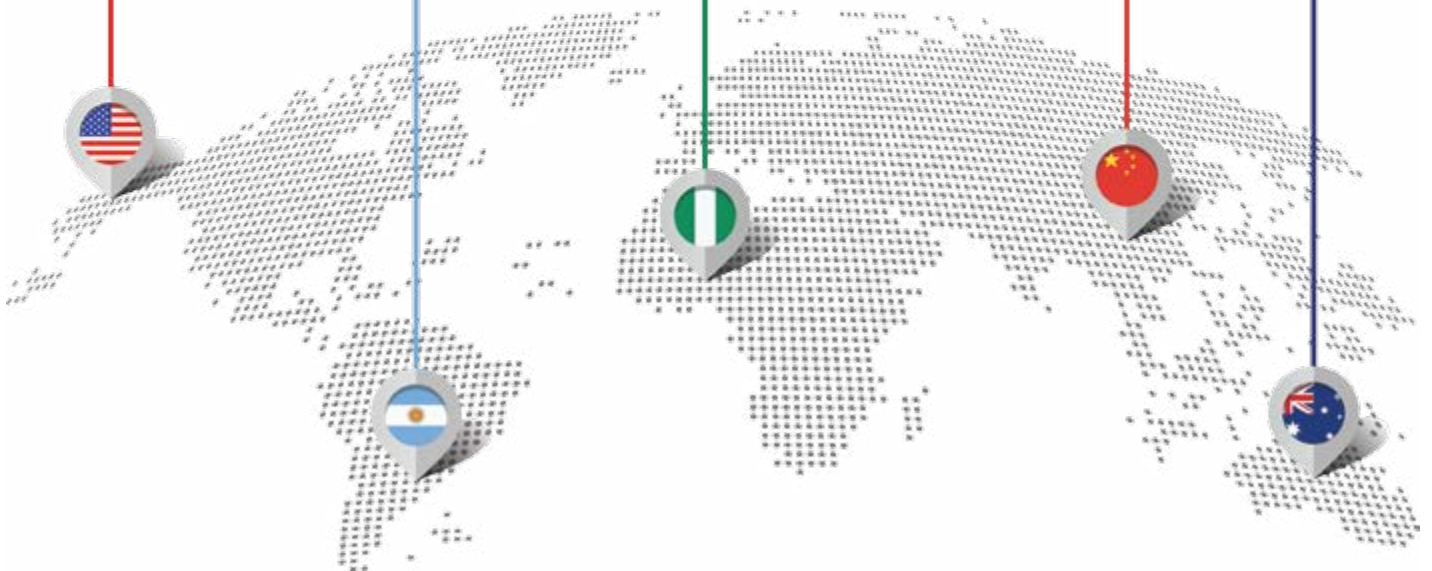


INTERNATIONALISATION REPORT 2020



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FREISTATA



A large, stylized red quotation mark icon, consisting of two thick, curved lines forming the opening of a quote.

We have the ability to achieve, if we master the necessary goodwill, a common global society blessed with a shared culture of peace that is nourished by the ethnic, national and local diversities that enrich our lives.

- Mahnaz Afkhami

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Editorial

Resilience characterised internationalisation at the UFS in the year under review. Despite the unprecedented pandemic challenge, the university was able to advance its vision of comprehensive internationalisation. The university moved all internationalisation activities temporarily into the virtual space. It was possible to sustain research internationalisation, continue important international projects and support our international students in this unprecedented period. The university's strategic focus on virtual exchanges and curriculum internationalisation as an important aspect of curriculum transformation brought about by the UFS 2018 – 2022 Internationalisation Strategy made it easier to adapt internationalisation to the changed circumstances.

Highlights of the year under review include the virtual celebration of Africa Month and the International Cultural Diversity Festival. The coordination of the EU-funded Erasmus+ project, iKudu allowed the university to develop capacity for inclusive internationalisation through collaboration with trusted partners. The development of the African and Global South partnership focus continued; notable was the formalisation of the UFS collaboration with the Russian Academy of Science and the University of Zimbabwe.



Cornelius Hagenmeier

Director: Office for International Affairs





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.

Prof Francis Petersen addresses the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM)

On 10 June 2020, University leaders from Africa and beyond participated in a Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) webinar, which focused on universities' responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. Prof Francis Petersen, Rector and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Free State, was one of four panellists alongside university leaders such as Prof Arthur Mol, Rector Magnificus of Wageningen University and Research in the Netherlands, Hicham el Habti, Secretary General at the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University (UM6P) in Morocco, as well as Prof Barnabas Nawangwe, Vice-Chancellor of the Makerere University in Uganda.

RUFORUM is a consortium of 46 universities in East, Central, West, and Southern Africa, mandated to oversee graduate training and networks of specialisation in the countries and universities where it works. This engagement was particularly important because the need to assess university readiness to adapt to the COVID-19 pandemic is critical to the learning and teaching core business of universities.



Image 1. Prof Francis Petersen, Rector and Vice-Chancellor of the University of the Free State

Prof Puleng LenkaBula delivers National Heritage Council Africa Day Lecture



Image 2. Prof Puleng LenkaBula, Vice-Rector: Institutional Change, Student Affairs, and Community Engagement

The UFS joined millions around the world in observing Africa Day on 25 May 2020. In line with its vision 'for a nation proud of its African heritage', the National Heritage Council observed Africa Day with a special lecture delivered by Prof Puleng LenkaBula, Vice-Rector: Institutional Change, Student Affairs, and Community Engagement at the UFS. The Africa Day address was broadcast live on Newzroom Afrika on DStv channel 405 (25 May 2020). Video: <https://bit.ly/3rwh5SU>

Commemorating the founding of the Organisation of African Unity (now the African Union) in 1963, Prof LenkaBula's lecture focused on 'Africa, Pandemics and Health Systems – what does the future hold?' With much of the world's attention on COVID-19, Prof LenkaBula shared her perspective on the pandemic, focusing on ethics, endogenous knowledge systems, and heritage.

“

Africa, Pandemics and Health Systems – what does the future hold?



Image 3. Africa Day celebration banner

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the UFS hosted its first-ever virtual Africa Month celebration on 25 May 2020, themed 'One Africa Together Forever', coordinated by the OIA in collaboration with the Department of Communication and Marketing. The major contributors varied from authors, thought leaders, academics, famous African scholars, the library, and the Department of Communication and Marketing. Through a variety of cultural and intellectual contributions posted on the dedicated UFS Virtual Africa Month webpage, the University shared diverse views on African unity from the Kopsie community and beyond. The Africa Month celebration was introduced by Rector and Vice-Chancellor Professor Francis Petersen in his welcome message, Kanego Mokgosi introduced its history and intellectual underpinnings. It can be viewed at <https://www.ufs.ac.za/AfricaMonth>.

International Cultural Diversity Festival connects cultures

The third iteration of the UFS International Cultural Diversity Festival was celebrated virtually on 24 September 2020 as part of the Heritage Month celebrations. This event was organised by the UFS Office for International Affairs to celebrate and recognise the different heritages at the UFS and is dedicated to the expression of diverse cultural experiences from all over the world. The theme for the 2020 celebration focused on 'Connecting the Cultures'. The programme included artistic presentations by the UFS Arts, Culture, and Dialogue office in the Division of Student Affairs, coordinated by Angelo Mockie.

Director of the UFS Office for International Affairs, Cornelius Hagenmeier, emphasised that the university actively strives to increase its international diversity, which nurtures intellectual cross-fertilisation and the incubation of new ideas. The virtual festival allowed students and staff to share and celebrate who they are while learning from each other. This enhanced the international and intercultural competencies of the transforming UFS community.



Image 4. Performance by UFS Arts and Culture Group



The virtual celebration video can be viewed on the following link:
<https://bit.ly/3waMM7K>

UFS first in Africa to implement mental-health app

The UFS is the first university in South Africa and Africa to implement the MEGA *mobile application* in primary healthcare settings to improve access for children and adolescents to mental-health services and appropriate care in South Africa and *Zambia*.

The MEGA project is a European Union-funded project to build capacity by implementing the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) mobile intervention in *SADC countries*. The MEGA consortium consists of an interprofessional team, including registered professional nurses, psychiatrists, psychologists, IT specialists, a sociologist, researchers, and administrative specialists in project funding.

Partner institutions include the *Turku University of Applied Sciences in Finland; Hamburg University of Applied Sciences in Germany; Riga Technical University in Latvia; the UFS; Stellenbosch University; the University of Cape Town; the University of Pretoria; the University of Zambia; and Lusaka Apex Medical University in Zambia*.

Image 5. MEGA stakeholders in front of the NARS building



The iKudu project, a European Union-funded Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) project has been conceptualised to develop a contextualised South African concept of Internationalisation of the Curriculum (IoC), which integrates Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) virtual exchanges and is co-ordinated by the UFS' Office for International Affairs together with a consortium of nine other institutions from South Africa and Europe. The concept will allow South African partner universities to become the country's leading HEIs in IoC, curriculum transformation, and COIL virtual exchanges. Launching its blog platform, members of the iKudu team regularly share their perspectives on the project and related international education topics regarding COIL, virtual exchanges, and curriculum transformation.

However, while all stakeholders agree on the project's fundamental tenets and its principal goals, all iKudu stakeholders contribute to different perspectives. In the blog, the iKudu stakeholders will provide a space for intellectual discourse on the project and related international education topics, which allows for constructive and critical engagement.

Reshaping iKudu for the pandemic

The iKudu project is based on the fundamental belief that it is necessary to rethink internationalisation in an uncertain world. This belief became increasingly relevant during the pandemic. In order to rethink internationalisation in an uncertain world, it is firstly crucial to recognise and transform the power dynamics underlying international academic collaboration, and secondly, it is essential to develop pedagogies that allow every student to participate in international education, integrating technology where appropriate. Highlighting the adaptable nature of the iKudu project, it was quickly reshaped to continue without face-to-face meetings during the pandemic. Despite the impossibility of travel, it was possible to commence the training of academics for COIL virtual exchanges and the appreciative enquiry on curriculum transformation at the partner universities.

BLOEMFONTEIN CAMPUS

This section of the report highlights the Bloemfontein Campus and its efforts towards innovation, international research, securing international research funding, and increasing international collaboration.



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

Researching aquatic parasites in Antarctica



Image 6. Prof Linda Basson in the South Pole

Prof Linda Basson of the UFS, together with PhD student Gerhard de Jager, was invited by Prof Isabelle Ansorge, Head of the School of Oceanography, University of Cape Town, to join her research team on the South African National Antarctic Programme (SANAE) Voyage 59 to Antarctica. This research is considered trailblazing, in that no research has been conducted on aquatic parasites in Penguin Bukta and Akta Bukta, the specific areas where Prof Basson was based with other scientists and the rest of the SA Agulhas II crew.

Fieldwork on Wetland Biodiversity



Image 7. Dr Tom Pinceel (left) and Dr Falko Buschke (right), from the Centre for Environmental Management, UFS.

Dr Falko Buschke (Senior Lecturer in the Centre for Environmental Management, CEM) and Dr Tom Pinceel (KU Leuven Belgium and CEM Research Fellow) are part of a multi-university collaboration in Karingani Private Nature Reserve, Mozambique. This collaborative project includes researchers from the KU Leuven (Belgium), University of the Free State (South Africa), Eduardo Mondlane University (Mozambique), as well as the management of Karingani, a private conservation area along the Mozambican border with the Kruger National Park.

This project was started in 2018 as a small study by Dr Pinceel and has since grown into an annual assessment of the 150 000-hectare conservation area. The research includes a full survey of the biodiversity in temporary wetlands and how this contributes to the sustainability of the wider ecosystem. The project also includes experimental trials to understand how the animals in these wetlands purify the water by removing potentially harmful algae. Although this is a long-term project, the first research outputs are currently under review and should be published by mid-2021.

Finding safe havens for biodiversity in the Eastern Free State

New research led by Dr Falko Buschke shows the iconic sandstone cliffs protecting wild plants and animals from climate change. This finding is the outcome of a collaborative research effort by the UFS; BirdLife South Africa; the *Vrije Universiteit Brussel*; and *KU Leuven, Belgium*, which has been published in the journal *Biological Conservation*.

Dr Buschke from the Centre for Environmental Management, UFS, used satellite data from NASA to track the ecological effects of wet and dry seasons, including the record drought of 2015/16. This showed how vegetation on the cool and moist mountain slopes was affected by dry spells. This study took place in the *Rooiberge–Riemland Key Biodiversity Area (KBA)*, an area significant for maintaining global biodiversity. Several species of insects, reptiles, birds, and mammals are distinct to this area.

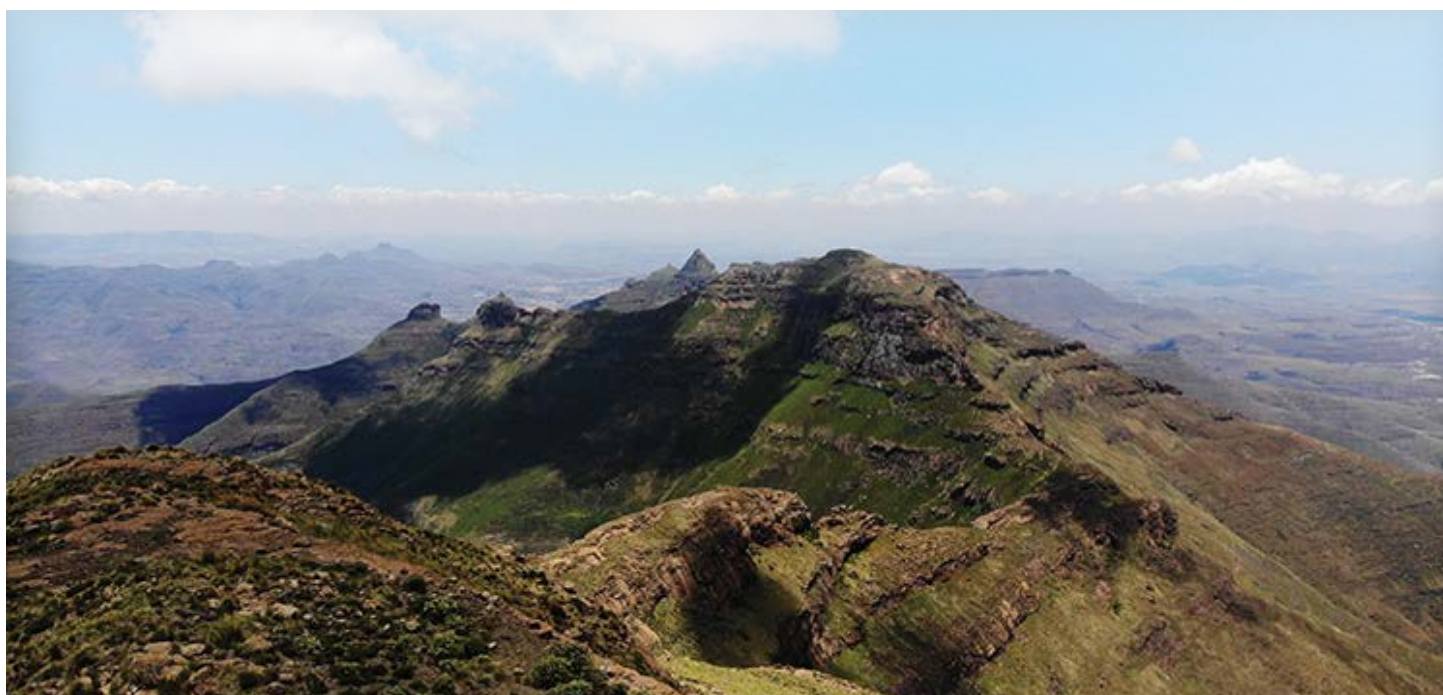


Image 8. Rooiberge–Riemland Key Biodiversity Area

COVID-19 RNA monitoring

Prof Anthony Turton from the Centre for Environmental Management at the UFS has discovered a possible method to monitor the total viral load in each of the 824 *wastewater treatment* works in South Africa. A commercial laboratory became the first to extract *COVID-19 RNA* from various sewage samples in the country. This was done as a proof of concept, after the *Dutch* research agency *KWR* entered into an agreement with the SA Business Water Chamber. The source of funding for this demonstration came from the private sector.

Furthermore, Prof Turton also led a SA team that developed a viable virus risk forensic service, through isolating the SARS-CoV-2 from sewage. The interest shown in this technology is from both government and the private sector in North America, Africa, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. A number of key decision makers see the value of this technology in mitigating both financial and political risk.



Image 9. Prof Anthony Turton



Developing models to predict patient outcomes in children with severe illness



Image 10. Paediatrician, Dr Michael Pienaar

A lecturer from the UFS Department of Paediatrics and Child Health is investigating the use of artificial neural networks to develop models for the prediction of patient outcomes in children with severe illness. Dr Michael Pienaar, Senior Lecturer and specialist, is conducting this research as part of his doctoral research, and the study deals primarily with the development of models that are designed and calibrated for use in South Africa. These artificial neural networks are computer programs designed to mimic some of the learning characteristics of biological neurons.

Dr Pienaar would like to use this research as a bridge to collaborate with other clinical researchers across the *Global South and African continent*. He had support from his supervisors, Prof Stephen Brown (Faculty of Health Sciences, UFS), Dr Nicolaas Luwes (Faculty of Computer Science and Engineering, Central University of Technology), and Dr Elizabeth George (*Medical Research Council Clinical Trials Unit, University College London*). The Robert Frater Institute in the Faculty of Health Sciences also supported him.

Eighteen from UFS on Stanford University's list of leading researchers

Eighteen scientists from the University of the Free State (UFS) have been named on a global list of leading scientists by Stanford University in the United States. The list is the result of a study published in *PLOS Biology*, a peer-reviewed open-access journal. The study is titled: *A standardised citation metrics author database annotated for scientific field*.



Image 11. With more than six million scientists who have published at least five papers, a list of Stanford University placed eighteen researchers from the UFS in the elite group of most cited scientists in various disciplines.

The single-year data set includes the following names of UFS researchers:

Prof Abdon Atangana, Applied Mathematics

Prof Melanie Walker, Education

Prof Hendrik Swart, Applied Physics

Prof J Hölsä, Applied Physics

Prof Johan Grobbelaar, Marine Biology and Hydrobiology

Prof A Chapagain, Environmental Engineering

Prof Louis Scott, Palaeontology

Prof Muhammad Altaf Khan, Applied Mathematics

Prof Jeanet Conradie, Inorganic and Nuclear Chemistry

Prof FB Dejene, Applied Physics

Prof Robert Schall, Pharmacology and Pharmacy

Prof RE Kroon, Applied Physics

Prof Michael D MacNeil, Dairy and Animal Science

The career-long data set includes the names of:

Prof Abdon Atangana, Applied Mathematics

Prof Louis Scott, Palaeontology

Prof J Hölsä, Applied Physics

Prof Johan Grobbelaar, Marine Biology and Hydrobiology

Prof Robert Schall, Pharmacology and Pharmacy

Prof HA Snyman, Ecology

Prof Robert Frater, Respiratory System

Prof Melanie Walker, Education

Prof Johan Visser, Geology

Prof Hendrik Swart, Applied Physics

Prof James du Preez, Biotechnology

Prof Michael D MacNeil, Dairy and Animal Science

Prof Jeanet Conradie, Inorganic and Nuclear Chemistry

Prof David Roux, General Chemistry

BOOK AND JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

Researchers had to adapt and be innovative in their collaboration with their international counterparts during the global pandemic. This subsection highlights new journals, special editions and select publications co-edited by UFS stakeholders during a complex and uncertain time.

African translation studies take centre stage in new UFS journal



Image 12. Prof Kobus Marais

The newly launched *Journal for Translation Studies in Africa* (JTSA) by Editor-in-Chief Prof Kobus Marais from the Department of Linguistics and Language Practice at the University of the Free State (UFS), is the result of various efforts over a period of more than a decade. The journal is an open-sourced, peer-reviewed publication, boasting scholarly papers, book reviews, opinion pieces, and work by young scholars within translation studies. Other scholars on the advisory board are Prof Rita Kothari (*Ashoka University in India*); Prof John Milton (*University of São Paulo, Brazil*); Prof Jacobus Naude (UFS); Prof Maria Tymoczko (*University of Massachusetts, Amherst*); and Prof Rita Wilson (*Monash University*).

UFS Scientists part of international COVID-19 study published in peer-reviewed scientific journal

Three scientists from the UFS, together with authors from other institutions, are part of an international COVID-19 study published in an international peer-reviewed scientific journal called *PLOS ONE*. Prof Paul Grobler, Academic Head of Department: Genetics; Prof Felicity Burt, researcher from the Division of Virology, Faculty of Health Sciences and the NHLS, and SARChI (South African Research Chairs Initiative) Research Chair in vector-borne and zoonotic diseases; as well as Prof Trudy Turner from the *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*, but also an affiliated professor in the Department of Genetics at the UFS, are the co-authors of the paper that appeared in *Plos One*.

The paper follows an initiative of Prof Chris Schmitt at *Boston University* with researchers affiliated to the *University of California, Los Angeles*, *Rutgers University*, the *Polish Academy of Sciences*, the *Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation*, the *University of Antwerp*, the *Wake Forest School of Medicine*, and the *University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee*. The team used the opportunity presented by previously sequenced genomes to screen for variation in the genes associated with susceptibility to infection with SARS-CoV-2.



Image 13. Prof Felicity Burt and Prof Paul Grobler from the UFS

Book explores Middle East and North Africa crises in the time of COVID-19

Prof Hussein Solomon, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Political Studies and Governance at the UFS, and Prof Arno Tausch, Associate Professor at the *University of Innsbruck in Austria*, co-authored a book. In the book, *Arab MENA (Middle East and North Africa) Countries: Vulnerabilities and Constraints Against Democracy on the Eve of the Global COVID-19 Crisis*, the authors offer critical insights into the Arab region and explore different facets thereof, how policy makers have responded to it, and what alternatives there are in overcoming it. These crises, viewed from a COVID-19 perspective, are placed in the spotlight by the authors.



Image 14. Prof Hussein Solomon

Chaos is a Gift? Leading Oneself in Uncertain and Complex Environments

Three of the authors who contributed to this publication are from the UFS. Dr Martha Harunavamwe from the Department of Industrial Psychology wrote a chapter on resilience and agility in *Zimbabwean higher education*. Dr Mareve Biljohn from the Department of Public Administration and Management wrote a chapter on leading the self in South Africa's VUCA local government environments, and Prof Liezel Lues from the Department of Public Administration and Management wrote a chapter on South Africa's surviving VUCA environment.

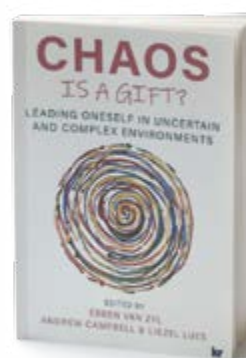


Image 15. Book cover: *Chaos is a Gift? Leading Oneself in Uncertain and Complex Environments*

UFS dermatologist publishes first-ever comprehensive skin atlas

Dr Lehlohonolo Makhakhe, Senior Lecturer and specialist in the Department of Dermatology at the UFS, has published the very *First Comprehensive African Atlas on Skin Diseases* commonly seen in the African setting. The African Atlas, synopsis, and practical guide to clinical dermatology also contains more than 1 000 high-resolution images and is intended for medical and nursing students.

Dr Makhakhe, a full-time medical specialist (dermatologist) and author of the book, says this is the first comprehensive full-colour atlas, with contributions from endocrinologists, haematologists, rheumatologists, psychiatrists, and the UFS departments of Pharmacology, Dietetics, and Paediatrics. The book is now fully endorsed by the UFS and will be offered as part of the curriculum for third- to final-year medical students.



Image 16. Dr Lehlohonolo Makhakhe

INTERNATIONAL FUNDING

This subsection highlights some of the projects that have received international funding for the 2020 academic year.

Grant to transform Free State communal woolgrowers

The UFS is involved in several initiatives aimed at empowering communities to create a sustainable livelihood for themselves in the future. One of these initiatives includes a project to build competitiveness for communal farmers by developing the wool value chain in the Free State. The UFS Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development and Extension (CENSARDE) was awarded a grant valuing US\$300 000 (ZAR4,339,662.82) by the Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM) to educate local and subsistence farmers about the fundamentals of sustainable agriculture and how to manage resources optimally within emerging market trends.



Image 17. Dr Jan Swanepoel

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

This subsection of the report recognises and celebrates the international accolades received by UFS staff and students. We especially acknowledge the pioneers and trailblazers who managed to put the UFS on the global map during the pandemic.

Prof Abdon Atangana's mathematical operator set off an explosion of new research

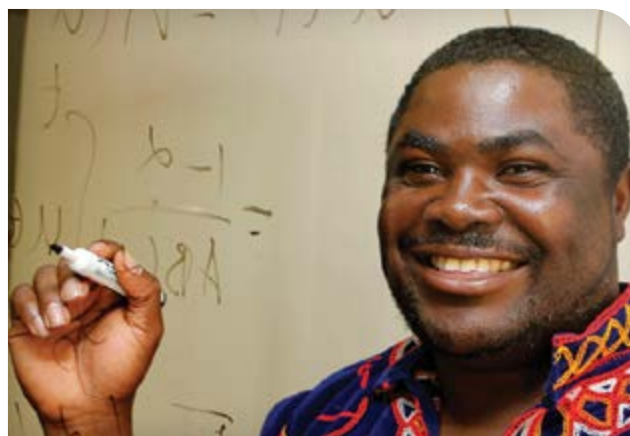


Image 18. Prof Abdon Atangana

Prof Abdon Atangana, Academic Head of the Institute for Groundwater Studies at the UFS, and Prof Dumitru Baleanu from Çankaya University, developed their differential operators when existing operators failed to accurately depict physical problems. The mathematical operators can be used to model real-world problems arising in many fields of science, mathematics, technology, and engineering.

Prof Atangana was awarded the *TWAS Mohammad A. Hamdan Award by The World Academy of Sciences* for the advancement of science in *developing countries*. He received the award for his contribution to *fractal mathematics and partial differential equations*.

Prof Atangana, was named among the top 1% of scientists in the *Global Clarivate Web of Science* list. This list of the top 1% of world-renowned researchers is based on contributions in the field of science that spans a period of ten years. According to the Publons website, Prof Atangana is a highly cited researcher and top peer reviewer, with 690 verified reviews.

UFS lecturer wins international nursing award



Image 19. Dr Champion N Nyoni

Dr Champion N Nyoni, Senior Lecturer, became the first UFS staff member to win the prestigious *Sigma Emerging Nurse Researcher/Scholar award* – making him only the *third African* to win this award. When he was nominated, Dr Nyoni had close to 15 publications in nursing education and close to 40 presentations at local and international conferences. He also had several awards for his research work. Dr Nyoni is a postdoctoral fellow (the first) in the UFS School of Nursing and serves as chairperson on several boards of directors relating to health professions education in the African region, namely AfriPEN and SAFRI. He is also supervising several master's and PhD students.

ISG researcher awarded the prestigious Colin Murray Prize

Dr Innocent Dande has been awarded the research prize from the *London-based Journal of Southern African Studies (JSAS)* – the leading international journal in its field, for his research on the food struggles experienced by residents in poor suburbs in *Harare, Zimbabwe*. His application was titled, *Cooking, the crisis and cuisines: household economies and food politics in Harare (Zimbabwe), 1997–2020*, with much of his research focusing on everyday issues affecting ordinary people, in contrast to 'high' politics and many other topics that ordinarily shout for more attention. His aim is to write a social history of the Zimbabwean crisis, focusing on 'mundane' issues such as the cooking and eating of food.



Image 20. Dr Innocent Dande

Dr Willem Lombard wins international award for his stock-theft research

Dr Willem Lombard from the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences was awarded the Joseph F Donnermeyer New Scholar Award from the ***International Society for the Study of Rural Crime (ISSRC)***. Dr Lombard received the award for the research he conducted for the article: 'Economic impact and factors affecting sheep and goat theft in South Africa', published in *Acta Criminologica: African Journal of Criminology & Victimology*. The award is bestowed on an early-career researcher for a publication pertaining to rural criminology over the past 12 months. An early-career researcher is someone who has received a PhD within the past seven years and is showing stable research development.



Image 21. Dr WA Lombard

Postdoc research awards keep academic spotlight on Africa



Image 22. Dr Kundai Manamere and Dr Hlengiwe Dlamini

Dr Hlengiwe Dlamini won a CODESRIA (*Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa*) award as part of the organisation's 'Meaning-making Research Initiatives'. These initiatives focus on supporting research that contributes to agendas for imagining, planning, and creating African futures.

Her colleague in the UFS ISG, Dr Kundai Manamere, who signed a book contract with *Ohio University Press*, has been awarded an *African Peacebuilding Network (APN) 2020 Individual Research Fellowship*, administered by the *American Social Science Research Council*.

ISG scholar wins international book prizes for ground-breaking publication



Image 23. Dr Rebecca Swartz

Dr Rebecca Swartz, a postdoctoral scholar in the International Studies Group, received international recognition for her publication titled: *Education and Empire: Children, Race and Humanitarianism in the British Settler Colonies, 1833-1880* (Cham: Palgrave, 2019).

The book won the prestigious Grace Abbott Book Prize (best book in English) from the Society for the History of Children and Youth (SHCY), which is awarded biannually, as well as the *International Standing Conference for the History of Education (ISCHE)* First Book Award. It was also nominated for the Kevin Brehony Prize from the History of Education Society (UK).

Pan African Film Festival rewards work of UFS staff member

Mpendulo Myeni, a UFS alumnus and newly appointed Assistant Officer in the Department of Architecture at the UFS, has won the prestigious *iamAFRICA Short Film Competition* with his production, *Eyelash*, screened at the *Pan African Film Festival (PAFF)* in Los Angeles. The prize comes with a trip to Los Angeles to participate in a day of workshops, production training, and networking with the entertainment industry at *YouTube Space LA*.



Image 24. Mpendulo Myeni

UFS postdoctoral fellow wins medal at international webinar



Image 25. Dr Satyajit Tripathy

Dr Satyajit Tripathy from the Department of Pharmacology won the medal for his outstanding research presentation on the *Employment of old options to control novel Coronavirus: Pros and Cons* (authors: Barsha Dassarma, Satyajit Tripathy, MG Matsabisa). His presentation looked at immunotherapeutic techniques, such as the convalescent plasma (CP) therapy and possible diverse modes of action of the antimalarial drug hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) against COVID-19 infection. The two-day webinar with the theme *Current concepts of Environmental Pollution by Electromagnetic field and Coronavirus* was hosted by UNESCO/UNITWIN Network web seminar in early August 2020 and was attended by more than 300 delegates from approximately 30 institutions from different countries.

UFS Agriculture students crowned world champions

A group of students in the Centre for Sustainable Agriculture and the Department of Agricultural Economics at the UFS walked away as victors in the recent *International Case Study Competition* presented by the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA).

The UFS team that emerged as winners in the category for Graduates / Early Career Professionals are Carien Denner, Alina Ntsiapane, and Andries Strauss, all three from the Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, and Michelle Marais from the Department of Agricultural Economics. The group participated against teams from 17 countries all over the world and faced the Philippines in the final round. The top finalists were invited to a final round to present their essay online before a panel of judges consisting of an international team of researchers, entrepreneurs, and policy makers.



Image 26. From the left: Carien Denner, Alina Ntsiapane, Andries Strauss, and Michelle Marais



Video: <https://bit.ly/3cG5iOi>

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

This subsection highlights some of the most prominent international scholarships awarded to UFS staff and students in 2020.

Making history: Five UFS postdoctoral fellows benefit from Carnegie-funded scholarships



Image 27. From the left: Dr Sibanengi Ncube; Dr Hyden Munene; Dr Joyline Kufandirori; Dr Joseph Kachim; Dr Victor Gwande

An unprecedented five postdoctoral fellows from the UFS International Studies Group (ISG) were selected for the prestigious *African Humanities Programme* (AHP), presented by the American Council of Learned Societies. The programme is funded by the well-known *Carnegie Corporation of New York*.

The successful UFS candidates are Dr Sibanengi Ncube, Dr Joseph Kachim, Dr Joyline Kufandirori, Dr Victor Gwande, and Dr Hyden Munene. As fellows, they are also eligible for additional benefits, such as residential stays for writing, manuscript development workshops, and publication support.

Mischke Bouwer proud recipient of Fulbright scholarship

Mischke Bouwer was awarded a *Fulbright Scholarship* to study her PhD in Geoscience at the *Southern Illinois University (SIU)*. The duration of the programme at the SIU is five years. Mischke is working on the absorption potential of arsenic and selenium in the field of environmental geochemistry and geochemical modelling. After completing her scholarship, she hopes to return to South Africa with this knowledge and to make a difference in the remediation and rehabilitation of mines.



Image 28. Mischke Bouwer

Kovsie joins young Commonwealth leaders to tackle global challenges

Takudzwa Nyamunda represented the University of the Free State (UFS) at the Commonwealth Futures workshop, which convened at the Durban University of Technology (DUT). Participants from 13 nations gathered to deliberate the future of the world and debated topical subject matter such as Gender-based violence, global warming, and inequality which were all challenges faced by societies globally. Over the course of four days, student leaders explored ways of bringing peace and nonviolence to the challenging issues confronted globally under the theme: Reimagining Peace. The workshop was organised by DUT, in collaboration with the **Association of Commonwealth Universities** (ACU) and the British Council.

The three-tiered workshop aimed to bring change to campuses across the world, in communities, and beyond. This was the third workshop in the series, which has taken place in India and the UK. The outcomes will directly feed into the 2020 *Commonwealth Youth Forum* held in Kigali, Rwanda.



Image 29. Takudzwa Nyamunda



Image 30. Innocensia Mangoato

Innocensia Mangoato off to Germany for her PhD studies

Innocensia Mangoato, Lecturer and Researcher from the UFS, was selected for an Argelander scholarship to complete her doctoral studies at the AG Synergy Research and Experimental Medicine research unit. She will be collaborating with Dr Gudrun S Ulrich-Merzenich from the **University of Bonn** in Germany and will be completing her mobility from March 2021 to November 2021. Mangoato's PhD in Pharmacology, under the direct supervision of Prof Motlalepula Matsabisa, focuses on cannabis and cancer drug resistance reversal through studying various efflux transporters that play a major role in anticancer drug resistance.



Image 31. Kader Asmal fellow, Devina Harry

Devina Harry accepted into the Kader Asmal Fellowship Programme

Devina Harry, a research assistant in the UFS Department of Business Management, travelled to *Ireland* on a year-long Fellowship Programme for a Master of Business. She was accepted into the *Kader Asmal Fellowship Programme*, which affords her the opportunity to study in *Ireland* during the 2020/21 academic year. She is one of 20 students selected as recipients from the African continent.

APPOINTMENT TO FORUM OR COMMITTEE

This subsection highlights the strategic internationalisation appointments involving our UFS staff members

UFS traditional medicine expert heads up WHO Regional Committee



Image 32. Prof Motlalepula Matsabisaa

Prof Motlalepula Matsabisa, Associate Professor in the Department of Pharmacology at the UFS, will lead Africa's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic with his appointment as chairperson of the *World Health Organisation's (WHO) Regional Expert Advisory Committee on Traditional Medicines* for COVID-19.

Prof Matsabisa was chosen over 25 other experts from 27 African countries to head this expert committee tasked with setting up research and clinical trials for COVID-19 and beyond. The committee is also supported by the *African Union (AU)*, the *Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC – Africa)*, and the *European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)*.

UFS Next Generation Sequencing Unit designated as a WHO Collaborating Centre



Image 33. Dr Martin Nyaga

The UFS has been designated a World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre (WHO CC). and the university's Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) Unit, in partnership with the World Health Organisation (WHO), will for the next four years be conducting genome sequencing of pathogenic organisms, including rotavirus strains from the African continent. Dr Martin Nyaga, Senior Lecturer and Researcher: NGS/Virology, is heading the WHO CC.

This centre is part of the Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) Pathogens Genomics Cluster and will run from September 2020 to September 2024. Being designated as a WHO CC is a time-limited agreement of collaboration between the WHO and the designated institution, whereby the latter agrees to implement a series of concrete activities specifically designed for the WHO.

Plant breeding enhances crop improvement



Image 34. Dr Angeline van Biljon

Dr Angeline van Biljon, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Plant Sciences at the UFS, has been elected as a member of the *Southern African Plant Breeders' Association* (SAPBA) executive committee, where she will serve until March 2022. Besides serving on the executive committee of SAPBA, she is involved with and is serving on several other platforms where she is making a difference in the plant breeding industry. For the past two years, she has been giving online lectures on biofortification as part of a National Research Foundation/Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education group in Alnarp in Sweden.

DIALOGUES, WEBINARS AND CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS



Image 35. Bence Szepesi

Odeion hosts international artists at Clarinet Extravaganza

The Odeion School of Music (OSM) hosted the second International Clarinet Extravaganza from the 28th January 2020 to 1 February 2020. Some of the artists included Eddy Vanoosthuyse and Severine Sierens from *Belgium*, Marco Mazzini from *Peru*, Feng Mei from the *USA*, and Bence Szepesi from *Hungary*.

The objective of the festival is to expose South African clarinettists (of all ages and levels) and educators to current international clarinet trends, excellent artistry, and the opportunity to receive masterclasses from top clarinet pedagogues.



Image 36. Workshop participants ranging from political scientists, academics, politicians, and journalists who robustly discussed local and international politics, economics, and governance.

The Department of Political Studies and Governance at the University of the Free State hosted a two-day workshop from 10 to 11 February 2020 entitled: *South Africa and Africa: Prevarication at the Precipice*. The two-day workshop is an annual collaborative discussion platform between the UFS, chaired by Prof Hussein Solomon, the Southern African Centre for Collaboration on Peace and Security, and the Osaka School of International Public Policy.

Storytelling for the Common Good



Image 37. From the left, are Julie Adair (Glasgow Caledonian University), Prof Puleng LenkaBula (UFS), Prof Lesley Wood (NWU), and Prof Boiphelo Marilyn Setlalentoa (NWU)

The Directorate: Community Engagement and the Centre for Development Support at the University of the Free State (UFS) hosted a seminar from 26 to 27 February 2020 that aimed to bridge the divide between academics and the community. Stakeholders in attendance comprised of international and local academics, NPOs, government officials, and Bloemfontein community members. For two days, ideas and knowledge were exchanged on how to initiate and sustain social innovation and change.

Julie Adair, Director of Digital Collaboration at the Glasgow Caledonian University and leader of the Common Good First project, underscored the great potential of digital storytelling – especially in higher education. Essentially, digital storytelling is a first-person narrative created by means of recorded voice, images, music, and sounds. As a methodology, digital storytelling is greatly adaptable to different contexts, giving voice to lived experiences. It is for this reason that digital storytelling is an excellent tool for identifying community needs, enhancing digital skills, informing scholarship, and sharing ideas.



Africa Day Webinar on Reflections on Africa amid COVID-19

The Centre for Gender and Africa Studies (CGAS) and the UFS hosted an *Africa Day Webinar* on the topic, *Reflections on Africa amid COVID-19*, delivered by Prof Sabelo J. Ndlovu-Gatsheni, renowned decolonial scholar on 25 May 2020. The title of his lecture was *Revisiting the African idea of Africa during the moment of COVID-19 pandemic*. The full webinar can be viewed at the following link: <https://bit.ly/3cVDMJU>.



Image 39. Dr Frikkie Maré

Understanding the red meat export markets

Dr Frikkie Maré, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Economics at the UFS, said lucrative trade opportunities do exist for the South African red-meat industry that is thinking about exporting to international markets. Dr Maré, who has in-depth knowledge of the red-meat value chain, delivered a presentation at the 2020 Livestock Registering Federation (LRF) Stockman School, speaking about international markets and international market requirements.

Dr Maré stated that South African exporters of red meat can learn a lot from the *Australian* red-meat industry in terms of using packaging to differentiate their products from others. Constant market research ensures that *Australia's* red-meat exports are exactly what consumers in these countries want and can afford. This research also keeps *Australia's* red-meat industry informed of whether or not it is profitable for the industry to keep exporting to a particular country.

Embrace technology for competitive advantage

Prof Kahilu Kajimo-Shakantu, Head of the Department of Quantity Surveying and Construction Management at the UFS, delivered in her capacity as 6th president of the Association of Schools of Construction of Southern Africa (ASOCSA) the welcoming address at the 14th Built Environment Conference which took place from 21 to 22 September 2020. The construction industry was hit hard by the Covid-19 pandemic, with various negative impacts on cost, implementation timelines, profits, and others. Increased and smart adoption of technology can, however, transform the sector to make it more sustainable. Prof. Kahilu Kajimo-Shakantu highlighted that technological, transformative and sustainable practices which emanated during the pandemic should be harnessed and embraced for competitive advantage post the pandemic.



Image 40. Prof Kahilu Kajimo-Shakantu

UFS Reflection Series Webinar: The quality of our democracies under COVID-19

The UFS hosted this webinar on 13 August 2020. The panellists Prof Natalia Angel Cabo (University of Los Andes, Bogota, Colombia); Dr Quaraysha Ismail-Sooliman (University of Pretoria, Pretoria, South Africa); Dr Usha Ramanathan, independent law researcher (Delhi, India); Prof Katie Young (Boston College, Boston, USA) and the moderator Prof Danie Brand (Free State Centre for Human Rights, UFS) discussed democracy-related issues in these troubled times by a panel of four hailing from Colombia, India, South Africa, and the USA. It transpired that the nature (and perhaps democratic quality) of public conversation has changed – for better or worse – from increasing reliance on ‘science’ and ‘scientists’ to justify public choices.



UFS gender studies expert, Dr Nadine Lake, participated in discussion with Redi Tlhabi about GBV

Dr Nadine Lake, gender studies expert from the Centre for Gender and Africa Studies at the UFS, participated in a streamed online Facebook discussion on ‘men and masculinities and finding ways of solving conflict and work towards healing the victims, the survivors, the perpetrators.’ This was the 13th episode of the #DigitallyYours discussion series initiated by the *Embassies of Sweden and the Kingdom of the Netherlands* in SA, with support from the *European Union* in SA. The discussion was moderated by renowned journalist, Redi Tlhabi. This virtual event was held on 5 August 2020. Other panellists included Mmatshilo Motsei, S’busiso Malope, Ruben Richards, and Xabiso Vili. The discussion was livestreamed on the Facebook page of the Embassy of Sweden as well as the Facebook page of the UFS.



Image 41. Digitally Yours poster

Research-industry linkages key to food sustainability

Prof Labuschagne delivered a presentation at a webinar organised by the *International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center* (CIMMYT) and the *United States Agency for International Development* (USAID). The webinar took place from 21-23 July 2020 and focussed on *Nutritious Maize: Technologies, Development and Availability in South Asia*. Prof Maryke Labuschagne, Professor of Plant Sciences at the UFS, heads the SARCHI Chair: Disease Resistance and Quality in Field Crops.

Prof Labuschagne believes research by universities and research organisations can be linked to industry, with special reference to the development of biofortified crops. She states that the same technologies for crop biofortification can be applied throughout the world. For several years now, a team of UFS scientists in the Division of Plant Breeding has been doing research on the biofortification of maize, sweet potatoes, bananas, and cassava. The research took place in collaboration with a number of partners in *Africa*, and with funding from organisations such as the *Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation*.



Image 42. Biofortified maize and wheat.



Image 43.

Transboundary water management under conditions of climate and political uncertainty

The UFS Department of Political Studies and Governance hosted in collaboration with the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies a webinar titled 'Transboundary water management under conditions of climate and political uncertainty' on 10 September 2020. The Middle East and Africa are facing challenges relating to water and food security, with the potential to aggravate the existing conflict in both regions. Soaring temperatures are expected to exceed global norms, and an arid future and environmental catastrophe is looming. Israel and South Africa are both arid countries challenged by water scarcity in the face of growing demand. Both countries are in some way water insecure and most of the water in both countries is transboundary. There is a compelling need for leadership to provide strategic thinking on how to mitigate the impact of climate change on scarce water resources. Panellists were Theo de Jager, the Southern African Agri Initiative (SAAI); Prof Kevin Winter, University of Cape Town; Oded Diste, CEO of Tal-Ya Agriculture Solutions; Monther Hind, Palestinian Wastewater Engineers Group, Palestine. Moderated by Dr Clive Lipchin, Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, with closing remarks by Prof Hussein Solomon from the UFS.



UFS·UVV

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YUNIVESITHI YA FREISTATA

MAIN
ENTRANCE

The background of the page is a composite image. On the left, there is a vertical strip showing a close-up of a yellow brick wall with some green plants at the bottom. The rest of the page has a purple overlay. In the background of this overlay, there is a large, abstract sculpture made of many small, light-colored pieces, possibly a mosaic or a large-scale artwork. The title 'SOUTH CAMPUS' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, enclosed in a white dotted rectangular border.

SOUTH CAMPUS

Located in the southern suburbs of Bloemfontein, the UFS South Campus offers access programmes, distance-education programmes, and short learning programmes. Since the South Campus is located in a peri-urban context, social responsibility is practised through a variety of collaborative projects in schools, such as the Schools Partnership Projects (SPP), Creative Clubs, TopKids, In-Service Education and Training (INSET), and the Internet Broadcast Project (IBP).

The year 2020 was tumultuous, with COVID-19 dominating the world. Even though it hampered many opportunities to attend face-to-face conferences and build international relationships, it also allowed internationalisation to flourish virtually on the South Campus. This section of the report highlights and celebrates the internationalisation efforts of the South Campus despite the pandemic.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND COLLABORATION

Dr Marinkie Madiope, South Campus Principal, delivered a virtual presentation during the third Calestous Juma Executive Dialogue on Innovation and Emerging Technologies (CJEDIET) in September 2020. The theme of Dr Madiope's presentation was 'Through the ashes of a struggled life worth living'; she was also recognised as the 2020 woman in science and was appointed as the deputy president during this same dialogue. The CJEDIET was established by the NEPAD agency in honour of Prof Calestous Juma, who was co-chair of the African Union High Level Panel on Emerging Technologies and a pioneer of science and technology in Africa.

Prof Jacobs collaborates with the Appalachian State University (USA), and Novgorod State University (Russia) developing virtual exchanges. Together with Dr Alun de Winter from Coventry University, Prof Jacobs presented a session during the webinar on 'Shaping a Transformative Internationalisation Research Agenda in an Online Environment'. She also virtually presented a paper on preventing and addressing bullying using a restorative approach at the Association for Teacher Education in Europe's (ATEE) winter conference. Erika Kruger, another research associate of the South Campus, also presented her paper, titled 'Teachers, lived experience of official employee well-being and self-care promotion programmes: A phenomenological study' at the ATEE conference.



Image 45. Dr Marinkie Madiope

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEES AND/OR ADVISORY/EDITORIAL BOARDS

The African Peer Review Mechanism appointed Dr Madiope as an editorial board member at the workshop in December 2020. This is a steering committee for the African Union Governance Campus; at the workshop, Dr Madiope contributed to the drafting of the African Governance report.

The new editorial board of *Perspectives in Education* (PiE) also includes international members from America and the Kingdom of Eswatini. PiE is an accredited peer-reviewed journal that moved to the South Campus in March 2020 and is now headed by Prof Jan Nieuwenhuis.



***Shaping a
Transformative
Internationalisation
Research Agenda in an
Online Environment***



International publications during 2020:

Journal Articles:

Stott, A.E. (2020). Influence of Context on Stoichiometry Conceptual and Algorithmic Subject Matter Knowledge among South African Physical Sciences Teachers. *Journal of Chemical Education* Vol 97(5). USA. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jchemed.9b01056>

De Wet, C.(2020) Internet commenters' understanding of the consequences of and ways to curb teacher-targeted bullying. *The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Education Studies*, 15(2):23-36. <https://doi.org/10.18848/2327-110X/CGP>

Book Chapter

Beelders, T., & Stott, A. E. (2020). Eye Movements during Barking at Print. In M. D. G. L. Giudice & A. Catala (Eds.), *Visual Impairment and Blindness – What We Know and What We Have to Know*. London: IntechOpen.

Conference proceedings:

Stott, A.E. & Beelders, T.R. (2020). A Word-Level Analysis of Barking at Print for English Second Language Texts. In Levrini, O. & Tasquier, G. (Eds.), *Electronic Proceedings of the ESERA 2019 Conference. The beauty and pleasure of understanding: engaging with contemporary challenges through science education, Part 2* (co-ed. Graca Carvalho & Vanessa Kind), (pp. 251-260). Bologna: ALMA MATER STUDIORUM – University of Bologna. 978- 88-945874-0-1/978-88-945874-0-1

Stott,A.E, (2020). Beliefs of learners and teachers in contexts of poverty regarding curriculum-aligned science electronic quiz engagement. *Proceedings of the Australian Conference on Science and Mathematics Education, Virtual*.



QWAQWA CAMPUS

The vibrant Qwaqwa Campus is located in the picturesque Eastern Free State. The campus is located near Lesotho and KwaZulu-Natal. The Afromontane Research Unit (ARU) facilitates the development of a high-excellence African-based mountain research 'community of practice' that leads African mountain research from within Africa. The Qwaqwa Campus brings higher education, research, and community engagement to this area.



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

Cutting-edge research can improve Africa: Dr Ocaya

Dr Richard Ocaya's research is receptive to the fact that Africa and the world need to reimagine their research especially in the wake on the Fourth Industrial Revolution. His research focuses on electronic instrumentation design for scientific measurements, computational physics on atomic nano-atomic structures, and semiconducting organic compound materials built on silicon to realise Schottky devices. Dr Ocaya, a Physics Lecturer and Programme Director: Physics and Chemistry on the UFS Qwaqwa Campus, is currently collaborating internationally with like-minded researchers in similar fields in Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Japan, Egypt, South Korea, and the United States.



Image 47. Dr Richard Ocaya

UFS part of new international digital humanities history project

A new digital humanities project, *One More Voice*, based at the *University of Nebraska-Lincoln*, brings together a number of researchers from the *US, the UK, and Africa*. These researchers include Dr Jared McDonald from the Department of History on the Qwaqwa Campus, who is a project scholar and the lead contact for Southern African research. Prof Adrian Wisnicki, an Associate Professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is the director of this project.

One More Voice intends to uncover and highlight long-neglected material in the British imperial archive that illuminate the important role played by African guides and assistants to famed Victorian explorers of the 19th century, such as David Livingstone and Henry Morton Stanley. It also aims to recover lost voices and contributions that were either glossed over or deliberately excised by European explorers when recounting their travels in Africa. These materials appear in multiple forms, such as travel diaries, letters, autobiographies, maps, travel narratives, testimonies, and oral histories, though they have seldom received scholarly or public attention. International research team finds new grass species in Maloti-Drakensberg area

This project challenges the notion of an intrepid European explorer 'discovering' new information and collecting data all by himself. Rather, it highlights that African guides, assistants and companions played an instrumental role in these expeditions and they too left an archival footprint.

Dr McDonald further revealed that the project is trying to recover unknown materials, theorise about these materials, and to see this aspect of history in a new and much more balanced way, one not just dominated by contemporaneous nineteenth century European perspectives.



Image 49. Dr Jared McDonald

DIALOGUES, WEBINARS, AND CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

SRC member participates in HE international webinar

Qwaqwa Campus SRC member, Siphamandla Shabangu, participated in an international webinar hosted by Qatar University on Monday 5 October 2020. He represented the University of the Free State, South Africa, and the African continent as a panellist to discuss the topic: Preparing for an Unpredictable Future: Global Insights from Higher Education Students. Other panellists were from the United Kingdom, Russia, Japan, Turkey, and Qatar. Siphamandla is currently serving as the SRC member responsible for Universal Access and Social Justice Council.



Image 50. Siphamandla Shabangu

INTERNATIONAL FUNDING

US Embassy and Consulates invests R8 million in UFS mountain-to-mountain research project

In partnership with the Appalachian State the R8 million project between the UFS and the Appalachian State University will cover the two master's degree programmes in underdeveloped niche areas, meteorological weather stations, leadership capacity building for black women in academia, and doctoral research projects. QwaQwa Campus departments that will be involved are Physics, Geography, Community Development, and the ARU. Talking about this collaboration, the project leader, Prof Geoffrey Mukwada, said it would bring together researchers from both the UFS and Appalachian State University and enable them to work together to develop what is currently an underdeveloped research niche, i.e. mountain studies.

Prof. Pearl Sithole acknowledged the role played by the Afromontane Research Unit in securing mountain-to-mountain research funding from the US Embassy and Consulates in SA and will strengthen the UFS efforts for comprehensive internationalisation.



Image 51. Prof Geoffrey Mukwada



Image 52. Prof Pearl Sithole

Afromontane Research Unit (ARU)



Africa – the continent of mountain archipelagos



Image 48. Afromontane research area in the Eastern Free State

The Afromontane Research Unit (ARU) – a continental leader in African mountain research – seeks to explore socio-ecological complexities in terms of sustainable development, providing research that can help to secure a positive future for the people, biodiversity, and goods and services provided by Africa's mountains. As part of its mission, the ARU is leading the way in encouraging a multidisciplinary community of practice that will drive a science-policy-action interface for Southern African mountains in decades to come. As virtually all of Africa's water comes from its mountains, this is a critical service to a region increasingly at risk from drought and the socio-political implications of rivers and taps running dry.

Most of Africa's mountains are isolated 'islands' (the continent of mountain archipelagos) rather than

linear, continuous mountain systems such as those in Asia, Europe, and the Americas. Even in Southern Africa, where we have the linear Great Escarpment (5 000 km long), this system is so old that it has been breached in innumerable places by erosion into a series of independent mountain blocks.

From the ARU, several significant, multinational projects received successful funding in 2020, covering a wide variety of disciplines and capacity development initiatives:

Horizon Biodiversa

The ARU's relationship with the Mountain Invasion Research Network (MIREN; co-chaired from Switzerland and Germany) led to the successful award of the ARU's first EU instrument, Horizon Biodiversa. The project is called **RangeX – Mechanisms underlying the success and impacts on biodiversity and ecosystem functioning of range-expanding species under climate change** (R1,25 million for the South African component). The total award for the four partners is €1,133,415 (ZAR22,668,300), and focuses on untangling complex ecological factors that are driving range-expanding species in mountains around the world. The four funded partners are ETH Zurich (Switzerland), Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, (Germany), University of Bergen (Norway), and the UFS (ARU). ARU champions are Dr Ralph Clark (ARU Director) and Dr Sandy-Lynn Steenhuisen, with an opportunity for a dedicated RangeX postdoc position to take a leading role, and benefits to existing students and postdocs aligned to this theme in the ARU.

Threats of Extreme Weather Events

A Water Research Commission award (R1,8 million), **Threats of extreme weather events: improving the resilience of Qwaqwa to the multiple risks of climate change**, led by the Centre for Environmental Management (UFS-Bloemfontein), includes the Cape Peninsula University of Technology (South Africa), Dresden University of Technology (Germany), and the Disaster Management Training and Education Centre for Africa (UFS, South Africa). Dr Patrick Otomo is the ARU champion on this project, which also dovetails with his own Thuthuka project, and the UFSQQ RVSC.

Predict the Impacts of Climate Change

The ARU is a partner in an NRF award to the University of Pretoria on **Using fine-scale functional and compositional variation to predict the impacts of climate change** (R4,5 million), with other partners being the University of Helsinki (Finland) and the National University of Lesotho (Lesotho). This project will expand our understanding of the alpine zone's ecology in the Maloti-Drakensberg, and its similarity (or dissimilarity) to other alpine and tundra environments. Dr Ralph Clark is the ARU champion on this project. It will create new postgraduate positions in the ARU and opportunities for strengthening ARU-NUL relationships and new partnerships.

UFS-QQ Risk and Vulnerability Science Centre

The founding of a UFS-QQ Risk and Vulnerability Science Centre (RVSC) in 2020 was part of the Department of Science and Innovation's (DSI) Global Change focus theme. The award is R8,4 million (2020–2022), renewable on a three-year cycle. The UFS-QQ RVSC has been embedded under the ARU as the potential future Sustainability Science Hub, as per the ARU Strategic Plan.

African Mountain Research Foundation

Alex Hickman (Special Adviser to the Prime Minister, United Kingdom) and the ARU Director, Dr Ralph Clark, laid the groundwork for the African Mountain Research Foundation (AMRF) in 2020. The AMRF is a strategic initiative to support the ARU in its regional Southern African focus, particularly to increase mountain observatories across Southern Africa. Dr Clark was invited to the UK in January 2020 to present the ARU's Southern African vision to strategic contacts. A complimentary visit by Hickman to the Bvumba Mountains (Zimbabwe), South Africa (ARU), and AfriSki (with Dr Clark) in February 2020 laid the psychological foundations for the first two AMRF mountain observatories, as well as gaining support from AfriSki as a focus area for alpine studies in the Maloti-Drakensberg. Progress with fundraising and formally establishing the AMRF was delayed in 2020 due to COVID-19 and the UK lockdowns.

Collaborative Research in the Alpine Zone of the Maloti-Drakensberg

A new collaboration with the Nanjing University (Prof Steven Sylvester, China) and the Smithsonian Institution (Dr Robert Soreng, USA) in 2020 led to extensive fieldwork across the Maloti-Drakensberg in February–March 2020. The focus of the fieldwork is on the poorly understood alpine zone. Outcomes so far are the **discovery of a new grass species** (*Festuca drakensbergensis*); **taxonomic revisions of ecologically important C3 grass species complexes** (notably *Festuca*); **new species records and population localities of non-native grass species**; and quantitative ecological surveys focusing on rangeland conditions in the alpine zone of the Maloti-Drakensberg.

A Scientific Bibliography of the Drakensberg, Maloti & Adjacent Lowlands

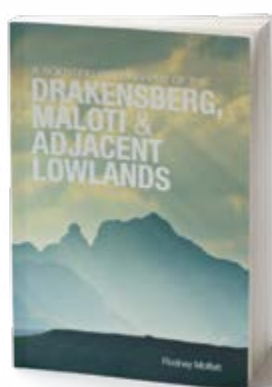


Image 53. Prof Rodney Moffett's book cover

This book by African Sun Media is a flagship ARU publication, authored by Prof Rodney Moffett, an ARU / UFS Research Fellow. The book is the first synthesis in the bibliography form of research outputs in the Maloti-Drakensberg region. The book was published in 2020 and reviewed as part of the Special Issue in (i) above (see <https://doi.org/10.2989/10220119.2020.1858962>).

The ARU Director remained the Chair of the Scientific Committee for the Grassland Society of Southern Africa (GSSA) for a second year. There was good ARU representation at the GSSA (virtual) Congress in 2020, enabling strong ARU representation.

South Africa–United Kingdom University Staff Doctoral Programme (UK–SA USDP)

The SA–UK University Staff Doctoral Programme (USDP) promotes collaborations that seek to increase the number of academics with PhDs in South African universities. To support this goal, the British Council issued a call for a collaboration development grant to allow for the hosting of scoping and development meetings to explore possible models for doctoral training. The UFS QwaQwa campus was successful in receiving this grant funding and will be collaborating with the University of the Highlands and Islands (UK) and the University of Venda. The first graduate of the US–SA USDP programme in mountain research, Dr Grey Magaiza, coordinates this project as his offer of ‘giving back’ from the benefit he received from the US–SA USDP. The SA–UK USDP supports five UFS–QwaQwa academics in the Humanities and Economic and Management Sciences, which contributes to research capacity development in these faculties at UFS–QwaQwa campus.

The US–SA USDP continues to provide valuable support to the doctoral cohort and create new opportunities for the cohort’s developmental experience under the leadership of Prof Geoffrey Mukwada.

Research and strategic partnership collaborations significantly strengthened in 2020, with the ARU strengthening its internationalisation and domestic partnerships:

Biodiversity Subcommittee

The ARU has been invited to sit on the **Maloti–Drakensberg Transfrontier Programme** (MDTP): Biodiversity Subcommittee. This opportunity enables the ARU to connect directly with high-level policy makers in Lesotho and South Africa and increase our reach for collaboration across the Maloti–Drakensberg region. Partnerships under the MDTP can help achieve the ARU’s research goal of ‘the sustainable development of the Maloti–Drakensberg’. The ARU has proposed a focus in the MDTP on the Mont-aux-Sources area’s degradation; a task team has been set up to consider this, including a site visit (postponed due to COVID-19).

A qualitative site assessment by Dr Ralph Clark in July 2020 led to a focus research topic involving Prof Johan van Tol, Prof Angelinus Frank, and Neo Mathinya as some of our first UFS-B academics in the ARU.

Montane Wetland Research

The montane wetland bio-acoustic network was strengthened through Dr Peter Chatanga (National University of Lesotho) landing a British Ecological Society grant for bio-acoustic work in Bokong Nature Reserve (Lesotho), in collaboration with Prof Aliza le Roux and the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology (Japan), as well as linking to BirdLife's programme. The relationship opens up the potential for ARU student mentoring and field experience through the relationship formed with BirdLife's Rockjumper Fellow on the White-winged Flufftail – Dr Kyle Lloyd – as well as co-publications on a variety of montane wetland topics.

The Trans-Local Learning Project

The relationship between the ARU and Japan in terms of the trans-local learning project, co-led by Dr Melissa Hansen (ARU champion) and Prof Shogo Kudo (University of Tokyo), was intentionally strengthened in 2020 through direct support from the ARU in overcoming logistical challenges, improving community relationships, and encouraging more vital UFS support for the project activities. Prof Kudo was nominated in 2020 as an ARU / UFS Research Fellow. would make for an even stronger partnership and additional opportunities.

ARU Collaborations with Key Groups

ARU relationships with key groups continue to grow, including with the **International Mountain Society**, the **Global Mountain Safeguard programme** (GLOMOS), **Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment** (GMBA), **Mountain Research Initiative** (MRI), **Mountain Invasion Research Network** (MIREN), the **Centre for Mountain Studies**, the Grassland Society of Southern Africa (GSSA), South African Environment Observation Network (SAEON), through participation in various fora, grant applications, and scientific committees, as well as discussions on future opportunities.

ARU Southern Hemisphere Links



Image 55. Southern Hemisphere linkages through GLOMOS Safeguarding Mountains book development and MIREN relationship

The ARU's Southern African links grew well in 2020 due to new mountain-focused contacts in Madagascar, Zambia, Malawi, and Réunion through the GLOMOS Safeguarding Mountains book development. Southern Hemisphere links grew stronger through the MIREN relationship, notably with Australia and Chile. See geographical illustration of the expanded links.



Image 54. Dr Melissa Hansen (left) with ARU guest researchers. They are, from the left: Gema Carlota Cubelos Perez, Emilie Jones, Ven Paolo Valenzuela, Kanako Matsuyama (International Christian University), and Dr Kudo Shogo



The background of the cover features a close-up, low-angle shot of a bookshelf. The shelves are filled with books, and the spines of the books are visible. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights and deep shadows. A large, stylized blue number '2' is overlaid on the right side of the image. The title 'OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS REPORT' is centered in the upper half of the image, enclosed in a white dotted rectangular border.

OFFICE FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS REPORT

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENTS

iKudu Capacity Development Project



Image 56: iKudu Project logo

The OIA coordinates the EU-funded iKudu Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) project, which is to be implemented over a three-year period from 15 November 2019 to 14 November 2022, the consortium has been awarded EUR999 881. The iKudu project develops a contextualised South African concept on Internationalisation of the Curriculum (IoC). iKudu integrates Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) virtual exchanges. Curriculum decolonisation is a central aspect of curriculum transformation. COIL virtual exchanges will provide an alternative to physical mobility, which cannot be implemented on a broad basis in SA due to its socio-economic realities. COIL is a new teaching and learning paradigm that promotes intercultural competence across shared mutual learning environments.



Image 57: Ralph Rahders Head of Unit: Erasmus+ Higher Education International Capacity Building)

Grant Holders Meeting

On the 27 to 28 January 2020, Mr. Cornelius Hagenmeier and Mrs. Chevon Slambee attended the EU Grant Holders' Meeting in Brussels organised by the EU Education, Audiovisual and Cultural Executive Agency (EACEA) responsible for the Erasmus+ programme. The purpose of the meeting was for the EU to share best project management practices and to provide information the financial modalities concerning the projects. Attending the meeting also afforded the UFS to meet with the EU iKudu project officer, Mrs. Paivi Hernesniemi to discuss project administration and reporting modalities.

Visit to the University of Antwerp

From 29th January 2020 to 2 February 2020 Mrs. Chevon Slambée visited the University of Antwerp, the co-coordinator of the iKudu project to plan for the coordination of the project. This visit was essential to ensure the success of the iKudu project in terms of project management, financial reporting and preparing for EU audits.



Image 58: Left: Annelien DeWinter, Ana Laura Inclán & Chevon Slambée

Support for international students during the COVID-19 pandemic

The OIA supported the UFS international students during the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. International exchange students at the UFS were assisted in returning to their home countries. UFS students on exchange abroad were assisted with their repatriation. International medical students were assisted with their return to the UFS when face-to-face teaching resumed. A tailored catch-up plan developed for international students has been approved by Rectorate.

Access to data

In collaboration with the OIA, the ICT department procured data for all international students in Lesotho. Their cellphones were credited with at least 10 GB of data for internet access. The university procured data, where possible and affordable, for international students sojourning in other countries, including Botswana and Namibia. International students sojourning in countries where direct data purchases were impossible, received R350 data allowance per month, approved for the lockdown duration, or until the end of 2020.

RESEARCH INTERNATIONALISATION

University Staff Development Programme (USDP) in Global Health

The University Staff Development Programme (USDP) in Global Health is a capacity development programme for staff members of the UFS and University of Venda (Univen) funded by the South African Department of Higher Education and Training government. It is implemented by a tripartite partnership of the UFS, Univen and the University of Virginia in the United States.



Image 59: From left: Dr. Edwin Turton (Anaesthesiology), Tirhani Masia (Nutrition) & Julia Mafumo (Nursing)

Three of the USDP in Global Health candidates undertook their one-month mobility to the University of Virginia (UVa) in Charlottesville (United States of America) from 4 February to 4 March 2020. The purpose of the mobility was to introduce them to their UVa mentors in person as well as to expose them to state of the art laboratories and research instrumentation. Furthermore, the University of Virginia exposed the doctoral candidates to cultural events and integrated them into collaborative academic programmes at the institution. They were capacitated in several areas, including professional networking and academic writing. The candidates were joined by their South African supervisors for a week from the 27th of February to the 4th of March 2020.

The USDP steering committee held its annual in-person meeting on the 20th of February 2020 at the University of Virginia. The meeting served to reflect on the 2019 year as well as to plan for this year.



Image 60 From left: Dr. Rebecca Dillingham (Director: Centre for Global Health, University of Virginia), Cornelius Hagenmeier (Director: Internationalisation), Bonolo Makhelemele (Project Coordinator: USDP), Prof. Gert van Zyl (Dean: Health Sciences UFS), Prof. Corli Witthuhn (Vice-Rector: Research), April Ballard (Associate Director of Programme Development, University of Virginia)

Following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the USDP project in Global Health successfully moved its activities to the virtual space.

Collaboration in Doctoral Staff Development programme with the University of the Highlands and Islands (Scotland) and Univen

The OIA on the Qwaqwa Campus is involved in the implementation of the UK-USDP programme, which received a grant worth R5 million. An amount of R177 054 was received from the British council in 2019 to facilitate the application writing. The gist of the project entails ten academics from the two South African partner universities obtain PhDs through a programme which is enriched through the involvement of UK-based co-supervision and other international activities. The theme of this collaboration between the UFS, Univen, and the University of the Highlands and Islands in Scotland is to view mountains as ‘social-ecological’ entities.

The UK-USDP is still at the beginning of the project as there are only seven scholars enrolled in the programme for the 2020 academic year. Univen is recruiting three more scholars for the programme. The final quarter of 2020 was bustling for the SA-UK USDP programme, with the inception of the programme, the selection of Steering Committee members, and the advertisement/recruitment of the USDP cohort. This process was followed by interviews and the allocation of UK supervisors to the cohort. The UFS, the University of Venda, and the University of the Islands and Highlands (Scotland) collaborated virtually in this programme.

INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

The OIA promotes international opportunities through the International Buzz newsletter, which is shared with all students and staff. Promotional events are arranged for all these opportunities, where experts make presentations to interested candidates.

Travelling Scholar



Image 61: Both local and International students attending the Travelling Scholar Information Session at the OIA Boardroom, Mabaleng A Building. presented by Carlien Jooste and her colleague from Traveling Scholar

On the 12th February 2020, the OIA hosted a 'Travelling Scholar' information session that was attended by both local and international exchange students. 'Traveling Scholar' provides local and international students with the opportunity to participate in study tours in South Africa. While the travel opportunity is non-credit bearing,

.....

it does promote life-long learning in different social and societal contexts.

Visit by Fulbright specialist Dr Raj Sashti – Enhancing international opportunities

On the 17th and 18th February 2020, the OIA hosted Dr. Raj Sashti, a Fulbright specialist from Georgia Tech University in the USA. The purpose of the visit was to share information on best practices, strategies, techniques, and approaches to secure Fulbright and other externally funded fellowships and grants. Sessions were divided into two; one was held for academic and support staff while the second session was dedicated for students. Additionally, Dr. Sashti scheduled one-on-one sessions with interested individuals requiring further application support. To enhance the reach of Dr. Sashti's expertise, QwaQwa campus was skyped in on the 2nd day. Both sessions were well attended by the UFS community.



Image 62: Fulbright Specialist Dr. Raj Sashti after meeting with the Deputy Dean of Humanities Dr. Chitja Twala accompanied by Matome Mokoena, Mbali Moiketsi and Kagiso Ngake from the OIA



Image 63: from left to right Cornelius Hagenmeier, Matshaba Mothiane, Mbali Moiketsi and Gontse Scholz.

Fulbright and DAAD information sessions

The Office for International Affairs held an information session on Fulbright scholarships and German DAAD opportunities. The presenters were Matshaba Mothiane, the Academic Scholarships and Exchanges Coordinator (Fulbright), and Gontse Scholz, Programme Adviser (DAAD). The purpose of the sessions was to make students and staff aware of the opportunities to study abroad, and application procedures which they must comply with in order to apply. The QwaQwa students and staff connected via Skype for both sessions. The closing date for DAAD depends on the university and the field of study.

Harvard South Africa Fellowship Programme

The Office for International Affairs hosted two information sessions on the QwaQwa and Bloemfontein campuses in collaboration with the Harvard South Africa Fellowship Programme in the Centre for African Studies. The Bloemfontein session took place on 10 February 2020 and the QwaQwa session was scheduled for 9 March 2020.. Both sessions were facilitated by Mrs Nthatsi Quella, the Programme Manager for the Africa Office of the Harvard University Centre for African Studies, situated in Johannesburg. The objective of the sessions was to equip prospective applicants with knowledge about the fellowship and tools required to complete a successful application. Both information sessions were well attended, with active engagement from the audience. On the Bloemfontein Campus, Dr Twala shared his experiences and encouraged the audience to make use of these opportunities, as they contribute extensively to one's academic and professional career.



Image 64: Program Manager in the Africa Office for Harvard University Center for African Studies Nthatsi Quella (in all black) with the OIA team , Bloemfontein Campus

Website

The OIA website has been redesigned for a fresh look and to enhance the brand and visibility of the office. The main purpose behind the redesign is to make navigation and accessing information related to internationalisation more efficient. The website contributes to the visibility of the office and is an essential tool for enabling internationalisation at the University of the Free State.

NRF and Nuffic Doctoral Training Scholarship

On 9 June 2020, the partnership office and the scholarship support portfolio of the OIA attended an information session hosted by the National Research Foundation (NRF) on the NRF and Nuffic Doctoral Training Scholarship. The scholarship enables doctoral candidates to study for a joint degree under the supervision of South African higher education and recognised Dutch universities. The two offices have initiated means to promote the programme, facilitate the nomination of students, and assist students with applications.

Virtual International Scholarship and Mobility Exchange Fair 2020

The Office for International Affairs hosted the 2nd UFS Annual International Scholarship and Mobility Fair, from 3–4 November 2020. This year – for the first time – it was virtual, hosted on Blackboard Collaborate over three sessions.

The event displayed study-abroad opportunities for all registered students and staff. In the mobility and exchange programme session, the UFS international partner universities presented study, teaching, and training opportunities to our students and staff on their campuses. UFS staff learnt that they are permitted to do exchange programmes at any one of more than 60 international universities to teach, conduct research, or collaborate to enhance their professional development.

The second session promoted postgraduate scholarship opportunities; these are opportunities for postgraduate students who would like to study full- or part-time abroad. The last session promoted research-related study opportunities such as PhD, fellowships, and academically associated opportunities. Postgraduate students learnt about joint degrees at the master's and doctoral level, which allows them to register at the UFS and another university abroad.

During the fair, the purpose of the sessions was to attract and support the most talented and interested students to succeed in their quest to win top awards for higher education studies abroad despite the current pandemic, supported by a scholarship.

Twelve international institutions exhibited their study-abroad opportunities, including Nuffic Neso, the University of Bremen, UNIS Education Group – Brazil, Appalachian State University, Campus France, SANORD, Embassy of Sweden, Study in Hungary, DHET, Harvard University (Centre for African Studies), and the National University of Lesotho.

To view these sessions, please visit the UFS international webpage on the following link:
International Scholarships and exchange mobility Fair 2020.



INTERNATIONALISATION OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the UFS had to temporarily suspend all academic face-to-face activities. This included the suspension of incoming exchange programmes. International students who were in SA at the time of the national lockdown, were assisted to return home.

Virtual Mobility Programme with Sciences PO Bordeaux in France

As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the OIA had to rethink exchange programmes offered at the UFS. In the second-semester 2020 virtual mobility with Sciences PO Bordeaux in France, one student was accepted to study through virtual mobility at the UFS. Virtual mobility occurs when technology is used to facilitate a student's participation in credit-bearing studies. This is towards credit at a higher education institution in another country for a limited time, without physically leaving home. All stakeholders are comfortable with the exchange programme taking place virtually and have applied their minds to the risks involved.

An internal follow-up meeting was held to help draw up and formalise virtual mobilities. This collaboration will include forming an advisory committee, drafting a structure that looks at, but is not limited to, a definition of virtual mobilities, programmes offered, waivers, and fees.

Benchmark meeting between UFS Student Business Incubator and Czech University of Life Sciences (CZU)

On 18 November 2020, the Partnership portfolio facilitated a benchmarking meeting between the UFS Student Business Incubator and the Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (CZU) Business Incubator 'Point One'. The meeting was prompted by the January 2020 visit of a delegation from CZU regarding internationalisation elements. Colleagues of the two incubators agreed to work together, since their projects are both fairly young; they also decided to share material and knowledge.

Exchange students farewell

On 19 March 2020, OIA hosted a farewell meeting with the first-semester exchange student cohort, which provided an opportunity to reflect on the students' experience during the two months of their exchange. Following their departure, they continued their exchange studies virtually. During the transitioning into the online learning space, the office maintained bi-weekly check-up with the students on how they were adapting, are there any resources they require and their general well-being.



Image 65: Pictured above OIA's Cornelius Hagenmeier and Bulelwa Moikwatlhai bidding farewell to exchange students

Examinations

The OIA supported the Examination department with international exams in Zimbabwe. Collaborating with our partner, the University of Zimbabwe (UZ), ensured that the exams would continue amid the expected closure of the venue due to the curfew regulations. The OIA made arrangements with relevant authorities at UZ and ensured that students received permits. A new relationship was formed with the exam department. In the future, the two departments will work together. The OIA will support the department in securing invigilators, venues, and other support where required.

KA107 mobility

The KA107 is a short-term mobility programme funded by the European Union, specifically for postgraduate students, administrative and academic personnel. Memoranda of agreement are signed between the UFS and European universities. The main objective is to encourage supervisors in Europe to collaborate in the supervision of postgraduate students and to engage in collaborative research. The UFS participated in 2020 in the following KA107 mobility projects:

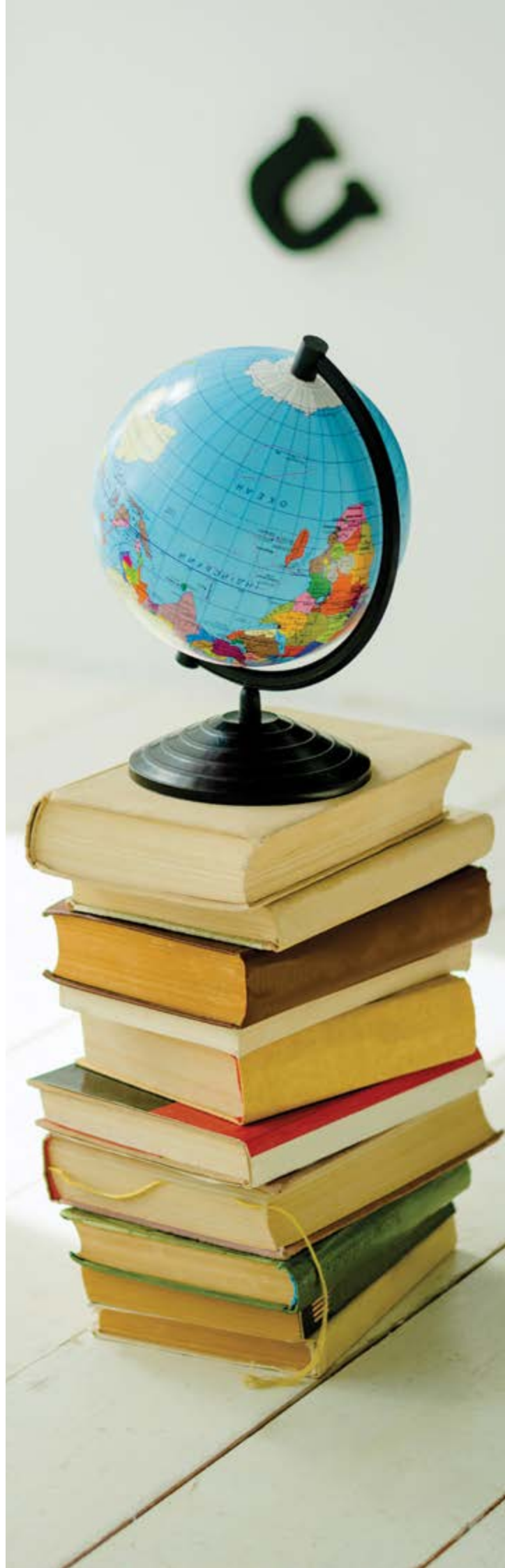
Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (ICM) between the UFS and the Bahcesehir University (Turkey)

The QwaQwa Campus sent one student, Kwanele Xaba, to study Sociology on a semester mobility programme to Bahcesehir University in Turkey. This mobility began on the 1st of February 2020 and will end on the 28th of June 2020. The student was supported during the COVID-19 crisis. The OIA on the QwaQwa Campus liaised with the Department of International Relations and Cooperation regarding the repatriation of Kwanele Xaba, who was on a mobility programme in Turkey. This repatriation took place on 22 May 2020. The OIA offered its continued support, even during the period when the student was in quarantine.

The OIA on the QwaQwa Campus was engaged in a course transfer for an exchange student visiting Bahcesehir University in Turkey. This process involved course comparisons and extensive engagements between academics at the QwaQwa Campus and Bahcesehir University. More than 60% of the course content followed by the QwaQwa student at Bahcesehir University was compatible. These conversations are still ongoing, and such mobilities will happen when the country eases travel restrictions that came about due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Erasmus+ International Credit Mobility (ICM) between the UFS and the University of Bologna (UNIBO) (Italy)

The Erasmus+ ICM funding between the UFS and UNIBO has been approved. The UFS was assigned one student mobility (undergraduate, master's or PhD) from the UFS to UNIBO; one staff mobility from the UFS to UNIBO; and one staff mobility from UNIBO to the UFS. The mobility flows focused on the study field of Political Sciences, because the academic champions for the collaboration are Prof Arrigo Pallotti from the Department of Political and Social Sciences at UNIBO and Prof Phimister's International Studies group at the UFS. The agreement expires on 31 July 2022.



Erasmus+ Key Action 107 agreement between the UFS and Fulda University (Germany)

The Erasmus+ funding application between the UFS and Fulda was successful, and Euro €44420 (R810 559,08) was awarded for the next three years. The agreement will be valid for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 academic years. One student per academic year will be eligible for the Erasmus grant.

Erasmus+ Key Action 107 agreement between the UFS and the Technical University of Valencia – (UPV) (Spain)

The EU has awarded funding to the KA107 mobility agreement between the UFS and the University of Valencia in Spain (UPV). The UFS academic champion for this collaboration is Prof Melanie Walker. The focus area of the collaboration is developmental studies, with master's and PhD students as the student target area.

Both Carmen Vargas and Mikateko Hoppener are nominees who will be going on staff exchanges to UPV. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Carmen and Mikateko could not complete their mobilities anticipated for June 2020. However, their mobilities will continue in 2021.

Sander van Leusden was nominated for the student mobility (mobility period: 2 September 2020 to 31 January 2021: five months). Sander is a PhD student in Architecture with specialisation in Design. Given that Sander was already in Europe when the pandemic started, he could commence his mobility at UPV in September 2020. His mobility focused on conducting a comparative case study between South Africa (Global South) and Spain (Global North), exploring the design-led dynamics between the Valencia natural landscape and the architectural environment through phenomenological discourses and sustainable human development approaches.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the surrounding uncertainties, UPV has agreed to extend the KA107 2019 project for one more year, together with the national agency. This extension will ensure a safety margin for the successful implementation of the project mobilities. The extension means that the 2019 project will end on 31 July 2022 instead of 2021.

iKudu Project: Transforming curricula through internationalisation and virtual exchanges

The UFS has eleven academics interested in the COIL virtual exchange, of which six were from the first round of partnering, and four are new academics for the second round. Moreover, nine out of the eleven academics have partners. The increase in the number of COIL projects for the UFS indicates an increase in COIL methodology uptake to diversify existing teaching and learning practices.

Blackboard as the iKudu training material platform:

The IDEAS lab developed a Blackboard platform that serves as the training material and resource repository that all COIL academics can access. The Blackboard platform has been successfully implemented and has proven to be a useful resource to supplement the COIL training.

Engagement initiatives: On 18 September 2020, Simone Hackett, a member of the research group Global Learning at The Hague University of Applied Sciences and a PHD specialist in research on COIL, delivered a talk at the iKudu Friday Cuppa, which focused on COIL versus virtual exchanges – a seminal topic for the iKudu project. A Q&A session followed after her presentation.

On 30 October 2020, Jos Beelen from THUAS presented a talk on 'Exploring rationales for internationalisation of the home curriculum' – internationalisation of the curriculum and internationalisation at home's concepts evolving in the COVID-19 crisis. The presentation concluded with a Q&A session. The event was promoted through the iKudu consortium, the UFS Digest newsletter, and the IC coordinators of the respective faculties.

iKudu webinar: The iKudu consortium hosted a two-part webinar series, titled 'Shaping Post-COVID Internationalisation through Virtual Exchanges and Curriculum Transformation'. The webinar focused on prospects to create a new, more inclusive and socially just internationalisation model in the emerging post-COVID-19 higher education landscape. The webinar was held via Zoom and took place on 20 and 27 November 2020. The event was promoted through the iKudu consortium, the UFS Digest newsletter, IC coordinators of respective faculties, and IEASA. The event was well attended on both iterations.

SUPPORTING THE CORE BUSINESS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Benchmarking for sustainable collaborations

The Partnerships Unit (supported by the Incoming Mobility and Scholarship units) hosted a meeting with partner universities to benchmark sustainable collaborations. The team benchmarked with the University of Bremen on 10 September 2020 and Appalachian State University on 11 September 2020. The meeting resulted in idea-sharing; with both partners agreeing on virtual activity exchanges.

Consular services

In May 2020, following a nationwide lockdown that resulted in campus closure, the OIA (Partnerships and Student Administration portfolios) rendered consular services to support staff and students who needed to return to South Africa after the closure of borders. The office successfully supported five final-year (international) medical students based in Lesotho to obtain permit documents required to enter South Africa and to return to Bloemfontein.

At the beginning of the lockdown, the OIA (Partnership portfolio) also supported one staff member stranded in Morocco, Casablanca. Kagiso Ngake successfully arranged for the stranded staff member to be repatriated safely back to SA. The OIA has worked closely with the Office of the High Commissioner of the RSA in Lesotho and the Department of International Relations and Cooperation.

UFS Vice Rector Research and Internationalisation and Director Office for International Affairs Visit the United States of America to Strengthen Collaboration

From 12 to 25 February 2020, the Vice Rector Research and Internationalisation Prof Corli Witthuhn and the Director of the Office for International Affairs Cornelius Hagenmeier visited the United States to strengthen collaboration and strengthen the footprint of the UFS in the United States.

Visit to Appalachian State University

On 21 February 2020, the UFS delegates visited the Appalachian State University, which is a strategic partner to the University. The visit, which was facilitated by the Associate Vice Chancellor Prof Jesse Lutabingwa, Associate Vice Chancellor responsible for Internationalisation and Dr. Maria Anastasiou, Executive Director of the Office of International Education and Development, allowed for in-depth engagement on some of the collaborative strategic projects in which the partners are involved, including a University Staff Development Programme in Mountain Research, Fulbright scholar exchanges and a COIL virtual exchange programme with the University of Novgorod University in Russia and the UFS South Campus. The engagement allowed the delegation to connect in person to the UFS collaborators and scope for new joint activities, for example in nursing.



Image 66: from right to left: Prof Corli Witthuhn and Appalachian State University's Vice Provost for Research, Dr. Ece Karatan



Image 67. From left to right Cornelius Hagenmeier with the Executive Director of the International Office, Dr. Maria Anastasiou (right) and the Director of Appalachian Studies Dr. Billy Schumann

Conference of the Association of International Education Administrators

The delegates attended the annual conference of the Association of International Education (AIEA) theme 'Rethinking Comprehensive Internationalization for a Global Generation' from 16 to 19 February 2020 in Washington to connect the UFS to potential new partners



Visit to the South African Embassy to the United States

On 13 February 2020, the UFS delegates visited the South African Embassy to the United States. They engaged with the Chargé d'Affaires, Ms Yoliswa Mvebe and provided a brief on the planned engagements.

Visit to the University of Virginia

The delegates visited the University of Virginia to participate in the USDP in Health Sciences Steering Committee meeting, the report is under point 2.3.

Participation in the Africa University Partnerships Forum at the US Department of State

The UFS representatives attended the Africa University Partnerships Forum at the US Department of State, which provided information about recent developments in Africa – US collaborations.

Meeting with UFS Donor Abbe Levin

On 14 February 2020 the delegates met with entrepreneur Abbe Bailey, who donates a scholarship in memory of Ida Manana Siyila for studies at the UFS.

Internationalising Postgraduate studies through Homestays Seminar



Image 68: Participants of the a seminar to develop the concept of Internationalising Postgraduate studies through Homestays from the 30th – 31st of January 2020 from Bloemfontein, QwaQwa and Venda

On the 30th and 31st January 2020, the OIA co-hosted with the University of Venda's Institute for Rural Development a seminar to develop the concept of homestays for internationalisation of postgraduate studies. The seminar comprised different stakeholders, which included traditional leaders and youth leaders from the QwaQwa and Venda communities.

Hosting of Delegation from Stetson University



Image 69: from left to right: Prof. Lategan-Potgieter from Stetson University, Prof. Corinna Walsh and Mbali Moiketsi, Chevron Slambee, Kagiso Ngake and Bulelwa Moikwatlhai from the Office for International Affairs

The OIA partnership management team met Prof. Corinna Walsh and Prof. Lategan-Potgieter from Stetson University to discuss the possibility of strengthening collaboration and signing an MoU. In addition, a planned study abroad visits to the UFS which was anticipated to take place from the 25th to 29th May 2020 was discussed.

Hosting a Delegation from the University of São Paulo

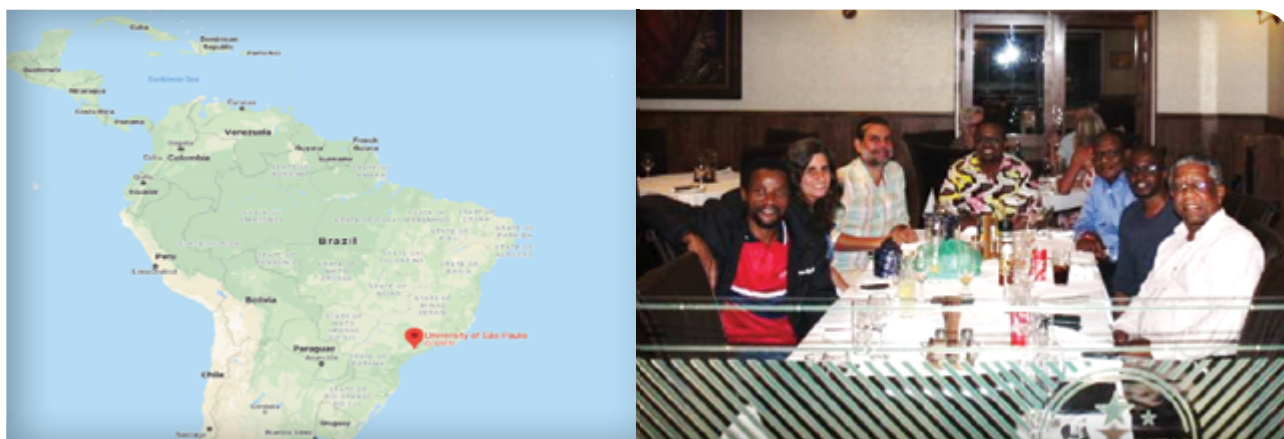


Image 70: Brazilian Professors Ermelinda Moutinho Pataca and Agnaldo Arroio being hosted by the OIA's Zenzele Mdletshe, Kagiso Ngake and Matome Mokoena together with UFS Faculty of Education Professors Mogege Mosimege and Patrick Mafora in Bloemfontein

On the 20th February 2020 the OIA engaged with Professors Agnaldo Arroio and Ermelinda Moutinho Pataca from the Faculty of Education at the University of São Paulo, Brazil who were visiting the UFS Faculty of Education. Professors Mogege Mosimege and Patrick Mafora from the UFS Faculty of Education joined in engagements with the Brazilian delegation to discuss matters of common interest and the forging of a collaborative relationship between the two institutions. The meeting resolved to make a follow up on the areas of common interest and share the MoU templates for the purpose of engaging.

Strengthening the Partnership with Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

On the 28th January 2020 the UFS hosted Ms. Kelly Donovan who is the Erasmus+ Coordinator at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands. The purpose of the visit was to explore ways to deepen the existing partnership between the two institutions, and further strengthen the staff & student exchanges programmes through the institutional Memorandum of Understanding. Ms. Kelly was also part of the larger delegation from VU Amsterdam which visited UFS to attend a colloquium on “Fragility and Resilience” which was hosted by Unit for Institutional Change and Social Justice.

Benchmarking Visit by Appalachian State University



Image 71: From left to right: Mr. Evan Lohmann meeting with Dr. Chitja Twala (left photo) and Dr. WP Wahl (right photo)

From 30 to 31 January 2020 the UFS hosted Mr. Evan Lohmann from the Appalachian State University’s Office of International Education and Development. Mr. Lohmann visited the Housing and Residence Affairs (HRA) department and engaged with the department’s Senior Director Mr. Quintin Koetaan and its Deputy Director Ms. Cheyeza Mkhabele. Mr. Lohmann toured two student residences and was pleased with the resources that will be available for mobility students from his university who plan to come to the UFS. During his visit, Mr. Lohmann also attended a benchmarking meeting with the Division of Student Affairs to discuss areas of interests and paid a courtesy visit to Dr. Chitja Twala, the Vice Dean of the Faculty of Humanities.

Czech Republic Summer School

From the 18th – 31st January 2020 the UFS hosted a cohort of 15 students from the Czech University of Life Sciences (CZU) in the Czech Republic for a summer school. The students had an opportunity to learn the Sesotho Language, EMS modules and toured the city. The students were led by Mr. Martin Kozak (International Relations Faculty Coordinator at CZU) who toured and benchmarked with the Student Business Incubator to explore possible collaborations between the UFS and CZU Incubators. Mr Kozak had an opportunity to meet with OIA and EMS to discuss “How we can host such event better next time”, the stakeholders agreed to continue interacting openly regarding what we can and not do.

Formal Collaborations

University of Zimbabwe

The UFS and the University of Zimbabwe have signed a Memorandum of Understanding that aims to formalise collaborative engagements in mutual interest areas. Both the Faculty of Theology and Religion and the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at both institutions have already expressed interest in collaborating, by initiating collaborative work across various departments.

Makerere University School of Public Health (Uganda)

In June 2020, the University of the Free State and the Makerere University School of Public Health (Uganda) signed a collaborative agreement on exchanging knowledge and skills in projects related to public health. The two institutions will collaborate on a project titled, *A Collaborative Study on Depression and Anxiety among New TB patients within HIV programmes in South Africa and Uganda* (CoDATE study).

Support offered to faculties

Engagement between Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences and Surcolombiana University in Colombia

The office facilitated a meeting between the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences and the Surcolombiana University (SU) in Colombia. This meeting was the first with SU, aimed at initiating collaborative partnership work between the two institutions. The Dean of EMS and the Head of the Business School supported initiatives to work with SU; subsequently, on 30 November 2020, two lecturers in Economics (Prof Van Aardt Smit and Prof Neneh) participated as guest lecturers in lectures. Processes are underway to formalise the relations and further initiate collaborative programmes.



A DIVERSE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT BODY

UFS Virtual Open Day

The OIA produced a video displaying the Umoja Buddy Programme. This video footage gave prospective UFS students details on what the Umoja Buddy Programme is about; how to join; and its benefits. Link to the virtual open day: <https://www.ufs.ac.za/UFSVirtualOpenDay>

Campus evacuation: assistance rendered to international students

When the global Covid-19 pandemic occurred, it was necessary to support our international students to return to their home countries and for those who could not return home, support had to be provided to ensure their safety. Assistance included setting up a WhatsApp group for the 135 international students remaining in Bloemfontein (both on and off campus) and providing information and continued support to international students abroad. International students who had returned to South Africa were helped to travel to the UFS safely and to undergo the quarantine period with the SA missions abroad. Students had to report to campus for exams during this period, and arrangements were made with the faculties and the Department of Health to move the exams to a later time slot to enable students to write. Arrangements were made for quarantine facilities as well as providing meals on campus.

The OIA ensured that the university was aware of where its international students sojourned during the pandemic in order to communicate with them and render dedicated support. When the university evacuated everyone during the week of 16 March 2020, 96 international students were allowed to remain in residences on the Bloemfontein and QwaQwa Campuses – including those who had visa challenges. The OIA was also in constant contact with the Department of Home Affairs to discuss immigration challenges connected with the COVID-19 lockdown facing our international students.

INTERNATIONALISATION AT HOME

Umoja Buddy Programme (UBP)



Image 72. Umoja approved logo

Enhancing the student experience as part of the University of the Free State's 2017 Integrated Transformation Plan (ITP) has become one of the key objectives of the Office for International Affairs. A pilot programme – the Wingman programme – was therefore launched in February 2018 to assist new international exchange students with the process of adjusting to the university and the country.

The programme aimed to connect international students with local students, to foster friendships, and to realise the goal of internationalisation at home. Internationalisation at home integrates an international dimension into teaching and learning. It helps all students to have an international experience in the classroom.

Following the success of the pilot in 2018, the programme was officially launched in February 2019 under the name Umoja Buddy Programme (UBP). The programme – now in its third year – not only provides services to incoming exchange students at the University of the Free State (UFS) but has evolved to incorporate all new international students at the UFS. The UBP has received excellent feedback from both local and international UFS students. Great emphasis has been placed on successful administrative support for international students, as well as on hosting events and activities aimed at providing opportunities for social interaction and cultural integration of all UFS students.

The programme is designed to enhance the international and intercultural competencies of UFS students by pairing first-entering international students with senior UFS students. These ‘buddies’ provide a warm welcome, a friendly face, a helping hand, and a first UFS friendship that makes a world of difference for new arrivals. The Umoja Buddy Programme connects international and local students through meaningful lifelong friendships and fosters their academic, social, and cultural integration at the UFS. The programme adopts the UFS vision, whereby every student will in future have an international experience during UFS studies through internationalisation at home.

UBP Welcome Function



Image 73: Exchange students with UBP Ambassadors at the RAG Farm

A UBP welcome function held on the 13th February 2020 themed *Echoes of Sophiatown* set the tone for this year’s Internationalisation at-Home activities. Chevon Slambee, Chief Officer in the OIA, welcomed the students and explained the theme of the day. She said that “as students, we have a responsibility to be active citizens and contribute to change and social transformation”. Programme coordinator Bulelwa Moikwatlhai introduced the function and framework of the programme and highlighted the importance of Internationalisation at Home. Also in attendance was the Dean of Students, Pura Mgolombane, who encouraged students in his address to honour their heritage, “so that together, we can be able to appreciate one another”. He emphasised the importance of social justice for academic success. The SRC member for the International Student Council, Simba Matheba, expressed his support for the UBP. The UFS Arts, Culture, and Dialogue office provided entertainment at the event.

Bloemfontein City Tour



Image 74: Exchange students with the UBP Ambassadors on a tour to Naval Hill

On 29 February 2020 the OIA conducted city tour for first-entering international students, which is part of the efforts to better integrate the first entry international students into the Bloemfontein community. During this tour, the students received a brief history of South Africa and Bloemfontein. Additionally, the students visited the a township as a form of giving them a full-scale cultural diversity experience. Furthermore, the tour allowed the students to meet other international students. The tour was concluded with a meal at one of the well-known restaurants in Bloemfontein where the students got to share a variety of South African cuisine.

World Book Day

On 23 April 2020, the programme commemorated World Book Day through the various WhatsApp groups. This commemoration was done by sharing books that we have in PDF on our phones, drives, or computers.

Cassinga Day

With the assistance of our ambassadors from Namibia, the programme commemorated Cassinga Day. Chrisandra, who was once an international buddy in the programme and is now an ambassador, shared what Cassinga Day is, where the name came from, how it came about that there is now such a day in Namibia, and how they would commemorate it at home.

International Friendship Day

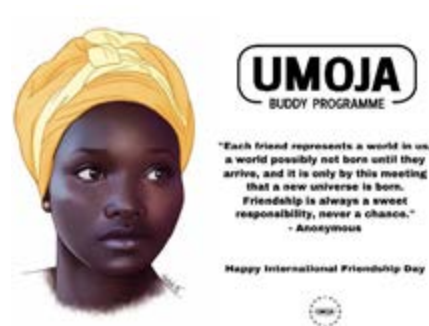


Image 75. International Friendship Day celebration banner

The UBP commemorated the 2020 International Friendship Day. Becoming an ambassador in the UBP, means to be the first friendly face that an international student meets when they first arrive on our campus. The ambassador becomes the friend that the student gets to rely on even before they meet, and a source of information to ease the nerves of being in a new environment. Our international students have been a great source of information on diverse cultures, vast socialisation methods, and teachers of different languages. One of the programme pillars is the friendship built between the participants; it was against this background that it was important to commemorate this day.

Meet-up session, UFS and Colombia



Image 76. Meet-up session poster

The UFS and Tecnológico de Antioquia held their first Internationalisation at Home (I@H) virtual meet-up session. The meeting, held on 13 November 2020 via Zoom, comprised 10 students from each university, internationalisation representatives from each university, and was facilitated by Juan Fernando Gómez Paniagua from Tecnológico de Antioquia in Medellín, Colombia. The programme for the day covered the icebreaker activities – (introduction of participants), institutions of origin, history of the country, culture, gastronomy, tourism.



Image 77. A screenshot of the virtual meet-up

FACULTY REPORTS





FACULTY OF ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES



Dean: Prof Hendri Kroukamp



Faculty Internationalisation Coordinator:
Lizette Pretorius and Reabetswe Parkies

International Research

Department of Economics and Finance

The project between Dr Johan Coetzee and Prof Christine Mitter (Salzburg) focuses on the relationship between increased operational risk and family firms' banking relationships. The EMS Research Committee funds this project at the UFS.

Dr Johan Coetzee: Member and charter holder (MCBI) of the Chartered Banker Institute in Scotland.

Dr Johan Coetzee: Appointed mentor in the Chartered Banker Mentoring Scheme of the Chartered Banker Institute in Scotland.

Dr Johan Coetzee: Senior Associate at the Global Centre for Banking and Financial Innovation at the University of Nottingham Business School.

Dr Johan Coetzee: Appointed to the editorial board of the International Journal of Economics and Business Research.

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 Arno van Niekerk: Visiting Senior Lecturer in Banking at the Salzburg University of Applied Sciences, Austria, 20 March-4 April 2020.

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 lecturer and student transfers.

Department: Department of Economics and Finance (driven by Dr Johan Coetzee)

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.

Programme: Approved Erasmus+ (European Commission) application for between lecturer and student transfers.

Department: Department of Economics and Finance (driven by Dr Johan Coetzee).

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.

UFS Business School

Dr Cornelia 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 Programme. Currently awaiting results of the funding application. Rosenheim University of Applied Sciences will administer funds in Germany.

Dr Liezel Massyn – Taking part in an international project by EQUAA, named Invicta, on soft skills certification.

Prof Helena van Zyl – a member of the board of the Education Quality Accreditation Agency (EQUAA), South America.

Centre for Development Studies

Family planning and HIV prevention intervention needs of South African adolescent girls: cultural consensus modelling approach, by Jennifer L Brown, Lochner Marais, Jessica Sales, Carla Sharp, Jan S Cloete, Molefi Lenka, Kholisa Rani, Gause Gause, Anthony Hitch.

The following projects funded by the following institutions have resulted in combined papers. The project funding cycle is completed, and a range of papers have been accepted, submitted, or finalised.

EU – Common good first

NIH – Mediation 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 resulted in two papers being accepted.

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 IBC conference.

Office of the Dean

Prof Hendri Kroukamp is on the Board of Management for the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA).

Prof Philippe Burger established an Academic Advisory Board with international and national members. The board will assist EMS with advice, e.g., regarding their programme curricula.

International Staff Exchanges

Department of Business Management

Nkopane Miya was nominated for the UK-USDP scholarship, the partnership between the University of the Free State Qwaqwa Campus and the University of the Highlands and Islands 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.

Neneh: Research project titled South African entrepreneurs: a growing economic segment.

The South African outlook on entrepreneurship and business: lessons for Colombia – Neneh and Van Aardt were guest speakers at the Surcolombiana University in Neiva, Colombia, 2020.



UFS Business School

Prof Helena van Zyl – taught Stock Markets at the University of Turin, 27 Jan-7 February 2020 in Turin, Italy.

Dr Mik Pindelski, lecturer for Leading Innovation and Change (all virtual):

- Session 1 – 16 April 2020 from 14:00 to 16:00
- Session 2 – 17 April 2020 from 14:00 to 16:00
- Session 3 – 20 April 2020 from 14:00 to 16:00

Warsaw School of Economics, Warsaw, Poland.

Department of Industrial Psychology

Dr Martha Harunavamwe was supposed to visit Bremen in June/July 2020, but this was not possible due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Centre for Development Support

July Adjar – University of Glasgow.

Internationalisation of Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement and other international initiatives

Department of Business Management

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



FACULTY OF EDUCATION



Dean: Prof Loyiso Jita



Faculty Internationalisation Coordinator:
Dr Thuthukile Jita

International Research

Dr Marguerite Müller received grant funding for a VLIR-UOS collaboration with Ghent University, Belgium: Strengthening beginning teachers' professional identity: an exploratory study into the efficiency of an induction model in South Africa. Two colleagues from Ghent University, Ruben Vanderlinde and Melissa Tuytens, visited the UFS in February 2020 to plan and implement the project. During their visit, we also had the first training session in the induction programme with teachers in Bethlehem, Free State. As part of this grant, three master's students were paid bursaries for 2020 and registered their project titles that align with this project in September 2020. The project will continue until 2021.

Jita, LC, Jita, T, Tsakeni, M, Muyengwa, B and Chimbi, GT. 2020. Workshop presented: Writing bootcamp for proposal (Chapter 1) (Jita, T), Ethical clearance application (Tsakeni, M), Chapter 3 (Chimbi, GT and Muyengwa, B) and Chapter 4 (Jita, LC and workshop overview) (SIG: ILCIS).

Organisers: SANRAL Chair Funding

Venue: Harare

Date: 3–9 January 2020

Jita, T. 2020. Engaging the Fourth Industrial Revolution: Learning to use ICTs for science teaching in Southern Africa.

Organisers: Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education International (*SITE 2020*) Conference and Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education (AACE).

Venue: Virtual/Online

Date: 7–10 April 2020

Maphosa, V, Jita, T, and Dube, B. 2020. Students' perception and use of Moodle as the e-learning system implemented at a rural university in Zimbabwe.

Organisers: The EdMedia + Innovate Learning (EDIL) 2020 Online

Venue: Virtual/Online

Date: 23–26 June 2020



Chimbi, GT and Jita, LC. 2020. Paper title: Putting the cart before the horse: curriculum reform policy and teachers' pedagogical preferences. (SIG: ILCIS).

Organisers: Bulgarian Comparative Education Society (BCES) 2020 Virtual Conference.

Venue: Virtual/Online

Date: 22–26 June 2020.

Drs Dube, Jita, Nhase, Ramohai, Larey, Holtzhausen, and Shawe attended a virtual American Educational Research Association (AERA) workshop on qualitative writing (6 August 2020).

Drs Akintunde, Chimbi, Dube, Munje and Jita, webinar on 'Using factor analysis for survey design and validation' on 1 September 2020, supported by SANRAL office.

Dr Müller attended a seminar on 'Introducing self-study research', hosted by the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Self-Study of Teacher Education Practices (S-STEP) SIG on 7 July 2020.

Dr Jannie Pretorius attended the *International Journal of Arts and Sciences* Conference in Malta from 26 to 30 January 2020 and presented a paper.

Dr Tafirenyika Mafugu attended the following virtual conferences and presented papers.

Digital 2020 conference in teaching and learning during the COVID-19 pandemic: opportunities, challenges and experiences for/with digital teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic (1–3 December 2020).

Dr Jita, T – coordinated visiting academics from Faculty of Education, University of São Paulo, Brazil. The visit was funded by SANRAL chair and was dated: 19–21 February 2020. Several meetings held with the Faculty of Education and the International Office, covering these topics:

Researching the use of resources for education and social justice.

The use of resources to enhance teaching and learning (a hands-on activity). Prof Agnaldo Arroio and Prof Ermelinda Moutinho Patata.

Dr Müller coordinated a visit of two colleagues from Ghent University, Ruben Vanderlinde and Melissa Tuytens, who visited the UFS in February 2020 to plan and implement the project. During their visit, we also had the first training session in the induction programme with teachers in Bethlehem, Free State.



Internationalisation of Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement and other international initiatives

Dr Zukiswa Nhase:

Collaboration with professors (Rob O'Donoghue, Rhodes University; Kenneth M Ngcoza, Rhodes University; Kensuke Chikamori, Japan; and Juan Carlos A Sandoval, Rivera, Mexico). They are working with their MEd and PhD students on this project, looking at IKS and ESD conversations in research, curriculum, and teaching and learning. This year they presented the symposium at the 2020 Annual SAARMSTE conference at NMU, Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape, South Africa. They had three virtual meetings/discussions on how to move forward in their collaboration. They are currently analysing and mapping out the work done by their supervised scholars to be published on ESD and IKS in this work. The analysis is across Life Skills/NS, Life Sciences, Chemistry, Agricultural Sciences and Physical Sciences. This partnership extends to colleagues in Namibia and Zambia.

Oeftering, T, Davis, CA, Ngcoza, K and Nhase, Z. (May 2020). 'Fees must fall' –South African student protests in the context of (informal) citizenship education. In *Protest und Partizipation* (pp. 187–200). Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft mbH & Co. KG.

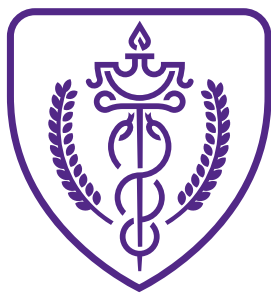
Dr Z Nhase:

Looked at citizenship issues in the Life Skills curriculum on the implicit and explicit curriculum in both South Africa and Germany. Working with their students, a first book chapter published in 2018; together with Callee Anne Davis, University of Chicago, authored a second book chapter in 2020. They are working on their third book chapter on citizenship, issued around COVID-19 and its impact on research.

Dr S Ntsala:

IKUDU/COIL – Dr Ntsala is part of the University-level organising committee. He attended meetings and contact was made with a Coventry University colleague (a project is being conceptualised).

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



FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES



Dean: Prof Gert van Zyl



Faculty Internationalisation Coordinator:

Prof Joyce Tsoka-Gwegweni

International Research

Department of Chemical Pathology, Faculty of Health Sciences

Anand Krishnan, Faez I Khan, Thishana Singh, Palani Elumalai, Chandrasekaran Balakumar, Dhanaraj Premnath, Dakun Lai, Anil A Chuturgoon, and Muthupandian Saravanan: Green synthesis, experimental and theoretical studies to discover novel binders of exosomal tetraspanin CD81 Protein, *ACS Omega*, 2020, 5, 29, 17973–17982. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsomega.0c01166>.

Yoke Ying Tan, Pui Khee Yap, Griselda Loo Xin Lim, Meenu Mehta, Yinghan Chan, Sin Wi Ng, Deepak N Kapoor Poonam Negi, Anand Krishnan, Sachin Kumar Singh, Niraj Kumar Jha, Lay Cheng Lim, Thiagarajan Madheswaran Saurabh Satija, Gaurav Gupta, Kamal Dua, Dinesh Kumar Chellappan: Perspectives and advancements in the design of nanomaterials for targeted cancer theranostics, *Chemico-Biological Interactions* 329 (2020) 109221; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbi.2020.109221>.

Padmini Rajendran, Uma Maheshwari, Arun Muthukrishnan, Razia Muthuswamy, Anand Krishnan, Balasubramani Ravindran, Premnath Dhanaraj, Balasubramanian Balamurali Krishnan, Soon Woong Chang, Woo Jin Chung: Myricetin: versatile plant-based flavonoid for cancer treatment by inducing cell cycle arrest and ROS-reliant mitochondria-facilitated apoptosis in A549 lung cancer cells and silico prediction, *Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry*, 2020; <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11010-020-03885-6>.

Meenu Mehtaa, Parteek Prasherc, Mousmee Sharmad, Madhur D Shastrie, Navneet Khurana, Manish Vyas, Harish Dureja, Gaurav Gupta, Anand Krishnan, Saurabh Satijaa, Dinesh Kumar Chellappan, Kamal Dua: Advanced drug delivery systems can assist in targeting coronavirus disease (COVID-19): a hypothesis, *Medical Hypotheses* 144 (2020) 110254; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mehy.2020.110254>.

Narendra Kumar Pandey, Sachin Kumar Singh, Monica Gulati, Bimlesh Kumar, Bhupinder Kapoor, Dipanjoy Ghosh, Rajan Kumar, Rubiya Khursheed, Ankit Awasthi, Gowthamarajan Kuppusamy, Sheetu Wadhwa, Saurabh Satija, Harish Dureja, Subheet Kumar Jain, Dinesh Kumar Chellappan, Anand

Krishnan, Meenu Mehta, Kamal Dua: Overcoming the dissolution rate, gastrointestinal permeability and oral bioavailability of glimepiride and simvastatin co-delivered in the form of nanosuspension and solid self-nanoemulsifying drug delivery system: a comparative study, *Journal of Drug Delivery Science and Technology* 60 (2020) 102083; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jddst.2020.102083>.

Yinghan Chan, Sin Wi Ng, Meenu Mehta, Anand Krishnan, Sachin Kumar Singh, Gaurav Gupta, Dinesh Kumar Chellappan, Kamal Dua: Advanced drug delivery systems can assist in managing influenza virus infection: a hypothesis, *Medical Hypotheses* 144 (2020) 110298; <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.mehy.2020.110298>.

Pandi Boomi, Ramalingam Ganesan, Gurumalles Prabhu Poorani, Sonamuthu Jegatheeswaran, Chandrasekaran Balakumar, Halliah Gurumalles Prabhu, Krishnan Anand, Narayanasamy Marimuthu Prabhu, Jeyaraman Jeyakanthan, Muthupandian Saravanan: Phyto-engineered gold nanoparticles (AuNPs) with potential antibacterial, antioxidant, and wound healing activities under in vitro and in vivo conditions: *International Journal of Nanomedicine*, 2020, 2020:15,7553–7568; DOI <https://doi.org/10.2147/IJN.S257499>.

Book chapters:

K Mohanrasu, G Siva Prakasha, T Boobalan, V Ananthia, GH Dinesh, K Anand, M Sudhakar, Anil Chuturgoon, A Arun: Synthetic, natural derived lipid nanoparticles and polymeric nanoparticles drug delivery applications, *Integrative Nanomedicine for New Therapies*,

Springer International Publishing, 2020, doi.org/10.1007/978–3–030–36260–7_6.

V Ananthia, K Mohan Rasu, T Boobalan, K Anand, M Sudhakar, Anil Chuturgoon, V Balasubramanian, R Yuvakkumar, A Arun: An overview of nanotoxicological effects towards plants, animals, microorganisms and environment, *Integrative Nanomedicine for New Therapies*. Springer International Publishing, 2020, doi.org/10.1007/978–3–030–36260–7_5.

S Ramesh, K Anand: Nanomedicine for treating specific disorders, *Integrative Nanomedicine for New Therapies*. Springer International Publishing, 2020. doi.org/10.1007/978–3–030–36260–7_11.

Book editor:

Anand Krishnan, Anil Chuturgoon (Editors). Book title: *Integrative Nanomedicine for New Therapies*. Publisher: Springer International Publishing 2020, eBook ISBN 978–3–030–36260–7

DOI:10.1007/978–3–030–36260–7.

Oral presentation: Dr Anand Krishnan: 'Exosomes – the next nano thing 28 May 2020.'

International webinar conference on Biomaterials on Healthcare Application, Coimbatore, India.

Speaker: Dr Anand Krishnan, international webinar on 18 July 2020.

'Integrative nanomedicine for new therapies'. Department of Chemistry, Saiva Bhanu Kshatriya College, Aruppukottai, Tamil Nadu, India.

Dr Anand Krishnan: International organisation committee: International webinar conference on Biomaterials on Healthcare Application, Coimbatore, India. 28–30 May 2020.

School of Pathology

Virology

Title: Diagnostic tools and therapeutics for CCHFV (Prof FJ Burt)

Funding NRF SA STINT collaboration

This programme focuses on developing a new strategy and tools for treating patients with the deadly Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever disease and developing new tools for diagnosis and serological surveillance. Characterisation of immune responses in selected CCHFV seropositive individuals is fundamental to increase our understanding of how immune responses against CCHFV are generated and maintained following infection.

Research output

Fritzen A, Risinger C, Korukluoglu G, Christova I, Corli Hitzeroth A, Viljoen N, et al. (2018) Epitope-mapping of the glycoprotein from Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever virus using a microarray approach. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases* 12(7): e0006598. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pntd.0006598>.

Title: Serological assays for Severe Acute Respiratory Coronavirus Syndrome 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (Prof FJ Burt)
Funded by NRF SARChI Vector-borne and zoonotic diseases. This project focuses on the development of in-house serological assays for the detection of antibody against SARS-CoV-2 in patients. Research in progress.

Title: Prevalence of comorbidities and co-infection and its effects on patients infected with SARS-CoV-2: A systematic literature review. (Prof FJ Burt)

Title: Defining host and viral factors associated with hepatitis B virus control and clearance in Caucasian and African adults. (Prof D Goedhals)

Funded by the Wellcome Trust (PI Prof Philippa Matthews, University of Oxford). The project studied the relationship between viral sequence polymorphisms and host HLA Class I expression to determine the extent and nature of CD8⁺ T cell-mediated immune selection pressure. The long-term goal is to develop a robust understanding of factors that impact disease outcome and characterise the CD8⁺ T cell response's impact to support immunotherapeutic strategies.

Research output:

Maponga TG, McNaughton AL, Van Schalkwyk M, Hugo S, Nwankwo C, Taljaard J, Mokaya J, Smith DA, Van Vuuren C, Goedhals D, Gabriel S, Andersson MI, Preiser W, Van Rensburg C, Matthews PC. Treatment advantage in HBV/HIV co-infection compared to HBV mono-infection in a South African cohort. *Journal of Infection* 2020; 81(1):121-130.

Title: African Enteric Virus Genome Initiative (Dr MM Nyaga)
(Renewal for 2020 and project extended to December 2021). Funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Title: Genome surveillance programme for rotaviruses in the World Health Organisation (WHO)/Regional Office for Africa (AFRO). (Dr MM Nyaga)
Funded by WHO/AFRO.

Prof FJ Burt:

Member of International Scientific Advisory Board for Southern African Centre for Infectious Disease Surveillance (SACIDS). International Advisory Board for *The Lancet Infectious Diseases*. Associate Editor, *Virology Journal*.

The University of the Free State designation as a World Health Organisation 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.

Chemical Pathology

Anand Krishnan, Faez I Khan, Thishana Singh, Palani Elumalai, Chandrasekaran Balakumar, Dhanaraj Premnath, Dakun Lai, Anil A Chuturgoon, and Muthupandian Saravanan: Green synthesis, experimental and theoretical studies to discover novel binders of exosomal tetraspanin CD81 protein, *ACS Omega*, 2020, 5, 29, 17973-17982. <https://doi.org/10.1021/acsomega.0c01166>.

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Book chapters:

K Mohanrasu, G Siva Prakasha, T Boobalan, V Ananthia, GH Dinesh, K Anand, M Sudhakar, Anil Chuturgoon, A Arun:

Synthetic, natural derived lipid nanoparticles and polymeric nanoparticles drug delivery applications, *Integrative Nanomedicine for New Therapies*

Springer International Publishing, 2020, doi. [org/10.1007/978-3-030-36260-7_6](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-36260-7_6).

V Ananthia, K Mohan Rasu, T Boobalan, K Anand, M Sudhakar, Anil Chuturgoon, V Balasubramanian, R Yuvakkumar, A Arun:

An overview of nanotoxicological effects towards plants, animals, microorganisms and environment, *Integrative Nanomedicine for New Therapies*

Springer International Publishing, 2020, doi. [org/10.1007/978-3-030-36260-7_5](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-36260-7_5).

S Ramesh, K Anand:

Nanomedicine for treating specific disorders, *Integrative Nanomedicine for New Therapies*

Springer International Publishing, 2020. doi. [org/10.1007/978-3-030-36260-7_11](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-36260-7_11).

Book editor:

Anand Krishnan, Anil Chuturgoon (Editors)

Book title: *Integrative Nanomedicine for New Therapies*

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DOI:10.1007/978-3-030-36260-7.

Oral presentation: Dr Anand Krishnan:

‘Exosomes – the next nano thing 28 May 2020.’

International webinar conference on Biomaterials on Healthcare Application, Coimbatore, India.

Speaker: Dr Anand Krishnan, international webinar on 18 July 2020.

‘Integrative nanomedicine for new therapies’

Department of Chemistry, Saiva Bhanu Kshatriya College, Aruppukottai, Tamil Nadu, India.

Dr Anand Krishnan: International organisation committee: international webinar conference on Biomaterials on Healthcare Application, Coimbatore, India. 28-30 May 2020.

Dean's Office

Dr James Ndirangu:

Title: Exploring the association between HIV, gender-based violence (GBV) and problem drinking, termed the SAVA (substance abuse, violence, and HIV/AIDS) syndemic among university students in Kenya.

Collaborators:

Dr Katie Edwards, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, USA

Dr Emily Waterman, Bennington College, USA

Dr Julia Kagunda, Daystar University, Kenya

Dr Manasi Kumar, University of Nairobi, Kenya.

Project description:

Young adults have some of the highest HIV rates in sub-Saharan Africa, and HIV co-occurs with gender-based violence, alcohol, and substance abuse, termed the SAVA (substance abuse, violence, and HIV/AIDS) syndemic. This study will further refine, implement, and conduct a pilot evaluation of an innovative student-led, gender-transformative social norms marketing campaign to prevent the SAVA syndemic at universities in Nairobi, Kenya. The study aims are consistent with the NIAAA's strategic plan to prevent the alcohol-related acquisition of HIV and GBV simultaneously.

Funding: Proposal application submitted to the National Institute of Health.

Office of the Dean: Next Generation Sequencing

Principal Investigator: Dr Martin Nyaga

Title: African Enteric Virus Genome Initiative (renewal for 2020 and project extended to December 2021).

Funder: Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Title: Genome surveillance programme for rotaviruses in the World Health Organisation (WHO)/Regional Office for Africa (AFRO).

Funder: WHO/AFRO.

Maringa WM, Mwangi PN, Mogotsi MT, Rasebotsa SP, Simwaka J, Magagula NB, Rakau K, Seheri ML, Mphahlele MJ, Mwenda, JM, Nyaga MM. Whole-genome sequencing identifies idiosyncratic changes post rotavirus vaccine introduction in Zambia. *Virology Africa*: 10-14 February 2020. Cape Town, South Africa (*International forum hosted in South Africa*).

Mwangi PN, Mogotsi MT, Rasebotsa SP, Magagula NB, Rakau K, Seheri ML, Mphahlele MJ, Ndze VN, Dennis FE, Jere KC, Steele AD, Kirkwood CD, Nyaga MM. Uncovering the first atypical DS-1-like G1P[8] strains in South Africa, pre-rotavirus vaccine introduction. *Virology Africa*: 10-14 February 2020. Cape Town, South Africa (*International forum hosted in South Africa*).

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 Mandela Fidel Castro Medical Programme (NMFCMP) miss out on an opportunity to engage in IPE. In collaboration with more than ten 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 NMFCMP students to this virtual platform with other students from other universities and from different professional backgrounds. We envisage describing the feasibility of this virtual platform as a strategy to facilitate interprofessional education through a mixed-methods study.

Dr Champ Nyoni, Dr Lynette van der Merwe, and Prof Gina Joubert and international partners from the University of Botswana, University of Namibia, Makerere University in Uganda, Cavendish University in Zambia, University of Zambia, the National University of Science and Technology (Zimbabwe), the Midlands State University (Zimbabwe), and the University of Zimbabwe.

Project: Transforming health professions education in sub-Saharan Africa in response to the COVID-19 pandemic: an assessment of preparedness for remote teaching and learning.

Background: The majority of higher education institutions in sub-Saharan Africa discontinued their planned teaching and learning activities due to the COVID-related restrictions. Only a handful have adopted emergency remote teaching strategies to continue teaching while students were in remote locations. This study seeks to describe the preparedness of eleven universities in eight countries in sub-Saharan Africa for remote teaching and learning. The study will only include educators, students, and administrators in undergraduate nursing and medicine programmes.

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

Project: Mega project

Background: The MEGA project's overarching objective 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. This research aims to explore primary health-care nurses' mental health knowledge, literacy, and educational needs. Secondly, to train the PHC nurses to use the 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).



Dr Marianne Reid and Prof A Joubert and national/international partners from the University of Venda, the University of the 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: Vliros Project (ZA2019JOI20B136).

Dr Marianne Reid with international partner, Ulster University, Ireland.

Project: Health Communication strategies.

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

Nyoni CN. Interprofessional education: what does it mean in low-income countries? Keynote speaker at the International Federation of Medical Students Association, Brainfuse symposium, online, 9 May 2020.

Botha, BS, De Wet, L, Botma, Y. (2020) 'Usability of a foreign body object scenario in VR for nursing education' presented at the IEEE VR Conference: Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces, held in Atlanta, Georgia, USA from 23 to 26 March 2020.

Nyoni, CN. (2020) Curriculum innovation in nursing education: a road less travelled. Presented as a special paper at the Virtual International Nursing Research Congress, online 22 July 2020.

Nyoni, CN. (2020) Interprofessional education: what AfrIPEN can offer in AFROPHC. Presented at a virtual meeting of the AfroPHC, 18 May 2020.

Nyoni, CN. (2020) Interdisciplinary education and training of healthcare workers in Africa to advance UHC optimally (panel discussion – Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference), 18 August 2020.

Nyoni, CN. (2020) Exploring a COVID-19 platform for collaboration. Interprofessional education and practice (IPECP) and interdisciplinary research by African countries. (Panel discussion – Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference) 19 August 2020.

Reid, M. (2020) How can health dialogue be incorporated in the clinical assessment? Presented as a virtual workshop with academia from Paray School of Nursing, Lesotho, on 11 September 2020.

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 – Guest Editor of the *African Journal for Health Professions Education*, particular focus issue on Nursing and Midwifery Education 2020.

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

Dr Champ Nyoni and Bennie Botha – serve as members of the Senate of Paray School of Nursing in the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Dr Champ Nyoni – Member of the Interprofessional International committee (an international 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.

Dr Marianne Reid – Member of International Health Literacy Association (IHLA).

Dr Champ Nyoni – Emerging Nurse Researcher/Scholar Award 2020 – part of Sigma's Annual International Nurse Researcher Awards.

School for Allied Health Professions

A Vlok: Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences, UFS, South Africa.

F Coetzee: Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences, UFS, South Africa.

H Grindem: Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, Oslo, Norway.

N van Dyk: Aspetar Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Hospital, Doha, Qatar.

PhD: A framework for anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction post-surgery management.

Scoping review:

Strength training exercise descriptors in rehabilitation after anterior cruciate ligament reconstruction.

According to the PRISMA Extension for Scoping Reviews (PRISMA-ScR) guidelines (Tricco et al., 2018). The scoping review title was registered on the Joanna Briggs Institutes webpage: <https://joannabriggs.org/systematic-review-register>, and the protocol was registered prospectively on the OSF online platform(<https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/62VYA>).

Occupational Therapy

Dr A van Jaarsveld

Name of committee/organisation:

International Council for Education in Ayres Sensory Integration.

Position held:

Chairperson of the Board of Council Meetings.

School of Clinical Medicine

Oncology

Prof A Sherriff: ESMO Africa 2020, invited speaker 12-13 February 2020 for Breast Cancer Preceptorship.

Department of Otorhinolaryngology

International journal articles:

Lawlor C, Balakrishnan K, Bottero S, Boudewyns A, Campisi P, Carter J, Cheng A, Cocciaglia A, DeAlarcon A, Derkay C, Fayoux P, Hart C, Hartnick C, LeBoulanger N, Moreddu E, Muntz H, Nicollas R, Peer S, Pransky S, Rahbar R, Russell J, Rutter M,

Seedat R, Sidell D, Smith R, Soma M, Strychowsky J, Thompson D, Triglia J-M, Trozzi M, Wyatt M, Zalzal G, Zur KB, Nuss R. International Pediatric Otolaryngology Group (IPOG): Juvenile-onset recurrent respiratory papillomatosis consensus recommendations. *International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology*. January 2020; 128: 109697. doi:10.1016/j.ijporl.2019.109697.

Seedat RY, Ehlers R, Lee Y, Mung'omba C, Plaatjies K, Prins M, Randeree M, Zakhura M, Joubert G. Knowledge of the audiological effects, symptoms and practices related to personal listening devices of health sciences students at a South African university. *The Journal of Laryngology & Otology*. January 2020; 134(1): 20-23. doi:10.1017/S0022215120000092.

Bulane A, Goedhals D, Seedat RY, Goedhals J, Burt FJ. Human papillomavirus DNA in head and neck squamous cell carcinomas in the Free State, South Africa. *Journal of Medical Virology*. February 2020; 92(2): 227-233. doi:10.1002/jmv.25556.

Seedat RY. Juvenile-onset recurrent respiratory papillomatosis diagnosis and management – a developing country review. *Pediatric Health, Medicine and Therapeutics*. 2020; 11: 39-46. doi:10.2147/PHMT.S200186.

Roos ME, Claassen J, Booysen G, Van den Heever J, Seedat RY. 3D printed titanium prosthesis reconstruction following subtotal maxillectomy for myoepithelial carcinoma – a case report. *Journal of Stomatology, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*. April 2020; 121(2): 175-178. doi:10.1016/j.jormas.2019.03.013.

Matimba A, Moncho M, Musoke J, Seedat RY. Diagnosis of laryngeal tuberculosis in a high TB burden area. *European Archives of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology*. July 2020; 277 (7): 2137-2140. doi:10.1007/s00405-020-05976-y.

Agarwal, SV, Seedat RY. Simultaneous reconstruction of complete upper and lower lip defects in a child using a vertically split delayed pedicled deltopectoral flap. *Journal of Pediatric Surgery Case Reports*. October 2020; 61: 101589. doi: 10.1016/j.epsc.2020.101589.



Book chapter:

Dikkers FG, Seedat RY, San Giorgi MRM. Recurrent respiratory papillomatosis. In: Remacle M, Eckel HE (Eds): *Textbook of Surgery of Larynx and Trachea*. 2nd edition. Berlin Heidelberg: Springer-Verlag; 2021. In press.

Ramdhani, D. Squamous cell carcinoma of the external ear canal. Presented at the African Head and Neck Society Tumour Board, 11 September 2020.

Prof RY Seedat:

Assistant Editor, *The Journal of Laryngology & Otology*

Peer reviews provided for:

Future Virology

Journal of Asthma and Allergy

Vaccine

School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences 2020

Project: Collaborative research

Title: The evaluation in Ayres Sensory Integration (EASI) normative data collection: South Africa

Project description: This research aims to determine typical performance, with means and standard deviations on 20 tests of the Evaluation of Ayres Sensory Integration® (EASI), in children 3 to 12 years of age in SA. This project forms part of an international research project driven by researchers from Thomas Jefferson University, US. The project collects norms as part of a global effort to collect normative data in more than 80 other countries. (Tests include sensory perception measures, sensory reactivity, praxis, balance, and related functions; collection of several parent and teacher questionnaires is pending.)

Primary investigator:

Dr A van Jaarsveld

Department of Occupational Therapy

Faculty of Health Sciences, UFS

Co-investigator:

Ms E Janse van Rensburg

Department of Occupational Therapy

Faculty of Health Sciences, UFS



Co-investigator:

Prof R Schaaf

Department of Occupational Therapy, College of Rehabilitation Science

Faculty, Farber Institute of Neuroscience

Thomas Jefferson University

Philadelphia

Biostatistician:

FC van Rooyen

Department of Biostatistics

Faculty of Health Sciences, UFS

Research outputs:

Data collection completed.

Household food security and exposure of stress among pregnant women attending the Antenatal Clinic at Pelonomi Hospital. Poster presentation at the European Society for Enteral and Parenteral Nutrition (ESPEN) Virtual Congress on Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism. 17-19 September 2020. Authors: EM Jordaan, L Robb, G Joubert, J Osei Ngounda, CM Walsh.

Dietary intake and food sources of choline in pregnant women in Bloemfontein, South Africa. Poster presentation at the European Society for Enteral and Parenteral Nutrition (ESPEN) Virtual Congress on Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism. 17-19 September 2020. Authors: L Robb, G Joubert, M Jordaan, J Osei Ngounda, CM Walsh.

C Walsh – Associate Editor of *Heliyon* Scientific Research.

Dr A van Jaarsveld – International Council for Education in Ayres Sensory Integration

Chairperson of the Board of Council Meetings.

Prof TA Rasengane – World Health Organisation (WHO) Technical Adviser on the Package of Eye Care Interventions.

Prof TA Rasengane – Chair of the World Council of Optometry (WCO) Education Committee.

International Staff Exchanges

School of Pathology

Virology

Dr Martin Nyaga was invited to the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), and together with philanthropic, public, private, and other partners, attended the high-level virtual launch of the Africa Pathogen Genomics Initiative on Monday, 12 October 2020. The initiative, led by the Africa CDC Institute for Pathogen Genomics (IPG), aims to build a robust Pan-African pathogen genomics laboratory network to promote genomics-based surveillance for preparedness and timely outbreak management of disease threats, as well as to support the control and elimination of endemic diseases.

Internationalisation of Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement, and other international initiatives

All our postgraduate programmes offer degrees by research. We are not currently offering any structured postgraduate degrees in the school.

We are in the infancy of designing and implementing the postgraduate structured support programme for students, which complements their degrees by research in the school. We are using evidence-based, needs/research skills-driven approaches when considering the content, and are using the blended mode of delivery. We are designing structured support using an evolving scaffolding approach. We are using reflective practices to assess the scope and quality of the support offered to postgraduate students and supervisors for quality assurance and quality enhancement purposes.

Dr Martin Nyaga was invited to the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC), and together with philanthropic, public, private, and other partners, attended the high-level virtual launch of the Africa Pathogen Genomics Initiative on 12 October 2020. The initiative, led by the Africa

CDC Institute for Pathogen Genomics (IPG), aims to build a robust Pan-African pathogen genomics laboratory network to promote genomics-based surveillance for preparedness and timely outbreak management of disease threats, as well as to support the control and elimination of endemic diseases.

Dr Martin Nyaga: African Enteric Viruses Genome Initiative (AEVGI)

The UFS-NGS Unit hosted a meeting for the principal investigators and data and bioinformatics consultants of the African Enteric Genome Initiative (AEVGI), funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (2020-renewal), to discuss data amalgamation for the ongoing rotavirus complete genome-sequencing project, covering Cameroon, Ghana, Malawi, and South Africa. The following international collaborators visited the University of the Free State from 23 February 2020 to 7 March 2020.

Dr Khuzwayo Jere (Centre for Global Vaccine Research, Institute of Infection, Liverpool, UK; Malawi-Liverpool-Wellcome Trust Clinical Research Programme/Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Malawi, Blantyre).

Dr Francis Dennis (Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, University of Ghana).

Dr Valentine Ndze (Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Buea, Cameroon).

Dr Celeste Donato (Murdoch Children's Research Institute, Melbourne, Australia).

Dr Benjamin Kumwenda (College of Medicine, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Biomedical Sciences and Health Professions, University of Malawi).

The AEVGI, led by Dr Nyaga, published a commentary report in an international journal based on this and a previous AEVGI meeting:

Nyaga MM, Sabiu S, Ndze VN, Dennis FE, Jere KC. Report of the 1 African Enteric Viruses Genome Initiative (AEVGI) data and bioinformatics workshop on whole-genome analysis of some African rotavirus strains held in Bloemfontein, South Africa. *Vaccine* 2020 Jul 22; 38 (34):5402–5407. doi: 10.1016/j.vaccine.2020.06.010. Epub 2020 Jun 17.

In the SoHRS, we aim to build on international relations through collaboration in the supervision of postgraduate students. One student from Physiotherapy and one student from Occupational Therapy have 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.

Undergraduate student exchange programme, UFS to Belgium

Four third-year students worked in hospital settings in Belgium during January 2020, under the guidance of Rhizo University.

The undergraduate student exchange programme, University of Jönköping, Sweden to UFS

Due to international COVID measures, only one student completed a module and returned to Sweden.

Undergraduate student exposure programme, RHIZO University, Kortrijk, Belgium to UFS

Due to international COVID measures, students did not complete their programme and returned to Belgium.

In the SoHRS, we aim to build on international relations through collaboration in the supervision of postgraduate students. Currently, one student from Physiotherapy and one student from Occupational Therapy have 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.

Nursing

Negotiations with the following institutions are in process:

Institution: Berner Bildungszentrum Pflege in Switzerland (Contact: Elisabeth Crépin)

Background: Exploring the exchange of undergraduate nursing students to enhance cultural competence. The plan is for students to be placed in certain settings for observation purposes, after which they will engage in reflection activities.

Institution: Dedan Kimathi University, Kenya (Contact: F Mbutia)

Background: Exploring collaborate research projects and mentoring Kenyan staff to enhance postgraduate supervision skills.

Institution: University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA (Contact: Prof O Shiyabola)

Background: Exploring collaborative research opportunities within the field of diabetic care.



FACULTY OF THE HUMANITIES



Dean: Prof Heidi Hudson



Faculty Internationalisation Coordinator:
Quinter Onyango

International Research

Dean's Office

Prof Hudson participated in three international seminars:

Hudson, H and Madsen, D: Temporality and the discursive dynamics of the Rwanda NAPs on women, peace and security, from 2009 to 2018. Paper presented at the 'Gendering, Peace and Security – African perspectives on the 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325' research seminar, the Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala, Sweden, 9-10 March 2020.

Hudson, H: Feminist border thinking as a means for understanding the gender-peacebuilding nexus in Africa. Paper presented at the UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) and People for Earth international conference, 'Development, environment and peace nexus (Deepen): Peace-making in borderlands', Cheorwon, the Republic of Korea, 3-5 December 2020 (by invitation).

Hudson, H: Who cares? Ubuntu feminism and taking collective responsibility for ending the war and sustaining peace. Paper presented at the 'Gendering peace and security – African perspectives on the 20th anniversary of UNSCR 1325' research seminar, the Nordic Africa Institute, Uppsala, Sweden, 9-10 March 2020.

H Hudson:

Prof Hudson served on two advisory boards:
African Peacebuilding Network, Social Science Research Council, New York

Project on capacity development of the African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) Centre of Excellence in Post-conflict Societies, hosted by the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) of the Addis Ababa University.

Member of Editorial Board:

International Feminist Journal of Politics

Revista Relaciones Internacionales

Civil Wars

Stichproben: Vienna Journal of African Studies

Politikon

Africa Insight

Department of Afrikaans and Dutch, German and French

Prof Van Niekerk acts as project leader for the project 'Nederlands leren spreken', funded by the Dutch Language Union (NTU). The project resulted in an online Dutch course for Afrikaans-speaking people.

Prof Morgan is the official French-English translator for the Post-cinema project, which entails translating articles for the annual Post-cinema publication, titled The Key Debates. This project is co-directed and edited by the Film Studies Programmes of the Sorbonne University and the University of Groningen, headed by Prof Anne van den Oever and Prof José Moure, and sponsored by the two universities in question.

Barkhuizen, A. 'Le français en Afrique du Sud', paper delivered at *Le français en Afrique australe* online conference organised by the French University of South Italy.

Thirteen candidates wrote the CNaVT (Certificaat Nederlands als Vreemde Taal/Certificate of Dutch as Foreign Language) examination. This certificate is internationally recognised as proof of language ability in Dutch in the Netherlands and Belgium. The certificate is part of the AFNK 2 module offered by Prof A van Niekerk. The UFS is approved as an institution to enrol students for this exam.

An online course for learning to speak Afrikaans was launched at the end of 2017. Several students enrolled for the SLP. On campus, several international students and staff members enrolled for the contact-based Gesellig Afrikaans course to learn Afrikaans as a foreign language.

A French SLP (contact-based) presented on campus for people with no knowledge of French.

A Dutch SLP (contact-based and online) presented for Afrikaans-speaking people. The department helped to finance a student to attend the online Zomercursus presented by the Dutch Language Union.

Department of Art History and Image Studies

Dr Martin P Rossouw, in partnership with Prof Julian Hanich (University of Groningen), has successfully developed a book proposal for an edited volume, 'What film is good for: on the ethics of spectatorship', which will feature 30+ essays from top international film studies scholars from across the globe. The edited volume they are collaborating on is now under contract with the University of California Press. The volume is due for publication by March 2023.

Invited speaker: Dr Martin P Rossouw presented a paper, 'Adaptation and audiovisual apophysis in *Bullet in the Brain*', at the International Short Film Studies Symposium during the 32nd Minimalen Short Film Festival in Trondheim, Norway (24 January 2020).

A relevant nomination: Dr Martin P Rossouw was a shortlisted candidate for the 2019 Wierenga-Rengerink Prize, which is awarded annually to the writer of the best PhD thesis (completed in the previous year) at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands (June 2020).

Lecturer Johanet Kriel-de Klerk continued with her PhD studies as a formally enrolled student in the Graduate School of the Humanities, University of Groningen (NL), as part of a joint PhD agreement with the University of the Free State. Her supervisors at the University of Groningen are Prof Annie van den Oever and Prof Liesbeth Korthals-Altes (Department of Arts, Culture and Media).

Junior Lecturer Josef van Wyk has submitted a successful PhD research proposal, which will see him formally enrolling in 2021 at the Graduate School of the Humanities, University of Groningen (NL), for a joint PhD agreement with the University of the Free State.

Prof Annie van den Oever reappointed as an extraordinary professor in the department for five years (1 August 2020 until 31 July 2025). 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, a 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 *Necrus: European Journal of Media Studies*, editorial board member of *Image and Text*, and adviser 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 master's programmes: Art in the Contemporary at the National College of Art and Design in Dublin, Ireland.

Dr Katja Gentric also continued her formal affiliation as postdoctoral fellow. Affiliated with *L'École Supérieure d'Art et Design Le Havre-Rouen* (ESADHaR), she has developed a research programme 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 have been selected in recent years to work in residency at the *Cité internationale des Arts de Paris*.

Dr Martin P Rossouw was an invited jury member for the international competition of the 32nd Minimalen Short Film Festival in Trondheim, Norway (21–26 Jan 2020).

For more information, see: <https://www.minimalen.com/sider/en.php?a=m2020post&b=arkiv>

Department of English

Helene Strauss, Department of English: Participation in the 'Affective Archives' project convened in early 2017 by Derek Hook (Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, US) and Margarita Palacios (Birkbeck, University of London). The published article, titled 'Energy archives: of rocks, rubbish, and feminist feeling in Aliki Saragas's *Strike a Rock*' in a special journal issue of *Subjectivity* on 'Affective archives as political impasse' as part of this project (eds. Derek Hook and Margarita Palacios, 13.4 (December 2020): 254–280. DOI: 10.1057/s41286-020-00107-8 See: <https://rdcu.be/b9sq9>).

Submitted the following book manuscript to the University of Toronto Press to be included in the African and Diasporic Cultural Studies book series: *Wayward feeling: Audio-visual culture and aesthetic activism in post-rainbow South Africa*. Passed peer review and is forthcoming in 2021.

The post-coloniality of liberation: Zimbabwean cultural texts in the crisis years.

Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship: Irikidzayi Manase, Department of English: – Participation in the 'African Futures' project initiated in collaboration with Mathew Eatough (City University of New York, Baruch) established in 2018. The *Literary Geographies* journal special issue manuscripts are under review, with the volume's publication expected end of 2021 or early 2022. At preliminary discussion level with Matthew Eatough on a Routledge Handbook for African Futures.

Philip Aghoghovwia:

Contributed a chapter in *Cambridge critical concepts: nature and literature*, edited by Peter Ramien and Scott Slovic (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).

'Anthropocene arts: apocalyptic realism and the post-oil imaginary in the Niger delta'. In *Climate realism: the aesthetics of weather and atmosphere in the anthropocene*, edited by Jeff Diamanti, Lynn Badia and Marija Cetinić (New York: Routledge, 2020), pp. 33–46. This project grew in part from the Petrocultures Research Group conference held in 2018 at the University of Glasgow, Scotland.

Oliver Nyambi (University of the Free State): 'You all did love him once, not without cause': Shakespeare, power and the rise and fall of Robert Mugabe in Zimbabwe.

International Symposium, 'Shakespeare and Africa: literary entanglements across space and time', University of Bayreuth, Germany, 19–20 February 2020.

Marthinus Conradie delivered an open public lecture (by invitation) for the Akademia Pedagogiki Specjalnej based at the Maria Grzegorzewska University (Warsaw, Poland), titled 'Decolonisation,

single stories and Samurai: propositions for a first-year course in literature at a South African university'. 27 February 2020. The invitation also included a methodology discussion session with doctoral candidates in the Department of Social Pedagogy at the Maria Grzegorzewska University and observations of undergraduate and postgraduate lectures. For the poster advertisement, see <http://www.aps.edu.pl/news/>.

The above invitation followed the publication of a research article titled: Pure politicking! Racialized blame games and moral panic in a South African high school, in *Society Register* (indexed in ARIANTA and the *Central European Journal of Social Sciences*).

Philip Aghoghovwia:

Virtual presentation due to COVID-19 travel restrictions: 'Anthropocene arts: apocalyptic realism and the post-oil imaginary in the Niger Delta'. International symposium (Re) Thinking Earth: From representations of nature to climate change fiction, CETAPS, University of Lisbon, Portugal, 22–23 October 2020.

Helene Strauss, Department of English:

Vice-Chair: global *Association for Cultural Studies* (Executive Board) http://www.cultstud.org/wordpress/?page_id=86 (2020–2022).

Organisational Secretary: *Association for Cultural Studies* (Executive Board) http://www.cultstud.org/wordpress/?page_id=86 (2016–2020).

Editorial Board: *ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature*: <https://www.press.jhu.edu/journals/ariel-review-international-english-literature/editorial-board>.

Invited member: International Scientific Committee for the *Association for Cultural Studies* 'Crossroads in Cultural Studies' conference, 27–31 July 2020, University of Lisbon, Portugal. See <https://www.crossroadslisbon2020.org/committees>. Conference postponed due to COVID.

Oliver Nyambi: Member of Editorial Board – *Cogent Arts and Humanities*, Routledge, UK.

Irikidzayi Manase, Department of English:

Editorial Board: *Literary Geographies*

<https://www.literarygeographies.net/index.php/LitGeogs>.

Marthinus Conradie: Member of the editorial board for the accredited, peer-reviewed journal *Society Register* since 2020:

<https://pressto.amu.edu.pl/index.php/sr/about/editorialTeam>.

Associate Editor for the peer-reviewed, open-access journal *Acta Academica*, from 2018 onwards.

Oliver Nyambi

Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies, Germany (extended Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship, September 2020–August 2021).

Achievements: Monograph and five articles published; three articles accepted and in production; two edited volumes contracted with Taylor & Francis, UK; monograph proposal accepted by Brill, the Netherlands.

Helene Strauss, Department of English: Worked with Prof Susan Spearey at Brock University, Canada, to pioneer several curricular and pedagogical innovations in the third-year courses, with the shift to online modes of teaching and learning in 2020.

Marthinus Conradie is currently engaged in a discussion regarding the iKudu Coil project:

<https://bit.ly/3fC5PIU>. This would involve a collaborative teaching and learning project in cooperation with the University of Antwerp.

Helene Strauss, Department of English:

External examiner and moderator, MA programme at the University of Mauritius, 2019–2021.

Invited reviewer for the European Research Council, peer review of scientific proposal submitted to the 'ERC Starting Grant 2020 call' (May 2020).

ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature (May 2020) – article review.

ARIEL: A Review of International English Literature (September 2020) – Special issue proposal review.

External assessor, research grant application, *Fund for Scientific Research/ Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique* (FNRS), Brussels, Belgium, September 2020.

Irikidzayi Manase, Department of English: Review of the Carnegie/American Council of Learned Societies Africa Humanities Fellowship 2020 applications.

Oliver Nyambi, co-convener, international symposium: 'Shakespeare and Africa: literary entanglements across space and time', University of Bayreuth, Germany, 19–20 February 2020.

Colleen du Plessis: Two book chapters from the collaboration with Prof Darquennes from the University of Namur and Prof John Read from the University of Auckland. These covered research in applied linguistics on language policy, tertiary language teaching and assessment of academic literacy.

Department of History

Dr Jared McDonald, Livingstone Online, a global digitisation project based at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Dr Jared McDonald, One More Voice, a global digitisation project based at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Dr Jared McDonald serves as a project scholar and the lead contact for Southern African research on both projects.

Prof Neil Roos: 'Whites in apartheid society: social histories of accommodation, complicity and transgression', lecture to the African Studies Colloquium, Indiana University Bloomington. January 2020

Prof Andre Wessels, Associate Editor for Southern Africa, *International Journal of Military History and Historiograph*

McDonald, J and Wisnicki, A. Livingstone's manuscripts in South Africa (1843–1872) – won the Modern Language Association* Committee on Scholarly Editions seal of approval.

Livingstone, J, Wisnicki, A, and McDonald, J. Livingstone's missionary travels manuscript (1857) – won the Modern Language Association Committee on Scholarly Editions seal of approval. (*The Modern

Language Association is a century-old learned society whose members teach languages and literature at colleagues and universities throughout the United States and worldwide.)

Prof Neil Roos: African Studies/History; 2020–2021; University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Virtual link – supervising a doctoral student, Billy Kenniston.

Prof Neil Roos: History – 2020 onwards; likely three years, or duration of a candidate's PhD; University of Ibadan, Nigeria (Dr Tayo Adesina, Professor of History at University of Ibadan).

Professor Neil Roos: The *Southern Journal for Contemporary History* hosts a monthly seminar on African history, with presenters and participants from across the continent and the African diaspora. (The journal is a faculty initiative, but we report it here, as the editor is a member of the Department of History and was not otherwise asked to submit any detail about the journal's internationalisation profile.

Department of Drama and Theatre Arts International funded projects

Cloete, DC. 2020. Die Stigting Studiefonds vir Suid-Afrikaanse Studente (SSF) for 2020/2021 (six-month PhD exchange to the University of Groningen). €8 140 (ZAR150 000).

Kriel, BJ. 2020. Die Stigting Studiefonds vir Suid-Afrikaanse Studente (SSF) for 2020/2021 (six-month MA exchange to the University of Groningen). €6 820 (ZARR120 000).

Van Jaarsveld, A. 2020. Van Jaarsveld is conducting a research project on: Die Argivering van die Afrikaanse Film, in collaboration with the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. (The archiving of film in South Africa). R50 000.

Obakeng Kgwasi: teaching and study visit, January 2018–December 2020. Ambrose Alli University, Nigeria. Pending PhD.

Postponed International Exchange

Cloete, DC. 2020. Die Stigting Studiefonds vir Suid-Afrikaanse Studente (SSF) for 2020/2021 (six-month PhD exchange to Rijksuniversiteit Groningen).

Kriel, BJ. 2020. Die Stigting Studiefonds vir Suid-Afrikaanse Studente (SSF) for 2020/2021 (six-month MA exchange to Rijksuniversiteit Groningen).

Virtual conference with Prof Christofer Balme, 14-18 December 2020. Decolonising the UFS Drama and Theatre Arts curriculum. Balme holds the chair in theatre studies at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich and is a former president of the International Federation for Theatre Research. Balme has been working in Germany and the Netherlands since 1985, where he held the chair in theatre studies at the University of Amsterdam from 2004 to 2006. He is director of the Centre for Global Theatre History in the Department of Theatre Studies at LMU. His research focuses on cross-cultural reciprocity questions in theatre and performance, the relation between theatre and media, and most recently, theatre and the public sphere. The complete undergraduate and postgraduate curriculum has been restructured and decolonised. Included in the remapping of the curriculum was confirmation of international benchmarking.

Cloete, DC. 2020. Joint PhD degree between the Rijksuniversiteit, Groningen (the Netherlands) and the University of the Free State (South Africa) titled, South African theatre performances and the performative research paradigm: towards a taxonomy of disruptive techniques as a stagecraft design variable. Supervisor: Van den Oever, AMA (RUG) and co-supervisor: Rossouw, MP (UFS).

Kgwasi, OI. 2020. PhD degree exchange between the University of the Free State (South Africa) and Ambrose Alli University (Nigeria) (2018-2020) titled, African storytelling and movement: an exploration of select stories and drama. PhD defence scheduled for 2021. Supervisors: Prof Agho and Dr D Oamen.

Dobson, MA. 2020. *Liv Die x Vukallective: First place – Lockdown Theatre Awards*. 27th Cairo International Festival for Experimental Theatre. Cairo, Egypt.

Department of Hebrew

Jacobus A Naudé with Y Gambier and Luc van Dorslaar. 'Religious texts and oral tradition'.

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé with Daniel J Wilson. 'Negative existential cycle in Ancient Hebrew'.

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé with Christopher Land. 'Generative grammar in Greek'.

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Leoma G Gilley. 'Intransitive verbs in Shilluk'.

Kevin D Chau. 'Cooking with the right gadgets: examining Ezekiel's Metaphor of the Boiling Pot (Ezekiel 24:1-14) through poetry, the holiness code, and textual criticism' – Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting (2020 Boston [virtual], USA; Joint session of Metaphor Theory and the Hebrew Bible / Theological Perspectives on the Book of Ezekiel.

Tshokolo J Makutoane. 'Restoring its 'authenticity': The case of the proposed revision of the 1989 Sesotho Bible translation'. Association for Translation Studies in Africa. Accra, Ghana. (Cancelled because of COVID)

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé. 2020. 'Syntactic features of left dislocation in late Biblical Hebrew.' Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew Section of the Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting. 1 December 2020. (Delivered virtually because of COVID)

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé. 2020. 'Acrostic style and poetic syntax in Lamentations'. Invited lecture. Biblical Hebrew Linguistics and Philology Network. The University of Toronto. (Cancelled because of COVID)

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé. 2020. 'The categorial status of resumptive pronouns in Biblical Hebrew'. International Society of Biblical Literature. Adelaide, Australia. (Cancelled because of COVID)

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé. 2020. 'Does covert resumption of the subject occur in left dislocation constructions in Biblical Hebrew?' North American Conference of Afroasiatic Linguistics. Columbus, Ohio (USA): Ohio State University. (Cancelled because of COVID)

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé. 2020. 'Intratranslations of sacred texts and sacred space'. Association for Translation Studies in Africa. Accra, Ghana. (Cancelled because of COVID)

Jacobus A Naudé, 'On Translation Studies and Bible translation'. Invited lecture on BT (Bible translation). List live webinar with Drew Maust.

Kevin D Chau, Steering Committee member for the Ethnic Chinese Biblical Colloquium (affiliate of Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting).

Kevin D Chau, co-chair for Section of Biblical Hebrew Poetry (Society of Biblical Literature Annual Meeting).

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé, co-chair of the steering committee of the 'Biblical Hebrew Language and Linguistics' programme unit of the International Society of Biblical Literature.

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé, Jacobus A Naudé, co-editor of the series *Linguistics Studies in Ancient West Semitic*, published by Pennsylvania State University Press (USA).

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé, member of the editorial board, *The Bible Translator*.

Jacobus A Naudé, co-chair of the steering committee of the 'Linguistics and Biblical Hebrew Seminar' of the Society of Biblical Literature (USA).

Jacobus A Naudé, co-editor of the series *Linguistics Studies in Ancient West Semitic*, published by Pennsylvania State University Press (USA).

Jacobus A Naudé, member of the editorial board, *Handbook of Translation Studies*.

Jacobus A Naudé, member of the advisory board, *Handbook of Terminology*.

Jacobus A Naudé, member of the editorial board, *The Bible Translator*.

Jacobus A Naudé, member of the editorial board, *Folia Orientalia*.

Jacobus A Naudé, member of the advisory board, National Association of Professors of Hebrew (USA).

Jacobus A Naudé, member of the international advisory board, *Journal for Translation Studies in Africa*.

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé, translation consultants for the Dinka Cam Bible translation project (South Sudan).

Cynthia L Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A Naudé. Invited presentation at the Spring School for Translation Studies (for postgraduate students). Association of Translation Studies. Accra, Ghana [cancelled because of COVID].

Department of Linguistics and Language Practice

Dr K Riedel: British Academy Writing Workshop grant – £20 000 (R408 707,26) with Hannah Gibson (Essex), Lutz Marten (SOAS), David Barasa (MUST) – workshop postponed to either late 2021 or 2022 due to COVID.

Prof K Marais: *Considering the thermodynamics of translation*, international webinar on 'Translation studies across frontiers', Centre for Applied Linguistics and Translation Studies, University of Hyderabad, and Faculty of Arts, Communication and Indic Studies, Sri Sri University, India, 11 September 2020

Dr K Riedel: 28-29 August 2020. Hannah Gibson (Essex), Lutz Marten (SOAS), Maarten Mous (Leiden), and Kristina Riedel (UFS). *Applicatives and prepositions in Bantu*. Societas Linguistica Europaea Conference 2020: Workshop on neglected syntactic functions and non-syntactic functions of applicative morphology.



10–12 March 2020. Kristina Riedel (UFS) and Hannah Gibson (Essex). *For-applicative constructions in Sesotho*. Special conference in honour of Prof Malillo' Matšepo Machobane, Department of African Languages and Literature, National University of Lesotho.

Prof K Marais: A (bio) semiotic theory of translation: What does it mean? Centre for Translation and Interpreting, Queen's University, Belfast, 12 October 2020.

Prof K Marais: Editorial boards: *Biosemiotics*, *Linguistica Antverpiensia*, *Target*, *Translation Studies*, Benjamins Translation Library, Routledge Series on Translation Textbooks.

Committees: Vice-president of the Association for Translation Studies in Africa.

Editor of *Journal for Translation Studies in Africa*.

Dr Omotayo Fakayode from Nigeria spent 2020 as a postdoctoral researcher in the department.

The Odeion School of Music

The project 'A passage of nostalgia: The life and work of Jacobus Kloppers' involved cooperation with three international scholars (University of Alberta, Canada, and The King's University, Edmonton). The project culminated in a book publication that recently appeared at SunMedia, edited by Prof Martina Viljoen.

Dr Frelét de Villiers is collaborating with a researcher from the USA on an article, 'Identifying global relevant elements to optimise seamless learning in higher education'.

In the blink of an ear: changing perspectives – Léon Snyman – International Conference on Music and Sounds, London Centre for Interdisciplinary Research, (St Anne's College, Oxford), 7 June 2020 [paper – video online]

Spatial sights and sounds – In the blink of an ear: changing perspectives – Léon Snyman – IPS2020, International Planetarium Society, (TELUS World of Science, Edmonton), 3, 5, 7 August 2020 [poster – video online]

Dr Frelét de Villiers was a speaker at the 19th World Conference on mobile, blended and seamless learning: sustaining equal access to learning in a mobile world, *Proposed innovative assessment strategies by applying the evidence centred design model in a seamless learning environment*, 2-4 November 2020, Cairo, Egypt (online presentation because of the COVID-19 pandemic). Online musical performances (i.e. research equivalents):

Prof Anmari van der Westhuizen performed the Boismortier duo for two cellos with Swiss cellist, Estelle Revaz, in a virtual performance (29 April 2020). Appeared on 29 April and 20 July 2020 on the Cello Community International Facebook page.

Prof Anmari van der Westhuizen performed with Maria Kliegel and thirty-six international cellists in a virtual performance of Locatelli sonata arranged for cello ensemble (19 September 2020). Available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/4jpZYQOTPOo>

George Foster took part in several online videos, including the 100 All-Star Tube/Euphonium Players that featured musicians from the world over in a recording of Enigma by Edward Elgar – currently 100 825 views on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4rDHG3IKv2Y>

Dr Danrè Strydom participated in the Antivirus International Clarinet Ensemble (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9hnJioKF9rE>), an ensemble consisting of 26 clarinetists from 19 countries on six continents.

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

The Odeion School of Music hosted the Second International Clarinet Extravaganza from 26 January to 1 February 2020. The objective of the festival was to expose South African clarinetists (of all ages and levels) and educators to current international clarinet trends, excellent artistry, and the opportunity to receive masterclasses from top clarinet pedagogues. The 2020 festival included individual and group masterclasses

(with accompanist), a workshop for clarinet teachers, various concerts, and international and national soloists.

The international soloists were
Eddy Vanoosthuyse – Belgium – Ghent University / Fontys University of Applied Sciences.
Bence Szepesi – Hungary – Vienna Conservatory/ University of Miskolc.
Severine Sierens – Belgium – Fontys University of Applied Sciences.

UFS colleagues involved in this event included Dr Danrè Strydom, Dr Anneke Lamont, and the Odeion String Quartet.

George Foster: In practical music teaching, a big part of assigning repertoire to students for applied study and assessment purposes is to consult international lists from auditions, universities etc., and benchmarking or aligning the assigned repertoire with the international lists as much as possible. This is to stay on par with international trends, what is being asked at auditions, and so that students can be aware of the high standard. For 2020, international lists were consulted for all modules in orchestral studies and all performance study modules taught.

Dr Danrè Strydom's student, Lauren Aldag, was selected for the Yamaha international competition (Dubai) and Dr Strydom attended workshops.

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), Faculty of Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies, Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands, from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2025.

An extensive research visit to several Dutch, Belgian, and German universities, and collaboration with French colleagues at the Foucault Archives at the National Library in Paris from 10 April to 30 June 2020 cancelled due to travel restrictions and lockdown regulations in both South Africa and Europe.

Rossouw, JH: Preparing a visit of an internationally recognised philosopher of technology to the UFS in September 2020. Various candidates are currently under consideration.

Beukes, CJ: Saxion University of Applied Sciences, Deventer, the Netherlands – International conference postponed due to COVID-19; attended online 1-2 December 2020 – Bekentenissen van het vlees – the first translation of Michel Foucault's *Les aveux de la chair, Histoire de la sexualité 4*.

Nijmegen Groningen Colloquium – International conference at Radboud University, Nijmegen, the Netherlands. Attended online due to COVID-19; 29 November 2020.

Dutch Research School of Philosophy (OZSW) annual conference – international conference Tilburg University, the Netherlands. Attended online due to COVID-19; 11-12 December 2020.

Vanhoutte, KKP: Conducted and featured in a dozen academic podcasts:

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, Ruth Finkelstein on 'The old and the restful', 4 November 2020. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3tglkblLem-4&t=626s>.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, Karl van den Broeck on 'What's new(s)? Challenges to journalism', 12 October 2020. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFvSJ30Xw_k.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, Iain T Benson on 'Values, virtues, viruses', 2 June 2020. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NWlIT4Qxmd4>.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *Bookaholics*, Aysegul Savas 'Walking on the Ceiling', 22 May 2020. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hlaBgYn7E8>.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, Philip Alcabes on 'Pandemic: a medical narrative', 19 May 2020. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZdvfcgyQvEI>.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, interviewee, *PICT Voices*, Kristof KP Vanhoutte on 'Living in limbo', 14 May 2020. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_XuRc8HotU.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, Frank Furedi on 'Society of fear', 10 May 2020. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0V3-RDCd3xo>.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, David Cayley on 'Revisiting Ivan Illich', 30 April 2020. Available: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yujsud_IRlw.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, Claude Mangion on 'A pandemic of communications', 27 April 2020. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W14ChjfufdA>.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *Bookaholics*, Jonathan Rée 'A schoolmaster's war', 21 April 2020. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YHTxWdUcLgg>.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, David Newheiser on 'Religion and hope in exceptional times', 16-17 April 2020. Available (pt. 1): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=de6aQmN1eLM>; (pt. 2): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-v7qTPwnJsA>.

Kristof KP Vanhoutte, presenter, *PICT Voices*, Carlo Salzani on 'Giorgio Agamben and the state of exception', 4 April 2020. Available: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LGPQPDIZOkk>.

Olivier, G:

Book project – Signed a MoU with the Asher Group to publish a book titled *Why nothing seems to matter any longer: our nihilistic age*, which will appear either late in 2020 or early in 2021.

Department of Political Studies and Governance

Prof Theo Neethling: Involvement in a project that resulted in an edited book: *Air Power in the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific*. This book is part of a larger study on the security dynamics of the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific. Two recent volumes preceded this book on Air Power in the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific.

The third of these companion volumes, titled *Air Power in the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific*, represents a continuation of efforts to understand the dynamics of these two economically and strategically interconnected regions by concentrating on an analysis and evaluation of the air power capabilities of many of the powers that are active in the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific region.

Prof Hussein Solomon: In 2020, the Department of Political Studies and Governance, together with the University of Haifa, began a research project on the changing face of the Middle East. A webinar was held on 14 October 2020 and a publication followed from this. No funds received, purely online.

On 3 and 10 September 2020, the Department of Political Studies and Governance and the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies based in Israel, organised two webinars on comparative perspectives of water scarcity, challenges, and innovation. This brought together scholars and engineers from Lesotho, South Africa, Israel, Jordan, and Palestine. The two webinars attracted an audience of 500 plus.

Dr Eben Coetzee: *The end of the world as we know it? The stability of nuclear deterrence* (Paper delivered at ISA Midwest Annual Conference, 20–22 November 2020).

Dr Eben Coetzee: *The threat of a nuclear Iran: a dissident view* (Paper delivered at 'Developments in the Middle East' webinar, UFS and University of Haifa, Israel, 14 October 2020).

Prof Theo Neethling: Russia's new footprint in Africa: Pushing strategic energy diplomacy and selling military equipment. Paper presented at a seminar of the Southern African Centre for Collaboration on Peace and Security on South Africa and Africa: Prevaricating at the precipice, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, 10–11 February 2020.

Prof Theo Neethling: The rise of China and debt in Africa: What does the future hold? Paper presented at a Zoom Forum of the 10th Africa Thought Leaders Forum on Africa's future in the post-COVID-19 world, organised by the Inter Region Economic Network (IREN), Nairobi, Kenya, 26 August 2020.

Prof Theo Neethling: China's military presence in Djibouti: Driving forces and some implications for the MENA region. Paper presented at 'Developments in the Middle East', international webinar between 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, 14 October 2020.

Prof Hussein Solomon: 'Islamism crisis and democratisation', address delivered to the Middle East Institute in New Delhi, India. 16 September 2020.

Prof Hussein Solomon: 'Managing identity politics in the fractious Middle East', paper presented to the conference on Developments in the Middle East, co-hosted by the University of Haifa (Israel) and the Department of Political Studies and Governance, University of the Free State.

Prof Theo Neethling: Member of the Academic Council of *Ante Portas – Security Studies* journal (Poland).

Prof Theo Neethling: Member of the Editorial Advisory Board: *Cyber, Intelligence and Security* (Israel).

Prof Theo Neethling: Member of the Editorial and Advisory Board: *London Security Policy Study* (Middle East tracker).

Prof Hussein Solomon: co-editor of *Insight on Africa*, which is a product with Indian colleagues based at JNU and published by Sage Journals.

Prof Hussein Solomon is a Visiting Professor at Osaka University (Japan).

Prof Hussein Solomon is a Senior Research Associate of Research for Islam and Muslims in Africa (RIMA) based in Israel.

Department of Sign Language and Deaf Studies

Theodorus du Plessis: South Africa/Wallonia Joint Scientific and Technological Cooperation project FNRS160608169052, 'Language diversity management in educational settings in Namur (BE) and Bloemfontein (SA) – a focus on its practical dimensions'. (The project concluded with a final book publication.)

Jani de Lange: National project: Language diversity: Enhancing the use of Sesotho and South African Sign Language. It is funded by the UFS ITP.

Annalene van Staden: 12th International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies, 2020: 6-7 July 2020
(Virtual presentations)

Presentation: Phonological awareness as predictor of second language reading ability among South African learners (authors: Van Staden, AA, Van Rhyn, N Purcell).

Presentation: Language and literacy acquisition in Sign Language: Theorising about the applicability of the critical period hypothesis for deaf children's language development (Authors: A van Staden).

Theodorus du Plessis: International workshop: 2nd Language diversity in educational settings workshop 2020: We are making a change through Sign Language, 19-20 November 2020.

Presentation: Implications of the officialisation of SASL as 12th official language for language-in-education planning in South Africa – advantage or disadvantage?

Presenter: Theodorus du Plessis.

Microsoft Teams.

Susan Lombaard: International workshop: 2nd Language diversity in educational settings workshop 2020:

We are making a change through Sign Language, 19-20 November 2020.

Presentation: The practice of teaching South African Sign Language as home language in schools for the deaf.

Presenters: Susan Lombaard and Jackie Oosthuyzen.

Microsoft Teams.

Annemarie le Roux: International workshop: 2nd Language diversity in educational settings workshop 2020:

We are making a change through Sign Language, 19-20 November 2020.

Presentation: Teaching South African Sign Language as a second language to hearing students: An integrated pedagogy.

Presenters: Marga Stander and Annemarie le Roux.
Microsoft Teams.

Jani de Lange: International workshop: 2nd Language diversity in educational settings workshop 2020:

We are making a change through Sign Language, 19-20 November 2020.

Presentation: Guilty of being deaf: Paying lip service to right of a fair trial in the criminal justice system for the deaf community.

Presenters: Jani de Lange and Ferdinand Kehrhahn.
Microsoft Teams.

Emily Matebane: International workshop: 2nd Language diversity in educational settings workshop 2020:

We are making a change through Sign Language, 19-20 November 2020.

Opening: PANSALB Provincial Language Committee representative.

Presenter: Emily Matebane.

Microsoft Teams.

Annalene van Staden:

International: Scientific committee member of the 2nd Language diversity in educational settings workshop 2020: Making a change through Sign Language.

Department of South African Sign Language and Deaf Studies, University of the Free State.

Theodorus du Plessis:

International: Scientific committee member of the 2nd Language diversity in educational settings workshop 2020: Making a change through Sign Language.

Department of South African Sign Language and Deaf Studies, University of the Free State.

Susan Lombaard:

National: External moderator for South African Sign Language HL for Umalusi.

Department of Education: Member of advisory board concerning SASL teaching material used in schools for the deaf.

Hosted an international workshop:

Second Language diversity in educational settings workshop (virtual attendance): Making a change through Sign Language, 19–20 November 2020.

Microsoft Teams.

Department of South African Sign Language and Deaf Studies, University of the Free State.

Publications of staff and research associates:

UFS–036319: Blended language learning in the Colombian context: a narrative inquiry of teacher ownership of curriculum change.

Authors: Barkhuizen, G and Mendieta, J

Source: *Computer Assisted Language Learning*, 33 (3): 176–196.

UFS–036758: Language teacher identity: a narrative research perspective.

Author: Barkhuizen, G

Source: <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315643465>

UFS–037778: Blended language learning in the Colombian context: a narrative inquiry of teacher ownership of curriculum change.

Authors: Barkhuizen, G and Mendieta, J

Source: *Computer Assisted Language Learning*, 33 (3): 176–196.

UFS–037781: English in the South African language-in-education policy on higher education.

Authors: Barnes, L and Ngcobo, M

Source: *World Englishes*, 2020: 1–14.

UFS–039342: The revitalisation of the Tonga language in Zimbabwe: the strategies.

Authors: Barnes, L and Mumpande, I

Source: *Language Matters*, 51 (3): 43–65.

UFS–037567: Taal-in-onderwys-beplanning in die Noord-Kaap en Vrystaat. 'n Beoordeling van twee taalverwerwingsprogramme in skole.

Authors: De Lange, JC and Du Plessis, LT

Source: *Litnet Akademies* (Opvoedkunde), 17 (2): 542–571.

UFS–034742: The socio-onomastic features of American cattle brands.

Authors: Du Plessis, LT and Lombard, C

Source: *Names*: <https://doi.org/10.1080/00277738.2018.1490517>

UFS–039215: The officialisation of South African Sign Language: implications for place-name planning.

Author: Du Plessis, LT

Source: *Language Matters*, 51 (3): 66–86.

UFS–039420: Language diversity management in higher education: towards an analytical framework.

Authors: Du Plessis, LT Darquennes, J and Stoles, J

Source: In: Darquennes, Du Plessis and Soler. 2020. *Sociolinguistica*. De Gruyter. Berlin: Germany, 7–29.

UFS–039436: The role of language planning agencies in higher education in South Africa – comparing two cases.

Author: Du Plessis, LT

Source: In: Darquennes, Du Plessis and Soler. 2020. *Sociolinguistica*. De Gruyter. Berlin: Germany, 173–193.

UFS–039390: Institutional language policy and academic literacy in South African higher education – a two-pronged or forked-tongue approach?

Author: Du Plessis, LT

Source: Weideman, Reid and Du Plessis. 2020. *Assessing Academic Literacy in a multilingual society: Transition and transformation; Multilingual Matters*.

UFS–036010: A robust approach to depth of anaesthesia assessment based on hybrid transform and statistical features.

Authors: Green, J; Addula, S and Diykh, M
Source: IET Science Measurement & Technology.

UFS-037572: TQM's presence within legal systems: an example of the impact on Australian higher education.

Authors: Green, J; Padro, F; Trimmer, K; et al.
Source: TQM Journal, 2020 (5): 1-20.

UFS-038226: Threshold concepts and 'troublesome' students: the uneasy application of threshold concepts to marginalised students.

Authors: Green, J and Davis, C
Source: Teaching in Higher Education, 2020: 1-16.

UFS-037570: Adaptive boost LS-SVM classification approach for time-series signal classification in epileptic seizure diagnosis applications.

Authors: Green, J; Al-Hadeethi, H; Abdulla, S; et al.
Source: Expert Systems with Applications, 161 (2020): 1-14.

UFS-037601: Profiling children's reading comprehension: a dynamic approach.

Authors: Gruhn, CMS; Segers, E; Keuning, J; et al.
Source: Learning and Individual Differences, 82 (2020): 1-11.

UFS-037602: Moderating role of reading comprehension in children's word learning with context versus pictures.

Authors: Gruhn, CMS; Segers, E and Verhoven, L
Source: Journal of Computer Assisted Learning, 2020 (36): 29-45.

UFS-037603: Dynamischer Leseverständnistest zur Differenzierung der Lernbedürfnisse von Grundschulkindern. [Dynamic reading comprehension test for differentiating the learning needs of elementary school children].

Authors: Gruhn, CMS; Segers, E; Keuning, J; et al.
Source: Spektrum Patholinguistik, 13 (2020): 153-168.

UFS-036228: Regional variation in West and East Coast African-American English prosody and rap flows.

Author: Lowie, W
Source: Language and Speech, Vol. 63(4) 713-745.

UFS-036230: Dynamic paths of complexity and accuracy in second language speech: a longitudinal case study of Chinese learners.

Authors: Lowie, W and Yu, H
Source: <https://doi.org/10.1093/applin/amz040>

UFS-038021: Narrative review and meta-analysis of MALL research on L2 skills.

Authors: Lowie, W; Peng, H and Jager, S
Source: ReCALL, 2020: 1-18.

UFS-038236: Meta-analysis on the identification of linguistic and emotional prosody in cochlear implant users and Vocoder simulations.

Authors: Lowie, W; Everhardt, M; Sarampalis, S; et al. Source: Ear and Hearing, 41 (5): 1092-1102.

UFS-039107: Methodological concerns and their solutions in third-age language learning studies.

Author: Lowie, W.
Source: Dutch Journal of Applied Linguistics, 2020: 1-12.

UFS-039518: How early should we measure academic literacy? The usefulness of an appropriate test of academic literacy for Grade 10 students.

Authors: Myburgh-Smit, J and Weideman, A
Source: Weideman, Reid and Du Plessis. 2020. Assessing Academic Literacy in a multilingual society: Transition and transformation; Multilingual Matters.

UFS-037706: Interpretation and translation as disciplines and professions in Zimbabwe: a critical appraisal.

Author: Ndlovu, E
Source: Language Matters, 51 (2): 129-147.

UFS-034652: Communication needs of science graduate students.

Authors: Ong, K; Sujata, K and Alvin, L
Source: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0033688218822152>

UFS-038227: Scale, street renaming and the continued visibility of colonial street names in Harare.

Authors: Pfukwa, C; Mamvura, Z and Mutasa, D
Source: Nomina Africana, 34 (1): 21-32.

UFS-039213: Facebook or Fail-book – exploring community in a virtual community of practice.

Authors: Pretorius, M and Peeters, W

Source: *ReCall*, 32 (3): 291-306.

UFS-039117: Bushman influence on early Cape place names.

UFS-039340: Voices past and present.

Author: Raper, P

Source: Bloemfontein: SunMedia, 978-1-928424-48-2.

UFS-037668: A twelfth official language? The constitutional future of South African Sign Language.

Author: Reagan, T.

Source: *Southern African Linguistics and Applied Language Studies*, 38 (1): 73-85.

UFS-037707: Teaching deaf culture in American Sign Language courses: towards a critical pedagogy.

Authors: Reagan, T; Matlins, P and Pielick, DC

Source: *Foreign Language Annals*, 53: 270-291.

UFS-039341: Islam in the United States.

Author: Reagan, T

Source: *Journal of Education in Muslim Societies*, 2(1), 58-80.

UFS-038237: Learning social determinants of health through a home visiting course in the clinical years.

Authors: Schuster, M; Sagi, D; Spitzer-Shohat, S; et al.

Source: *Patient Education and Counseling*, 103 (2020): 2335-2341.

UFS-038250: The mental health interpreter: the 'third space' between transference and countertransference.

Authors: Schuster, M and Parenzo, S

Source: De V Souza, I and Fragkou, E. 2020. *Handbook of research on medical interpreting*. IGI Global: USA, p 276-189.

UFS-037863: Automatic classification of social media reports on violent incidents in South Africa using machine learning.

Authors: Senekal, B; Daelemans, W and Kotze, JE

Source: <http://dx.doi.org/10.17159/sajs.2020/6557>

UFS-038239: The blue-eyed devil rapists: an exploration of the discourse on Twitter around land thieves in a South African context.

Author: Senekal, B

Source: *Ensovoort*, 41 (7): 1-24.

UFS-038249: Instagram volksonomie as komplekse netwerk.

Author: Senekal, B

Source: *South African Journal of Science and Technology / Suid-Afrikaanse Tydskrif vir Natuurwetenskap en Tegnologie*, 39 (1): 61-68.

UFS-039214: The influence of German-speaking systems theorists (Von Bertalanffy, Luhmann and Schmidt) on Afrikaans literary studies: a citation analysis.

Author: Senekal, B

Source: *Acta Germanica*, 48: 86-105.

UFS-033647: Strategies to help university students avoid plagiarism: a focus on translation as an intervention strategy.

Author: Stander, M

Source: <https://doi.org/10.1080/0309877X.2018.1526260>

UFS-037745: The relationship between language learning strategies and language proficiency among multilingual L2 students.

Author: Stander, M

Source: *Scrutiny2*, 25 (1): 86-103.

UFS-039444: Phonological awareness as a predictor of second language reading ability among South African learners.

Authors: Van Staden, A; Van Rhyn, A and Purcell, N

Source: *Edulearn20: Conference Proceedings*, pp. 8844-8850.

UFS-039445: Language and literacy acquisition in Sign Language: theorising the applicability of critical period hypotheses for deaf children's language development.

Author: Van Staden, A

Source: *Edulearn20: Conference Proceedings*, pp. 8836-8843.

UFS-039586: Milestones, challenges and prospects in the implementation of the language provisions of the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment (No.20) Act.

Author: Ndlovu, E

Source: *Journal of African Languages and Literary Studies* (JoALLS), 1(3): 157-178.

UFS-039583: The Vienna Military Geographical Institute and its impact on cartography in East-Central and Southeast Europe.

Author: Jordan, P

Source: Johler, R and Wolf, J. 2020. *Beschreiben und Vermessen. Raumwissen in der östlichen Habsburgermonarchie im 18. und 19. Jahrhundert* [Describing and measuring. Spatial knowledge in the eastern Habsburg monarchy in the 18th and 19th centuries], pp. 521-555.

Department of African Languages

Title of project: Multimedia digital corpus of siPhûthi
Project co-workers: Dr Sheena Shah (University of the Free State)

Dr Matthias Brenzinger (University of the Free State)
Funded by SADiLAR.

Centre for Health Systems Research and Development

COVID-19 multi-country student well-being study
(self-funded)

Mental health of tuberculosis (TB) patients (DSI-SAMRC and NRF funded)

The visit of international scholars to the CHSR&D, scheduled to take place in March 2020, was cancelled due to the global COVID outbreak and associated travel restrictions.

The mental health of TB-patients project: The project activities in Uganda and South Africa could not take place for a significant part of 2020 due to the national COVID-19-related lockdown. The ongoing political unrest has further disrupted efforts to continue the project in Uganda. However, field activities for the South African arm of the collaboration are ongoing. Data collection is currently underway among TB patients, policy makers, and TB, HIV, and mental-health managers in the province and Mangaung Metropolitan District.



Centre for Gender and Africa Studies

Dr Stephanie Cawood: Newton Advanced Fellowship (British Academy/Newton Fund) 2016–2019 – Data collection concluded. However, the research output is still in collaboration with Dr Jonathan Fisher from the International Development Department at the University of Birmingham, UK. Title: *Memorialising struggle – Dynamics of memory, space and power in post-liberation Africa* [£62 000].

Dr Nadine Lake: Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) project 2017–2022. Title: *Gender mainstreaming: Developing higher education competencies for gender equality, peace building, and gender-sensitive research coordinators* [8 million Swedish Krona = R14 295 912].

Dr Munyaradzi Mushonga: Mellon Foundation research project. Title: *The Humanities and the decolonial challenge: a comparative study of the University of the Free State, University of the Western Cape, and Sol Plaatje University*. Sub-project theme: *Unsettling paradigms: the decolonial turn in the Humanities curriculum at universities in South Africa*, 2020–2021 [R120 000].

Dr Munyaradzi Mushonga: Virtual presentation at the Academic Forum for the Development of Lesotho (AfdeL) E-dialogue series, 11 November 2020 (Mushonga). Title: Going (back) to the beginning: Lesotho–South African human entanglements and the crisis of living together in the 21st century.

Dr Nadine Lake: Participated in the SA–Sweden Embassy *Digitally Yours* discussion on gender-based violence with Redi Tlhabi (2020). Participated in SABC Channel Africa's *Womanity* radio programme with Dr Amaleya Goneos-Malka (2020).

Dr Nadine Lake: Co-presented a course for Sida with Prof Gabriele Griffin on Feminist Research and Interview Methods for PhD students at the Eduardo Mondlane University, Maputo, Mozambique. Participated in the Sida annual planning meeting for programme activities in 2020/2021 (online).

Prof Henning Melber: Organising and moderating a panel at the Academic Council's annual conference on the United Nations System (ACUNS) on 'Ethical leadership in times of contested multilateralism', 27 June 2020. 'In the shadow of genocide: German–Namibian relations between colonial amnesia and decolonisation', lecture in the 'Legacies of colonialism in the World Series' at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, 9 July 2020.

Speaker at a panel, 'Curing a hangover by removing monuments' at the Gothenburg International Book Fair, 26 September 2020.

Willem Ellis: Presentation delivered on the topic: 'Infrastructures for peace – *Back to the future for South Africa*', for an online teaching seminar titled, '*Democratisation and state-building in post-conflict societies*', hosted by the University of Graz, Austria (Contact: Dr Bert Preiss – herbert.preiss@univie.ac.at).

Prof Henning Melber: President of the European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI).

Steering committee of the Swedish Development Research Network.

Academic Advisory Board of the Development and Peace Foundation (Stiftung Entwicklung und Frieden sef.) in Bonn/Germany.

International Advisory Committee for the joint SDG research initiative by the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research – Science for Global Development (NWO–WOTRO).

Review panel of the Research Council of Norway in Oslo.

International Advisory Board of The Round Table.

The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs.

Advisory Board of the *Journal of Namibian Studies*.

Advisory Board of *Stichproben – Vienna Journal of African Studies*.

Advisory Board of *WeltTrends: Das aussenpolitische Journal*.

Editorial Advisory Board of *Afriche e Orienti*.

Advisory Board of *Peripherie. Zeitschrift für Politik und Ökonomie in der Dritten Welt*.

Advisory Board of *Matatu: Journal for African Culture and Society*.

Editor-in-Chief of *Acta Academica*.
International Advisory Board of the *Strategic Review for Southern Africa*.
Editorial Board of the *Southern Journal for Contemporary History*.

Dr Nadine Lake: South African research partner for a Sida project.

Dr Ivo Ngade: Invited to serve as an editorial member of *Afrika Focus* (published by Brill) (Ngade)
See: <https://brill.com/view/journals/afoc/afoc-overview.xml?contents=About>.

Dr Ivo Ngade: Visiting Professor at Ghent University, Belgium, teaching a course: *Anthropology and ethnography in Africa* and *Language, culture, and society in Africa* 2020/2021.

Dr Munyaradzi Mushonga: In collaboration with Dr Jürgen Schraten, Department of Sociology, University of Giessen, Germany, we submitted a joint proposal to the NRF for possible funding, under the title: *Restoring livelihoods for sustainable development and lifestyles*. We are still awaiting the NRF decision.

Peacock, R. (2020). Special observer and delegate status at the first intersessional meeting of the Conference of the States Parties to the *United Nations convention against corruption* on preparations for the General Assembly's special session against corruption, held from 2 to 4 September 2020.

Peacock, R. (2020). *Development of Victim and Witness Empowerment Policy*. Victim Protection Board, Kenyan Government, Nairobi: 9–10 October 2020.

Peacock, R. (2020). *Expert consultation on Model Provisions regarding Victims of Terrorism*, organised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT), Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, and Spain. Vienna.

Peacock, R. (2020). Special observer and delegate status at the 10th session of the Parties of the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime* (UNTOC). Vienna: 12–16 October 2020.

Dr Stephanie Cawood:

Special issue in *Acta Academica* for March/April 2022 on the theme Xenophobia in Africa – a collaboration between CGAS at the UFS and the University of Ibadan (planning started in 2020). This initiative was initially planned to take a colloquium format around Africa Day in 2020; cancelled due to the global pandemic. We then decided to change the format of international collaboration.

Doctoral webinar series – collaboration between CGAS, the Department of Political Studies and Governance at the UFS, and the Centre for African Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi, India (planning started in 2020). This initiative was planned to be a physical doctoral academy held at JNU in India around November 2020 but was cancelled due to the global pandemic. We then decided to change the format of international collaboration.

Unit for Professional Training and Service in the Behavioural Sciences

Multinational research project titled, 'Non-suicidal self-injury and its association with personal, relational, and social identities: a longitudinal study in Belgium, India, and South Africa.

The project commenced in 2019. Due to the lockdown during the pandemic, this project was suspended in 2020.

Prof Koen Luyckx from the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium, an internationally recognised leader in Developmental Psychology, visited the unit during the period 6–9 January 2020. During his visit,

he met with staff and students to further explore future research collaborations and presented a two-day workshop on identity formation during adolescence and emerging adulthood. Staff and interns attended this workshop from UNIBS and psychologists from Student Counselling and Development, the Free State Psychiatric Complex, and some in private practice.

Each year, UNIBS receives international interns in School Psychology from KU Leuven, Belgium. These interns provide mental health services to the school communities in Bloemfontein and the Free State, as well as on the Transnet-Phelophepa healthcare train, further afield. The internship programme offered by UNIBS is internationally accredited as an internship site by this university.

The first international joint PhD degree in Psychology (UFS and KUL, Belgium) was conferred in May 2020. Prof Grobler (UFS) and Prof Lacante (KUL) acted as joint promoters for the PhD.

Department of Criminology

Peacock, R. (2020). *The role of victim assistance in times of COVID-19*. Paper presented at the 9th International Conference on Victim Assistance. *Challenges and Resilience during COVID-19*. Sonipat, Delhi India: 30–31 October 2020.

Peacock, R. (2020). *Victimology in the Global South: Victims' rights and restorative justice*. International webinar: Brazil, India, and South Africa. Criminological Research and Development Organisation. Bihar, India: 19 June 2020.

Cronje, M: Member of the Communications Committee of the World Society of Victimology.

Peacock, R: United Nations Liaison Committee of the World Society of Victimology, UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and related inter-regional meetings.

Peacock, R: Executive Committee member of the World Society of Victimology.

Peacock, R: President of the World Society of Victimology. The World Society of Victimology is a not-for-profit, nongovernmental organisation with Special Category consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

Peacock, R: Editorial Board member of the *Journal of Victimology and Victim Justice*.

Peacock, R: Editorial Board member of *Acta Criminologica: African Journal of Criminology and Victimology*.

Peacock, R: Editorial Board member of the *Journal of Ethnicity and Criminal Justice*.

Peacock, R: Editorial Board member: *Temida: Serbian Journal of Victimology*.

Peacock, R. (2020). Keynote address: Victimology in the Global South: Critical reflections. Third International Victimology Conference. Victim resilience in changing times. Nairobi: 12–13 October 2020.

Peacock, R: Board member of Just Detention International. A health and human rights organisation that seeks to end sexual abuse in all forms of detention (Los Angeles/South Africa).

Department of Anthropology

Du Plooy, S. 2020. 'The new science and a return to the vital force philosophy: arguing against material views'. Presentation at the *'Imagined borders, epistemic freedoms: the challenge of social imaginaries in media, art, religion and decoloniality'*: The Center for Media, Religion, and Culture. University of Colorado Boulder, USA, 7–11 January 2020.

Serekoane, M. 2020. Decolonial pedagogy: examining the university open space as a site for interdisciplinary praxis. Presentation at the *'Imagined borders, epistemic freedoms: the challenge of social imaginaries in media, art, religion and decoloniality'*: The Center for Media, Religion, and Culture. University of Colorado Boulders, USA, 7–11 January 2020.

Williams, C
US African Studies Association Annual Meeting (online).

Presented: 'Faith and exile: Seeing 'national liberation' through the Christian lives of Salatiel and Anita Ailonga' (November 2020).

Owen, J
Editorial Board member of the *Journal of Southern African Studies*.

Regional Editor (Africa), *Teaching Anthropology* (invited and accepted).

Deja Lu editor (World Council of Anthropology Associations).

Williams, C
Book Review Editor for *Insight on Africa*.
Commission reviews for this journal associated with the African Studies Association of India (2016-present).

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).

Dr. Shirley du Plooy: Sacred Journeys (Pilgrimage studies community), international Zoom meeting, 11 April 2020.

Sacred Journeys (Pilgrimage studies community), international Zoom meeting, 12 December 2020.

Prof. Joy Owen: Panel speaker, WCAA webinar titled, 'Contesting racism in Anthropology', 18 September 2020.

Dr. Christian Williams: The reviewer of African Studies book manuscripts for international presses, including Routledge, Ohio University Press, and Lexington (2018-present).

Department of Fine Arts

Prof Willem Boshoff
Participation in an international art exhibition in Stadtische Galerie Delmenhorst, Germany
Title of the show: *Meeting in language Lernen und Lehren von Sprachen in der Kunst*.

Prof Janine Allen-Spies arranged the following student and staff exchange.

Title of project: Insider outsider, learning from Richmond.

This collaborative project between art students and lecturers from two institutions and two countries involved a creative exchange between the institutions and countries in which these art departments and the particular art residency (MAPSA) reside. The UFS art students have interacted with lecturers and students in Geneva while attending a residency at the Modern Art Projects (MAPSA), Richmond, South Africa, and while participating in art making at the University of the Free State (UFS) Department of Fine Arts, Bloemfontein. This took place from 12 to 27 February 2020. The work created at this residency culminated in an exhibition held in the building in the inner city of Bloemfontein, with an art catalogue titled *Insider-Outsider Learning from Richmond* (see the catalogue at this link <http://janineallen.co.za/docs/insider-outsider.pdf>).

Department: Fine Arts

Duration: 12-27 February 2020

Home institution: HEAD – Geneva University of Art and Design

Home country: Geneva, Switzerland

Achievements: A residency and a collaborative exhibition.

Department of Communication Science

Public lecture presented by Prof Nyasha Mboti; the University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB), African Studies Series, University of California, 10 December 2020. Title of lecture: 'Closing the loophole: an introduction to apartheid studies'.

Hosted the first International Dialogue on Apartheid Studies, August 2020.

Centre for Health Systems Research and Development

Heunis, C and Ncube, A. *The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS epidemic control programmes in South Africa*. First Global Mountain Sustainability Forum. Sustainability Governance, Sexten, Italy, 5-6 October 2020.

Prof Nyasha Mboti: Board of Directors, Society for Phenomenology and Media (SPM).

Prof Nyasha Mboti: Steering committee member, MediArXiv (scholar-led digital archive for media, film and communication studies, hosted by the Center for Open Science).

Prof Nyasha Mboti: Scientific Committee member, Visual Methods and Methodologies group, for research in the field of communication.

Department of Psychology

Paul Fouche, serves:

on the editorial board (2020–2021) as a guest editor for two international publishing houses;

as a guest editor on the editorial board of *Palgrave Macmillan*, which forms part of Nature/Springer, based in Germany. This guest editorship on the editorial board is for a special edition of a book titled: *Psychobiographical illustrations on meaning and identity in sociocultural contexts*. Chapters will be published with international authors in psychobiography;

as a guest editor on the editorial board of *Europe's Journal of Psychology* (EJOP) based in Switzerland, the guest editorship is for a special issue to be published by the EJOP on 'Creating a meaningful life: Psychobiographical investigations'. Various international psychobiographical researchers will publish in this special issue. Articles will be published on psychobiography with international academics and researchers in the field.

Prof L Naude serves:

as Assistant Editor for the journal, *Emerging Adulthood*;

on the editorial board of the journal, *Identity: An International Journal of Theory and Research*.

Dr Joana Salifu Yendork of the University of Ghana (Department of Psychology) teaches in the DPsych (Child Psychology) programme.

Regarding research dissertations and theses undertaken by postgraduate Psychology students, various international specialists in the field of psychobiography were used as external assessors

during 2020. These included Dr Carol Saccagi from the University of Queensland (Australia), Prof Elias Mpofu from the University of Texas (USA), Prof Claude Mayer from the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Germany), and Prof Joseph Ponterotto from Fordham University (USA). The latter international scholars provide valuable feedback as assessors to supervisors/promoters and the postgraduate students.

Department of Sociology

Shange, NT: Member of the drafting committee for the African Governance Report. The African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), in collaboration with the African Governance Architecture (AGA), hosted a two-day validation workshop in Pretoria from 14 to 15 December 2020. The main goal of the meeting was to draft and adopt the 2021 African Governance Report (AGR). At the February 2019 African Union Assembly, heads of state decided that the APRM and the AGA should draft the AGR. It should be presented to the assembly for consideration every two years. <https://bit.ly/3rKWc6K>

International Staff Exchanges

Department of Anthropology

Christian Williams

Humboldt Research Fellowship for Experienced Researchers.

This fellowship supports research for his forthcoming monograph at the University of Freiburg in Germany. During the first phase of the fellowship, Williams was based in Freiburg from 1 October 2019 to 31 January 2020. The fellowship also supported research at the Basler Afrika Bibliographien in Basel, Switzerland, during that time. Publications generated during the fellowship include articles in *African Studies Review* (two), the *Canadian Journal of African Studies* and the *Journal of Southern African Studies*.

Internationalisation of Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement, and other international initiatives

Department of Criminology

Peacock, R. KU Leuven – Research line: Transitional justice (Belgium).

Peacock, R. Resource faculty member: Inter-University Centre Dubrovnik – Annual international postgraduate course on Victimology, Victim Assistance and Criminal Justice (Croatia).

Peacock, R. Course co-director: Annual Bangladesh postgraduate course on Victimology, Victim Assistance and Criminal Justice. 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, World Society of Victimology (Bangladesh).

Peacock, R. External Curriculum Review: Bachelor of Criminal Justice in Correctional Management. Namibia University of Science and Technology.
Bachelor of Criminal Justice Honours qualification. Namibia University of Science and Technology.

Unit for Institutional Change and Social Justice International Research

Dr Luis Escobedo:

PROJECT 1: Book project

Title:

Migrants, Thinkers, Storytellers: Negotiating Meaning and Making Life in Bloemfontein, South Africa.

Editors:

Jonatan Kurzwelly (University of Göttingen, Germany)

Luis Escobedo (Unit for Institutional Change and Social Justice, UFS, Bloemfontein)

Project Description:

Migrants, Thinkers, Storytellers develops an argument about how individual migrants, coming from four continents and diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, are in many ways affected by a violent categorisation that is often nihilistic, insistently racial, and continuously significant in the organisation of society. The book also examines how relative privilege and storytelling act as instruments for these migrants to negotiate meanings and make their lives in this particular

context. This edited collection is based on a collaboration of humanities and social science scholars with individual immigrants, who engaged in narrative life-story research as their guiding methodology and applied various disciplinary analytical lenses. *Migrants, Thinkers, Storytellers* provides a collection of diverse life stories and migratory experiences and contributes diverse theoretical insights into understanding social identification during migration.

Research outputs:

PROJECT 2: Film project

Title:

Love in the ethnic nation (working title)

Description:

This is a film project dealing with love between the Roma and non-Roma in Transylvania, Romania. It focuses on what love, as observed in marriages across ethnic and class boundaries, means and how it functions in an environment where, while dominant narratives point to a relatively unproblematic model of ethnic relations, class and ethnicity continue to be strongly correlated.

Project coordinators:

Arnab Dewan (film maker, Micronarrative Productions, Aarhus, Denmark)

Luis Escobedo (researcher, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa)

Tamás Kiss (researcher, Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities, Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

Funding:

Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, and partly financed by the three project coordinators.

Research outputs so far:

PROJECT 3: Book project

Title: El Sirio (working title)

Description:

This is a book project based on the life story of El Sirio, an individual who left his natal Honduras

pushed by death threats in connection to gang violence, only to find as much violence during his journey northwards as well as in his final destination in the United States. This is a story of the violation of individuality and humanity across social geographies of race, and a story of claiming such individuality and humanity in and through migration. *El Sirio* combines elements of narrative and participatory research, discourse and visual analysis, and storytelling.

Author: Luis Escobedo, in close collaboration with *El Sirio*.

Research outputs so far:

Escobedo, L. 2020. 'Northwards across social geographies of race', *MMB Latin America*, weblog post, 10 September 2020, viewed 10 September 2020, <https://mmblatinamerica.blogs.bristol.ac.uk/2020/09/10/northwards-across-social-geographies-of-race/>.

Other research publications:

Escobedo, L and Agbedahin, K. 2020. 'Contigo Perú' as trickle-up grassroots diplomacies, *Peace Review: A Journal of Social Justice*, vol. 31, no. 3, pp. 312-321. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/10402659.2019.1735167>.

Newspaper and Magazine Articles / Blog Posts:

MMB Latin America, 2020

'Northwards across social geographies of race', *MMB Latin America*, weblog post, 10 September 2020, viewed 10 September 2020, <https://mmblatinamerica.blogs.bristol.ac.uk/2020/09/10/northwards-across-social-geographies-of-race/>.

'How we can each make it to our own world cups', 27 November 2020, <https://www.livinginperu.com/can-make-world-cups/>.

'But, what do you see?', 28 September 2020, <https://www.livinginperu.com/but-what-do-you-see/>.

'Dear host state: you don't deserve my hate', 24 July 2020, <https://www.livinginperu.com/dear-host-state-dont-deserve-hate/>.

'You cannot romanticise racism!', 19 June 2020, <https://www.livinginperu.com/blogs-you-cannot-romanticize-racism-111859-2/>.

'Rubbing salt into the wound of racial pain', 29 May 2020, https://www.researchgate.net/publication/317211553_Rubbing_Salt_into_the_Wound_of_Racial_Pain.

'Peru, where progress equals whiteness?', 24 April 2020, <https://www.livinginperu.com/blogs-peru-where-progress-equals-whiteness-111527/>.

'Peru, a racist state?', 17 April 2020, <https://www.livinginperu.com/blogs-peru-racist-state-111523/>.

Other work in progress:

Escobedo, L, 'Narratives of foreign and local others: making boundaries, claiming individualities' (working title). (Chapter abstract submitted to edited volume *Narratives of Precarious Migrancy in the Global South*; awaiting decision.)

Matau Setshase:

SIMAGINE: an international and interdisciplinary consortium that brings together partners from the USA, the UK, Europe, and South Africa.

Dr Dionne van Reenen:

Name of book: *Exploring erotic encounters: The inescapable entanglement of tradition, transcendence and transgression*.

Author/Editor of book: Authors and editors: John T Grider and Dionne van Reenen. Author only: Billy Huff.

Title of chapter/s claim: There are three chapters relevant to this book. Dionne van Reenen: One man and one lady: Relating bodies in the ballroom; John T Grider: 'For those people's pleasure': the Pacific Islands and sailor eroticism in the 19th century; Billy Huff: Queerness underground: the abject, the normal and pleasure in *Cruising* and *Interior. Leather Bar*.

The book contains original academic work that is primarily aimed at scholars and researchers interested in *interdisciplinary* work on manifestations of the erotic in the human

experience. Each of the three chapters under consideration approaches their respective areas of application differently but from a decidedly interdisciplinary perspective. This was an explicitly stated aim of the project from the outset. Grider offers a historical account of sailor eroticism in the 19th century, locating a rarely examined way of life in a gendered, classed, and raced dynamic. Drawing from both primary and secondary sources, Grider reconstructs for readers a narrative from men who were both agents and victims in a world experiencing vast and far-reaching global transformations.

For researchers looking into contested ways of being, Grider's work provides fascinating insights into forms of masculinity, mainly, that are still under scrutiny in society today. Van Reenen seamlessly combines a performativity and metaphor theoretical framework to generate an analysis of eroticised bodies in performances that expose very traditional gender politics, which seems to be re-emerging in contemporary media and culture. Van Reenen shows how the rigid gender norms performed and strictly regulated in the ballroom. Latin dance competitions indicate relatively conservative sexual politics, in which alternative imaginaries are extremely limited. Researchers interested in reiteration may benefit from Van Reenen's analysis of how this phenomenon takes on new proportions in mainstream media industries in terms of repeatability and fortification in ever-expanding global cultural landscapes that habitually relegate disruptions to the margins. Huff utilises the medium of film to address gay and queer subject positions and locate the importance of these shifting identities in the broader context of social and political change.

This work is beneficial for the researcher who explores forms of transformation and political possibility when the desired outcome is dependent on stigmatisation. Each chapter in the volume contributes an original, multifaceted analysis of the erotic and its import into the human condition as an area of human behaviour that should legitimately occupy academic research and writing without

apology. The interdisciplinary nature of each analysis reveals rich critiques that, in turn, make way for extended possibilities in other areas of analysis in which the target audience may be conducting research themselves. As the corresponding editor, Dr Van Reenen oversaw a formal process, which ensured each author sign their own written contract with Brill, the publishers, stating explicitly that their chapter is original work. They cede copyright to the publishers, in that the work has not been, and may not be, published elsewhere.

Dr Komlan Agbedahin:

Agbedahin, K. 2020. Crisis of human dignity and mega sporting events tragedies. Prague Visual History and Digital Humanities Conference (PraViDCo) (Malach Centre for Visual History), Charles University, Prague (Czech Republic).

Dr Luis Escobedo:

Research Presentations, Panels and Roundtables: Boundary-making in the narratives of immigrants in South Africa, panellist, EASA 2020 Lisbon, 16th EASA Biennial Conference: *New anthropological horizons in and beyond Europe*, European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), 21-24 July 2020, Lisbon, Portugal.

Research-related Activities – Organised and Conducted

Matau Setshase:

Setshase, ME. 2020. 'Sticking to the rivers and the lakes that we are used to: indigenous knowledge and challenging imaginaries about freedoms of the waters' presented at Imagined Borders, Epistemic Freedoms: The Challenge of Social Imaginaries in Media, Art, Religion and Decoloniality. 7-11 January 2020, University of Colorado Boulder.

Co-presentation/research/paper:

Dr Robert Scott Stewart (Cape Breton University, Canada)

Dr Richard Watuwa (Cape Breton University, Canada)

Dr Dionne van Reenen (Unit for Institutional Change and Social Justice, UFS)

Paper presentation: Global Academic Research Institute

GARI One Health Multidisciplinary Symposium 2020
27 August 2020

Galle Face Hotel, Colombo, Sri Lanka (via Google)

Title: 'Are sexual minority rights just for the West?'

Target: Research participants

Dr Luis Escobedo:

Membership in Organisations and Commissions

European Network for Cinema and Media Studies (NECS), Germany, 2020-present

Asociación de Historiadores Latinoamericanistas Europeos (AHILA), Europe, 2019-present

International Political Science Association (IPSA/ AISP), Canada, 2018-present

The Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism (ASEN), UK, 2014-present

Peer Reviews Provided for

Contemporary Political Theory (Palgrave Macmillan)

Matau Setshase:

The South African coordinator of the SIMAGINE consortium.

International Staff Exchanges

Dr Dionne van Reenen:

Working on a research/teaching collaboration with Dr Billy Huff at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign (USA). The details have not yet been finalised.

Dr Luis Escobedo:

Dr Tamás Kiss, sociologist-demographer, Romanian Institute for Research on National Minorities, Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Dr Escobedo invited the scholar and coordinated his lecture 'The anti-corruption discourse in Romania: between self-colonisation and neoliberal populism' at the Chair in Higher Education and Human Development Research Programme (SARChI), the launching of his book *Unequal Accommodation of Minority Rights: Hungarians in Transylvania* (2018), as part of the 2020 Diversity in Higher Education Colloquium – Fragility and Resilience: Facets, Features and (Trans)Formations in Higher Education, and his methodological workshop 'Investigating minority communities: the role of minority political agency and meso-level institutions' at the Postgraduate School, Bloemfontein, South Africa, 29–31 January 2020.

Dr Dionne van Reenen:

Research colloquium co-hosting with UCLA (USA) and VU (Amsterdam)

28–31 January 2020

In Bloemfontein, South Africa

Title: Fragility and Resilience: Facets, Features and (Trans) Formations in Higher Education.

*** Four international research associates joined.

Duration (2014–2020): seven years. Annual conferences, with each university alternating as hosts.

Internationalisation of Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement, and other international initiatives

Dr Luis Escobedo:

From the moment Dr Escobedo moved to South Africa, he started learning Romanian on Skype. He currently speaks this language at an advanced level and can conduct research in it, which involves reading, writing, interviewing, networking, and other research-related activities. Romanian is currently his seventh language. He had a meeting to expand the collaborative work around his project in Transylvania, Romania. He met rectors, officials, and senior scholars from various Romanian universities, including Sapientia University and Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, and Titu Maiorescu University SNSPA in Bucharest.



FACULTY OF LAW



Dean:

Prof John Mubangizi



**Faculty
Internationalisation
Coordinator:**

Dr Albert Nell

International Research

Prof Karin van Marle participated in the International Seminar series on Law and the inhuman; convened by a group of academics at Hong Kong in 2020; to continue in 2021. She was also involved in a bi-weekly, Reading group at Birkbeck Faculty of Law. She has been teaching in the Intensive Masters at Birkbeck Faculty of Law, University of London, UK since 2005 Prof Van Marle gave lectures in the module Southern Perspectives on Constitutional Transformation again in June 2020 and will present lectures in the module The history and philosophy of human rights in April 2021. She is co-supervising a Phd candidate at Birkbeck. Prof Van Marle also presented an address with Drucilla Cornell (retired from Rutgers University) at an online book launch. She presented 'University spaces as sites of conscience' at the Sites of Conscience Workshop, (which was scheduled to take place in Sydney in May, but finally took place online). Dr Jacques Matthee was a panelist on the Trauma roundtable discussion (via Zoom webinar) organized by SINAPI Biomedical on 31 July 2020 on the topic of 'The legal aspects of autologous blood transfusion'.

Involved in the bi-weekly reading group, Birkbeck Faculty of Law.

With Drucilla Cornell (retired from Rutgers University), address at the book launch (online).

'University spaces as sites of conscience'; Sites of Conscience workshop (scheduled to take place in Sydney in May 2020, took place online).

Dr Jacques Matthee:

Title: Trauma roundtable discussion

Organiser: SINAPI Biomedical

Date: 31 July 2020

Platform: Zoom webinar

Participation: Panellist

Topic: The legal aspects of autologous blood transfusion

Law and critique

Feminist legal studies

Legalities

International Staff Exchanges

Not a formal exchange: Dr Matthee has been teaching in the Intensive Master's at Birkbeck Faculty of Law, University of London, UK, since 2005; Dr Matthee again gave lectures in the module Southern Perspectives on Constitutional Transformation in June 2020 and will present lectures in the module. Exploring a formal exchange.

Dr Matthee is co-supervising a PhD candidate at Birkbeck.



FACULTY OF NATURAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES



Dean: Prof Danie Vermeulen



Faculty Internationalisation Coordinator:
Prof Maléne Campbell and Elfrieda van den Berg

International Research

Zoology and Entomology

Prof L van As: Impact of global change on the health, biodiversity, and the ecology of aquatic parasites and symbionts of fishes in the Okavango River and Delta, Botswana.

Prof L Basson:

Title: 'Next generation taxonomy: Ciliophora and their bacterial symbionts as a proof of concept' within the call H2020-MSCA-RISE-2019. Italy (University of Pisa) is the host with Egypt and Uganda, and several European countries are part of this project. Funding from a European source.

Submitted a project to NRF with national and international collaborators, titled: Sub-Antarctic terrestrial diversity in space and time (SATDIST). Funding – no feedback yet if the project was successful.

Submitted a project to NRF as part of Project Protea 2021-2022 between L'Institut Méditerranéen d'Océanologie (CNRS – Aix-Marseille Université – IRD) and Prof Basson's lab, Department of Zoology and Entomology (UFS), titled Parasitism prevalence different regions under Mediterranean climates (France and South Africa). Funding – no feedback yet if the project was successful.

Mexican Project: We are working with Prof Rogelio Aguilar-Aguilar and a PhD student, Alma Islas-Ortega. They are from the National Autonomous University of Mexico. Ms Islas-Ortega visited Prof Basson's lab at the end of last year, and they have been collaborating since this visit. Two papers written – one accepted for publication, the second still in the review process.

Prof Richard Snyder, Eastern Shore Laboratory, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, Virginia, USA. Prof Snyder has contacted Prof Basson, and they are working together on the material collected and where her expertise is needed.

Dr Gustavo MR Valladao of the Aquaculture Centre, Sao Paulo State University (UNESP) – working together on a publication. No formal funding for this collaboration.

Dr Candice Jansen van Rensburg – postponed due to COVID.

P Voua Otomo, Simangele S Mazibuko, Palesa A Tsotetsi, Ngitheni W-K Nyoka (2020). Invertebrate behavioural responses and their potential value in environmental monitoring. Online workshop on Pesticide Contamination of Surface Waters in Tanzania. Hosted by the Tropical Pesticides Research Institute, Arusha, Tanzania,

Tuesday, 11 September 2020.

Prof Charles Haddad: *Zootaxa* and *ZooKeys* subject editor, *Journal of Zoological Systematics* and *European Journal of Taxonomy* editorial boards.

Dr Patricks Voua Otomo – editorial board member: *Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology* (Springer journal).

Prof Linda Basson: Served on international committee to organise the Sixth International Symposium on Fish Parasites that was to be held in Brisbane in July 2020. The symposium was postponed and Prof Basson's term on this committee extended.

Prof Aliza le Roux: Worked with Dr Nicholas Friedman from the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology, Japan, to submit a joint application for funding to conduct more acoustics research in Japan and Qwaqwa's wetlands.

Toka Mosikidi and Prof Le Roux both presented papers at the virtual Animal Behaviour Society conference. Prof Le Roux is also part of a successful grant application in the ARU between the UFS and the Appalachian State University. Prof Le Roux is taking part as the organiser of events to boost female academics' careers through international mentorship.

Agricultural Economics

Prof Yonas Bahta was invited to a senior policy seminar hosted by Agriculture and Food Policies for Better Nutrition in Africa, organised by the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) and the Central Bank of Nigeria, 9-10 March 2020, Abuja (Nigeria). The policy seminar is unique –

bringing together senior policy makers from African countries and economic researchers to share knowledge and debate on urgent policy issues relating to the sustainable development of African economies.

Prof Bahta is an editorial board member of the *International Journal of Food and Agricultural Economics*.

Dr Frikkie Maré: (Dr FA Maré) is a Council member of the International Farm Management Association (IFMA).

Prof Yonas Bahta, with co-author Dr Lombard, awarded for the best published article and won the Joseph F Donnermeyer New Scholar Award at the International Society to study rural crime in December 2020.

Architecture

The Earth Unit in the Department of Architecture is a member of the UNESCO Chair in Architectures de terre cultures constructives et développement durable, Network in architecture, constructive cultures and sustainable development (90), established in 1998 at the School of Architecture of Grenoble (France). In collaboration with 6 African, 19 Latin American, 6 Asian, and 6 European partners at training centres and technical and academic universities (2003 to date).

Marga Viljoen, a doctoral student in the Department of Architecture, presented preliminary findings of her research at the online PHTR (Philosophy of Human-Technology Relations) conference in November 2020:

Viljoen, M., 2020. Skilful building: a postphenomenological study on construction sites in Johannesburg. Philosophy of human-technology relations conference, online, 4-7 November 2020.

Viljoen, M. 2020. Scale, scope, and context in human-technology-world relations. Philosophy of human-technology relations conference, online, 4-7 November 2020.

Bosman, G. (2020). Change for contemporary earth construction: a second paradigm shift, XIV International Conference on Theory and History of Architecture (ARCHTHEO'20), DAKAM (Eastern Mediterranean Academic Research Centre) Istanbul, Turkey, 6 November 2020.

In March 2020, Dr Hendrik Aurret and David van der Merwe from the Department of Architecture at the University of the Free State received the news that their paper *Architecture as an art of care in historically marginalised communities: the case of Heidedal, South Africa*, had been accepted for presentation in the Vulnerabilities and Inequalities Paper session to be held at the 27th World Congress of Architects UIA 2020 in Rio, Brazil.

Prof G Bosman served on the Scientific Committee for:

HERITAGE2020 Conference, Living and virtual visiting European World Heritage and RISK-Terra – Earthen architecture in the Iberian Peninsula: a study of natural, social and anthropic risks and strategies to improve resilience (RTI2018-095302-B-I00), funded by the Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities, School of Architecture of the Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain.

Computer Science and Informatics

Prof Paul Kogeda continues to work with Dr Vitalis Ozianyi at Strathmore University, Nairobi, Kenya. They were awarded South Africa/Kenya joint science and technology research collaboration (ref. KENY160505164177). They are working on water resource management – detection and prediction of water leakage.

Ahishakiye, E, Wario, R, Mwangi, W and Taremwa, D. (2020). Prediction of cervical cancer based on risk factors using ensemble learning. *IST-Africa 2020 Conference (IST-Africa)*, ISBN: 978-1-905824-64-9, IEEE, ISI-accredited, pp. 1-12. Virtual conference held in Uganda, May 2020.

Botha, BS, De Wet, L and Botma, Y. Usability of a foreign body object scenario in VR for Nursing education, 2020 *IEEE Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces* abstracts and

workshops (VRW), pp. 787-788, DOI 10.1109/VRW50115.2020.00242. IEEE catalogue number: CFP20X08-ART, ISBN: 978-1-7281-6532-5.

Loneragan, M, De Wet, L and Burger, AJ. Technology as a tool to improve student understanding of assessment questions. *International Conference for Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics (AHFE) 2020*: presented virtually by Dr Lizette de Wet.

Nyaga C, Wario R. (2020). A review of Sign Language hand gesture recognition algorithms. In: Ahram, T. (eds) *Advances in Artificial Intelligence, Software and Systems Engineering*. AHFE 2020. *Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing*, vol. 1213. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-51328-3_30. Virtual conference held in California, USA.

Vidmar, R, Kotzé, E, Van der Merwe, TM and Mentz, JC. (2020). Proposed theory of e-government for South Africa. *Proceedings of the 11th International Development Informatics Association Conference (IDIA2020)*, pp. 26-41. Macau, China, 25-27 March 2020. <https://collections.unu.edu/view/UNU:7689>.

Madikana S Sediela, Moses L Gadebe and Okuthe P Kogeda, Indoor localisation with filtered and corrected calibration RSSI, *Proceedings of EAI AFRICOMM – 12th EAI International Conference on e-Infrastructure and e-Services for Developing Countries*, 3-4 December 2020. Virtual conference held in Mauritius.

Moses L Gadebe and Okuthe P Kogeda, Lightweight hybrid majority vote classifier using top-k dataset, in *Proceedings of 2nd International Conference on Soft Computing and its Engineering Applications (icSoftComp2020)*, 11-12 December 2020, Changa, Anand, Gujarat, India. Conference held virtually.

Dr Lizette de Wet – South African representative on the editorial board of *Journal of Organisational and End User Computing (JOEUC)*.



Environmental Management (Centre for Environmental Management)

The Flemish Interuniversity Council (VLIR) and Lehlohonolo Makhakhe and UFS.

Funding: €68.784 (ZAR1 208 294,14) (2019–2020). VLIR-UOS Project (UFS–Agric–000198).

Ololade, OO. 2020. Participated as a keynote speaker on ‘Water wars: an uncertain future with population growth and climate change’ for the Water Show Africa. 3 November 2020. Virtual (online), South Africa.

Turton, AR. 2020. Participated as a keynote speaker on ‘Regulation and policy: driving forward collaborative development and innovation’, for the Water Show Africa. 3 November 2020. Virtual (online), South Africa.

Bergman, DL, Avenant, NL, Bodenchuk, MJ and Steenkamp, E. 2020. Developing alternatives to protect domestic sheep from predation in South Africa. Paper delivered at the 29th Vertebrate Pest Conference. Santa Barbara, California, USA. 2–5 March 2020.

Bessah, E, Raji, AO, Taiwo, OJ, Agodzo SK, Ololade, OO, Strapasson, A and Larbi, I. 2020. Extreme changes of daily rainfall and temperature patterns in a tropical sub-humid basin: a statistical downscaling assessment for the 21st century. Paper delivered at the 1st Climate Change Virtual 2020. Virtual (online), USA. 18–19 September 2020.

Devereux, EJ, Paine, OCC, Ryder, C, Wigley-Coetsee, C, Codron, D, Codron, J, Sponheimer, M and Henry, AG. 2020. Investigating habitat quality across a savanna biome: hominin dietary implications of plant nutritional properties from the Southern African Lowveld. Poster presented at the Ecological Society of America (ESA) annual meeting. Virtual meeting (online), USA. 3–6 August 2020.

Devereux, EJ, Paine, OCC, Ryder, C, Wigley-Coetsee, C, Codron, J, Codron, D, Sponheimer, M and Henry, AG. 2020. Hominin dietary implications of plant nutritional properties from the Southern African Lowveld. Paper delivered at the 89th annual meeting of the American Association of Physical Anthropologists. Los Angeles, CA, USA. 15–18 April 2020.

Orimoloye, IR, Belle, JA and Ololade, OO. 2020. Remote sensing of drought disaster events over Free State Province, South Africa. Paper delivered at the 2020 Applied Geography Conference (AGC) (online conference). Virtual (online), USA. 18-20 October 2020.

Orimoloye, IR, Ololade, OO and Belle, JA. 2020. Space-based drought disaster risk and climate change assessments: strategies for environmental conservation. Paper delivered at the 2020 UNU Summer Academy on World Risk and Adaptation Futures: Social Protection. Bonn, Germany. 21-25 September 2020.

Senbore S, Oke, S, Malebo, N and Ololade O. 2020. Guidelines on assessment of urban development impact on water security and environmental sustainability. Paper delivered at the 3rd WaterEnergyNexus Conference. Djerba, Tunisia. 1-5 December 2020.

Avenant, NL served on the editorial board of *Integrative Zoology* (journal of the International Society of Zoological Sciences) (2006-present; current impact factor 2.514; Q1).

Avenant, NL served as section editor of *African Zoology* (small mammals) (2014-present; current impact factor 0.860; Q3).

Avenant, NL serves on the executive committee, International Conference on Rodent Biology and Management (2006-present).

Avenant, NL is part of the ZSSA (Zoological Society of Southern Africa) local organising committee that will host the 2021 International Congress of Zoology (ICZ) in Cape Town.

Esterhuyse, S served on the editorial board of *Water International*.

Ololade, OO. 2020. Participated as a panellist and keynote speaker on Water Wars: an uncertain future with population growth and climate change for the Water Show Africa. 3 November 2020. Virtual (online), South Africa.

Toerien, DF served on the editorial board of *Cogent Social Sciences*.

Turton, AR, 2020. Participated as a panellist on Regulation and policy: driving forward collaborative development and innovation, for the Water Show Africa. 3 November 2020. Virtual (online), South Africa.

Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

J Brink: MeerTIME (international collaboration working with the data from MeerKAT), International Pulsar Timing Array (international body using pulsar data to measure gravitational waves).

Loose affiliation with LIGO, (laser interferometer gravitational-wave observatory).

J Meyer:

Simple near-rings with identity

Symmetric differences of sets and their relations to polynomials over \mathbb{Z}_2

0-primitivity in matrix near-rings

Congruence preserving maps on special p-groups (Accommodation in Taiwan).

J Brink: International Pulsar Timing Array steering committee, South African representative.

T Vertik: Member of editorial boards: *Discrete Mathematics Letters*; *Open Journal of Discrete Applied Mathematics*.

Plant Sciences

Dr Ngara concluded her Newton Advanced Fellowship-Royal Society award, grant number NA160140, from 2016 to 2020, hosted by Durham University, UK. Her UK collaborator was Dr Stephen Chivasa. The grant award was worth £107 600 (R2 192 807,19) for a project titled: Identification and functional validation of novel drought stress-adaptive sorghum proteins.

Prof WHP Boshoff : Project: #3768

GenomicsForResistance; Funded by the Competitive Research Grants (CRG) programme 2018-2021, Kaust University, Saudi Arabia.

Prof MT Labuschagne: International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Ethiopia): They provide annual funding for all field trials and the management thereof, as well as all costs related to the in-country research. Four PhD projects at about R100 000 per project, totalling R400 000, and another PhD project for which they provided all the field data.

Prof MT Labuschagne: International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (Nigeria): Worked together on two projects in 2020, one on biofortification of cassava and another on quality and genetic diversity in cowpea. They provided all in-country support for two PhD students.

Prof MT Labuschagne: University of Cordoba, Spain and International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre in Mexico: collaborative project on the influence of stress conditions on gluten protein and wheat quality. They provided the research material and did all the quality analyses in Mexico – about R300 000.

Prof MT Labuschagne: Michigan State University, USA: Collaboration with Prof Perry Ng on a project on resistant starch in South African wheat.

Prof B Visser and Prof WHP Boshoff Elucidating the evolutionary history of *Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici* lineages through analysis of allelic variation of selected genes (funding is based at the University of Minnesota).

Labuschagne, MT. 2020. Research-industry linkages for the promotion of biofortified maize and wheat. Nutritious maize: technologies, development and availability in South Asia. International webinar organised by CIMMYT, supported by USAID, 20–22 July 2020 (keynote oral presentation).

WHP Boshoff, B Visser, CM Lewis, TM Adams, DGO Saunders, T Terefe, T Soko, N Chiuraise and ZA Pretorius. 2020. First report of *Puccinia striiformis* on wheat in Zimbabwe. *Plant Disease* 104 (1), 290. <https://doi.org/10.1094/PDIS-07-19-1395-PDN> (CM Lewis, TM Adams and DGO Saunders are from John Innes Centre, Norwich NR4 7UH, United Kingdom; T Soko and N. Chiuraise are from Seed Co. Limited, Harare, Zimbabwe).

R Prins, BJ Steffenson, AJ Case, WHP Boshoff, GM Agenbag, ZA Pretorius. 2020. Assessments and perspectives on stem rust resistance in South African malting barley. *Australasian Plant Pathology* 49:679–690. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13313-020-00744-2> (BJ Steffenson is from the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Minnesota, St Paul, MN 55108, USA; AJ Case is from AB InBev-Global Barley Research, 3515 Richards Lake Road, Fort Collins, CO 80524, USA).

Szabo LJ, Johnson JL, Visser B, Olivera PD and Jin Y, 2020. Elucidating the evolutionary history of *Puccinia graminis* f. sp. *tritici* lineages through analysis of allelic variation of selected genes. 2020 BGRI Technical Workshop (online). 7–9 October 2020.

Prof MT Labuschagne:
Speciality chief editor: *Frontiers in Sustainable Food Systems*
Associate editor: *Cereal Chemistry*
Associate editor: *Journal of Cereal Science*

Urban and Regional Planning

Stuart Denoon-Stevens has a multi-million rand grant from the National Research Foundation (NRF) related to the South African Planning Education Research (SAPER) project; this grant allowed for international partnerships, PhD bursaries, and administrative assistance.

Dr TN Mphambukeli and her team secured a R500 000 grant for a joint National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIHSS) and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) research project. Her research team focuses their research on exploring the land policies in Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa – the BRICS countries – which informs agricultural practices in South Africa and China, respectively. Within the parameters of social justice, sustainable development, and quality of life, they focus their research on exploring the land policies by documenting the policies approached and strategies adopted. The project aims to support the agriculture–land–water–labour nexus.

Additionally, they will propose a common agricultural land policy for China and South Africa. The title of the research project is Exploring the Situated Political Ecology and Economy of Agricultural Land Policies in BRICS: a case study of China and South Africa.

Prof Verna Nel, Prof Maléne Campbell, and Thomas Stewart participated in a South African Swedish Universities Forum project. Prof Nel contributed to an application for the project's extension on peri-urban areas and in the three-day digital workshop, displaying her work.

The Managing Director of the Russian National Committee on BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) Research expressed gratitude on behalf of the Academic Forum Organising Committee to Dr Mphambukeli for her immense contribution to the forum, held in Moscow, Russia, from 22 to 24 October 2020.

Prof MM Campbell appointed as the new editor of the *Town and Regional Planning* journal listed on the Norwegian Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO) list.

Dr Mphambukeli has been appointed as a guest associate editor by *Frontiers in Sustainable Cities* from the United Kingdom. She also serves on the editorial board of the *Africanus: Journal of Development Studies*, UNISA Press (E-ISSN 2663-6522, Online). Dr Mphambukeli was appointed as a reviewer and evaluator of the 2020 flagship Individual Research Fellowship (IRF) competition, offered by the African Peacebuilding Network (APN) programme of the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) based in Brooklyn, New York, USA.

Department of Computer Science and Informatics

Dr Eduan Kotzé continues to work with Prof Walter Daelemans at the Computational Linguistics and Psycholinguistics (CLiPS) research centre at Antwerp, Belgium. They are jointly working on natural language processing (NLP) research projects investigating methods and algorithms

to automatically detect abusive language online and violent events in South Africa, as well as conversational agents (CAs).

Ahishakiye, E, Wario, R, Mwangi, W and Taremwa, D. (2020). Prediction of cervical cancer based on risk factors using ensemble learning. *IST-Africa 2020 Conference* (IST-Africa), ISBN: 978-1-905824-64-9, IEEE, ISI accredited, pp. 1-12. Virtual conference held in Uganda, May 2020.

Botha, BS, De Wet, L and Botma, Y. Usability of a foreign body object scenario in VR for Nursing education, 2020 *IEEE Conference on Virtual Reality and 3D User Interfaces* abstracts and workshops (VRW), pp. 787-788, DOI 10.1109/VRW50115.2020.00242. IEEE catalogue number: CFP20X08-ART, ISBN: 978-1-7281-6532-5.

Loneragan, M, De Wet, L and Burger, AJ. Technology as a tool to improve student understanding of assessment questions. *International Conference for Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics (AHFE) 2020*: presented virtually by Dr Lizette de Wet.

Nyaga C, Wario R. (2020). A review of Sign Language hand gesture recognition algorithms. In: Ahram T. (eds) *Advances in Artificial Intelligence, Software and Systems Engineering*. AHFE 2020. *Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing*, vol. 1213. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-51328-3_30. Virtual conference held in California, USA.

Vidmar, R, Kotzé, E, Van der Merwe, TM and Mentz, JC. (2020). Proposed theory of e-government for South Africa. *Proceedings of the 11th International Development Informatics Association Conference (IDIA2020)*, pp. 26-41. Macau, China, 25-27 March 2020. <https://collections.unu.edu/view/UNU:7689>.

Dr Lizette de Wet – South African representative on the editorial board for *Journal of Organisational and End User Computing* (JOEUC).

Based on the conference presentation mentioned in (2) above, Bennie Botha received the IEEEVR: Diversity Scholarship Award.



Prof Linda Basson

As part of the NGTax project listed above, Prof Basson would have gone to Italy earlier in the year, but due to the COVID-19 restrictions, no visits have taken place yet.

Prof Daryl Codron – Dr CAMS Djagoun, University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin: TWAS postdoctoral fellowship, six months duration (delayed until 2021 due to COVID-19)

Internationalisation of Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement, and other international initiatives

Monthly telecons with SA students, Meerkat staff, and emerging pulsar communities in India and China, EmPTA – telecons.

J Brink, visiting associate faculty appointment, California Institute of Technology (Caltech 2018–2020). No visit, but access to computing and data resources for collaboration on testing general relativity using gravitational waves.

At least two international experts examine all MSc and PhD theses.

Prof Labuschagne is part of the international Gluten Working Group, which undertakes various projects. One was the publication of a book in 2020: *Wheat quality for improving processing and human health*. Springer. ISBN 978-3-030-34162-6; she was the first author of one chapter and co-author of two more chapters.

In 2020, Prof Labuschagne took part in the second edition of the book: *Quantitative Genetics, Genomics and Plant Breeding*. CABI. ISBN 9781789240214. A world-renowned quantitative geneticist, Prof Manjit Kang, edited the book to which she contributed a chapter.

In partnership with the Appalachian State University (USA) and Novgorod State University (Russia), Stuart Denoon-Stevens and his team developed a distance-learning course on cross-cultural perspectives on sustainability. This course will



use the UN Sustainable Development Goals as its foundation and seek to understand how these goals can be applied in the students' various disciplines. A key emphasis will be to understand how the implementation of these goals will vary based on context, using the examples of South Africa, Russia, and the USA. (The course will consist of a mix of students from each of these countries.)

Dr Nicky Matthews use international case studies to show how the theory is applied, not only in South Africa, but also worldwide. Students can also gain insight into how different countries respond to resource scarcity or pollution issues.

Compare the curriculum to those presented at other universities (ENVECON C101 and C102).

Dr Nicky Matthews acts as reviewer for international journals (*European Journal of Operational Research*; *European Journal of Operational Research: A Strong Efficiency Measure for CCR/BBC Models*, Ref: EJOR-D-20-00542).

Technology in Society: is farming a belief in Northern Ghana? Exploring the dual-system theory, Ref: TIS_2019_708.

Prof Yonas Bahta acts as a reviewer for international journals (reviewed 11 international journals, including Q1 journals, in 2020). Prof Bahta was also employed as an international external examiner/assessor for one MSc student from the Namibia University of Science and Technology: Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources Science, Windhoek, Namibia.



FACULTY OF THEOLOGY AND RELIGION



Dean: Prof Letšosa Rantao



Faculty Internationalisation Coordinator:
Dr Lodewyk Sutton

International Research

Department of Old and New Testament Studies

Prof Tolmie completed the commentary on the Gospel of John for a new one-volume commentary on the Bible for Oxford University Press with Profs Ruben Zimmermann (University of Mainz) and Steven Hunt (Gordon College).

Dr Sutton completed multiple reflections (as co-author on the reflection section of the commentary) published in the Wisdom Commentary series on the Psalms for Liturgical Press with the author Nancy L deClaissé-Walford (McAfee School of Theology, Mercer University, USA). He also completed a chapter for the book *Battle for the heart: How (not) to transform church and society* for Lit Verlag (Münster, Germany) with editors Jan-Albert van den Berg (UFS) and Chris AM Hermans (Radboud University, Nijmegen).

Prof DF Tolmie: Member of the Colloquium Ioanneum, an international group of scholars meeting bi-annually for conferences on the Gospel of John, as well as the Colloquium Oecumenium Paulinum, an international group of scholars meeting bi-annually for conferences on Pauline literature. Completed two entrances for Greek words in 'Contexticon' in the US, in collaboration with a Dutch scholar, Dr Albert Hogeterp (<http://contexticon.com/>).

Dr L Sutton was invited to deliver a paper at the international meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature in Adelaide, Australia, from 5 to 9 July 2020. However, this conference was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Prof DF Tolmie: Member of the steering group of the Colloquium Ioanneum

Department of Practical and Missional Theology

Project on the spiritual direction with the University of Queensland – National Church Life Survey (NCLS) in Australia. Joint PhD degree research project on practical theology and masculinity with the Vrije University Amsterdam, the Netherlands. Joint postgraduate research programme in practical theology with the Justo Mwale University, Lusaka, Zambia.



Department of Historical and Constructive Theology

In January 2020, Dr Henco van der Westhuizen delivered a paper at the international Bonhoeffer Congress in Stellenbosch.

Due to the pandemic, the conference where the Department of Historical and Constructive Theology would have delivered papers and presentations, were cancelled.

International Staff Exchanges

Department of Historical and Constructive Theology

Due to the international pandemic, our department had to postpone planned visits to Heidelberg (Germany) and Bossey (Switzerland).

Department of Old and New Testament Studies

Visit by Prof Stefan Fischer from the Evangelisch-Theologische Fakultät at the University of Vienna. He visited the faculty from 23 February until 6 March 2020. On 24 February 2020, Prof Fischer

presented classes to the fourth-year Old Testament Wisdom (TOTT4834/TOTT) class on the topic of retribution in the book of Job. He also presented a public lecture in the faculty on 3 March 2020 with a paper titled: 'The transformation of theology and religion in and by the Biblical Wisdom Literature' as part of the faculty's 40-year celebrations.

Department of Practical and Missional Theology

Visit of Prof Ruard Ganzevoort, Dean of the Faculty of Religion and Theology, Vrije University, the Netherlands, to the department and faculty (29-31 January 2020). The facilitation of workshops and personal consultations.

Visit by Prof Chris Hermans, Radboud University Nijmegen, the Netherlands (25 February-1 March 2020). Attending and presenting at a conference by the department/faculty. Also joined a departmental visit to Morija Theological School in Lesotho. A book publication will follow later in 2020 as a direct result of this visit and conference.



Internationalisation of Teaching and Learning, Community Engagement and other international initiatives

Department of Old and New Testament Studies

On 1 December 2020, Dr Sutton attended the online Tyndale House Reader's Reunion to celebrate the 75th anniversary of Tyndale House (Cambridge University).

Department of Religion Studies

The Department of Religion Studies hosted an international lecture through MS Teams with Rabbi Shlomo Glicksberg from Israel, on the theme 'Organ donations according to Jewish law'. This lecture took place on 16 September 2020.

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Department of Practical and Missional Theology

Joint PhD degree agreement between the Faculty of Theology and Religion (PhD candidate Mias van Jaarsveld in the Department of Practical and Missional Theology) re-negotiated through facilitation by the International Office of the UFS with the Faculty of Religion and Theology, Vrije University Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Department of Historical and Constructive Theology

The Department of Historical and Constructive Theology has been in conversation with several renowned scholars (from Princeton Theological Seminary and Heidelberg University) to benchmark our curriculum.

The Department of Historical and Constructive Theology published a collection of essays on *Justice and Beauty*, with essays by scholars from abroad.



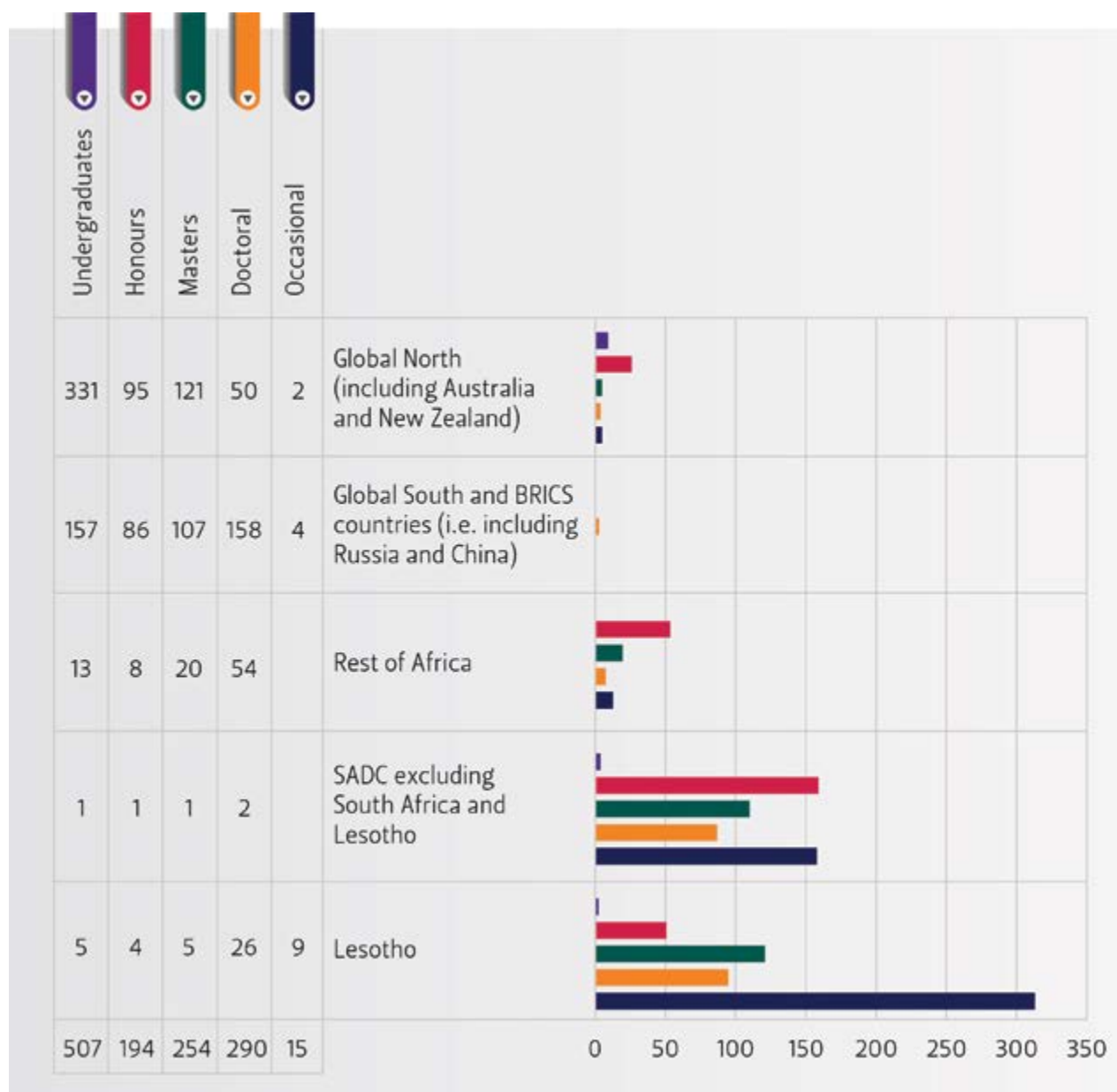
DATA ON INTERNATIONALISATION

This section contains statistics of the international students enrolled at the UFS during the 2020 academic year. These statistics highlight exchange student data as well as postgraduate fellow data. It also provides a breakdown of regions where most of the UFS students come from, faculty enrolment, the campus, and level of study. Furthermore, the data also includes a breakdown per country to indicate geographic spread, international research collaborations, co-publications, and research contracts.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROFILE DATA

Registration overview

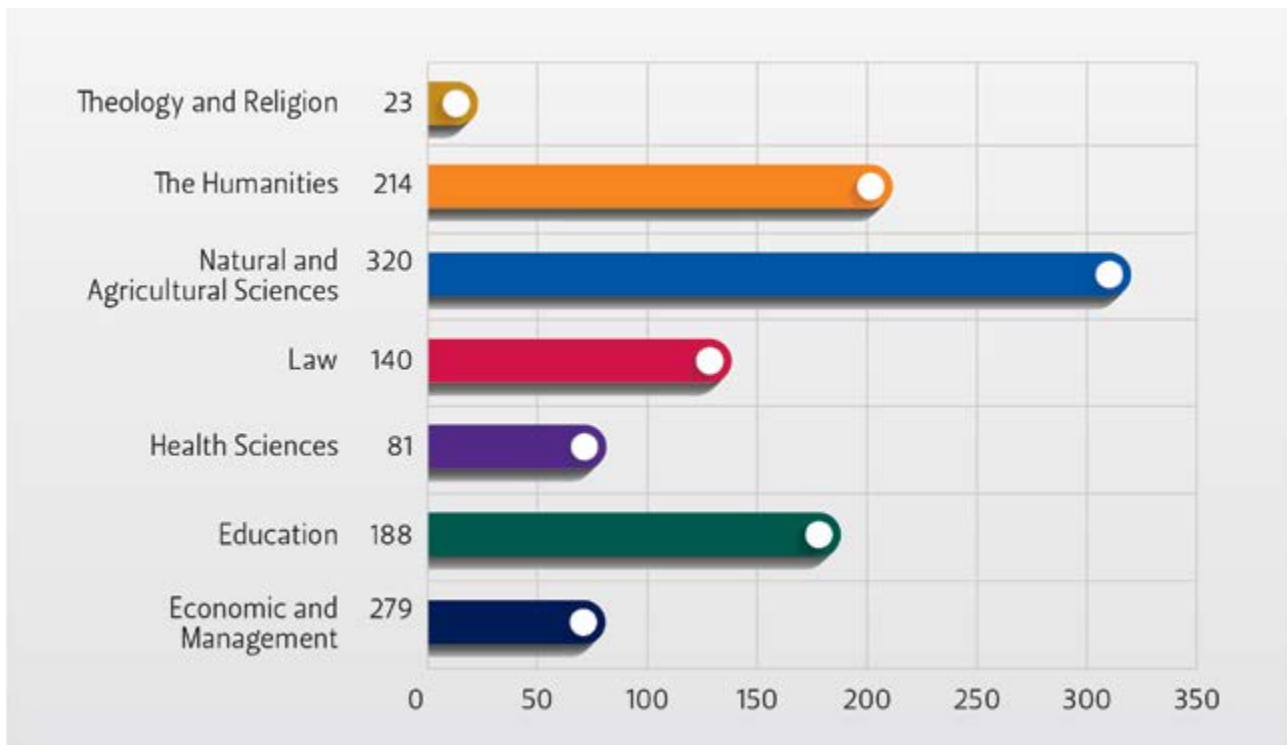


Graph 1: Breakdown of enrolled students according to the level of study and the region they come from.

As per the statistics extracted from the HEDA dashboard on 4 December 2020, the UFS had 1 245 international students enrolled, which encompasses 3% of the total population amounting to 41 602. As illustrated above, the majority of the students hail from Lesotho and the SADC region. As per the National Policy Framework on the Internationalisation of Higher Education, priority focus areas to internationalise teaching, learning, research and community engagement have been identified. Concerted efforts will have to be made to recruit students from the rest of the African continent, the Global South, emerging economies and then the rest of the world beyond in order to align to the priority focus areas as set out in the policy framework.

Registration by faculty

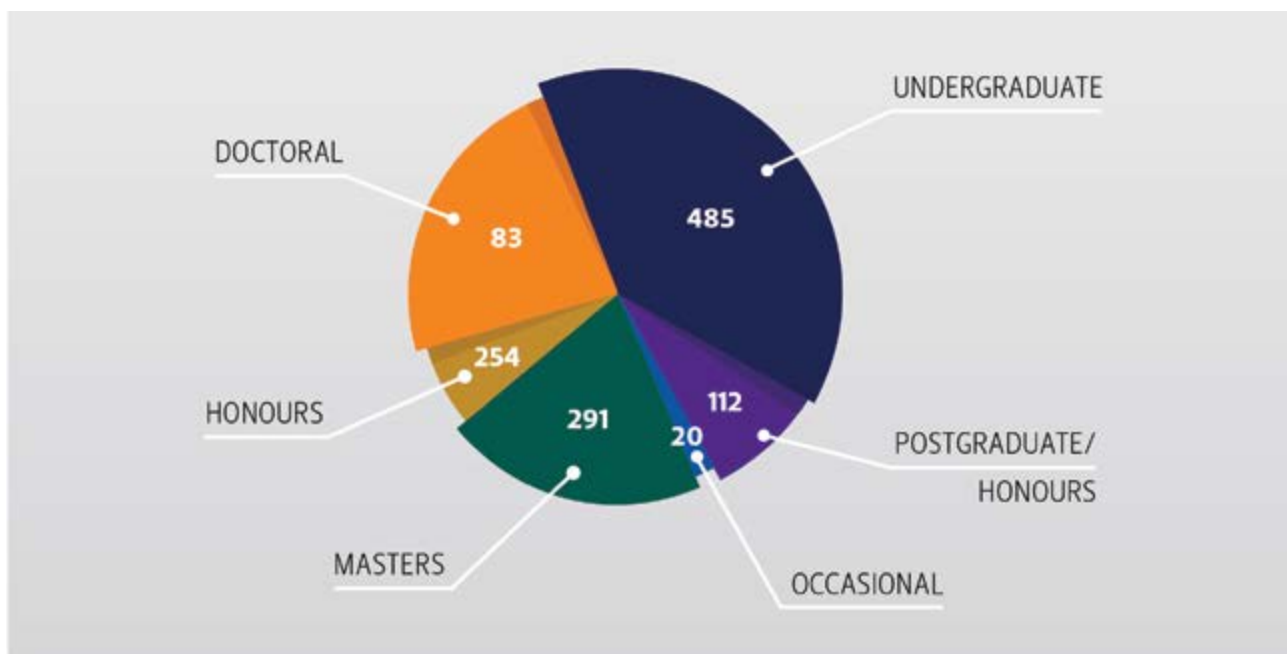
As per the statistics extracted from the HEDA dashboard on 4 December 2020, the following graph depicts the number of international students per faculty.



Graph 2: Breakdown of enrolled students per faculty

Registration by level

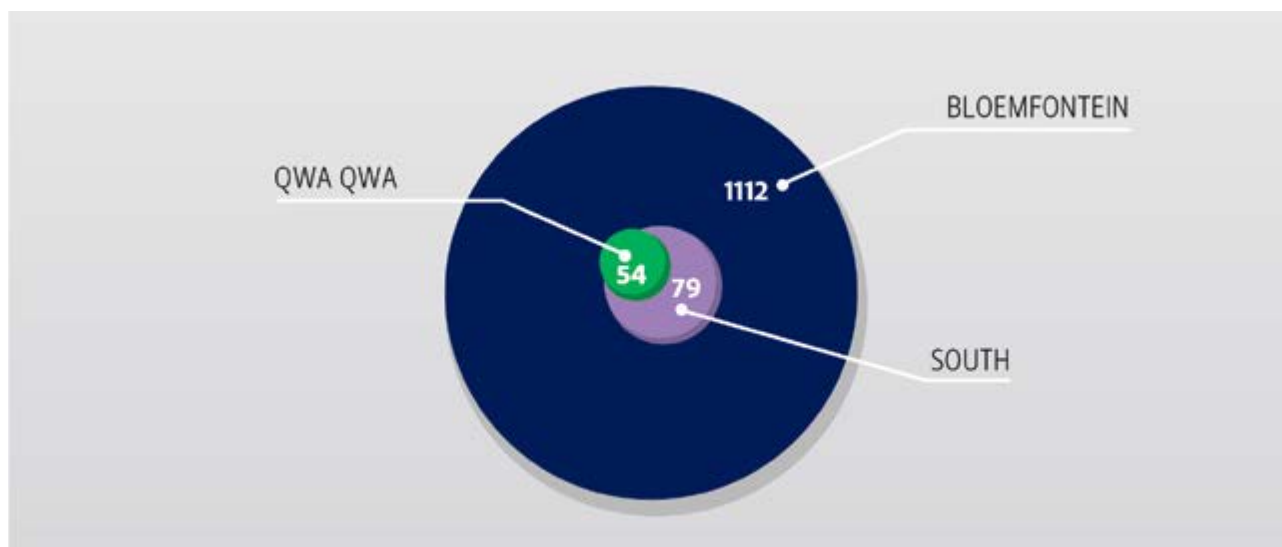
As per the statistics extracted from the HEDA dashboard on 4 December 2020, the following graph depicts the number of international students per level.



Graph 3: Breakdown of students per level

Registration by campus

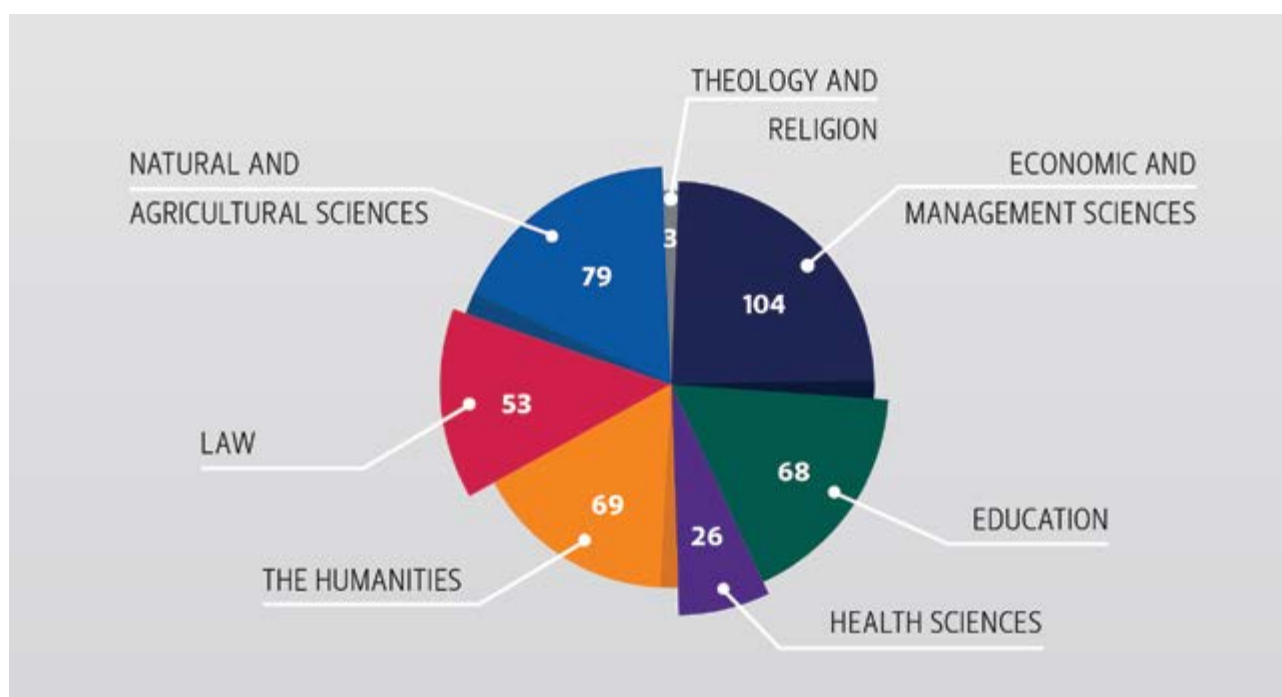
As per the statistics extracted from the HEDA dashboard on 4 December 2020, the following graph depicts the number of international students per campus



Graph 4: Breakdown of enrolled students per campus

Graduation overview

As per the statistics extracted from the HEDA dashboard on 15 December 2020, a total of 402 international students completed their qualification for the 2020 academic year. These students come from 26 countries across five continents and are expected to graduate in the 2021 academic year. Graph 5 below depicts a breakdown of graduates per faculty. As evidenced in the graph below, majority of the graduates come from the Economic and Management Sciences faculty.



Graph 5: Breakdown of graduates per faculty



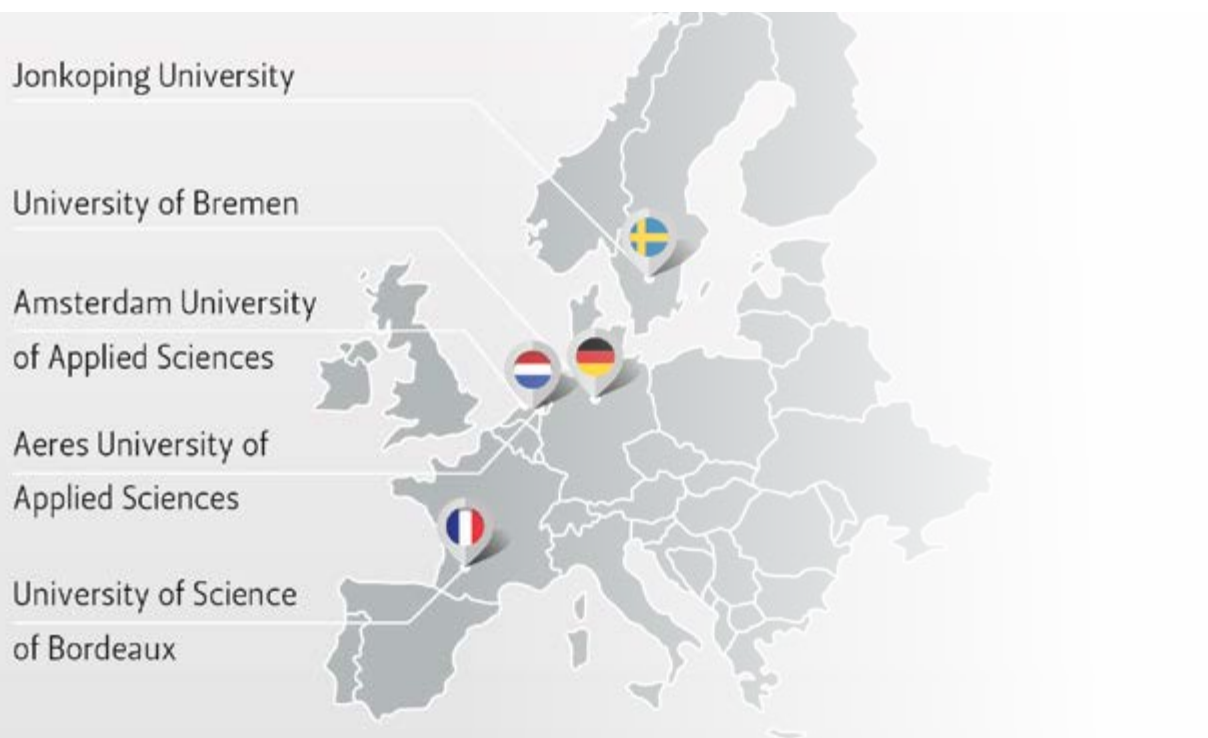
Map 1: Highlighting the countries where the international students who completed their studies in 2020 originated from

The table below is a breakdown of international graduates per country.

International graduates per country							
Angola	1	Eswatini	9	Mozambique	1	Uganda	1
Australia	1	Ethiopia	3	Namibia	48	UK	1
Belgium	1	Ghana	2	Netherlands	1	USA	2
Botswana	11	Kenya	4	Nigeria	10	Zimbabwe	4
Cameroon	1	Lesotho	218	Sri Lanka	1		
China	1	Libya	1	Taiwan	1		
Cuba	1	Malawi	4	Tanzania	2		

Data on incoming exchange students for 2020

We received 12 incoming exchange students. The breakdown is as follows:



Map 2: Exchange students from partner universities enrolled at the UFS during the first semester of the 2020 academic year



Postdoctoral fellows' data

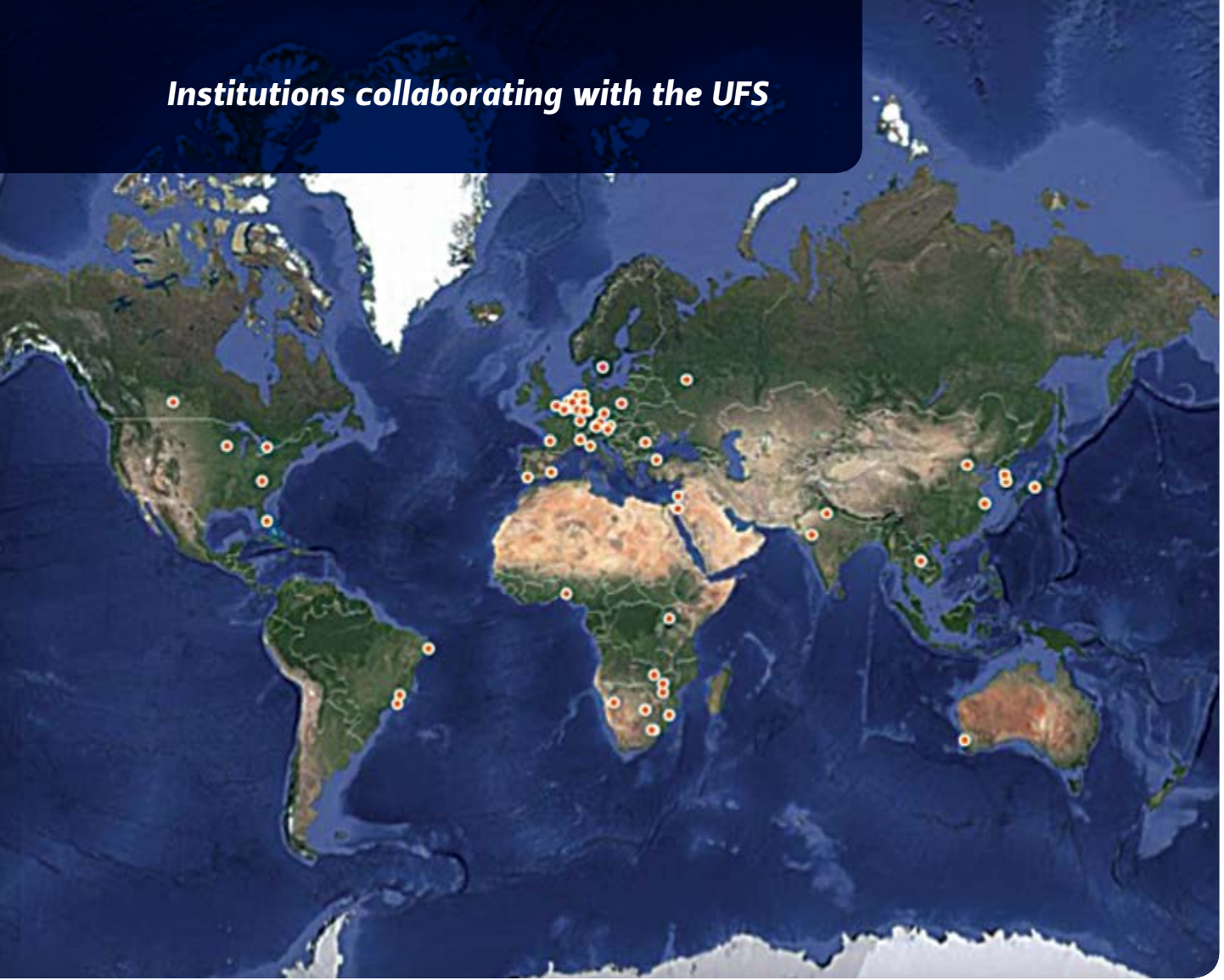
As per the statistics extracted from the HEDA dashboard on 15 December 2020, the total number of international postdoctoral fellows for the 2020 academic year was 89 coming from 26 countries across the globe.



Country Postdoctoral	Country Postdoctoral	Country Postdoctoral	Country Postdoctoral
Argentina 1	China 2	Malawi 1	Tanzania 1
Australia 1	Eswatini 3	Nigeria 24	Tunisia 1
Belgium 1	Ethiopia 3	Pakistan 3	UK 3
Botswana 2	Germany 1	Peru 1	USA 1
Brazil 1	India 14	Portugal 1	Zimbabwe 14
Cameroon 3	Italy 1	Spain 1	
Canada 1	Kenya 1	Sudan 3	

Map 3: Countries where the UFS postgraduate fellows originally come from

Institutions collaborating with the UFS



Map 4: Pinned location of UFS Partners

As per the statistics extracted from the partnerships scorecard on 13 November 2020, the above map highlights institutions that have signed MoUs with the UFS. According to this depiction, the UFS currently has 70 active MoUs across 32 countries around the world.

International research contracts

Australia	4	Denmark	2	Ireland	3	Namibia	3	Spain	4
Bahrain	1	Egypt	1	Israel	1	The Netherlands	23	Sweden	10
Barbados	1	England	8	Italy	3	New Zealand	3	Switzerland	9
Belgium	18	Finland	2	Jamaica	2	Nigeria	5	Tanzania	1
Botswana	1	France	5	Japan	3	Poland	1	USA	61
Brazil	2	Germany	26	Kenya	8	Portugal	1	Uganda	4
Cameroon	1	Ghana	7	Republic of Korea	2	Romania	1	Wales	1
Canada	8	Greece	1	Lesotho	10	Russia	2	Zambia	4
China	3	Hong Kong	1	Malawi	5	Scotland	2	Zimbabwe	16
Cyprus	2	India	4	Mauritius	1	Seychelles	2		
Czech Republic	1	Indonesia	2	Mozambique	3	Singapore	1		

Overview of Worldwide Collaboration by the UFS

According to the Scival research management system for the period 2016 to 2020, the worldwide collaboration for the UFS is as follows:



Collaborated with more than **2 534** institutions



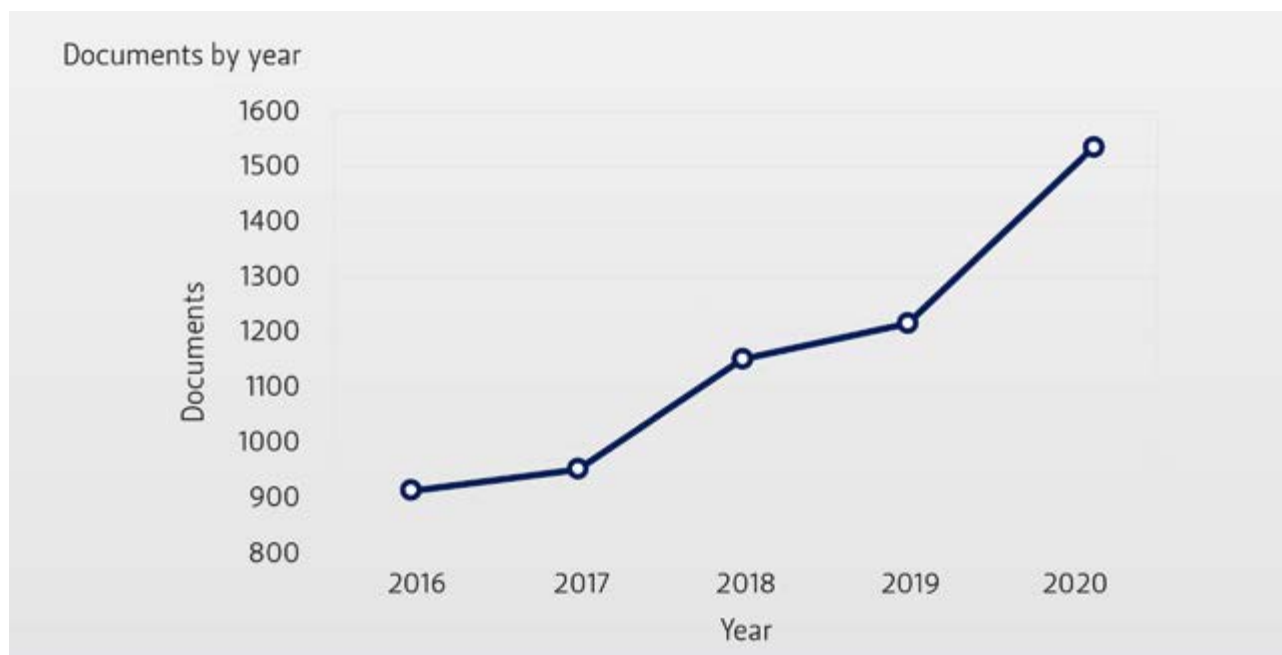
Produced **5 792** co-authored publications



Since 2016, there has been **65,6%** growth*

Indicated in the table below is an overview that depicts the gradual yet steady increase in research collaboration over the five-year period:

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
925	962	1166	1207	1532



Top co-authors at the UFS:

Prof Hendrik Swart

Senior Lecturer – Physics

Prof Abdon Atangana

Professor – Institute for Groundwater Studies (IGS)

Prof Jeanet Conradie

Professor – Chemistry

Dr Yuri Marusik

Research Fellow – Zoology and Entomology

Prof Birhanu Dejene

Professor – Physics

Prof Robin (Ted) Kroon

Professor – Physics

Prof Petrus Meintjes

Senior Professor – Physics

Prof Odireleng Martin Ntwaeaborwa

Professor – Physics

Prof Maxim Finkelstein

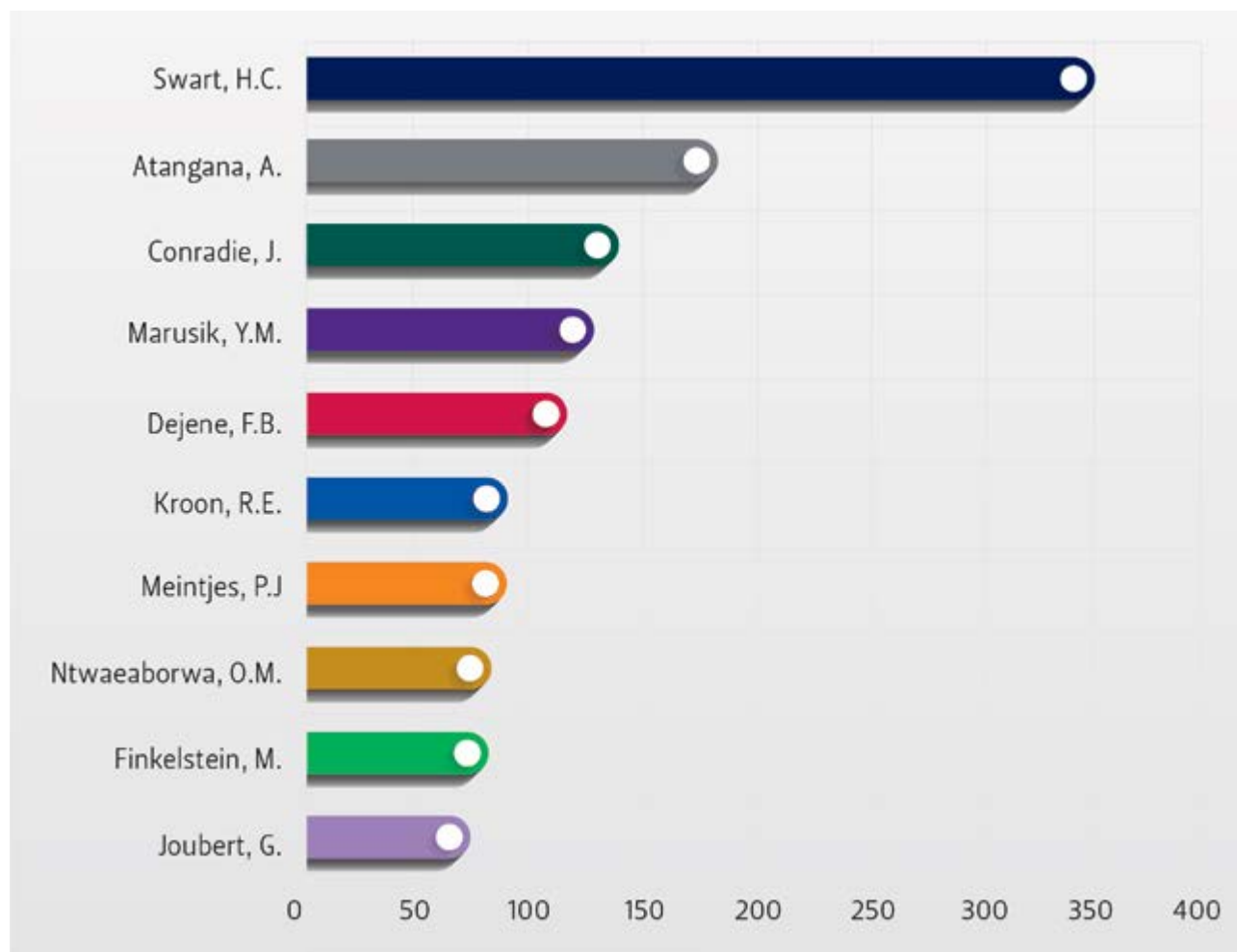
Professor – Statistics/Mathematical Statistics

Prof Gina Joubert

Affiliated Lecturer – Biostatistics

Documents by author

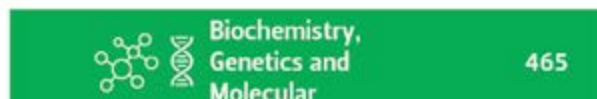
Compare the document counts for up to 15 authors



SUBJECT AREA DOCUMENTS



SUBJECT AREA DOCUMENTS

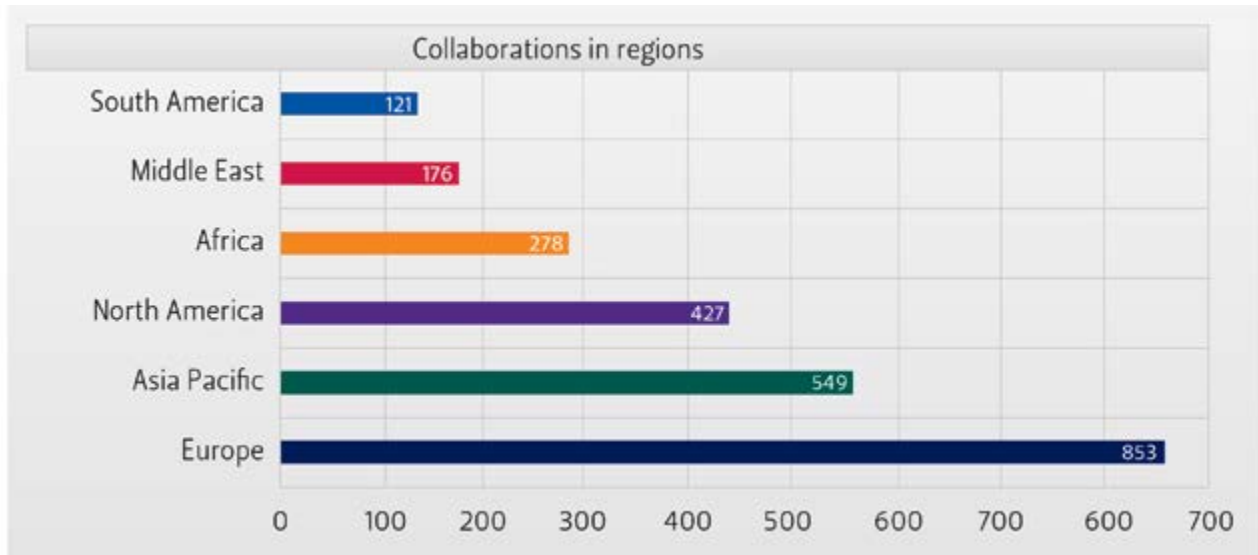


Data Source: Scopus.com 15 December 2020. Graph 8: Subject area

Regional collaborations

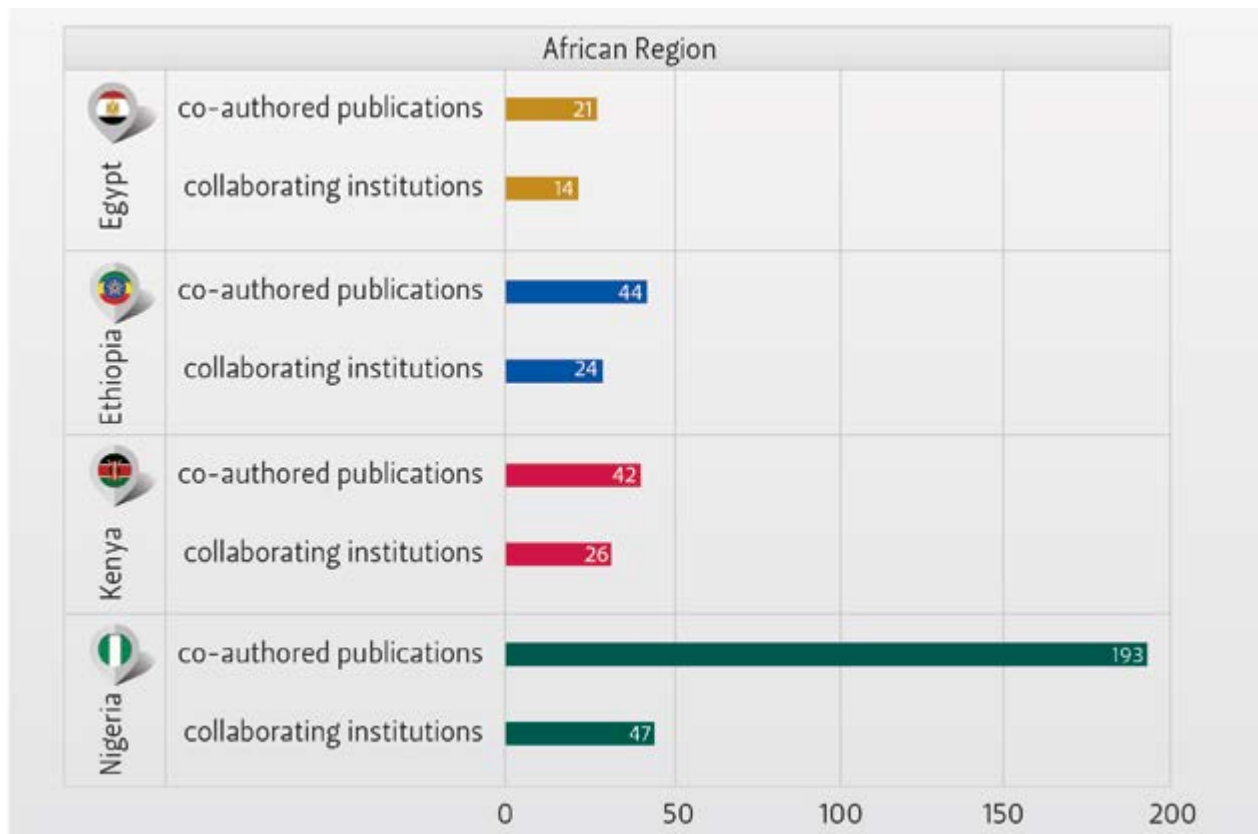
According to the Scival data extracted from 14 December 2020, for the period 2017 to 2020, the regional collaborations for the UFS is depicted in the graph below. This graph shows both regional collaboration and the number of co-authored publications emanating from that

Collaborations in regions



UFS Collaborations with the African continent

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017 to 2010, majority of the co-authored publications and collaborations were with the African countries mentioned in the graph below.



Source: Scival Africa Data

Overall research collaboration

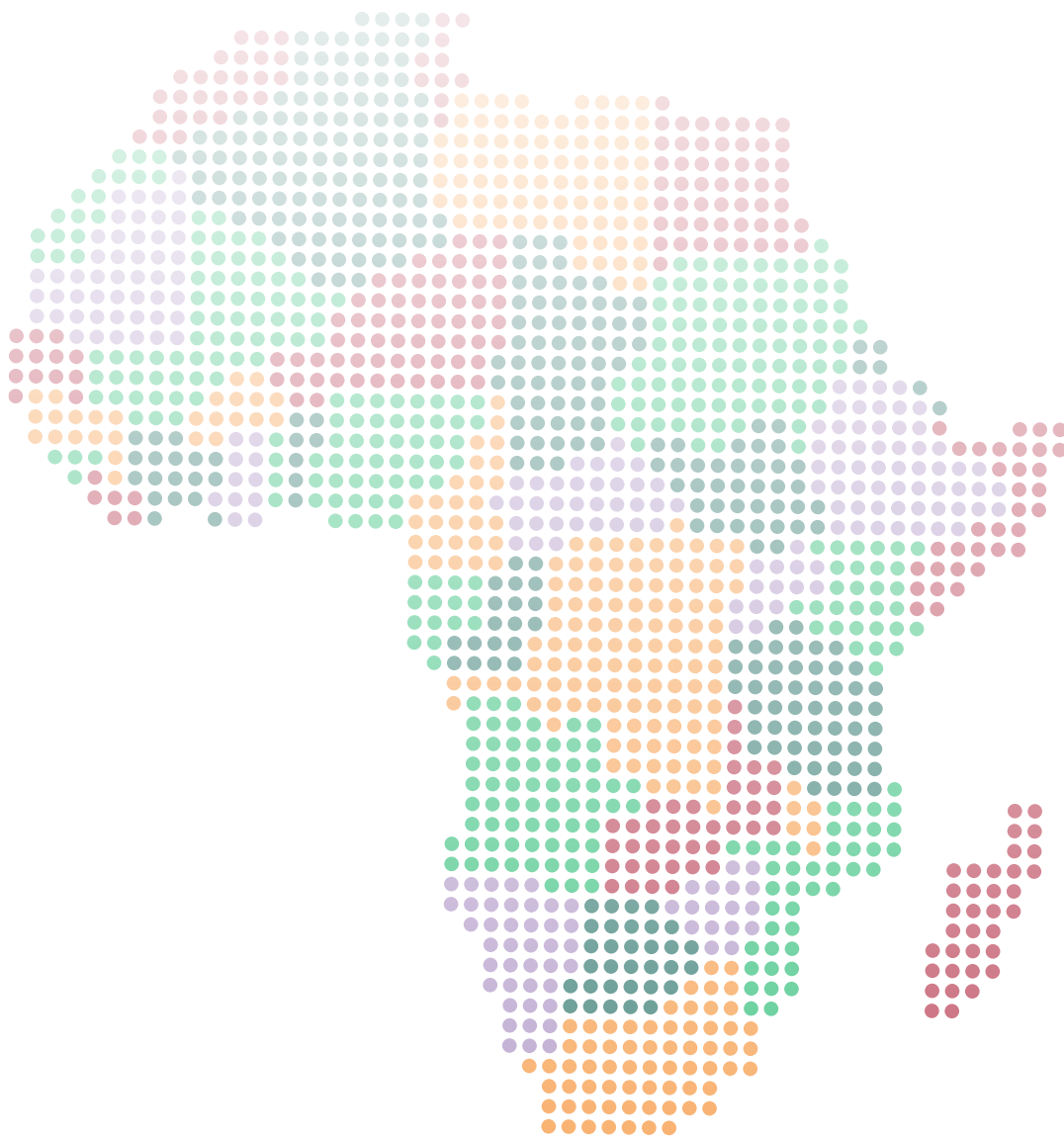
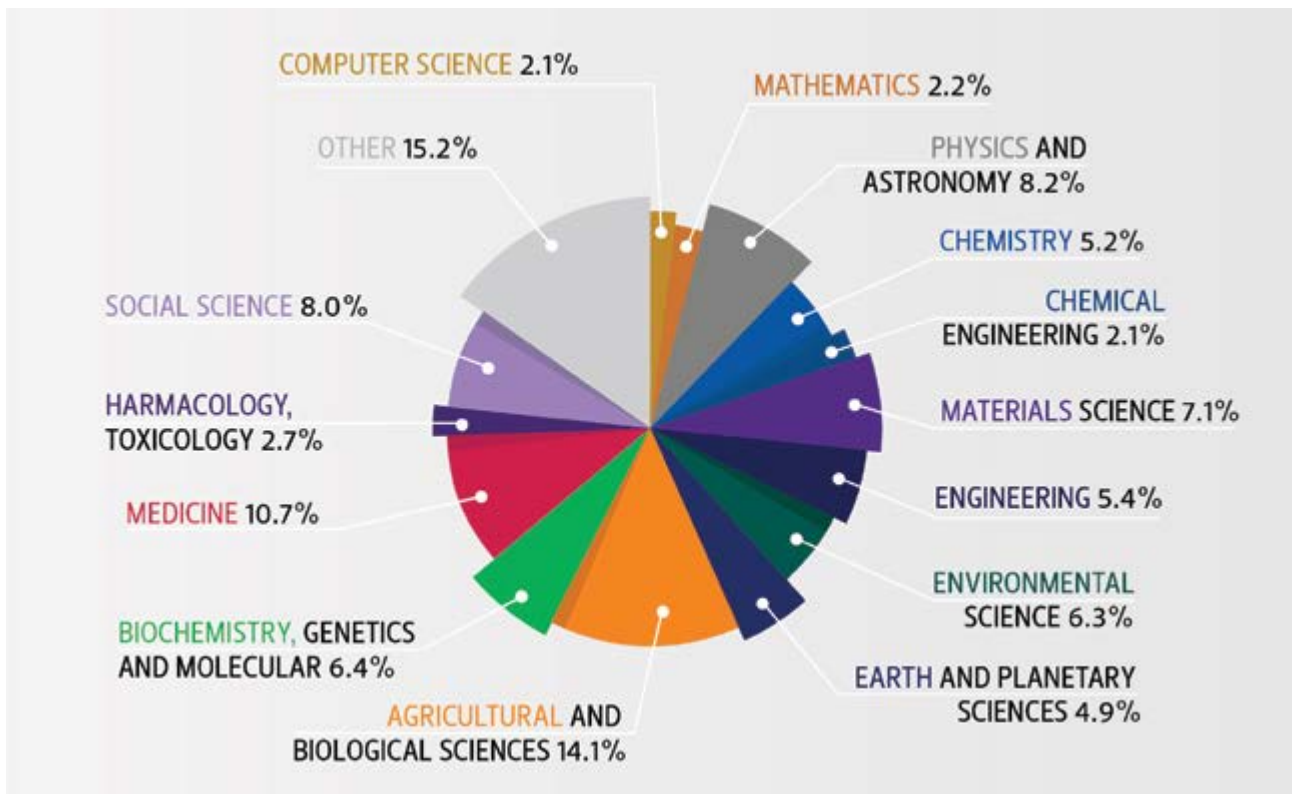
According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017–2020, the UFS has 1 774 scholarly output in the African continent. This has led to a field-weighted citation impact of 1.21 in the African region.

	Overall	2017	2018	2019	2020
International collaboration (%)	59,5	54,3	60,2	61,2	60,3
Academic–Corporate collaboration (%)	1,4	3	1,5	0,9	1
Scholarly output	1 774	304	407	454	609
Field-weighted citation impact	1.21	1.41	1.1	1.23	1.17
Field-weighted view impact	1.43	1.7	1.11	1.11	1.75

UFS Collaborations by co-authored publications in Africa

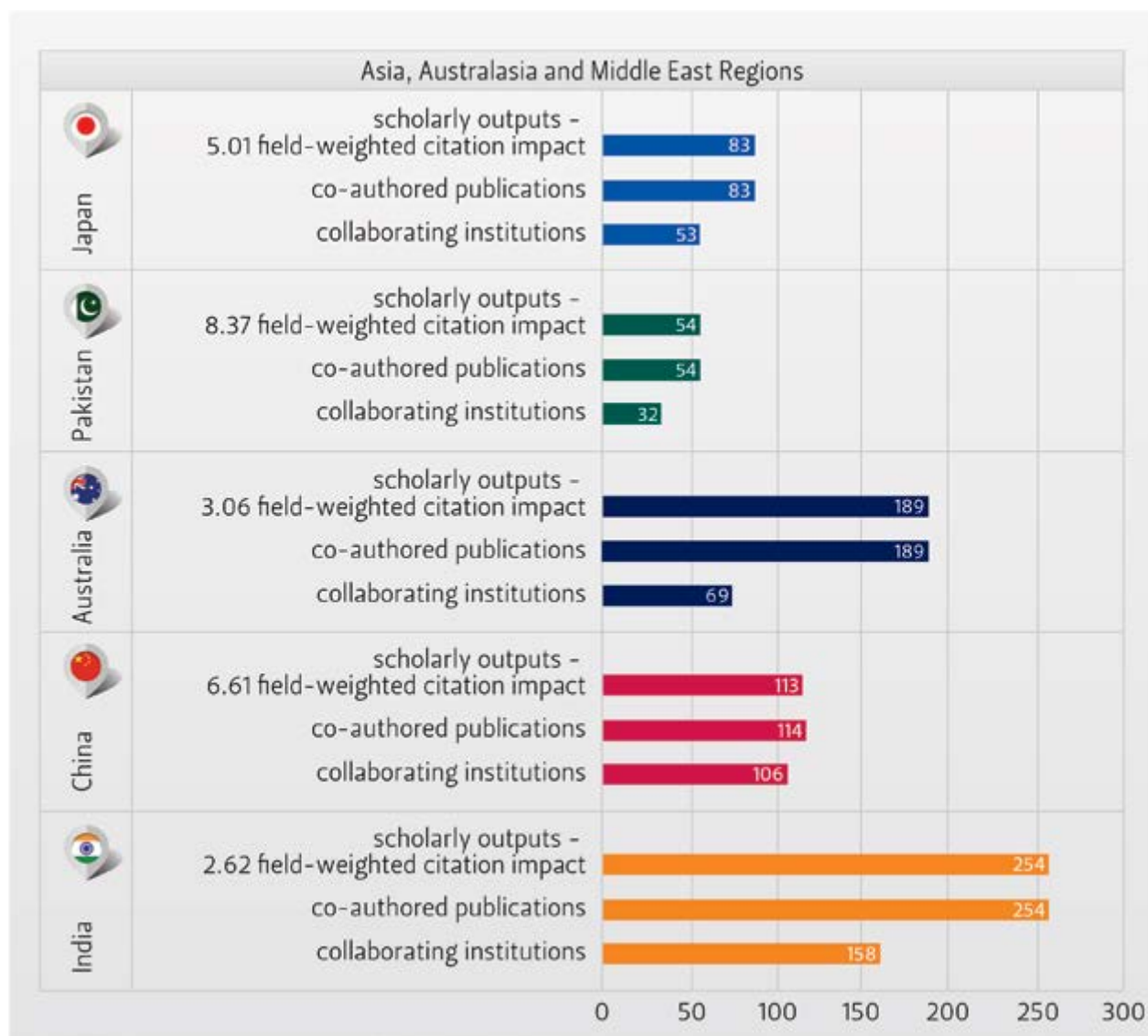
Institution	Co-authored publications	Field-weighted citation impact
University of Namibia	56	3.53
University of Nigeria	49	3.52
University of Buea	40	0.48
University of Zimbabwe	32	0.67
Obafemi Awolowo University	27	3.97
Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology	24	5.37
University of Khartoum	23	0.61
University of Ghana	21	1.32
University of Ibadan	21	5.85
Addis Ababa University	18	2.17

Subject area	Scholarly output	Field-weighted citation impact
Agricultural and Biological Sciences	444	1.03
Medicine	336	1.25
Physics and Astronomy	257	2.06
Social Sciences	252	0.8
Materials Science	222	0.94
Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology	202	0.85
Environmental Science	198	1.05
Engineering	170	1.07
Chemistry	163	0.96



Asia-Pacific collaborations

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017–2020, the UFS has collaborated with 550 institutions in the Asia-Pacific region. This has led to 685 co-authored publications. The UFS has 15 MoU agreements with institutions in the Asia-Pacific region; 13 with Asia, 1 with Australasia and 2 with the Middle East. The below table depicts the top 5 countries where the number of co-authored publications the UFS is collaborating with in the Asia-Pacific.



Source: Scival Asia Data

Overall research collaboration

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017–2020, the UFS has 685 scholarly output in the Asia-Pacific region. This has led to a field-weighted citation impact of 3.23 in the Asia-Pacific region.

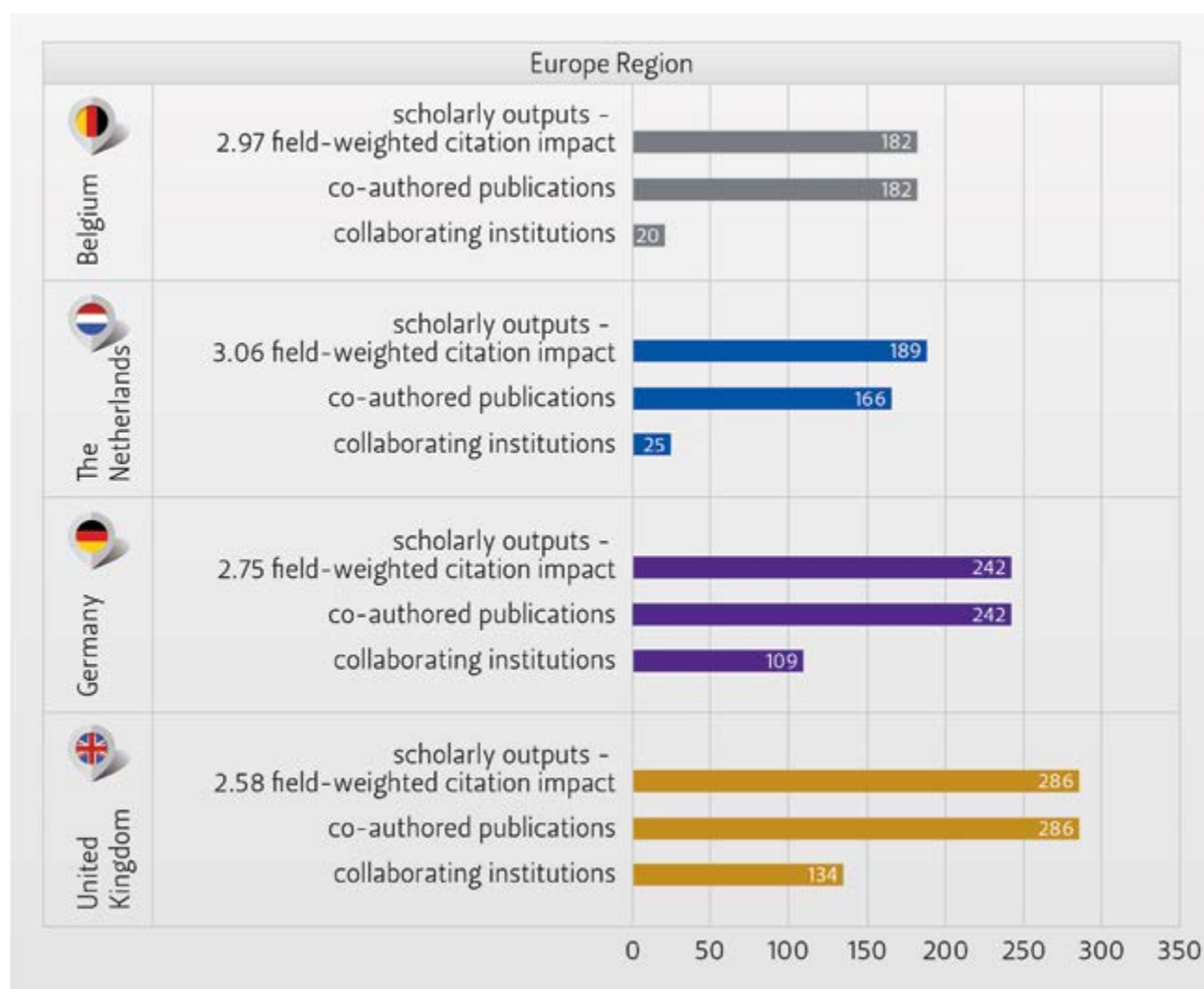
2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
-	108	171	158	248

Institution	Co-authored publications	Field-weighted citation impact
University of Adelaide	54	5.05
Rikkyo University	44	3.5
The University of Tokyo	39	7.83
Ewha Womans University	37	0.85
Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University	34	3.8
Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi	28	1.76
University of Sydney	28	8.05
Monash University	24	9.17
China Medical University Taiwan, Taichung	22	19.45
RIKEN	21	6.73
University of New South Wales	20	10.97
University of Queensland	20	7.17

Subject area	Scholarly output	Field-weighted citation impact
Physics and Astronomy	189	4.28
Engineering	155	3.41
Materials Science	133	1.38
Medicine	90	2.99
Mathematics	88	8.35
Agricultural and Biological Sciences	78	2.32
Chemistry	78	1.5
Earth and Planetary Sciences	72	2.59
Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology	61	1.48

Europe collaborations

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017 to 2020, the UFS has collaborated with 851 institutions in the European region. This has led to 1 046 co-authored publications. The UFS has 41 MoU agreements with institutions in the European region. The below table depicts the top 4 countries where the number of co-authored publications the UFS is collaborating with in the European region.



Institution	Co-authored publications	Field-weighted citation impact
KU Leuven	101	1.88
CNRS	76	3.66
University of Antwerp	64	1.16
University of Amsterdam	63	3.34
Polish Academy of Sciences	62	3.12
Heidelberg University	61	4.94
Université PSL	60	3.64
Humboldt University of Berlin	59	3.91
Sorbonne Université	59	3.54

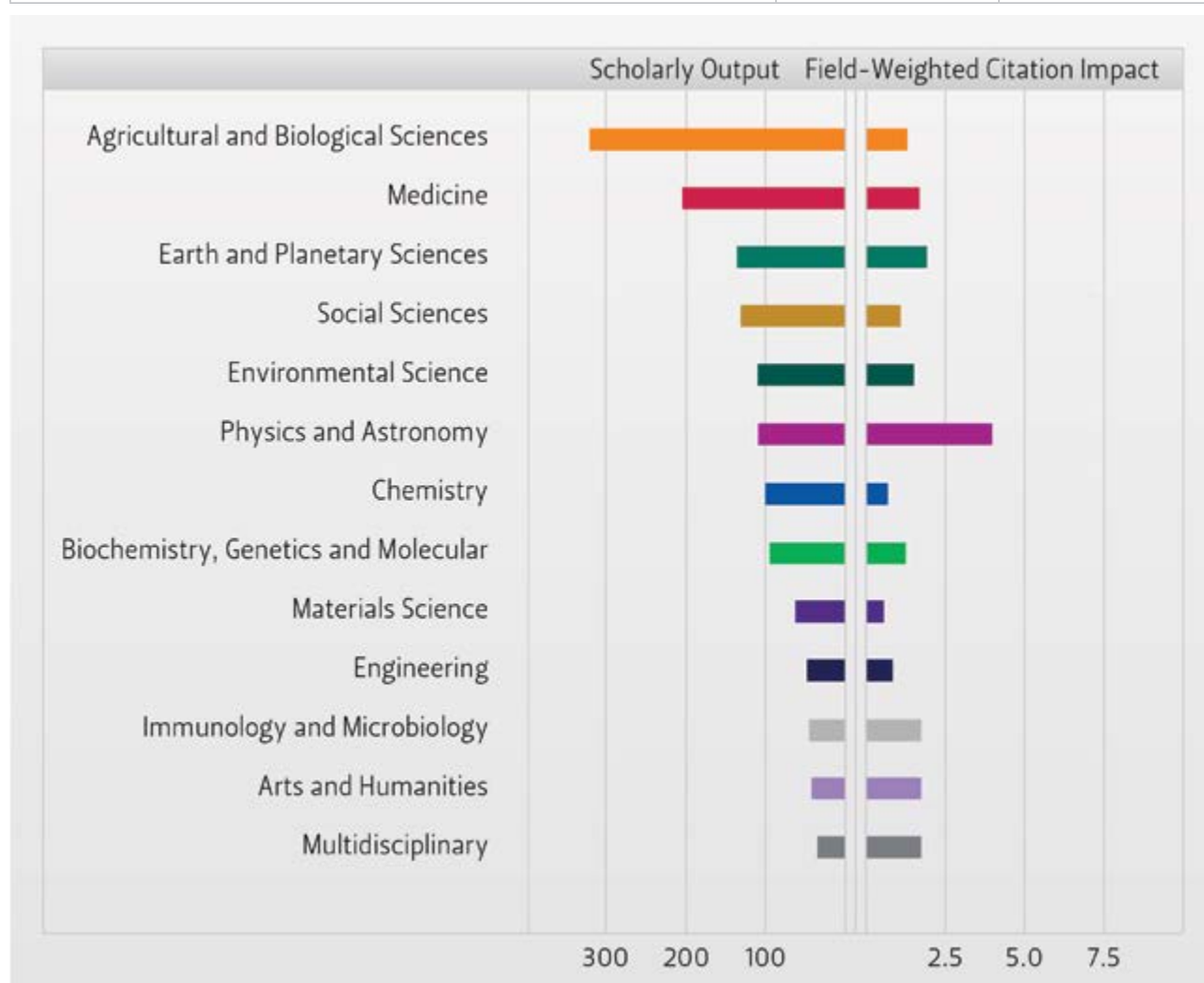
Source: Scival Europe Data

Overall research collaboration

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017 to 2020, the UFS has 1 046 scholarly output in the European region. This has led to a field-weighted citation impact of 1.79 in the European region.

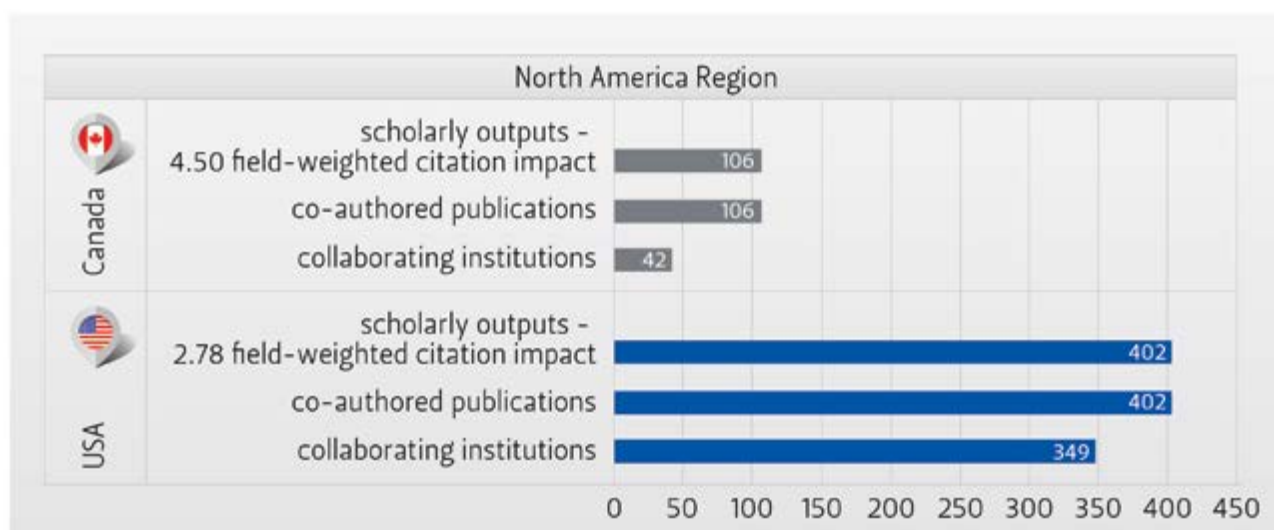
2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
-	223	246	270	307

Subject area	Scholarly output	Field-weighted citation impact
Agricultural and Biological Sciences	328	1.43
Medicine	212	1.84
Earth and Planetary Sciences	140	2.07
Social Sciences	133	1.28
Environmental Science	117	1.68
Physics and Astronomy	114	4.15
Chemistry	106	0.79
Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology	100	1.4
Materials Science	67	0.7



North America collaboration

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017-2020, the UFS has collaborated with 427 institutions in the North American region. This has led to 492 co-authored publications. The UFS has 8 MoU agreements with institutions in the North American region. The below table depicts the top 2 countries where the number of co-authored publications the UFS is collaborating with in the North American region.



Overall research collaboration

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017-2020, the UFS has 492 scholarly output in the North American region. This has led to a field-weighted citation impact of 2.79 in the North American region.

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
-	110	130	119	133

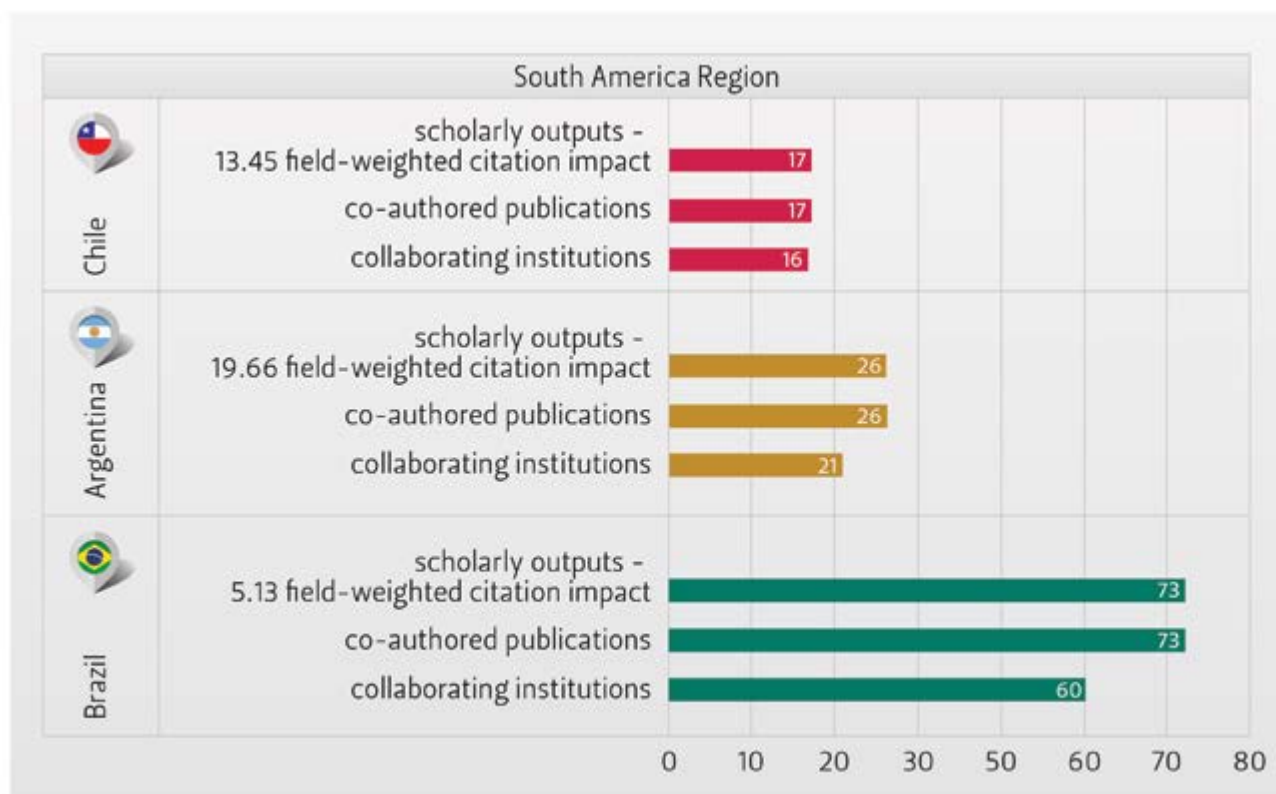
Institution	Co-authored publications	Field-weighted citation impact
Harvard University	32	8.8
Stanford University	30	8.94
University of Toronto	27	9.39
University of Alberta	25	9.84
Centro Nacional de Investigacion y Desarrollo Tecnológico, Mexico	22	7.72
Tecnológico Nacional de México, Mexico City	22	7.72
Tulane University	21	1.52
University of Minnesota Twin Cities	19	12.61
Columbia University	18	14.78

Subject area	Scholarly output	Field-weighted citation impact
Medicine	130	2.25
Agricultural and Biological Sciences	113	2.04
Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology	86	1.05
Social Sciences	74	1.29
Earth and Planetary Sciences	71	3
Physics and Astronomy	63	8.6
Psychology	37	1.04
Environmental Science	33	2.74



South America collaboration

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017 to 2020, the UFS has collaborated with 121 institutions in the South American region. This has led to 103 co-authored publications. The UFS has 8 MoU agreements with institutions in the South American region. The below table depicts the top 3 countries where the number of co-authored publications the UFS is collaborating with in the South American region.



Overall research collaboration

According to the Scival data extracted on 14 December 2020 for the period 2017 to 2020, the UFS has 103 scholarly output in the South American region. This has led to a field-weighted citation impact of 6.89 in the South American region.

2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
-	18	25	25	35

Institution	Co-authored publications	Field-weighted citation impact
University of São Paulo	31	8.27
National Scientific and Technical Research Council – Argentina	19	21.92
University of Brasília	14	3.98
Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul	11	8.74
University of Campinas	9	22.24
Federal University of Bahia	9	13.56
Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation	8	1.23
Pontifical Catholic University of Chile	8	19.39
Federal University of Minas Gerais	8	12.26

Subject area	Scholarly output	Field-weighted citation impact
Agricultural and Biological Sciences	29	2.62
Physics and Astronomy	28	13.44
Earth and Planetary Sciences	23	5.45
Medicine	17	9.08
Biochemistry, Genetics and Molecular Biology	13	2.19
Materials Science	12	1.24



GLOSSARY



Acronym	Official Name
AACE	Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education
ACU	Association of Commonwealth Universities
ACUNS	Academic Council on the United Nations System
AERA	American Educational Research Association
AERC	African Economic Research Consortium
AEVGI	African Enteric Viruses Genome Initiative
Africa CDC	Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
AfriPEN	Africa Interprofessional Education Network
AFRO	Regional Office for Africa
AfroPHC	African Forum for Primary Health Care
AGA	African Governance Architecture
AGC	Applied Geography Conference
AGR	African Governance Report
AHFE	Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics
AHILA	Association of European Latin Americanist Historians
AHP	African Humanities Programme
AMRF	African Mountain Research Foundation
APN	African Peacebuilding Network
APRM	African Peer Review Mechanism
ARCHTHEO	International Conference on Theory and History of Architecture
ARU	Afromontane Research Unit
ARUA	African Research Universities Alliance
ASEN	Association for the Study of Ethnicity and Nationalism
ASOCSA	Association of Schools of Construction of Southern Africa
ATEE	Association for Teacher Education in Europe
AU	African Union
AuNPs	Gold Nanoparticles
BCES	Bulgarian Comparative Education Society
BE	Belgium
CAs	Conversational Agents
CASS	Chinese Academy of Social Sciences
CBHE	Capacity Building in Higher Education
CDC – Africa	Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
CENSARDE	Centre for Sustainable Agriculture, Rural Development and Extension
CGAS	Centre for Gender and Africa Studies
CHPS	Center for the History of Philosophy and Science
CIMMYT	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center
CJEDIET	Calestous Juma Executive Dialogue on Innovation and Emerging Technologies
CLiPS	Computational Linguistics & Psycholinguistics
CNaVT	Dutch as a Foreign Language Certificate
CODESRIA	Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa
COIL	Collaborative Online International Learning
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease
CP	Convalescent Plasma
CPS	Modern Art Projects South Africa
CRG	Competitive Research Grants
CZU	Czech University of Life Sciences Prague

DAAD	German Academic Exchange Service
DAKAM	Eastern Mediterranean Academic Research Centre
DEEPEN	Development, Environment and Peace Nexus
DSI	Department of Science and Innovation
DUT	Durban University of Technology
EADI	European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes Academic Network for Global and Development Studies
EASA	European Association of Social Anthropologists
EASI	Evaluation in Ayres Sensory Integration
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
EDCTP	European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership
EDIL	EdMedia + Innovate Learning
EJOP	Europe's Journal of Psychology
EMS	Economic and Management Sciences
EQUAA	Education Quality Accreditation Agency
ESA	Ecological Society of America
ESADHaR	L'École Supérieure d'Art et Design Le Havre-Rouen is a public school of art and design established in two of the main cities of Normandy, Rouen and Le Havre.
ESPEN	European Society for Clinical Nutrition and Metabolism
EU AERAP	African-European Radio Astronomy Platform
FAIMER	Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research
FNRS	National Fund for Scientific Research
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GLOMOS	Global Mountain Safeguard Research
GMBA	Global Mountain Biodiversity Assessment
GSSA	Grassland Society of Southern Africa
HCQ	Hydroxychloroquine
I@H	Internationalisation at Home
IASIA	International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration
IBP	Internet Broadcast Project
ICDF	International Cultural Diversity Festival
ICM	International Credit Mobility
icSoftComp	International Conference on Soft Computing and its Engineering Applications
ICZ	International Congress of Zoology
IDIA	International Development Informatics Association
IFAMA	International Food and Agribusiness Management Association
IFMA	International Farm Management Association
IGS	Institute for Groundwater Studies
IHLA	International Health Literacy Association
INSET	In-Service Education and Training
IoC	Internationalisation of the Curriculum
IPECP	Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice
IPG	Institute for Pathogen Genomics
IPOG	International Pediatric Otolaryngology Group
IPSA/AISP	International Political Science Association
IPSS	Institute for Peace and Security Studies
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
IREN	Inter Region Economic Network

IRF	Individual Research Fellowship
ISCHE	International Standing Conference for the History of Education
ISG	International Studies Group
ISSRC	International Society for the Study of Rural Crime
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JNU	Jawaharlal Nehru University
JOEUC	Journal of Organisational and End User Computing
JSAS	Journal of Southern African Studies
JTSA	Journal for Translation Studies in Africa
KBA	Key Biodiversity Area
KUL	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
LIGO	Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory
LFG	Livestock Registering Federation
MAPSA	Modern Art Projects South Africa
MBSTU	Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University
MCBI	Member of the Chartered Bankers Institute
MDTP	Maloti-Drakensberg Transfrontier Programme
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
mHealth application	Mobile Health-screening tool
mhGAP	World Health Organisation's (WHO) Mental Health Gap Action Programme
MIREN	Mountain Invasion Research Network
MMUST	Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology
NAS	Natural and Agricultural Sciences
NCLS	National Church Life Survey
NECS	European Network for Cinema and Media Studies
NGS	Next Generation Sequencing
NIHSS	National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences
NL	The Netherlands
NLP	Natural Language Processing
NMFCMP	Nelson Mandela/Fidel Castro Medical Programme
NWO-WOTRO	Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research – Science for Global Development
NRF	National Research Foundation
NTU	Dutch Language Union
NUL	National University of Lesotho
NWU	North-West University
OAU	Organisation of African Unity
OIA	Office for International Affairs
OSM	Odeion School of Music
OZSW	Onderzoekschool Wijsbegeerte/Dutch Research School of Philosophy
PAFF	Pan African Film Festival
PHC	Primary Healthcare
PiE	Perspectives in Education
PRISMA-ScR	Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic reviews and Meta-Analyses extension for Scoping Reviews
RIMA	Research for Islam and Muslims in Africa
RUFORUM	Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture
SAAI	Southern African Agri Initiative
SACIDS	Southern African Centre for Infectious Disease Surveillance
SAEON	South African Environment Observation Network

SAFRI	Sub-Saharan Africa-FAIMER Regional Institute
SAMRC	South African Medical Research Council
SANAE	South African National Antarctic Programme
SANORD	Southern African-Nordic Centre
SAPBA	Southern African Plant Breeders' Association
SAPER	South African Planning Education Research
SARC-CoV-2	Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2
SARCHI	South African Research Chairs Initiative
SATDIST	Sub-Antarctic terrestrial diversity in space and time
SAVA	Substance Abuse, Violence, and HIV/AIDS
SciELO	Scientific Electronic Library Online
SHCY	Society for the History of Children and Youth
Sida	Swedish International Development Agency
SITE	Society for Information Technology & Teacher Education
SIU	Southern Illinois University
SMMEs	Small, Medium, and Micro Enterprises
SOAS	School of Oriental and African Studies
SPM	Society for Phenomenology and Media
SPP	Schools Partnership Projects
SSF	Die Stigting Studiefonds vir Suid-Afrikaanse Studente
SSRC	Social Science Research Council
S-STEP	Self-Study of Teacher Education Practices
SU	Surcolombiana University
TB	Tuberculosis
UCLA	University of California, Los Angeles
UCSB	University of California, Santa Barbara
UFS	University of the Free State
UFV	Federal University of Vicosa
UJ	University of Johannesburg
UK	United Kingdom
UM6P	Mohammed VI Polytechnique University
UNESP	Sao Paulo State University
UNIBO	University of Bologna
UNOCT	United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNRISD	United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
UPV	Valencia Polytechnic University
USA	United States of America
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VLIR	Flemish Interuniversity Council
VPD	Vaccine Preventable Diseases
VU	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
WCO	World Council of Optometry
WHO	World Health Organisation
WHO CC	World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre
ZSSA	Zoological Society of Southern Africa



DISCLAIMER:

All information in this report was correct at the time of publication.



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