under the co-chairpersonship of Dr Vitor Gaspar (Director of the Department of Fiscal Affairs at the IMF) and Prof Felipe Larraín (Professor of Economics, Pontifical Catholic University of Chile and former Minister of Finance of Chile). •



Pictured above: Prof Phillippe Burger

## NTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

## Prof Hendri Kroukamp serves on international accreditation body and receives esteemed Donald C Stone award



Pictured above: Prof Hendri Kroukamp

In January 2021, Prof Hendri Kroukamp, Dean of the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences at the University of the Free State (UFS), was appointed to the Accreditation Committee (AC) of the International Commission on the Accreditation of Public Administration Education and Training (ICAPA). This committee will ensure that programmes are confronted with the Standards of Excellence for Public Administration Education and Training which are jointly developed by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) and the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA). Serving on this committee, inter alia, will be John-Mary Kauzya, Chief of the Public Service Innovation Branch of the United Nations (UN); Lichia Saner-Yiu, President of the Academy for Quality in Training and Education, Geneva, Switzerland; and Allan Rosenbaum, Public Service Adviser to President Joe Biden of the USA and President of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA).

Moreover, Prof Kroukamp was selected as the 2021 recipient of the Donald C Stone Award from the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA). The award pays tribute to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to IASIA through excellence in leadership and enhancing the image of the profession. The award recognised Prof Kroukamp for his contributions to the organisation and to the advancement of public administration in the world.

#### Dr Johan Coetzee nominated as senior member of the Pan-African Scientific Research Council and secures Erasmus+ grant from the EU commission



Pictured above: Dr Johan Coetzee

Dr Johan Coetzee, Senior Lecturer and researcher in the Department of Economics and Finance at the at the University of the Free State, was nominated as a senior member of the Pan-African Scientific Research Council. The main goals of the Pan-African Scientific Research Council are to highlight excellence in research on the African continent, to promote career development of young scholars, and to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration. Members have been selected for their proven excellence in research, potential for growth, and ability to contribute to engagement with policy makers on the African continent. The council includes leading scholars in social sciences from across the African continent, but from top universities from the North such as Duke, Johns Hopkins, North-Western, Stanford, and Princeton.

Moreover, Dr Johan Coetzee has been a visiting senior lecturer at the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences (SUAS) in Austria since 2008, and is academic champion, together with Prof Christine Mitter from the SUAS, for this collaboration. This academic collaboration resulted in the acquisition of a considerable grant from the European Union. The formal interinstitutional agreement was signed in March 2021 and will provide opportunities to enhance staff and student mobility as well as to increase research collaboration opportunities between UFS and SUAS.

#### **International Mother Language Day Celebration 2021**

International Mother Language Day is commemorated annually on 21 February. The theme for 2021 was Fostering multilingualism for inclusion in education and society. The theme recognises that languages and multilingualism can advance inclusion, focusing on leaving no one behind. The Office for International Affairs commemorated this auspicious occasion by compiling an edutainment video which featured famous language quotes, indigenous languages across the African continent, and business languages used across the African continent. Due to colonial influences, some of the indigenous languages on the African continent are fading away; thus it is imperative that we commemorate celebrations like this to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism.

#### Prof Serges Djoyou Kamga awarded the Prestigious Ali Mazrui Award

Prof Serges Djoyou Kamga, Extraordinary Professor in the Free State Centre for Human Rights (FSCHR) at the University of the Free State (UFS), has been awarded the prestigious Ali Mazrui Award for Scholarship and Research Excellence for 2021. Prof Kamga received this distinction, awarded by the University of Texas at Austin, during the 20<sup>th</sup> Africa Conference, held from 1 to 4 April 2021.

The Ali Mazrui Award is intended to encourage scholarly commitment to the development and propagation of knowledge that advances the cause of Africa. It recognises contributions to research on Africa and is awarded to an African scholar, whether at home or in the diaspora, who has distinguished her/himself in this respect.



Pictured above: Prof Serges Djoyou Kamga

### Dr Hlami Ngwenya contributes to sustainable agriculture on the continent



Pictured above: Dr Hlami Ngwenya

Dr Hlami Ngwenya, Lecturer in the Department of Sustainable Food Systems and Development at the University of the Free State (UFS), was part of a global study titled, *Investing in farmers: Agriculture Human Capital Investment (AHCI) strategies*, conducted in partnership with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO Investment Centre).

The latter study was conducted in nine countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America with the aim to improve the understanding of AHCI. The study also provided lessons learned from successful AHCI models around the world, with recommendations and guidelines for future investment that enhanced the human capital of agricultural producers. Dr Ngwenya is a member of the GFRAS Consortium for Education and Training and plays a significant role in terms of agricultural extension and advisory services at a global level.

#### **UFS Africa Month Celebration**

Africa Day is celebrated annually on 25 May. For the UFS, Africa Month is an important commemoration as it provides an opportunity to celebrate African diversity and success, and to highlight the cultural and economic potential that exists on the African continent. The theme for 2021 as declared by the African Union was The AU Year of the Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want.

The UFS celebrated Africa month virtually themed, 'One Africa together forever – solidarity in knowledge production and recording'. The UFS theme was inspired by the shocking news of the damage to the University of Cape Town's African Studies collection received shortly before the celebration of African unity and the need to mitigate the loss. The diverse contributions to the 2021 Virtual Africa Month activities highlight the university's commitment towards creating a diverse, challenging intellectual environment. As a research-led university, the UFS strives to provide an environment in which new ideas are incubated and debated, contributing towards its transformation process and African unity.





To access the full page on the virtual iteration, kindly consult the following link: https://www.ufs.ac.za/supportservices/departments/international-affairs/news-and-events/2021-events/africa-month.

#### 2021 UFS Africa Day Memorial Lecture



Pictured above: Prof Walter D Mignolo

The 2021 Africa Day Memorial Lecture was virtually presented by Prof Walter D Mignolo from Duke University, arguably one of the greatest scholars of decoloniality. It focused on "The beauty of the sovereign people: Jean Casimir and the decolonial history of Haiti". The discussant was Prof Sabelo J. Ndlovu-Gatsheni.

### International Nurses Day: The future of nursing is bright



Pictured above: Dr Champion Nyoni

International Nurses Day, which is celebrated around the world on 12 May, celebrates the contribution of nurses to the healthcare of individuals, societies, and communities. The contribution of nurses during the pandemic cannot be overstated and is essential that such contributions are brought to light. This is according to Dr Champion Nyoni, Senior Researcher and Lecturer in the School of Nursing at the University of the Free State (UFS). The theme for the Day was Nurses: A Voice to Lead, with the subtheme, A Vision for Future Healthcare. In the health communication research niche, several projects have been initiated in South Africa, Lesotho and Kenya, and have been reported on several national and international fora. Both research niche areas are engaged in national, Africa-wide, and global research collaborations.

# INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

#### African collaborations contribute to food security on the continent



Pictured above: two PhD students – one in Ghana (working with IITA in Nigeria) and one at the Agricultural Research Council in Pretoria, together with Prof Maryke Labuschagne

Prof Maryke Labuschagne, Professor of Plant Breeding in the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of the Free State (UFS), who is also heading the NRF-SARChI chair in disease resistance and quality in field crops, is working with a group of more than 20 PhD students and postdoctoral fellows hailing from Zimbabwe, Zambia, Uganda, Ghana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Eswatini, Tunisia, Ethiopia, and South Africa, to improve the nutritional status of poor rural communities by researching Cowpea.

Cowpea is indigenous to Africa and is widely grown by small-scale farmers. It is very high in protein content and minerals, but almost no genetic improvement of this crop has been done. Currently, two PhD students – one in Ghana (working with IITA in Nigeria) and one at the Agricultural Research Council in Pretoria – are researching the genetic variability of cowpea to improve its nutritional value.

#### Prof Melanie Walker elected as HDCA president: a first for the Global South

Prof Melanie Walker, Distinguished Professor in the Centre for Development Support at the University of the Free State (UFS), and an A1 researcher, has been elected as President of the Human Development and Capability Association (HDCA). This is the first time that the HDCA president is from the Global South.

The international footprint of the HDCA is extensive, with members in more than 70 countries. The organisation hosts an annual international conference, bringing together various thematic groups, regional networks, and holds regular webinars and workshops. It also publishes the peer-reviewed *Journal of Human Development and Capabilities*. The HDCA promotes research within a vast array of disciplines, ranging from economics to philosophy, development studies, health, education, law, government, and sociology.



Pictured above: Prof Melanie Walker

#### Nthabiseng Kotsokoane to lead activities of international library association



Pictured above: Nthabiseng Kotsokoane

The University of the Free State appointed Nthabiseng Kotsokoane as Chairperson of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) new Regional Council and member of the IFLA Governing Board from 2021 to 2023. IFLA is the leading international body representing the interests of library and information services and their users. It is the global voice of the library and information profession.

Nthabiseng's role will include coordination and development of Regional Division action plans, and review Regional Division activities in the following regions: Regional Council and Regional Divisions for Asia and Oceania, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, Middle East and North Africa, North America, and Sub-Saharan Africa.

## INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

#### COVID-19: A hopeful prospect for African solidarity through medical research

South Africa is at the forefront of SARS-CoV-2 genomics surveillance in Africa, and the University of the Free State (UFS) Next Generation Sequencing (UFS-NGS) Unit is playing a major role in responding rapidly to public health threats in South Africa and other African countries.

According to Prof Martin Nyaga, Associate Professor in the UFS-NGS Unit and Director of the World Health Organization Collaborating Centre (WHO CC), and Dr Peter Mwangi, a Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the UFS-NGS Unit, medical research in Africa is seriously deficient when benchmarked against other developed continents in terms of the capacity to perform SARS-CoV-2 genomics. This is further evidenced with an article published in nature science journal, indicating that African nations were largely uninvolved in clinical trials for the development of a COVID-19 vaccine.

The UFS-NGS Unit has been working collaboratively with other African scientists and actively trained African students from different cultural backgrounds, not only on SARS-CoV-2 genomics, but also on different research clusters. The diversity of ideas through engagement with African researchers to share knowledge and push scientific innovation exemplifies the value of working together in the spirit of Ubuntu to develop solutions to our African problems.



Pictured above: Prof Martin Nyaga (left), and Dr Peter Mwangi (right)

#### Anthropology research team highlights xenophobia at international conference



Pictured above: Prof Joy Owen

Prof Joy Owen, Head of the Department of Anthropology, and two of her students, Ingrid Juries, PhD student and Mamokoena Mokoena, Master's student, presented a paper exploring the experiences of migrants at the virtual Oxford Migration Conference under the theme, Borders and Justice, which took place from 10 to 11 May 2021. According to Prof Owen, their paper, Bordering on complexity? African migrants' narratives of boundary creation and dissolution, "tries to make a particular intervention in the transnational migration literature - inclusive of diasporic and refugee studies – which speaks to the complexity of reception in 'host' countries". Their paper and presentation were included in Routed, a special conference magazine.

Dr Carmien Tolmie - Lecturer in the Department of Microbiology and Biochemistry at the University of the Free State (UFS) – is one of 30 postdoctoral research assistants in the United Kingdom and Africa who have benefited from the £3,7 million Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) START grant over the past three years. The grant was made available by the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) in support of the Synchrotron Techniques for African Research and Technology (START) programme. The STFC is based in the United Kingdom. The grant seeks to build partnerships between world-leading scientists in Africa and the UK who are working on research using synchrotron science. Forming part of this collaboration is the UK's national synchrotron, Diamond Light Source (Diamond). The synchrotron, one of about 70 in the world, can be explained as a large machine, almost the size of a football field, which accelerates electrons to nearly the speed of light. According to Diamond, these fast-moving electrons produce very bright light, called synchrotron light. Scientists can use this light to study minute matter such as atoms and molecules.



Pictured above: Dr Carmien Tolmie

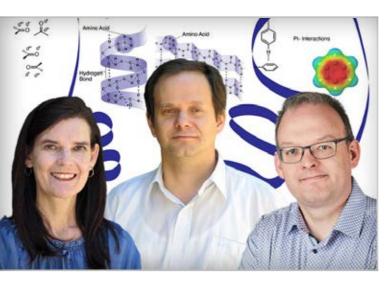
#### Building on success: Four ISG postdoctoral fellows selected for coveted AHP fellowships

The International Studies Group (ISG) at the University of the Free State (UFS) has made strides on the international stage. For 2021, four postdoctoral fellows were selected for the African Humanities Programme (AHP), which is presented through the American Council of Learned Societies and funded by the Carnegie Corporation. The four postdoctoral fellows are Dr Una Sechele, Dr Bryson Nkhoma, Dr Sarah-Jane Walton, and Dr Innocent Dande. They follow in the historic footsteps of five UFS postdoctoral fellows selected for the 2020 AHP fellowships. Their fellowship term starts on 1 July 2021 and continued until 1 July 2022. The grant makes it possible for the four postdocs to focus on a major project, which usually culminates in the publication of a single-authored, research-based monograph.



## INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

## Department of Chemistry strengthens international ties through International Chemical Symposiu



Pictured above: Dr Charlene Marais, Prof Vladimir Azov and Prof Ulrich Hennecke

The Department of Chemistry at the University of the Free State (UFS) held a successful online International Symposium on Organic Chemistry on 15 June 2021. The symposium brought together scientists from several South African and foreign universities and created a virtual platform for a long-awaited discussion stalled by the COVID-19 pandemic. About 20 participants from universities in South Africa, Belgium and Germany presented their lectures during the symposium. The symposium also served as a long-awaited inception meeting for the collaborative project between the Organic Chemistry group at the UFS and the Organic Chemistry (ORGC) group at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). This project is jointly funded by the National Research Foundation (NRF) and FWO (Research Foundation – Flanders), and is aimed at the development of new peptide-based materials with properties controllable by precisely tuned interactions of unnatural amino acids included in the peptide sequence. Such peptides can, for example, be used as smart materials for precisely controllable drug release. The South African team members, directed by Prof Vladimir Azov, will specialise in the development of the new amino acid building blocks, whereas the VUB team, headed by Prof Ulrich Hennecke, will focus on peptide preparation and studies on their properties.

#### South African Doping Control Laboratory gets major financial boost to upgrade world-class service



Pictured above from the left, front: Betsie Human, Mrs Pat Lamusse, Itumeleng Mabusa, and Zeenat Raffie. From the left, back: Hanno du Preez and Faith Latha in front of the new Q Exactive HF-X instrument.

With funding from the National Lotteries Commission (NLC), the South African Doping Control Laboratory (SADoCoL) was able to procure R10 million Thermo QE-HF-X instrument, which will enable the laboratory to expand its capability to enhance analytical throughput and sensitivity as required by the International Standard for Laboratories set out by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). SADoCoL, the only WADA-accredited laboratory in Africa, is located at the University of the Free State (UFS) and was awarded the funding in January 2021. Mrs Patricia Lamusse, acting Director of the UFS Department of Institutional Advancement, applied for funding in early 2019, but the parties could only sign the agreement in 2021 after COVID-19 had delayed the process.

## INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

### UFS coordinates iKudu Project that promotes internationalisation and virtual exchanges

In South Africa, student exchange programmes, especially at undergraduate level, remain extremely limited. The National Policy Framework for Internationalisation of Higher Education in South Africa, however, makes internationalisation of the curriculum mandatory and directs that it "must not negate curriculum transformation imperatives which higher education institutions in South Africa have an obligation to fulfil". The University of the Free State (UFS), through its Office for International Affairs, coordinates the iKudu project, which seeks to transform curricula through internationalisation and Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) virtual exchanges.

The project submitted its mid-term progress report to the European Union in July 2021. The project implementation was evaluated and received a score of 'GOOD', which meant that the project scored between 74 and 60 points out of 100. In December 2021, the iKudu project applied for an 18-month extension, which was granted. The final project report will be due in May 2024.

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

Although the iKudu project is largely focused on capacity building, research opportunities have been promoted, resulting in the publications below:

journal papers

journal papers under review

articles published

blog entries

iKudu promoted at 15 webinars and 15 conferences (local and international)

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) project updates: One of the main objectives of the iKudu project is to complete 55 COIL virtual exchange projects between the North and the South. A total of 5 250 students should have participated in a COIL virtual exchange at the end of the project. For the 2021-year period, the iKudu project completed 18 COIL projects, with 36 academics successfully completing their COIL projects. A total of 650 students have participated in a COIL virtual exchange project. From these figures, for the UFS context, a total of 6 COIL projects has been completed with 4 academics and a total of 157 students have participated in a COIL virtual exchange under the iKudu project.

#### **COIL virtual exchange in Earth Architecture**



Pictured above: Prof Gerhard Bosman (bottom left), Prof Carlo Citter (bottom right), top left: Prof Mark DeBoer and Prof Chiara De Santi (top right)

BArchHons students from the History of Urban Settlement module in the UFS Department of Architecture are but one example of a group of students who benefited from the COIL virtual exchange programme of the iKudu project. UFS associate professor and researcher, Prof Gerhard Bosman, collaborated with academics from Italy, Japan and the USA to engage with 85 students across four continents. From the University of Siena, Italy, Prof Carlo Citter, an associate professor in Medieval Archaeology, participated in the programme. He was joined by Prof Mark DeBoer, a lecturer from the English for Academic Purposes (EAP) programme at the Akita University in Japan, and Prof Chiara De Santi, an assistant professor of Modern Languages, teaching film and cultural courses in English and Italian at the Farmingdale State College in the USA.

## NTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

#### Prof Ivan Turok participates in Le Monde video report on city inequalities



Unequal cities: In the foreground is the Khayelitsha township in Cape Town with Table Mountain (Devil's Peak) in the distance.

Prof Ivan Turok, NRF Research Chair in City-Region Economies in the Department of Economics and Finance and the Centre for Development Support at the University of the Free State and Executive Director at the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), recently participated in a video report by the French media giant, *Le Monde*. The video is titled 'Why South Africa is the most unequal country in the world?' Prof Turok is well-published and is a renowned researcher in his field, which positions him perfectly to comment on the complicated city inequalities explored by *Le Monde* in Cape Town.

#### A changing world where inequality remains



Pictured above: Prof Gabrielle Griffin

On 11 August 2021, the Centre for Gender and Africa (CGAS) hosted its Biennial Humanities and Gendered Worlds lecture titled, On the difficulty of achieving change. The lecture is part of CGAS activities to commemorate Women's month and was presented by Prof Gabrielle Griffin, a gender researcher from Uppsala University, Sweden. According to Prof Griffin, countries such as Sweden, South Africa, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and the United Kingdom are closer to bridging the gender gap than others and that the body of work presented by the Gender Inequality Index indicates that there is still a large proportion of gender inequality in practice. Upon further elucidation, Prof Griffin explained that the index measured work, money, knowledge, time, power, and health. On the health front, gender equality has largely been achieved across the European Union (EU), but if you look at power (women's contributions in decision-making bodies) it is only halfway towards gender equality.

### UFS scientists involved in revolutionary protein structure prediction



Pictured above: Dr Ana Ebrecht (left), and Prof Dirk Opperman (right)

Dirk Opperman, Associate Professor Prof in the Department of Microbiology Biochemistry at the University of the Free State (UFS), in collaboration with Dr Ana Ebrecht (a former postdoc in the same department), and Prof Albie van Dijk from the Department of Biochemistry at the North-West University (NWU), was part of an international collaboration of researchers who participated in solving an intricate problem in science related to accurate protein structure prediction. The team of researchers contributed to an influential paper describing new methods in protein structure prediction using machine learning. The paper was published in the prestigious scientific journal, Science. The research was conducted under the Synchrotron Techniques for African Research and Technology (START) initiative funded by the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF).

## INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

#### Dr Molapo Qhobela to speak at International Summit on SDGs

Dr Molapo Qhobela, the newly appointed Vice-Rector: Institutional Change, Strategic Partnerships and Societal Impact at the University of the Free State (UFS), spoke at the three-day virtual International Summit on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa 2021, which took place from 13–15 September 2021. A wide array of thought leaders, including specialists, senior researchers, CEOs/ directors, and the top structures of international organisations, academics, practitioners, government authorities, representatives from civil society, and donors and sponsors on the topic from across the globe was in attendance. Dr Qhobela addressed the audience on 'Partnerships for impact in Africa'. According to the host of the event, the University of Cape Town, the key aim of the International Summit on the SDGs in Africa was to mobilise research efforts that will accelerate African-led activities in support of achieving the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), a shared blueprint for working towards global peace and prosperity by 2030.



Pictured above: Dr Molapo Qhobela

#### Embracing diversity in virtual spaces: 2021 International Cultural Diversity Festival



The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the world into a new normal. This requires navigating the new space and adapting to new emerging variables. One such variable to consider is how our diversity impacts the way we interact when we use virtual spaces. As an institution of higher learning, we have a responsibility to contribute knowledge about teaching and learning in virtual spaces.

The theme of the 2021 International Cultural Diversity Festival (ICDF) was Embracing diversity in virtual spaces. The ICDF allows for intellectual engagements; to learn from experts as well as peers (educate); to teach one another (information sharing); to have social cohesion and to celebrate the diverse cultures through artistic expressions. Some of the topics include practising cultural sensitivity; how to incorporate diversity, honour, respect, and your cultural background; social media communication with people of diverse cultures; the psychology of human behaviour and cross-cultural networking in virtual spaces; as well as how the UFS strives to embrace diversity in virtual spaces.

Prof Katherine Wimpenny, PhD, leads the research theme, *Global Education: Learning without Boundaries*, in the Research Institute for Global Learning, Coventry University, UK. Prof Wimpenny's research focuses on contextualised and comprehensive internationalisation at the interface of decolonisation of education practices, embedded in the broader context of curriculum transformation. She delivered the keynote address at the ICDF, which focused on Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) and virtual exchanges.

## NTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

#### Prince Matova receives international Young Scientist Award

Prince Matova, a PhD student in Plant Breeding at the University of the Free State (UFS), received the Young Scientist Award from the Joint Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)/International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Division of Nuclear Techniques in Food and Agriculture for excellence in plant mutation breeding. The award is given to scientists younger than 40 who have made a significant contribution and impact in the field of mutation breeding. Matova, a researcher, research and agronomy manager, and maize and legumes breeder at Mukushi Seeds (Pvt) Ltd. in Harare, Zimbabwe, has trained other scientists and fellows across Africa and collaborated with centres of excellence in plant breeding, research, and development. While working at the Zimbabwean Department of Research and Specialist Services (DR&SS), Matova collaborated with the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), the University of Zimbabwe, the UFS, and the IAEA to investigate the possibility of using mutation breeding in maize crop improvement, with the intention of enhancing FAW resistance in maize genotypes. His work generated important information that can guide research and maize breeding for FAW resistance in Southern Africa. All this information is free for researchers to use for the betterment of Africa and the world.



Pictured above: Prince Matova

#### **New US Consul-General visits UFS**



Pictured above: Mr Cornelius Hagenmeier (left), Dr Dionne van Reenen (centre) and the new US Consul-General, Vincent Spera (right)

Vincent Spera, the new US Consul-General, paid a courtesy visit to the University of the Free State (UFS) on 16 September 2021, where he was hosted by the Office for International Affairs on the Bloemfontein Campus. The aim of his visit was to strengthen relationships with the UFS. The university has a rich academic collaboration with US higher education institutions, as evidenced by the 313 co-authored papers published by UFS authors with collaborators at 291 institutions in the United States (US) between 2018 and 2020. In the past eight years, close to 150 international students from the US from postdoctoral fellows up to undergraduate level studied at the UFS. The UFS is also home to more than 30 research fellows from the US.

#### Adelheid von Maltitz is a 2021 Absa L'Atelier ambassador



Pictured above: Adelheid von Maltitz

Adelheid von Maltitz, Lecturer in the Department of Fine Arts, was named Absa L'Atelier Ambassador at the 2021 Absa L'Atelier art competition, which is an international competition with 12 participating countries. She was named winner of Group A, which included participants from Mozambique, South Africa, Uganda, and Zambia. Benefits from the ambassadorship include extensive training opportunities with leading international art experts, building an art portfolio, media training, audience development, and public relations, among others. Expertise learnt through this ambassadorship will enhance the Fine Arts programmes offered at the UFS.

#### UFS to host national and continental Pharmacology centre of excellence



Pictured above: Prof Motlalepula Matsabisa

The Department of Pharmacology at the University of the Free State (UFS) will establish one of the most advanced modern Pharmacology GLP-accredited research and development laboratories in the country, and possibly in the region, after receiving a grant of R58 million. Prof Motlalepula Matsabisa, Director of Pharmacology, received a DSI high-end infrastructure (HEI) grant to build the laboratory, which will be a centre of excellence for the government, the World Health Organisation (WHO), and the African Union's (AU) Commission for Social Development. The grant will also be used to build an herbal medicines production/manufacturing facility, as well as piloting a health facility for traditional medicines.

Prof Motlalepula Matsabisa, who was also elected as the Deputy President of the South African Society for Basic and Clinical Pharmacology, and chairperson of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Regional Expert Advisory Committee on Traditional Medicines for COVID-19 was awarded a Visiting Professorship at the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine (BUCM) in Beijing, China.

### Prof Abdon Atangana elected to prestigious TWAS fellowship



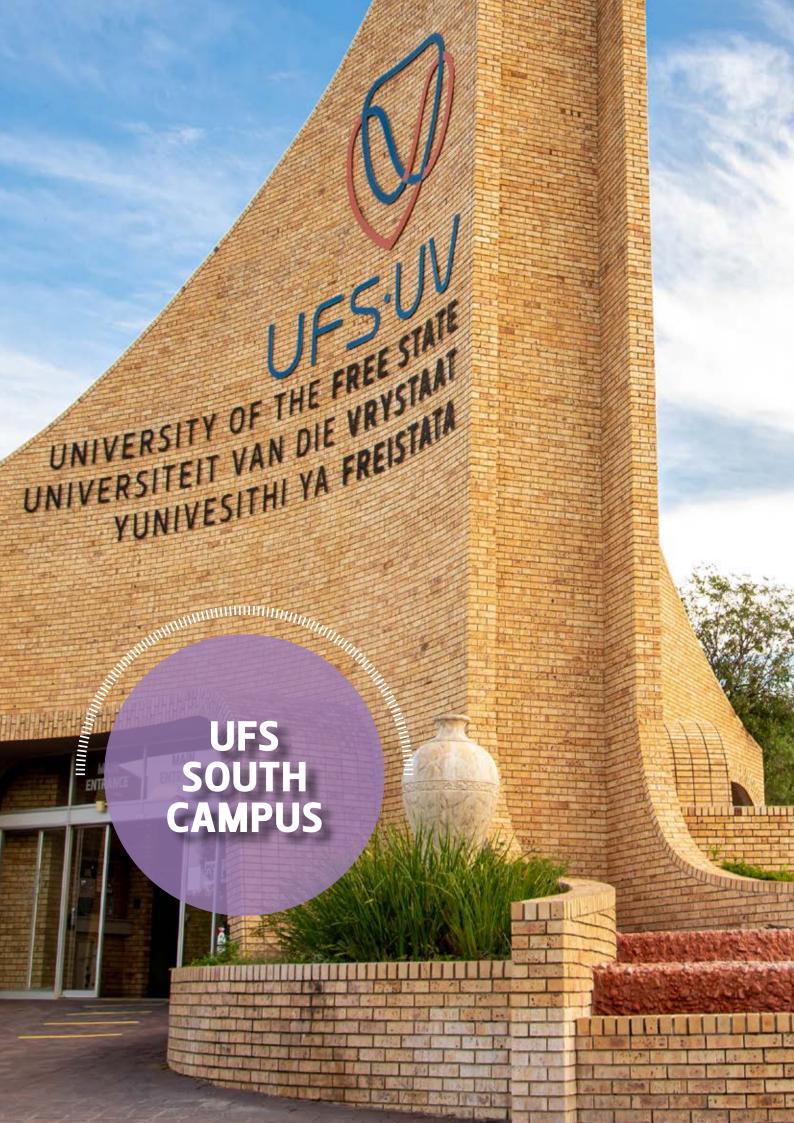
Pictured above: Prof Abdon Atangana

Prof Abdon Atangana, Professor of Applied Mathematics in the Institute for Groundwater Studies at the University of the Free State (UFS), was elected a fellow of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS). Additionally, he also received the World Academy of Sciences Award for Mathematics (TWAS - Mohammad A. Hamdan, 2020) on 1 November 2021. TWAS, described as the voice for science in the South, is working towards the advancement of science in developing countries and supports sustainable prosperity through research, education, policy, and diplomacy. Besides promoting science in the developing world, Prof Atangana's work contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, the global goals as set in 2015 that call for ending poverty, protecting the planet, and ensuring that all people enjoy prosperity and peace.

In 2021, Prof Atangana's ranked number one in the world in mathematics, number 186 in the world in all the fields, and number one in Africa in all the fields, according to the Stanford list of 2% single-year table. He is also editor of more than 20 top-tier journals of applied mathematics and mathematics, and for some of these journals he was the first African to be selected as editor.

#### DATA PROVISION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The UFS supported its international students who were as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic studying remotely from their home countries with the provisioning of data countries or with data allowances. This assisted international students in participating in remote learning.



### South Campus staff members take centre stage at international virtual conferences

South Campus staff members optimally used the opportunity to attend international conferences hosted virtually. Dr Angela Stott presented a keynote address at the PBE 2021 Conference, hosted by the Department of Chemistry and Chemistry Education, Charles University, Czech Republic, where she presented on "Problem-based learning in a crowded curriculum: The Ladder Approach". Prof Lynette Jacobs was a plenary panellist on "Sustainable development – education in the face of global crises" at the 2021 Internationalization Summit: Sustaining Internationalization: The Next Decade of Global Engagement hosted by Denver University. Bernedette Muthien was part of a plenary, "Rematriation international indigenous panel", at the International Peace Research 28th General Conference, International Peace Research Association (IPRA), in Kenya. Other colleagues also virtually presented at conference across the globe, including in Poland, Iceland and Bulgaria.



#### **International Virtual Exchange Conference**

During the 2021 IVEC conference (26–29 October), UFS South Campus members of the iKudu consortium presented a symposium on "iKudu – How COIL can be used to harness difference to promote educational inclusivity and to embed COIL in universities. Experiences of European and South African Institutions through the iKudu project". Prof Lynette Jacobs, together with Dr Alun DeWinter from Coventry University, presented on "COIL as true co-creation" at the symposium, and also presented on "Integrating COIL in the curriculum, Narratives from IKudu consortium universities" with Prof Jos Beelen (THUAS), Prof Katherine Wimpenny (Coventry University) and Dr Lavern Samuels (Durban University of Technology).

Virtual Colloquium on Shifting Drivers for Internationalisation of Higher Education in an Unpredictable World, University of the Free State, 20–21 September.

From 20–21 September the South Campus and the Office for International Affairs jointly hosted a colloquium which explored shifting drivers for internationalisation of higher education in an unpredictable world. It was virtually attended by delegates from our partner institutions locally as well as internationally.

### Bernedette Muthien engaging on non-violence

Ms Bernedette Muthien, a research fellow of the South Campus, engaged on several international forums focusing on peace and non-violence. On 9 March, she presented an international lecture for Manila University Master's students on "What makes for the success or failure of social movements: perspectives from South Africa and India". On 1 December, she was part of a "Gender, Peace and Security international panel" for the International Peace Research Association, in collaboration with National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST, Pakistan), and Centre for Peace and Strategic Studies, University of Ilorin, Nigeria. On 8 December, she presented the Featured lecture, "Gender and Nonviolence", for Peace Studies for Sustainable Development in Africa International Webinar Series, jointly hosted by St Augustine University of Tanzania, University of Vechta Germany, and the International Peace Research Association.





#### Commemorating the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Malaria Day

Dr Nthatisi Nyembe, Lecturer in the Department of Zoology and Entomology from the Qwaqwa Campus of the University of the Free State (UFS), emphasized the importance of commemorating the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Malaria Day on 6 November every year. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) (2021), there was an estimated 229 million cases of malaria worldwide in 2019, of which 409 000 deaths were recorded. About 94% of all cases were reported in Africa. This indicates that malaria remains a huge problem in Africa, especially the poorer countries of sub-Saharan Africa, with about 90% of the overall cases in the world coming from Africa. According to Dr Nyembe, intensive research has been done over the years to explore and understand the effect of Plasmodium to the host, the immune response of the host towards the parasite, and the behaviour of the parasite. Through this research and the acquisition of funding, the RTS,S vaccine has been produced to help reduce the malaria infection rate.



Pictured above: Dr Nthatisi Nyembe

## NTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

#### The Afromontane Research Unit

The Afromontane Research Unit (ARU), a flagship research group of the Qwaqwa Campus (UFS-QQ) and a Strategic Research Hub in the UFS, continued to have immense success and influence in international mountain research in 2021, despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This summative narrative for the reporting period 2021, indicates how the ARU continued to grow its international recognition and cement itself as a strategic research hub in mountain research.

#### Large Multi-National Projects

- i. The Mountain-to-Mountain programme, in partnership with the Appalachian State University (USA) and funded by the US Embassy, provides capacity development mentoring to female black academics, made good progress in developing a tutored multi-disciplinary Master's course for the sustainable development of Southern African mountains, and positive steps towards installing five weather stations in the Maloti- Drakensberg. Dr Grey Magaiza and Prof Geofrey Mukwada are the ARU champions for this initiative.
- ii. The ARU pioneering mountain range-expanding Horizon BiodivERsA RangeX, а consortium of which the ARU is the only African partner and the only funded southernhemisphere partner, was launched successfully. The project includes the establishment of the first-ever experiment site on the top of the Maloti-Drakensberg using open-top chambers and related instrumentation, including soil probes and pollination cameras. The viability of this project is a result of the excellent relationship between the ARU and Witsieshoek Mountain Lodge/Transfrontier Parks Destinations, which has been able to provide the land permissions and social gateway to limit risk of theft on top of the mountain. The funded partners are ETH Zürich (Switzerland and lead partner), Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, (Germany), University of Bergen (Norway), Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (Sweden), Aarhus University (Denmark), and the UFS (ARU), with self-financed partners the University of Gothenburg (Sweden) and Universidad de Concepción (Chile), National de la Recherche Scientifique (France), Norwegian Biodiversity Information Centre (Norway), University of Kashir (India), Montana State University (United States), La Trobe University (Australia), and

Northeast Normal University (China). For another component of RangeX involving management of woody species in mountains, the Centre for Biological Control (CBC, Rhodes University) was invited to partner locally with the ARU. This initiative is championed by Dr Ralph Clark and Dr Sandy-Lynn Steenhuisen.



Pictured above: Dr Ralph Clark (right), Dr Stephanie Payne, Dr Sandy-Lynn Steenhuisen, Dr Onalenna Gwate and Evelin Iseli.



Pictured above: On top of the Drakensberg. The ARU and Witsieshoek Mountain Lodge research team are, from the left: Grant Martin, Dr Ralph Clark, Jan van Niekerk, Prof Aliza le Roux, Prof Peter Taylor, and Dr Sandy Steenhuizen.

- iii. The US-SA University Staff Doctoral Programme (USDP) between the UFS, University of Venda, Appalachian State University, Colorado State University, and University of Montana continued to provide valuable support to the doctoral cohort, as well as creating new opportunities for developmental experience. Prof Geofrey Mukwada continues to champion this initiative.
- iv. The UK-SA USDP project between the UFS, University of Venda, University of the Highlands & Islands continued to provide valuable support to a second doctoral cohort. The UK-SA USDP supports five UFS-QQ academics in the Humanities and Economic and Management Sciences and is a major contributor to research capacity development within these Faculties. Dr Grey Magaiza continues to champion this initiative.

- Foundation (NRF) award to the University of Pretoria on Using fine-scale functional and compositional variation to predict the impacts of climate change (worth R4,5 million), with other partners being the expand our understanding of the ecology of the alpine zone in the Maloti-Drakensberg, and its similarity environments. The ARU Champion for this project is
- ii. Dr Ralph Clark was elected to represent the Southern Steering Committee member of the Global Mountain University of Bern, Switzerland. He also remains the Chair of the Scientific Committee for the Grassland Society of Southern Africa (GSSA) for a third and final (virtual) Congress.
- (Lesotho Ministry of Environment) to develop an three protected areas under Lesotho Northern Parks. In exchange for encouraging research activities, Lesotho Northern Parks has offered free entry and accommodation. The MoU is with Lesotho Northern Parks for review and comment. A first biodiversity research visit by the ARU was undertaken in May 2021 to Ts'ehlanyane National Park - Wikitravel, looking at bat diversity and plant community changes under the woody encroacher Ouhout (Leucosidea sericea).





# Research

**Guest Editing of Special Journal issues published** 

Montane Rangelands in a Changing World, in the African Journal of Range and Forage Science. Dr Ralph Clark (ARU Director) was the lead Guest Editor, with other Guest Editors being Prof Tim O'Connor (SAEON), Dr Kyran Kunkel (University of Montana; one of our collaborators in the US-SA USDP), Ms Nthebohiseng Sekhele (one of our ARU USDP Scholars), Dr Debbie Jewitt (Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife), and Prof Kevin Kirkman (University of KwaZulu-Natal;) The Special Issue was published in March 2021 (https://doi.org/10.2989/10220119.2 021.1886434).

Pastoralism and Rangelands in Mountains, in the journal Mountain Research and Development. Prof Geofrey Mukwada and Dr Ralph Clark (both ARU) were Guest Editors. The Special Issue was published in Q4 2021 (https://doi.org/10.1659/ mrd.4104).

Innovative Techniques for Monitoring Species Diversity Using Remote Sensing Data. In the journal, Remote Sensing. (https:// www.mdpi.com/journal/remotesensing/ special\_issues/ species\_diversity. Guest Editors were Dr Abel Ramoelo (SANParks Scientific Services) and Prof Sam Adelabu (ARU Research Champion). One article was published in the Special Issue (Q2 2021).







#### **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH**

International research projects in the entity and external funding obtained.

## **Department of Business Management**

**Prof Brownhilder Neneh.** Research project titled South African Entrepreneurs: A Growing Economic Segment. She has not received any external funding.

**Nkopane Miya:** Co-investigator of the research project conducted by the University of the Sussex in partnership with the University of the Free Qwaqwa Campus. The project will investigate the impact of COVID-19 on small, medium, and micro enterprises (SMMEs) in the developing country context.

## **Department of Economics and Finance**

**Dr Johan Coetzee and Prof Christine Mitter** (University of Applied Sciences Salzburg) focuses on a research project on the relationship between increased operational risk and the banking relationships in family firms. The EMS Research Committee funds this project at the UFS.

### **Centre for Development Support**

The following projects funded by the following institutions have resulted in co-authored papers. The project funding cycle is completed, and a range of papers have been accepted, submitted or is in the process of finalisation

- EU Common Good First
- NIH Mediational Intervention for Sensitizing Caregivers
- Gates Foundation reproductive health of adolescents in SA
- Swedish Research Council Voluntary medical male circumcision
- An unfunded project with the University of Queensland has accepted two papers.

#### **UFS Business School**

**Dr Cornelie Crous.** The externalisation of costs in case of mine closure: PhD project in conjunction with PhD student (Julia Drexler) for which funding application was submitted to the *Engagement Global and ASA Program*. They were currently awaiting the results of the funding application. Rosenheim University of Applied Sciences will administer funds in Germany.

**Dr Liezel Massyn.** Takes part in an international project by EQUAA, named **Invicta,** on soft skills certification. Centre for Development Support

#### Faith Mkwananzi

- Ibali 2: Storying new educational inclusion/exclusion discourses in the UK, Nigeria, and South Africa (Co-I). AHRC, £503 327,00
- Universities as sustainable communities (Co-I). TESF (University of Bristol), £29 960,00
- Transnational and intergenerational exploration of ecological heritage with youth in Southern Africa gathering data for moringa commercialisation (PI), CTS (University of Leeds), £24 980,63
- Pursuing higher education in contexts of socio-spatial exclusion: a scoping study of the educational trajectories of youth from informal settlements (PI), SRHE (Society for Research into Higher Education) £5 000,00

#### **Melanie Walker**

- Completion of Miratho project with University of Nottingham, funding extension to July 2021 from the ESRC, UK
- Early Career Academics research project with University of Bath and University of Nottingham, unfunded

# Deidre van Rooyen

• Supporting youth social entrepreneurship in sub-Saharan Africa: partnerships, barriers and opportunities (SYSE. Innovation for African Universities (IAU) funded by the British Council; British Council).

#### Lochner Marais

- Development and Evaluation of an Adolescent-Driven Dual-Protection Intervention Approach for South African Adolescents. Funded by Huffman Foundation and conducted in association with the University of Cincinnati.
- Industrial disasters, disclosure deficits: Can transparency level the playing field? Funded by the Australian Research Council and conducted in association with the University of Queensland.

# **Department of Business Management**

Prof Brownhilder Neneh, Dr Karen Booysen, Dr Habofanwe Koloba, Dr Ekaete Benedict, Dr Eugine Maziriri, Dr Tarisai Rukuni and Winnie Sereeco. Work in collaboration with the centre for development support and sustainable agriculture and the Glasgow Caledonian University on the SYSE project. [Supporting youth social entrepreneurship in sub-Saharan Africa: partnerships, barriers and opportunities (SYSE)].

• Colleagues from the department of business management (Prof Brownhilder Neneh, Dr Karen Booysen, Dr Ekaete Benedict, Dr Eugine Maziriri, and Dr Tarisai Rukuni) are part of the project titled "Building African Capacities for the Development of Clusters (presented by the University of Jena and Technopolis).

Papers/presentations delivered\_at international workshops, seminars or conferences.

# **Department of Business Management**

The South African Outlook on Entrepreneurship and Business: Lessons for Colombia – Brownhilder Neneh and Andri van Aardt were guest speakers at the Surcolombiana University in Neiva, Colombia, 2020.

# **Centre for Development Support**

Writing International Student Migration in Africa (WISMA) Seminar.

#### Faith Mkwananzi

- Equitable Partnerships in Research? Virtual, 11 November 2021.
- UKFIET Conference Decolonizing peace education: Theoretical and methodological insights from Zimbabwe. Building Back Better in Education and Training? Reimagining, Reorienting and Redistributing, UKFIET Virtual Conference, 15 September 2021.
- Education for Sustainable Development Conference Imagining sustainable communities through peace education: A case study in Midlands Province, Zimbabwe. Education for Sustainable Development: Building Africa through Higher Education for Sustainable Development, International Virtual Conference, 12 August 2021.
- Fostering sustainable academic environments through Intra and inter collaborative research spaces. Education for Sustainable Development: Building Africa through Higher Education for Sustainable Development, International Virtual Conference, 12 August 2021.

# **Office of the Dean** Prof HJ Kroukamp

- The future of South African local government in the 4th Industrial Revolution are we ready skills-wise? Paper presented at the joint IIAS/IASIA Conference held in Bela, South Africa, 26–31 July 2021 (virtual).
- Innovation as a mechanism to restore citizens' engagement and trust in government. Paper presented at the annual 29th NISPAcee Conference held in Ljubljana, Slovenia, 21–23 October 2021 (virtual).

#### **Department of Business Management**

## Kunjal D and Peerbhai F

• COVID-19 and Liquidity: An Empirical Analysis of Exchange Traded Funds Trading in Emerging Markets. 17th Annual African Finance Association Conference, Virtual, 11–12 May 2021.

# PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES

Staff participation in international committees, advisory and editorial boards.

# **Department of Economics and Finance**

#### **Dr Johan Coetzee**

- Member and Charter holder (MCBI) of the Chartered Institute of Bankers in Scotland
- Appointed mentor in the Chartered Banker Mentoring Scheme at the Chartered Institute of Bankers in Scotland
- Senior Associate at The Global Centre for Banking and Financial Innovation at Nottingham University's Business School
- Appointed to the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Economics and Business Research

#### **Centre for Development Support**

#### **Prof Lochner Marais.**

• Editorial Advisory Boards for Housing Studies, International Journal of Housing Policy and Journal of Housing and the Built Environment.

#### **Department of Business Management**

**Prof Jacques Nel** – Management Dynamics

**Prof Neneh** – Board member International Business Conference (IBC )conference

# Office of the Dean

#### **Prof Philippe Burger**

• Established an Academic Advisory Board with international and national members. The Board will assist the EMS Faculty with advice, e.g. regarding their programmes, curricula, etc.

#### Prof Hendri Kroukamp

• On the Board of Management for the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA).

#### **UFS Business School**

# Prof Helena van Zyl

- Member of the Board of the Education Quality Accreditation Agency (EQUAA), South America.

# **Centre for Development Support**

#### **Lochner Marais**

- Specialty editor of the Section, Cities in the Global South, of the journal Frontiers in Sustainable Cities.
- Member of the Editorial Board for the journal Habitat International.
- Advisory board member for the following journals: Housing Studies, International Journal of Housing Policy, Journal of Housing and the Built Environment.

#### Faith Mkwananzi

- HDCA 2021–2022 Conference Committee Member.
- HDCA 2019–2022 Thematic Group Coordinator.

#### **Melanie Walker**

• Associate editor Journal of Human Development and Capabilities; Special Issue editor JHDC.

#### **INTERNATIONAL STAFF EXCHANGES**

Outgoing international staff exchanges, including scientific visits, excluding conference and workshop attendance.

#### **Department of Economics and Finance**

#### **Dr Johan Coetzee**

• Visiting Senior Lecturer in Banking at the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences, Austria, June–July 2020. Taught modules in Financial Markets and Bank Risk Management (virtually presented).

#### Dr Ivan van der Merwe

- Visiting Senior Lecturer in Banking at the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences, Austria, 11–20 May 2020.
- **Programme**: Approved Erasmus+ (European Commission) application for between the for lecturer and student transfers.
- **Duration:** 01/08/2020-31/07/2023 (will commence as soon as travel restrictions are lifted).
- **Institutions:** University of the Free State (Department of Economics and Finance) and Salzburg University of Applied Sciences (Department of Accounting and Finance).
- Country: Salzburg, Austria and Bloemfontein, South Africa.

#### Dr Arno van Niekerk

Visiting Senior Lecturer in Banking at the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences, Austria, 20 March –
 4 April 2020.

# **Department of Business Management**

#### Nkopane Miya

• Nominated for the UK-USDP scholarship, the partnership between the University of the Free State Qwaqwa Campus and the University of the Highlands and Island in the UK. Furthermore, he will visit either one of the two institutions in the UK as part of his PhD research project for 30 days in 2 years.

# **UFS Business School**

#### Prof Helena van Zyl

Taught Stock Markets at the University of Turin, 27 Jan – 7 February 2020 in Turin, Italy.

# **Department of Industrial Psychology**

#### Dr Martha Harunavamwe

• Was supposed to visit Bremen in June2021, but this was not possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Incoming\_international staff exchanges.

#### **Department of Economics and Finance**

**Dr Johan Coetzee:** Approved Erasmus+ (European Commission) application for between the for lecturer and student exchanges, 01/08/2020-31/07/2023 (will commence as soon as travel restrictions are lifted). **Institutions:** University of the Free State (Department of Economics and Finance) and Salzburg University of

Applied Sciences (Department of Accounting and Finance). **Country:** Salzburg, Austria and Bloemfontein, South Africa.

# **Centre for Development Support**

July Adjar – Staff mobility on the Erasmus+ KA 107 to University of Glasgow.

#### **UFS Business School**

**Dr Mik Pindelski**, lecturer for Leading Innovation and Change (all virtual). Warsaw School of Economics, Warsaw, Poland. The virtual exchange took place between 16 and 20 April 2020.

## **INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE ADDRESSES**

Keynote addresses at international meetings/conferences

# **Centre for Development Support**

#### **Lochner Marais**

Marais, L., 2021: *Place attachment, housing policy and mining in SA: critical perspectives.* Keynote address, Concurrent Crises and Sustainable Futures: Global Extractivisms and Alternatives Exalt Conference, University of Helsinki, Finland, 25–27 October

## **Melanie Walker**

Participatory research workshop, University of Toronto, October

HDCA Global Dialogues September



# Office of the Dean

# Prof HJ Kroukamp

Citizen participation in governance. Keynote address at the International Webinar Series, University of Padjadjaran, Bandung, Indonesia, 6 December 2021 (virtual).

# INTERNATIONALISATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

Qualitative information, including relevant data, on Internationalisation of the curriculum, including international benchmarking.

#### **Department of Economics and Finance**

# Prof P Burger; Dr Sevias Guvuriro, Dr Cecile Duvenhage, Dr Nico Keyser

Bremen University – Summer School.

# **Centre for Development Support**

#### Faith Mkwananzi

Academic Writing for Early Career Researchers (AECRE Network Series), University of Ghana, Virtual, 23 July – 10 September 2021.

# Van Rooyen, D and Sheik, A.

25 October 2021. Social Innovation in South Africa. Guest Lecture: Yunus Centre for Social Business and Health Glasgow Caledonian University MSc Social Innovation, Glasgow Scotland.

## **PRIZES WON**

Highly valued international scientific prizes won.

#### **Centre for Development Support**

#### Melanie Walker

Elected President of the HDCA.

## Office of the Dean

#### **Prof HJ Kroukamp**

2021 recipient of the International Donald C Stone Award in Public Administration and Management.





#### INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

International research projects in the entity and external funding obtained.

#### Dr Müller

Received grant funding for a VLIR-UOS collaboration with Gent University, Belgium: **Strengthening beginning teachers' professional identity: An exploratory study into the efficiency of an induction model in South Africa**. The project has commenced in 2020 and will continue into 2021.

#### Dr Mukuna Kananga Robert

- Exchange telecollaborative Project between the University of the Free State: Qwaqwa Campus (South Africa) and Ludwigsburg University of Education (Germany) in the following learning areas:
  - Virtual Undergraduate programme: Teacher education: Reflective Seminars (4th-year BEd students).
  - Postgraduate programme: Master's and PhDs candidates.

## INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

Papers/presentations delivered\_at international workshops, seminars or conferences.

#### Dr Maria Tsakeni

- The inquiry-based practical work pedagogical content knowledge of primary preservice teachers in Lesotho and Zimbabwe. SAARMSTE Conference, 12–14 January 2021, Virtual, Lesotho.
- The impact of learning opportunities on the primary preservice teacher competencies to facilitate inquirybased practical work. IOSTE SYMPOSIUM 2020, 1–5 February 2021, Kyungpook National University, Daegu, KOREA.
- Biology preservice teacher preparation practices for sustainable development in a South African and a Swedish university. IOSTE SYMPOSIUM 2020, 1–5 February 2021, Virtual, Kyungpook National University, Daegu, KOREA.

## **PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES**

Staff participation in international committees, advisory and editorial boards.

#### Dr Nhase

- Collaborates with colleagues from Rhodes University and two international institutions in a transdisciplinary project. This project involves Master's and Doctoral students from South Africa, India and Mexico.
- Collaborates with colleagues from Rhodes and Germany in a project on Citizenship, and in this project. Published a book chapter from the project and are working on another chapter in an edited book.

#### Dr Ntsala

- Part of the SIRP project, which looks at the development of reading materials for the foundation and the intermediate phase classrooms and is part of the IKUDU project run through the Internationalization department.

# INTERNATIONALISATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

Qualitative information, including relevant data, on any other international activity not captured in terms of the data above.

#### **Prof Jita**

- Two (2) PhD students from Zimbabwe and two South African PhD students will graduate on 22 April 2021.
- Two international Master's students from Lesotho; one graduated virtually on 24 February 2021, and the second one on 22 April 2021.



#### **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH**

International research projects in the entity and external funding obtained.

## **Division of Public Health**

# Dr James Ndirangu: Office of the Dean

- Participated in a proposal development initiative that brings together University of Nairobi (Kenya), Daystar University (Kenya) and University of Nebraska-Lincoln (USA). The consortium has finalized a proposal titled "Development and Pilot Trial of a Social Norms Marketing Campaign to Prevent the SAVA Syndemic among University Students in Kenya" that was submitted for funding to the National Institute of Health (Population and Public Health Approaches to HIV/AIDS Study Section) on 07 September 2021. The proposed 3-year project's implementation dates are from 01 June 2022 to 31 May 2025.

**Nogoduka C, Constant TL, Luwasa BR and Ndirangu J:** Cash-paying patients for ART in South Africa: Purses and wallets contributing to treatment targets. Accepted as an oral presentation at the International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa (ICASA) conference to be held in Durban on 06–11 December 2021.

# **Department of Chemical Pathology**

**Krishnan Anand** (UFS, South Africa), Muthupandian Saravanan (Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences [SIMATS], India), Balakumar Chandrasekaran (Philadelphia University, Jordan), Suvardhan Kanchi (Sambhram Institute of Technology, India), **Sarojini Panchu** (UFS, South Africa), Quan-Sheng Chen (Jiangsu University, China) (Editors).

**Book project**: Handbook on Nano-Biomaterials for Therapeutics and Diagnostic Applications. **Project Description**: Handbook of Nano-biomaterials for Therapeutics and Diagnostic Applications. Covers in-depth topics on nano-biomaterials and nano drug delivery systems (biosensors and bioimaging) involving polymer nanocomposites, metal nanocomposites, and other carbon family fibres and proteins. The book covers the current application of tiny machines or nanodevices and their use as early detection systems for life threatening diseases, giving detailed literature on the development of nanodevices, their use as diagnostic tools, and their present trend in the industry and market. In addition, their synthesis, potential applications and future of smart nanodevices in diagnosis of diseases and their use as smart clinical devices is covered. Users will find sections on recent advances in interdisciplinary research on the processing, morphology, structure and properties of nanostructured materials and their applications in drug delivery for various diseases such as cancer, tuberculosis, Alzheimer disease, ophthalmic diseases, and more.

**Balasubramanian B, Ahmad S, Alok V, Khan FN, Anand K and Mehta S.** Exosomes as an emerging nanoplatform for functional therapeutics. *Handbook on Nanobiomaterials for Therapeutics and Diagnostic Applications,* Elsevier, 2021 pp. 483-498. doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-821013-0.00002-7.

**Deepika S, Selvaraj CI, Selvaraj MR and Anand K.** Exosome RNAs as biomarkers for cancer therapy. In Handbook on Nanobiomaterials for Therapeutics and Diagnostic Applications (pp. 35–52). Elsevier. doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-821013-0.00023-4.

**Harishkumar R, Selvaraj C and Anand K** (2021). Chapter 1:- Nanosomes for drug delivery, *Handbook on Nanobiomaterials for Therapeutics and Diagnostic Applications*, Elsevier, pp. 1-18, ISBN 9780128210130, https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-821013-0.00017-9.

Panchu SJ, Anand K, Vijayakumar K, Swart HC, Moodley MK, Chuturgoon AA and Moodley KG: MoS2-based nanostructures for biomedical applications and carbon nanomaterials in TB treatment. In *A Mechanistic Approach to Medicines for Tuberculosis Nanotherapy* (pp. 91-118). Academic Press. doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-819985-5.00003-6.

**Vijayakumar K, Anand K, Boomi P and Surendrakumar R:** Chapter 14: Theranostics and radiopharmaceuticals in cancer treatment. *Handbook on Nanobiomaterials for Therapeutics and Diagnostic Applications*, Elsevier, pp. 341–360, ISBN 9780128210130, https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-821013-0.00020-9.

# Department of Haematology and Cell Biology

**Jaco Joubert, Leriska Haupt, Evan Bowen, Shaun Grobler, Marius J Coetzee,** Collaborators (Department of Haematology and Cell Biology):

## World Bleeding Disorder Registry Committee of the World Federation of Haemophilia

**Project Description:** To meet the challenge of increasing the amount and type of data available on patients with bleeding disorders, the WFH is developing a World Bleeding Disorders Registry (WBDR). This registry is intended to collect real-world data on the patient clinical experience around the globe, allowing researchers to use country-specific data and country-comparative data to generate evidence and build advocacy initiatives aimed at health policy decision makers. As of 31 December 2019, over 4 000 PWH from 53 haemophilia treatment centres (HTC) and 29 countries around the world have joined our efforts in achieving the World Federation of Haemophilia's (WFH) mission, Treatment for All, by participating in the WBDR. The Bloemfontein Centre is the first centre in South Africa to join the WBDR.

Mr JF Kloppers (Department of Haematology and Cell Biology); Institute of Experimental Medicine, National Academy of Medicine in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Expansion of haemophilia genetic testing.

**Project description:** The Factor 8 (F8) genotype of the majority of people with haemophilia A (HA) in central South Africa is currently unknown. The importance of knowing the F8 mutation status in these patients is paramount as mutations are linked to disorder severity, and more importantly, have a direct association with FVIII inhibitor development. Furthermore, F8 mutation screening will have a purposeful role in genetic counselling. We previously screened our HA population for the intron 22 inversion (inv22), in order to lay a foundation for HA genetic research to be conducted in our setting. It remains vital that genotype-phenotype correlation studies are performed in the management process of HA. This study will be the first to describe genotype-phenotype relationships in an African HA population comprehensively. In collaboration with the researchers at the Institute of Experimental Medicine, a new F8 genotype screening platform is being developed and implemented in the Department of Haematology and Cell Biology.

**Kloppers JF, Du Plessis J and Janse van Rensburg WJ:** De Novo intron 22 inversion carrier detection – the emerging value of mutational analysis in a developing country. Submitted to: *Plasmatology*. (Currently under review.

**Dr Leriska Haupt (University of Birmingham, UK – Collaborator): Genotyping and Phenotyping of Platelets (GAPP) study.** Large-scale multinational genetic study performing whole exome sequencing of patients with platelet function disorders. Study still ongoing. Bloemfontein has enrolled two patients with undefined hereditary platelet disorders on the study so far.

#### School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Itumeleng Tsatsi (Primary investigator), Sanet du Toit, Tania Rauch van der Merwe, Ronel Stroebel, Jansen R, Jaco Hoffman (Co-investigators): The Eden Alternative TM promoting organisational culture change for enhanced Aged care practices: a case study approach. Collaborative research (University of Sydney, University of the Witwatersrand, North-West University)

**Arnold Vlok** (Department Exercise and Sport Sciences)

**Prof Derik Coetzee** (Department Exercise and Sport Sciences); Prof Hege Grindem (PT – Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Department of Sport Medicine, Oslo, Norway); Dr Nicol van Dyk (High-Performance Unit, Irish Rugby Football Union, Dublin): **A Framework for Anterior Cruciate Ligament Reconstruction post-surgery Management.** 

#### C Walsh

- **Project 1: Continuing research collaboration** with Prof Anneli Ivarsson (Umea University, Sweden) and Prof Ilona Koupil (Stockholm University, Sweden) South Africa Sweden University Forum (SASUF) collaboration grant (50 000 SEK plus 80 500 ZAR) In capacity as the President of the Nutrition Society of South Africa.
- **Project 2: Improving Early Nutrition in South Africa** (ImpENSA) (2019–2022). Funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union (grant 573651-EPP-1-2016-1-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP).

# **School of Nursing**

# Dr Champ Nyoni, Dr Rene Botha and Dr Tsaletseng Ntsekhe

**Project:** Virtual Interprofessional Education for undergraduate medical students: A feasibility study

**Background:** Students enrolled in the Nelson Mandel Fidel Castro Medical Programme (NMFCMP) miss out an opportunity to engage in IPE. In collaboration with over 10 universities in the US, the UK, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa and Zimbabwe, we have created a virtual platform for interprofessional education. We seek to expose NMFCMF students to this virtual platform with other students from other universities from different professional backgrounds. We envisage to describe the feasibility of this virtual platform as a strategy to facilitate interprofessional education through a mixed methods study

Funding: None

*Current activity/status*: Manuscripts are in development, two manuscripts have been submitted for publication. **Dr Champ Nyoni, Prof Yvonne Botma, and international partners from Biaka University in Cameroon; Drexel** 

University in the United States

**Project:** Standardised patient training: A mapping review

**Background:** Standardised patients have been used in the training of health professions students since 1960. These patients are expected to mimic patients with specific conditions to an extent that a professional cannot tell the difference between a real patient and standardised patients. However, the literature is not clear on appropriate strategies for training standardised patients for health professionals. This mapping review aims at describing the scope of literature on the training of standardised patients in health sciences.

Funding: None

**Current Activity:** Manuscript under development

Dr Champ Nyoni, Prof Yvonne Botma, Dr Lizemari Hugo-van Dyk, and partners from, University of Pretoria, University of the Western Cape in South Africa, University of Namibia, University of Botswana, University of Zimbabwe, University of Zambia, Makerere University in Uganda, University of Nairobi in Kenya, Presbyterian University in Ghana, Texas Christian University and Moravian University in the United States of America

**Project**: Professional Identity in Nursing

**Background**: There is a global movement towards professions establishing clarity of their own profession enhancing their contribution to an interprofessional and interdisciplinary team. Establishing professional identity in nursing has a potential of strengthening the value of nursing and its potential contribution to healthcare. The value and role of nurses in Africa is unique from the rest of the world and research around professional identity in nursing in the continent is missing. This is an initial exploratory study that aims to engage students at senior level of their education related to their perception of their professional identity after undergraduate education.

**Funding**: None

Current activity: Ethics clearance sought from UFS awaiting gate keeper approval, Grant application submitted Dr Champ Nyoni, Dr Lynette van der Merwe and colleagues from University of Namibia, University of Botswana, University of Zimbabwe, the National University of Science and Technology (Zimbabwe), Cavendish University (Zambia), University of Zambia, and Makerere University (Uganda),

Project; Remote teaching and learning in health sciences

**Background**: The COVID-19 pandemic influenced approaches towards learning and teaching within health professions education institutions. There is a need to explore the process of response and adaption of health professions education institutions in east and southern Africa. This study aims at describing the process of adapting to emergency remote teaching in six countries in the ESA region.

Funding: None

**Current activity**: Manuscript Submitted to BMC Medical Education under review

Dr Champ Nyoni and colleagues from North West University- South Africa and World Health Organization (Zimbabwe)

**Project**: Specialist education for health professionals in East and Southern Africa

**Background**: Specialists health professionals are an essential element of the health workforce. Health professions education institutions in ESA primarily focus on strengthening the training of generalists to drive the primary healthcare agenda towards strengthening universal health coverage. The training of specialists in the ESA region is not well document. This document analysis aimed at describing specialist education in health professions education in ESA, specifically focusing on the nature of programmes, the capacity within countries in the region and gaps related to specialist programmes per country in the ESA region.

Funding: None

**Current activity**: Manuscript development

# Dr Champ Nyoni and Colleagues from Paray School of Nursing in Lesotho

**Project**: COVID-19 response at a nursing education institution in Lesotho

**Background:** All higher education institutions are expected to engage in strategies to ensure continued education of their registered students. In Lesotho, the health system is nurse led and local nursing education institutions are responsible for the production of nurses that feed into the health care system. This project applies a case study approach in describing the adaptations to COVID-19 pandemic by one nursing education institution with the aim of drawing lessons towards formalized online learning.

Funding: None

**Current activity**: manuscript development

Dr Champ Nyoni and Colleagues from various universities in the world (more than 20) led by Prof Marion Huber (Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland)

**Project**: Interprofessional educator competencies

**Background**: This is a global project aimed at developing a global perspective on interprofessional competencies of educators. This multi-phased project has started with a scoping review which is describing the state of the literature related educator competencies on interprofessional education.

**Funding**: application submitted to Swiss government

Current activity: Manuscript accepted at the Journal of Interprofessional Care, Scoping review data analysis Dr Champ Nyoni, Prof Thokozani Bvumbwe (Mzuzu University, Malawi), Dr Mary Ani-Amponsah (University of Ghana), Prof Fikile Mtshali & Dr Claudine Muraraneza (UKZN)

Project: Knowledge translation in nursing and midwifery in Africa

**Background:** This work is focused on support the WHO Afro office in providing African specific evidence. The first project focuses on a literature examining evidence of knowledge translation into nursing practice, education, and policy. The second leg of the work will examine the state of adoption of competency-based nursing education within the African region.

Funding: None as yet

Current Activity: Proposal being prepared for submission to a journal

Dr Champ Nyoni, and Mrs Elizabeth Tollanare (Berlin, Germany)

**Project**: Professional identity formation for nurse education: A comparative case study between South Africa and Germany

**Background**: Nurse educators are fundamental in developing the professional identity among nursing students. This project aims at examining the process in which nurse educators in SA and Germany develop the professional identity of their students. We aim to map similarities and differences within these two concepts in the two settings

Funding: None as yet

**Current Activity**: Proposal development

Dr Champ Nyoni, Dr Jan Jaap Reinders (Hanze University of Applied Sciences and University of Groningen, the Netherlands), Dr Lizemari Hugo (UFS)

**Project:** Professional identity of interprofessional facilitators in South African and the Netherlands Background: The study is aimed to isolate the non-cognitive attributes of an IPE facilitator in undergraduate education. We wanted to compare local and international data for similarities and position an argue for the development of continued interprofessional education.

Funding: None as yet

**Current Activity**: Proposal development

Dr Ronelle Jansen, Mrs Marita Coetzee and Ms Ega Janse van Rensburg-Bonthuyzen and national / international partners from: Turku (Finland), Hamburg (Germany), Riga (Latvia), University Pretoria, UFS, University Cape Town, University Stellenbosch (SA), and Lusaca Apex Medical University & University of Zambia (Zambia).

**Project:** Mega Project

**Background:** The overarching objective of the MEGA project is to improve child and adolescent access to mental health services and appropriate care, by developing a mental health-screening tool (mHealth application) to be used by nurses in primary healthcare (PHC) settings in South Africa and Zambia. The purpose of this research is to explore primary health care nurses' mental health knowledge, literacy, and educational needs. Secondly to train the PHC nurses to use developed mobile health application (mHealth) to screen adolescents for mental health disorders in South-Africa and Zambia. Lastly, implementing the developed mHealth application in primary health care settings in South-Africa and Zambia.

Funding: Erasmus + Programme of the EU (585827-EPP-1-2017-1-FI-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP)

**Current activity/status:** Project ended 30 June 2021. The EU started with an audit and all project partners are waiting for the final report. The partners (UFS included) assisted the EU with requests, documentation and queries during July 2021 – November 2021. We drafted two more manuscripts since July 2021 that is currently being finalized by all partner reviewers.

Dr Ronelle Jansen, Ms Itumeleng Tsatsi (UFS), Dr Sanet du Toit (University of Sydney), Dr Tania Rauch van der Merwe (WITS), Mr Rayne Stroebel (Geratec SA), Prof Jaco Hoffman (NWU).

**Project**: The Eden alternative promoting organisational culture change for enhanced aged care practices: a case study approach

**Background:** For the past 10 years the Eden Alternative® has been adapted as a care approach by organizations within South Africa. By means of training workshops and proposed organizational processes the Eden Alternative®, support transition to a resident-directed care focus. The World Health Organization's report (WHO, 2017) highlighted how the Eden Alternative® care approach includes all staffing levels as well as residents and their relatives as an inclusive team of care partners to promote residents' autonomy and involvement in day-to-day life of a home. Aim: To achieve consensus regarding key enablers to meaningful engagement of older adults living in long term care as supported by the Eden Alternative® as an organisational culture change approach.

**Funding:** UFS Interdisciplinary research grant.

**Current status:** HSREC approval received. Project partners will meet early December 2021 online to plan the way forward (2022).

# Prof Marianne Reid & Prof A Joubert and national / international partners from: University of Venda, University of Western Cape in South Africa; Vives University, Belgium

**Project** Supporting Community Health Workers through interprofessional learning

**Background:** Joint projects from a collaboration of universities are to develop a toolkit to support Community Health Workers through interprofessional learning

**Funding:** Vlirious project (ZA2019JOI20B136)

**Current activity/status**: The Project is being concluded Dec 2021, with only 4-6 weekly follow up visits with stakeholders planned for 2022. Prof Joubert's term as co researcher ends Dec 2021.

#### Prof Marianne Reid with international partner University of Ulster, Ireland

**Project:** mHealth Communication strategies

**Background:** A phased research approach is followed to develop strategies to support a healthy lifestyle in adults with diabetes

Funding: None

**Current activity/status**: Data collection in progress

# **Department of Biostatistics**

J Ngounda\* 1, J Baumgartner 2, M Nel 3, C Walsh 1. ESPEN 2021, lodine Status of Pregnant Women Residing in Urban and Rural Areas of the Free State Province, South Africa, 1. Nutrition and Dietetics, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa, 2. Human Nutrition Laboratory, Department of Health Sciences and Technology, Institute of Food, Nutrition and Health, Zurich, Switzerland, 3. Department of Biostatistics, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa.

**E van Rensburg, M Reid, M Pienaar and R Nel.** 1st Avitum Nursing Conference Programme 2021. Interventions to support Sesotho-speaking dialysis patients in South Africa with limited health literacy. South Africa. School of Nursing and Department Biostatistics, UFS.

# **Department of Virology**

**Prof Felicity Burt.** Principal investigator.

**Diagnostic tools and therapeutic monoclonal antibodies against CCHFV.** NRF-funded SA Sweden collaboration (brought forward).

**Prof Martin Nyaga.** Principal Investigator.

**African Enteric Virus Genome Initiative** (Renewal for 2020 and project extended to December 2021). Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Genome surveillance program for rotaviruses in the World Health Organization (WHO)/Regional Office for Africa (AFRO) region (2020-2024). Funder by the WHO/AFRO.

**Prof Dominique Goedhals:** UFS Principal Investigator:

Defining host and viral factors that are associated with hepatitis B virus control and clearance in Caucasian and African adults. Funded by Wellcome Trust (PI Prof Philippa Matthews, Oxford University).

#### Papers/presentations delivered\_at international workshops, seminars or conferences.

## **Division of Public Health**

**Dr RW Botha.** Thoughts on Interprofessionalism. African Interprofessional Education Network (AfrIPEN) conference, September 2021

#### School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

**Prof Ilona Koupil.** Professor of Health Equity Studies, Department of Public Health Sciences, Stockholm University. Advanced level and graduate course on "Early life conditions, health development and child public health" (PH11AO and PH006F1). Lecture: The first 1 000 days – initiatives to improve nutrition and health outcomes. March 2021.

J Ngounda, M Jordaan, L Robb, G Joubert and C Walsh. "Socio-economic status and dietary intake of micronutrients in pregnant women in the urban Free State, South Africa" International Congress of Dietetics (ICD) Sept 2021.

**HC.Spies, VL vd Berg and R Nel.** "Nutritional status of patients receiving maintenance haemodialysis in Bloemfontein, South Africa." International Congress of Dietetics (ICD) Sept 2021.

# EM Jordaan, L Robb, J Ngounda, G Joubert and C Walsh

- "Associations between reported health, lifestyle and birth outcomes of pregnant women attending the antenatal clinic at Pelonomi Hospital, Bloemfontein." International Congress of Dietetics (ICD) Sept 2021.
- "Birth outcomes of neonates born to mothers who received antenatal care at a regional hospital in urban South Africa" 8th International Conference on Nutrition and Growth, August 2021.
- "Sociodemographic indicators, household food security and associations with choline intake in pregnant women in Bloemfontein, South Africa." 8th International Conference on Nutrition and Growth, August 2021.

**L vd Berg.** "Double burden of malnutrition among toddlers (1 to 3 years) attending day care centres in a South African urban setting." 8th International Conference on Nutrition and Growth, August 2021.

#### **School of Nursing**

**Jansen, R., Reid, M.** An mHealth communication framework for caregivers of adolescents with mental health issues 1 European Conference on Mental Health 1 Oct 2021, Online

**Mbuthia, F., Reid, M., Fichardt, A.** Development and validation of a mobile health communication framework for postnatal care in rural Kenya. International Health Literacy Association Summit 3-5 Oct 2021, Online

**Van Rensburg, E., Reid, M., Pienaar, M., Nel, M.** Health Literacy Assessment amongst indigenous Sesotho speaking patients with End-Stage renal disease in South Africa. International Health Literacy Association Summit 3–5 Oct 2021, Online

**Van Rensburg, E., Reid, M., Pienaar, M., Nel, M.** Interventions to improve the health literacy of Sesotho-speaking end-stage renal disease patients in South Africa. 1st Avitum Nursing Conference 5 October 2021, Online

**Reid, M., Joubert, A.** Knowledge, Skills and Training of Community Health workers that contribute to an Interprofessional Learning Initiative. The Network Toward Unity in Health 21-23 July 2021, Online

**Nyoni, C. and Lister H.** AfrIPEN: The state of the organisation and its contribution to global IPE. The Interprofessional. Global symposium. Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Winterthur, 8–13 November. Switzerland.

#### **Department of Virology**

# Professor Martin Nyaga.

- Evolutionary dynamics of Ghanaian G1P [8] rotaviruses over ten years spanning pre-and post-RotarixTM introduction. Samuel N K Mingle, Chantal Agbemabiese, Susan A Damanka, Belinda L Lartey, William K C Sagoe, Christabel Enweronu-Laryea, Duncan A Steele, Valantine N Ndze, Khuzwayo C Jere, Martin **M Nyaga**, George E Armah, Francis E Dennis. 13th African Rotavirus Symposium (3–4 November 2021).
- Emergence and predominance of typical human G3 rotavirus strains on a DS-1-like and Wa-like backbone in Blantyre, Malawi from 2017 to 2019. Chimwemwe Mhango 1,3, Akuzike Banda 3,5, End Chinyama 1, Jonathan J. Mandolo 1,3, Benjamin Kumwenda 3, Nigel Cunliffe6, Kondwani C Jambo 1,7, Duncan A Steele 8, Francis E Dennis 9, Valantine N Ndze 10, **Martin M Nyaga** 11, Chrispin Chaguza 4,12, Arox W. Kamng'ona 1,3,4, Khuzwayo C Jere1, 2, 4. 13th African Rotavirus Symposium (3–4 November 2021).
- Whole genome sequencing-based rotavirus surveillance in Zambia reveals substantial diversity of genome constellations pre- and post-Rotarix vaccination. Wairimu Maringa 1, Peter N Mwangi 1, Julia Simwaka 2, Evans M Mpabalwani 3, Jason M Mwenda 4, Mathew D Esona 5, M Jeffrey Mphahlele 6, Mapaseka L Seheri 5 and Martin M Nyaga 1. 13th African Rotavirus Symposium (3–4 November 2021).

Whole-genome analysis of South African G1P [8] and G2P [4] rotavirus strains over a 14-year period: a scientific data report by the African Enteric Viruses Genome Initiative. Peter N Mwangi 1, Nicola A Page 2,3, Mapaseka L Seheri 4, M Jeffrey Mphahlele 4,5, Nadan S 2, Mathew D Esona 4, Benjamin Kumwenda 6, Arox W Kamng'ona 7, Celeste M Donato 8,9, Duncan A Steele 4, Valantine N Ndze 10, Francis E Dennis11, Khuzwayo C Jere 12,13, Martin M. Nyaga 1. 13th African Rotavirus Symposium (3–4 November 2021).

# INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

Papers/presentations delivered at international workshops, seminars or conferences.

# **Division of Public Health**

**Dr RW Botha.** Thoughts on Interprofessionalism. African Interprofessional Education Network (AfrIPEN) conference, September 2021.

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**HC.Spies, VL vd Berg and R Nel.** "Nutritional status of patients receiving maintenance haemodialysis in Bloemfontein, South Africa." International Congress of Dietetics (ICD) Sept 2021.

#### EM Jordaan, L Robb, J Ngounda, G Joubert and C Walsh

- "Associations between reported health, lifestyle and birth outcomes of pregnant women attending the antenatal clinic at Pelonomi Hospital, Bloemfontein." International Congress of Dietetics (ICD) Sept 2021.
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# School of Nursing

**Jansen R and Reid M.** "An mHealth communication framework for caregivers of adolescents with mental health issues 1." European Conference on Mental Health 1 Oct. Online (2021).

**Mbuthia F, Reid M and Fichardt A.** "Development and validation of a mobile health communication framework for postnatal care in rural Kenya." International Health Literacy Association Summit 3–5 Oct. Online (2021).

**Van Rensburg E, Reid M, Pienaar M and Nel M.** "Health Literacy Assessment amongst indigenous Sesotho speaking patients with End-Stage renal disease in South Africa." International Health Literacy Association Summit 3-5 Oct, Online (2021).

**Van Rensburg E, Reid M, Pienaar M and Nel M.** "Interventions to improve the health literacy of Sesotho-speaking end-stage renal disease patients in South Africa." 1st Avitum Nursing Conference 5 October, Online (2021).

**Reid M and Joubert A:** "Knowledge, Skills and Training of Community Health workers that contribute to an Interprofessional Learning Initiative." The Network Toward Unity in Health 21–23 July 2021, Online.

**Nyoni C and Lister H.** "AfrIPEN: The state of the organisation and its contribution to global IPE." The Interprofessional. Global symposium. Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Winterthur, 8-13 November. Switzerland.

# **Department of Virology**

# Professor Martin Nyaga.

- Evolutionary dynamics of Ghanaian G1P [8] rotaviruses over ten years spanning pre-and post-RotarixTM introduction. Samuel N K Mingle, Chantal Agbemabiese, Susan A Damanka, Belinda L Lartey, William K C Sagoe, Christabel Enweronu-Laryea, Duncan A Steele, Valantine N Ndze, Khuzwayo C Jere, Martin M Nyaga, George E Armah, Francis E Dennis. 13th African Rotavirus Symposium (3–4 November 2021).
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- Whole-genome analysis of South African G1P [8] and G2P [4] rotavirus strains over a 14-year period: a scientific data report by the African Enteric Viruses Genome Initiative. Peter N Mwangi 1, Nicola A Page 2,3, Mapaseka L Seheri 4, M Jeffrey Mphahlele 4,5, Nadan S 2, Mathew D Esona 4, Benjamin Kumwenda 6, Arox W Kamng'ona 7, Celeste M Donato 8,9, Duncan A Steele 4, Valantine N Ndze 10, Francis E Dennis11, Khuzwayo C Jere 12,13, Martin M. Nyaga 1. 13th African Rotavirus Symposium (3–4 November 2021).

## **PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES**

Staff participation in international committees, advisory and editorial boards.

#### Department of Haematology and Cell Biology

**Prof Muriel Meiring.** Serves on the Haemostasis Advisory Committee of the Quality Assurance Programme of the Royal College of Pathologists of Australasia.

**Dr Ravnit Grewal.** Serves on the WHO Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on In Vitro Diagnostics (SAGE IVD) and was invited to the launch of the third WHO Essential Diagnostics List (EDL) on 29 January 2021; and on the editorial board of the following journal: Medicine and Pharmacy Reports.

**Dr Jaco Joubert.** Serves on the Editorial Committee of the Africa Society for Blood Transfusion (AfSBT).

# **School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences**

#### **Prof C Walsh**

- Serves on the nominating committee for the Council of the International Union of Nutrition Societies (IUNS).
- Academic Editor for International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (IJERPH).

#### **Prof TA Rasengane**

- World Health Organization (WHO) Technical Advisor on the Package of Eye Care Interventions
- Chair of the World Council of Optometry (WCO) Education Committee.

Ms I Tsatsi: Executive member of the Occupational Therapy Africa Regional Group.

# **School of Nursing**

**Dr Champ Nyoni** - Chairperson of the Boards of Directors of both the Africa Interprofessional Education Network (AfrIPEN) and Sub-Saharan Africa Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) Regional Institute (SAFRI)

**Dr Champ Nyoni –** Deputy Chair and Co-facilitator of the Interprofessional. Global Association based in the Netherlands.

**Dr Champ Nyoni-** Guest Editor at the African Journal for Health Professions Education special focus issue on Nursing and Midwifery Education 2020

Dr Champ Nyoni - Associate Editor - the African Journal of Health Professions Education

Dr Champ Nyoni- Member of the International Society of Professional Identity in Nursing

**Dr Champ Nyoni,** Mr Bennie Botha, Dr C Spies – serve as members of the Senate of Paray School of Nursing in the Kingdom of Lesotho

**Dr Champ Nyoni** – Member of the Interprofessional global committee ( A global committee on regional interprofessional education networks)

**Dr Champ Nyoni**- Member of the African Forum for Primary Health Care (AfroPHC)

**Dr Champ Nyoni-** Member of the AFREhealth IPE TWG

Dr Deirdre van Jaarsveldt - Chapter leader on the board of Sigma's Tau Lambda at Large Chapter

**Prof Marianne Reid –** Member International Health Literacy Association (IHLA)

**Prof Marianne Reid –** Board Member Diabetes Alliance

**Prof Marianne Reid –** Member The network towards unity for health association (TUFH)

# **Department of Virology**

#### **Professor Felicity Burt**

- Associate editor, Virology Journal.
- Review Editor in Emerging and Re-emerging Viruses (specialty section of Frontiers in Virology).
- Topic editor for Advances in detection and laboratory diagnosis of arboviruses, Frontiers in Virology.
- Member of the International Advisory Board for The Lancet, Infectious Diseases.
- Member of the International Scientific Advisory Board for Southern African Centre for Infectious Disease.

**Professor Martin Nyaga.** Nominated to the Local and Scientific Organizing Committee of the African Rotavirus Symposium 2021 and a session chair of the international dsRNA symposium 2022 (Canada).

#### **INTERNATIONAL STAFF EXCHANGES**

Outgoing international staff exchanges, including scientific visits, excluding conference and workshop attendance.

# Department of Haematology and Cell Biology

**Dr Anneke van Marle.** Measurable Residual Disease flow cytometry workshop presented by Arantxa Huarriz Sagüés.

Haematology; Flow Cytometry. 29–30 June 2021, Cytognos Flow Cytometry Solutions, Spain. Cytognos Application Specialist

## **Department of Virology**

**Professor Martin Nyaga** visited the following international institutions in 2021:

- Embu Teaching and Referral Hospital, Embu Kenya 13 -14 October 2021. Under the Invitation of the Chief Executive Officer; Mr Simon Nyaga and the Hospital's Research delegation, led by Dr Humphrey Mwenda (Initiated collaborations on respiratory and enteric virus's genome sequencing from Embu Kenya).
- University of Embu: Office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics, Research and Extension). 15-16 October 2021. Under the invitation of Prof Kiplagat Kotut (DVC) and the research delegation led by Dr Julius Mugweru (Initiated collaborations on respiratory and enteric virus's genome sequencing from Embu Kenya).
- Kenya Medical Research Institute's Center for Global Health Research (KEMRI-CGHR) in Kisumu Kenya between 18 -19 October 2021. Under the invitation of Dr Sammy Khagayi (Principal Data Analyst/Study Coordinator Rotavirus surveillance studies). (Initiated collaborations on a longitudinal study with samples collected in kisumu, Kenya through KEMRI).

# **INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE ADDRESSES**

Keynote addresses at international meetings/conferences

#### **Division of Public Health**

**Dr RW Botha.** Thoughts on Interprofessionalism. African Interprofessional Education Network (AfrIPEN) conference, September 2021.

#### **Department of Chemical Pathology**

**Nadu T.** Guest Lecture on "Small Molecules vs Exosomes: Controlling Cell to Cell Communication". Vellore Institute of Technology, India.

#### Department of Haematology and Cell Biology

**Prof MJ Coetzee.** World Federation of Haemophilia PACT (Path to Access to Care and Treatment) Comprehensive Care Series (Webinar 3) 11 November 2021. Theme: Strengthening comprehensive care: using data to inform clinical practice. Collecting patient reported outcomes using the myWBDR app.

# INTERNATIONALISATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

Qualitative information, including relevant data, on Internationalisation of the curriculum, including international benchmarking.

#### **Division of Public Health**

**Wood L 1, Botha R 2, Bouwman B 1, Coetzee H 1, Moolman A 2 and Venter K2.** Case study (Knowledge for Change network):Bridging knowledge cultures in rural health education: The Trompsburg project **Botha R and Sebelego I.** Radiography Students Achieving Competencies through Structured Interprofessional Education. Radiography. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.radi.2021.08.010

#### School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Finalizing the design and implementation of the postgraduate structured support programme for students complementing their degrees by research in the school. We are making use of an evidence based and needs/research skills driven approach when considering the content and are making use of blended mode of delivery. We are designing the structured support using an evolving scaffolding approach. We are making use of reflective practices to assess the content and quality of the support offered to postgraduate students and supervisors for both quality assurance and quality enhancement purposes.

Currently 3 international students are enrolled in postgraduate programmes in the school:

- 2 Master's students (Namibia =1 and Ghana =1; enrolled for MSc Dietetics and M Optometry, respectively).
- 1 Doctoral student (Zimbabwe; enrolled for D nutrition).
- In the SoHRS we are aiming to build on international relationships through collaboration in the supervision of postgraduate students.
- Physiotherapy: Collaboration with La Trobe University and the Australian Ballet Company in the supervision of one of the Physiotherapy PhD students. One student from Occupational therapy has international experts acting as external supervisors.
- Additionally, a minimum of one international examiner is included in the examination of all doctoral candidates. This aims to further establish international partnerships.

#### **School of Nursing**

**Undergraduate research activities.** Third-year students participated in an online discussion with senior students from Dedikan Kimathi University of Technology in Kenya exploring student experiences during Covid pandemic.

#### **Department of Virology**

**Professor Martin Nyaga** was involved in the following international engagement and training in 2021:

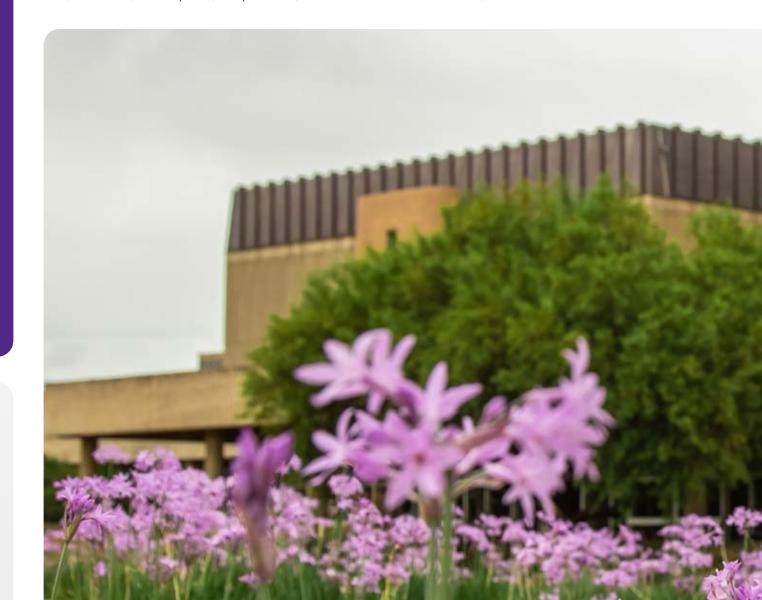
- SARS-CoV-2 Sequencing, and what it tells us about Building Sustainable Pathogen Genomics in Global Public Health. Presented by Dr Duncan MacCannell (Chief Science Officer, Office of Advanced Molecular Detection, CDC, USA. 24 November 2021.
- Transforming the Professoriate workshop on building your research career: Increasing your output and time management. Lead Educator: Professor Catherine Comiskey, Professor in Healthcare Statistics, Former Head of School and Director of Research and Innovation. Current Academic Director and chair of the international academic board of CHARM-EU. 24 November 2021.
- Fulbright Opportunities for Faculty and Administrators training. International scholarships. 23 November 2021.
- Webinar Series on SARS-CoV-2 Sequencing Beyond the Pandemic: The South African Experience: Presented by Dr Anne von Gottberg (Clinical Microbiologist, Centre for Respiratory Diseases and Meningitis (NICD), Johannesburg South Africa). 13 October 2021.
- Webinar Series on Pathogen Genomic Surveillance in Africa- Enabling data sharing for Public Health form VirusSeq Data Portal in Canada: Presented by Dr Christina K. Yung (Vice President, Data Science at Indoc Research) 29 September 2021.
- Webinar Series on Pathogen Genomic Surveillance in Africa- How SARS-CoV-2 Genomic Surveillance Informed the COVID-19 Response in South Africa: Presented by Prof Tulio de Oliveira (the KwaZulu-Natal Research and Innovation Sequencing Platform (KRISP), South Africa) 01 September 2021.
- Webinar Series on Introduction to phylodynamics: How to set temporal and phylogeographic analysis: Presented by Prof Marta Giovanetti (Instituto Oswaldo Cruz Fiocruz, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil) 31 August 2021.
- Webinar Series on COVID-19 Genomics Surveillance in Africa: Presented by Prof David Robertson (Head of CVR Bioinformatics at MRC-University of Glasgow) 24 August 2021.
- Webinar Series on Region-focused genomic epidemiology of SARS-CooV-2 with NextStrain. Presented by Dr John Huddleston and Cassia Wagner (Bedford lab, Fres Hutch centre, Seattle) 03 August 2021.
- Webinar Series on the NextStrain toolchain: from clade assignment to phylodynamic analysis.

- Presented by Prof Richard Neher (Biozentrum, University of Basel) 27 July 2021.
- Facilitated training on SARS-CoV-2 wholegenome sequencing to NHLS scientists, Dr Lucia Hans, and Dr Kim Steegan, at the University of Free State-Next Generation sequencing Unit from 24–27 May 2021
- Attended EDCTP-AIGHD special session on accelerating TB vaccine research and development: launch of a global roadmap at the Virtual Global Forum on TB vaccines held on 20 April 2021.
  - Is involved in the following collaborative research that is disseminated in International Scientific journals in 2021: Wilkinson E, Giovanetti M, Tegally H, San JE, Lessells R, Cuadros D, Martin DP, Rasmussen DA, Zekri AN, Sangare AK, Ouedraogo AS, Sesay AK, Priscilla A, Kemi AS, Olubusuyi AM, Oluwapelumi AOO, Hammami A, Amuri AA, Sayed A, Ouma AEO, Elargoubi A, Ajayi NA, Victoria AF, Kazeem A, George A, Trotter AJ, Yahaya AA, Keita AK, Diallo A, Kone A, Souissi A, Chtourou A, Gutierrez AV, Page AJ, Vinze A, Iranzadeh A, Lambisia A, Ismail A, Rosemary A, Sylverken A, Femi A, Ibrahimi A, Marycelin B, Oderinde BS, Bolajoko B, Dhaala B, Herring BL, Njanpop-Lafourcade BM, Kleinhans B, McInnis B, Tegomoh B, Brook C, Pratt CB, Scheepers C, Akoua-Koffi CG, Agoti CN, Peyrefitte C, Daubenberger C, Morang'a CM, Nokes DJ, Amoako DG, Bugembe DL, Park D, Baker D, Doolabh D, Ssemwanga D, Tshiabuila D, Bassirou D, Amuzu DSY, Goedhals D, Omuoyo DO, Maruapula D, Foster-Nyarko E, Lusamaki EK, Simulundu E, Ong'era EM, Ngabana EN, Shumba E, El Fahime E, Lokilo E, Mukantwari E, Philomena E, Belarbi E, Simon-Loriere E, Anoh EA, Leendertz F, Ajili F, Enoch FO, Wasfi F, Abdelmoula F, Mosha FS, Takawira FT, Derrar F, Bouzid F, Onikepe F, Adeola F, Muyembe FM, Tanser F, Dratibi FA, Mbunsu GK, Thilliez G, Kay GL, Githinji G, van Zyl G, Awandare GA, Schubert G, Maphalala GP, Ranaivoson HC, Lemriss H, Anise H, Abe H, Karray HH, Nansumba H, Elgahzaly HA, Gumbo H, Smeti I, Ayed IB, Odia I, Ben Boubaker IB, Gaaloul I, Gazy I, Mudau I, Ssewanyana I, Konstantinus I, Lekana-Douk JB, Makangara JC, Tamfum JM, Heraud JM, Shaffer JG, Giandhari J, Li J, Yasuda J, Mends JQ, Kiconco J, Morobe JM, Gyapong JO, Okolie JC, Kayiwa JT, Edwards JA, Gyamfi J, Farah J, Nakaseegu J, Ngoi JM, Namulondo J, Andeko JC, Lutwama JJ, O'Grady J, Siddle K, Adeyemi KT, Tumedi KA, Said KM, Hae-Young K, Duedu KO, Belyamani L, Fki-Berrajah L, Singh L, Martins LO, Tyers L, Ramuth M, Mastouri M, Aouni M, El Hefnawi M, Matsheka MI, Kebabonye M, Diop M, Turki M, Paye M, Nyaga MM, Mareka M, Damaris MM, Mburu MW, Mpina

M, Nwando M, Owusu M, Wiley MR, Youtchou MT, Ayekaba MO, Abouelhoda M, Seadawy MG, Khalifa MK, Sekhele M, Ouadghiri M, Diagne MM, Mwenda M, Allam M, Phan MVT, Abid N, Touil N, Rujeni N, Kharrat N, Ismael N, Dia N, Mabunda N, Hsiao NY, Silochi NB, Nsenga N, Gumede N, Mulder N, Ndodo N, Razanajatovo NH, Iguosadolo N, Judith O, Kingsley OC, Sylvanus O, Peter O, Femi O, Idowu O, Testimony O, Chukwuma OE, Ogah OE, Onwuamah CK, Cyril O, Faye O, Tomori O, Ondoa P, Combe P, Semanda P, Oluniyi PE, Arnaldo P, Quashie PK, Dussart P, Bester PA, Mbala PK, Ayivor-Djanie R, Njouom R, Phillips RO, Gorman R, Kingsley RA, Carr RAA, El Kabbaj S, Gargouri S, Masmoudi S, Sankhe S, Lawal SB, Kassim S, Trabelsi S, Metha S, Kammoun S, Lemriss S, Agwa SHA, Calvignac-Spencer S, Schaffner SF, Doumbia S, Mandanda SM, Aryeetey S, Ahmed SS, Elhamoumi S, Andriamandimby S, Tope S, Lekana-Douki S, Prosolek S, Ouangraoua S, Mundeke SA, Rudder S, Panji S, Pillay S, Engelbrecht S, Nabadda S, Behillil S, Budiaki SL, van der Werf S, Mashe T, Aanniz T, Mohale T, Le-Viet T, Schindler T, Anyaneji UJ, Chinedu U, Ramphal U, Jessica U, George U, Fonseca V, Enouf V, Gorova V, Roshdy WH, Ampofo WK, Preiser W, Choga WT, Bediako Y, Naidoo Y, Butera Y, de Laurent ZR, Sall AA, Rebai A, von Gottberg A, Kouriba B, Williamson C, Bridges DJ, Chikwe I, Bhiman JN, Mine M, Cotten M, Moyo S, Gaseitsiwe S, Saasa N, Sabeti PC, Kaleebu P, Tebeje YK, Tessema SK, Happi C, Nkengasong J and de Oliveira T. (2021). A year of genomic surveillance reveals how the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic unfolded in Africa. Science. Oct 22; 374(6566):423-431. doi: 10.1126/science.abj4336. Epub 2021 Sep 9. PMID: 34672751.

Pambuka GT, Kinge TR, Ghosh S, Cason ED, Nyaga MM and **Gryzenhout M:** Baseline Data of the Fungal Phytobiome of Three Sorghum (Sorghum bicolor) Cultivars in South Africa using Targeted Environmental Sequencing. *J. Fungi* 7, 978.https://doi.org/10.3390/jof7110978

Strydom A, Donato CM, **Nyaga MM**, Boene SS, Peenze I, Mogotsi MT, João ED, Munlela B, Potgieter AC, Seheri ML, de Deus N and O'Neill HG: Genetic Characterisation of South African and Mozambican Bovine Rotaviruses Reveals a Typical Bovine-like Artiodactyl Constellation Derived through Multiple Reassortment Events. *Pathogens*. Oct 12;10(10):1308. doi: 10.3390/pathogens10101308. PMID: 34684257; PMCID: PMC8539442.



Maringa WM, Simwaka J, Mwangi PN, Mpabalwani EM, Mwenda J.M., Mphahlele MJ, Seheri M.L. and **Nyaga MM**: Whole Genome Analysis of Human Rotaviruses Reveals Single Gene Reassortant Rotavirus Strains in Zambia. *Viruses*. Sep 18;13(9):1872. doi: 10.3390/v13091872. PMID: 34578453; PMCID: PMC8472975.

Ogundeji AO, Mjokane N, Folorunso OS, Pohl CH, **Nyaga MM**, **Sebolai OM**: The Repurposing of Acetylsalicylic Acid as a Photosensitiser to Inactivate the Growth of Cryptococcal Cells. *Pharmaceuticals* (*Basel*). 2021 Apr 23;14(5):404. doi: 10.3390/ph14050404. PMID: 33922831.

Rakau KG, **Nyaga MM**, Gededzha MP, Mwenda JM, Mphahlele MJ, Seheri LM, Steele AD: Genetic characterization of G12P[6] and G12P[8] rotavirus strains collected in six African countries between 2010 and 2014. *BMC Infect Dis.* Jan 22;21(1):107. doi: 10.1186/s12879-020-05745-6. PMID: 33482744; PMCID: PMC7821174.

Rasebotsa S, Üwimana J, Mogotsi MT, Rakau K, Magagula NB, Seheri ML, Mwenda JM, Mphahlele MJ, Sabiu S, Mihigo R, Mutesa L and **Nyaga M:** Whole-Genome Analyses Identifies Multiple Reassortant Rotavirus Strains in Rwanda Post-Vaccine Introduction. *Viruses.* Jan 12;13(1):E95. doi: 10.3390/v13010095. PMID: 33445703. Mokoena F, Seheri ML, **Nyaga MM**, Magagula N, Mukaratirwa A, Mulindwa A, Abebe A, Boula A, Enyonam T, Rakau K, Peenze I, Mwenda JM, Mphahlele MJ: Whole Genome Analysis of African G12P[6] and G12P[8] Rotaviruses Provides Evidence of Porcine-Human Reassortment at NSP2, NSP3, and NSP4. *Front. Microbiol.*, 12 January. https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2020.604444

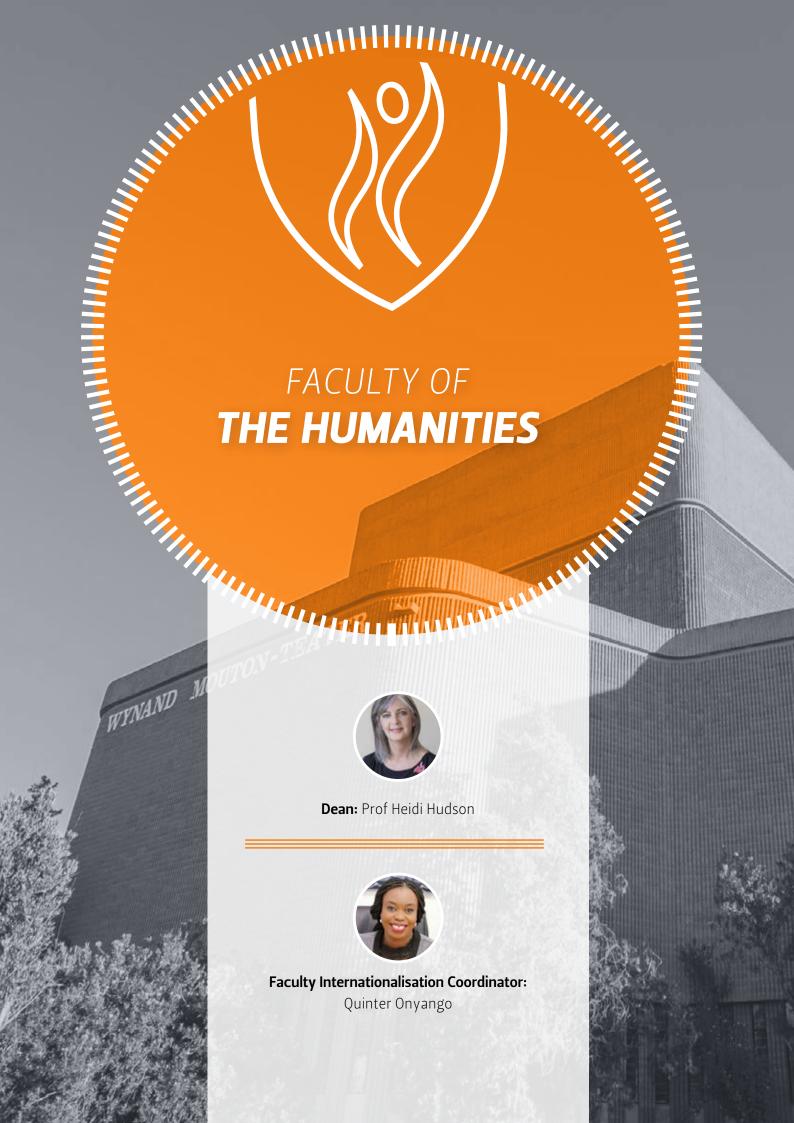
#### **PRIZES WON**

Highly valued international scientific prizes won.

# **Department of Virology** Professor Martin Nyaga

- The University of the Free State designation as a World Health Organization Collaborating Centre.
- Designation of the UFS-NGS Unit as a WHO Collaborating Centre (WHOCC) for the Vaccine Preventable Diseases Surveillance and Pathogens Genomics cluster (2020–2024). WHO's reference number SOA-49.





#### **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH**

International research projects in the entity and external funding obtained.

# **Department of African Languages**

# Multimedia digital corpus of siPhûthî

Project co-workers: Dr Sheena Shah (UFS), Dr Matthias Brenzinger (UFS). Funded by SADiLAR.

## Department of Afrikaans and Dutch, German and French

**A van Niekerk UFS (Project leader),** co-workers, Prof L de Wachter (KULEUVEN), Prof N Bosman (UP), M Lubens (NTU – Taalunie) Dutch as a foreign language in SA – language acquisition SLP. Funding: Dutch language union in 2020 and 2021.

# **Department of Anthropology**

**Dr Christian Williams: "Faith and Exile"** (supported between 2019 and 2022 with funding from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Germany).

#### **Centre for Gender and Africa Studies**

# **Dr Stephanie Cawood**

"Memorialising struggle – Dynamics of Memory, Space and Power in Post-Liberation Africa" (Part of the Newton Advanced Fellowship (British Academy/Newton Fund grant of £62 000 for 2016-2019. Data collection has been concluded, and the research output is in process, in collaboration with Dr Jonathan Fisher from the International Development Department from the University of Birmingham, UK).

#### Dr Nadine Lake:

"Gender Mainstreaming: Developing Competencies in Higher Education for Gender Equality, Peacebuilding and Gender-Sensitive Research (2018 – 2023)". Funded by the Swedish International Development Agency, SIDA. Funding – 8 million Swedish Krona.

#### Dr Munyaradzi Mushonga

"The border, the 'Bantustans' and the Rainbow Nation: a contradictory mix of discreteness and continuity in the oral histories of transnational communities in the borderlands of Lesotho/South Africa" (International research project funded by the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS) to the tune of R493 005,49).

#### **Department of Community Development**

Mountain to Mountain Research Project 2. UK-USDP Doctoral Project.

#### **Department of Communication Science**

#### **Prof Breshears**

Received an Afromontane Research Unit (ARU) grant collaborating with Prof Haley Horstman from the University of Missouri. External funding obtained.

#### Prof Nyasha Mboti

Part of the Global Fandom Series with Prof Henry Jenkins of the University of Southern California (USC), Annenberg. Started September 2021, to be concluded in September 2022. http://henryjenkins.org/blog/2021/9/27/coming-soon-global-fandom-jamboree No external funding.

# **Department of English**

#### **Prof Helene Strauss**

- "Reckoning, Repairing, Reworlding: The (In)humanities, Artistic Practices, and Planetary Crisis". Collaborative international project underway includes ongoing monthly symposia and a planned Special Issue of the international journal *Studies in Social Justice*. Participants were drawn from international and local universities, including Concordia University, Brock University, McMaster University, the University of Alberta, and Stellenbosch University.
- Participation in a collaborative project on "**Feminism, Memory, Activism: Forging Transnational Solidarities**". Invited by Sandra Young (University of Cape Town) and Rosanne Kennedy (Australian National University). Initial meeting scheduled as part of the *American Comparative Literature Association's* (ACLA) Conference, 15–18 June 2022, National Taiwan Normal University.

#### **Prof Iri Manase**

African Futures Research Project. No funding.

#### **Department of Fine Arts**

# **Prof Janine Allen-Spies**

Participated in the following international exhibitions:

- Translating home (2021), International Exhibition, Latitudes online, Curators' lab, Curated by Bontle Tau.
- What's the story? (2021), The Budapest Diary. Selected as part of the top ten photographers. Online Exhibition.

#### **Prof Willem Boshoff**

His sculpture titled 'Flagstone' was included in the Yorkshire Sculpture Park's permanent collection in September 2021.

#### About the work:

'In my stone sculptures, I use mostly Belfast black granite, an igneous material formed by magma or lava (molten volcanic rock) cooling and becoming solid. This means that granite was a liquid at some point in time immemorial. By polishing the natural rock, I take it back, in a symbolic way, to its former molten, amorphous constituency. The ultimate character of my stone sculptures should look as if it has something to do with the rock's history, with its own 'memory' of its liquid essence being moulded and settling in a place. The soil, the bedrock and the earth contain a record (some would even say memory) of past events. The land artist Andy Goldsworthy says, "A stone is ingrained with geological and historical memories."

# **Department of Hebrew**

# Dr KD Chau

- "Sonic Echoes (Rhyme and Much More) in Biblical Hebrew Poetry: Linguistic and Literary Perspectives" in joint programme units of Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew and National Association of Professors of Hebrew, Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting, San Antonio, TX, USA (Nov 2021).
- "The Poetry of Rock, Rain, and Remembrance in the Song of Moses". In *Collective Memory and Collective Identity: Deuteronomy and the Deuteronomistic History in Their Context*, ed. Johannes Unsok Ro and Diana Edelman. Berlin: De Gruyter.

#### Dr TJ Makutoane

"A People Divided by a Common Language: The Orthography of Sesotho in Lesotho and South Africa and the Implications for Bible Translation." BT [Bible Translation] Conference 2021: Paradigms of Bible Translation: Mission, Goals, Assumptions.

## Prof CL Miller-Naudé and Prof JA Naudé

- "The Semiotics of Reddish Precious Stones in the breast piece of the High Priest", invited paper to section "The Language of Colour in the Bible: From Word to Image" at the conference of the European Association of Biblical Studies, Wuppertal, Germany.
- "Qumran Hebrew and the Diachrony of Quantification: Implications for the Linguistic History of the Qumran Community". Invited paper. International Conference on Qumran Literature/Dead Sea Scrolls: The Origin of the Sectarian Movement in the Dead Sea Scrolls. 13 May 2021.
- "Differentiating Left Dislocation Constructions in Biblical Hebrew". In Hornkohl, A.D. and Khan, G. (eds), *New Perspectives in Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew*, Cambridge Semitic Languages and Cultures. Cambridge: The University of Cambridge, 617-640.

## **Prof CL Miller-Naudé** (with Dr LG Gilley)

• "Intransitive Verb Classes in Shilluk: Morphophonology and Semantics". 15th International Nilo-Saharan Linguistics Colloquium, University of Edinburgh, Scotland.

#### **Prof JA Naudé**

- "Complexity thinking and Bible translation: Censorship and (re)translation." Invited presentation to United Bible Societies Global Translation Advisors.
- "Complexity thinking and Bible translation: Translating sacred space beyond Translation Studies". Invited presentation to United Bible Societies Global Translation Advisors.
- "Religious texts and oral tradition". In Gambier Y and Van Doorslaer L (eds.). Handbook of Translation Studies, Volume 5. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company. pp. 191-198.

# Prof JA Naudé and Prof CL Miller-Naudé

- "Generative Linguistics as a Theoretical Framework for the Explanation of Problematic Constructions in Biblical Hebrew". Invited presentation to the "Biblical Text Research Group" of the Institute for Biblical Research, San Antonio, Texas (USA).
- "Intratranslations of Sacred Text and Sacred Space". Association of Translation Studies in Africa conference. The University of Ghana.

#### Prof JA Naudé, Prof CL Miller-Naudé and Dr TJ Makutoane

The Metaphorical and Symbolic Uses of Flora in the Bible: Identification and Translation of 'Hyssop'". In *Ve-* **?Ed YaÇaleh** (Gen 2:6): Essays in Biblical and Ancient Near Eastern Studies Presented to E. Greenstein, by P
Machinist, RA Harris, JA Berman, N Samet, N Ayali-Darshan (eds), 333-354. Writings from the Ancient World.
Atlanta: Scholars Press.

# **Department of History**

#### Dr Rebecca Swartz

- Presented a paper titled: "I had no complaint to make, but I absconded": Agency, childhoods and children's experiences of the Children's Friend Society in the Cape, 1833–1841', Society for the History of Childhood and Youth Conference, online, June 2021.
- Presented a paper titled: 'Race, radical Race, radical education and childhood: A case from the colonial Cape, the 1830s', International Standing Conference on the History of Education, online, June 2021.
- Presented a paper titled: "Children, education and settler colonialism: Reflections from the nineteenth-century British Empire", University of Lethbridge History Departmental Seminar, online, February 2021.

#### **Prof Twala**

Presented a paper titled: "Dangling the land as a carrot: The Bantustans and the extension of land under the apartheid regime", Africana Studies Workshop: James Madison University, Virginia, USA, online, 15 November 2021.

#### Prof Chitja Twala and Prof John Aerni-Flessner

Presented a paper titled: "Borders and Bantustans in the 1970s and 1980s in Southern Africa", at the 2021 Association for Borderlands Studies on the Theme: The Covid-19 Pandemic and Borderland Contestation in Southern Africa, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, USA, online, 17 April 2021.

#### **Dr Clement Masakure**

Gaveatalkonhisbook'AfricanNursesandEverydayWorkinTwentieth-CenturyZimbabwe',TheConversationwith Anotida Chikumbu (Book Series), 5 February 2021, hosted by University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iN\_wpZu2\_fc

# **Department of Language Practice**

#### K Riedel

Joint researcher on a KAKENHI-B grant with Prof S Lee (ICU, Japan) as PI/project leader. The project is titled **Microvariation in Bantu languages of South Africa: building theories from typology data** and runs from 1 December 2021 to 31 March 2027, with research partners in Japan and South Africa.

#### **Odeion School of Music**

**Dr Frelét de Villiers** is part of a global research group, representing seven countries, researching aspects of the application of seamless learning. They are working on a book publication, "Analysing the impact of post-Covid seamless learning experiences".

#### Dr Matildie Wium:

Book chapter: Wium, M, 2021. Arnold van Wyk's *Van Liefde en Verlatenheid* ('Of Love and Forsakenness'): Love and Others in 1950s South Africa. In Gordon Sly and Michael Callahan (eds.), *Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Song Cycles: Analytical Pathways toward Performance*. New York: Routledge. Chapter V, pp. 64-78.

#### Dr Anneke Lamont:

Book chapter: Lamont, A, 2021. The Psalmist's Cry. In J Boyce-Tillman and KS Hendricks (eds), *Living Song: Singing, Spirituality and Wellbeing*. New York: Peter Lang. Chapter VI, pp. 95-108.

#### Mr Leon Snyman:

Book chapter: Snyman, LD, 2021, "In the Blink of an Ear: changing perspectives", in Gunesch K (ed), *Music, Poetry and Language: Sound, Sight and Speech in Comparative and Creative Connection*, pp. 104-112. Interdisciplinary Discourses (an imprint of London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research), London.

## **Department of Philosophy and Classics**

#### Beukes, CJ

Appointment: Resident Associate under European Directive 2016/801 at the Center for the History of Philosophy and Science (CHPS), Faculteit der Filosofie, Theologie en Religiewetenschappen, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, The Netherlands, from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2025.

#### **Department of Political Studies**

What follows below reflects the Department of Political Studies and Governance's strong research footprint emanating from our MoUs with the likes of the Africa Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Haifa University, Jawaharlal Nehru University, and Niger Delta University. In addition, it reflects individual staff international collaborations, for instance, Dr Botha's relationship with the International Counter-Terrorism Centre at The Hague and my Prof Solomon's relationship with the Austrian political scientist – Prof Arno Tausch. It also reflects where different MoUs merge to realise a book such as *Directions in International Terrorism* published by Palgrave Macmillan and reflect the MoU signed with Haifa University and Nigeria's Niger Delta University. Similarly, the Russian Academy of Sciences book reflects our MoU with them and Haifa University. Meanwhile, publications like that with Research on Islam and Muslims in Africa (RIMA) and the Middle East Institute reflect those members of the Department hold positions in these bodies as Senior Research Associates or members of the Academic Advisory Board.

#### **Prof Theo Neethling**

- China's first overseas military base in Djibouti: Assessing the objectives, motivations, wider networks and prospects. In Compel R. and Hall A. (eds), *Security and Safety in the Era of Global Risks*. Routledge: New York, 2021, ISBN 978-0-367-65187-9.
- Extremism and insecurity in northern Mozambique: Why be concerned? In Segell G, Kostelyanets S and Solomon H (eds), *Terrorism in Africa: New trends and frontiers.* Moscow: Institute for African Studies; Haifa: University of Haifa. 2021. ISBN 978-5-91298-268-2.

#### Dr Anneli Botha

- Assessing the Status and Addressing Violent Extremism in East Africa. In G Segell, S Kostelyanets and H Solomon (eds), *Terrorism in Africa: New Trends and Frontiers*. Moscow: Institute for African Studies. 2021.
- Terrorism in Southern Africa. In R Gunaratna and C Nna-Emeka Okereke (eds), Handbook of Terrorism in Africa. World Scientific. 2021.
- Peacekeeping in Africa While Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. In *Directions in International Terrorism*. Springer. DOI: 10.1007/978-981-16-3380-5. 2021.
- Prevention of terrorist attacks on critical infrastructure (Chapter 29). In AP Schmid (ed), Handbook of Terrorism Prevention and Preparedness. The Hague: ICCT Press. DOI 10.19165/2020.6.01. ISBN 9789090339771. https://icct.nl/app/uploads/2021/04/Handbook-Ch-28-Botha-Prevention-of-Terrorist-Attacks-on-Critical-Infrastructure.pdf. 2021

#### **Dr Eben Coetzee**

• "Iran, the bomb and the spectre of (nuclear) terror". In H Solomon (ed), *Directions in International Terrorism:* Theories, Trends and Trajectories, Palgrave Macmillan, 2021.

#### Dr Alta Grobbelaar

- "Updating Africa: Tweeting Terrorism". In H Solomon (ed), *Directions in International Terrorism: Theories, Trends and Trajectories*. ISBN 978-981-16-3379-9 Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan. 2021.
- "Africa's Online Terror: The increased reliance of African terrorist organisations on Social Media". In G Segell, S Kostelyanets, H Solomon (eds), *Terrorism in Africa: New Trends and Frontiers*. ISBN 979-8-48152-268-5 Moscow: Institute for African Studies. 2021.

## Dr Bianca Naudé

- Revisiting state personhood and world politics: Identity, personality and the IR subject (2021, New York & Oxon: Routledge).
- "Beyond disciplinary dogma: An ontological security approach to terrorism and its study", in H. Solomon (ed), *Directions in International Terrorism: Theories, trends and trajectories* (2021, The Gateway: Palgrave Macmillan).

#### **Prof Hussein Solomon**

- Co-authored with A Tausch. Arab MENA Countries: Vulnerabilities and Constraints Against Democracy on the Eve of the Global COVID-19 Crisis. 2021. Springer. Switzerland. ISBN 978981157049.
- Directions in International Terrorism: Theories, Trends and Trajectories. Palgrave Macmillan. Switzerland. 9789811633799. 2021.
- With G Segell and S Kostelyanets. *Terrorism in Africa: New Trends and Frontiers*, Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences. Moscow. ISBN 9785912982682. 2021.
- (with J Cocodia) "Exploring the Confluence Between Terrorism and Identity in Africa", in H Solomon (ed), Directions in International Terrorism: Theories, Trends and Trajectories. Palgrave Macmillan. 9789811633799. Switzerland. 2021. pp. 33-56.
- "Terrorism, Counter-Terrorism and the Need to Problematize the State in the Sahel", in Glen Segell, Sergey Kostelyanets and Hussein Solomon (eds), *Terrorism in Africa: New Trends and Frontiers*. Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences. ISBN 9785912982682. Moscow. 2021. pp. 36-47 (with S Bekker).

- "Exploring the Nexus between Democratization, Authoritarianism and Patriarchy in Iran and Saudi Arabia". In Md Muddassir Quamar (ed), *Politics of Change in the Middle East and North Africa since the Arab Spring:*A Lost Decade? Middle East Institute-KW Middle East Series. New Delhi, India. 2021.
- "Ethnic and Domestic Sources of Terrorism in Africa". In M Mokhtar (ed), *The Future of Extremism in Africa: Terrorism and Safe Havens*. Al Mesbar Centre for Studies and Research. Dubai. 2021. pp. 115–132 (Translated into Arabic).
- "Fighting Terrorism in the Sahel Requires Democratic Governance". *Global Action to Prevent War.* 4 May 2021. https://gapwblog.wordpress.com/2021/05/04/fighting-terrorism- in-the-sahel-requires-democratic-governance-by-dr-hussein-solomon
- "Getting Counter-Terrorism Right Means Democratizing the State". RIMA Occasional Papers 9(5), May 2021.

# **Prof Glen Segell**

- "Consistency of Civil-military Relations in the Israel Defense Forces: The Defensive Mode in Cyber", *Journal of Advanced Military Studies*. ISSN 2164-4209 (Print)/ISSN 2164-4217 (Online) 12(1) Spring 2021, 86-111.
- "Regional and Global Security and a Nuclear Iran". London Security Policy Study, 16(1), 3–19.
- "Iran the Neo-strategic Actor and Initiator the Ramifications of Non-Action", *Middle East Assessments*, The Middle East Central Asia Research Center, Ariel University, May 09, 2021.
- "Infogate influences on South Africa's intelligence services reforms". Connections: *The Quarterly Journal*, 20(1), 61-74. ISSN 1812-1098, e-ISSN 1812-2973.
- "Revisiting Nasser style Pan-Arabism and Pan-Africanism prompted by the Abraham Accords", in *Insight on Africa*, eISSN 09763465 ISSN 09750878.
- "The Maritime Considerations of NATO off Africa". In G Segell (ed), *African Maritime Security*, ISBN 9781901414486 (EPUB).
- "Researching Phases of Islam in Africa", in G Segell (ed), African Terror Frontiers, ISBN 9781901414479 (EPUB).
- "The Abraham Accords: From Extremist Politics to Diplomacy", Chapter 11. In H Solomon (ed), *Directions in International Terrorism: Theories, Trends and Trajectories*, pp. 243–266 (Palgrave Macmillan, 2021).
- "Exporting ideology and religion from the Middle East importing terror into Africa". In G Segell, S Kostelyanets, H Solomon (eds), *Terrorism in Africa: New Trends and Frontiers. Moscow: Institute for African Studies*, 2021. pp. 140–153, ISBN 9785912982682/ISBN 9798481522685.
- "Closing remarks", in T Jenkins, R de Klerk, SP Mbalane (eds), *Proceedings of the First Postgraduate Webinar Collaboration*, the University of Haifa and University of the Free State, 21 January 2021 pp. 75-77 (University of Haifa) ISBN 978-965-7437-92-6.
- G Segell, S Kostelyanets and H Solomon (eds), New Frontiers of Terrorism in Africa Proceedings of Colloquium, 17 March 2021 (Haifa: University of Haifa), ISBN 9798722092830 ASIN.
- G Segell, S Kostelyanets, H Solomon (eds), *Terrorism in Africa: New Trends and Frontiers*. Moscow: Institute for African Studies, 2021, ISBN 9785912982682 / ISBN 9798481522685.
- "Madawi Al-Rasheed, The Son King: Reform and Repression in Saudi Arabia (London, Hurst, 2020)". *Middle East tracker* (ISSN 2732-4877), 1(9) (February) 2021, 3-5. DOI:10.13140/RG.2.2.17534.00321

# **Department of Psychology**

#### Prof L Naudé

- International Collaborator: Center for Personality Development, with Dr Konrad Piotrowski, Institute of Psychology, SWPS University, Poznań, Poland. https://english.swps.pl/research/ research-centers/center-for-research-on-personality-development
- The Africa Long Life Study: A longitudinal exploration of the psychological development of young adults in Africa. Project collaboration between Switzerland, Namibia, and Kenia. (Ethical Approval: UFS-HSD2021/1906/21).

#### Dr NF Tadi

• Cultural Consensus Modelling to Identify Culturally Relevant Risk Factors for Suicide among Sesotho Youth in South Africa. Application for funding still in progress.

# Prof JP Fouché

- In 2021, Prof Fouché was also co-guest editor of the special issue on psychobiography published in *Europe's Journal of Psychology (EJOP*). This was also released in 2021 second part of the year. The fellow guest editors were Prof C-H Mayer and Prof R van Niekerk.
- At the end of 2021, Springer Publishers published a book titled: *Psychobiographical illustrations on meaning and identity in different socio-cultural contexts.* Prof Fouché was co-guest editor of this book, working with authors from 40 other countries. No external funding was obtained.

#### **Department of Social Work**

IKudu Project: **Prof Roelf Reyneke** is involved in the **COIL project, a subsect of the IKUDU project**. The IKudu Project is under the auspices of the Faculty of Humanities. The project is from the Hague University in the Netherlands. No direct funding to the Department of social work

## **Department of Sociology**

#### Prof Katinka de Wet

NRF project titled, **Community Health Workers: Foot Soldiers in Pandemic Times**, in collaboration with researchers from the University of Antwerp, Belgium; and the University of Makerere, Uganda. Funding: R696 900.

#### **Prof Sethulego Matebesi**

Project title, 'Radical politics beyond or through representative institution', in collaboration with researchers from Queen Mary University of London, Denmark; University of Johannesburg, and the University of the Witwatersrand. Funder: Danish Ministry of Education and Research.

## **Department of South African Sign Language and Deaf Studies**

Our department hosted the Sixth International Symposium on Place Names 2021, titled, 'Standardisation and the wealth of place names – Aspects of a delicate relationship' from 29 September to 1 October 2021 Virtual/Bloemfontein, in collaboration with the Joint IGU/ICA Commission on Toponymy.

#### **UNIBS**

International research project entitled: non-suicidal self-injury and its association with personal, relational, and social identities: A longitudinal study in Belgium, India, and South Africa, commencing in 2019. Due to the lockdown during the pandemic, active data collection was suspended during 2020 and 2021. Despite this, an article based upon the initial 2019 data collection and authored by Belgian, South African and Indian scholars appeared in 2021.

Raemen L, Luyckx K, Palmeroni,N, Verschueren M, Gandhi A, Grobler A and Claes L (2021). Trauma and self-harming behaviours in high school students: The mediating role of identity formation. *Journal of Adolescence*, 92, 20–29. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adolescence.2021.08.004

#### INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

Papers/presentations delivered at international workshops, seminars or conferences.

#### **Dean's Office**

#### **H** Hudson

- Who cares? Ubuntu feminism and the politics of mutual responsibility for war and peace. Paper presented at the International Studies Association Virtual Conference, 6–9 April 2021.
- In-between Spaces and the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) Agenda: Placing African Norm Writings at the Centre of Norm-Making. Paper co-presented with D Madsen at the "Listen to the Global South! Uncovering the Roles of Southern Actors in Writing Global Gender Norms" Virtual Workshop in the Indo-German Framework of ICAS: MP International Centre of Advanced Studies: Metamorphoses of the Political Thematic Module 5. The Challenge of Gender, 1–2 December 2021.

## **Department of African Languages**

#### **Dr EN Malete**

- Evaluative Language in JJ Moiloa's humorous Text, paper read at ATINER 14<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference
  on Languages and Linguistics, Athens Institute for Education and Research, Athens Greece, 5–8 July 2021.
- Evaluative Language in JJ Moiloa's humorous text, paper read at ALASA 18<sup>th</sup> Biannual International Conference, East London, 25–27 September 2021.

#### Dr AS Motsei and SG Khetoa

What a conundrum! The controversy on the effects of the language contact and variation: a particular focus on Sesotho Language. Paper read at ALASA 18th Biannual International Conference, East London, 25–27 September 2021. Virtual presentation

### Dr AS Motsei

Sustainability of practice in teaching and learning of riddles Sesotho in Higher Learning: Foundation and Intermediate Phase, paper read at Southern African Folklore Society (SAFOS) virtual international conference at University of Zululand, 22–23 September 2021.

#### Dr TJ Makutoane and AS Motsei

Linguistic and typological grammar: A case of Biblical Hebrew and Sesotho verbal system. Southern African Society of Near Eastern Studies (SASNES) virtual conference at the University of the Free State, Faculty of Theology and Religion, Department of Old and New Testament Studies, 30 August to 3 September 2021.

**Dr H Ndebele:** African languages and students' academic literacies in South African Higher Education. *Paper presented at the ALASA Hybrid International conference*, 25–27 September 2021, East London, South Africa.

## Dr M Khanyetsi:

- HSS Catalyst project conference: Dipapadi tsa bashanyana le banana: motheo wa bonna Sesothong (virtual).
- IHSS Catalyst project conference: Lewa la kgudu (virtual).
- IHSS Catalyst project conference: *Tshwane ya sekeresete le Bosotho* (virtual), *Ngwanab'o sekoti: lewa la ho qhaqholla mathata a ditjhelete mehleng ena*. The University of Cape Town (virtual), 17–18 January.

#### Department of Afrikaans and German, Dutch and French

#### Prof Van den Berg

- Memory cultures as Deleuzian assemblages: South African and Austrian literature(s). Austrian Studies Association Conference, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznan, 1-4 July (online).
- Minor literature and major trends: some notes on coming to terms with the past from a perpetrator perspective. Deleuze and Guattari Studies Conference, Prague, 29 June-1 July (online).
- The Convergence of Assemblages? On Deleuze and Guattari and Memory Cultures. Fifth annual Memory Studies Association Conference, Warsaw, 5–9 July (online).

# **Prof Morgan**

- Traduire de l'afrikaans en français: une langue et des traducteurs minoritaires. Le cas de *Fille à soldats* de François Smith, roman historique sur la guerre Anglo-Boer. Traduire les minorités linguistiques Translating linguistic minorities, Université Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris-3, France 27–28 May (online)
- Translating the Afrikaans-speaking black domestic worker: Poppie Nongena's long walk to French freedom of expression; Translating minorities and conflict in literature, Universidad de Cordoba, Spain, 10–11 June (online).

**Dr T Strauss.** 'Word Frequency Distribution: A Comprehensive Bayesian Approach'. Qualico (Quantitative Linguistics Conference) 9–11 September 2021, Tokyo (online).

**Dr Francois Smith.** "Schoeman en Bergman: 'n skrywer se filmiese verbeelding", at an international seminar on the life and work of Karel Schoeman. The seminar titled *Karel Schoeman: Een Stem uit de Stilte* was held on 26 October 2021 in Zuid-Afrika Huijs, Amsterdam, with online participation by scholars from elsewhere.

#### **Prof H Pieterse**

- "Herman Charles Bosman (1905-1951) se bydrae tot 'n transtalige en transkulturele beskouing van Suid-Afrikaanse Letterkunde".
- ALV conference and "Om te behoort", Universiteit van Amsterdam, 11-12 November 2021.

**Carla Ellis.** 'The use of "oom" and "tannie" as an (im)polite form of address between Afrikaans speakers in South Africa'. Unpublished paper read at INAR6 (International Network of Address Research). Italy: Bergamo (online). 23–25 June.

#### **Department of Anthropology**

**Dr Shirley du Plooy.** *Pilgrims' conceptual frameworks: Unlikely support for the vital force philosophy.* At Sacred Journeys 8<sup>th</sup> Global Conference. Virtual conference, 30 June to 2 July 2021.

# **Prof Joy Owen**

- World Council of Anthropological Associations (WCAA) panel speaker Refugees and Anthropology Debate/ Roundtable, 30 September 2021 (11th webinar). https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fc7GvxwvP2Q
- International conference: With co-authors Ingrid Juries and Mamokoena Mokoena "Bordering on complexity? African migrants' narratives of boundary creation and dissolution". Virtual presentation at annual Oxford Migration Studies Society conference, 10–15 May 2021.

**Dr Christian Williams.** Sixth European Congress on World and Global History (online). Presented "Liberation Movement Camps in Southern Africa".

#### Department of Art History and Image Studies

**Dr Martin P. Rossouw:** Invited panellist: 'Book Panel on Shawn Loht's Phenomenology of Film: A Heideggerian Account of Film Experience (2017)' – with responses from Robert Sinnerbrink, Shawn Loht, Ludo de Roo, Martin P. Rossouw, John Rhym, and Annie Sandrussi.' Australasian Society for Continental Philosophy (ASCP) Conference, Bond University, Gold Coast, Australia. 9 December 2021 (online).

# **Centre for Gender and Africa Studies**

# **Dr Stephanie Cawood**

- "Gendered memory and the memorialisation of national liberation struggles in Africa" (Paper presented at MSA Africa Regional Chapter Annual Conference [online] held from 24-25 November 2021). Collaborator: Prof Jonathan Fisher (International Development Department, University of Birmingham).
- "Gendered (in)securities and the memorialisation of struggle in postliberation Africa" (Paper presented on Panel 10: Women in African History, Activism and Memory in Womandla! Online Seminar Series, 19 July 2021) Collaborator: Prof Jonathan Fisher (International Development Department, University of Birmingham).

#### **Dr Nadine Lake**

- She teaches courses for the MA in Gender and Development programme as part of the Sida project.
- Feminist research methodologies (August 2021).
- International Equality Policies (October and November 2021).

#### **Prof Henning Melber**

- "Rethinking white societies in Southern Africa 1930s–1990s" (Discussant at the launch of the book, jointly presented by the Journal of Southern African Studies and the International Studies Group at the University of the Free State 01/06).
- "Round Table on the legacies of the Atlantic Charter in contemporary politics" (Presentation and discussant at the Conference "Afterlives of the Atlantic Charter: sovereignty, self-determination and self-government in British politics since 1941", organised by the Institute of Commonwealth Studies on 10/06).
- "Urban Citizenship and Middle-Class Politics Impressions from Namibia" (Presentation at the Conference "Middle-Class Urbanism: New Aesthetics of Difference and Detachment in Cities of the Global South" organised by The National Museum of Denmark on 11/06).
- "Eine kritische Würdigung der Solidaritätsarbeit" (Presentation at the online conference "50 Jahre ISSA", organised by the Information Centre on Southern Africa (ISSA) on 12/06).
- "Development Thinking in Flux Continuity and Change" (Presentation to and discussion in the pane at the Swedish Development Research Conference 2021 coordinated by Umeå University on 15/06).
- "Politics of Citizenship Social Contract and Inclusivity in African Governance" (Presenting a paper (jointly with Patience Mususa) at the Nordic Development Research Conference organised by the University of Jyväskulä on 22/06).
- "The UN Inquiry into Hammarskjöld's death: Last chance to reach the truth?" (Speaker at the Webinar organised by the UN Association Westminster and the Institute for Commonwealth Studies in London on 16/09).
- "Global Asymmetries and Knowledge Production" (Speaker at the Webinar on "Global Partnership and Neo-Colonialism" in the Webinar Series "The International System of Power" organised by the City University of London on 29/10).

#### Prof Sabelo J Ndlovu-Gatsheni

- **The Cognitive Empire and Coloniality of Knowledge** (Invited Presentation by Robert Bosch Stiftung Delivered at the 16th Berlin Debate on Social Science and Science Policy themed "Its Diversity Stupid! A Sustainable Future Requires All Its Best Research Talents," Berlin, Germany, 7 November 2021).
- Courageous Conversations Series (Invited by Prof Malinda Smith (Provost University of Calgary) to Dialogue with Prof Isabel Altamirano-Jimenez of the University of Alberta in Canada on the theme "Decolonization: Rethinking the Coloniality of Power, Knowledge, and Being," University Calgary in Canada, 21 October 2021.
- Introducing the Concept of Decolonization/Decoloniality to Development and Humanitarian Work in Africa (Invited Presentation by Christian Aid UK delivered to the Christian Aid UK Board of Trustees Meeting, 18 October 2021).
- **Global Coloniality of Power and Collaborative Knowledge Production** (Invited Presentation on the theme "Conversations on Theorising from the South with a focus on Decolonizing Collaborations" organised by Humboldt University and Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin, Germany, 15 October 2021).
- **Thinking from Africa and Decolonial Epistemology** (Pre-Recorded Presentation Delivered at the Forum for African Humanities organised by UNESCO, Bamako, Mali, 30 September 2021).
- The Implications of Decolonization for Development/ Humanitarian Work in Africa (Invited Presentation by Christian Aid UK, 8 September 2021).
- **Discussion of My Work on Decoloniality/Decolonization** (Invited Guest for Dialogue with Postgraduate Students and Staff from Michigan State University, USA, 16 July 2021).
- **My Work on Decoloniality/Decolonization** (Invited Guest for Dialogue with Dr Adriaan van Klinken (Leeds University) at the Africa Group of World Universities Network Workshop: The Application of Existing and Production and Use of New Knowledge, University of Cape Town, 7 July 2021).

- The Afterlives of Racial Slavery in Global Coloniality (Invited Presentation Delivered at The University of Cambridge Legacies of Slavery and Its Aftermath Seminar Series, Centre for African Studies, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom, 17 May 2021).
- The Implications of Decolonization for Development and Humanitarianism in Africa (Invited Presentation Delivered at Christian Aid, UK, United Kingdom, 23 April 2021).
- The Decolonial Challenge in African Studies (Invited Panel by Centre for International Policy Studies (CIPS) University of Ottawa, Canada, 26 February 2021).
- **The Decolonial Turn in Economics** (Invited Panel on Diversity in Heterodox Economics: Radical Solutions for an Old Problem at the Allied Social Science Associations (ASSA) part of American Economic Association (AEA), San Diego, USA, 3-5 January 2021).

# **Department of Community Development**

"Social Entrepreneurship practice as engaged scholarship: Strengthening local resilience and repurposing the developmental role of universities in South Africa". Paper presented at the Community Development Society virtual conference in Fargo, North Dakota.

Participatory environmentalism in the new normal: Framing post-pandemic futures for climate action praxis. Paper presented at the SAGE webinar series on Why environmental management must become the new normal (12 August 2021).

# Department of Communication Science

**Prof Nyasha Mboti.** Public lecture "There are people here who by all normal standards should be dead: An Introduction to Apartheid Studies", presented at University of Wisconsin (UWC), Madison, (UCSB), African Cultural Studies Centre, 10 December 2021. https://african.wisc.edu/event/nyasha-mboti-there-are-people-here-who-by-all-normal-standards-should-be-dead-an-introduction-to-apartheid-studies.

# **Department of Criminology**

#### Peacock R

- Justice for victims of crime and abuse of power: Challenges for policy, practice and research in the global North-South divide. The intervention was presented on the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power (Victim Support Europe, WSV and Justice Section of the UNODC). 14<sup>th</sup> United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Kyoto, 7–12 March.
- Creating an inclusive model of rehabilitation of victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Intervention presented together with OP. Jindal Global University (Delhi). 14<sup>th</sup> United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. Kyoto, 7–12 March.
- Welfare, empowerment, and victim assistance. Paper presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Victim Assistance. Sonipat, India, 21–23 October.

**Pophaim JP.** Forgotten victims: Understanding the victimisation vulnerability of the homeless. 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Victim Assistance: Emerging Trends in Victimology and Victim Assistance. OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat, India, 21–23 October.



#### **Department of English**

#### Dr Colleen du Plessis

- Striving for quality education in South Africa: Strides and strolls on the language in education path (20-23 September 2021).
- Southern African Linguistics and Applied Linguistics Society (SALALS).

#### Dr Nonhlanhla Dlamini

- The University of Zimbabwe. Conference Title: "African Womanism/Feminism in the Global Age: Old Challenges, Recurrent Struggles, New Solidarities". 15–16 November 2021. Paper presented: Empathy and Intimacies in Kopano Matlwa's Period Pain.
- University of Murcia (Spain). Conference Title: 'Queer Temporalities in Literature, Cinema, and Video Games', International Conference. 2–4 December 2021. Paper presented: "What If There Were No Queer Ancestors? Queering Binaries in Emezi' FreshWater".

**Dr Philip Aghoghovwia.** "Is the Anthropocene Conniving with Capital?" Water Privatization and Ontology Reimagined in Karen Jayes' for the Mercy of Water. African Studies Conference (virtual), 18 November 2021.

#### Dr Rick de Villiers

- (Invited speaker) 'How to Humble a Text: The Syntax of Penury in Beckett's *How It Is.* London Beckett Seminar. 15 October 2021.
- (Invited speaker) 'Criteria of Embarrassment: JM Coetzee and the legacy of modernist difficulty'. Modernism from the Heart: Emotion, Sincerity, and the Novel. Bristol University (via Zoom), 14 Sept 2021.

# **Department of Language Practice**

# Xany Jansen Van Vuuren

- Non-linguistic signs as communicative bases for non-professional interpreting. Paper delivered at the second biennial conference of the Association for Translation Studies in Africa, University of Ghana, Legon. 1–12 October 2021.
- Putting the cart before the horse? Agency and interpreting in animal welfare. Paper delivered at the colloquium on cognition, translation and semiosis, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein/Federal University of Juiz de Fora, Juiz de Fora. 29–30 July 2021.
- From the horse's mouth: Umwelt, functional cycle and interpreting. Paper delivered at the international online conference: The complexity of social-cultural emergence: biosemiotics, semiotics and translation studies. 26–28 August 2021.

#### Kristina Riedel

- **Kristina Riedel** and Seunghun Lee (ICU). 2 September 2021. Focus word order and Penultimate Lengthening in two Bantu Languages. Word Order and Prosody Workshop. SLE2021 (54th Annual Meeting of the Societas Linguistica Europaea 30 August–3 September 2021).
- Hannah Gibson (Essex), Lutz Marten (SOAS), Julius Taji (UDSM) and **Kristina Riedel** 12–13 August 2021. Shifting animacy restrictions for locatives in Swahili and beyond. Language Association of Eastern Africa (LAEA) Conference, 2021.
- Hannah Gibson (Essex), Jacqueline Lück (Nelson Mandela University), Savithry Namboodiripad (University of Michigan) and **Kristina Riedel**. 16–20 August 2021. African Linguistics after #RhodesMustFall. AILA, 2021.
- Hannah Gibson (Essex), Jacqueline Lück (Nelson Mandela University), Savithry Namboodiripad (University
  of Michigan) and Kristina Riedel. 28–30 June 2021. African Linguistics after #RhodesMustFall. Conference of
  the International Association of Colonial and Postcolonial Linguistics 2021, University of the Western Cape,
  South Africa.
- Hannah Gibson (Essex) and **Kristina Riedel**. 2–4 June 2021. *For-applicatives in Sesotho*. The 8th International Conference on Bantu Languages, University of Essex, UK.

#### **Kobus Marais**

- Okyeame poma: Exploring the multimodality of translation in precolonial African contexts, Guest lecture in Multimodality Talk Series Online, hosted by Multimodality@Leeds, the UCL Visual and Multimodal Research Forum and the Multimodality Group in Stockholm, 26 March.
- Semiotic work and the emergence of culture: Some ideas, Guest lecture in a seminar on cultural transfer hosted by the Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography and the Centre for the Study of Global Dynamics, Leibniz, 5 March.
- "How broad can you go?": Aspects of the conceptualisation of translation in translation studies, Guest lecture at Centre for Intercultural Mediation, University of Durham, 24 February.
- An iconic of cognitive tools: Exploring the notion of 'community' in community translation, 2<sup>nd</sup> ATSA Conference, online organised by the University of Ghana, Legon, 7–11 June.

**Marlie van Rooyen.** The (in)visibility of translation in community radio news in South Africa. Conference of the Association for Translation Studies in Africa, University of Ghana

## INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

### **Odeion School of Music**

**Dr Frelét de Villiers.** Speaker at the international PASMAE-ISME online conference, hosted by Zambia, **A bridging** framework for seamless learning in musical arts education based on global perspectives, 5–9 July 2021.

**Dr Anneke Lamont.** Presented a paper at the online European Association of Biblical Studies 2021 conference, The Deer's Cry by Arvo Pärt – an introduction to the composer's use of the Lorica by St Patrick with a specific focus on the deer as the sacred lover in the Song of Songs

### **Department of Philosophy and Classics**

- Currently working on a multifaceted research project analysing the contemporary implications of the ancient understanding of the concept of Heresy at the Paris Institute for Critical Thinking (PICT)

### Olivier G

- Collaboration with international scholars on the project to publish an edited book on *Online Civilisation*, published by the Asher Group in the USA in 2021.
- Book chapter The Morality Wars *The Ongoing Debate Over the Origin of Human Goodness* published 2021 by Lexington Books/Fortress Academic (The Rowman and Littlefield Publishing Group, Inc).

### **Department of Political Studies**

### **Dr Eben Coetzee**

- The spectre of (nuclear) terror in light of a nuclear-armed Iran. Paper delivered at "A Nuclear-armed Iran: Issues, Threats and Possibilities" Webinar, UFS, 7 October 2021.
- The continuing stability of nuclear deterrence. Paper delivered at ISA 2021 Annual Convention, 6-9 April 2021.

### Dr Bianca Naudé

- Narcissism and the IR subject: Toward a theory of state personality", paper presented at the 26th Congress of the International Political Science Association, Lisbon, Portugal, July 2021 (online).
- "An unbearable likeness of Being: Ontological insecurity and the creation of enemy others", presentation at a workshop on The Politics of Othering and Discrimination, organised jointly by the UFS Department of Political Studies and Governance, and the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP), 21 April 2021 (online).

### **Prof Theo Neethling**

• "Extremism in northern Mozambique: Why be concerned?" Paper presented at an international webinar, 'New frontiers of terrorism in Africa', hosted by the Institute for African Studies, Moscow, the Ezri Center for Iran and Gulf States Research, University of Haifa, and the Department of Political Studies and Governance, University of the Free State, 17 March 2021.

**Dr Fanie Herman.** "TA and the Political Economy of Regional Integration", Taped video presented to the United States Africa Command, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies, 1 June 2021.

### Mr Lumanyano Ngcayisa

- "Developmental Authoritarianism in Africa: The cases of Ethiopia, Rwanda, and Uganda", paper presented at the 2021 International Virtual conference on "Counter-Terrorism, Technology and Development in Africa" hosted by Stellenbosch University.
- "Nexus of malevolent political leadership and organised crime: The case of South Africa", co-authored by Mr Samkezi Pholla Mbalane paper presented at the 2021 conference on "Africa on the precipice: Taking Stock of Leadership, Militarization, Development and Climate Change" hosted by the International Association for Political Science Students in collaboration with Nigeria's Delta University and the UFS.

### **Prof Glen Segell**

- Panel Chair: Russian Academy of Sciences (Institute for African Studies, Centre for Sociological and Political Sciences Studies), University of the Free State (Department of Political Studies and Governance), and the University of Haifa, International conference "New Frontiers of Terrorism in Africa", 17 March 2021, Session 2: The Cone of Africa: Challenges of Counterterrorism?
- Discussant: Concluding Remarks, COIL Project and UFS-Haifa MoU, University of the Free State (Department of Political Studies and Governance) and University of Haifa, International online-conference "Graduate Research Colloquium", 21 January 2021.
- Conference Paper: The Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa (SIGLA) University of Stellenbosch), University of the Free State (Department of Political Studies and Governance), and the University of Haifa, International conference Shipping Security: Maritime Aspects off Africa, 18 February 2021, "NATO's Maritime Dimension vis-a-vis Africa".

- Conference Paper: Russian Academy of Sciences (Institute for African Studies, Centre for Sociological and Political Sciences Studies), University of the Free State (Department of Political Studies and Governance), and University of Haifa, International conference New Frontiers of Terrorism in Africa, 17 March 2021, "Exporting religion from the Middle East: Importing ideology and terror into Africa".
- "The Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC) and The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)". African Sahel region: Key challenges and effective response 8 April 2021, 11:00–13:30, Session 2. 12.30–13.20. What opportunities are to be seized to develop sustainable responses in the Sahel? "What is a first stock-taking of the G5 Sahel mission?"
- Conference Paper: ERGOMAS Total Defence Work Group, Canadian Defence and Security Network (CDSN, Swedish Centre for Studies of Armed Forces and Society, Workshop on Total Defence Workforces, at Swedish Centre for Studies of the Armed Forces and Society in Stockholm, 6–7 May 2021, Day 2, 12:00–13:00, 7 May 2021, Panel 3 Conceptualizing and Leveraging a Total Defence Workforce "Republic of Ireland and 'Total Defence Workforce".
- Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA) National Defense University/US Africa Command (AFRICOM) "President Joe Biden and Counter-Terrorism in Africa". Lecture 11 May 2021.
- University of the Free State, South Africa, Faculty of Humanities Gender Seminar Series 2021, 13 May 2021 "United Nations 1325 incorporated into NATO: Women, Peace and Security".
- "The Royal Navy's ballistic missile submarines", at the U.S. Naval Academy's 2021 McMullen Naval History Symposium, 23–24 September 2021, Panel 2: Naval Strategy in the 20th Century: 3 Case Studies, Thursday, September 23. "The Royal Navy's ballistic missile submarines".
- Conference Paper: University of the Free State, South Africa, Department of Political Studies and Governance, International Conference. 'A nuclear-armed Iran: Issues, threats and possibilities', 7 October 2021, "Why a nuclear-weaponized Iran would pose issues and challenges for Israel".
- "American University in the Emirates". 1st International Arabian–Gulf, Security Conference, 10–11 November 2021, Dubai, United Arab Emirates Panel: Peace and Conflict Resolutions and Military Affairs\_Session 1, 11 November 2021 10:00–12:00 Noon Dubai Time "NATO's maritime security considerations vis-a-vis MENA".

### **Prof Hussein Solomon**

- "Directions in International Terrorism," paper presented to the Seminar, African Security Governance, cohosted by the Royal Danish Defence College, the Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa and the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation. Stellenbosch University. 21 October 2021.
- Moderated the Human Security Panel at the International Virtual Conference on Counterterrorism, Technology and Development in Africa co-hosted by Obuda University, Hungary and Stellenbosch University. 22 September 2021.
- "The Decline of Turkish Soft Power in Africa with a specific focus on the Power of Example," paper delivered to the webinar Turkey in Africa, co-hosted by the Security Institute for Governance and Leadership in Africa (SIGLA) at Stellenbosch University and the Centre for Trust, Peace and Social Relations, Coventry University. 29 July 2021.
- "The Demise of the Muslim Brotherhood in the Arab World?", paper presented to the 26<sup>th</sup> Political Science World Congress: New Nationalisms in an Open World. Hosted by the International Political Science Association (IPSA). Lisbon (virtual conference). 14 July 2021.
- "Preventing Violent Extremism: Perspectives from ECOWAS and SADC", paper presented to the conference Implementing Regional Strategies to Counter Violent Extremism, co-hosted by the African Centre for Strategic Studies and the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism. Washington/Algiers. 27 May 2021.
- "Xenophobia in the Rainbow Nation", paper presented to the conference, The Politics of Othering and Discrimination, co-hosted by the Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy (ISGAP) and the Department of Political Studies and Governance, University of the Free State. New York. 21 April 2021.



- "The changing status of women in the MENA region". paper presented to the Department of International Relations and International Relations Society at the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates. 19 April 2021.
- "How Identity Politics is Fuelling Conflict Dynamics in the Sahel". paper presented to the conference, African Sahel Region: Key Challenges and Effective Response, co-hosted by the Russian International Affairs Council and the International Committee of the Red Cross. Moscow, Russia. 8 April 2021.
- "Terrorism in the Sahel: External vs Local Drivers", paper presented to the webinar, New Frontiers of Terrorism in Africa, co-hosted by the Institute for African Studies, Russian Academy of Sciences, the University of Haifa and the Department of Political Studies and Governance, University of the Free State. 17 March 2021.
- "Women Confronting Patriarchy in the MENA Region", paper presented to the Central University of Kashmir. India. 28 January 2021

### **Department of Psychology**

### Prof L Naudé

- Invited Symposium: (2021, June). "The Minority-Majority Juxtaposition": Negotiating Multi-ethnic Identities in the Diverse South African Context (Invited Symposium: Beyond Single and Mono-ethnic Ethnic Identity: Researching Variable and Multiple Ethnic Identities). Virtual Conference of the International Society for Identity Research.
- Poster: Naudé L and Piotrowski K (2021, November). Becoming an Emerging Adult Parent in South Africa: Processes of commitment exploration, and reconsideration of parental identity. The 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood, Virtual Conference

### **Department of Social Work**

**Dr ME Ncube.** A culture of wanton violent protests in South Africa, ASASWEI (International conference)

### Department of South African Sign Language and Deaf Studies

**Terblanche W and Van Staden A:** Hearing-loss and early literacy development: exploring the role of linguistic skills and support programs that can benefit DHH children, at the 13th International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies, Edulearn21 (online), 5-7 July 2021.

### De Lange JC and Du Plessis LT

- The legal recognition of signed languages and place names worldwide: A names-planning perspective. Presented a paper at the 6th International Symposium on Place Names: Standardization and the wealth of place names Aspects of a delicate relationship. Online (29 Sept 1 Oct)
- The South African case recognises signed place names as alternative place names. Presented a paper at the Names Society of Southern Africa International Congress: Current trends in names and naming (online), 3-4 November 2021.

**Lombaard SC.** Toponymic features of place names in South African Sign Language for known places. Presented a paper at the Names Society of Southern Africa International Congress: Current trends in names and naming (online), 3-4 November 2021.

### Loth C, Kotze G and De Lange JC

• Finding place names: Improving digital documentation and accessibility of SASL place names. Presented a paper at the 6th International Symposium on Place Names: Standardization and the wealth of place names – Aspects of a delicate relationship (online), 29 Sept – 1 Oct.

Bringing SASL place names to the fore. Presented a paper at the Names Society of Southern Africa International Congress: Current trends in names and naming (online), 3–5 November 2021.



### **PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES**

Staff participation in international committees, advisory and editorial boards.

### Department of Afrikaans and German, Dutch and French

**Prof Cilliers van den Berg.** Editor of *Acta Germanica*, the yearbook of the Association for German Studies in Southern Africa (SAGV). Articles in the 2021 volume include contributions from Germany, Poland, India, Sweden and Zimbabwe.

### **Department of Anthropology**

### **Prof Joy Owen**

- Regional Africa Editor, *Teaching Anthropology*.
- Editorial board member, Anthropology Southern Africa.

### **Dr Christian Williams**

- Advisory Board Member for the H-Net Cross Network Project "Refugees in African History" (2020 present).
- Advisory Board Member for the Journal of Southern African Studies (2014 present).
- Consulting Editor for Anthropology Southern Africa (2014 present).

### **Department of Art History and Image Studies**

### **Dr Martin Rossouw**

- In August 2021, appointed as the new editor of Brill's Contemporary Cinema. This book series centres upon screen productions since the turn of the millennium to chart the rapidly unfolding landscape of the moving image. The rest of the editorial board: Jaimie Baron (University of Alberta, Canada), Maryann Erigha (University of Georgia, GA, USA), Cynthia Felando (University of California, Santa Barbara, CA, USA), Mark Jancovich (University of East Anglia, UK), Seung-hoon Jeong (California State University Long Beach, CA, USA), Kathleen Loock (Leibniz University Hannover, Germany), Tiago de Luca (University of Warwick, UK), Ernest Mathijs (University of British Columbia, Canada), Sheila J. Nayar (University of Utah, UT, USA), Iain Robert Smith (King's College London, UK), Christina Stojanova (University of Regina, Canada), Aaron Taylor (University of Lethbridge, Canada), Catherine Wheatley (King's College London, UK), Dan Yacavone (University of Edinburgh, UK). For more information: https://brill.com/view/serial/COCI?contents=about
- In October 2021, Dr Martin Rossouw became an invited member of the Short Film Studies editorial board, currently, the sole international journal dedicated to studying the historical importance and increasing contemporary prominence of short films. For more information:
   https://www.intellectbooks.com/short-film-studies

### **Centre for Gender and Africa Studies**

### **Prof Henning Melber**

### International committees/advisory boards

- President of the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI) with a secretariat in Bonn, Germany.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the Europahaus Burgenland/Akademie Pannonien in Eisenstadt, Austria.
- Member of the International Advisory Committee for the Joint SDG Research Initiative by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research Science for Global Development (NOW-WOTRO).
- Senior Policy Advisor, *Global Policy Forum Europe* in Bonn, Germany.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the *Development and Peace Foundation/Stiftung Entwicklung und Frieden* (sef:) in Bonn, Germany.

### **Editorial and advisory journal boards**

- Editor-in-chief of Acta Academica.
- Member of the International Advisory Board of *The Round Table*. The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs.
- Member of the International Advisory Board of the Strategic Review for Southern Africa.
- Member of the Advisory Board of the Journal of Namibian Studies.
- Member of the Advisory Board of Stichproben. Vienna Journal of African Studies.
- Member of the Advisory Board of WeltTrends. Das aussenpolitische Journal.
- Member of the Editorial Advisory Board of afriche e orienti.
- Member of the Advisory Board of Peripherie Zeitschrift fürPolitik und Ökonomie in der Dritten Welt.
- Member of the Advisory Board of Matatu. Journal for African Culture and Society.

### Prof Sabelo J Ndlovu-Gatsheni

### International committees/advisory boards

- Invited to the Scientific Advisory Board of Institute of Development Policy (IOB), University of Antwerp, Belgium.
- Invited to the Advisory Board of Excellence on Exchange and Development (Exceed), Global Partnership Network (GPN), Germany.
- Invited and served on the Advisory Board Member of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) Next Generation Social Sciences in Africa (NextGen) Program, 2020–2023.

### **Editorial and advisory journal boards**

- Member of Editorial Advisory Board of Journal of Higher Education in Africa published by the Council for the Development of Social Science in Africa (CODESRIA), Dakar, Senegal.
- Member of International Advisory Committee of Aguipo Global South Journal for the Social Sciences and Humanities (AGSJ) published by University of the Philippines.
- Member of Advisory Board/Wissenschaftlicher Beirat of Journal of Social and Cultural Anthropology (JSCA) published by Zeitschrift fur Ethnologie (ZfE)/Dietrich Reimer Verlag, Germany.
- Member of the Editorial Board of *International Politics Reviews* Published by Palgrave Macmillan.
- Member of International Advisory Board of Third World Quarterly published by Francis and Taylor in the United Kingdom.
- Member of Editorial Board of International Journal of Critical Diversity Studies (IJCDS) published by Pluto Press in the United Kingdom.
- Member of Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of Developing Societies (JDS) published by Sage Publications.
- Member of Editorial Advisory Board of Stichproben-Vienna Journal of African Studies published by Vienna University in Austria.
- Member of Editorial Board of Bandung: Journal of the Global South published by Brill in the Netherlands.
- Member of International Editorial Review Board of Peer-Reviewed Global Critical Caribbean Thought Books Series published by Caribbean Philosophical Association and Rowman and Littlefield International Publishers.
- Member of International Editorial Board of Peer-Reviewed Nationalisms Across the Globe Book Series Published by Peter Lang AG, International Academic Publishers, Oxford (UK) and Bern (Switzerland).
- Member of Advisory Board of New Book Series in Sociology: Decolonial Options for Social Sciences published by Lexington Books.
- Member of Editorial Review Board of the Journal of Green Economy and Development.

### **Department of Community Development**

Steering Committee for the UK-USDP.

Mountain to Mountain Coordinating Team.

### **Department of Communication Science**

**Elbie Lombard.** Member of CIMS (Center for Cinema and Media Studies) Ghent University since December 2014. **Prof Mboti** 

- Steering Committee Member, MediArXiv (scholar-led digital archive for media, film and communication studies, hosted by the Center for Open Science).
- Board of Directors, Society for Phenomenology and Media (SPM).

Scientific Committee Member, Visual Methods and Methodologies for Research in the Fields of Communication Group.

### **Department of Criminology**

**Cronje M.** Member of the World Society of Victimology Communications Committee.

### Peacock R

- President of the World Society of Victimology. The World Society of Victimology is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organisation with Special Category consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and the Council of Europe.
- Executive Committee member of the World Society of Victimology.
- United Nations Liaison Committee of the World Society of Victimology, UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and related inter-regional meetings.
- Editorial Board member of the Journal of Victimology and Victim Justice.
- Editorial Board member of Acta Criminologica: The African Journal of Criminology and Victimology.
- Editorial Board member of Ethnicity and Criminal Justice.

## NTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

### **Department of English**

### **Prof Helene Strauss**

- Invited to join the **Editorial Board** of the international journal *Cultural Studies*, 2021.
- Vice-Chair: global Association for Cultural Studies, 2020-2022.
- **Editorial Board:** ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature, since 2012.
- Publication Grant from the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, through the **Awards to Scholarly Publications Program**, May 2021 (C\$ 8000). Funding awarded for the book Wayward Feeling: Audio-Visual Culture and Aesthetic Activism in Post-Rainbow South Africa, University of Toronto Press.

### **Prof Iri Manase**

- Member of Literary Geographies (UK) journal's Editorial Board.
- Member of the Editorial Board of Dande Journal (Zimbabwe).
- Member of the Conference Organising Committee for Association of Commonwealth Literature and Language Studies Association's 19<sup>th</sup> Triennial Conference: Ruptured Commons, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada, 11–15 July 2022.

**Dr Philip Aghoghovwia.** Carnegie Fellow, Carnegie Corporation of New York, and African Studies Association (CCNY-ASA), 2021.

### **Department of Hebrew**

### Dr KD Chau

- Steering Committee for Ethnic Chinese Biblical Colloquium (Society of Biblical Literature [Annual Meeting] Affiliate).
- Co-Chair for Steering Committee for Biblical Hebrew Poetry (Society of Biblical Literature [Annual Meeting]).

### Prof CL Miller-Naudé

- Co-chair of the steering committee of the "Biblical Hebrew Language and Linguistics" programme unit of the International Society of Biblical Literature.
- Co-editor of the series *Linguistics Studies in Ancient West Semitic*, published by Pennsylvania State University Press (USA).
- Member of the editorial board, The Bible Translator.

### **Prof JA Naudé**

- Co-editor of the series *Linguistics Studies in Ancient West Semitic*, published by Pennsylvania State University Press (USA).
- Member of the editorial board, Handbook of Translation Studies.
- Member of the advisory board, Handbook of Terminology.
- Member of the editorial board. The Bible Translator.
- Member of the editorial board, Folia Orientalia.
- Member of the advisory board, National Association of Professors of Hebrew (USA).
- Member of the international advisory board, Journal of Translation Studies in Africa.

### **Department of History**

**Dr Tshepo Moloi.** Joined the Editorial Board of Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies. **Dr Rebecca Swartz.** Book Reviews Editor for History of Education (UK).

**Prof André Wessels.** Continued his work as Associate Editor for Southern Africa for the *International Journal of Military History and Historiography*.

### **Department of Language Practice**

### **K Marais**

- Editor of Journal for Translation Studies in Africa. Editorial board member: Benjamins Translation Library; Biosemiotics; Research in Translation; Linguistica Antverpiensia; Nida Centre for advanced research on translation; Routledge Series on Translation Textbooks; Target; Translation Studies.
- Member of the scientific committee of the 7<sup>th</sup> IATIS Conference in Spain.

### M van Rooyen

- Member of the Board: Association for Translation Studies in Africa.
- Member of the editorial board: Journal for Translation Studies in Africa.

### **Odeion School of Music**

**Dr Danrè Strydom.** African chair of the International Clarinet Association and an international artist for Buffet Crampon.

# INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

### **Department of Language Practice**

**Goff B.:** Member of international editorial boards of the *Classical Receptions Journal* (OUP) of *Elektr* (University of Patras) and of *Classical Receptions in Twentieth–Century Writing* (Bloomsbury).

### **Department of Political Studies**

**Dr Anneli Botha.** Advisory Board of Perspectives on Terrorism as part of the Terrorism Research Initiative, Leiden University.

**Dr Eben Coetzee:** International Studies Association (ISA).

**Dr Alta Grobbelaar.** International Political Science Association (IPSA).

Mr Lumanyano Ngcayisa. International Association for Political Science Students (IAPSS).

### **Prof Hussein Solomon**

- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR).
- International Political Sciences Association (IPSA).
- Visiting Professor: Osaka School of International Public Policy, Osaka University, Japan.
- Research Fellow, Department of Political Science, Niger Delta University.
- Member of the International Advisory Boards of the Middle East Institute, India, and the Research Institute for European and American Studies in Athens, Greece.
- Special Advisor to the Editor of the journal *Globalizations*; **Associate** Editor of the *Southern African Peace and Security Studies Journal*, member of the International Editorial and Advisory Board of the London Security Policy Study and a member of the Editorial Boards of *Africa Insight*, *Afro-Eurasian Journal*, *African Security*, *Contemporary Review of the Middle East*, *Alternatives*, *Journal of Administrative Sciences*, *Afro-Arab Social and Economic Review*, *Journal of African Union Studies*, *Politikon*, *African Journal for the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism* and *Scientific Journals International* as well as Editor of *Insight on Africa*.

### **Prof Glen Segell**

- European Consortium for Political Research (ECPR)
- International Political Sciences Association (IPSA)
- International Studies Association (ISA)
- British International Studies Association (BISA)
- Political Studies Association (PSA)
- Project on Nuclear Issues (PONI) CSIS Washington
- · Literati Club
- London Press Club
- Atlantic Council of the United Kingdom
- European-Atlantic Group
- Global Studies Association
- Editor: Middle East Tracker.
- Editor: London Security Policy Study.
- Member Editorial Advisory Board: Journal of European and American Intelligence Studies (JEAIS).
- Member Editorial Advisory Board: Military and Strategic Affairs.
- Member Editorial Board: Cyber, Intelligence and Security.
- Member Editorial Board: Journal of Mediterranean and Balkan Intelligence.

### **Department of Psychology**

### Prof L Naudé

- Associate Editor: Emerging Adulthood Journal
- Editorial board: Identity: An International Journal of Theory and Research.
- Chairperson Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood Membership committee.
- Member of the Conference Organising committee 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood.

**Prof JP Fouché.** Member of the International Society on Psycho-history.

### Department of South African Sign Language and Deaf Studies

### Members of the International Symposium of Place Names (ISPN) scientific committee

Prof Theo du Plessis; Prof Peter Jordan; Prof Peter Raper; Dr Lucie Möller

### **INTERNATIONAL STAFF EXCHANGES**

Outgoing international staff exchanges, including scientific visits, excluding conference and workshop attendance.

### **Department of Anthropology**

The Humboldt Research Fellowship supports the preparation of a monograph while based in the Anthropology Department at the University of Freiburg in Germany. The project also includes a research stay at the History Department at the University of Turku in Finland (July 2021–Apr 2022).

### **Department of Art History and Image Studies**

**Johanet Kriel-de Klerk** (Lecturer). Continued her PhD studies as a formally enrolled student in the Graduate School of the Humanities, University of Groningen (Netherlands), the University of the Free State. Her supervisor at the University of Groningen is Prof Annie van den Oever. Her co-supervisors at the University of the Free State are Prof Suzanne Human and Prof Helene Strauss.

**Josef van Wyk** (Junior Lecturer). formally enrolled in the Graduate School of the Humanities, University of Groningen (Netherlands), as part of a joint PhD agreement with the University of the Free State. His cosupervisors at the University of Groningen are Prof Annie van den Oever, Assistant Prof Nicholas Baer and Prof Julian Hanich. His supervisor at the University of the Free State is Prof Suzanne Human.

### Incoming international staff exchanges.

### **Department of Art History and Image Studies**

**Dr Nikita Mathias.** A 2018 graduate of Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen, in collaboration with the University of Oslo (Summa cum laude), Dr Mathias currently works as a senior concept developer and researcher at the renowned *MUNCH* (*Munchmuseet*) in Oslo, an art museum dedicated to the legacy of the Norwegian artist Edvard Munch.

**Prof Annie van den Oever.** Continued her consultation and collaboration as an extraordinary professor in our department. Prof Van den Oever is Associate Professor of Film and Head of the Film Archive and Media Archaeology Lab at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, research associate at the Institut ACTE, Cinéma et Audiovisuelle, Paris 1, Panthéon-Sorbonne, founding editor of the Amsterdam University Press academic book series *The Key Debates*, founding editor of *Necus: European Journal of Media Studies*, editorial board member of *Image and Text*, and advisor to the Dalkey Archive Press.

**Dr Francis Halsall.** Continued his formal affiliation as a research fellow of the department. He is Co-Director of the Masters' Programmes: Art in the Contemporary at the National College of Art and Design in Dublin, Ireland. **Dr Katja Gentric.** Furthered her post-doctoral research for our department. Affiliated also with *L'École Supérieure d'Art et Design Le Havre-Rouen* (ESADHaR), she has developed a research program titled *Imaginaires vagabonds et cadres politiques : Artistes sud-africains à la Cité Internationale des Arts de Paris* which focuses on the South-African artists who in the past years have been selected to work in residency at the *Cité internationale des Arts de Paris*.

### **Department of History**

The Department of History hosted Prof John Arni-Flessner as Visiting Associate Professor from 05 October 2021 to 30 June 2022. Prof Aerni-Flessner, on a Fulbright Fellowship, is Associate Professor of African History at the Residential College in Arts and Humanities, Michigan State University.

### **Department of Philosophy and Classics**

**Rossouw, JH.** Hosted Ria Winters, the University of Amsterdam Library for collaboration on research for her biography of Karel Schoeman, 3-10 July 2021.

### **INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE ADDRESSES**

Keynote addresses at international meetings/conferences

### **Department of Anthropology**

**Dr Christian Williams: "Liberation Movement Camps in Southern Africa".** Invited by the Institute for African Studies at the University of Bayreuth to deliver a lecture in its "Sprint Lectures on African Mobilities" series. The course is available as a podcast. https://www.africamultiple.uni-bayreuth.de/en/Podcasts/index.html

### **Centre for Gender and Africa Studies**

Dr Munyaradzi Mushonga. "The resilient epistemic empire and imperatives for decolonisation" (Keynote address on Decolonizing Knowledge, Faculty of Humanities, National University of Lesotho, 6 December 2021). Prof Henning Melber. "Dissecting the Economic and Social Impact of Genocide on Descendants of the Victims of Genocide" (Keynote address at the Webinar organised by the Ideas Foundation in Windhoek on 15 September). Prof Sabelo J. Ndlovu-Gatsheni

- "The Imperative of Decolonizing Global Development" (Keynote Address Delivered at the Zurich Critical Development Workshop, University of Zurich, Switzerland, 8 December 2021).
- "The Waves of Decolonization and Tasks of Decoloniality for Africa" (Keynote Address Delivered at the 18th International Conference "Philosophy and the Tasks of Decoloniality" organised by the Philosophical Association of Northern Luzon (PALN) and Philosophy Department of Teacher Education and Liberal Arts, Saint Louis University, City of Pines, Baguio, Philippines, 23 October 2021).
- "The Contemporary Politics of Knowledge and Agenda of Decolonization" (Keynote Address Delivered at the Africa Peace Network (APN) and NextGen Virtual Fellows Research Methods Workshop Organized by the Social Science Research Council (SSRC), New York, USA, 28 September 2021).
- "Decolonization As Method" (Keynote Address Delivered at the 1st International and Interdisciplinary Conference on Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability (SMUS Conference), University of Botswana, Gaborone, Botswana, 23 September 2021).
- "African Studies in the Context of the Cognitive Empire and Global Economy of Knowledge: Reflections on Decolonial Turns" (Keynote Address Delivered at The Czech Association of African Studies: VIVA Africa International Conference on African Studies: Africa and (the Other) Europe: Imaginaries, Discourses, Exchanges. Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic, 15 September 2021.
- "In Memory of Dr Dumiso Dabengwa: Revisiting the Idea of Zimbabwe and the Trajectory of Liberation" (Invited Annual Memorial Lecture by the Dumiso Dabengwa Foundation, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe, 10 September 2021).
- "The Imperative of Decolonizing Development in the 21st Century" (Keynote Address Delivered at the Symposium—Architectural Training and Research in the Foreign Aid Funded Knowledge-Economy 1950s-1980s organised by KTH-School of Architecture, Stockholm, Sweden, 8 September 2021).
- "The Cognitive Empire and Struggles for Epistemic Freedom in Africa" (Keynote Address Delivered at the Science Campus Research Colloquium, organised by Centre for International and Transnational Area Studies, Leibniz Science Campus, Regensburg Universität, Germany, 1 July 2021).
- "The Cognitive Empire and Its Consequences for Knowledge and Language in the Postcolonial World" (Keynote Address Delivered at the International Conference of the International Association of Colonial and Postcolonial Linguistics: Coloniality of Knowledge and Being: Experiences of and Responses to Power, University of Western Cape, South Africa, 29 June 2021). "Coloniality of Internationalism" (Keynote Address Delivered at the British International Studies Association-BISA International Conference-Forget International Studies? United Kingdom, 22 June 2021).
- "The Decolonial Intellectual Movement(s) and Its Turns in African Studies" (Invited Annual James S. Coleman Memorial Lecture, University of California, Los Angeles, USA, 1 June 2021).
- "Decolonization in the 21st Century" (Invited Lead Speaker for Dialogue on Decolonization, Dartmouth College, USA, 20 May 2021).
- **"From Coloniality of Knowledge to Decolonial Thought"** (Keynote Address Delivered at the Online Symposium: Situating Postcolonial Thought and Interweaving Approaches, University of Bayreuth, Germany, 7 May 2021).
- "The Politics of Knowledge and the Struggles for Epistemic Freedom in Africa" (Keynote Address Delivered at the Decolonizing Global Encounters: Religion, Politics, Culture Seminar, Tubingen Universität, Germany, 29 April 2021).

NTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

- "The Decolonial Turn(s) in African Studies: Reflections on Shifting Relationalities and Modalities of Power" (Opening Plenary Lecture Delivered at the Knowledge Lab Colloquium, University of Bayreuth, Germany, 15 April 2021).
- "Decolonizing Africa Identities" (Invited Public Debate Plenary Seminar at the London School of Economics—LSE Summit 2021: The Global Crisis as a Catalysis for Change, London School of Economics, United Kingdom, 28 March 2021).
- "Making the African University in the Service of Humanity" (Keynote Address Delivered at the Launch of Vice-Chancellor and Principal Prof Mandla Makhanya's Book, University of South Africa, ZK Mathews Hall, 19 March 2021).
- "Decolonizing the University and Knowledge in Africa: From Theory to Practice" (Invited Inaugural Public Lecture Delivered at the Midlands State University, Gweru, Zimbabwe, 18 March 2021).
- "What Do We Do with Dominant Knowledge?" (Keynote Address delivered at the Decolonizing the Curriculum CAMRI Webinar, University of Westminster, United Kingdom, 24 February 2021).
- "The Politics of Knowledge in Africa" (Invited Lecture by Technischen Universität München, Germany, 8 February 2021).
- "The Past and the Future of South-South Solidarities" (Invited Lecture by Development Studies Group, University of Bayreuth, Germany, 27 January 2021).
- "The Politics of Knowledge in Africa and African Scholarship on Decolonization" (Dahlem Humanities Lecture, Dahlem Humanities Centre, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany, 20 January 2021).
- "The Dynamics of Epistemological Decolonization and Struggles for Epistemic Freedom in Africa" (Invited Lecture by Religion Research Group, University of Bayreuth, Germany, 19 January 2021.
- "Decolonization/Decoloniality: Logics, Meanings and Implications for Scholarship" (Keynote address delivered at PhD Course-Heritage Activism, Memory Politics and the Decolonial Turn: Haunted and Haunting Bodies, Spaces and Histories, Aarhus University, Denmark, 14–15 January 2021.

### **Department of Criminology**

### Peacock R

- Keynote address: Researching Africa: Critical Socio-Legal Reflections. International Conference on Law and Governance in a Dynamic Environment. Gaborone, 25 March.
- Keynote address: Crime and Victimisation in the era of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. 6th International Conference on Energy, Environment, Epidemiology and Information System (ICENIS), Semarang, Indonesia, 4–5 August.
- Keynote address. Victim Empowerment and Access to Justice: Critical reflections from Africa. Paper presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Victimology and Victim Support Conference. Nairobi, 22–24 November.
- Keynote address. Decolonising victimisation and justice: An African framework of a 'peoples oriented' Victimology. Paper presented at the 4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Victimology: The role of victimology in protecting cultural heritage, indigenous people and diversity. North Maluku, Indonesia, 13–15 November.

### **Department of Language Practice**

**K Marais.:** Considering what did not happen to explain what happened: Emergent trajectories, Online Summer School: Methodology in the history of philosophy, University of Groningen, 4–9 July.

### **Department of Philosophy and Classics**

**Rossouw, JH.** Keynote address on 10 July 2021 at the 2021 Colloquium on Violence and Religion hosted by Purdue University, Indiana, USA; conference theme Desiring Machines: Robots, Mimesis, And Violence In The Age Of AI; paper title: Scapegoating, Mimesis and the Human Future: Thinking with Girard and Stiegler on the Automation of Desire.

# INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

## INTERNATIONALISATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

Qualitative information, including relevant data, on Internationalisation of the curriculum, including international benchmarking.

### Dean's Office

**H Hudson:** Mentored fellows of the African Peacebuilding Network (APN) during a virtual APN and NextGen Virtual Fellows Research Methods Workshop, hosted by the Social Science Research Council, New York, 28–30 September 2021.

**Q Onyango:** Evaluated and reviewed proposals and posters for NAFSA: Association of International Educators 2021 Annual Conference and Expo,1– 4 June 2021.

### **Department of African Languages**

- Collaboration between Kibabii University and the UFS, Departments of African Languages.
- The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two Universities.

### Department of Afrikaans and German, Dutch and French

The international partner, Stichting for promoting cultural relations, Nederland Zuid Afrika, awarded R15 000,00 in 2020–2021 for a non-accredited publication, *Inkvars* of the Bloemfontein writing society. **Corlietha Swart** is the chair of the BSV.

### Department of Art History and Image Studies

Dr Martin Rossouw. Hosted a theme week on the international open-access platform, *In Media Res.*(April 2021). The panel that reflected on various aspects and affordances of lyric videos as an audio-visual form included Laura McLaren (University of Toronto), Virginia Kuhn (University of Southern California), Elsie Walker (Salisbury University), Carol Vernallis (Stanford University). Open access: http://128.122.109.51/imr/content/lyric-videos

### **Centre for Gender and Africa Studies**

### Prof Sabelo J Ndlovu-Gatsheni

• Holds the Chair of the Epistemologies of the Global South and Vice-Dean: Research (Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence) at the University of Bayreuth, Germany, where he is teaching doctoral and postdoctoral fellows contributing to reconfiguring of African Studies.

Other current postgraduate teaching commitments are:

- Knowledge in Development Studies: MA in Development Studies
- Development in Postcolonial Africa: MA in Development Studies (proposed for Summer Semester)
- Empire, Colonialism and Decolonization: MA in Global History
- Postcolonial History: MA in Global History (proposed for Summer Semester).

Current undergraduate teaching commitments are:

- African Liberation Movements and Postcolonial Orders in Southern Africa: BA Anthropology
- Belonging and Citizenship in Africa: BA Anthropology
- Decolonial Theory/Thought: BA Anthropology

**Dr Nadine Lake.** Played a central role in developing the MA Gender and Development Programme curriculum at the University of Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique. Sida project (2018–2023).

### **Department of Community Development**

- We have worked with Dr Julie Shepherd-Powell at Appalachia State University to develop sustainable communities. The module forms part of the taught Masters.
- We are currently working on strategic projects with the University of the Highlands and Islands.

### **Department of Communication Science**

### **Elbie Lombard**

- Current Ambassador for the Ghent University, Belgium, South African Chapter.
- Current Deputy President for the Ghent University Alumni Chapter South Africa. She is responsible for the continuous liaison with Ghent University and Ghent University Alumni in South Africa.

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### Prof Nyasha Mboti

Participated in the Globe Leadership Study (South Africa and Norway) (GLOBE study survey and interview) conducted by Prof Nathalie Hyde-Clark of the Oslo Metropolitan University. The new study builds on the GLOBE findings from 2004 and 2014. It consists of interviews with twelve academic leaders from Norway and South Africa, focusing exclusively on university leadership, an under-researched area in the original study (https://www.globeproject.com/study\_2004\_2007).

**Prof Mboti and Prof Thomas Tufte** (Department of Communication Science Research Associate): and three other collaborators put in an application in October 2021 to the Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) at Loughborough University, London, for funding to organise a series of roundtable and public events and 'unconference' within the theme of (In)Equalities (a piece that will last through the entire academic year 2022/2023, starting in October 2022 year). The funding application, if successful, would see Prof Mboti travel to the UK in 2022 and 2023, engage in the roundtables, give two lectures, participate in discussions about research collaborations, and meet Loughborough PhD students, among other activities.

### **Department of Criminology**

The internationalisation of teaching and learning provided for scientific education interventions, cross-cultural communication, innovation, and international benchmarking together with engagement with high-level government officials, policymakers, scientists, practitioners and students across the globe to ultimately ensure best practices to advance inclusive and equitable quality education by adding global, intercultural, or international elements into the content of the curriculum. Prof Peacock played a leadership role as a course director of the 17th Asian Postgraduate program on Victimology, Victim Assistance and Criminal Justice hosted by OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat, India.

### **Prof Robert Peacock**

- A founding course director of the Latin American Victimology postgraduate course hosted by the Centro Justicia y Sociedad" (CJS), Institute of Sociology, Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile and serves as a faculty resource member of the Inter-University Centre of Dubrovnik (Croatia) Annual International Postgraduate Course on Victimology, Victim Assistance and Criminal Justice. Also, as a course director of the Bangladesh Postgraduate Course on Victimology, Victim Assistance and Criminal Justice hosted by the Bangladesh Society of Criminology and Victimology, Department of Criminology and Police Science (CPS) Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University (MBSTU), Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka and the World Society of Victimology.
- Participates in the Research Line on Political Crimes, Human Rights and Human Security. Catholic University
  of Leuven (Belgium) with activities beneficial to the specialisation areas of Transitional Justice and
  Victimology in particular, also concerning doctoral studies and appraisals conducted within transitional
  contexts worldwide.
- As an invited scholar, he presented online guest lectures at universities in Germany, India, and Spain.
- In Germany on the topic of the *Victimology of State Crime* on the course Criminology, Victimology and Criminal Law at The Hochschule Niederrhein, University of Applied Sciences, 29 March–1 April 2021.
- In India on the topic of *Street Children: Symptom-bearers of Prejudice, Discrimination and Conflict* at the 17th Asian Postgraduate program on Victimology, Victim Assistance and Criminal Justice at OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat, India, 2 July 2021.
- In Spain at the University of the Basque Country, on the topic of *Resilience in the context of transitional justice: critical reflections from South Africa/La resiliencia en el contexto de la justicia transicional: reflexiones críticas desde Sudáfrica* on the international course Victimología, resiliencia y crecimiento postraumático: Miradas desde la justicia social y el pensamiento crítico/Victimology, resilience, and posttraumatic growth: Social justice and critical thought perspectives. San Sebastian, 15–16 July.
- Special Observer and Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and the Council of Europe and participated in the following international event:
- Special Observer Status in the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (COSP9 UNCAC) Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, from 13–17 December.

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- Provided consultation as a core expert on Model Provisions regarding Victims of Terrorism organised by the United Nations Office of Counterterrorism (UNOCT), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The Model Legislative Provisions refer to international normative and non-legal frameworks about victims of terrorism, abuse of power, gross human rights violations and serious violations of international humanitarian law to ensure equal treatment between all victim groups, and are geared towards addressing their needs as a result of the harm suffered, without distinction or prejudice as to the root causes and without creating a normative hierarchy of 'deserving' and 'less-deserving' victims.
- We now have an international framework for insight, review, and guidance on reform and hold parliaments worldwide accountable for the rights of victims of terrorism.

### **Department of English**

### **Prof Helene Strauss**

Ongoing work with the "Reworlding Research Collective" (UFS, Brock University, McMaster University, Concordia University) towards curricular and pedagogical renewal accountable to the human and planetary vulnerabilities of a post-Covid world. One of the collective aims is to develop pedagogical practices and curricular innovations that animate reparative feminist, anti-racist, and decolonial pathways for "living, dying, being and feeling otherwise" amid the worsening climate crisis.

- External Examiner: Dissertation and Oral exams of fourteen MA students at Mauritius University, January 2021.
- External Moderator, MA Programme at Mauritius University, 2019–2021.
- Core Organising Team: Association for Cultural Studies Virtual Lecture Series, 2021 to present. The speaker's list includes The Care Collective (May); Xiaofei Yang (June); GP-H (July); N Moonsamy (August); T Lauri (September); N Majsova (October); L Daily (November); J Florêncio (December); A Okune (January 2022).
- External Advising, SSHRC Project, Brock University, Canada, September 2021.
- **ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature** (April 2021) Special Issue Proposal Review.
- *Cultural Studies*, peer review of a journal Special Issue, November 2021 (eleven articles).
- Subjectivity, Article Review, July 2021.
- Critical Arts, Article Review, July 2021.

### Dr Nonhlanhla Dlamini

- External Examination for UKZN, English 303.
- Journal paper reviews for The Journal of Literary Studies; Social Dynamics, Imbizo and Journal of African Languages and Literary Studies
- Book Review for Letterkunde.

### **Department of Hebrew**

Prof CL Miller-Naudé and Prof JA Naudé, translation consultants for the Dinka Cam Bible translation project (South Sudan.)

### **Department of History**

**Dr Tshepooi, Dr Arianna Lissoni, Prof Noor Nieftagodien** (History Workshop, University of the Witwatersrand), **Dr Anne Heffernan** (Durham University) received a £20 000 grant to organise the 'Decolonizing Academic Publication Workshop'.

**Dr Rebecca Swartz.** Mentor for the workshops: 'Promoting Zambian and Southern African Research Output: Publishing, Mentoring and Grant Writing Workshop'. Due to Covid, the main workshop was turned into a series of Online workshops held in the second half of 2021.

### **Dr Clement Masakure**

- Mentor for the workshops: 'Promoting Zambian and Southern African Research Output: Publishing, Mentoring and Grant Writing Workshop'. Due to Covid, the main workshop was turned into a series of Online workshops held in the second half of 2021.
- Reviewed a book proposal and a manuscript for Manchester University Press.

**Prof Chitja Twala** Invited to be part of the Center for the Study of Political Graphics (CSPG) Digitizing Dissent Project. The CSPG in California, USA, houses the project. It aims at digitising approximately 1 000 anti-apartheid posters.

### **Department of Language Practice**

**Xany Jansen van Vuuren.** Together with colleagues from this department and colleagues from the Federal University of Juiz de Fora in Brazil, she formed part of the organising committee for an international [online] postgraduate students' research colloquium.

### **K Marais**

- Catholic University of Leuven: External assessor and jury member for PhD.
- The complexity of social-cultural emergence: Biosemiotics, semiotics and translation studies, an online conference organised with Reine Meylaerts and Maude Gonne, 26–28 August.

### **Odeion School of Music**

**Dr Frelét de Villiers** was a reviewer for the accredited, international journal *Journal of the Musical Arts in Africa*.

### **Department of Political Studies**

Academics like Prof Virgil Hawkins (Osaka University) and Prof Glen Segell (Haifa University) had lectured my students whilst I lectured to students at Jawaharlal Nehru University (India), Central University of Kashmir (India) and Sharjah University (United Arab Emirates) on issues of patriarchy, security and the changing face of the Middle East.

**Dr Botha** has advised the NGO Finn Church Aid, the United Nations Development Programme and the East African Community on radicalisation and terrorism in East Africa. Prof Segell advises the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) on various security issues.

**Prof Solomon** continues to advise the African Union and the New York-based NGO Global Action on issues pertaining to terrorism and diplomacy to prevent war on the African continent.

### **Department of South African Sign Language and Deaf Studies**

**De Lange JC.** A variety of international research comprises the Deaf Studies curriculum. This is then compared and discussed in the South African context. The following prescribed material is predominantly used: SASL2614 – Reagan TG, 2010. *Language policy and planning for sign languages*. Gallaudet University Press. SASL3718 – Bauman HDL (ed). 2008. *Open your eyes: Deaf studies talking*. U of Minnesota Press. SASC6808. Kusters A, De Meulder M and O'Brien D (eds). 2017. *Innovations in deaf studies: The role of deaf scholars*. Oxford University Press.

**Lombaard, SC.** SASI6808 – Sign language Interpreting American, British, and Australian signed language interpreting (among others) boast a large amount of sign language interpreting research. However, SASL terminology is applicable for South Africa the; theoretical interpreting components are an international aspect. Some of the references used are listed underneath: Shlesinger M and Pöchhacker F 2011. *Interpreting, 13:*1, John Benjamins Publishing Company. Braun S, Mikkelson H and Jourdenai, R (eds). 2015. *Routledge Handbook of Interpreting: Remote Interpreting.* London/New York, Routledge.

**Wright D.** American, British, and Australian signed languages (among others) boast a large amount of research in terms of sign linguistics. SASL, although a different language, shares a modality and benefits from typological insights gained from the study of these languages. Much of the theoretical categorisation and organisation of signed elements are borrowed from international research, and curricula aim to apply these principles to SASL throughout the SASL linguistic courses. The scarcity of linguistic research into SASL itself is an enormous incentive for students, as potential future researchers, to pursue SASL linguistic studies should they enter or at the postgraduate level. Much work is to be done but said work is almost instantly comparable and poised to contribute internationally.

Deaf Awareness Initiatives and Deaf Awareness Month (Sept 2021) (Coordinated by Annemarie Le Roux and Jani de Lange) Interpreting of the Rector's Concert; Conducted short learning SASL conversational courses for the staff of Partners 4 Life (Mimosa Mall); Visited several hearing schools in and around BFN to advocate SASL; teach basics signs and empowering hearing people and learners about knowledge of the Deaf Culture and eradicating Deaf Stereotypes.

Annual Multilingual Public Speaking Competition, 29 October 2021. The competition aims to contribute to the use and development of local languages. This also supports the academic development of learners. For this reason, all participants speak in their first languages. In addition to cultivating their linguistic skills, the learners also learn how to structure arguments and speak confidently in front of an audience. The themes for the competition all centre on heritage related topics. This motivates learners to research aspects of their heritage and share them in a multilingual, multicultural space. Given the growing popularity of the project, schools from the surrounding area (Trompsburg, Springfontein and Gariep Dam) have been invited to participate. This year (2021), we included Deaf participants from two of the Schools for the Deaf in our area (Bartimea School for the Deaf and Blind and Re Tlameleng Special School).

### **Department of Social Work**

**Prof Roelf Reyneke.** Collaboration on teaching and Learning. Module: SWPS2622 – Anti-discriminatory social work

### **Department of Sociology**

**Prof Sethulego Matebesi.** Initiated the Southern African Sociology Network with sociology departments from Southern Africa: Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe. The purpose of the network is to promote collaboration in respect of, for example, cross-country research, postgraduate supervision, student exchange, and joint research seminars. The network was launched on 25 November 2021.

### **UNIBS**

Despite the suspension of all international travel during 2020 and 2021, UNIBS continued to negotiate and discuss with the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium to ensure that the internship exchange programme established with the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences at this university in 2017 was retained and expanded. The future of this exchange programme promises to include both School and Clinical Psychology interns and therefore signifies a profound development in this collaboration. Traditionally these interns have provided mental health services to the schooling communities in Bloemfontein and surrounding Free State towns and cities, the student population on the UFS campus (via Student Counselling and Development) and further afield on the Transnet Phelophepa Health Care Train. The internship programme offered by UNIBS is internationally accredited as an internship site by this university. The research fellow contract initially signed in 2018 with **Prof Koen Luvckx from KUL in Belgium** was renewed.

The research fellow contract initially signed in 2018 with **Prof Koen Luyckx from KUL in Belgium** was renewed in 2021. He has published 61 articles in internationally recognised journals under the joint auspices of the UFS and KUL.

### **PRIZES WON**

Highly valued international scientific prizes won.

### **Department of South African Sign Language and Deaf Studies**

An International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) Africa Award of Excellence in the Category for Communication Management (Deaf Awareness Month in collaboration with the UFS Marketing Team).

### Publications (national and international)

**Hokororo P, Malande MJO and Tibategeza ER.** Investigating the Use of Slang by Youthful Transport Sector Operators of Nyamagagana Municipality in the Mwanza City of Tanzania. *Journal of African Interdisciplinary Studies*, 5(6), 4-21.

Michel M, Vidon C, De Graaff R and **Lowie W:** Language learning beyond English in the Netherlands: A fragile future? *European Journal of Applied Linguistics 9*(1), 158-182. https://doi.org/10.1515/eujal-2020-0020

**Reagan T**. Historical linguistics and the case for sign language. *Sign Language Studies*, *21*(4), 427-454. https://doi.org/10.1353/sls.2021.0006

Sagi D, Spitzer-Shohat S, **Schuster M,** Daudi L and Rudolf MCJ: Teaching plain language to medical students: improving communication with disadvantaged patients. *BMC Medical Education* (2021).

**Smit N, Van Dijk M, De Bot K and Lowie W**. The complex dynamics of adaptive teaching; observing teacher-student interaction in the language classroom. *IRAL - International Review of Applied Linguistics in Language Teaching*, 2021, 1–18. https://doi.org/10.1515/iral-2021-0023

**Verspoor M, Lowie W and De Bot K**. Variability as usual as apple pie. *Linguistics Vanguard, 7* (s2), 1-11. 2021. https://doi.org/10.1515/lingvan-2020-0034

**Zimba M and Tibategaza E**. Communicative approach strategies for English language teaching. *Studies in Linguistics and Literature*, *5*(2), 1–16. https://doi.org/10.22158/sll.v5n2p1

**Senekal B:** 2021. Die eerste 40 jaar van Orania. *Tydskrif vir Geesteswetenskappe, 61*(2), 526-550. https://doi.org/10.17159/2224-7912/2021/v61n2a8

**Le Roux A and Stander M:** Early language intervention in Deaf children of hearing parents. *Per Linguam – A Journal for Language Learning*, *37*(1), 15–27.

**Reagan T, Matlins PE and Pielick CD.** Deaf Epistemology, Sign Language and the Education of d/Deaf Children, *Educational Studies*, *57*(1), 37–57, DOI: 10.1080/00131946.2021.1878178.



### **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH**

International research projects in the entity and external funding obtained.

The **NAS strategy** was implemented fully, and internationalisation is a high priority for the faculty.

### **Department of Agricultural Economics**

**Prof Yonas T Bahta:** Attended the 29<sup>th</sup> International Population Virtual Conference (IPC2021), Mainstreaming Disaster Risk Reduction into sustainable human settlement and informal settlement upgrading, *A case study of Khayalitjha in-situ informal settlement upgrading, South Africa.* Hyderabad, India (Muhame C, Ncube A, and Bahta YT).

### **Department of Animal Science**

**Dr Vincent Ducrocq** from INRAE in France and **Dr Mike MacNeil** from the USA are actively involved in research and postgrad supervision.

### **Department of Architecture**

The department presented a successful, international PhD symposia in February with academics joining from Adelaide, Namibia and New Zealand.

**David van der Merwe and Dr Hendrik Auret.** Invited to present their co-authored paper at the UIA conference (International Union of Architects) in Rio.

**Prof Jonathan Noble:** Invited to do a series of streamed lectures in conversation with architect Peter Rich, relating to his book on *The Architecture of Peter Rich: conversations with Africa*, published by Lund Humphries in 2020. The first session of 17 April formed part of the 'International Literary Festival of Architecture', curated by Durganand Balsavar (Dean of the Saveetha College of Architecture and Design – Chennai, India), which streamed out to India, Bangledesh and South-East Asia, as part of the Council of Architecture's (India) COASocial forum. A second session of 21 August was an introduction to the four lectures in conversation – concerning the book – which were to follow. This session formed part of the Saveetha College of Architecture and Design Forum, hosted by Durganand Balsavar, together with the Jerusalem School of Architecture. Four further sessions went into more detail regarding the book, with lectures in conversation that were conducted as a recorded live stream for COASocial in collaboration with the Artes Roots Fellowship, hosted by Durganand Balsavar.

### **Department of Biotechnology**

**Prof Dirk Opperman.** Continued his ongoing collaborative projects with Prof Frank Hollmann and Dr Caroline Paul from Delft University of Technology (the Netherlands). The groups bring together different expertise in the field of Biocatalysis, including protein structure determination, directed evolution, and process development, and are currently focusing on the application of biocatalysts. Prof Opperman was also a co-investigator in the Global Challenges Research Fund – Synchrotron Techniques for African Science and Technology (GCRF-START) grant between the Diamond Light Source, UK, and various research groups in South Africa.

**Dr Carmien Tolmie:** Continued a collaboration with Prof Frank von Delft, from the University of Oxford, and the XChem group at the Diamond Light Source, for structure-based drug discovery for novel antifungal drugs. Dr Tolmie and Dr Opperman collaborated with Dr Felix Ferroni from the Department of Physics at CONICET, Argentina, on the structural and functional characterization of a copper nitrite reductase.

**Prof Trudi O'Neill.** Continued to collaborate with Dr Martin Blasco from the Centre for Biotechnology of the Argentinean National Institute of Industrial Technology (INTI) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and colleague, Prof Koos Albertyn, on rotavirus protein expression in yeast. She also continued her long-standing collaboration with Dr Nilsa de Deus from the National Institute of Health, Maputo, Mozambique, on rotavirus diversity in Mozambique. Prof O'Neill also collaborated with Prof Martin Nyaga from the UFS Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Unit and Dr Celeste Donato from the Enteric Diseases Group (Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Melbourne, Australia) on this topic. Second-phase funding of the German Research Foundation (DFG)-funded project titled, **Antigens and reassortant strains for rotaviruses circulating in Africa (AfRota)** was approved late in 2021. AfRota-2 will commence on 1 February 2022. The project utilises the rotavirus reverse genetics system and aims to generate chimeric viruses that can be used in next-generation rotavirus vaccine development. Collaboration with **Prof Carlien Pohl** on the role of bioactive lipids in infection was also continued.

**Dr Julio Castillo.** (Applied and Environmental Microbiology group) Signed a collaborative agreement with the University of Limpopo (Dr Kgabo Moganedi, Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Biotechnology) on

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a project titled, 'Developing a bacterial consortium for improving the quality of mining-contaminated water'. The group has also established a collaboration with the University of Cadiz (Prof Alfonso Corzo) on a project, which involves bioprecipitation of metallic copper from acid mine drainage in the Iberian Pyrite Belt. The AEMG will be responsible for the bioinformatics analysis. Collaboration continued with Princeton University and New Mexico Tech on the project 'Biogeochemical Processes in a Subsurface Hypersaline Environment near the Abiotic Fringe Zone' and with Ritsumeikan University (Prof Hiroshi Ogasawara) on the project titled, 'Drillhole investigations of earthquake physics and deep life in fault zones in South African mines'.

**AEMG:** still collaborates with Golders Associates analysing data collected from the pilot-scale BDAS system (acid mine drainage treatment) installed at Parys Mountain Mine and Cwm Rheidol Mine.

**Dr Frans O'Neill.** Continued his collaboration with Prof David Marais (UCT) on phytosterols in selected South African fauna, and Dr Dee Blackhurst (UCT) on reactive oxygen species in rotavirus-infected cells. The ongoing interdisciplinary collaborative effort centred on rhinoceros also includes other researchers from several departments within the UFS Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences as well as health sciences. He is part of an interdisciplinary project with Dr Angelique Lewies of Cardiothoracic Surgery looking at developing a cardiac organoid model for drug screening and disease modelling. He is also collaborating with Dr Fanie Steyn of AniPharm (Pty) Ltd. on the production of equine chorionic gonadotropin, and with Dr Martin Blasco of the INTI Centre for Biotechnology (Argentina), on receptor-based assays.

**Prof Carlien Pohl.** Appointed as visiting academic in the School of Physical Sciences at the University of Kent. This forms part of her collaboration with Dr Jennifer Hiscock regarding the development of novel antibiofilm compounds.

### Centre for Environmental Management (CEM)

**Prof Paul Oberholster** - African Development Bank & African Climate Technology Centre (GEF). Phycoremediation as an Adaptation Measure for Climate Change Vulnerability at Rural Wastewater Treatment plants in the Southern African Development Community countries (SADC). Locations: Namibia (Windhoek), Malawi (Zomba), South Africa (Mossel bay), Mozambique (Maputo). The principal objective of the project is to facilitate efficient reduction of nutrients (nitrates and phosphates) and certain pathogens (protozoa, helminths, bacteria and viruses) that increased due to climate change in effluents of identified WWTWs, thereby reducing human health risks and improve water resource quality for reclamation to be re-used in irrigation. (R500 000)

**Prof Paul Oberholster** - A new project was initiated in 2021 on Management aquifer recharge in South Africa (MARSA). This project, for which Prof Oberholster is the project leader, is a collaborative effort involving the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland (GEUS), the Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation, and the University of the Western Cape (UWC). The primary aim of MARSA is to develop management aquifer recharge (MAR) technologies that allow for a broader span of water resources to be used for MAR, including storm water, river water, saline water and even reclaimed water (treated wastewater). The research includes development of new monitoring strategies for the technologies and an assessment of the water saving achieved by implementing MAR on a larger scale in South Africa, with the focus on the West Coast District Municipality.

**Prof Olusola Ololade** - Currently collaborating with researchers from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST) Ghana and University of Ibadan Nigeria on the effect of climate change on water availability and quality in the Pra River Basin of Ghana. One book chapter has been published and two articles are under review in accredited journals in the first part of 2021 based on findings from the project. (External funding)

**Prof Olusola Ololade** - Works with Dr Bethany O'Shea from the Department of Ocean and Environmental Resources, University of San Diego, California, and Dr Amy Quandt from the Department of Geography, at the same university.

**Dr Falko Buschke**. Finished a project with researchers from Gothenburg University, Sweden, and Sapienza University of Rome, Rome, Italy. The project was a virtual collaboration started in 2020 on global biodiversity indicators.

**Dr Falko Buschke**. Has a long-term collaboration with KU Leuven, Belgium, and Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium. More recent this included Universidade **Eduardo Mondlane**, **Mozambique**. **Even though this work continues remote**, **they obviously have not met in person since early 2020 (due to Covid-19 restrictions)**.

**Dr Falko Buschke** - Led the second year of the bilateral project 'Socio-Ecological Resilience in Agricultural Landscapes' (SERIAL) between UFS and the Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB) in Belgium. The project, which focuses on the Rooiberge-Riemland Key Biodiversity Area in the eastern Free State, is funded by the Flemish Interuniversity Council and includes collaboration the Conservation NGO Birdlife South Africa

**Dr Surina Esterhuyse** - worked with researchers from Belgium and Brazil on a book chapter on the impact of hydrocarbon extraction on freshwater resources for the *Encyclopedia of Inland Waters*. She is also involved in the Petroleum Agency SA (PASA) project, 'Development and design of a regional groundwater monitoring network for the Central Karoo', on which she is working together with the Institute for Groundwater Studies (IGS).

**Dr Marinda Avenant.** Worked on International Collaborations with Dr Dirk Jungmann, Chair of Limnology, Institute of Hydrobiology, Technical University of Dresden. Dr Hilmar Boernick, Institute of Water Chemistry, Technical University of Dresden.

### **Centre for Microscopy**

Supports researchers in gathering structural information using microscopes such as the scanning electron microscope (SEM), transmission electron microscope (TEM), con-focal laser scanning microscope (CLSM) and stereo light microscopes. While the Centre primarily supports the University of the Free State (UFS), other local and international institutes outside UFS also utilise the facilities available.

### **Department of Chemistry**

Dr Julio Castillo, with **Dr Alba Gomez-Arias** and **Prof Walter Purcell.** Signed a collaboration agreement with a consortium, which include the University of Huelva (Dr Manuel Caraballo), the University of Aveiro (Prof Victor Ferreira), the Basque Centre Materials (Dr Roberto Fernandez), the National University of Altiplano Puno (Dr Charango Munizaga-Rosas) and the Central University of Technology (Dr Maleke Maleke) for a project entitled 'Mine tailings reprocessing, revalorization and risk reduction through sequential innovations in metal recovery, geopolymerization, ceramics and sealing processes'. The project is funded by the ERA-MIN3 programme supported by European Commission's Horizon 2020. Three PhD students are expected to graduate from this project.

**Prof Wijnand Swarts'** research group researched gold-metallocene complexes intended for heterogeneous catalysis in collaboration with Syngaschem BV at Differ, Technical University, Eindhoven, the Netherlands. Kinetic studies involving the reduction of nickel and copper tripeptides with complex cyanides of iron, tungsten and molybdenum were conducted. Ferrocene-containing phthalocyanines with liquid crystalline properties and polymers with biomedical applications were studied. Prof Swarts received an international research award from Syngaschem BV at Differ, Technical University, Eindhoven, The Netherlands.

**Prof L Moskaleva's** research is focused on surface reactivity of solids at the atomic level using first-principles quantum-chemical methods, molecular dynamics, statistical theory, microkinetic modelling and thermodynamics. Prof Moskaleva received an NRF grant for 2021-2023 within the IRG – India/South Africa Research Cooperation Programme for her project, 'Extremely Large-Scale Modelling of Elementary Processes in Hydrocarbon Combustion using High-Throughput Atomistic Simulations and Data Science' in collaboration with the group of Prof R. Ramakrishnan from Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Hyderabad, India. She also continued a collaborative project within the Research Unit NAGOCAT funded by the German Research Foundation (DFG).

**Prof Karel Von Eschwege** has collaborations with Laser Research Institute at the Physics Department at Stellenbosch University (femtosecond laser spectroscopy), the Chemistry Department at the University of Pretoria (Langmuir-Blodgett single molecular layer thin films) and their medical faculty (fine particulate matter in atmospheric pollution), together with universities in Sweden.

**Prof André Roodt's** group's research on medical aspects of pharmaceutical model compounds, in collaboration with Prof Roger Alberto (University of Zürich, Switzerland) and Dr Gerdus Kemp (PET Laboratories and Klydon, SA) continued during 2021. Similarly, the group's collaboration on model homogeneous catalysts continued with Prof Vadim Boyarskiy from the State University of Saint Petersburg and Dr Fanie Otto (SASOL). In addition, the research on environmental chemistry, i.e. hydrogen generation and carbon dioxide utilisation in collaboration also with Prof Roger Alberto (University of Zürich, Switzerland), proceeded very well. Prof Roodt continued collaboration with Prof Houcine Naili from the University of Sfax in Tunisia and with Prof Felix Zelder at the University of Zürich on reaction mechanisms on chemosensing, co-supervising a Swiss PhD student.

**Prof Alice Brink** collaborated with Prof John Helliwell from the University of Manchester. Additional collaborators involved in the research project include Dr Louise Natrajan (University of Manchester), Dr Simon Tanley (University of Manchester), Dr Colin Levy (Manchester Institute of Biotechnology), **Prof Dirk Opperman** (Biochemistry, UFS) and Prof Ted Kroon (Physics, UFS). A collaboration with the Department of Pharmacology, the University of Pretoria and the University of Missouri (USA) is ongoing, as well as an interdisciplinary collaboration with Prof T Makhafola (Central University of Technology). She also collaborated with colleagues in the department, namely **Profs Venter, Visser, Roodt and Drs M. Schutte-Smith and E. Muller.** 

**Professor Wijnand Swarts** collaborated internationally with Prof Hans Niemandtsverdriet of Syngaschem BV at Differ, Technical University, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

Professor Jeanette Conradie collaborated nationally with Prof M Landman of University of Pretoria and Dr F. Malan of the University of Pretoria, Dr Gurthwin Bosman and Dr Christine M. Steenkamp of the Laser Research Institute, Physics Department, Stellenbosch University and Dr CGCE van Sittert from North-West University. She also collaborates internationally with Prof Abhik Ghosh (Department of Chemistry and Centre for Theoretical and Computational Chemistry, University of Tromsø, Tromsø, Norway), Zachary Tonzetich (University of Texas at San Antonio, San Antonio, Texas, United States), Prof Penny Brothers (University of Auckland, New Zealand), Prof JH Potgieter (Wits and Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, M1 5GD, UK), Karl M. Kadish (University of Houston, Houston, Texas, United States), Carl Wamser (Portland State University, Portland, Oregon, United States), Todd Harrop (The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, 30602, United States), Prof Elisa Tomat (The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ), Prof Sanjib Kar (National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER), Bhubaneswar, Khordha, India and Homi Bhabha National Institute, Training School Complex, Anushakti Nagar, Mumbai, India), Dr Jean Jules (Fifen University of Ngaoundere, Ngaoundere, Cameroon) and Prof Fridolin Nya Tchangnwa (University of Maroua, Maroua, Cameroon).

**Prof Moskaleva** continued international collaboration with researchers from NAGOCAT of the German Research Foundation (DFG). She also started collaborative research with Prof R Ramakrishnan from Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Hyderabad, India, funded jointly by NRF and DST (India), on combustion chemistry and data science.

**Dr Ernie Langner** has a national collaboration with Dr Kobus van der Walt (Central University of Technology) on the development of polypropylene powders for laser sintering. He also had an international collaboration with Prof Hans Niemantsverdriet of Syngaschem BV at Differ, Technical University, Eindhoven, The Netherlands on CO2 adsorption.

**Drs Bonnet and Wilhelm** continue collaboration with Prof Steffen Hering from ChanPharm, an Austrian pharmaceutical company. Drs Bonnet and Wilhelm collaborate with Dr Leon van Kralingen from the Wattle Industry, Pietermaritzburg, on projects involving the derivatization of wattle tannin extracts for industrial applications, and with Dr Richard Burghoff from the Institute for Commercial Forestry Research, UKZN (Grant received from Forestry Sector Innovation Fund). Drs Bonnet/Wilhelm collaborate with Dr Chika Chukwuma from CUT, Bloemfontein, on anti-diabetic phytomedicines and synthetic molecules.

**Prof Azov** has started a new collaboration with Vrije Universiteit Brussel in Belgium, funded by the joint NRF/FWO grant, aimed at the synthesis of unnatural amino acids containing tetrathiafulvalene electron donors and various electron accepting groups for materials and biomedical applications. He also participates in a large international collaboration involving scientists from several universities (University of Leipzig, Purdue University, PNNL) related to the gas phase chemistry of dodecaborates and collaborates with Dr M Zeller (Purdue University)/Prof Vande Velde (University of Antwerp) on crystallography of organic molecules.

### Department of Computer Science and Informatics (CSI)

**Prof Eduan Kotzé.** Continued to work with Prof Walter Daelemans at the Computational Linguistics and Psycholinguistics (CLiPS) research centre at the University of Antwerp, Belgium. They are jointly working on natural language processing research projects, investigating methods and algorithms to automatically detect abusive language online in South Africa, as well as conversational agents.

**Dr Burgert Senekal of CSI and Dr Oluwafemi Oriola** (from Nigeria). Continued their fellowship with **Prof Eduan Kotzé's** research group.

**Prof Paul Kogeda of CSI.** Collaborated with Dr Vitalis Ozianyi from Strathmore University, Kenya, on water resource management – in terms of the detection and prediction of water leakage. They engaged in a South Africa-Kenya joint science and technology research collaboration.

**Prof Kenneth Holmqvist** (Sweden). continued his fellowship with CSIs **Prof Pieter Blignaut's** eye-tracking research group.

### **Department of Engineering Sciences**

**Dr Naghizadeh.** Leads a collaboration of researchers from the Universities of Johannesburg, KwaZulu-Natal, Nelson Mandela, Central University of Technology, and Universities of Yaoundé (Cameroon) and Erzurum Technical University (Turkey), to formulate an eco-friendly construction material called "green concrete". The project is aimed to reduce the impact of cement and cement production on the environment. An international academic collaboration was established with the Department of Electrical Engineering, Faculty of Khorramabad, Technical and Vocational University (TVU), Iran.

### **Department of Genetics**

**Dr Marieka Gryzenhout.** In the Biosystematics group, collaborates with Prof Ahmed Abdel-Azeem (Egypt), Prof André-Ledoux Njouonkou, University of Bamenda, Cameroon, Prof Tonjock Rosemary Kinge, University of Bamenda, Cameroon, Dr Joyce Jefwa, National Museums of Kenya, Kenya and Prof Leho Tedersoo, University of Tartu, Estonia.

**Prof Paul Grobler.** In the field of Conservation Genetics, collaborates closely with the Prof Antoinette Kotze from the National Zoological Garden/SANBI, and internationally with Prof Frank Zachos (Natural History Museum, Vienna) and Prof Jess Jones (Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation, Virginia Tech University, USA).

### **Department of Geography**

**Dr Melissa Hansen.** Coordinates the Japan Sustainability Science project, together with Professor Shogo Kudo from Akita International University. The project-based collaboration has sought to explore the relationship been migration, entrepreneurship and sustainable development in the rural mountain towns of Phuthaditjhaba in the Eastern Free State, and Gojome in Akita Province in Japan, through a 'trans-local' learning approach. In addition, the project aimed to contribute to the development of the Qwaqwa Campus as a Sustainability Science hub and to foster the development of inter- and transdisciplinary research. The project has sought to propose 'trans-local' learning – which connects different locations in order to learn from each case study – as a new approach in social learning for sustainability. The project has also explored the relationship between migration and sustainable development, with a focus on the entrepreneurship of young migrants in the two different locations.

**Dr Jay le Roux.** Continues involvement in the South African Land Degradation Monitor (SALDi) project, in collaboration with the Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Germany, to explore a wide range of methodological approaches to assess land degradation and its dynamics over various spatial and temporal scales. Dr Le Roux and **Ms Marike Stander** continue collaboration with the Northwest Agricultural and Forestry University in China, focusing on fingerprinting techniques (identify tracer(s) for erodible soils) and modelling of soil erosion processes in a research catchment in Ladybrand, within the Welbedacht Dam Catchment. Research includes identification of sediment sources by using composite fingerprinting technology, as well as the effects of changing soil erodibility on slope erosion using rainfall simulators.

### **Institute for Groundwater Studies**

**Prof Francois Fourie** is co-supervisor of a PhD student enrolled at the National University of Science and Technology, Bulawayo, Zimbabwe. This student's research involves modelling of groundwater flow within the Bulawayo urban crystalline basement aquifer.

**Prof Modreck Gomo** is the supervisor of an MSc student enrolled at the University of Namibia, Namibia. The thesis is focused on the 'Estimation of borehole sustainable yields in primary aquifers in the Zambezi-Kwando-Linyanti water basin, Namibia'.

### Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

**Dr Elizabeth Maritz.** Extended her collaboration to outside the department, continuing with an interdisciplinary study on the application of graph theory on travelling wave fault location detectors. Together with Dr Moslem Salehi from the Department of Electrical Engineering at Technical and Vocational University (TVU) in Tehran, Iran, a paper was published in IEEE Access.

**Prof Tomas Vetrik:** Undertook research visits to Qatar and Slovakia where he collaborated with various researchers on aspects of graph theory while **Prof Johan Meyer** continued a long-standing collaboration with Prof Carl Maxson from Texas A&M University in Texas, USA.

### **Department of Plant Sciences**

### Dr M Moloi

- Works in collaboration with Prof Ned Bowden from the University of IOWA, USA, on a project involving the use of dithiophosphates on the improvement of drought tolerance in crops of agricultural importance. They are currently co-supervising an MSc student on the project.
- Also collaborated with Prof Brigitta Tóth of the University of Debrecen, Hungary on crop physiology and improvement and their work produced five publications in peer reviewed journals.

### Department of Soil, Crop and Climate Sciences (SCCS)

**Dr Elmarie Kotzé and Prof Johan van Tol.** Involved with the supervision of 2 PhD students with a cotutelle agreement with the University of Bourgogne, Dijon, France, working on soil and water related research in the montane fire climax grasslands of Cathedral Peak in the Drakensberg, South Africa.

## NTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

### **Prof Johan van Tol**

- Continued collaborating with researchers at TU Dresden (Germany) where a jointly supervised MSc student graduated in 2021.
- Also actively collaborates with researchers from USDA-ARS in Texas to improve model predictions following a hydropedological approach. A joint paper was published in 2021.

**Prof Linus Frankealso of SCCS.** Initiated collaboration with Solynta BV in the Netherlands and Zylem SA in South Africa to study the performance of hybrid potato varieties.

### **Department of Zoology and Entomology**

**Prof Charles Haddad** signed a MoU with Dr Danilo Harms (Leibnitz Institute for the Analysis of Biodiversity Change, Hamburg) and Prof Stefan Foord (University of Venda), with participation from other local and international arachnologists, for an investigation into South Africa as an example of an old, climatically buffered, infertile landscape (OCBIL). The focus of this study will be on the arachnofauna of the Fynbos Biome. He is also collaborating with Prof Foord and Prof Ansie Dippenaar-Schoeman (University of Venda) on a project investigating spider diversity patterns in arid western South Africa.

**Prof Linda Basson** forms part of a project of the European Union (Research and Innovation Staff Exchange (RISE) Call: H2020–MSCA-RISE-2019), titled "Next Generation Taxonomy: Ciliophora and their bacterial symbionts as a proof of concept (NGTax)". The project commenced at the end of 2019, although the official launch would have been in June 2020 in Italy. At long last the project could get off the ground officially, and Prof Basson could send her first secondee (PhD student Gerhard De Jager) overseas. The hosting institution in Italy was the University of Pisa (September-December 2021), while the Max Planck Institute (Tübingen) will be the host in Germany (during January-March 2022).

**Prof Liesl van As** (Aquatic Parasitology) collaborates with the Okavango Research Institute (ORI) of the University of Botswana in Maun.

**Prof Daryl Codron** continued long-standing collaborations with Profs Marcus Clauss (University of Zurich, Switzerland), Matt Sponheimer (University of Colorado at Boulder, USA), and Dr Liora Horwitz (Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel). Dr Michael Toffolo (presently Bordeaux University, France, but set to change soon) was successful with a 5-year grant application to the European Research Commission; Prof Codron is co-PI on the project, which is due to commence late in 2022. Ms Runé van der Merwe, an MSc student, was recently awarded a bilateral NRF-NUFFIC scholarship for her forthcoming PhD, which will formalize a new research collaboration with Prof Han Olff (University of Groningen, Netherlands).

**Prof Charles Haddad** continues collaboration with Prof Wanda Wesołowska (Wrocław University, Poland) and Dr Galina Azarkina (Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Russia) on the systematics of Afrotropical jumping spiders. Other continuing research includes studies on predatory specialist and myrmecomorphic spiders with Prof Stano Pekár (Masaryk University, Czechia).

**Dr Patricks Voua Otomo** initiated a collaboration with Prof Alain Souza of the Université des Sciences et Techniques de Masuku (Gabon).

**Prof Aliza le Roux** continues her international collaborations on the Snapshot South Africa project, as well as her links with the University of Zurich (Prof Dr Marta Manser) and Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (Dr Nick Friedman).

**Prof Peter Taylor** continues his active involvement with two international projects funded by the German Federal Government's SPACES II programme (South African Limpopo Landscapes Network) and the African Union and European Union ("EcoRodMan" project). He also actively collaborates (including student cosupervision) on small mammals with researchers at the University of Montpellier in France and University of Eswatini.

### INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

Papers/presentations delivered\_at international workshops, seminars or conferences.

### Centre for Environmental Management (CEM)

**Moloi, M.S.,** Raisibe, L.F., Erasmus, M., **Oberholster, P.J. & Thwala M.** 2021. Exposure and toxicity effects of engineered nanomaterials released from nano-enabled products: A review. Paper presented at the SETAC Africa 10th Biennial Conference 2021. 20–22 September 2021. Virtual (Online), USA.

**Mudau, R,** Oke, S. & **Ololade, O.O**. 2021. *Impact of nickel mine tailings storage facility on surface and groundwater quality at Onverwacht Farm, Mpumalanga, South Africa*. Paper presented at the 3rd Euro-Mediterranean Conference for Environmental Integration (EMCEI-2021). 10-13 June 2021. Sousse, Tunisia, & Online.

**Orimoloye, I.R. & Ololade, O.O**. 2021. *Drought disaster risk reduction and its environmental benefits*. Paper presented at the 3rd Euro-Mediterranean Conference for Environmental Integration (EMCEI-2021). 10–13 June 2021. Sousse, Tunisia, & Online.

**Orimoloye, I.R.,** Olusola, A., Belle, J.A. & **Ololade, O.O.** 2021. *Climate Change and Drought Drivers: Identification of drought drivers and climate extreme using regression-based algorithms.* Paper presented at the AGU 2021 Fall Meeting. 13-17 December 2021. New Orleans, LA (USA), & Online.

**Otunola, B.O.**, Aghoghovwia, M., **Thwala, M.**, Gómez-Arias, A., Jordan, R., Hernandez, J.C. & **Ololade, O.O.** 2021. Assisted phytoremediation of heavy metals contaminated soil using attapulgite and bentonite: Effects on growth and metal accumulation in Vetiver grass. Paper presented at the Next Generation Thought Leaders (Next G) Conference on Environment and Sustainability. 28–29 July 2021. Legon, Ghana & Online.

**Otunola, B.O.,** Aghoghovwia, M., **Thwala, M.,** Gómez-Arias, A., Jordan, R., Hernandez, J.C., **Ololade, O.O.** 2021. *Effects of attapulgite clay on the phytoremediation capacity of Indian mustard and Vetiver grass in Al and Mn contaminated water.* Paper presented at the 2nd International Conference on Environmental Science and Applications (ICESA'21). 21–23 November 2021. Virtual (Online), Cananda.

**Schoeman, Y., Oberholster, P.** & Somerset, V. 2021. *Hierarchical prioritization of industrial waste management system components for the iron and steel industry in developing African economies*. Paper presented at the Next Generation Thought Leaders (Next G) Conference on Environment and Sustainability. 28–29 July 2021. Legon, Ghana (Virtual-Online).

Sirunda, J., **Oberholster, P.**, Wolfaardt, G, Botes, M., & Truter, C. 2021. *Assessment of microbiological quality of the water produced at the Von Bach treatment plant, in Namibia*. Paper presented at the Next Generation Thought Leaders (Next G) Conference on Environment and Sustainability. 28–29 July 2021. Legon, Ghana (Virtual-Online).

Thoré, E., Brendonck, L. & Pinceel, T. 2021. Turquoise killifish on antidepressants: towards understanding the ecological risks of neurochemical pollution. Paper presented at the 4th Nothobranchius Symposium. 03-04 June 2021. Online, Czech Republic.

### **Department of Computer Science and Informatics**

**Nyaga CN, Wario RD and De Wet L** (2021). Pedagogical face agent for Kenya sign language. *In International conference on Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics.* (pp.461-468.) Springer, Cham. Conference held in New York, USA.

**Ashishakiye E, Mwangi W, Muthoni P, Nderu L and Wario R** (2021). Comparative performance of machine learning algorithms in prediction of cervical cancer. *In 2021 IST-Africa conference (IST-Africa)(pp1-13). IEEE. Conference held in SA.* 

### **Department of Urban and Regional Planning**

### **Prof Verna J Nel**

- New Challenges Of Local Governance In Times Of Uncertainty And Complexity.
- The Local Governance of Covid-19: Insight from Lesotho's Response and Mitigation
- Can the District Development Model deliver South African Local Government development?
- Can mutual adjustment be achieved between spheres of government to enable spatial planning for Local Government in South Africa?
- Annual Conference of the Commission on Geography.
- Governance of the International Geographical Union, 23–24 July 2021, Adam Mickiewicz University Poznań, Poland. Conference Topic: 'New Challenges Of Local Governance In Times Of Uncertainty And Complexity'.

### **PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES**

Staff participation in international committees, advisory and editorial boards.

### Centre for Environmental Management (CEM)

**Dr Falko Buschke** - On the editorial board of the journal *Conservation Biology*, which is the journal of the international Society for Conservation Biology.

**Dr Falko Buschke** – On the scientific committee for the International Congress on Conservation Biology (ICCB), the biennial conference of the Society for Conservation Biology. The conference was scheduled to take place in Rwanda in December 2021 but has since been moved to a virtual format.

**Dr Falko Buschke** – Member of the *Reviewer College* of the *British Ecological Society*, a committee that reviewer grant application for the society.

**Dr Falko Buschke** – Member of the Internation Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) *Commission on Ecosystem Management*, particularly for the *Impact Mitigation and Ecological Compensation (IMEC)* working groups.

**Dr Surina Esterhuyse** - Invited as a guest editor for the special mentoring issue on water resources of *Water International*.

**Dr Piet-Louis Grundling** - Main Board Member of the International Mire Conservation Group.

**Dr Piet-Louis Grundling** - Asked to participate as coordinating lead author, African chapters, for the *Global Peatlands Initiative (GPI) Global Peatlands Assessment*, led by the *United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP)*. May/June 2021.

**Prof Paul Oberholster** - Member of the Editorial Board: West African Journal of Applied Ecology (WAJAE)

Prof Olusola Ololade - Invited Guest Editor: Frontiers in Water

**Prof Olusola Ololade** - Full member, *Sigma Xi Scientific Honor Society* 

**Dr Melusi Thwala** - Guest Editor for Springer Nature: *Applied Sciences*.

**Prof Anthony Turton** - Editor (Africa) of Water Policy, official journal of the World Water Council

**Dr Pieter Zietsman** - On the editorial board of the *Flowering Plants of Africa* volume 67 (SANBI – South African National Biodiversity Institute).

### **Department of Computer Science and Informatics**

**Prof Eduan Kotze.** Served on the programme committee of the 16<sup>th</sup> International conference on Design Science Research (DESRIST 2021) which will be held in Norway 4-6 August 2021.

**Prof Lizette de Wet.** Editorial board member for the Journal for Organizational End User computing (JOEUC).

### **Department of Urban and Regional Planning**

**Dr Thulisile N Mphambukeli.** Co-editor of 'Cities in the Global South' in *Frontiers in Sustainable Cities*.

### **INTERNATIONAL STAFF EXCHANGES**

<u>O</u>utgoing international staff exchanges, including scientific visits, excluding conference and workshop attendance.

Material for **Jade Hastings** (MSc student) was collected during a field trip to De Hoop Nature Reserve. Jade's project concentrates on three ciliate groups from two intertidal molluscs. Dr Joaquín Verdú Ricoy, a post-doctoral fellow from Spain, joined us on this trip, as his expertise in molecular techniques was indispensable.

### **INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE ADDRESSES**

Keynote addresses at international meetings/conferences

### **Urban and Regional Planning**

### Dr Thulisile N Mphambukeli

- Keynote address at the II BRICS Network University Summer/Winter School "BRICS and Sustainable Development" was on 3 July 2021. Hosted by Russia's National Research University Higher School of Economics.
- The School's primary goal is to attract young researchers with a background in BRICS countries' sustainable
  development for doing joint projects on this topic. The participants will be offered to attend a set of lectures
  related to sustainable development provided by brilliant professors from BRICS countries. Despite the online
  format, the programme includes cultural activities and team building, which will help you organise into
  groups for working on the project. <a href="https://we.hse.ru/en/brics/school2021/">https://we.hse.ru/en/brics/school2021/</a>



## INTERNATIONALISATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

Qualitative information, including relevant data, on Internationalisation of the curriculum, including international benchmarking.

The Office for International Affairs (OIA) at the University of the Free State (UFS) hosted a delegation from the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST). During deliberations, the two institutions discussed the possibility of formalising a partnership and it was agreed that the OIA would lead this process through its Partnership portfolio. The UFS and NUST are looking to work together and share information on the development of a COVID-19 vaccination policy, leveraging on the Germany/Namibia green hydrogen partnership, joining forces on the application for centres of excellence administered by the African Union, establishing staff and student exchange programmes, and intensifying their research collaborations. Cornelius Hagenmeier, the Director of the Office for International Affairs (OIA) at the UFS, chaired the meeting with Dr Erold Naomab, the Vice-Chancellor of NUST, and his adviser, Dr Erling Kavita. **Prof Yonas Bahta**, Associate Professor from the UFS **Department of Agricultural Economics**, and **Dr Falko Buschke**, Senior Lecturer at the UFS **Centre for Environmental Management**, also attended the meeting and reported on their existing academic collaborations with NUST.

### **Department of Genetics**

**Dr Soumya Ghosh** a Postdoctoral Fellow in the department, is conducting research on the biodiversity and functionalities of fungi, which includes possible applications enhanced by nanoparticles. Through his extensive international network, he has published more than 20 papers.

**Dr Sara Abdulla** studies the biodiversity of mushrooms through DNA sequencing. Since the fungal biodiversity is poorly studied in South Africa, her research presented a number of first reports and novel species. Both postdoctoral candidates are hosted by **Dr Marieka Gryzenhout.** 

### Department of Quantity Surveying and Construction Management

**Prof Kahilu Kajimo-Shakantu** was invited as a panellist to discuss issues and solutions on smart cities in Africa at International Conference on Development and Investment Infrastructure. Prof Kajimo-Shakantu also delivered the presidential address looking at the impact of Covid-19 on the construction and industry responses at the 15th Built Environment Conference hosted by Association of Schools of Construction of Southern Africa.

### Department of Soil, Crop and Climate Sciences (SCCS)

nGAP lecturer **Ms Neo Mathinya** continued her PhD registered at Wageningen University in the Netherlands under the supervision of Prof Ken Giller and Dr Gerrie van de Ven (Wageningen University) and Prof Linus Franke of SCCS.

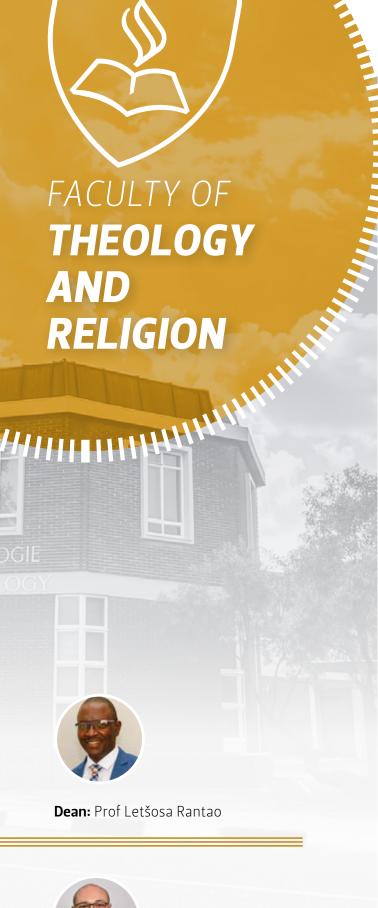
### **Department of Urban and Regional Planning**

**Dr Thulisile Mphambukeli:** Invited by His Excellency/Mr Ambassador Dr Nirmal Kumar Bishokarma, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Nepal to SA; to discuss potential collaboration between SA and Nepal.

### Centre for Environmental Management (CEM)

**Prof Olusola Ololade:** Appointed as a mentor in the mountane to mountane joint mentorship program between UFS and Appalachian State University, North Carolina, USA.







Faculty Internationalisation Coordinator:

Dr Lodewyk Sutton

### **INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH**

International research projects in the entity and external funding obtained.

### **Department of Historical and Constructive Theology**

- Letters to a Young Theologian (Fortress Press 2021).
- Annual Lectures in Theology and Film; Theology and the Arts (Trinity, Dublin); Theology and Literature (with Oxford, Oxford); Reforming Theology (Davidson, USA); Systematic Theology (USA; Europe; Africa).
- Initiative for Theology in Southern Africa. This Initiative has four interrelated aims: formation, teaching, research, interdisciplinarity. The Initiative also has one of its aims to welcome students and scholars from other fields of thought to theology from a theological and philosophical perspective. This is done, among other things, via our Film Club and through our Annual Lectures in Theology and Film, Theology and Literature, Theology and the Arts, the Annual Lectures in Systematic Theology, and the Annual Lecture in African Theology.

### **Department Practical and Missional Theology**

- Project on the spiritual direction with the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia. Contact person: Prof Neil Pembroke.
- National Church Life Survey (NCLS) in Australia: Dr Ruth Powell, Charles Sturt University, Sydney, Australia.
- Joint PhD degree research project on practical theology and masculinity with the Vrije University, Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Contact person: Prof Ruard Ganzevoort. The PhD thesis was successfully submitted at the end of November.
- Joint postgraduate research programme in practical theology with the Justo Mwale University, Lusaka, Zambia.
- Ongoing contact with the extraordinary international professor associated with the Department of Practical and Missional Theology Prof Chris Hermans (Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands).
- Active contribution in and representation on the Network for African Congregational Theology (NetACT) platform.

Publication – 40-year celebrations of the Faculty of Theology and Religion, UFS

**Mokhoathi J and Sutton L** (eds). Transforming Theology and Religion with a special section on the Psalms. *Acta Theologica, Supplementum* 32 (December 2021). More than nine international scholars participated in this project (No external funding).

### INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

Papers/presentations delivered\_at international workshops, seminars or conferences.

### **Department of Historical and Constructive Theology**

**Dr H van der Westhuizen** delivered a paper on Decolonising the Teaching of Theology, Leuven, the Netherlands and on Teaching Theology, Bossey, Switzerland.

### **Department Practical and Missional Theology**

Due to the restrictions in terms of the COVID-19 pandemic, many of the colleagues in the Department were involved in online presentations and participation at international academic conferences such as, for example, the International Academy for Practical Theology in July 2021 (with presentations by **Dr L Hoffman and Prof K Schoeman**), among others.

### **Department of Old and New Testament Studies**

**Dr L Sutton** delivered *Honour through Violence and Justice? Perspectives from Psalm 58*, at 'From the Rising to the Setting Sun, Global Perspectives on Bible and Violence', 24–28 May 2021, Centre for the Study of Bible and Violence (CSBV), Bristol Baptist College, UK. (Virtual conference).

### **Department of Religion Studies**

**Rev J Mokhutso** was invited by Prof Hendrik R Pieterse to lecture at Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary Evanston, Illinois, USA. Module THEO 650 – Intercultural Theology. Class presentation: Dual practice of Christian and African traditional bereavement rituals among some South African Methodists, 11 November 2021, Zoom.

Qualitative information, including relevant data, on Internationalisation of the curriculum, including international benchmarking.

### **Department of Historical and Constructive Theology**

Started the Initiative of Theology for Southern Africa, building relations with scholars from the rest of Africa and abroad. Many of these scholars were appointed as research fellows. The Initiative works – with scholars from the rest of Africa and abroad – on research, teaching and learning, and interdisciplinarity (Film, Arts, Literature, Politics).

### **Department of Old and New Testament Studies**

- **Dr L Sutton.** Appointed by the Southern African Society for Near Eastern Studies (SASNES), the Association for the Study of the Septuagint in South Africa (LXXSA), and the Old Testament Society of Southern Africa's (OTSSA) annual meetings to organise and host the annual conference for 2021 at the University of the Free State. between 30 August and 3 September 2021 [online]. National and international scholars delivered more than 60 academic papers.
- In December 2021, an educational study tour to Egypt was scheduled, organised by Dr F Cronje and Dr L Sutton, to educate and create an opportunity, especially for our undergraduate students, to visit Egypt as one of the most prominent countries in the Bible. The group would have experienced Egypt's historical, social, and geographical context first-hand. This tour was postponed to December 2022 due to Egypt closing its borders due to the new Omicron variant
- Has started to establish a new collaboration between the Department of Old and New Testament Studies at UFS and the Centre for the Study of Bible and Violence (CSBV), Bristol Baptist College, UK.

**Shepherd Centre.** In in discussions with Creare, bringing international participants for our faculty's SLPs starting next year (2022).







**Dean:** Prof John Mubangizi



Faculty Internationalisation
Coordinator:
Dr Albert Nell





### INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC PRESENTATIONS

Papers/presentations delivered\_at international workshops, seminars or conferences.

### **Prof Karin van Marle**

- 'Democracy and the city'; 'The state we're in' international conference, NMU, September 2021 (online).
- 'Refusal and critical constitutional scholarship', Critical Legal Conference, Sept 2021, University of Dundee. Online.
- 'The loss and love of the world'. Australasian Conference of Law, Literature and the Humanities, December 2021, University of the Sunshine Coast (online).

**Prof. Shaun De Freitas.:** African Consortium for Law and Religion Studies (ACLARS) Conference on Law, Religion & the Family, 17 May 2021, (Virtual Conference): "The Right to Freedom of Religion, Parenthood and the Best Interest of the Child: A critique of Kotze v Kotze".

### **PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES**

Staff participation in international committees, advisory and editorial boards.

### **Prof Karin van Marle**

- Editorial board: Law and Critique.
- Advisory board: Feminist Legal Studies; Legalities; Kenya Law Journal.

## INTERNATIONALISATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES

Qualitative information, including relevant data, on Internationalisation of the curriculum, including international benchmarking.

**Prof Karin van Marle.** Co-supervisor of a doctoral candidate at Birkbeck Law Faculty.

**Prof Jean du Plessis.** Deakin University in Australia presented a guest lecture for the LBEN3724 students on corporate governance (second semester).





### **Strategic Developments**

Regional Virtual Study Abroad Fair: The OIA coordinated regional Virtual Study Abroad Fair held from 3-4 June 2021 on Blackboard Collaborate. The fair was an initiative by the UFS in partnership with the Central University of Technology (CUT), Sol Plaatje University (SPU), and the Northern Cape and Free State Provincial Governments. The CUT's Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research, Innovation and Engagement: Prof Alfred Ngowi; Dr Moeketsi Mosia, SPU's Director for the Centre for Teaching Learning and Program Development; the UFS's Director for the Office for International Affair, Mr Cornelius Hagenmeier; and the Free State MEC for Education, Dr Tate Makgoe, all participated during the virtual fair. One hundred students participated virtually in the fair, which seeks to promote exchange and collaboration opportunities for undergraduate and postgraduate students with partner universities.

**Biological Material Import permits**: The OIA supported the Department of Virology and Next Generation Sequencing Unit with applications for Biological Material Import Permits to the national Department of Health.



### **Strategic Projects**

Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (KA **107)**: Through "International Credit Mobility" programmes, ICM for short, European HEIs can set up mobility agreements with partners around the world to send and receive students and staff. ICM projects aim to help participants acquire key skills, support their professional development and deepen their understanding of other cultures. Following extensive promotion of the Alianza 4 Universidades Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility Programme in the first quarter of 2021, three master's degree students from the University of the Free State were awarded mobility grants. One student, from the Qwagwa Campus' Faculty of Education, will participate in a semester exchange at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid between February and June 2022, while the other two students from the Bloemfontein Campus Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences will spend the spring semester at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. In June 2021, the UFS signed Interinstitutional agreements with both universities.

Erasmus+ KA107 between UFS and Yildiz Technical University (YTU) in Turkey: Supported the establishment of a KA 107 student and staff exchange project funded by the European Union with Yildiz Technical University, Turkey. The two universities concluded an interinstitutional agreement, which will govern the implementation of mobilities for eleven staff members between the two institutions in the 2021/2022 period. It is envisaged that YTU will host four UFS academic and non-academic staff members, whereas the UFS hosting a total of seven YTU staff members.

Erasmus+ KA107 between UFS and Bahcesehir University in Turkey: The OIA supported the Qwaqwa Campus in preparing the implementation of a Erasmus+ KA 107 student and staff exchange programme, which is funded with Euro 33 000. This funding will allow five staff members and four students from the UFS to undertake a mobility to BAU starting February 2022.

## INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2021

## University Staff Doctoral Programme in Global Health

University Staff Doctoral Programme: Virtual PhD seminars: The USDP, which falls under the University Capacity Development Programme (UCDP), a funding scheme by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), is a doctoral training programme aimed at developing a cohort of ten academically excellent and competent doctoral staff members in the field of global health. Five of these candidates are from the UFS, and the other five are from the University of Venda. The project has been capitalising on virtual spaces to implement mitigation strategies to curb the delays caused by the pandemic. This involved the presentation of virtual PhD seminars which started in September of 2020. The first cycle will be concluded at the beginning of June 2021, followed by a second cycle of seminar presentations scheduled for the second semester. These sessions ensure that the candidates work through what is necessary for their research in the first six months of the year.

Finalisation and submission of the UCDG 2020 Report to the Department of Higher Education and Training: Following the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown, academic programmes in the universities had to be adjusted in response to the effects of the pandemic. The implementation of some of the University Capacity Development Programme (UCDP) activities was also affected, and universities adjusted their plans. The UFS requested an extension for the USDP project, which was successfully granted. The project end date has been extended to December 2024.

**Conferral of doctoral degree**: The cohort celebrated a momentous milestone as the first candidate in the cohort's doctoral degree. **Ms Julia Mafumo's** degree was conferred at the University of Venda's June 2021 graduation ceremony.



**UVa Research Data Workshop Series:** The University of Virginia extended an invitation to the USDP cohort to attend a series of research data workshops which will be conducted between August and early November 2021. Various scientific topics will be addressed in every workshop, which will serve as capacity development interventions to assist the cohort with various aspects related to their research.

**Kick-off of the USDP spotlight series:** In an effort to celebrate and shed some insight into each candidate's academic life, the USDP will publish a series of in-depth articles to highlight each candidate's successes, challenges, and milestones since the beginning of this collaborative tripartite. The spotlight series will be published on various platforms at the institutions that form part of the collaborative effort to highlight the importance of their research as well as their contribution to the realm of Global Health, which is one of the critical issues for the future of the human species, especially in Africa, where both infectious and non-communicable diseases threaten the development of the continent.



Due to the pandemic and its disruption to physical mobility, it was important for the UFS to explore alternate ways to ensure that mobility initiatives continue. Starting in the second semester of 2020, a first pilot virtual mobility with Science PO Bordeaux University in France was implemented, which concluded in the first semester 2021. Student Thomas Hauret from Science PO Bordeaux successfully completed his virtual exchange with the Department of Political Sciences at UFS. His classes were administered on Blackboard and was also assigned an Umoja Buddy to help him with his academic, social, and cultural integration into the UFS community.

Following the implementation of the pilot, the UFS managed to grow and sustain virtual mobilities. In 2021, a total of six virtual mobility students studied at the UFS. These students hailed from France, Austria, Germany, and the Netherlands. They were hosted by the UFS Faculty of the Humanities and the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. In collaboration with the respective faculties, the students were all assisted with the registration process and monitored from beginning to end. The students were paired with experienced Umoja Buddy Programme (UBP) Ambassadors to assist the exchange students with transitioning into the UFS community.

To evaluate the feasibility of rolling out virtual mobilities within the UFS context, several evaluations were conducted to determine the effectiveness of the programme and services provided; programme goals, strengths and weaknesses; key global competencies; and the impact of virtual mobility. It is anticipated that the results of the evaluations will be used to write a research paper, which will continue up until the second semester of 2021.

### **International Opportunities**

**Virtual Information session**: On 29 and 30 April 2021, the UFS Office for International Affairs hosted three online information sessions. These were in partnership with Fulbright and the National Research Foundation (NRF). The aim of these sessions was to share guidelines for successful applications and awarding of grants in accordance with the eligibility criteria and to expose postgraduate students and staff members to fully funded scholarship opportunities that would enhance their research opportunities and expand their academic networks.

Southern African-Nordic Centre (SANORD) Webinar: On 19 July 2021, the University of the Free State, in collaboration with the Southern African-Nordic Centre (SANORD), hosted a virtual webinar session titled, Applications for the BOC Scholarship Programme. The session was open for all masters' students and scholars seeking international opportunities enrolled at SANORD member institutions in the Southern African region. The keynote address was delivered by Ms Maureen Davis, Administrator and Secretary General of SANORD. She discussed the intricacies of the BOC Scholarship Programme, which seeks to provide scholarships to students from Southern African member institutions. Partially funded applicants are allowed under this programme.

## Internationalisation of Learning and Teaching Incoming exchange students – Virtual mobility implemented

Supporting the core business through partnerships and collaborations

Newly signed MoU with Shantou University (China): On 24 February 2021, Shantou University (China) and the University of the Free State signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the aim of promoting cooperation in the fields of education and research. The new agreement intends to encourage joint research, educational, student, and staff mobility.

Newly signed MoU with African Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation (AFRIC): On 10 March 2021, the UFS signed an MoU with the African Centre for Higher Education Internationalisation (AFRIC), which aims to develop collaborative activities in areas of mutual interest, including research, and education programmes to promote higher education internationalisation throughout South Africa, Africa, and the developing world.

Newly signed MoU with L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University (Kazakhstan): The UFS signed an MoU with the L.N. Gumilyov Eurasian National University (Kazakhstan) to advance and promote collaboration and joint research in the fields of higher education.

Fulda University and Erasmus+ KA107 opportunity: On 18 March 2021, the OIA coordinated a meeting between the UFS Department of Social Work and Fulda University of Applied Sciences' Social Work Department to discuss collaborative opportunities between the two. Prof Ritter, as well as the UFS HoD of Social Work, Dr Merlene Esau and the Programme Director, Prof Roelf Reinecke were in attendance. Fulda University offered the Department of Social Work and the Department of Business Management each staff mobility. Furthermore, it offered the UFS one scholarship for its virtual Summer School to be held from 5 to 23 July 2021.

MoU with Midlands State University (Zimbabwe): On 24 June 2021, the UFS and the Midlands State University (Zimbabwe) signed an MoU through a virtual signing ceremony. The agreement was motivated by the existing collaborative work between the UFS's Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development and Extension in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences and stakeholders at Midlands State University. The two institutions further aim to develop a joint Centre for Excellence in the near future.

MoU renewal between UFS and Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam: On 28 June 2021, the UFS and the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam renewed their Memorandum of Cooperation and further signed a Framework Agreement for Joint Supervisions of Doctoral Theses. Both agreements open opportunities for both institutions to host more PhD joint degree students. The agreements were signed to coincide with the National Policy Framework for Internationalisation of Higher Education in South Africa (2020) guidelines.

### A Diverse International Student Body

## Renewal of the International Student Admission Process

Growing international student numbers is an important prerequisite to deepening the internationalisation process at the UFS. To achieve this strategic goal, International student services and process need to be excellent. In the year under review, international student services have been reconceptualized, with the general principle that administrative processes relating to international student administration will be handled by a single front office in the OIA. In other words, the OIA international student administration section was transformed to become a 'One Stop Shop' handling international student services at the UFS.

The International Student Admission Committee, bringing relevant stakeholders together, was established and has become fully operational to improve the international student business processes. It meets every second week, reviews international student admission statistics and deliberates on system improvements. Besides, international undergraduate admissions have been relocated to the OIA, and strong communications with prospective international students have been established. A new position of a Senior Officer: International Student Admissions, has been created to create capacity to implement the processes.

**2021 International Student Guide compiled:** The International Student Administration Office has compiled and published the 2021 guide for international students, which can be accessed from the website. The student guide acts as a survival guide containing all relevant information related to an international student to ensure success at the UFS.

Virtual conference by the Institute of African Studies at Zhejiang Normal University (IASZNU): The OIA and the Faculty of Humanities (and its members from the Centre for Gender and Africa Studies) attended a virtual conference hosted by the Institute of African Studies at Zhejiang Normal University (IASZNU). The conference discussed collaboration between UFS and IASZNU, looking at various themes on China and Africa/SA Trade and Investment, cooperation in education, human resource development and vocational training.

### Internationalisation at Home

International Student Welcome function: The 2021 International Student Welcome function was presented virtually with the theme, 'Welcome to South Africa'. The function welcomed all firstentry international students, full-degree as well as exchange students. The theme was aimed at educating the students about the South African culture particularly the Free State province, lifestyle, and the institution. Included in the webpage designed for the function were fun facts about South Africa, things to do in Bloemfontein, and messages from the Umoja Buddy Programme ambassadors as well as from colleagues from the Office for International Affairs and Student Representative Council (SRC).

**WHATSAPP BOT:** In collaboration with the OIA website and scholarship subordinate, the I@H developed questions and answers for the Whatsapp BOT in order to improve real-time responses and communication to our international student community.

Community engagement initiative (Reigniting and supporting the reading culture): The 2021 community engagement programme centred around educating and promoting a reading culture within our communities. As a higher education institution, we have a responsibility to instil a reading culture within our communities and to improve the community's literacy rate. This initiative intends to convert a room into a lively library filled with books and computers for one of the University of the Free State's (UFS) adopted schools, Tebelelo Primary School.

**Virtual orientation:** On 23 July 2021, the OIA hosted a virtual orientation session for all second-semester international students. The orientation session was hosted in collaboration with the Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) and ICT. The purpose of the orientation was to welcome the students to the UFS by **Mr Cornelius Hagenmeier**, as well as to share information that that will assist them in following their classes, i.e. using Blackboard; accessing the student PeopleSoft portal, and getting involved in the UBP programme, amongst other things.



Pictured above: Mr Cornelius Hagenmeier

## Umoja Buddy Programme (UBP) Monday motivation and Friday challenge

The foundation of the Umoja Buddy programme is based on face-to-face contact and in-person attendance of integration activities. Due to the disruption caused by the pandemic, much of the UBP activities had to be recalibrated into a virtual format to ensure that contact with students were maintained and that minimal disruption was caused to their integration into the student life and community of the university. On 30 August 2021, the OIA launched two social initiatives titled 'Monday motivation' and 'Friday challenge'. The purpose of these initiatives was to keep students engaged socially and to afford them an opportunity to connect with one another. These initiatives were also aimed at increasing student participation in university activities and address issues of belongingness.



Image above: Monday motivation



Image above: Friday challenge

University of the Free State (UFS), round-table discussions: Themed, 'Making internationalisation everyone's business', the round-table discussions sought to create a platform for robust engagement related to topical matters related to the student body. The purpose of these discussions was to have high-level discussions with all stakeholders, who will in future be drivers of internationalisation in their respective divisions and/or departments. These discussions took place virtually via Blackboard Collaborate and were student-only discussions (both international and local) to get their perspective on internationalisation.





