

# Monday Paper

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## Mathematician's botanical gem wins book prize

Dr Peter Bruyns' weighty 600-page, two-volume monograph on Stapeliads has won the 2008 UCT Book Award

### HELEN THÉRON

Dr Peter Bruyns' 25-years of research, trekking remoter parts of the globe in search of a group of fleshy-stemmed succulents known as Stapeliads, has borne fruit: a coveted UCT Book Award.

A mathematician specialising in the theory of permutation groups, Bruyns

is an unlikely author for a monograph on plants. He is a rare academic, highly qualified in two disparate areas. He has a DPhil in mathematics from Oxford (1986), where he was a Rhodes Scholar, and an MSc in botany from UCT (1994). He is a research associate of the Bolus Herbarium, conveniently next door to the mathematics department on University Avenue.

His two-volume *Stapeliads of Southern Africa and Madagascar* is the first complete account of the group since American botanists Alain C White and Boyd L Sloane's three-volume *The Stapelieae* was published in 1937.

But since then there has been plenty of exploration by doughty botanists, leading to the discovery of many new species.

"It also led to the realisation that many of the species discussed by White and Sloane, who never had the opportunity to see any of these plants in their natural habitat, were not species at all," Bruyns notes.

In addition to bringing the systematic treatments of the 20 genera involved up to date with many of the most modern molecular and computer methods available to the plant systematist, the volumes provide "essential information for their accurate identification".

Stapeliads are succulents with striking, pentagonal-shaped flowers belonging to the family Apocynaceae, quite plentiful in the drier parts of Africa but generally considered very difficult

to identify.

Bruyns' work - all 600 pages of it - deals with all 182 of the region's Stapeliads in great detail, including his own illustrations, line drawings showing the small details of the complex flowers, as well as photographs and distribution maps.

This work has brought together information from many sources, the results of exploration and research over the past 60 years on Southern African Stapeliads, ie those found in Botswana, South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Madagascar.

The fascination for Bruyns lies in their mysterious habitat (they are notoriously difficult to find in the wild), the curious geometry of the stems and the remarkable symmetries of the flowers, as well as the astonishing variety of different strategies that they employ to persuade insects to visit their flowers and pollinate them.

"The pollination modes are especially delicate in some cases, akin to a complex docking system where the tiny pollen bags carried by the fly are depos-

ited in a groove in the receptor flower."

Bruyns does most of his fieldwork during sabbaticals, after the rains, when the plants are in flower. For this, he's tramped some of the world's more isolated places in search of specimens: Eritrea, Ethiopia, Yemen, Nepal, the Canary Isles and Burma.

"The eerie beauty of the Stapeliads makes it easy to understand why a scientist would be drawn to investigating them," commented acting deputy vice-chancellor for research, Professor Danie Visser. "They are often described as the orchids of the succulent world, and this magnificently illustrated work does full justice to these weird and wonderful plants.

"But more than that, with this book, published about 300 years after the death of Linnaeus, Peter Bruyns has made a major contribution to plant taxonomy. His 25 years of research has been rewarded by the acclaim with which *Stapeliads of Southern Africa and Madagascar* has been received all over the world and he richly deserves the prestigious UCT Book Award." **MP**



Meritorious Awards for 2008 were made to Professor Johann Lutjeharms (right) of the Department of Oceanography for his publication, *The Agulhas Current*, and to Emma van der Vliet (below) of the Centre for Film and Media Studies for *Past Imperfect*.



The latter is one of very few works of fiction nominated for a UCT Book Prize. JM Coetzee is the only novelist to have won the award twice, for *Waiting for the Barbarians* (1984) and *Age of Iron* (1990). In 2006, among other books, Meritorious Awards were given to two novels, Susan Mann's *One Tongue Singing* and Mary Watson's *Moss*.

The 2005 winner of the UCT Book Award, *The Moral Economy of AIDS in South Africa* by Nicoli Natrass, was recently awarded the prestigious Bill Venter/Altron



prize for 2007. In 2003 Professor Jeremy Seekings won this prize for *The UDF: A history of the United Democratic Front in South Africa, 1983-1991*, and in 2004 Professor Vanessa Watson's *Change and Continuity in Spatial Planning* took the laurels.

## UCT mourns the loss of Professor George Lindsey

It was with shock that UCT learned of the death last week of Professor George Lindsey of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, who died in a plane crash on 2 May.

Lindsey, a graduate of the University of Sussex, joined UCT in 1974 as a researcher at the Medical School and moved to the Department of Biochemistry in 1979. He was promoted ad hominem to professor in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology in January this

year.

Lindsey's research interests within the field of biochemistry were broad, but he had an ongoing fascination for the proteins that protect plants against thermal denaturation. He worked with UCT colleagues Professors Jill Farrant and Wolf Brandt on the compound that protects the membranes of the resurrection plant against desiccation.

UCT's Acting Vice-Chancellor

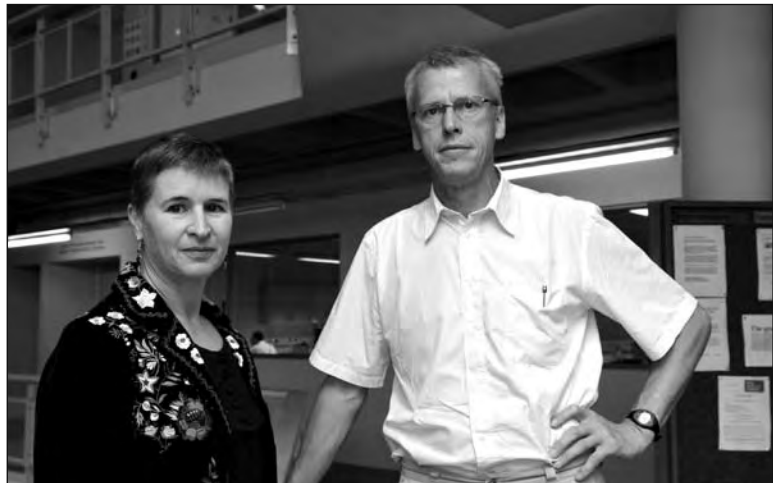
and Principal, Professor Martin West, expressed his condolences to Lindsey's family and friends. "This is a sad loss for the university," said West.

"We are devastated by this tragic loss," added the Dean of the Faculty of Science, Professor Kathy Driver. "He will be greatly missed by his colleagues, research collaborators and students".

UCT has offered its support to the Lindsey family. **MP**



# Mellon mentor praises innovative students



Prof Herman Kramer of Delft University of Technology, Netherlands, a Mellon Visiting Mentor, was hosted by Professor Alison Lewis of the Department of Chemical Engineering.

## HELEN THÉRON

Working with young students with “brilliant ideas” is an ideal way to spend a sabbatical, said Professor Herman Kramer of Delft University of Technology, Netherlands.

Kramer, a Mellon Visiting Mentor, was speaking at his farewell function after three months in the chemical engineering department, hosted by Professor Alison Lewis.

“I tried to use my experience to focus the students a bit on the subject, whether in the laboratory or dealing with theoretical problems.”

With a PhD from the University of Leiden, Kramer has worked in sci-

entific research at the Radiobiological Institute of TNO Rijswijk, on a project on dosimetry and the biological effects of ultraviolet radiation.

He conducted his postdoctoral studies at Delft, where he is now responsible for research into industrial evaporative and cooling crystallisation and industrial milling processes.

Kramer said he had particularly enjoyed worked with students at UCT individually, discussing specific crystallisation problems.

He said students were innovative and creative in finding solutions at all levels.

“They don’t think too much about rules. They find solutions. We miss this in the ‘old world’.” **MP**

## Students compete in top competition

### MYOLISI GOPHE

Two UCT business science teams have reached the national finals of the prestigious L’Oreal Brandstorm international marketing competition.

Cape Persuasion, comprising Celeste Adonis, Aletha Jaftha and Melissa Rassie, as well as Rooibos, made up of Ruth Chapman, Tatum Howie and Nontu Mashaba, will compete with five other teams from universities and advertising schools around the country on 15 May, in Johannesburg.

The winning team will earn a place at the international finals to be held in Paris, France, in June, to compete for the world title, new job opportunities and a tour of the globe.

L’Oreal Brandstorm is a marketing game that allows students throughout the world to design a make-believe sun block product for the L’Oreal brand, as well as a marketing campaign to launch that product.

UCT has a good record in the competition, having won two of the last three national finals. **MP**

## Maths competition attracts hundreds of schools



No problem: The UCT Mathematics Competition attracted students from about 400 schools.

### CHRIS MCEVOY

The UCT Mathematics Competition, which took place at the university on 29 April, attracted thousands of learners from about 400 schools, with nearly 200 teachers assisting in some 50 venues across campus.

The competition, which has been an annual campus event since 1980, is aimed at popularising mathematics among high schools in the Western Cape, and identifies promising students in order to offer them opportunities for further development of their mathematical

talents.

During the 75-minute event, students solve sets of problems that are appropriate to their school grade. Only a third participate as individuals, with the rest working in pairs, hoping to demonstrate that two heads are better than one.

The 2008 UCT Mathematics Competition is sponsored by African and UCT’s Faculty of Science and the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, with additional prizes donated by Casio and Oxford University Press.

The prize-giving takes place in the Baxter Concert Hall in May. **MP**

## Career workshop for young postgraduate women

Twenty-nine young women scientists from AIMS and the Universities of Cape Town and of Stellenbosch participated in Dr Diane Wilcox’s workshop on early career adjustment.

It was presented under the auspices of South African Women in Science and Engineering (SAWISE) and HERS-SA, partially sponsored by Element 6 and AIMS, who hosted it.

The programme was designed by Dr Sarah Riordan, a professional organisation psychologist and member of HERS-SA.

The workshop was designed to

help postgraduate students to clarify their early career expectations, identify their competencies, prepare their CVs and shape up for formal interviews on entering the job market.

Young postgraduate students grapple with aspects of their early academic careers in the context of personal, family and social expectations.

While they focus on the priority of sharpening their theoretical and technical expertise, they’re all too aware of the range of challenges that lie ahead in the next stage of their professional lives. **MP**

## Scientist speaks on Huntington pursuit

### MEGAN MORRIS

Speaking at the UCT Alumni Leadership Forum on 5 May, acclaimed scientist Dr Michael Hayden chronicled his career-long quest to understand and find a cure for Huntington’s disease, a rare genetic neurological disorder.

Hayden, described by erstwhile lecturer and former vice-chancellor Dr Stuart Saunders as “the quintessential physician”, related how his interest in both Huntington’s and genetics - then still in its embryonic stage at UCT - was first sparked at the UCT Medical School, from where he graduated with an MBChB in 1975 and a PhD in 1979.

Hayden left South Africa for Harvard and eventually settled at Canada’s University of British Columbia. Here he and colleagues have done groundbreaking work on Huntington’s and other conditions. Most recently, their work on the mutant protein that causes Huntington’s has been hailed



Inquisitive: Dr Michael Hayden’s work has brought hope to those who suffer from Huntington’s disease.

worldwide as the next step towards a cure.

“It is this work that brings hope to sufferers around the world, said the evening’s second speaker, NBC war correspondent Charles Sabine. Sabine’s father died of Huntington’s, and both he and his brother suffer

from the disease.

The Alumni Leadership Forum was established to bring leading UCT alumni back to the university. While it is hosted in Cape Town for now, plans are under way to move the event to other provinces as well, explained DVC Prof Thandabantu Nhlapo. **MP**

## New space created for interdisciplinary work



Last week saw the opening of the newly refurbished space of the Centre for Research in Computational and Applied Mechanics’ (CERECAM). The revamp was made possible through funding from the Department of Science and Technology and

the National Research Foundation. “We have been able to reconfigure our space to create an environment where students and staff from various disciplines are able to interact and work together on developing solutions for a wide range of research projects,” said

CERECAM director, Professor Daya Reddy. From its modest beginnings as a research group in the Department of Civil Engineering, CERECAM now includes 13 academic staff from the Departments of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, Physics and four engineering departments. Consequently, interdisciplinary work has become embedded in the objectives of the Centre. “CERECAM brings together disciplines of engineering blended with good sciences, and the new space creates the atmosphere of sharing and interaction across the different disciplines,” said Professor Francis Petersen, dean of the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment. Among those at the opening of the venue were deputy vice-chancellor Prof Danie Visser, Prof Daya Reddy, Prof Kathy Driver and Prof Francis Petersen. **MP**

# Wellcome boost for HIV and TB initiatives



Research boost: Wellcome Trust Fellows Assoc Prof Robert Wilkinson (left) and Dr Graeme Meintjes (right) with senior students at the IIDMM.

## MYOLISI GOPHE

The fight against HIV and TB received a boost when the Wellcome Trust recently granted a consortium of researchers, led by Associate Professor Robert Wilkinson, £3-million (R45 million) to establish a Centre for Clinical Infectious Disease Research at UCT.

The grant was part of an African £20-million investment by the trust, in research and training in Africa, aimed at ensuring that researchers are equipped to tackle the most pressing problems in their respective regions.

Awards have also been made to research programmes based in Kenya, Uganda and to Professor Brian Greenwood from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to support training for African scientists to undertake malaria research in African universities.

The UCT centre will focus on HIV and TB, which are among the main causes of death in Sub-Saharan Africa, says Wilkinson, UCT's Institute of Infectious Diseases and

Molecular Medicine and a Senior Fellow of Clinical Tropical Medicine for the Wellcome Trust, the UK's largest medical research charity.

Wilkinson says the situation is dire. Life expectancy had fallen to below 50 years in a number of African countries.

"Added to the crisis is that remaining in Africa to help combat these problems is not attractive for the few doctors and scientists that the continent produces.

"We therefore requested an increase in the core support to an existing group of Wellcome Trust and other agency-funded researchers in Southern Africa, to link them more effectively and thereby provide better career prospects for African researchers."

Around 25 entry positions in research will be established to develop the skills of scientists working in Southern Africa so that they can compete better for their own funding. In addition, the capacity to conduct clinical and laboratory research will be enhanced. **MP**

## Beukes launches hi-tech fable

### MEGAN MORRIS

Lauren Beukes is the most recent graduate from the master's programme in UCT's Centre of Creative Writing to see her thesis into print.

Beukes recently celebrated the launch of *Moxyland*, a novel set in Cape Town of 2017, a city that that bristles with state-of-the-art technology but weighed down under corporate control. The plot tackles everything from AIDS orphanages set up by corporations and orphans locked into ironclad contracts with said corporations, a government fronted by a merciless police force backed by bio-tech-enhanced attack dogs, ubiquitous branding, epidemics, video games and that most iconic piece of technology, the cellphone.

"It's a novel of ideas, inspired by where South Africa is right now and



where it's going," says Beukes.

Despite its futuristic setting, it's not a sci-fi novel, Beukes insists, borrowing more in tone and style from the works of Margaret Atwood and others.

*Moxyland*'s been dubbed a "frighteningly persuasive high-tech fable for South Africa", and critics have lapped it up.

"Reminiscent at times of Neal Stephenson's cyberpunk classic *Snow Crash*, its paragraphs dripping alternately with newly-coined street slang and futuristic techno-lingo, *Moxyland* is funny, gritty, imaginative and, ultimately, deeply disturbing," said one reviewer.

"Lauren Beukes is a startling new voice on the South African literary scene, and her novel, *Moxyland*, is courageous, cool, and refreshingly un sentimental," wrote another.

Beukes, head writer at Clockwork Zoo Animation during office hours, is already at work on a second novel, set in Hillbrow this time. It's full of "crazy ideas", she says, and tells the story – in part – of a girl who receives messages from the dead.

Beukes is also the author of *Maverick: Extraordinary Women From South Africa's Past*. **MP**

## SATVI's Vaccine trial shows promise

Associate Professor Willem Hanekom of the Medical School's Institute of Infectious Diseases and Molecular Medicine attended at tuberculosis conference in Atlanta, USA to present a progress update from a local tuberculosis vaccine study.

Hanekom attended the conference, titled Tuberculosis Vaccines for the World, as the head of UCT's African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative

(SATVI) delegation to present results thus far of Phase I study, conducted at SATVI's Worcester study site since May 2007. Hanekom described the results as "very encouraging".

Preliminary data shows that the candidate vaccine, known as AERAS-402/Crucell Ad35, produces CD4 and CD8 immune T-cells, both critical arms of the cellular immune system. These potent CD4 and in particular,

CD8 T-cell immune responses are thought to be central to the control of tuberculosis infection. Significantly, data further shows that in those participants who responded, CD8 immune responses are considerably higher than those ever seen in a TB vaccine study.

The trial is being conducted on 40 healthy adult volunteers. All were vaccinated at birth. **MP**

## Research issues examined

### MYOLISI GOPHE

Political and practical challenges concerning research in the global South were scrutinised when master's student Sian Butcher hosted a workshop on qualitative fieldwork methodologies.

Her seminar, Problematising Qualitative Fieldwork, Negotiating 'the Field' and Back Again, was organised by Butcher, a master's student in human geography, as part of her Potter

Charitable Trust Fellowship requirements.

She is finalising her work, a comparative study on women's narratives and housing privatisation in local community Valhalla Park and Lusaka, Zambia. One of the questions Butcher



raises is how individuals and communities benefit from fieldwork research.

"People give their stories and time, but what do we give back?" she asked, challenging academics and students to think about how they contribute to social change.

At the workshop, students and academics had a chance to share their experience in panel discussions of many research-related issues, such as negotiating access, conversations regarding the body and identity, and being an insider or an outsider to communities. **MP**

## Tribute to extraordinary, humble teacher

### HELEN THÉRON

Humble, dedicated, meticulous, extraordinary. These words came from the heart to describe the late Kevin Rochford (1944-2008) at a memorial event at the Graduate School of Humanities last Tuesday.

Rochford recently lost his life in a shooting incident, believed to be an attempted hijacking.

The celebration of his life, attended by friends, family, colleagues and students, was held in the lecture theatre where he practiced so much of his teaching.

In his welcome, Professor Crain Soudien, one of Rochford's former students, said: "We thought it was appropriate. This is where he started over 30 years ago."

Rochford had been due to retire next year and had been married to Gadija only three weeks at the time of the shooting. The school had invited him to remain on their staff as a research associate.

Rochford joined the former Faculty of Education from Westerford High School as a lecturer in science education in 1976. He obtained his BEd and MEd degrees from the faculty and was awarded a PhD in 1984.

Apart from his gifts as a teacher, Rochford was many other things: he liked to cook, (dressed in his apron and brown slippers), inviting his

postgraduate students to his home to bond, thus making the postgraduate experience "less lonely". He was a dedicated athlete, a veteran marathon runner, a magician, and he could teach grade 1 pupils with as much verve as he did his senior students.

"The magic of his inspirational teaching was a major influence on my professional life," said Associate Professor Rudi Laugksch, director of the School of Education.

"I experienced the magic of his inspirational teaching."

Rochford's field trips were legendary. He delighted in taking his students to every corner of the province to enrich the teaching experience: to De Hoop Nature Reserve, to the Holocaust Centre to relate science to history.

"He had a passion for intellectual enquiry," said Professor Lesley le Grange, deputy dean of the Faculty of Education at Stellenbosch University and one of Rochford's many MEd protégés.

"He taught us as educators that our pupils must want to learn. Only when a subject grabs them will they learn," said Reneé Carslake, a teacher at Pinelands High School and a former PGCE student said.

"Whatever your ideas, he always replied, 'As you wish'. Thank you, Professor. From you I truly learnt, as you wished." **MP**

## Honorary professors

UCT has appointed Dr John Donaldson and Dr Suzanne Milton as honorary professors in the Faculty of Science. Donaldson holds the Harold Pearson chair in the Department of Botany, and Milton is based in the Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology. **MP**

# VC and VC-designate meet stakeholders, alumni and donors in Canada, US

HELEN THÉRON

Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Njabulo S Ndebele, and the Vice-Chancellor-designate, Dr Max Price, recently returned from Canada and the United States where they met with key stakeholders, donors and alumni.

The programme is part of an intensive six-month leadership transition plan as Prof Ndebele prepares to leave UCT at the end of June.

Prof Ndebele and Dr Price were ac-

companied by the executive director of the Development and Alumni Department, Dr Jim McNamara.

“The aim of the trip was to meet the presidents of the major foundations that are strong supporters of UCT, for Prof Ndebele to say farewell (in his current role), and to ‘hand over’ the key foundation-UCT relationship to Max Price and introduce him to each president and their senior staff,” McNamara said.

“As always, we thanked the presidents for their support, and discussed

broad themes around strategic directions for each foundation and for UCT.”

The group also met with the trustee boards of UCT’s legally-independent supporting organisations in New York and Toronto, the UCT Fund Inc (USA) and the UCT Foundation Canada.

Discussions focused on how the boards could best serve UCT’s interests in future, in relation to building supportive alumni communities in major cities in each country, and in fundraising for UCT’s strategic projects and financial aid.

On the social calendar there were several alumni receptions in US cities, an opportunity for Prof Ndebele to say farewell and to introduce Dr Price.

“These were especially well-attended, reflecting good work on the part of Tina Barsby of the UCT Fund Inc,” McNamara said.

“The level of interest in and enthusiasm for UCT on the part of alumni was quite high, and those alumni communities are building nicely.”

Prof Ndebele also travelled to the University of Michigan where an



Dr Max Price, second from right, with alumni and friends Fiona Jack, Oliver Link, Guto Barra, Maxine Lubner and Janine le Sueur at the Harvard Club.



Prof Njabulo S Ndebele and Dr Max Price met with alumni and friends at the Harvard Club of New York City.

honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was bestowed on him on 26 April.

At Pitzer College in California, on 29 April, he delivered a lecture on transformation of the university in post-apartheid South Africa.

The visits are already bearing fruit. From Michael D Ezekowitz, Vice-President and Professor at the Lankenau Institute for Medical Research in Philadelphia, came this message to Dr Price: “Your visit was an unqualified success! We are already discussing potential collaborations.... events such as these

bring awareness of UCT and SA and also bring graduates together. Graduates often live in close geographic proximity but seldom interact.”

Next on their schedule is a trip to Australia and New Zealand, Dr Price will be accompanied on this trip by Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo and Lungile Jacobs from the Development and Alumni Department.

Dr Price will attend alumni receptions in Perth, Melbourne, Sydney, and Auckland. **MP**

## A DAY IN THE LIFE

*of the student recruitment section of the Admissions Office.*

MYOLISI GOPHE

### Who are they?

The section is staffed by manager Iegsaan Isaacs, officers Thando Tsotsobe, Nambita Ngcingwana and Gcinumzi Haduse, and assistant Nolindo Wabani. In addition, the work of Roger Wood of the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, Joy Erasmus of the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Science’s Shanaaz Smith contain a student recruitment element, and they co-operate with the team.

### What do student recruitment officers do?

The team supports the enrolment objectives of the faculties, provides prospective UCT students with the requirements to make informed decisions about their studies, and maintains strong relationships with traditional feeder schools. Simultaneously, they develop relationships with new schools and communities, including township and rural communities. The team visits schools across the Western Cape, targeting Grades 9, 11 and 12. A number of other provinces are also visited to recruit Grade 12s. The team also attends career exhibitions, host recruitment-related events like the Open Day, UCT information evenings and afternoons in communities, as well as interviews learners and parents, and hosts school tours. To do this, team members need to be armed with good communication skills, particularly good public-speaking and networking skills, a good understanding of the secondary school sector and a sound understanding of UCT.



Talent scouts: Recruitment Team members include, back, Thando Tsotsobe, Iegsaan Isaacs and Gcinumzi Haduse, and Nolindo Wabani (seated). Absent on the day was Nambita Ngcingwana.

### What are the highs and lows of the job?

The highs are witnessing the difference they make to individuals’ aspirations, building relationships with whole communities throughout the country, and witnessing graduations that the officers may have had a hand in. Among the lows are witnessing the low standard of schooling still evident in many areas and having to inform learners that they do not meet

the requirements for admission.

### How do you select areas for recruitment?

The office looks at whether the school/s is functional, at the recent school-leaving results of a school, the recent application record of a school, whether the school is part of broadening relationships within a wider community, and if the school is linked to another initiative at UCT.

## Western Cape Premier



Western Cape Premier Ebrahim Rasool was on campus on 28 April to address a fortnightly seminar hosted by the Department of Religious Studies on the topic of Islam, African Publics and Religious Values. “The Premier has played a significant role in national politics since the early 1980s,” said the

department’s Professor Abdulkader Tayob, who invited Rasool to the event. “More specifically, he has articulated his politics through a reading of religion (Islam) and social conscience.” In his talk, Rasool reflected on the interface between politics and religions in the Western Cape. **MP**

## SRC poster campaign spotlights transformation



HELEN THÉRON

Black and white leaves no room for grey, certainly not where transformation is concerned; a point that was driven home in the Student Representative Council’s campus poster campaign.

“We’re trying to create awareness of transformation initiatives and issues such as student retention and

throughput,” said the SRC’s Tarryn Christians (transformation portfolio).

Christians said the SRC had identified some disturbing trends, for example apathy among white students who don’t attend student initiatives such as the Rolling Eyes Forum.

“They feel sidelined and marginalised, with the focus on black students. They also need a platform to speak in a protected environment.”

The campaign also focused on students with disabilities.

“We hope to have a monthly round of posters and forums for discussions, including the Student Leaders Transformation Forum, picking up on academic awareness month in May.”

The posters include some uncompromising statements about race.

“That’s our aim, to get people angry.” **MP**

# Student activities profiled in social responsiveness report



**HELEN THÉRON**

As universities around the world work to become closer civic allies, the trend of linking social responsiveness and research to produce “engaged research” is escalating at a phenomenal rate among elite research institutions.

This was the opinion expressed at a recent UCT seminar by Professor Tim Stanton, Visiting Senior Fellow at Stanford’s John Gardner Centre for Youth and Their Communities.

Introducing Stanton, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Martin Hall said UCT had begun grappling with civic engagement some 10 years ago.

With national development in mind, focus had shifted to the challenge of integrating teaching and learning with community upliftment, a uniquely collaborative process between science and society, and a research and academic endeavour to benefit both campus and community.

To this end UCT has released three social responsiveness reports to track its progress. The latest, Portraits of Practice: Social responsiveness at the University of Cape Town, goes even further than its predecessors.

It presents a sample of 16 case studies, each a gauge of the innovative civic and community work that accompanies the teaching and research. These include, for the first time, two voluntary student activities.

## **CENTRE FOR LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC VALUES**

This centre, the result of a bi-national partnership between UCT and the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy at Duke University, develops innovative programmes working with and supporting leaders in the public, private and non-profit sectors. Its aim

is to make society more inclusive, equitable and sustainable.

## **PLANTED SEEDS TAKE ROOT: POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME IN DISABILITY STUDIES**

Leaders in the disability sector work with academic institutions to develop disability studies and research.



The programme has links with the Centre for Disability Studies at the University of Leeds.

## **HEALTH AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

The project works closely with civil society organisations to launch initiatives, train educators of health professionals, and make their research available in the public domain. Their research contributes to UCT’s own transformation strategies.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION UNIT**

This unit’s work is oriented to social engagement and development, and it is now a recognised leader in

integrated environmental management and sustainable development. They have an interdisciplinary, participatory approach to local and global issues.

## **CONTRIBUTING TO ECONOMIC GROWTH POLICY FOR SOUTH AFRICA**

This project sees officials in the National Treasury team up with academics to research long-term economic policy, providing opportunities for UCT academics to work closely with leading international economists.

## **DIPLOMA IN EDUCATION: ADULT EDUCATION**

This two-year programme in the Higher and Adult Education Development and Studies Unit of the Centre for Higher Education development targets adult educators who want a formal qualification.

## **PALSA PLUS**

Run by the Lung Institute, this



project combines an evidence-based guideline with an educational outreach programme for the diagnosis and management of common lung diseases.

## **AFRICAN CULTURAL AND HERITAGE PROJECT**

This is based in the Department of Geomatics at the School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics, and works to create an accurate permanent record of important African cultural sites for restoration and conservation.

## **CENTRE FOR POPULAR MEMORY**

Located in the humanities faculty, this project ensures that non-academic sources are recognised as legitimate

forms of knowledge that are of value to the academy.

## **CAPE INITIATIVE IN MATERIALS AND MANUFACTURING**

This acts as a bridge between big and small manufacturing companies and the best scientists, engineers and testing laboratories in the province’s research institutions.

## **REFUGEE RIGHTS PROJECT**

This project provides a unique service to refugees and asylum seekers, and is widely recognised for its work in addressing the difficult legal circumstances of refugees. Through advocacy, the project promotes the local integration of refugees into South African society.

## **MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE EDUCATION PROJECT**

This is a partnership between UCT and provincial government to improve the quality of maths and science edu-

cation in the province, and is being run at five schools in Cape Town.

## **MATHEMATICAL OUTREACH**

Run by the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, this project hosts a range of activities for pupils at secondary schools. It also publishes a quarterly magazine for schools.

## **HONOURS OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAMME**

The Department of Information Systems’ honours programme asks all fulltime honours students to spend 20 hours working on a compulsory community-based project of their choice. It holds rich potential for transdisciplinary research and teaching.

## **INKANYEZI: STUDENT VOLUNTARY INITIATIVE**

This is a UCT-student volunteering programme to improve the access of disadvantaged school pupils to tertiary study, learnerships and financial assistance. Through interactive workshops, students teach pupils about study opportunities and guide their subject and career choices.

## **MASIZIKHULISE**

This is an education project staffed by UCT student volunteers, who train 50 to 60 unemployed adults from Nyanga and Khayelitsha. It is an intensive six-month programme offering entrepreneurship skills, job-finding capabilities and computer literacy. <sup>MP</sup>



# Science and society

**HELEN THÉRON**

Community engaged scholarship could be the key to future research funding and sponsorship, Stanford University’s Professor Tim Stanton said at a recent semi-

nar at UCT.

Stanton is a Visiting Senior Fellow at Stanford’s John Gardner Centre for Youth and their Communities. His 10-year association with UCT began at around the time the university had started shap-

ing its own responses to community needs.

Stanton added that in the US there is evidence that promotion and tenure are also tied to rewards for community engaged scholarship, part of what he described as new opportu-

nities and challenges for universities.

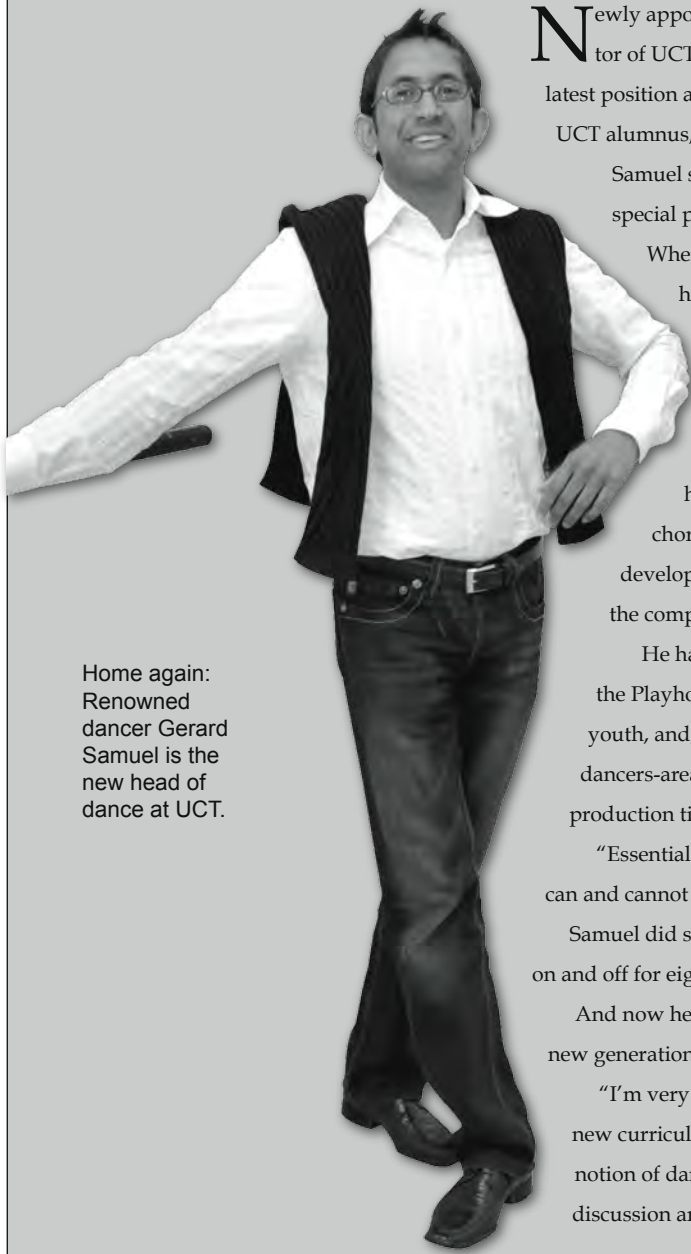
“New times demand new scholarship, requiring evolving contracts between society and science,” he said. “One aspect of social engagement is that it is highly multidisciplinary. Universities tend to be silos of

disciplines.”

Social responsiveness demands transdisciplinary research.

“There’s no doubt that while it provides a richer academic experience, it also helps fundraising, both state and privately.

# Top dancer returns



Home again: Renowned dancer Gerard Samuel is the new head of dance at UCT.

Newly appointed head of department and, in effect, director of UCT's School of Dance, Gerard Samuel, sees his latest position as a "fresh adventure", and given that he is a UCT alumnus, something of a homecoming.

Samuel studied at UCT in the early 1980s, requiring special permission to study here as a black student.

When he graduated in 1984 with a diploma in ballet, he was arguably the first classical dancer from the Indian community to qualify from a professional ballet company.

Much of Samuel's work has been with the Playhouse Company in Durban, where he served as everything from performer to choreographer, administrator to education and development manager, and finally as the right hand to the company's director.

He has been involved in a string of initiatives with the Playhouse, notably in his work with children and youth, and, his speciality, dance programmes for disabled dancers-areas he brought together in a children's theatre production titled *Who says, The Ugly Duckling?*

"Essentially, the question I raised was about who it is that can and cannot dance."

Samuel did similar work in Denmark, where he was based, on and off for eight or nine years.

And now he's back at UCT, where he wants to introduce a new generation of students to the area of disability theatre.

"I'm very interested in pursuing the development of a new curriculum at the School of Dance, and widening the notion of dance," he says. "I want to start the theoretical discussion around the subject of dance and the disabled."

# Killer play at Little Theatre



The UCT Drama Department and the Little Theatre will present Martin Crimp's acclaimed *Attempts On Her Life* - directed by Liz Mills, with designs by Daniel Galloway, James Webb and Sanjin Muftic - at the Little Theatre from 17-24 May.

Who is the elusive Anne at the centre of this cascade of 'scenarios for theatre'? Is she the deeply wounded young woman of the failed love affair, the rock star with the mil-

lion-dollar movie contract, the young idealistic wife or the lonely figure who haunts shabby hotels, meeting with anonymous men? And the attempts? Are they attempts on Anne's life, her own attempt to take her life or author Martin Crimp's attempts to define her life? Can Crimp's rapidly shifting perspectives help to relieve Anne of the anxiety of the contradictions of her world?

Martin Crimp's *Attempts on Her*

*Life* is a postdramatic work of shifting landscapes. First performed at the Royal Court Upstairs in 1997, the work has been produced subsequently throughout the UK and across Europe, with translations in twenty languages.

Shows start at 20h00.

Tickets cost R50 (students R35). Bookings can be made by calling 021 480 7129 or via email to susan.cole@uct.ac.za. **MP**

# Woyzeck hits the Cape



Puppet masters: Adrian Kohler and Busi Zokufa pull the strings in *Woyzeck on the Highveld* at the Baxter Theatre Centre.

## MYOLISI GOPHE

The award-winning play *Woyzeck on the Highveld* makes its Cape Town debut when it takes to the stage at the Baxter Theatre Centre from 6 to 17 May.

Adapted and directed by renowned artist and film-maker William Kentridge, the production comes to the Mother City for the first time since it premiered at the Standard Bank National Arts Festival in Grahamstown 15 years ago.

It has been adapted from German writer Georg Buchner's famous play about jealousy, murder

and the struggle of an individual who is eventually destroyed by an uncaring society. In this version *Woyzeck*, originally written as a German soldier in the early 1800s, is a migrant worker in Johannesburg in the 50s, and his story is set against a bleak landscape of industrialisation.

The play received several awards, including the Vita Award for best new production in 1992/3.

Booking is open at Computicket on 083 915 8000. For discounted block, corporate and school bookings, contact Sharon on 021 680 3962 during office hours. **MP**

# Landscapes showcased at Irma Stern

A new exhibition of paintings by Dutch artist Joan Peeters opens at the Irma Stern Museum in Rosebank on 6 May.

Titles *The Landscape Unveiled* the exhibition showcases Peeters' often ethereal, postmodern realist paintings of the Karoo landscape. She uses muted, subtle colours reveal the nature and character of a terrain that is often a dry wilderness. The works hark back to a northern romantic tradition that conveys a sense of isolation and

reflection.

"I find it an incredible challenge, a sense of daring, to walk into the landscape with my drawing board and easel and confront the silence that surrounds me," says Peeters. "Alone and vulnerable in a wild, wide landscape. There is also a feeling of wonder, because nature has an inviolable sense of order that I hope to capture on canvas."

*The Landscape Unveiled* runs until 24 May. **MP**

# Colonel Bird perches at Little Theatre

The UCT Drama Department and the Little Theatre will stage Hristo Boytchev's *The Colonel Bird*, directed by Christopher Weare, at the Arena Theatre from 15-24 May.

*The Colonel Bird* is described as a "politicised *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*", and is said to subvert all conventional definitions of madness. War in Kosovo in the 1990s gave Bulgarian writer Boytchev's comic satire on Balkan politics a timely edge.

A doctor, who is probably not a doctor, arrives at a derelict monastery where six mental patients have



been abandoned. The play then follows the misadventures of these six inmates, who declare that their forgotten 'convent' is an independent territory, and appoint themselves as a UN fighting force.

*The Colonel Bird* is performed by senior students of the UCT Drama School.

Tickets cost R50, and R35 for students. Bookings can be made by calling 021 480 7129 or via email to susan.cole@uct.ac.za.

All shows start at 20h30, but there will be no show on Monday, 19 May. **MP**

## LECTURES &amp; MEETINGS

**Prof J L van Niekerk**, Centre for Renewable & Sustainable Energy Studies at Stellenbosch University will give a talk on "The Role of Renewable Energy in SA". He will discuss the current policy environment in SA, the future of renewable energy in SA; the various renewable energy resources present and the state of the technology to harvest it. 21st May at 5pm at SA Observatory auditorium in Observatory Rd. All welcome royalsociety@uct.ac.za

**The South African New Economics** (SANE) network is having a symposium on May 24 from 9am to 2pm in the Leslie Social Sciences Building at the University of Cape Town. The symposium seeks public input on how to develop a common sustainable economic agenda capable of addressing current economic realities. Everyone is welcome. Please contact the SANE network to reserve a place or for more information. Telephone 021 762 5933/2422 or email sane@iafrica.com

**ALL EVENTS TAKE PLACE IN THE** Centre for African Studies GALLERY.

**Friday 16 May, 1- 3pm. A seminar** with Faith Adiele 'Finding Faith'. Writer Faith Adiele will be screening and discussing the themes and making of My Journey Home (PBS), a 30-minute documentary film that aired nationally in the USA. Constructed as a 3-act essay, the film is based on her writings and experience growing up with a Nordic American mother and then travelling to Nigeria as an adult to find her father and siblings. In unearthing her family's relationship to American Civil Rights history and Nigerian Civil/Biafran War history, the film interrogates notions of home, race, and family, as well as the relationship between personal and national identity.

**Monday 19 May, 6 - 8pm. The Architecture** of the Library at Timbuktu: A Celebration of Africa Day. Convened and Chaired by Zubeida Jaffer. Further participants to be announced.

**Wednesday 21 May, 1-2pm. A seminar** with Walton Johnson 'Portrait of a freedom fighter'. Title and Discussant to be announced

## VACANT POSTS

## EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

**Lecturer:** Environmental & Geographical Science, Department of Environmental and Geographical Science, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 16 May 2008, Tel: 021 650 2192

**Lecturer:** Urban Geography, Department of Environmental and Geographical Science, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 16 May 2008, Tel: 021 650 2192

**Lecturer** in Biomedical Engineering (2 year contract), Department of Human Biology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 19 May 2008, Tel: 021 406 6670

**PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)**  
**Head: Business Development**

& Client Management, Executive Education Unit, The UCT Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 12 May 2008, Tel: 021 650 2192

**Postgraduate Assistant** (Part-time), Faculty of Science, Closing date: 12 May 2008, Tel: 021 650 2712

**Departmental Assistant**, Division of Chemical Pathology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 14 May 2008, Tel: 021 406 6155/072 244 8509

**Part-time Senior Secretary**, Department of Chemistry, Closing date: 15 May 2008, Fax : 021 689 7499

**Chief Scientific Officer**, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering & The Built Environment, Closing date: 16 May 2008, Tel: 021 650 2220

**Administrative Assistant**, The Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 19 May 2008, Tel: 021 404 2137/74

**Chief Operating Officer**, The Africa Earth Observatory Network (AEON), Faculty of Science, Closing date: 30 May 2008. Tel: 021 650 2220

**Medical Officer**, The Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, Closing date: 31 May 2008, Email: Jobs@hiv-research.org.za

## RESEARCH:

**Research Nurse (Part time)**, The South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI), Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 16 May 2008, Tel: 021 406 6014

## POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

**Behavioural Research Coordinator**, School of Public Health and Family Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences Closing date: 12 May 2008, Tel: 021 406 6764

*The vacancies can be viewed at: <http://www.staff.uct.ac.za/hr/external/> or Posts for UCT staff*

## PROPERTY

**Rondebosch:** 01 May - 30 Nov 08, 2 bedroom, furn, fitted kitchen in secure block, near UCT. Rent R5400 p/m, incl. elec. Email: malcugust@iafrica.com

**Rondebosch:** house-sitter wanted for nice two-bed house very close to UCT mid June to late July. Contact: Chris 0216857086.

**Rondebosch:** Garden Cottage R2500pm. Postgraduates only. Single non-smoker. Furnished lounge/diner, bed, bath, kitchen and secure parking. Will need own transport. Contact: Helen 0216853716/0764277970.

**Rondebosch:** 1 furnished room. share kitchen, bath and no secure parking. 2 mins walk from the station available from 1 May or sooner. Contact: Jean 0216892117.

**Sea Point:** Furnished, one-bedroom flat, DSTV connected at Sea Point from 1st April 2008, R5000,00 p/m, includes electricity, close to all amenities. Short stays negotiable. Debbie 0824656102.

**Rondebosch:** close to UCT. Furnished for quiet, single non-smoking postgrad. Off street parking also available. Rent R2250p/m. Two months deposit Lease. Contact: 0216852462.

**Rondebosch:** From 1 June 2008 to 31 May 2009 - Fully equipped spacious 2 bed flat with parking in a quiet, secure complex close to UCT, mountain, shops, Newlands Rugby and Cricket grounds etc. Suitable for visiting academic, professional or postgrad student - R4500pm. Contact: Nicky 0828432765 or aopb2003@yahoo.co.uk

**Crawford:** Large unfurnished bedroom available in house share, with one other person. Use of all facilities, off street parking. Available immediately. R 1,850.00 pm. Contact Alistair alistairmfortuin@gmail.com

**Pinelands.** Room to let in fully furnished house with garden. PhD student seeks fellow postgraduate or young professional to share his house. Must be of sober habits. R1800/month (excluding utilities). Available 15 May 2008. Contact: Andrew 0216505613/0837358408.

**Simonstown:** Garden Cottage froggy farm simonstown. Charming modern fully furnished and equipped two bedroomed cottage. Beautiful views walking distance to beaches and sporting amenities. Contact: Sheila 0217864823/0845177889.

**Hermanus:** Cottage to let in Hermanus with sea view. Sleeps 4. Self catering. Available immediately. R400 per night. Contact: Kent 0825373996.

**Rondebosch:** Victorian house in Rondebosch, listed building in immaculate condition; two double bedrooms, single bedroom, study with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves, four other rooms, garage, garden. R2,550,000. Phone 0216852038.

**Rosebank:** (near Starke Ayres nursery) Four bedroomed house to let. Garage and off-street parking. Available immediately. Contact Jhulme@iafrica.com

## FOR SALE

**For Sale:** Homemark Mean Juice Machine with recipe book - still in box - R 400. Dark green mat with cream border and centre. 2300 X 1600 - R 150. Imbua lounge suite - 7 seater (3,2,1 + rocking chair) with loose cushions. - R 2 500. Contact: 0722531170/0217159945 a/h.

**For Sale:** 1998 Silver BMW 3.16i - very good condition, leather interior, power steering, aircon, tow bar - R46,000 ono. Contact: Nicky 0828432765.

**For Sale:** Ford Model - Mondeo Style - 2.0i Ghia - very good condition, Type: MTX75 - 5 Speed manual, with RWC - R72,000 . Contact: Adiel 0768443668.

**For Sale:** Silvertap Jeans -Baggy Style only. Normal price R249 -NOW ONLY R100!! Sizes remaining: 30x32 ,30x34 ,32x32(Navy Blue), 34x32(Camel). Contact: khalid.chogle@uct.ac.za /0216504448/0824524152.

**For Sale:** TV philips 100 Hz colour flatscreen. R2750. Wooden TV cabinet fits TV, DVD, CD's DVD's and statues. R4000. Both items for R6000. Contact Marleen 0741937433.

**For Sale:** WETSUIT (ladies). 7ml long johns with 7mil long sleeved top with hood. Size medium. As new, only worn once. Ideal for diving. Due to health reasons I am no longer able to dive. R1800 ONCO. Contact Catherine Stephenson, 0849920938/0217620655.

catstephenson@gmail.com

**For Sale:** Solid Imbuia show case/ side board for sale. Recently

## GENERAL

**Exercise Classes:** Rosebank Methodist Church (Chapel Road), Mon & Thurs 5:15-6:15pm. All fitness levels. Free Trial class. Contact: Caroline 0827131029.

**Full body therapeutic massage** and Indian head massage at Cara Pharmacy, Rylands, Contact Nisha Govender 0722835390.

**Reliable tape Transcripts** done at very reasonable rate. Contact: Rifda 0833486789.

**Hot Stone Therapy:** Mowbray Release of neck and back pain, deep relaxation are some of the benefits. Contact: Andre 0720296559/ www.freewebs.com/thehouseofhealing

**Flat / Housesit wanted:** Mature, responsible visiting Canadian graduate student looking for affordable flat, or ideally a housesit May 2-July 12 near Health Sciences. Contact: simona@prpconnect.com

**Typing services offered:** For those who needs to enjoy student life and don't want to be hassled with typing assignment etc., I'm the person who can help you. Cost: R7 p.p. Thea Louw E-mail: louw\_rethea@yahoo.com/0219300121/0832441001."

**Transcriber:** Accurate and efficient transcribing tailored to your needs: qualitative research, focus groups and seminars. Work not outsourced, confidentiality guaranteed, references on request. Carin 0836822245/0214659904, carinfav@gmail.com

**Housesitter:** Responsible mature man, very caring for plants and animals, available short or long term, excellent references. Phone Steve 0843363797.

**Liftclub/Rideshare:** I would like to start or join a liftclub or rideshare from Eerste River to Rondebosch (Uct) . Contact: natasha.jood@uct.ac.za /0216503532.

**Delish Delicacies:** Delicious home cooked meals, snacks and desserts. Catering for office functions, conferences etc. Please call Zenariah - 0837348859 or Fazloen - 0833067726 E-mail: delishdelicacies@gmail.com

**Wanted to Rent:** 3 bed furnished house plus study in southern suburbs for english academic on sabbatical. Mid Dec 2008/ January - June 2009. Contact jenny.stansfeld@blueyonder.co.uk

**Reliable, honest char** looking for 2 days work (mon & thurs). Call Nomawethu 0843039607. Reference: Martin & Jessica Firer 0214488257a/h.

**Proof reading and editing** of theses and other documents. Good rates. Martin 0766145677/ martin.editor@gmail.com

**Responsible woman** is willing to look after your house while u are away, reliable honest person like plants and animals. Contact: Nelly 073 2814908 or Lali 0786870226. Any Suburbs Good Refs.

**Lift club needed** from Upper Campus to Century City, Monday to Friday - afternoons only, Contact: Faiza 0216501037.

**Room needed** for responsible mature lady. Reasonable rental in return for house sitting, evening child care or companionship. Please contact isabbel.cooper@uct.ac.za for contact details of person and reference.

**Winter Wonderland tickets** VIP R60 with 2 free comp for 2 different atmosphere parties in the June holidays. Contact Allie 0742414272 between 15h00 - 22h00.

**Very reliable,** honest char available two days a week. References gladly provided. Contact: Judy 0216711209/ext 2202.

**Au Pair required** fetching children afternoons from Reddam to Camps Bay. Contact: Debra 0824416239.

**Lift Offered** from Ferness Estate / Fairways to Upper Campus. R10 a lift. Mornings only. Male passengers preferable. Contact: Khalid- Khalid.chogle@uct.ac.za, 0216504448/0824524152.

**STRESSED! THEN HERE IS A SOLUTION:** Lunch-time Yoga Class and Relaxation. Time: Friday 12:45-13:45 hours. Venue: Hoerikwaggo Building, Room 6A, top floor. Cost: Monthly:R35 times number of Fridays or R45 casual, Class. Bring your own mat or towel. All welcome. Contact: Colleen O'Ryan:0216504257 or Marjolein Gamble 0216714068. E-mail: colleen.oryan@uct.ac.za

**Highly experienced editor** offers services in editing, copywriting and proofreading of theses, journals, research papers, publications. Full confidentiality, reliability and highest standards assured. Contact Dr L. Raffaelli on 0723511323, or call 0216503166 (UCT) on Thursday mornings or a/h 0215566544. Email lara.gochinraffaelli@uct.ac.za

**PROVANTAGE MEDIA:** 3 students needed with polo hatch to carry a full wrap advert ,for more information contact Hoosain Solomons. Cell No: 083 451 2296, Work No: 0215551534.

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**Housekeeper available** on Wednesdays to do char work and can cook. In my employ since 1988. Implicitly honest .Please contact John Simpson on 082 8095931.

**Typing Services Offered:** Fast and accurate typist available (audio & copy typing) during & after work hours and on weekends! Cost neg. Contact Sarah on (021)6745661 or 0824879890.

**Looking for German Native** Speaker to watch my children. Ages 6,8 and 10, would prefer individual with car. Tel. 071-362-1309 or email: gs.simms@gmail.com

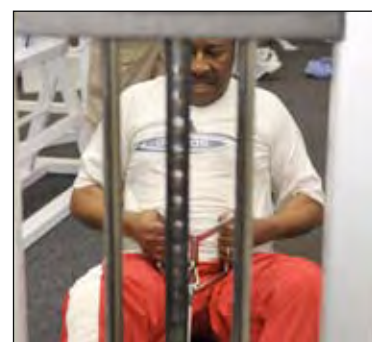
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# Gym up and running



It didn't take long for students to find their way to the new UCT gym/health centre, which opened its doors on lower campus last week, not even a hop and a skip from Graça Machel Hall residence.

The first thing anyone who's ever used the erstwhile weights room in the Sports Centre will notice is that there's a lot more elbow room in the new venue, even though some 800 students have already

signed up for the club. "It is very impressive," said deputy vice-chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo. "And let us hope that it means a healthier student body, if you'll pardon the pun." Work on

the centre's not quite wrapped up just yet, though. The aerobics area will hopefully be done and dusted in the next few weeks, while the revamped pool is expected to be good to go in the second semes-

ter. The gym is open weekdays between 06h00-21h00 and between 08h00-19h00 over weekends, during term times, with floor instructors on hand to give words of advice and encouragement. **MP**

## Sports round-up

**F**ifteen members of UCT's Aquatics club took a dip in the 2008 Cadiz Vista Nova Freedom Swim, in which about 200 swimmers braved the icy waters to swim from Robben Island to Bloubergstrand on 27 April.

The event is held in recognition of Freedom Day, which celebrates the first South African democratic elections. Swimmers are taken to Robben Island, then "escape" to the Atlantic coast, a hardy 7.5km swim.



The real challenge though is not the distance, but the temperature. The swim is known as the world's most extreme cold water event, with sea temperatures as cold as 12deg C. Because of this, hypothermia is the swimmer's greatest challenge.

Competing with three solo swim-

mers and three relay teams of four swimmers each, UCT Aquatics did extremely well. Team Sweet Deal of Rodney Armstrong, James Todd, Jason Jamieson and Lee Hill won the relay, and the Armchair Pirates - Cole Acutt, Rowan Dunne, Hugh Jacobs, Stephen O'Rahilly - placed third. All but one swimmer, who had to pull out a mere hundred metres from the finish because of hypothermia, finished the gruelling swim.

In turn, Ra'eelah Hendricks, Lara Truter and Stella Inggs went solo. The solo race was won by ex-UCT swimmer and national heroine Natalie Du Toit, who managed to beat last year's winner Tyron Venter of Pretoria by almost five minutes.

"It bears mentioning that this year's race was one of the toughest so far," reported Acutt.



**I**t's official. UCT student William Robinson has won the Cape Argus Pick n Pay Cycle Tour Two Oceans Ultra Marathon Trophy for the best combined times in this year's

events. Robinson, a doctoral student in mathematics and a member of both the university's athletics and cycling clubs, clocked 2:40:03 in the Cape Argus/Pick n Pay Cycle Tour and followed that up with a 3:52:57 finish in the Old Mutual Two Oceans Ultra Marathon. The trophy was handed to Robinson at the Argus prize-giving ceremony last week.

**U**CT student Eugene Pelteret captained the touring South African under-21 hockey side that took on Pakistan recently. Following that, Pelteret joined the national under-21 squad for a training camp in Potchefstroom in the run-up to the All Africa Games in Cairo in July. **MP**