

yizani

STUDENT

LIFE @ UCT | 2007/8 >>



the a to z diary

famous footsteps: richard e. grant,
judith sepuma & mark shuttleworth

exclusive interview
with uct radio's
dj jonnie



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your university : your voice



Professor Njabulo S. Ndebele

welcome to uct

regardless of their background, can plant the seeds for some of the best memories of their lives. I hope you enjoy it, and begin to think of UCT as a place you would like to be part of.

Ingabula-zigcawu. Xa ukule minyaka yam, ujonga ngochulumanco ngasemva kwiminyaka yobutsha bakho. Yayilixesha ekwakubonakala ngathi ndingabaleka ubomi bam bonke ngaphandle kokubila, nditye isilayi sesonka imini yonke, ndiphefumle umoya omtsha, ndihlale ubusuku bonke kuba kwakumnandi, kungekho nto ethi mandenze amalungiselelo omsebenzi wosuku olulandelayo. Amathuba ngowokuba mhlawumbi nawe ukwimeko efana nale. Ngamanye amaxesha ihlabathi liguquka libe yenye into xa amathuba aguqukayo obomi kufuneka enziwe. Lixesha loxinzelelo olunzulu xa usazi izihlobo ezazi ngokuthe gca into ezifuna ukuyenza ngobomi bazo, kwaye benesicwangciso sendlela yokufikelela apho bafuna ukufikelela khona. Mhlawumbi ungomnye wabo. Uninzi lwabanye, mhlawumbi xa besenza isigqibomalunga nekhondo lwabo lobomi, kwakunye nokuba kufuneka baye kweyiphiphina iyunivesithi, oko kungabangela ukuphelelwa bubuthongo ebusuku, ungalali. Ungangomnye wabo. Ndiyathemba ukuba le magazini iya kwenza esi sigqibo sesibini sibe lula. I-UCT, njengoko ndiqinisekile ukuba uyayazi, ibonwa njengeny yeeyunivesithi eziphambili eMzantsi Afrika. Kula maphepha, uya kumbona unobangela woko. Abafundi bethu baphila ubomi obuqulunqiweyo. Ngaphandle kwegumbi lokufunda, bathatha inxaxheba – kumaxesha amaninzi kwelona zinga eliphezulu – kuluhlu lwezemidlalo, basebenza kwimimandla yoluntu ehlelekeleleyo, baze banikezele ixesha labo kumaqela amaninzi abafundi neeprojekthi ezikhoyo ngaphakathi kwiyunivesithi. Uyakufumana namanye amabali amalunga nemiba engeminye yobomi e-UCT, ukuquka ixesha eliguqula ubomi elichithwe kwiindawo zokuhlala abafundi e-UCT apho abafundi bathi bazenzele abahlobo nothungelwano

lobomi. Kule magazini, uya kubona ukuba kutheni na i-UCT iyindawo apho bonke abafundi, ngaphandle kokwazi imvelaphi yabo, benokutyala imbewu engasoze ilibaleke kubomi babo. Ndiyathemba ukuba uya kuyonwabela, uze uqalise ukucinga nge-UCT njengendawo ongathanda ukuba yinxenye yayo.

Wanneer jy so oud soos ek raak, kyk jy met verlanje terug na jou tienerjare. Dit was 'n tyd toe ek vir ewig kon aanhou hardloop sonder om te sweet, die hele dag lank op 'n snytjie brood en vars lug kon klaarkom, en kon deurnag vir die lekker, en nie omdat ek vir die volgende dag se take moes voorberei nie. Jy is dalk in 'n soortgelyke situasie. Die wêreld van jou tienerjare begin verander wanneer jy keuses moet maak wat die res van jou lewe gaan beïnvloed. Dit is 'n tyd van geweldige druk, wanneer party van jou vriende weet presies wat hulle met hul lewens wil maak, en selfs 'n plan het oor hoe hulle daar gaan uitkom. Jy is dalk self een van hulle. Vir die meeste mense kan die besluit oor watter loopbaan om te volg, en watter universiteit om by te woon, egter 'n paar minder aangename slapelose nagte veroorsaak. Jy is dalk een van hulle. Ek hoop hierdie tydskrif sal die tweede besluit 'n bietjie makliker maak. UCT, soos jy seker weet, word as een van Suid-Afrika se voorste universiteite beskou. Jy sal hier sien waarom dit so is. Ons studente leef goed geronde lewens. Buite die lesinglokaal neem hulle – baie keer op die hoogste vlak – aan 'n verskeidenheid sportsoorte deel, werk hulle in benadeelde gemeenskappe, en staan hulle tyd af aan die talle studentegroepe en projekte op kampus. Daar is ook stories oor ander aspekte van die lewe by UCT, waaronder die onvergeetlike tyd in UCT se koshuise, waar studente lewenslange vriende en konneksies maak. In hierdie tydskrif sal jy sien waarom UCT 'n plek is waar alle studente, ongeag hulle agtergrond, die saadjies kan plant vir van die beste herinneringe van hul lewens. Ek hoop jy geniet dit, en begin aan UCT dink as 'n plek waarvan jy graag deel wil wees.

When you're at my age, you look back fondly on your teen years. It was a time when it seemed I could run forever without breaking a sweat, go all day on a slice of bread and fresh air, and stay up all night because it was fun and not because I had to prepare for the tasks of the next day. Chances are that maybe you too are in a similar situation. At some point that world transforms into another when life-changing choices have to be made. It is a time of intense pressure, when you know of friends who know exactly what they want to do with their lives, even have a plan how they're going to get there. You may be one of them. For the vast majority, however, deciding on a career and, then, which university to go to, can cause a few not-so-fun sleepless nights. You may be among these. I'm hoping that this magazine will make that second decision an easier one. UCT, as I'm sure you will know, is seen as one of South Africa's leading universities. In these pages, you will see why. Our students live well-rounded lives. Out of the classroom, they take part – often at the highest level – in a range of sports, work in disadvantaged communities, and give of their time to the countless student groups and projects on campus. You will also find stories of other aspects of life at UCT, including the life-altering time spent in a UCT residence, where students make friends and connections for life. In this magazine, you will see why UCT is a place where all students,

contributors



Twanji Kalula is currently completing a BA degree majoring in Media & Writing and Sociology. He was the arts and entertainment editor of Varsity, UCT's official student newspaper, in 2006/7 and currently freelances for various publications.



Murray Hunter is a third-year student, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and Film Theory. He works on the staff of Varsity and Sax Appeal, a Capetonian satire magazine published by UCT students.



Natasha Nicole Arendorf graduated with a Bachelors Degree in Public Relations in 2006 and is working as an editorial assistant at Rothko, a PR, Marketing and Design company in Cape Town.



Melanie Blythe graduated from UCT in 2006 with a Bachelor of Arts in English, Media & Writing, and Film Studies. She is working as an editorial assistant at Rothko, a PR, Marketing and Design company in Cape Town.



Daryn Zöcher graduated from South Thames College in London in 2004 with a Diploma in Photography. He is working as a freelance photographer.



Carl Herman, Director: Admissions Office | University of Cape Town

Welcome to the first edition of Yizani!

Twenty-two thousand students from all over South Africa, and from over 100 countries worldwide, are registered at UCT in a wide range of programmes. This incredible diversity, which we value and protect, contributes to a rich student experience, both inside and outside of the lecture hall, in a wide range of student activities. I am very excited to present to you a glimpse into this student life at UCT. What an exceptional discovery awaits you!

At UCT we have always clung firmly to the ideal of a full student experience, developing the whole individual. In the articles that follow you will find examples of our students living this ideal. We profile our students in action, from their academic programmes, to the fashions they prefer, from their life in residence, to their achievements in the sporting arena, and a great deal more!

I invite you to share this experience with us, and share in our excitement... Yizani!

Let us know what you think of the magazine. Email your comments and suggestions to: admissions@uct.ac.za.

who to talk to



When making your application to UCT, talk to the UCT Admissions Office Team pictured left: Back row from left: Iegsaan Isaacs - student recruitment manager; Thando Tsotsobe - student recruitment officer; Gcinumzi Haduse - student recruitment officer; Nambita Ngcingwana - student recruitment officer. (*Not in picture:* Nolindo Wabani, student recruitment assistant). Front row from left: Roger Wood - Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment; Amy Rooks - Faculty of Science; Ronel Baker - Faculty of Humanities.

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Cover photo: a mural on campus (UCT) by Daryn Zöcher



the chemistry of engineering

by Melanie Blythe

Grace Gwiji was born in Johannesburg but always knew she would one day study in the Mother City. To her UCT represented freedom, independence, new experiences and friendships, not to mention a first-class education with international recognition.

Grace is a third year Chemical Engineering student at UCT. She always enjoyed Maths and Physics at high school but she went through some tough personal times during her final year at school and her results came through below expectation.

She was worried that her marks did not reflect her true capability and that they would lessen her chances of getting accepted into UCT. Luckily, the University recognised Grace's potential and enrolled her on the **Academic Support Programme for Engineers in Cape Town (ASPECT)** to give her every chance of settling in comfortably and coping with the challenging academic curriculum.

ASPECT is a programme designed specifically for engineering students who have either come from disadvantaged backgrounds or who may need extra support getting settled into university life for personal or academic reasons.

"I didn't even know about ASPECT when I sent in my application," explains Grace. "At first I was disappointed that my degree would take five years instead of the normal four, but now I'm happy that I have been part of the programme. I would definitely recommend it to anyone because Chemical Engineering is very demanding and it takes time adjusting to the workload."

Grace also says that one of the best things about ASPECT is the communications course that is compulsory for all first-year students.

"Us engineers are not known for our language skills! Give me a calculation any day and I'm happy; ask me to write an essay and I'm stumped," she laughs. "The course

was great as it helped us get to grips with writing reports and essays and talking to an audience. This is so important because you can have the greatest ideas inside your head but if you can't communicate them properly then they aren't worth much."

Grace is one of three daughters in a single-parent home. She is the only child to complete matric and go to university in her immediate family and her mom has high hopes for her. This can add to the pressure she feels at times. "Of course I am motivated to do well at university but knowing that your whole family has expectations of you can add to the stress-factor. If I had to fail a course I would disappoint not only myself but my mom too," says Grace.

Luckily, Grace has been doing well and after the early adjustment period she has settled into her new life comfortably. By coming to UCT she has achieved her dream of becoming an independent and well-rounded young adult.

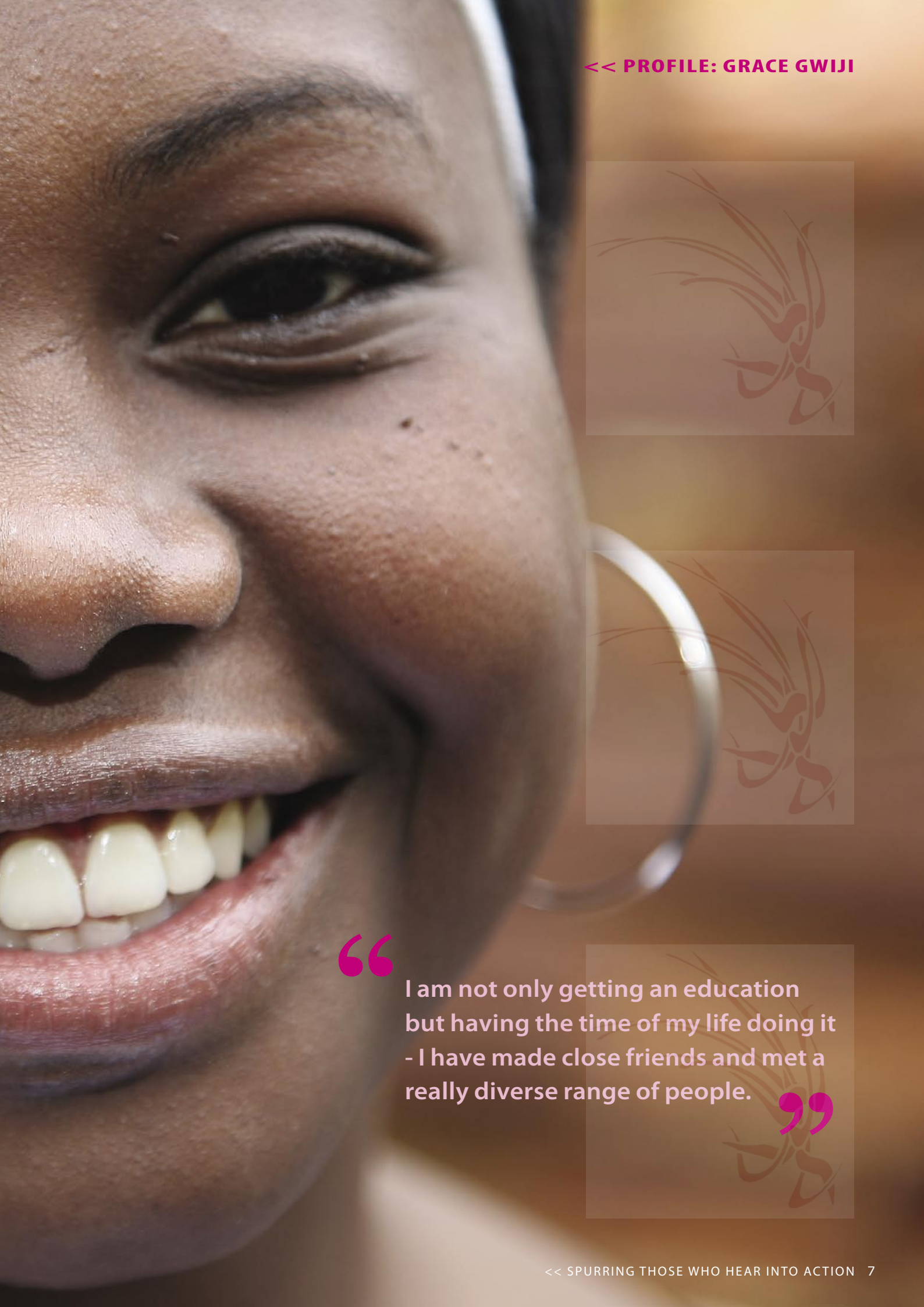
"UCT is a fun and accepting place," says Grace. "You are really encouraged to express your individuality and discover more about yourself while you are here. I am not only getting an education but also having the time of my life doing it. I have made some close friends and met a really diverse range of people."

With her days starting at 8am each morning and ending at 5pm – not including her homework time – her academic regime is demanding. However, she still finds time to play netball for UCT and the Western Prov-

ince development teams. This helps her to keep fit and healthy and lead a balanced lifestyle.

In two years time Grace will be getting ready to venture into the working world but she already knows that she wants to work in the food or cosmetics industry.

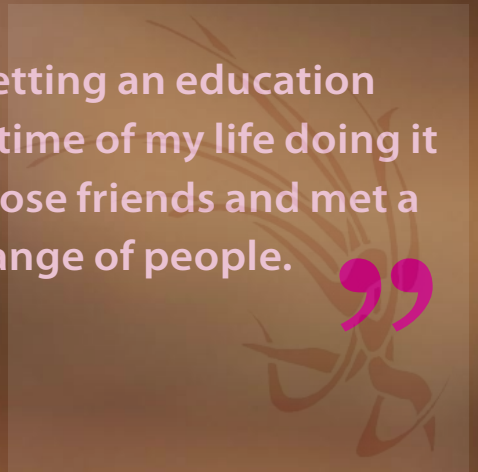
"Chemical Engineering is not easy but I know that it is the right thing for me," she explains. "Sometimes you have to struggle a bit to get where you want but if your heart is in the right place it will always be worth it in the end."



“

I am not only getting an education but having the time of my life doing it - I have made close friends and met a really diverse range of people.

”



A young Black man is sitting on the wide stone steps of a grand, classical building with several tall white columns. He is wearing a dark grey long-sleeved shirt, dark brown trousers, and white sneakers. He is looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression. The building behind him has a portico with columns and a pediment. The sky is bright and slightly overcast.

a bright mind & big ambition

by Melanie Blythe

“

Coming to UCT is the best opportunity I have ever had.

”

Dimakatso Morebudi grew up in Mabopane township outside Pretoria. He attended a high school with very limited resources and never dared to dream that one day he would attend a prestigious university – miles away from home on the slopes of Devil’s Peak in Cape Town.

Despite his obstacles, there was something that Dimakatso had that set him apart from the crowd: A bright young mind, big ambitions, the right attitude and an amazing energy. UCT recognised these qualities in Dimakatso and helped him to get the world-class education he deserved.

Now, at 21 years old, Dimakatso is in his 4th year at UCT, studying for a Bachelor of Commerce in Information Systems. The course is usually completed over three years but Dimakatso is part of the Commerce Academic Development Programme (CADP), which gives extra learning support to students who come from disadvantaged backgrounds or under-resourced high schools.

The CADP allows promising students to spread their first-year courses over a two-year period in order to help them adapt to university life more easily.

‘Promising’ is definitely a word you would use to describe Dimakatso – he is instantly recognisable as an over-achiever. He matriculated at the top of his class at DA Mokoma High School in Mabopane and was involved in drama, debating and the soccer team at school.

“Even though my school was under-resourced I never thought about it in that way,” says Dimakatso.

“High school was a positive experience and I had a lot of support from my teachers; they always encouraged me to study hard so that I could go to university. Even though I couldn’t afford to pay the fees they assured me that I would qualify for a bursary.”

When Dimakatso began applying to tertiary institutions he didn’t even submit an application to UCT, thinking that it would be too difficult to get accepted and receive funding. “But I found out how easy it was to get funding through good cor-



Despite his obstacles, there was something that Dimakatso had that set him apart from the crowd: a bright young mind, big ambitions, the right attitude and an amazing energy. UCT recognised these qualities in Dimakatso and helped him to get the world-class education he deserved.



respondence from UCT,” says Dimakatso. “Even though it was far from home and I had never been out of my province before, I was very excited about the opportunity. UCT has such a massive reputation and my whole high school and community were proud and supportive of me – as the first in my family to go to university there was also a lot of pressure to do well.”

Dimakatso explains that the support he received from the CADP, along with his UCT bursary and a NSFAS (government) loan, eased the pressure when he started at UCT.

“When I got here I finally realised what opportunities I had missed out on at high school, compared with a lot of other students. Even though my academic results were good and I could speak and write English well, the quality of my education had left me at a disadvantage. The CADP helped me to handle the major transition and bridge the gaps,” explains Dimakatso.

Luckily for Dimakatso, his warm personality and giving nature enabled him to make new friends and settle in quickly. He involved himself in university and res life and he even tried to make a difference in the lives of others.

“At College House I am now a sub-

warden, a dining hall monitor, and a floor representative,” says Dimakatso. “I was part of the residence soccer team in 2005 and was also the head receptionist in 2006 – I feel really proud of these achievements.”

Somehow, among all these responsibilities and a demanding academic schedule, Dimakatso has also managed to become vice-president and project coordinator of SHAWCO (the Student’s Health and Welfare Centres Organisation) – UCT’s student-run NGO that helps developing communities in Cape Town.

Last year he was nominated for the Caltex Student Leader of the Year Award in Community Service – another great honour for the young man.

Dimakatso is unsure of where he will be this time next year – he would like to study for his Honours but does not yet know if he will receive additional funding.

The time he has already had at UCT, however, has been the greatest of his life. “Coming here is the best opportunity I have ever had,” says Dimakatso.

“I have built lasting friendships and discovered more about myself. I am now an independent individual and even if I leave at the end of this year I know I’ve been well prepared for the ‘real’ world.”

focus on security makes UCT one of the safest campuses in South Africa

By Melanie Blythe

The University of Cape Town is widely regarded as being at the forefront of campus security in South Africa.

This is no small achievement when you consider the vast layout of the University which straddles three residential suburbs- Newlands, Rondebosch and Mowbray.

John Tunstall, risk services manager at UCT, explains that the open layout of the campus makes general access control difficult and impractical to implement.

"There are residential roads and even a highway that runs through UCT, making it complicated to control general access onto the campus. The only areas that are fenced off and have proper access control are the student residences and sensitive areas such as computer labs, other laboratories and the library," says Tunstall.

He continues, "Given this challenging situation, UCT is aware that its staff and students potentially face a greater threat from crime than do those at other tertiary institutions better suited to access control. Security issues have always been a top pri-

ority for the University – we firmly believe that our students have the right to study without fear of harassment."

UCT's success in fighting crime can largely be attributed to the fact that it has a holistic approach to safety on campus encompassing people – there is a constant security presence on campus – technology, education and enforcement.

UCT has its own security force known as Campus Protection Services (CPS). CPS officers constantly patrol the campus – acting as a deterrent to criminals and providing an efficient service in the event of an emergency or crime.

The uniformed officers are highly trained and patrol the campus on foot and in vehicles 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They will even escort students to their cars if they are alone on campus at night! All students and staff are required to always carry their UCT identification cards and may be asked by a CPS officer to show them at any time.

On the technology front, the University makes extensive use of CCTV cameras.

With about 250 cameras in operation throughout the campus, UCT has more cameras than anywhere else in Cape Town and more than any other university in southern Africa.

This method of crime prevention has just become even more effective. UCT recently revamped its

entire surveillance system to make it more modern and effective.

Now each camera functions like a computer on a network, controlled from a centralised point.

From a brand new control room at the Campus Protection Services (CPS) office CPS officers can now view any of the cameras, adjust their angles and zoom in if necessary. An electronic, interactive map of the UCT campus shows where every camera is located and what is being viewed at any stage, giving the surveillance team greater control in their duties.

"What UCT now has is a management system rather than simply a surveillance system," says Johan Viljoen of i to i technologies, the company that designed and installed the new system.

In addition to the CCTV surveillance system there are also fences, gates, alarms, and access control points that all play their part in keeping crime away.

But the best security system in the world is useless unless the people it is trying to protect cooperate. For this reason, CPS strives to educate students and staff about safety issues through regular communication, meetings and workshops. They endeavour to enhance general awareness of criminal activity and also provide advice on how to deal with incidences of crime or trauma.

Lastly, in the case of an extraordinary event, CPS has powers of enforcement that allow it to take whatever action is necessary to maintain order and security on campus – this ensures that the UCT community is safe in the knowledge that there is an on-campus service that sees their protection as its number one priority.

All these elements work together to ensure that crime is kept out and UCT remains the security leader amongst South Africa's universities.



uct gets +ve

by Natasha Arendorf



Being a student is challenging. There is the stress of examinations, the pressures to fit into different social moulds, the general hustle and bustle of student life and the other more serious factors that can make life unbearable at times – like illness. HIV/AIDS is one such factor and it is one that UCT is committed to fighting.

The University plays an important role in responding to the HIV/AIDS challenge within the education sector through leadership, teaching, research, and outreach. Through various programmes, it aims to provide prevention, treatment, care and support for the thousands of students that make up UCT.

HAICU, which stands for HIV/AIDS Coordination - University of Cape Town, is organised around an annual report to Council, which tracks the continuing strengthening and effectiveness of the University's response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Sean Brown, the project officer of information, education and communication at HAICU, says that the core function of the organisation is to bring to life the University's HIV/AIDS policy which focuses on leadership, coordination, the rights of the individual and confidentiality.

"We are there to responsibly manage this policy in the interest of the students, faculty and surrounding community of UCT," comments Sean.

A dynamic team of five, HAICU ensures the students receive ample communication on all issues surrounding HIV/AIDS.

"We are responsible, among other things, for campaigning on issues that come to light with the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Recently we administered the 'I know my status' campaign, with the objective of encouraging students to get tested. The campaign has been very successful thus far."

"Although it is difficult to evaluate such a

campaign because students can get tested for a number of reasons, not necessarily only because they see one of our posters, we have received plenty of informal feedback on the posters which has been very positive, including the appreciation that students and staff leaders are playing their part. It is also clear from feedback that the voluntary counselling and testing (VCT) drives are greatly valued."

Within a span of three days 1375 persons were tested, which is really encouraging. Another key intervention by HAICU is what they refer to as curriculum integration. HAICU strives to integrate HIV/AIDS information into the existing formal curriculum within different faculties.

"The results are huge says Sean, 1300 first-year students are reached each year in the Commerce Faculty through the HIV and AIDS module of the Evidence-Based Management course. In addition, during orientation week, all first-year students are reached with basic HIV and AIDS info."

HAICU also has peer educators and men-

tors who strive to create AIDS-competent communities, in which people own the problem of HIV and AIDS and recognise that they have a vital contribution to make in fighting it.

These peer groups go out and endeavour to educate students on the subject of HIV/AIDS and reach those who may be scared to talk about their situation.

"It is easier to speak to your peers about problems of this magnitude; these volunteers are trained to do what they do and are highly committed to making a difference on campus," says Sean.

The organisation advertises for volunteers every year and the average intake is about 35-40 students a year.

"We are always happy to see students sign up; it is very encouraging to see young people care so much about their fellow students. We hope that we will always have this outcome as we consider our work here at the University to be of vital importance to each and every individual that walks the campus," says Sean.

For thousands of years some of the most interesting places to visit have been man-made structures, such as India's Taj Mahal or the Eiffel Tower in Paris.

South Africa has no shortage of such monuments. Look no further than UCT's iconic Jameson Hall to understand why architecture is not only about cement and bricks, but also about art. The artists who create these magnificent living, breathing works of art are architects.

Architecture does not only concern itself with the old, but also the new. Contemporary buildings like the Cape Town International Convention Centre and many modern masterpieces such as those breaking world records in places like Dubai, are testament to the fact that architecture requires innovation, creativity, and artistically gifted minds to envision the future.

If you feel as though you have what it takes to be part of this exciting time in our country and create buildings that will potentially become part of our history then you may want to pack your Lego away and consider gaining a thorough grounding in architecture, through a very intensive programme offered at UCT.

Architecture is a very broad field and the Bachelor of Architectural Studies (BAS) undergraduate degree is geared towards providing a firm foundation for specialisation in one of many available areas. On completion of the initial three-year under-

building the future

By Twanji Kalula

graduate degree, students are able to specialise further at a postgraduate level in areas that include Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, and City and Regional Planning. The course provides a holistic overview of architecture, from theory-based subjects to the practical design aspects.

"The degree is modelled to prepare students for our postgraduate programme," says programme convener Sonja Petrus-Spamer. "When students complete their degrees they are qualified to work in the field as architectural technicians, in order to become architects they need to study further."

The BAS programme is one of the most esteemed programmes offered in the field on the continent. Housed in the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, the leading programme is recognised locally and internationally.

"We recently received a five-year accreditation from the South African Council for the Architectural Professions and have also been accredited by the Royal Institute of British Architects and Commonwealth Association of Architects," says Petrus-Spamer.

Established over 60 years ago, the School has a long list of successful architects to its name.

"We are constantly rated among the top schools in the country," says Petrus-Spamer. "Students and alumni are also often awarded prizes in local and international competitions."

In South Africa there is a need for dynamic, young individuals to get behind the rebuilding of South Africa in a literal sense and design functional spaces that represent transformation and capture the rejuvenating African spirit.

"This is as good as it's ever going to be," says Petrus-Spamer in regards to job availability for graduates. "There is a huge demand. The industry is booming, if you go to any city in the country there is construction everywhere."

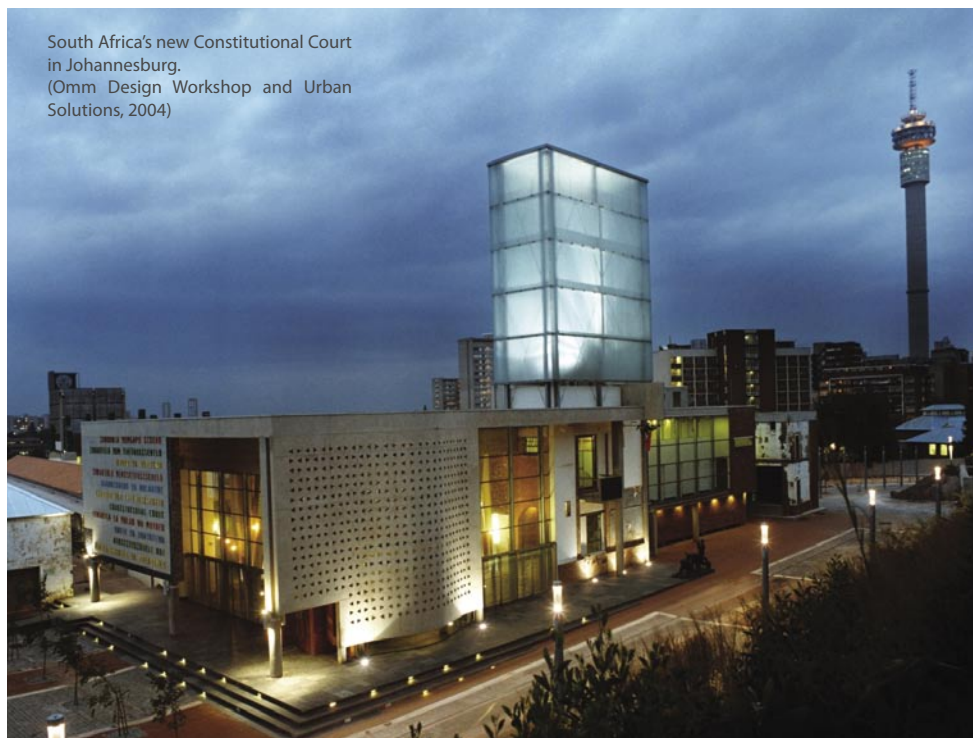
UCT graduates are at the forefront of some of the biggest projects currently on the go. Buhle Mathole completed her BAS degree at UCT in 2000 and is currently working as part of the Bombela Civils Joint Venture, responsible for the multi-billion rand Gautrain project.

This project will build a high speed railway route that will link Johannesburg, Pretoria and the OR Tambo International Airport, hoping to alleviate heavy traffic congestion on the existing routes.

With the world watching in anticipation of 2010, and a budget of over R20 billion, this project is anything but dull, requiring out of the box thinking and creativity.

If getting involved with large-scale projects, such as Mathole's, or simply creating cutting-edge structures sounds appealing, you will want to consider applying for UCT's Bachelor of Architectural Studies programme. A long list of extremely successful graduates proves that it is clearly the leading foundation for those wanting to pursue careers in the industry.

For more information visit www.arp.uct.ac.za.



South Africa's new Constitutional Court in Johannesburg. (Omm Design Workshop and Urban Solutions, 2004)



making a difference

By Murray Hunter

The joy of knowing that you are making a difference. That's how 4th-year Speech Therapy student, Jennifer Alberti, describes her experience of the Speech Therapy and Audiology programme at UCT.

Although Speech Therapy and Audiology is a less well-known, and perhaps less glamorous part of the medical school, the work they do is as important, if not more so, than other medical fields. The job satisfaction is huge says Jennifer, adding that the best part is the work they get to do with patients.

With nearly three years of clinic work behind her, Jennifer and her peers have dealt with a lot of patients. As a speech therapist, her job means working with children and grown-ups who struggle with speech sound production, stuttering, and language-learning problems. She says the UCT programme offers a lot of "contact time" – practical experience, in the clinics, face-to-face with patients.

A person would need speech therapy for a number of reasons: they may have autism, cerebral palsy, or have suffered a stroke, a head- or spine-injury, or be born with a cleft palate.

The same but different is 4th-year Audi-

ology student Mpilo Boo, a product of Bizana Village Senior Secondary School in the Eastern Cape. According to Mpilo, the speech therapists and the audiologists study the same courses for the first two years of their programme and then specialise in either stream.

Mpilo offers a slightly different perspective on the life of a Speech Therapy and Audiology student. Where Jennifer deals with those struggling to talk, he deals with those struggling to hear.

Audiologists help people with hearing problems, by fitting hearing aids, preventing hearing loss, and addressing the communication needs of people who are deaf or hard of hearing. They also help people who have balance disorders related to inner-ear damage.

Clearly, both are committed to helping people; but with this reward comes hard work. A lot of it.

"The course is not for someone who wants a wild student life," says Jennifer with the same easy smile that now carries the weariness of many late-night study sessions and long days at clinics. But speaking to these two, you get the definite sense that their dose of social interaction comes from the patients.

Jennifer's eyes light up like lanterns when she talks about her work in the clinics. Working in rehab, speech therapists and audiologists have time to develop a relationship with their patients that other healthcare practitioners don't.

"It's really special to be sad when you have to say goodbye to your patients," says Jennifer with that lantern light creeping into her eyes again. "I enjoy making those connections." She has found her niche in patients with cerebral palsy and strokes.

Mpilo offers a similar perspective on his most recent clinic placement at Vanguard Clinic.

"I could see the difference I made in their lives," he says with just a hint of satisfaction tugging at his smile. "Someone would come and say, 'I'm actually going to ask my sister to come to you, because I think you will understand her better. She's been having hearing problems since she was five.' And you're, like, wow."

Wow indeed. That's a lot of reward at the end of the day. Mpilo and Jennifer are determined to make their mark on the medical world, one patient at a time. They say that the satisfaction comes from interacting with people in need and making a practical change in their lives.

passion lost and found

By Murray Hunter

There's nothing worse than waking up halfway through your degree, wishing you were studying something else. It's like falling asleep on a bus and waking up as it pulls into the last stop.

During her studies as a BA Fine Arts student Shenna Phillips woke up just in time and, according to her, it won't have to happen again. Her first year was in 2006, studying Anthropology, Religious Studies and Art History at UCT.

"I was sitting in a lecture one day and I was thinking, 'What am I going to do after this?' I didn't have a love for any of those subjects except Art History." So in 2007 she ditched Anthro and Religious Studies, and moved to the Michaelis School of Fine Arts.

Michaelis has a reputation for oddballs. Nestled beneath Table Mountain at Hiddingh, UCT's art and drama campus is home to all manner of hippies, goths, stoners, loners, beatniks, and kids who walk around with their pants hanging down around their knees. Or so they say. Shenna doesn't look like any of those things. She's wearing shoes. She's sensibly dressed and doesn't have any tattoos. Apart from a metal stud in her face, she's pretty down-to-earth. So is the art-school stigma valid? Shenna says no. She insists all her classmates wear shoes too. Every day, even.

So being an artist is not just about walking around barefoot or wearing your pants around your knees. It takes hard work and a huge creative energy.

Shenna puts it down to finding new ways of expressing yourself. "You really have to know who you are if you want to do art," she says, nodding sagely. Having technical art skills (drawing, painting) won't get you far if you're lacking that creative 'oomph'. Shenna, who studied art at school, says that her classmates from a non-arty background sometimes do better than people who were practically born with a pencil and sketchpad in hand.

The course is a blend of practical work in the studio, and lectures in theory. The aim is to provide students with a good background in the theory of art and aesthetics, while giving them plenty of hands-on

experience in different art mediums. Of all the mediums (drawing, painting, photography, sculpture, design and printmaking) Shenna has already discovered her passion for photography. In eight months, she's gone from the lowly status of happy snapper to aspiring fashion photographer: capturing light and putting it on paper.

With weekly hand-ins every Thursday and fortnightly 'crits' (where lecturers give feedback on your work), the course keeps Shenna busy. The workload really puts high school art classes into perspective.

"It's a lot of work," she explains, shrugging off the fact that she's also heavily involved in her res house committee.

The first-year crit sessions are fairly gentle, according to Shenna. However, the crits that come in second-, third- and fourth-year have become the stuff of campus legends. Egos are crushed, tears are shed – it's a massacre. But Shenna remains cautiously optimistic.

The collection of projects she's amassed so far looks worthy of the optimism. It's mostly pretty weird though. Take, for example, the tyre with 'flower petals' arranged from bubblegum, and a whole box-worth of condoms in the centre.

"After this project I swore I'd never chew Chappies again," claims Shenna.

As wacky as this little exhibit may be, though, you can see from Shenna's quiet enthusiasm that she's found her niche in the Fine Arts programme.

What next? Like all first-year Fine Arts students, Shenna is required to study all the major art mediums. However, in the coming years, she'll have the option of specialising in sculpture, painting, photography, print media or digital media. (She thinks photography, with the view to further studies in photojournalism or fashion.)

It's only been eight months, but Shenna has come across a whole new range of options for her future. She's got vision. She's got vigour. She's got a metal stud in her face. Her life has completely "changed course", in both senses.

All it took was the courage to realise that sometimes, you need to follow your true passion in life.



images: portfolio of 3rd-year photography students, kindly supplied by UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Art.

calling all young, dynamic people

By Twanji Kalula

To compare the world as it is now to how it was 20 years ago would begin to reveal several significant differences.

Beyond the fact that big hair and shoulder padded power suits would no longer be in, there would be several differences in the way the world operated. For one thing, laptop computers, iPods, wireless internet connections and cellular phones would not be in existence.

The last few decades have seen rapid technological advances that have changed the way we function. The driving force behind this has been Information Technology. The IT industry has ballooned over the last few years and is hungry for young, dynamic, people who are willing to innovate and bring new ideas to the table and make advances for the next generation. The room for growth in this industry is immense, particularly if you are a university graduate. You start out as a programmer and you quickly become a team leader.

"Most people are team leaders by the time they are 25," says Donald Cook, of UCT's Computer Science Department.

"The need for individuals to fill top management and strategic roles in the commercial world is also significant."

Businesses are embracing the power of IT and there is a huge demand for executives who can use computers to implement and design systems.

"IT is about applying the development of software to information management," explains Cook.

"This broad field has opportunities for those wanting to get involved. A lot of companies have outsourced IT services and there are a lot of new industries that have been created."

Areas of specialisation include data management, software development, hardware engineering and development, information systems, networking, systems management and administration.

It is an exciting time for those who have these technical skills. Jobs are not limited to the IT industry for specialists in this field.

Almost every area of our daily lives involves computers.

The health sector, manufacturing industries, communications, multimedia and the business and financial sectors are just a few of the industries that depend on technology to survive.

Housed in the Science Faculty's Computer Science Department, The BSc. programme in Information Technology is one of the most competitive and sought-after degrees in the IT industry.

"Most of the other universities' computer science departments regard us as the premier department. We get lots of people from other universities who do their postgraduate degrees here," says Cook.

"This is largely due to the degree's thorough curriculum that provides a great foundation for practical development and further postgraduate study in the field."

Students who register for this degree have the opportunity to obtain theoretical and practical knowledge in one of four fields: Applied Computing (this includes areas of specialisation such as Psychology, Bioinformatics, Geoinformatics, Computer Games Design), Computer Science, Business Computing, and Computer Engineering.

This opens up many options for students who want a more focused career in the field.

"The big misconception is that there are no jobs in IT," says Cook. He explains that this began after the 'Dot Com' bubble burst in the US at the turn of the century. The reality is that the industry has grown significantly creating more job opportunities.

"The industry is now three or four times larger. The truth is that by the end of 2008 we will have over three million jobs that won't be filled, around the world."

This has had a marked effect in South Africa, as many trained IT professionals leave the country in favour of jobs abroad.

"We have a good reputation at UCT, the country as a whole has a good reputation, for creating well-skilled IT people who have a good work ethic," says Cook.

"There is a huge need for qualified individuals to invigorate the booming local industry. No one is taking advantage of that," he adds.

Visit the website at: www.cs.uct.ac.za.



brand new and beautiful

by Melanie Blythe



Being the first ever Head of House at a brand new res is a big responsibility – but one that Faith Dlamini handles with ease. Her job is to lead 382 new girls at the recently completed Graça Machel Hall as they forge a unique identity for themselves and those who will follow them in the future.

A Durbanite at heart, Faith is a natural-born leader. She is proud of her appointment and does not take her duties lightly, seeing it as practice for her life's ambition: to be Minister of Foreign Affairs, no less!

"This residence has been opened in honour of South Africa's former First Lady, Graça Machel. That means we are all 'first ladies' too and we have a responsibility to live up to her name and make her proud as we carve out the path that all future generations of 'first ladies' will follow," says Faith.

The plush new res caters mainly for first-year students but Faith says that new students should not expect a 'boarding school' environment when they arrive.

"Of course there are rules," explains Faith. "But these are mainly in place to ensure the safety of our girls. When you come to university you get treated like an adult and with that comes freedom and responsibility. As long as you respect your fellow students you have the opportunity to be an individual here."

Faith is studying for a Bachelor of Social Science with majors in Labour, Organisational Psychology and Human Resources Management. She matriculated with distinction from Northlands Girls' High in Durban and says she was so determined to study at UCT that she did not apply to any other universities – having already made up her mind in Grade 10!

"I always aspired to go to the most renowned institution in Africa. Cape Town was also untapped territory for me and I was keen to experience life in another city – the beaches and mountains were also a big draw card," says Faith.

To describe the young leader as ambitious might be an understatement. She talks about her Social Science degree with passion and expresses a desire to be a

Faith's Top Tips for new students:

Expect to experience something completely different from anything before – this prepares you for the adjustments you have to make.

Learn to be disciplined. Unlike in school, there is no one breathing down your neck to make sure that you have done your work. You have to motivate yourself.

Have an open mind and learn as much as you can. Once you leave you will never get another opportunity to expand your knowledge like you can while at UCT.

Be yourself. Don't try to be someone else to fit in and make friends. You find the right friends when you are honest and open about who you are.

prominent and successful businesswoman in the future. "I want to work in the media and government and also to be an entrepreneur one day," she says.

The election process for the House Committee provided good practice for Faith's political ambitions. Democratic elections were held to choose the first-ever Graça Machel house committee and Faith was chosen to be the head of house. She brings experience to her role as she was also on the house committee at the Baxter res last year.

"My position means that I am the face of the residence to the outside world. I'm definitely a hands-on kind of person and I like to get involved and help where I can. I am the communication link between the 382 girls who live here and the University management," explains Faith of her duties.

She is embracing all the opportunities of the University and is a big fan of residence life. "The best thing about living in res is forming a tight-knit community with your fellow students. I have made so many new friends and been exposed to different cultures and nationalities – this really helps to broaden your outlook on life," says Faith.

a proud history

by Melanie Blythe

Smuts Hall is one of the oldest residences at UCT and has a very proud history of housing men who have gone on to excel in various fields. One former Smutsmen – Mark Shuttleworth – has even been into Space!

The residence building is a National Heritage Site and has the unique position of being situated right in the heart of UCT’s main campus (the twin women’s residence, Fuller Hall, being the only other one).

Mvikeli Hlophe is this year’s Smuts Hall head of house – a position considered to be a great honour among Smutsmen. The residence places a lot of emphasis on tradition and residents are expected to behave like gentlemen at all times. Mvikeli is the perfect man to lead by example.

Born in Port Shepstone in KwaZulu-Natal, Mvikeli grew up in a small town called Gamalakhe with his parents and two brothers. He was a boarder at Selborne College in East London during his high school years and UCT was always his tertiary institution of choice.

“UCT has high academic standards that are well recognised and internationally competitive. Cape Town is also an

awesome city to study in,” says Mvikeli.

Academic excellence is vital to this 3rd year Business Science student. He matriculated with a high average that enabled him to get a scholarship for his UCT studies.

“I came to Cape Town for the first time when I was interviewed for a scholarship by Jerry Gallagher of the Gallagher Foundation. I think I got lucky because Mr Gallagher seemed to take an instant liking to me, which is great because my tuition and accommodation has been paid for by his foundation,” explains Mvikeli.

The Gallagher Foundation provides university scholarships to talented young people in developing countries who come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Its aim is to promote peace and prosperity through education.

“Smuts is well renowned for the high academic standards of its students,” says Mvikeli. “It is also a very prestigious place to live while studying at UCT and Smutsmen carry the legacy of their time here with them throughout their lives.”

Mvikeli says the residence is big on tradition but new Smutsmen shouldn’t expect a school-like atmosphere when they arrive.

“Here everyone gets treated like an adult and we expect our residents to do things the ‘Smuts way’ – which means behaving like a gentleman, respecting those around you and upholding the name of this great place,” he says. “There is a proud history attached to Smuts and residents are expected to attend House meetings in the dining hall in formal dress.”

Mvi’s Top Tips for new students:

Bring lots of energy as you’ll be working hard and playing hard too!

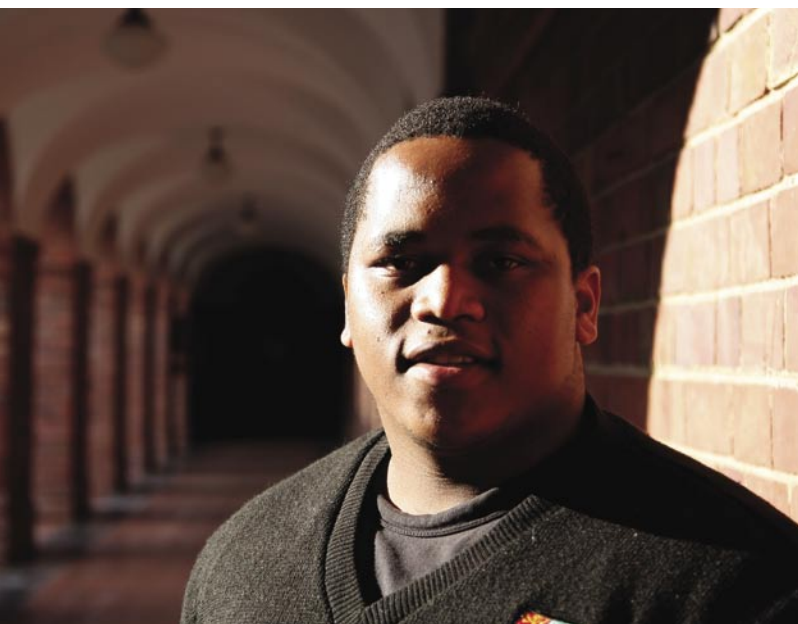
Be open to learning, not just academically, but also about yourself.

Remember what you came here to do – study! Cape Town is a fun place that can keep you busy day and night. Just make sure you keep your priorities straight.

Listen to the advice of parents and teachers before you come here. They have been through it all before so they know what they’re talking about most of the time!

It’s not all about pomp and ceremony though. Smutsmen eat their meals in the company of the women at Fuller Hall – the female residence – which is only a few metres away. The two residences are very connected and they often organise events together. This is another great draw card for the men who want to live in Smuts Hall!

In his free time Mvikeli plays rugby for Smuts and is a member of the UCT Gym Club – which explains his built frame. He describes himself as a real people person and plans to work in consulting after he graduates.



ACCOMMODATION @ UCT

There are 15 residences that cater for first- and second-year students at UCT, most are for men and women only – but a few are mixed. About half of the students in these residences share with another student. If you and a friend have been accepted to the same res you may request to share a room, which makes settling into your new home much easier! Of the 20 000 students who enrolled at UCT in 2007 only 5 600 live in res. The demand for accommodation is huge and there isn’t enough space to meet the number of applications – so apply early to avoid disappointment.

You can contact the Student Accommodation Office on 021 650 1045/1040 or email them at res@uct.ac.za to find out more about residence and other accommodation options.

Mohican Metrosexual

Name: **Fayyaz Kazi** | Age: 23 | Faculty: Humanities | Look: Mohican Metrosexual: The jeans fit perfectly, the shoes look brand new, the shirt is bold and funky and the hair is straight-up stylish. Style tip: Some people apply gel while their hair is still wet – this is so wrong! My secret: always blow dry first.

“Some people apply gel while their hair is still wet. This is **wrong**. My secret: always **blow dry first!**”



Jozi may be capital of S when it comes to an individual rather than following UCT students are not afraid to passion for



Pirate Pizzazz

Name: **Captain Seamus 'Fancy Pants' Scab** | Age: 20 | Faculty: Science | Look: Pirate Pizzazz: The pants (where did he get them?), the boots, the hat and the cream lace shirt combine to create a look that is so outrageous you may even see it on the catwalks of Milan next season! Style tip: You always have to have a hat.

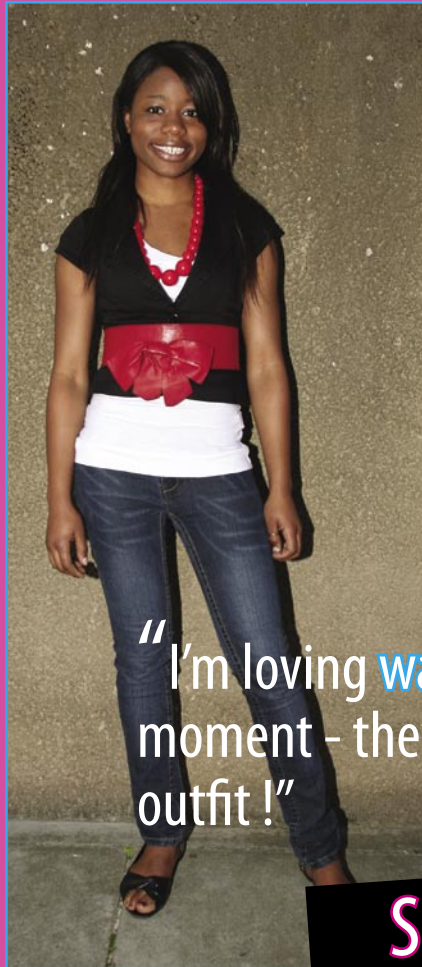
Hip Hop Massive

Name: **Louis Kinunda** | Age: 22 | Faculty: Science | Look: Hip Hop Massive: An oversized hoodie and jeans are what count most when creating this look. Labels preferred, of course. Style tip: Timberland is the ultimate hip hop brand right now.



here's a peek at what looks are **sizzling** on campus this semester...

the style
A - but
comes to being
dual and **setting**
the **trends**,
a **diverse bunch**
express their
for fashion!



Sophisticated funk

Name: **Bentolina Nnadi** | Age: 19 | Faculty: Humanities | Look: Sophisticated Funk: This girl is rocking the campus catwalk with her skinny denims and short black waist jacket combined with bright red accessories. Style tip: I'm loving waist belts at the moment - they can mix up any outfit!

"I'm loving **waist belts** at the moment - they can **mix up** any outfit!"

Surfer girl casual



Forever summer

Name: **Stef Windisch** | Age: 20 | Faculty: Humanities | Look: Forever Summer: A bright, short floral dress is the perfect way to invite summer back onto campus. Big sunnies and a metallic waist belt complete the look that has 'beach with a tweak' written all over it. Style tip: Never leave home without your shades!



Name: **Kate Aitken** | Age: 21 | Faculty: Commerce | Look: Surfer Girl Casual: The wind-swept hair, baggies and slouchy bag are perfect for a laid back look that still has style. A great belt and sunnies will prevent you from looking like you just couldn't care less... Style tip: Cool bags are a must.

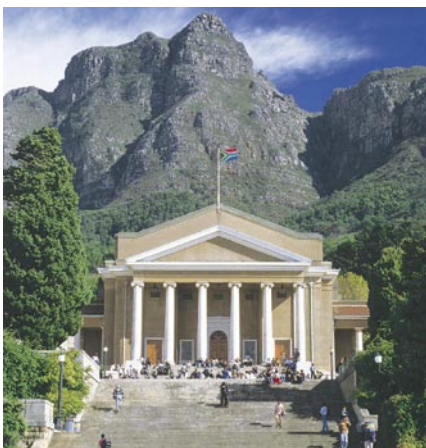
a guide to the galaxy...

A Academic Excellence
Throughout its six faculties, UCT has lecturers who are experts in their fields of study. UCT is a highly regarded research institute and is on the cutting edge of innovation and technology. You could be too!

B Baxter Theatre
An exciting place for the creative soul, the Baxter Theatre Centre at UCT endeavours to present and host the best of South African performing arts. Since its opening in 1977, the complex has continued to provide a stage for all types of professional entertainment – music, drama, ballet, opera and intimate theatre.



C Campuses
UCT consists of many different campuses, including the Main Campus in Rondebosch which has the Upper, Middle and Lower campuses, Breakwater Campus at the Waterfront, the Medical School Campus in Observatory and Hiddingh Campus in town.



D Diversity
Over the years UCT has successfully maintained a 50:50 balance between black and white students. Currently there is a near-even split between women and men in the student body, with women comprising about 51% and men 49%. There are 4000 international students from over 100 countries at UCT.



E Exchange Programmes
Would you like to be an ambassador for UCT and South Africa? Well, UCT currently has exchange agreements with universities in North and South America as well as Europe and has sent many students to different parts of the world to continue their studies and broaden their horizons.

F Faculties
UCT is made up of six different faculties:
Commerce - is the largest of all faculties, the programmes prepare graduates for participation in the global economy, for careers in management, accounting, insurance, banking and finance, economics, information systems and other fields of business, government and industry.
Engineering & the Built Environment - the faculty comprises six departments, which include the disciplines: Architecture, Planning and Geomatics, Chemical, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Civil Engineering, and Construction Economics & Management.
Health Sciences - the main function of the faculty is research in medical and allied fields and the teaching of undergraduate and postgraduate students in a range of health care-related disciplines.

Humanities - this faculty is one of the most diverse faculties in the University. Its research units span the performing and creative arts and social sciences, as well as education.

Law - provides strong leadership in the field of legal education both nationally and internationally.

Science - one of the best faculties in the country, offers exposure to cutting edge scientists and researchers in an exciting range of BSc programmes. It opens up a world of opportunities in IT, Geology, Astrophysics, Econometrics, Genetics and more...



G Geomatics
As one of many disciplines to choose from, Geomatics is both an applied science and a professional discipline. So if you are eager to develop your knowledge and understanding of society's needs and possess the desire to contribute to the quality of life of all South Africans, then a career in Geomatics is for you.

H Help
Help could be a phone call or click away, there are many services on offer to students to assist with all dimensions of study as well as social concerns or problems, these include;



Brain books UCT:
A retail service where students can purchase text books.

Community Service: There are several student-run structures doing community development in surrounding communities. These include SHAWCO (Student's Health and Welfare Centres Organisation) and

“ Some students drink at the fountain of knowledge – others just gargle. Which one are you? ”



RAG (“Remember And Give).

Disability Service: The UCT Disability Service works to remove any physical, policy, information and attitude barriers that might prevent students and staff from fulfilling their potential. The Disability Service supports equal academic access for disabled students.

Discrimination and Harassment Office: This office coordinates, profiles and facilitates the necessary services to deal with and prevent harassment and discrimination at UCT, as well as to raise awareness around these and related topics.

Educare: The Educare Centre provides pre-primary education for the children of UCT staff and students.



Information & Communication Technology Services

This is a support organisation that assists students at the University of Cape Town in using information and communication technologies to enhance their work. ICTS also supports student housing and residence life by providing students in residence with access to ResNET, the residence network.



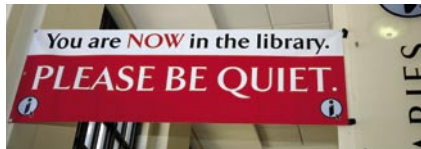
Jammie Shuttle

Don't get stuck without a ride, a unique shuttle service – Jammie Shuttle – is available to all UCT students as a free service. A fleet of 23 buses, including a special one for disabled passengers, operates between residences, all UCT campuses and some local bus, train and parking facilities.



Knowledge

Some students drink at the fountain of knowledge. Others just gargle. Which are you?



Library

The University of Cape Town Library, comprising a main library and nine branch libraries, houses a diverse collection of research materials and undergraduate resources. With its state-of-the-art design, this bright modern library offers spacious reading areas, high-end computer workstations, audio visual viewing areas, both intranet and wireless internet access, and ample photocopy and printing facilities.



Monday Paper

Monday Paper comes out twice a month on a Monday and is distributed free of charge to staff and students on campus. The publication covers a broad spectrum of UCT news and has been going for 26 years.



Now

Now is when you should be thinking about your future career and the steps you need to take to get there. So stop daydreaming and start turning your plans into reality. The closing date for applications is 31 October of each year, so get cracking!



Orientation

During 'O' week each year, first-years are given an in-depth introduction to life at UCT – including academic advice, a tour of the campus and its facilities and an opportunity to sign up to over 95 student clubs and societies. The week ends with a fun-filled Freshers' Welcome Braai on the rugby fields. Each residence also has its own, unique orientation programme to help you meet your new 'housemates' and get settled in.



Pressure

Well, we won't lie to you: pressure is one thing you definitely will experience during your time at UCT. There's pressure all around as you try to wake up and get to lectures on time, finish your assignments before deadline, study for exams and write them too. Here is a top tip to make sure you stay cool, calm and collected while those around you feel the heat: be organised and don't procrastinate and you'll be sure to graduate!



Questions

When you arrive at UCT you will have lots of questions buzzing around your head. Questions about yourself, and 'intellectual' questions that you will ask and get answered. There are some questions that we just don't have the answers to like, "what is the meaning of life?" If you're still determined to find out perhaps the Philosophy Department is where you belong.

A - Z DIARY >>

R

Rag

RAG (Remember and Give) is the student body that organises fundraising events to raise money for SHAWCO - UCT's community outreach organisation. The Big Bash, Floats Parade, O-week, Intervarsity and the infamous SAX Appeal mag are all RAG projects. Get involved if you want to have fun while raising money for a good cause!



education facility at the school grew from 1880 onwards until it was formally established as a university in 1918. In 1928 the University moved to its location on the slopes of Devil's Peak – land which Cecil John Rhodes donated to the government as a site for a national university.



U

URL

These days a lot of courses have their own specially designed websites where you can access course notes, hand in assignments and chat to your fellow students in forum discussions. Get all the UCT information you need at www.uct.ac.za.

V

Values

In 2001 UCT adopted an official statement of values. The short of it is: UCT is committed to promoting truth, fairness, respect, tolerance, compassion and generosity in the academic and social aspects of university life. We encourage everyone to download the full version from the UCT website.

W

Writing Centre

When you come to UCT you may be surprised by the amount of reading and writing you have to do (especially in the Humanities Faculty)! UCT knows that many of its students are not first-language English speakers. Luckily, they have set up a Writing Centre where you can get your essays and assignments critiqued before you hand them in for real. Very handy.

X

X-Factor

Now you have the picture: UCT definitely has the x-factor among South African univer-

sities. Academic excellence, history and tradition, a beautiful location and outstanding facilities make this one of the leading tertiary institutions on the continent. Your choice is easy!



Y

Yummy Food

Everyone knows that thinking hard and having fun takes up a lot of energy. You need to eat right to stay smart and UCT has plenty of places to buy food on campus. From pizzas and burgers to Chinese food, budget rolls and healthier options – there is something to satisfy your every craving.

Z

Zoo

Yes, it can feel like a zoo at times, but we're not talking about campus life! There is actually a place called 'The Old Zoo' right next to UCT that used to house real lions. It is now used for theatre productions and the open-air venue makes a great location to take in all the drama.



S

Socialising

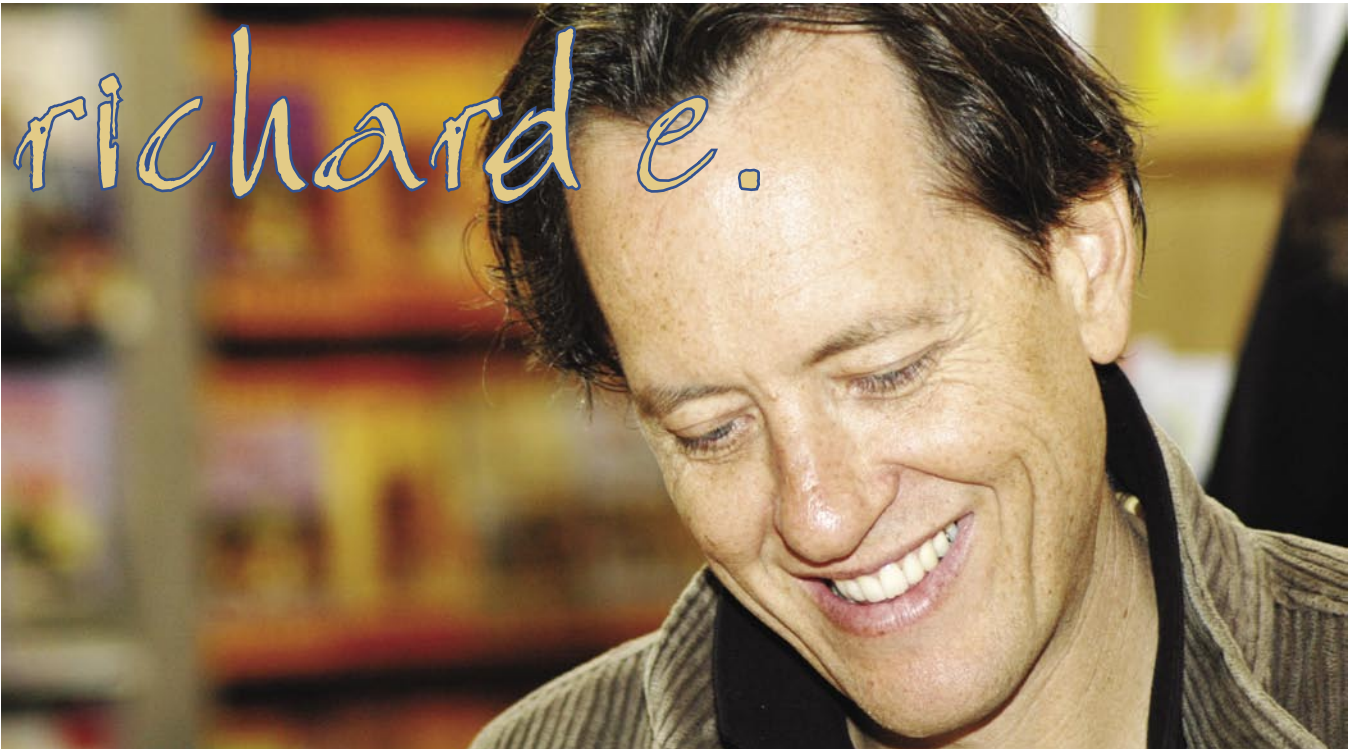
The social life at UCT is legendary. RAG (Remember and Give) organises a major bash each term and clubs and societies are a great way to meet fresh faces with similar interests. The steps beneath Jameson Hall (the Jammie Steps) are the main hub of activity on campus and you will probably spend many hours sitting there chatting to your friends during your time at UCT!



T

Tradition

UCT is the oldest university in the country and was founded in 1829 as the South African College – a high school for boys. The tertiary-



Did you know that this famous British actor was born in Swaziland in 1957? Born Richard Grant Esterhuysen, he graduated with a BA in English and Drama from UCT in the early 1980s. After his studies and the death of his father in 1981 he moved to London to pursue an acting career. After working for a couple of years in experimental theatre he was nominated the **most promising newcomer** by *Plays and Players* magazine in 1984. His first film role came in 1987 when he starred in *Withnail and I* – which has since taken on cult status among movie buffs. Since then he has acted in many films and television shows, some of which include *The Story of an African Farm*, *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Gosford Park*, *Corpse Bride* and *Absolutely Fabulous*.



Critically acclaimed African Jazz and Afro-pop singer, Judith Sephuma, came to UCT in 1994 and graduated with a Performer's Diploma in Jazz three years later. She studied for her Honours Degree in Jazz Performance, majoring in Jazz Singing, under the supervision of Professor Mike Campbell in 1999. During her time in Cape Town Judith started performing professionally with several bands, one of which was UCT's Big Jazz Band. In 1999 she won **Best Jazz Vocalist** at the Old Mutual Jazz Into the Future competition and signed with BMG Africa's Giant Steps thereafter. In 2001 Judith formed a band and started performing under her own name. In the same year she released her debut album, **A Smile, A Cry, A Dance**, which received rave reviews and cemented her place in South African music. The album went platinum and won two **South African Music Awards**, two **Kora Awards** and two **Metro FM Awards**. She has since released a second album, **New Beginnings**, which proves she is not only a talented singer and performer but a gifted songwriter, having co-composed the songs.

shuttleworth

Africa's first man in space, Mark Richard Shuttleworth, is also the **second self-funded space tourist ever**. The successful entrepreneur attended UCT and in 1995 he graduated with a Business Science degree in Finance and Information Systems. Shuttleworth has a love of all things technology-related and in 1995 **he started his own digital certificates and internet security business, Thawte, which he sold in 1999 for R3.5 billion**. Currently he lives in London and works actively within the **Ubuntu Project**, which aims to create freely available, high quality desktop software. He also funds **HBD Venture Capital**, a South African investment company, and **The Shuttleworth Foundation**, a non-profit organisation with a vision to accelerate social innovation, the uptake of open-source software, and education on the African continent.

improving the lives of others



Students come to UCT to get a top education – but many leave with much more than they expected. Those who volunteer their time to the Student’s Health and Welfare Centres Organisation (SHAWCO) learn valuable life lessons by getting involved in community projects and opening their hearts to others.

Varkey George, director of SHAWCO, says that the organisation is unique because it is entirely student-run and led.

“SHAWCO is a dynamic, innovative and passionate student-run NGO based at the University that aims to improve the lives of people living in developing communities around Cape Town,” explains Varkey.

“While UCT represents the brain, this organisation is often described as the heart of the student body,” he adds.

Founded in 1943 by Andrew Kinnear, the organisation has grown into one of the country’s largest student volunteer organisations – boasting over 1200 volunteers who participate in the 15 health and education projects in SHAWCO centres around the Cape Metropolitan area.

The organisation is divided into two

main sectors, one focusing on education and the other on health. Megan Borkum, a final year medical student, is the health president for SHAWCO and has been volunteering her time and energy for the past three and a half years.

“My experience has been fantastic because I’ve gotten really valuable practical experience from working in the SHAWCO clinics,” says Megan.

“My eyes have also been opened to the needs of the communities around Cape Town – good health care is not easy to find for many of the people we serve. Being able to work with patients from different cultures has taught me a great deal and I’ve developed the inter-personal skills so crucial to becoming a good doctor,” explains Megan.

The education sector of SHAWCO also does invaluable work by helping kids from disadvantaged backgrounds to achieve their dreams of a better life. It provides a range of academic, life skills, IT and extra-curricular activities in three centres and two children’s homes in Khayelitsha, Kensington, Manenberg and Nyanga.

Student volunteers can get involved by tutoring primary and high school learners in a range of school subjects, life skills and computer training or by helping out on the sports, arts and entrepreneurial programmes.

Eleanor Khupe, a third year Chemical, and Cellular Sciences student, has been involved in these kinds of projects for the past four years and is now on the SHAWCO steering committee and in charge of marketing the organisation’s events.

“I’ve always had a desire to help others and SHAWCO gave me the opportunity to make a real difference,” says Eleanor.

The SHAWCO experience has also taught Eleanor things that she didn’t expect to learn when she first volunteered her time to the organisation.

“I now have real experience working in an organisation in a leadership role. I have learnt everything from budgeting and project management to people management and marketing. One day I want to start my own NGO that will focus on people development. SHAWCO has helped me to determine my career path.”



school sports swanky new kit

Pupils of ID Mkhize Secondary School in Gugulethu ululate as boxes of sports goodies arrive.

Boxes brimming with sports goodies made their way to ID Mkhize Secondary School in Gugulethu, the School 'adopted' by the Sports Science Institute of South Africa (SSISA) at UCT.

For the fourth year running, the Institute donated staff uniforms and extra kit – which would otherwise be gathering dust in cupboards – to the School. The plan being to clad and kit out all the school's sports teams.

"The SSISA handed over 100 tracksuits, 300 shirts, shorts and other sporting gear," says Gill Taylor, one of the managers in the Outreach Division at SSISA. "The SSISA's sponsor, New Balance, wholeheartedly supported the idea," she adds.

"We will stand by our decision to look after the school, Taylor says. "We've had many favorable comments from other schools that have played against ID Mkhize."

There's more good news. MACSTEEL Maestros, a programme under the SSISA umbrella for elite athletes from disadvantaged circumstances, has just agreed to fund ID Mkhize to join Teenactive, an interactive website, says Taylor, who is also MACSTEEL Maestros national manager.

This enables learners to go online and access sports-related information, as well as topics on learning and assertiveness.

Daniella Pollock

many hands make light work



Students from the Smuts/Fuller outreach committee spruced up the Haven Night Shelter in District Six. (With thanks to sponsors Ceramica, Cleopatra Tiles, On Tap & Scooters Pizza.)

In a bathroom at The Haven Night Shelter, new tiles were going up, neatly edged and grouted. The artisans were an unlikely group: UCT students and representatives of the Smuts/Fuller outreach committee.

The shelter houses 80 men and women and provides physical

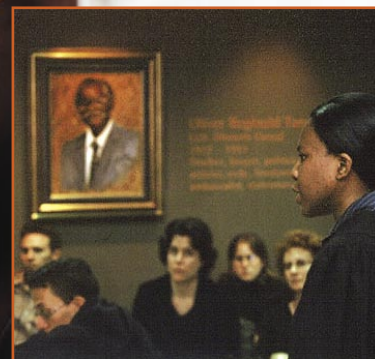
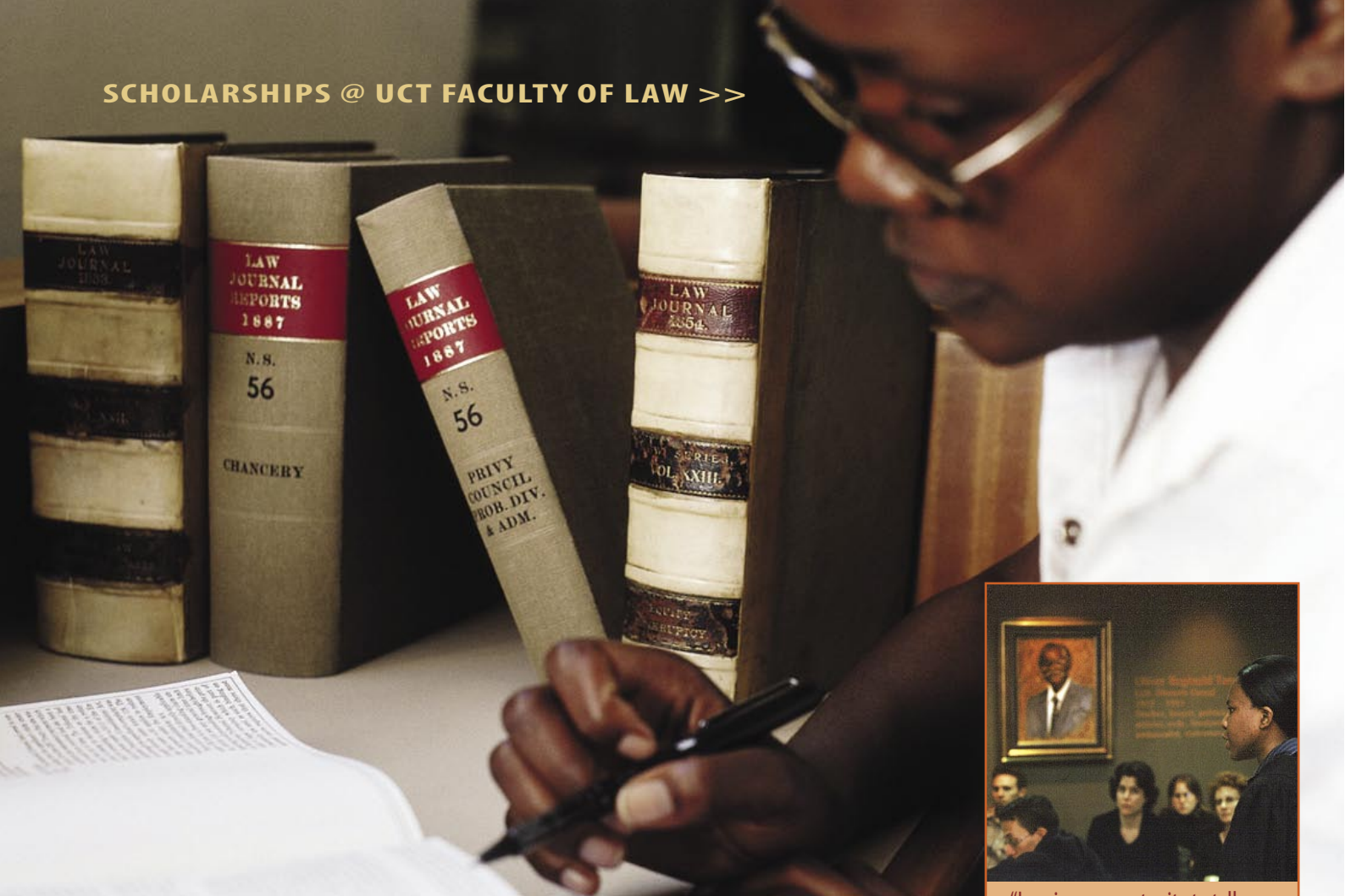
care and support for homeless people needing rehabilitation and reintegration. But the 14-year-old building needed some rehabilitation too. It now sports a fresh coat of paint, tiled bathrooms, new toilets seats and the windows have handles.

"It's the first time residents have been able to close the windows in two years," says The Haven Nightshelter operations manager Michael Prinsloo. "It's wonderful. We've had students from the University do work for us in the past but not to the extent that they've got paint and tiles and window handles donated."

Inspired, The Haven residents asked what they could do to keep the building in good nick. There was more to come: a visit from co-founder of the Starfish Foundation, Anthony Farr, who shared some motivating words. Prinsloo says he hoped the students will consider doing similar work at their Kalk Bay shelter next year. "It needs a lot of maintenance."

Tile dust on his face, outreach committee member Thabang Sekete said: "This is part of our commitment to the local community. We want to make a tangible difference for years to come."

Daniella Pollock



"Law is an opportunity to talk for those who cannot speak for themselves." – Wandisa, first-year Law student

law scholarships

by Melanie Blythe

awarded to first-year students

Financial constraints need no longer hamper your dreams of becoming a lawyer – just prove that you have what it takes to succeed!

Students come from everywhere in South Africa to study law at UCT. In fact, 65% of current law students say that they chose UCT due to its outstanding reputation and because its graduates are in demand in the job market. This is because the faculty expertise and resources available to students at UCT are among the best in Africa.

The roots of the Faculty of Law extend as far back as 1859, making it the oldest in the country. A great sense of tradition, a history of excellence, and the outstanding achievements of students past and present are all associated with the UCT Law brand. However, this does not mean that it

is stuck in the past – the Faculty has enthusiastically embraced technology and has state-of-the-art computer facilities which include internet access and electronic law databases. It even has a dedicated computer training room for students who need help with their computer skills and know-how – so nobody gets left behind.

In addition, the Law Library at UCT has one of the best legal collections on the continent, holding about 85 000 volumes! Prospective students are also always excited to hear about the Oliver Tambo Moot Court, established in 2001.

Described as the "heart of the Law Faculty", it is here where students get an opportunity to argue their cases and practice the advocacy skills that are so essential to becoming a successful lawyer. The Moot Court was designed to mimic the dignity

and austerity of a real court of law – so students get a feel for what their future working environments will be like while they are still studying.

The Law Faculty encourages diversity amongst its students and staff in order to reflect the changing face of the legal practice in the country since 1994.

There are several bursaries and scholarships available to students who have achieved good results during their first year of studying (a scholarship can be held concurrently with a financial aid package). This ensures that promising future lawyers are not excluded for financial reasons.

High school students who would like to join the world-class Faculty of Law at UCT need to know that good matric results and excellent English language skills are essential for acceptance.

a helping hand

Do you want to go to university but are put off by the enormous fees? Here's how UCT can help pay for your studies.

At the end of 2007 KwaZulu-Natal-born Phumlani Nkontwana will be the proud recipient of a BCom degree with majors in Economics and Statistics. This is a dream the young son of a domestic worker thought he would never realise as university studies are so expensive.

Working hard at school and matriculating in 2003 as the top student at Zwelibanzi High in Durban paid off. After applying and being admitted to UCT, Phumlani was offered an entrance scholarship and financial aid. The financial aid was in the form of a loan through the National Student Financial Aid Scheme that covered Phumlani's tuition, books, accommodation and meals. Although he has to repay the loan once he starts working, terms and conditions are very favourable. Phumlani has also been working part-time at UCT's administration offices to earn extra money, and often goes out to schools to educate learners about their options.

"There are so many learners who want to continue their studies after school," says Phumlani, "but they are put off by the enormity of the fees. However, there are opportunities and help out there that people just don't know about. Universities are student-driven, they don't want good students to stress about money and not focus on their

studies, so they help where they can."

His plan is to follow up his BCom with an Honours degree, but first he has to start earning a living to repay his loan. He has a number of job interviews lined up and hopes for a position where he can help with a company's strategic economic planning and development.

Who gets funding?

There are various options for financial aid at UCT and most applications or registration forms have a section where you can specify whether you need financial assistance. UCT endeavours to assist as many financially needy students as possible to

enable them to pursue their academic ambitions.

Bursaries

Bursaries are based on your financial need and don't have to be repaid. When you apply for a bursary you'll have to disclose personal financial information. For some bursaries you'll have to meet certain criteria, such as a specific area of study, or disclose that you're a member of a previously disadvantaged group.

Scholarships

Scholarships are rewards for academic excellence or achievement and are once-off payments. All first-time applicants are considered and in many cases you don't have to apply as the scholarship is offered to you. Each year, UCT distributes over R5 million in scholarships to school-leavers who are coming to the University for the first time. Preference is given to South African students. The awards range in value, normally from R5 000 to R20 000.

Sports scholarships

UCT has an excellent track record in a variety of sports and is keen to continue attracting top sports people. If you have represented your country in any sport at a national schools or age-group level, you should apply for a sports scholarship.

Loans

A loan is repayable with interest over a determined period. The National Student Financial Aid Scheme (NSFAS) is a government loan scheme for students who need financial help.

The NSFAS gives money to tertiary institutions who decide which students to give it to based on marks and financial need. NSFAS loans are for a maximum of R35 000 a year. If you do well, they waive up to 40% of the loan so you won't have to pay back all the money. Based on an article by Alma Viviers and used with kind permission by *Drum* magazine.

To contact the Student Financial Aid Office:

Tel: 021 650 3545 | Fax: 021 650 5043 | Email: sfa-finaid@uct.ac.za | Student Financial Aid Office | Department of Student Affairs | Level 6, Steve Biko Students' Union | University of Cape Town | Private Bag X3 | Rondebosch | 7701

the lipton challenge

Following a hard-fought contest against 28 other teams at this year's Lipton Cup, UCT finished sixth, their best performance in four years.

For a week, Cape Town's Table Bay came alive with ballooned sails as 29 yachting teams from across South Africa competed in the 99-year-old Lipton Challenge Cup.

On the first day of racing, UCT Yacht Club entry, Lipton UCT, manned by skipper William Norton, Steven Rhodes, Carla Dyer, Oliver Hobson, Constantin Hatzilambros and Bridget Clayton, finished seventh on the leader board.

By race day five, Lipton UCT had moved up to sixth position, five points behind Transvaal Yacht Club's Rote Hexe "Bumbo".

Defending champions Greg Davis and Gareth Blanckenberg, a former member of the UCT Yacht Club, of Theewater Sports Club's Dalys Insurance were back in the top spot. This after bagging a win and a second place in two back-to-back races sailed in boisterous 15-knot northwesterly winds on the penultimate day of racing.

At the time, UCT's Rhodes admitted that the crew would be hard-pressed to overtake any of the boats in the top five. All these yachts boasted salted sailors who had represented South Africa on board the Shosholozza in the recent America's Cup. An 18 to 20 knot northwesterly in a choppy sea and a fast-running swell provided a fitting finale to a hard-fought contest.

"If we have strong winds, well that should sort the men out from the boys, or the old men from the young men," Dalys skipper Greg Davis joked before the final race.

The Royal Natal Yacht Club, led by Shosholozza skipper Mark Sadler, had at one point looked threatening, but defending champs Dalys Insurance sailed a flawless final race in the tough conditions to keep the trophy in the Cape. Team Lipton UCT finished a proud sixth overall, a mere eight points behind the Transvaal Yacht Club.

It's an improvement on their showings in the past three years, when they finished ninth, seventh and ninth. "We are proud of our achievement," says skipper Norton. "It puts UCT Yacht Club on the map."

Team Lipton UCT finished sixth at the Lipton Challenge Cup in August.





a new field of dreams

Up for a game of footie on fake grass? Footballers, say your final goodbyes to mud-sliding soccer sessions. UCT's getting a new soccer field and it's expected to be up-and-running by March 2008.

A R10 million Astroturf, synthetic grass interspersed with plastic beads to break the fall, resting on a cushion of soft sand, will soon replace the worse-for-wear Kopano soccer field. Floodlights, to the same standard as the hockey field's, and refurbished stands, will also dress up the

new pitch. Currently UCT has 35 soccer teams, amounting to about 700 players, who have to make do with three fields. That's an incalculable number of studs trampling UCT's soccer turf annually.

"It becomes overused quickly," says John Donald, director of sport. "An artificial pitch has a lifespan of approximately 15 years, requires little maintenance and the new pitch will double up as a practice pitch for 2010 Soccer World Cup teams."

Why the new investment in soccer at

UCT? "Soccer has been identified by sports administration as an emerging sport," says John Critien, executive director of properties and services.

"At the moment we are turning people away as we cannot accommodate more teams. There is a feeling, rugby is the flagship sport at UCT. This is not the case. Its (rugby's) big alumni following is ploughing money into the club. We would like to assist soccer to become a flagship," Donald explained. **Daniella Pollock**



hockey youngster in SA training squad

Eugene Pelteret (left on the field) has been selected for the SA under-21 training squad.

The UCT first team may have had an unremarkable year in the Western Province Grand Challenge hockey league, but that didn't keep Eugene Pelteret from catching the eye of national selectors.

Pelteret, 20, has been named for the South African under-21 training squad, from which will be selected a group to play in the African Junior World Cup Qualifier Tournament in September 2008. Here

teams will vie for spots in the Junior World Cup in 2009.

Should he make it into the final squad, it won't be Pelteret's first showing in the green and gold. He's already represented South Africa at under-16, under-17 and under-18 levels. Which may explain why, for now, there are no butterflies fluttering about in his stomach.

"I'm not really nervous," says Pelteret. "But, unsurprisingly, I am very excited at the possibility of playing for my country at an international tournament."

Jonathan, tell us a bit about who you are when you're not being DJ Jonnie Meyer?

JM: I'm 23 years old and was born in Harare, Zimbabwe. I came to UCT in 2003 to do a Bachelor of Science in Genetics – I had visions of myself conducting important medical research in a laboratory, white coat and all! But I quit that course after two years and am now a 3rd year BA Film and Media student.

Why the major change?

JM: A friend who was involved with UCT Radio invited me to be a guest speaker on his show and that experience changed everything for me. I know it might sound cheesy, but on that day I found my true passion. The Film and Media degree would help me pursue my dream of becoming a Radio DJ, so I made the switch.

This is your last year of studying. What's next?

JM: Well, if all goes to plan I will still be a part of UCT Radio for some time to come. We have just put through the paperwork to apply for a permanent Station Manager position and if it gets approval I will hopefully fill that role. After that I'll try to get onto a bigger station and eventually become a household name! Some famous people have learnt their trade at UCT Radio.

Name-dropping time please!

JM: Randall Abrahams, Mark Gillman, Suga and Bongani Njoli all started out on UCT Radio (104.5FM). So, watch this space...

What sets UCT Radio apart from other stations on the airwaves?

JM: Unlike other stations we are made for the youth by the youth. We know what our listeners want to listen to

and we cater specifically to these needs. You'll hear more rock, hip hop and dance music on UCT Radio than on other stations and 50% of our play list is made up of local music. Our shows are also less scripted and censored – to a certain extent, of course!

Why the emphasis on local music?

JM: Everyone knows that local is lekker! This is what young people want to hear – music made by South African talent. UCT Radio is a huge supporter of up-and-coming local bands. We were playing Freshly-ground before anyone had even heard of them! It's really important to give local artists a stepping stone.

How easy is it to get involved with UCT Radio?

JM: Very easy. At O-week (orientation) each year we have a stand on the Jammie plaza where we recruit new members. Everyone is welcome and there is something for everyone to do whether it's producing, presenting, or the more 'techie' behind-the-scenes work. People who want to DJ or read news do have to complete an audition though, just to check whether their voice translates well on air.

What shows should new students tune into?

JM: Mine! Just kidding... Our most popular shows are the Breakfast and Drive shows, which fill up the morning and afternoon slots respectively and play a real mix of genres. Otherwise it depends on your musical tastes. Late evenings we play hip hop and house – these being the most popular at the moment. We also have the Ladies Show for those moments when you're feeling homesick, heartbroken or all mushy and in love. Our lunchtime talk shows feature everything from women's issues and serious topics to light-hearted and topical debates. There is something for everyone.



[about UCT Radio]

About 10 000 Capetonians tune into UCT Radio each week to get their fix of local and international music, news and comment from people who aren't afraid to speak their minds. The station started out as a politically-charged pilot broadcaster back in the 1970s. Since receiving its community station license post-1994, it has stayed true to its vision of remaining outside of the mainstream and catering to the young blood of the university and beyond.



 school of ballet: a proud tradition

UCT has one of the foremost schools of dance on the African continent.

The UCT School of Dance (SoD) has a long and proud tradition of training dancers, teachers and choreographers. It remains one of only two higher education institutions in South Africa which offer dance training programmes.

Established in 1934 as the UCT Ballet School, it became the training ground of many generations of South African ballet dancers, some of whom went on to achieve significant success, both in local ballet companies and those abroad. Over the decades the School broadened its base to incorporate other dance forms. Since 1998 both African Dance and Contemporary Dance are offered. African Dance has aroused tremendous interest and currently all students take modules in this dance form.

The influence of this can be seen both in student choreography, which displays an earthy fusion of African dance styles, as well as in teaching methods which embody healthy, cross-cultural influences. Currently, graduates from the SoD are highly visible as performers and choreographers in a diverse range of local and international dance companies and as teachers in private, community, and state schools programmes.

royal academy award

UCT dance lecturer Dr Eduard Greyling was awarded the Fellowship of the Institute of Choreology last year. The Fellowship is the highest award given by the Royal Academy of Dance in London and has only been awarded forty times since its inception in 1966. The award recognises outstanding and exceptional service to the Academy's Benesh Institute and Benesh Movement Notation. In Dr Greyling's case it was for his 'tireless work' in teaching Benesh Notation at UCT and for his 'pioneering work' on recording African dance.

"The recognition of Eduard's role in recording African dance is particularly significant," says director of the School of Dance, Professor Elizabeth Triegaardt. "We are referred to as the School of Ballet, and whilst classical ballet is core to the curriculum, our students are exposed to a diverse range of choreographic styles."



SA college of music

The South African College of Music (SACM) boasts a lively postgraduate department with approximately 80 students. Not only do they offer honours, masters and doctoral degrees, but also incorporate performance and composition portfolios alongside dissertations and theses. In doing so, the College takes the lead as one of the few South African tertiary institutions which acknowledge creative output as research.

Postgraduate students fill numerous positions ranging from teaching, playing in bands, ensembles and/or orchestras, or acting as arts managers or managers of musicological archives. Some return as lecturers, sharing their knowledge with the next generation of students.

uk alumnus supports opera star

Postgraduate opera student and bursary recipient, Pretty Yende, recently landed the role of Musica for the special birthday performance of Monteverdi's opera *L'Orfeo* in Mantua, Italy. Pretty performed the role 400 years to the day after the opera first opened in 1607. She auditioned for the honour against 59 other contenders, of which, at 21, she was the youngest. Pretty's story is one of phenomenal talent and success. She came to UCT to study opera in 2003, having won the Pirasano National Schools Eisteddfod as a young soprano. However, she was in need of financial aid to pursue her dream and for two years a generous UK-based UCT alumnus supported her with a bursary. When Pretty's spectacular talent became known she was able to finance her studies through other sponsorship.



photographic society



picture perfect

For the photography enthusiast, the picturesque UCT campus provides the opportunity to really get snapping. The **Photographic Society** allows students to make use of exciting facilities, like the dark rooms and the fully furnished studio for still-life photography. No need to feel out of focus if you're not an expert, the society offers a beginner's course for those who would like to learn how to use the dark room and get some really useful tips. Your images can be entered in club competitions and the society has an online gallery where your work could be viewed by all.

the passion for dance

For those with the talent for moving their body and a love for ballroom and Latin American dancing, UCT has a **Ballroom Social Dancing Society** waiting for them to join and showcase their moves. If you are looking for a dance-filled year and are keen to ensure this society keeps walking off with trophies at the intervarsity, then get on the ball, meet some vibrant new friends who share your desire for dance and learn some cool new steps while you are at it.

riding the waves

Hey Dudes and Dudettes, an awesome adventure awaits you if you join the **UCT Surf Club**. It offers those who love the thrill of the big waves an excellent opportunity to learn and participate in this exhilarating sport. Beginners don't be crushed... this club offers lessons to anyone willing to learn and also will not disappoint the professional who has that competitive spirit. Take part in established competitions like the South African Surfing Students Champs and the UCT Surf Champs.

Page compiled by **Natasha Arendorf**




mountain and ski club - your ticket to adventure

Are you the active, outdoor, adventurous type? You might be interested to know that UCT offers students with this keen interest an excellent opportunity to join a vibrant community with the **UCT Mountain and Ski Club**. So get ready to go hiking, skiing, adventure racing, mountain climbing and a whole host of other wild adventures. There are regular events like **Lion's Head Sundowners** at the start of each quarter and skiing at **Hoare Hut** in August... that will keep you out and about all year.

birthdaybashing

By Eugene Yiga



Ah, **birthdays**. They're the one time each year the world is forced to acknowledge our existence via text messages and/or meaningful gifts. Naturally, they're something we all look forward to and turning 21 is something I couldn't wait to do. It would be a Friday, which meant there were no worries about staying up late. It would also be the last day of term, which meant I could really party guilt-free. It would be perfect.

Well, that's what I thought. Sadly for me, I made the mistake of listening to a few too many cooks (or is that kooks?) tell me what my birthday was supposed to be like instead of taking the time to make up my own mind.

All I wanted was a simple night out with my friends; nothing entirely fancy or over the top. But everyone else felt I needed to turn the occasion into something super-special. It had to be huge, lest I regret it for the rest of my life.

And so came the planning. First, I had to pick a venue that wouldn't make anyone uncomfortable but also not so regular that our drinks risked getting spiked. Once that was established came deciding on a menu that would cater to everyone's taste while keeping me out of sequestration.

And finally, I had to create a guest list intimate enough to avoid me neglecting any one person but diverse enough so no sub-clique would reign supreme. It was turning into a diplomatic nightmare akin to the seating arrangements at the UN.

In the end, my big night out was a monumental flop; not because it was a particularly shoddy shindig (or because only four people showed up). It simply didn't measure up to my expectations.

Having a lofty idea of what to expect meant whatever little thing didn't quite fit into the grand plan detracted from the night. I couldn't appreciate all the well wishes and free drinks because they

simply didn't matter. Instead, I was fixated on the slow service at the restaurant and a surprisingly scarce dance floor after that. I lost the plot entirely.

I managed to come away from that experience having learned three things. Firstly, with unrealistic expectations, disappointment comes standard. Secondly, too much sushi means no room for cheesecake. And finally, listening to other people isn't always in our best interest. To them, turning 21 was about going out, getting wasted, and waking up the next day to live yet another year as the exact same person. That just wasn't me.

To me, birthdays have always meant something different and turning 21 was no exception. This was the perfect time for me to look back at my life and appreciate how far I'd come. It was the perfect time for me to acknowledge who I was and be grateful for all the experiences that had ultimately come to define me. It was about looking forward to life as a fully-fledged adult instead of stressing over a stupid theme.

In any case, my life went on. It felt great to wake up knowing I'd be starting a whole new chapter in my life. It was also great to finally decide that letting other people influence me like that would not be something I'd allow to happen anymore. I'd listen to what they had to say but ultimately, make up my own mind.

Life's too short to spend it pleasing people who think they know you and are constantly bent on telling you what you're supposed to do or how you're supposed to feel. As grown-ups, we should know better.

Eugene Yiga is a 21-year-old student at UCT, currently finishing his fourth and final year of Business Science (majoring in Finance and Accounting). He also studies piano at the South African College of Music and is the editor of Varsity Blah. His latest book is available free at www.varsityblah.com.



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