

# Monday Paper

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## Racism still rife on SA campuses



It may be difficult for some to believe, but race and gender discrimination are still very much alive and well, and probably on a campus near you. Residences are still racially segregated, sexual and racial harassment is evident, and at Rhodes, gay men are allegedly assaulted and lesbians raped to “cure” them.

These were just some of the findings documented in the Crain Soudien Report that was published after a six-month, country-wide investigation into the prevalence of discrimination at South African universities by a 10-strong investigative committee, headed by UCT acting deputy vice-chancellor Professor Crain Soudien.

Soudien has focused his career on the subject. With experience working for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the Human Rights Commission, he has earned his standing in the field. Soudien has written extensively on how racism works, its causes, and how it operates in schools and universities.

“You could say I have a track record,” he says.

Established by the Minister of Education, Naledi Pandor, the Committee on Progress Towards Transformation and Social Cohesion and the Elimination of Discrimination in Public Higher Educational Institutions conducted extensive interviews with representatives from every university in the country, including students, academic and PASS staff, management and councils.

The committee’s aim was to discover the nature and extent of discrimination and the counter-steps that have been taken by institutions, and to suggest further methods to combat the problem. Each university was invited to give a statement on their existing transformation process, and was asked to put together a representative group for the interview process. There were instances, however, when institutions selected people with a particular bias to represent the university.

“There were times when participants tried to show us nothing more

than window dressing, or attempted to dictate what the students told us,” says Soudien. “We wouldn’t tolerate this, and I had to intervene personally to prevent this from happening on occasion.”

But on the whole, interviews were revealing, and sometimes fraught with emotion.

“It was surprising how much emerged from the meetings, despite the fact that a number of participants were scared to speak out.”

Each interview took up to two hours and, in some instances, up to 30 representatives were present to air their views.

The committee’s resulting assessment is disquieting.

“There is virtually no institution that is *not* in need of serious change or transformation,” it claims in the report.

“Segregation is not as strange as you may think,” notes Soudien. He explains that in many instances the integration is even consensual.

“Hostility and opposition to segregation kept the University of the

Free State residences racially divided, until the vice-chancellor decided that the practice of consensual segregation was intolerable.”

The result was the notorious race video that resulted in country-wide protests, the closure of the university’s Reitz residence, and Pandor’s establishment of the ministerial committee to address the issue.

Soudien notes that the video was just an example of the level of opposition to integration.

“We found that white students in some institutions were more hostile to the idea of integration, while black students were far more easy-going about the idea. It’s far less of an issue for them.”

But not all apparent segregation is based on overt intolerance. Soudien explains that in some residences they found an unofficial form of discrimination, with students and floor wardens deciding who gains admittance.

“This can result in a situation where a particular type of student always finds themselves in a particular kind of residence. In this casual

manner, a residence can become ‘innocently’ segregated.”

The report’s recommendations include the establishment of a transformation watchdog, the appointment of an ombud by each institution, and the banning of all initiation practices; and for residences, placement policies that create opportunities for students from different backgrounds to live together.

But these are easier recommended than implemented.

“It’s hard to challenge people’s practices when they are so ingrained in the university’s history and culture. We can’t simply walk in and outlaw common practice, as all this will do is drive the practice underground.”

The solution?

“Education,” says Soudien. “Universities are meant to encourage free thinking and challenge perceptions, but in many instances, lecturers are simply entrenching the prejudice of their students.”

“New students need a proper induction into what a university is all about.” **MP**

## Fund allocation bails out rated researchers

HELENTH RON

Vice-chancellor Dr Max Price has allocated special funds to assist the university’s beleaguered National Research Foundation-rated researchers, who lost out on incentive funding because of budget cuts that affected the NRF.

Many of UCT’s prominent researchers were compromised, as well as younger staff who have shown promise of becoming established researchers within the next rating cycle. Those who have not yet been funded through the NRF’s Incentive Programme will now be able to apply to the University Research Committee (URC) for their NRF equivalent for 2009.

Two years ago the NRF announced that the rating of researchers and the funding they received from the foundation would be linked, as was the case in the

past. Deputy vice-chancellor Professor Danie Visser said that the re-linking of rating and funding had been the biggest policy change at the NRF in 12 years.

When the re-linking was effected, both the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the NRF expected that government would allocate the necessary funds. But the Treasury allocation was much lower than anticipated, leaving many of the country’s top researchers in the lurch.

“It would have been difficult to manage even if the funding that had been anticipated had been forthcoming, but because of the budget cut by Treasury (which surprised the DST as much as the NRF) the difficulty was greatly increased, and temporary solutions had to be developed on the trot,” Visser said.

The budget cut was announced after the call for incentive funding had already

gone out.

But there are further complications. On the one hand, new Focus Area applications, one of the major sources of funding for rated researchers, are not being called by the NRF in order to enable it to fund the rated researchers.

On the other, sufficient money has not yet been ‘clawed back’ from the Focus Areas to fund all the rated researchers.

Of the special allocation announced by the vice-chancellor, Visser said: “This is a once-off allocation and it is hoped that the NRF will be able to improve its financial position in 2010.”

After meeting with NRF acting president Dr Albert van Jaarsveld, Visser said it was “not unrealistic” to expect that the NRF’s incentive funding would be rolled out fully by 2011.

“UCT may have to consider a further,

smaller, once-off allocation next year. But that possibility can only be assessed next year in the light of conditions prevailing then.”

The vice-chancellor’s allocation for rated researchers who have not yet received funds through the NRF Incentive Programme will be processed on the basis of a simple application to the University Research Committee. Forms have been created for this purpose by the Research Office.

“I think these awards will go a long way to emphasise how much the University values researchers’ participation in the NRF rating process, which remains a benchmark of excellence and international competitiveness,” said Dr Marilet Sienaar, director of the Research Office.

“And we’ve been very mindful of the impact this gap in funding had on their

research output and on their work with students.”

Price also announced that a once-off extra R1.5 million had been allocated for master’s scholarships, over and above the additional R1.2 million given to postgraduate scholarships for 2009. This had been decided after an unexpected rise in applications, which doubled to 720 last year, and will enable the University to provide enhanced support over and above the financial assistance provided to 370 master’s students to date.

(The Research Office has sent out letters and application forms to NRF-rated researchers who have not yet received funding from the NRF Incentive Programme. The form - and queries - can be directed to Christina Pather at the Research Office, on ext 2434 or email [christina.pather@uct.ac.za](mailto:christina.pather@uct.ac.za).)

# UCT workers protest conditions



Staff and students marched on Bremner Building on 31 April to hand over a petition and grievance letters against the “exploitation” of outsourced workers at UCT.

Protesters called for the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, but eventually handed over the petition, with over 3

Marching on: Staff and students joined forces to march on Bremner Building to protest the working conditions of outsourced workers at UCT.

800 signatures, to John Critien, executive director of Properties and Services. Their demands included a minimum wage of R4 500, and benefits such as medical aid and subsidised tuition for these workers’ children.

“UCT claims to ‘strive towards ending the legacy of apartheid’ and ‘to promote equal opportunity and the full development of human potential’,” protest organisers, the UCT Student Workers’ Alliance, said in a statement.

“This is clearly not being adhered to when workers struggle to make ends

meet and are intimidated by company management.”

In a recent letter to UCT staff and students, Price said that all employees of UCT service providers were paid at the Supplemented Living Level (SSL), which is “considerably higher than the minimum living levels.”

Price wrote: “In 2009 the SLL set a monthly minimum wage of R3 491.35. The average minimum in the market is R2 100. The SLL rate is thus 70% above the monthly minimum wage levels.” **MP**

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Students from higher education institutions around the globe, but mainly from Africa, are visiting UCT to challenge traditional notions of teaching and learning by exploring how technology can enhance education. The group of 19 students is the third cohort to take on a two-year master’s programme in education with an information and communication technology (ICT) focus. The programme is co-ordinated by UCT’s Centre for Educational Technology (CET) and the School of Education.



When UCT student Mbalenhle Mbatha clashed with Pakistani delegates, opposing one of their resolutions at the Münster University International Model United Nations 2009, a simulation of a UN meeting, she encountered some of the difficulties of working for the international body. Mbatha was the only South African student at the event, and one of only three from Africa.

On 17 April, second-year social work students pledged their commitment to the profession’s code of conduct when the Department of Social Development hosted its annual Declaration Ceremony. They are also registered with the South African Council for Social Services Professions.

The Development and Alumni Department hosted a music concert and tea for senior alumni at the Baxter Theatre on 29 April. Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price announced that this was the first of many events aimed at UCT’s senior alumni.

Scholars from South Africa, India, Brazil and UK met at UCT’s Children’s Institute recently. The 10-day programme formed part of a Leverhulme-funded academic network to deepen theoretical approaches to the concept of children’s participation, which is believed to have been prominent in the policy and practice of governments and non-governmental organisations over

the past decade.

Neil Goldberg, a second-year student in mathematics, applied mathematics and computer science, has won the inaugural and tightly contested Webb-Ellis Mathematics Trophy Nope, nothing to do with rugby. Instead, the trophy is the brainchild of two fortuitously-named emeritus professors in the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, John Webb (right) and George Ellis (left), to encourage students to do the full maths major (pure and applied mathematics). It aims to recognise achievement in the first year of this joint major. Goldberg, who was presented with a floating trophy and a smaller version to keep, was the top student in both subjects, beating about 700 other students.



Katherine Hall’s (above) work on children living in child-headed households has won the best paper award in the South African category at the 4th Southern African AIDS Conference in Durban. Hall is a senior researcher at the Children’s Institute.

Thanks to a grant from the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement, the science faculty’s marketing committee has again produced a set of lively and informative posters for the province’s junior schools. Because of their popularity last

year, an additional 12 000 posters have been printed for national distribution. Valuable resources for teachers, the four posters deal with plants and how they change with the seasons; the geology that lies beneath our feet; numbers in history and indigenous ways of looking at counting; and climate change, particularly the effects of global warming on oceans.

Assoc Prof David Cooper, (below) head of the Dept of



Sociology, has been awarded a New Century Scholarship to work on how universities, government and industry can work together to advance economic and social prosperity. Cooper joins 29 other scholars around the world to work on a year-long project. The programme involves three one-week meetings in Washington and Berlin, and two months of research in the US. It offers a collaborative model for scholarly exchange that encourages the formation of new global networks and pursues the development of collaborative activities with a long-term regional and global impact. This year’s theme is The University as Innovation Driver and Knowledge Centre, and Cooper will focus on university research relationships with the wider community. He will look specifically at local government, and how the university is linked to trade unions and women’s and youth organisations, among others.

Professor Michael R Marrus, a leading Canadian historian on France, the Holocaust and modern Jewish history, will be a guest of the Kaplan Centre in May. Professor Marrus will be presenting four faculty seminars dealing with Justice and Catastrophe, with a special focus on justice and Holocaust restitution. For further information contact 021 650 3062 or Janine. Blumberg@uct.ac.za.

## Omotoso ploughs back



Renowned filmmaker Akin Omotoso (pictured) has taken up the drama residency at UCT’s Department of Drama to work on projects with students and to interact with staff regarding the department’s work and industry needs. Part of his residency was a public lecture, *Did You Hear the Shooting Last Night*, on 5 May, which was about four short films on violence.

Omotoso, who graduated from UCT in 1996 and won the Standard Bank Young Artists Award for film in 2007, has directed several shorts, including *Gathering the Scattered Cousins*, *Jesus and the Giant*, and the feature *God is African*. With his production company, T.O.M. Pictures, he has produced and directed television shows like *Soul Buddyz*, *A Place Called Home*, *Sorted*, and *Nomzamo*.

We asked:

### Why did you take up the drama residency?

I studied here at the School of Drama and if there is a way for me to come back and share information with a new breed of students, I’m always willing to do that. This seems to be the right vehicle to do so. I owe a lot to the school, and this is a way to say thank you.

### What are you bringing to UCT?

I’m bringing what is out there. As a student, it is always nice to

have people who are working in the industry to come share their experiences. I left the school in 1996 and have been involved in many aspects of the film industry, as a director, actor and producer, among others. So I’m bringing back what I have learnt.

### What do you think of the local film industry?

The state of the film industry in South Africa is good. Obviously, there is a lot of passion and there are more opportunities. There are a lot of avenues to ply your craft and I think it is a proper way. When I left school I went to stage. Being on television was massive. Now you can go to stage, on TV, or teach media studies. The world is multi-faceted in terms of possibilities.

### What are your future plans?

I’m involved in a lot of projects. I have just finished a documentary on Wole Soyinka, a Nobel Prize-winner for literature in 1986. Now I’m lecturing as part of this residency, and it is really good to be back.

### What advice can you give to students?

If you have passion to do it, you will be able to move mountains. The trick is to arm yourself to be able to face challenges. But don’t let challenges stop you from achieving what you want. **MP**

## Setting the record straight

In our previous edition, we incorrectly stated that the late Ernest Stempel had died aged 82. Stempel was in fact 92 at the time of his death.

We also referred to Prof Raj Ramesar as a surgeon in our Pifer Award story. Actually, Ramesar is a geneticist.



## HoDs on strategy

HELEN THÉRON

On 30 April, UCT's heads of academic departments gathered at the Baxter Theatre Centre to discuss Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price's seven strategic goals, endorsed by the University Strategy Forum.

The workshop is part of an intensive consultation process around the strategic goals. These centre on transformation, internationalisation, research, UCT as an Afropolitan university, the size and shape of the institution, and social responsiveness.

Price started the session on a light note, saying he understood the reluctance of HoDs to grapple with strategic planning, especially if they were unconvinced that strategic plans would affect their

academic roles and outputs.

"A strategic plan should modify those things we do. But not everything we do and do well needs to be explained in terms of the strategic plan," he added.

"But we do need to ask: What will we be doing differently in five years? What can we do better to make UCT a destination of choice for students, postdocs, young researchers and senior academics? How can UCT adjust its activities to meet the social and developmental needs of the country?"

Price said the *raison d'être* of a university is to "address the social and developmental problems and to understand and improve the world around us".

"The seven strategic goals will suggest how, from the centre, we'll provide institution-wide guidance to heads of departments." **MP**

Strategy: Dr Max Price addresses HoDs.

## Law Clinic awaits verdict in first Equality Court hearing

HELEN THÉRON

The UCT Law Clinic's Refugee Rights Project will wait until 14 June to hear judgement in what could be a precedent-setting case for South Africa; a case of unfair discrimination on the grounds of xenophobia against the South African Police Service (SAPS).

It is the first case to be presented before the new Equality Courts as a High Court matter in the Western Cape, and was brought before the court by the UCT Law Clinic, acting on behalf of a group of refugees and asylum seekers.

In March last year a number of "recognised refugees" from Somalia, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe and the Democratic Republic of Congo living in the Worcester township Zwelethemba were victims of looting and attacks by local residents.

Though their homes and business had been looted and they were the targets of other criminal acts, they say the police failed to protect them.

When the case was presented before the Equality Court at the Cape High



Courting equality: From left, Francois Joubert SC, Fatima Khan, Advocate Rosslyn Nyman, main applicant Mohamed Said (back) and Halima Dahir Bootan are taking the SA Police to task.

Court on 17 April, the team from the UCT Law Clinic argued that the omissions of the police (cited as respondents) constitute unfair discrimination.

"In particular, it is our contention that the police should or could have cordoned off the area of looting, used minimum force reasonable in the circumstances, effected arrests where necessary or fired warning shots, in the very least. Police should have conducted an investigation after the incident" said Refugee Rights Project head, Fatima Khan.

They requested an unconditional apology and public admission that "they committed acts of unfair discrimination", amounts in damages, and that the SAPS and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees implement police training programmes on sensitivity towards refugees and on refugee rights.

Equality Courts are designed to deal with matters covered by the Promotion of Equality and Prevention of Unfair Discrimination Act 4 of 2000, also known as the Equality Act.

Found in Atlantis, George, Kuilsriver and Worcester in the Western Cape, Equality Courts were introduced to facilitate fair and speedy hearings so that those who have been the targets of discrimination can access the courts without the formalities and delays attached to the High Court.

"This is a strategically important case, recognising that refugees and asylum seekers have a right to safety and security and that the SAPS have a duty to protect all people in South Africa," said Khan. **MP**

## VC travels

DANIELLA POLLOCK

Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price is abroad this week on a fundraising and alumni-relations roundtrip, visiting three countries – six cities to be precise – in just two weeks.

Price and Dr Jim McNamara, executive director of UCT's Development and Alumni Department (DAD), set off on this fundraising initiative to meet and thank individual donors, corporates, foundations and alumni for their past and ongoing support, and to speak of further collaborations. They are to visit the UK, US and Canada over the two weeks.

Former Vice-Chancellor Dr Stuart Saunders will join them for the London leg, where they are to attend the AGM of UCT's UK-based fundraising arm, the UK Trust, of which Saunders is a trustee.

Along the way, Price and McNamara will also meet with a number of potential donors, identified by DAD, to explore future relationships. In Canada, they will consult with board members of the UCT Foundation Canada.

On top of an already tight schedule, they will also attend alumni events in London, Chicago, San Diego, San Francisco, Los Angeles and Vancouver.

## How do you feel about handbooks?

The Deputy Registrar is conducting a survey on the use of handbooks for the university. Go to Vula (<https://vula.uct.ac.za/>), click on the Handbook Survey link and then complete the survey. We will be awarding a R250 airtime voucher to three students who participate in the survey. For any queries please contact Keith Benjamin at 021 650 4508 or via e-mail at [keith.benjamin@uct.ac.za](mailto:keith.benjamin@uct.ac.za).

## TB Davie lecture 2010

The Academic Freedom Committee invites UCT staff and students to submit nominations for the 2010 TB Davie Memorial Lecture. Nominations should not exceed three pages and should include a brief curriculum vitae of the nominated speaker and a motivation for the nomination. Nominations should be submitted to Vicki Heard, Room 145, Bremner Building, Lower Campus, UCT, or [vicki.heard@uct.ac.za](mailto:vicki.heard@uct.ac.za), by Friday, 29 May.



## LETTERS

### Making UCT green

Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price has suggested that UCT should be involved in five areas where cross-campus expertise could be harnessed to make a difference" (MP, 20 Feb 09). One of these areas is climate change and sustainability. I would like to make the following suggestions to assist UCT in its fight against climate change:

- UCT management must insist that all food vendors on campus, and all catering companies used by UCT, refrain from serving meat. The meat industry is one of the biggest contributors to climate change, contributing not only to the emission of greenhouse gases, but to deforestation, as trees (including those in the Amazon rain forests) are destroyed to provide grazing or to grow food for livestock. The head of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Rajendra Pachauri, urged people around the world to cut back on meat in order to combat climate change. The production of meat is also water intensive - a

kilo of beef requires about 6-10 times more water than a kilo of wheat. It's time UCT took a firm stand on this and made UCT a meat-free campus.

- UCT should rid itself of bottled water, which also "leaves a huge carbon footprint" (M&G, 9 Nov 07). The M&G article also claims that "Making bottles to meet Americans" demand for bottled water requires more than 17 million barrels of oil a year - enough fuel for more than a million US cars for a year - and generates more than 2.5-million tonnes of carbon dioxide".

- The *Monday Paper* and other UCT publications (including student publications) should be distributed electronically. Print copies are wasteful and unnecessary.

Dr Elisa Galgut

I would like to enquire about the 30th April [online] article titled *UCT starts debate on admissions policy*, which is meant to report on the admissions policy debate of Tuesday, 28 April. After my colleagues and I read

the article several times to convince ourselves that we were not misreading the article, we couldn't believe how biased it was. Another interesting point to note is that the article lacks the signature of the person who wrote it. In that case I am not able to blame the writer but the whole publication for bias. Interestingly, this article in question has conveniently ignored the arguments delivered by all the Black people who spoke at the debate. I would like to think that this is deliberate, and not due to some circumstance outside the reporter's control, such as the possibility that all the Black people who spoke were incoherent or not audible. In that case I beg to ask whether the *Monday Paper* publication still subscribes to principles of objective reporting? As we were asked to participate in the process of the admissions review, it will be very important for us to know whether we can still expect to send our comments to an objective publication, or whether we shouldn't bother.

Tende Makofane

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# Great debate on admissions gets under way

Race as proxy for disadvantage was the topic of discussion at a recent debate hosted by the Admissions Review Task Team. Here are excerpts from panellists' talks.

The recent Great Debate on UCT's admission policy drew together a number of views on the subjects of transformation of our society, redress within the higher education sector, and the use of race as a proxy for disadvantage in UCT's admission policy.

The following excerpts have been culled from panellists' written and oral statements.

The full debate can be downloaded from the resources section of the Admissions Policy website on Vula (<https://vula.uct.ac.za>).

The Admission Review Task Team, chaired by Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Crain Soudien, is setting up meetings with various stakeholders across campus.

## Tende Makofane, South African Students' Congress (SASCO)

- Race is still closely correlated to disadvantage in SA. It doesn't make any sense to use other proxies to address the direct imbalances that were created on racial basis (by apartheid).
- The question of redress can never be addressed on admission policy alone. We must redress all the imbalances which were inculcated by the apartheid regime.
- The academic performance of white students (at schools) is still much higher than that of African, coloured and Indian students. There is not significant difference in performance between black students in under-resourced schools and those in middle-class schools, except among those at the richest schools in the country.
- Certain people hold the view that



Putuma Zengetwa asks a question from the floor.

equity is tantamount to a compromise in quality. The university's pass rates suggest the contrary. African students have been shown to have a success rate of 79%, coloured students 81% and Indians 86% as compared to 91% of white students.

- To increase equity will lead to improvement of quality in institutions.

## Ryno Geldenhuys, Democratic Alliance Students' Organisation (DASO)

- Many university admission policies are based on racial considerations which are used as a proxy measure for educational disadvantage. This policy has included the lowering of admission standards for certain racial groups without ensuring that that is met with increased throughput rates.



Panellists get the ball rolling.

- We must continue to work for access to tertiary institutions for SA's poor and disadvantaged. However, there are many innovative ways to do this that do not require classification on arbitrary racial lines. We oppose such classification. We do not support the lowering of admissions criteria. However, the admission criteria should take into account any existing personal or economic disadvantages. Access should be increased through more needs-based bursaries, increased head-hunting in poorer or disadvantaged schools, and a better tutoring and mentoring programmes at university to ensure better throughput rates. In most cases the admission policy, as it stands, works as it should in identifying those who should be given the opportunity to attend UCT. We do, however, contend that the number of cases in which the policy is failing to give all South Africans of ability the opportunity is growing.

## Professor David Benatar, UCT

- We all agree on the need to rectify injustice. If you want to rectify a disadvantage, then why use a proxy for disadvantage when you can use disadvantage itself?
- One possible scenario: determine whether (schools) are disadvantaged or not and have your admission policy favour people to the extent that they come from a disadvantaged school.
- People say we need diversity of opinion in a university. If you're interested in diversity of opinion, don't take a proxy, namely race; why not go after diversity of opinion itself? Have opinion tests on admission applications.
- People say we need to have black role models and teachers. There are also many claims about how racial diversity improves a university but the evidence is methodologically dubious.

- There is a long history of these sorts of (racial) classifications laying the foundation for inter-group conflict. And I think we need to avoid that. We can do so while still redressing injustice.

## Siyaduma Biniza, Congress of the People (COPE)

- Race as a proxy for disadvantage should remain and the issue of academic development programmes should be addressed. The throughput of black students at UCT must be developed at academic development level. The point of redress is to redress issues that are deeply rooted, social-economic issues, financial issues, that aren't solved by being accepted into university and excluded after the first year. Black students from disadvantaged backgrounds are inadequately prepared for university.
- The problem isn't finding black students; the issue is that UCT doesn't represent the demography of South Africa.

## Dr Zimitri Erasmus, UCT

- In thinking about new criteria for admissions, we do not need race categories. UCT (should) add a disclaimer about race classification on all its official forms and expand the categories it offers on these forms; partner with the Academy of Sciences of SA on research to develop sophisticated tools for assessing disadvantage for the purposes of redress in higher education, with a view to eventually abolishing race categories on all of South Africa's official documentation; develop a more holistic, involved and transformative conception of recruitment in an effort to erode the complex barriers to accessing a place to study at the institution; and hire an agent to facilitate foreign student study permits and visas.
- UCT talks about the need to identify "academic potential at the

individual level", and to use socio-economic indicators such as family income and school attended. The university needs to work towards making these promises real. We must move away from thinking with our eyes, to listening to our stories.

## Dr Tlhalo Radithalo, UCT

- 'Race' as a category seems intricately tied to notions of white superiority and black inferiority which have significantly shaped the mind-sets of both black and white South Africans.
- In the main, South Africans are not moved by the moral vision that apartheid was wrong nor are they by the need to make amends for that past.
- None of the historically disadvantaged institutions are having any of these kinds of debates. UCT should evolve into a new public university. We need to provide for an inclusive institution.
- The community must have a buy-in into whatever kind of admission policy we will have.



Prof Crain Soudien orchestrates proceedings.

- Personally, I find the burden of 'race' rather than being a member of the human race, irksome. I'm tired of race, and yet, race impinges on me. Students seem by and large to expect a mistake from me. South African students do not associate me with excellence.


## Xanthea Limberg, Young Independent Democrats

- Transformation policies need to be employed and race ought to be a factor in those processes.
- The university is a great platform to build social cohesion and to build a diverse environment for everyone. There are so many inequalities in our schooling system that it is not a suitable measure for admissions within universities. Race should (not) be the sole component but we should also take into account high school classification, class and introducing more programmes of intervention to create racial diversity within our university. We must also look at employment equity and the culture within the institution.
- We must address these in a way that we do not exclude white people but to redress the injustices of the past.

## Professor Neville Alexander, UCT

- I don't see any fundamental contradictions among the various speakers. In SA one of the main reasons for hope is that we are not sweeping things like race under the carpet.
- Admission policy at this university is a tiny corner of a very large canvas about historical redress, affirmative action, the empowerment of the oppressed people.
- Section 1b of the SA constitution is very clear that we are committing ourselves to a non-racial, non-sexist future. Every speaker agrees we want to move away from a society in which race determines the worth and the character of people. I am very clear about what we need to do: We need to move away from race.
- I see this as the beginning of a whole long process – it mustn't take too long because people are going to get frustrated. The university has got to be congratulated on starting it.

## Dr Molapo Qhobela, national Department of Education

- Government didn't say what type of admission policy you must have. All it said is that there should be some kind of policy.
- The university is debating; it is listening to its students, to its academics and it is making a decision to go in a particular direction. Institutional autonomy and academic freedom do work and can be used to good effect for positive change.
- This university is part of a new SA. It is a different institution than it was 11 years ago. It will be a different institution in time to come.
- We have a participation rate in our higher education system of around 17% of our population. Most countries are around 50% to 60%, sometimes 70%. If you disaggregate the 17%, you will find that white students have 60% participation rate relative to African students who have about 12%. 

# Skotnes book honoured

Professor Pippa Skotnes, director of the Michaelis School of Fine Art, has been awarded the prestigious Outstanding Academic Title status by *Choice* magazine for her book, *Claim to the Country*.



The book and accompanying DVD brings together most of an archive on the San people created by philologist Wilhelm Bleek and linguist and folklorist Lucy Lloyd in the late 1800s.

*Claim to the Country* was described by one reviewer as “hauntingly beautiful, deeply informed, and poignantly moving”. Anthropologist David Lewis-Williams says

the book is “surely the most amazing ethnographic source in the world”.

Appearing annually in the January issue of *Choice*, the premier source for reviews of academic works, the Outstanding Academic Title list reflects the best in scholarly titles and attracts wide attention from the academic library community.

“I am delighted that the book has been well received and reviewed,” says Skotnes. “I am particularly pleased in the light of the fact that it is a book that is avowedly about the visual and material presence of the archive and the traces of the past.”

“Too few books take the physical evidence of the past into account. I believe books need to become more bookish. Information is available everywhere, but a book is an object with a physical presence and life. We need to understand and take account of this.”

Skotnes is currently doing research on nineteenth century magistrate Louis Anthing. **MP**



Preserving history: *Claim to the Country* by Prof Pippa Skotnes was awarded Outstanding Academic Title status by *Choice* magazine.

## A-rating for Bateman

### MYOLISI GOPHE

Professor Eric Bateman’s “significant” contribution to asthma management has earned him an A2-rating from the National Research Foundation.

Professor of Respiratory Medicine at UCT and chairperson of the Global Initiative for Asthma (GINA), Bateman has played a leading role in changing the objectives of asthma treatment, which were not clearly defined, and definitions that were not patient-friendly. This was while he was chairing GINA’s Science Committee and serving as an executive committee member of the Global Alliance Against Chronic Respiratory Diseases, a World Health Organisation alliance.

He has published groundbreaking papers encouraging the concept of asthma control and has demonstrated that this could be achieved in most patients. This resulted in major revisions of both national and global guidelines.

Bateman, the founder of the UCT Lung Institute and head of the Division of Pulmonology in the Department of Medicine, was delighted about this first rating.

“Achieving a scientific rating is difficult for a practising clinician,” he explained.

“I have spent most of my working career running a large clinical service with all the clinical and teaching responsibilities,

including a considerable component of after-hours work.”

Bateman said the rating also recognises the efforts of

his department and colleagues, and believes that South Africa remains a country of opportunity for innovative research. **MP**



## New on the shelf

Recent publications by UCT authors include:

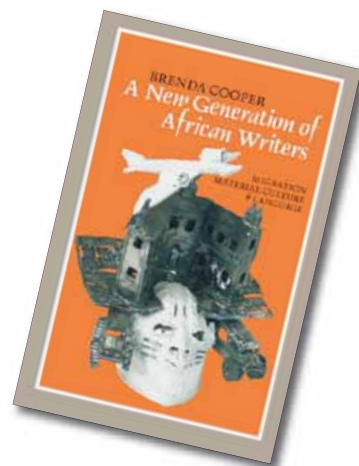
*A New Generation of African Writers: Migration, Material Culture and Language* by

Brenda Cooper. The book explores how the English language is used by African writers to express their lives, languages and identities. Cooper is director of UCT’s Centre for African Studies and a Professor in the Department of English Language and Literature at UCT.

*Curtius Rufus, Histories of Alexander the Great, Book 10* by JE Atkinson and JC Yardley.

This work presents a translation, with commentary, of a major Roman source on the end of the reign of Alexander the Great. Atkinson is an Emeritus Professor in the School of Languages and Literatures at UCT.

*Burdened By Race: Coloured Identities in Southern Africa* by Mohamed Adhikari. This book showcases recent innovative research and writing on coloured identity in southern Africa, and brings new levels of understanding to processes of coloured self-identification. Adhikari is an Associate Professor in the Department of Historical Studies at UCT, and has published widely on coloured identity in South Africa. **MP**



# A DAY IN THE LIFE of UCT Libraries Acquisition

The unit is staffed by manager Digby Sales; Lynne Finlayson, who deals with book order queries; Linda Krawitz, who checks book orders; Marinette Reinke, who processes invoices; Carolyn Coombe, who captures book orders and UCT theses, as well as journal check-in; Melshir Kortje, who deals with journal orders and sets up access to the electronic resources; and Fahima Gamza and Cynthia Malotana, who both do journal check-ins.

## What is the unit's specific role?

To acquire all material for all the UCT Libraries, viz books, journals, electronic resources, and audio-visual material, and to see to their arrival and payment.

## What kind of volumes do they deal with?

Last year the unit processed just under 12 000 purchased books and about 2 000 books that were donated. "We checked in over 25 000 print journal issues and we



By the book: Staff at UCT Libraries Acquisition are (from left) Linda Krawitz, Lynne Finlayson, Carolyn Coombe Digby Sales, Marinette Reinke, Melshir Kortje and Fahima Gamza. (Absent is Cynthia Malotana.)

ensure electronic access to approximately 35 000 full-text journals," explained Sales.

## What do you do on day-to-day basis?

Members place book orders

with local and overseas suppliers every Friday. Finding the correct publishing details can be challenging. They also receive consignments of books and journals at least once a week. The print journal issues are recorded on Aleph, the

online catalogue, and passed on to the shelves. The books are then sent to the cataloguing section, while invoices are passed on to library accounts for payment.

## What are the challenges fac-

## ing the section?

The biggest challenge is moving UCT Libraries' current collection from a print to an electronic version. From next year the majority of journal subscriptions will be available only electronically. Ensuring access to these journals remains a priority to meet the needs of users.

## What are the best and the worst moments of your work?

The best part of the job is seeing the growing user-satisfaction in the collections, both through feedback from users and the number of users in the libraries. The worst part is responding to academics who want to have a book in the library next week when it takes three to five weeks to get a book from Europe or North America, where most of the books are published.

## What is a weirdest thing you have encountered?

Sometimes the unit receive amazing parcels. A recent parcel addressed to the section was to "Transler Uppenhigmer Library".

## Appointments



**Khanyo Ngubo** joined the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment's finance section as the assistant finance manager on 1 April. Ngubo comes from KwaZulu-Natal, where she worked in the production, controls and logistics department of Toyota SA Manufacturers. She has a daughter, Sesese, who is in grade 5 at Groote Schuur Primary School.



**Fatima Samsodien** is the new senior secretary in the Centre for Higher Education Development, with dual responsibility for the Higher and Adult Education Studies Development Unit and the Multilingualism Education Project. Before joining UCT, Samsodien worked at the Human Sciences Research Council as a programme administrator in the Child, Youth, Family and Social Development Research Programme. As this is her first time working at a university, "it's all new to me and the vibe just keeps me intrigued," says Samsodien.

**Assoc Prof Albie van Schalkwyk** after 12 years at the University of the Free State, Associate Professor Albie van Schalkwyk returned to Cape Town and his *alma mater* in February to take up a post at UCT's College of Music. Van Schalkwyk has established himself as a performer in a number of fields over the past 30 years. One of the leading cham-

ber musicians and vocal accompanists in South Africa, he has also performed as a soloist with South African orchestras, given



solo recitals, taught master classes for singers and accompanists, worked as a music producer for the SABC, and arranged music for various combinations, from Broadway orchestral for small ensembles to orchestral works for eight pianos. After completing his BMus degree at UCT in 1973, he continued his studies with a five-year stint in London.

He has been a member of several well-known SA ensembles, and a founder member of The Chamber Music Society. He was also a founding member, in 1994, of The Songmakers' Guild, and still contributes artistically to their concert series. Van Schalkwyk has been a regular panel member for several South

African competitions, including the Chamber Music Competition in Stellenbosch, the UNISA National Piano Competition and the SAMRO National Singing Competition.

**Please send an email to Morgan Morris at [megan.morris@uct.ac.za](mailto:megan.morris@uct.ac.za) to notify us of any new appointments in your departments or sections.**

## Rise in car theft on campus

There has been a resurgence of car theft on campus, linked to the economic downturn, which is expected to fuel crime across the board, say Campus Protection Services (CPS).

CPS crime prevention manager Gary Dyssel has urged the UCT community to ensure that cars parked on campus and the surrounding environs, are locked and that any goods in the car (tog bags, CDs, sunglasses, etc) are not left in view.

Laptops are also being targeted. CPS recently exposed a syndicate with orders for specific laptops and software.

During a recent CPS visit to a residence, seven rooms were found unlocked, and with laptops plugged in and running inside.

Student apathy did not help the situation, said Dyssel, and continues to be a problem, despite the recent crime awareness campaign and regular crime bulletins posted on residence notice boards.

CPS has also cautioned women students and staff not to walk alone, particularly not along Grotto or Stanley Roads where there have been muggings. They have urged women to use the Jammie Shuttle whenever possible.

Trespassing also remains a problem. CPS recently arrested a man on campus, found to be carrying a firearm and multiple rounds of ammunition in a tog bag.

Please report any suspicious people or behaviour to the 24-hour CPS control centre on ext 2222/2223.

## Africa Day - celebrating UCT's footprint in Africa

Africa Day, 25 May, commemorates the founding in 1963 of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), the precursor to the African Union (AU). On this day, the continent celebrates not just the anniversary of this event, as well as the organisation's aspirations for African unity, but it is also a time for reflection on the many challenges that the continent still faces, as well as its successes.

UCT, with students and staff from over 100 countries - including 37 of the 53 African nations - is a cultural melting pot. The university annually celebrates this diversity on Africa Day through various initiatives led by the International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO), faculties, departments and student societies.

This year a series of events will take place before and on Africa Day, culminating in an exhibition that will showcase already significant research collaborations and other academic partnerships between UCT and its counterparts in Africa.

### Friday, 22 May

#### *Students' Africa Day Celebration Dinner*

This event will take place from 18h00 to 20h00 in the Baxter Dining Hall. It will be hosted by the Students' Representative Council (SRC) and all students are invited. Entrance is free, but it is essential to book a seat in advance. Please RSVP to Amanda Ngwenya on [gwen.croc@yahoo.com](mailto:gwen.croc@yahoo.com) by 19 May.

### Monday 25 May

#### *Exhibition and panel discussion - Celebrating UCT's Africa Partnerships*

This will take place in the Robert Leslie Social Science building.

An academic exhibition on the Mezzanine level of the RLSS building will showcase the various UCT research groups that have established strong links in Africa, and will thus show the richness of existing links between this and other African institutions.

Representatives from these groups will be on hand to answer questions and show what is possible for those who wish to connect with fellow researchers in other African countries.

The exhibition will be opened by Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price at a cocktail reception at 17h00 for 17h30.

Information on IAPO and the African Academic Links Section will also be on display.

A cultural exhibition hosted by a diverse range of student societies will be held on the foyer level during the Meridian.

An interactive panel discussion has been scheduled for 16h00 in LT1, Graduate School of Humanities, next to the RLSS building, when the panel will share their experiences and successes in establishing links and exchanges in Africa.

For more detailed information on these events, please visit the UCT website. All members of the UCT community are warmly invited to visit the RLSS building on 25 May. **MP**

EVENTS

**Department of Medicine**  
Thursday 4PM Meetings 14 May 2009 Prof M Blockman – “To Err is Human” 21 May 2009 Dr L Geffen – “The Relationship between Doctors and the Pharmaceutical Industry” 28 May 2009 Prof K Sliwa – “Modern trends in Heart Failure Therapy”

**ICTS Training for May 2009** • 18-21 (13:30-16:30) Excel 2003 Level 1 • 25-27 (09:00-12:00) PowerPoint 2003 Level • 29-29 (09:00-12:00) PowerPoint 2007 New features

**The Vice-Chancellor**  
[u]poio[iuio  
\$==0==ax Price has pleasure in inviting you to the Inaugural Lecture of Professor Julian Kinderlerer. Department of Private Law, Faculty of Law on “Globalisation, intellectual Property and Biotechnology” Wednesday 13 May 2009 at 17h30, Lecture Theatre 2, Kramer Building, Stanley Road, Middle Campus, UCT. Guest to be seated by 17h15. Refreshments will be served after the lecture. Please RSVP to: Centre for Extra-Mural Studies. Tel 0216502888 or Fax: 0216502893 or Email: ems@uct.ac.za

**POLITICAL STUDIES SEMINARS** Tuesday 12 May Robert Jensen (University of Texas, Austin), Obama and the Multiple Crises of Empire, venue: Graduate School of Humanities seminar room 3A, 1 p.m. • Wednesday 13 May John Saul (York University, Toronto), Race, Class, Gender, Voice: Four Terrains of Liberation, Graduate School of Humanities common room, 1 p.m.; paper available at www.uct.ac.za/depts/politics. • Tuesday 19 May Anthony Butler, Zwelethu Jolobe, Sithembile Mbete (Political Studies, UCT), Panel discussion on the Zuma Presidency and Its Prospects, Leslie Soc Sci 5.82, 1 p.m. Enquiries: Andrew.Nash@uct.ac.za.

**Public lecture:** “Two fronts of anti-apartheid struggle: South Africa and Canada” by Canadian political scientist John Saul. Tuesday 12 May, 18:00, Lecture Theatre 3B, Social Science Building. Extra-mural Studies & SA Association of Canadian Studies invites you to attend. RSVP: jeanne.coomer@uct.ac.za

**Call for Nominations for 2010 T. B. Davie Memorial Lecture** UCT staff and students are invited to submit nominations for the 2010 T.B. Davie memorial lecture to the Academic Freedom Committee. Nominations should not exceed three pages and should include a brief Curriculum Vitae of the nominated speaker and a

motivation for the nomination. Nominations should be submitted to Vicki Heard, Room 145, Bremner Building, Lower Campus, UCT or vicki.heard@uct.ac.za, by Friday 29 May 2009.

VACANT POSTS

**EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:**

**Professor/Associate Professor/ Senior Lecturer**, Division of Geomatics, Closing date: 15 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 2192, email: tracy.moore@uct.ac.za

**Senior Lecturer/Lecturer:** Jewish Religion & Thought, Closing date: 18 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 2192, email: tracy.moore@uct.ac.za

**Senior Lecturer/Lecturer:** Child Nursing, School of Child & Adolescent Health, Closing date: 22 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 2220, email: roslyn.daniels@uct.ac.za

**Dean & Professor**, Faculty of Commerce, Closing date: 29 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 2192, email: tracy.moore@uct.ac.za

**RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)**

**Director:** Baxter Theatre Centre, Closing date: 11 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 5405, email: rodney.martin@uct.ac.za

**Data Manager**, Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Closing date: 11 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 2192, email: tracy.moore@uct.ac.za

**Senior Secretary**, Department of Physics, Closing date: 15 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 3332, email: nadrah.lovric@uct.ac.za

**Research Nurses**, South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (Worcester-based posts), Closing date: 15 May 2009,Tel: 021 406 6014, email: satvi-info@uct.ac.za

**Student Development Officer**, The Raymond Ackerman Academy, The UCT Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 15 May, email: academy@gsb.uct.ac.za

**POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:**

**Assistant Warden**, Forest Hill Residence, Closing date: 11 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 5405, email: edith.graham@uct.ac.za

**Reception & Admissions Assistant**, Student Housing Admissions & Advocacy Services, Closing date: 11 May 2009, Tel: 021 650 2969, email: jacqueline.kemp@uct.ac.za

*The vacancies can be viewed at: <http://www.uct.ac.za>, Click on “Vacancies”.*

PROPERTY

**“Newlands:** Spacious 2 bedroomed flat in a quiet. Walking distance to UCT, Newlands rugby

/ cricket grounds, Cavendish Square and Rondebosch shopping centres. Secure parking for 1 car. R5500 pm. Contact: 0828432765.”

**Simon’s Town:** Tranquil, private, beautifully modernised, fully-furnished, 2-bedroomed cottage for longterm rent. Must be viewed. Contact Mike Berger: bergergm@telkomsa.net or 0217864823.

**Kenilworth:** Fully furnished flat with DSTV for rent, R6500. In quiet smallish block with gardens. 2 bed with secure parking near Kenilworth Station. Available immediately. Contact: 0828741695.

**“Diep River:** Townhouse for sale. R690000 neg. 2 beds with bics bathroom with shower over bath downstairs guest loo, f/f new kitchen, hob & extractor tiled lounge/dining room exclusive parking bay in access controlled complex.Ph owner 0726464920 or 0217150070.”

**Rondebosch:** Sunny flat to rent, partly furnished, available immediately. Ideal for couple or 2 friends/siblings sharing. 10 minutes walk to UCT. R4000pm. Call: 0822537638.

**Newlands:** House to rent. 3 beds, 2 bathrooms, well-maintained with lovely garden. R10 000pm. Phone Mandy: 0833093822 or MandyF@netpoint.co.za

**“Rondebosch:** Old Cape Farmhouse with self-contained, furnished apartments available (DSTV & broadband, fireplace, beauty salon, UCT Shuttle on doorstep. Wkly & monthly rates. Tel: 0216851747 or www.ivydene.homestead.com”

**Hout Bay:** Unfurnished 4 bedroom house, garden, pool, jacuzzi, 2 garages.Mountain views, 15 minutes UCT. Rent year at least neg R12000 monthly depending on servicing. Contact: pwhodkinson@gmail.com

FOR SALE

**For Sale:** Pentax MZ050 Auto-focus professional camera in pristine condition with handbook. R1000. Phone Chris: 0217825916 or 0824369662.

**For Sale:** Karrimor backpack, ex-large capacity with frame. Excel. condition.R350. Phone Judith: 0216502433 or 0217825916 a/h.

**For Sale:** Removable Dog Grille for Peugeot 307 Station Wagon. Only used once. Can easily be fitted and removed. R1600 o.n.c.o. Contact Sue: 0827735880, 0216502282 or email Sue. Custers@uct.ac.za.

**For Sale:** Ford Laser Tracer 1,3

hatchback, 2001 good tires, looks good, recent Road Worthy Certificate. R29000. Contact Anne Collins: 0217886309 or 0827851675.

**For Sale:** 2002 Toyota Tazz 1.3 Excellent condition. Aircon, cd/radio, gearlock and alarm. 105,000 Km. Full service records. R48000. Phone 0216864270 or 0764526797.”

**For Sale:** BMW 325i 1992, old style body, with only 193000 km. Excellent shape. Fully loaded, automatic, fun to drive. Contact Prof. Paul Licker 0747555525.

**For Sale:** Honda Ballade 1500, White, 1997. R20000. Contact: 073611 9096 - Rondebosch area. Wood for sale: Blackwattle – R650 per 1000. Rooikrans – R900 per 1000. Bloekom – R650 per 1000. Contact Glenda: 0825873958 or 0218800518.

**For Sale:** Playstation 2 with memory card,2 controlls and 10 copied games R1400.00. Contact Nicky: 0216501042 or 0829294657 or nicollette.oerson@uct.ac.za.”

GENERAL

**Eagle Transcription & Translation Services:**  
Transcription of digital sound files, audio cassettes, cd's - interviews, research, meetings, focus groups, .wav files, copy typing, etc., timelines negotiated. Contact Lorraine: 0217611866 or 0848129386 or eagle@iburst.co.za or lorrhein@gmail.com

**Wanted:** A half 44-gallon drum. Can anyone help me? Phone Peter: 0834151145.

**Urgent Maths tutor needed:**  
Maths tutor for course Maths 1010 needed. Contact Mischa: 0216851166 or 0714121421.

**A male Zimbabwe driver** of sober habits is looking for a job as a driver. He has code 14, 10 and 8. If interested contact Vain Matiore 0846824118. For ref contact Dr C Dandara: collet.dandara@uct.ac.za.

**“Editor/proofreader** available for postgraduate theses, journal articles etc. Experience in academic publishing. CV/ references on request. Contact Dave: 0828990452 or david.buchanan@telkomsa.net”

**Excellent Char** is looking for permanent job sleepin good refs , reliable honest and hardworker. fond of kids also.please ph Mavis 0825463174.

**Part time job**, evening, babysitting or housesitting good refs please ph Nelly 0732814908 S/Suburbs.

**We are relocating** in June and would like to find a new job for our domestic worker/childminder. She

has worked for me for over four years.Contact Janet: 0714163494 or Janet.willment@uct.ac.za for ref or call Nkosazana: 0833323463.

**Thinking of moving:** Bakkie available for hire at reasonable rates. Student rates available. Please call Tino: 0768236818.

**Art Classes Muizenberg:** Create, experiment & learn using different mediums. Drawing skills too. R1000 for 7 week module of 3 hours weekly. 0217885974 or 0829267666.

**“Adoption Discussion** and support group run by clinical psychologist and adoptive mother. Discuss your concerns with other adoptive parents. Contact: jean.luyt@uct.ac.za “

**Part-time Environmental Education position:**  
Environmental educator required to provide support to schools in Atlantis. Driver's licence and own car a necessity. E-mail CV to: changematters@gmail.co.za

**Food Dot Yum:** Catering and cookery demonstrations for adults, children and corporates. Deli products and pre-packed meals available at the Gourmet Garage, 4 Elgin Road, Bergvliet, Monday - Friday 8am - 5pm. Call Mandy or Judy 021712148 or 0833093822 or fooddotyum@gmail.com

Wanting to earn some extra cash: We are looking for South African male students to participate in two studies. The effects of print media and Cross-cultural measurement validation of the Male Attitude Norms Inventory-III, taking place at UCT. You will be offered R30 for completing 2 questionnaires, which should take 45 minutes max. If you are interested in contributing to this research, and would like more information concerning the dates and times for participation. Contact: taryn.vanniekerk@uct.ac.za

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**FAX : (021) 447 5192**  
**EMAIL : info@riverview.co.za**  
**WEBSITE: www.riverview.co.za**

**UCT Club**  
Lunch 12 – 14:30 pm    Dinner 17:00 – 20:00  
  
**WHAT TO EXPECT?**  
Our famous club lunch buffet table  
A la carte menu & selection of smaller meals  
(Our menu is priced to suit everybody's pocket)  
  
Contact us for all your Departmental Parties  
  
We also cater for Conferences, Weddings, Braai's & Birthday Parties  
  
Choice of menus available including a large Platter selection  
  
We deliver  
  
Contact Craig, Hayds & Matthew  
Ph: 650 3161  
Email: uctclub@uct.ac.za  
  
Web Address: uctclub.uct.ac.za

# Two Oceans to Platteklip to Fish River – it's all in her stride



## HELEN THÉRON

Many Two Oceans Ultra Marathoners are content to take a break after the event, run in sweltering conditions this year, but not UCT health sciences staffer Deana Edwards.

Having completed her 17th Two Oceans Ultra on 11 April, Edwards was back in action the following weekend, this time up the steep 5.5km Platteklip Gorge on Table Mountain.

Edwards, who recently joined the undergraduate administration team, raced up three times in one day, one of 57 people who'd signed up for the Platteklip Charity Challenge to raise R551 200. (they'd aimed for half a million) for the Masikulisane Crèche in Samora Machel, a haven to more than 90 AIDS-affected children.

The weather helped. With the mist, Edwards couldn't see how steep it was, how far ahead, or how high.

"There did seem to be a cease-

less number of steps and boulders to go over. The winner went up 10 times, and the top lady eight times. I feel like such a 'wuss'!" she said.

In fact it was UCT's Professor George Schoenbaechler (Department of Psychology) who won the Platteklip Charity Challenge (he went up 10 times), raising an impressive sum of money.

For Edwards, running - or climbing - is more than an effort to keep fit. ("I'm not a natural athlete. I have to dig deep.") Rather, it's also an opportunity to support those in need (the Platteklip charity run) and a chance to visit some remote parts of the world, places of exquisite beauty, like the Fish River Canyon, where she's headed this month.

Edwards will run across the Namibian desert, from the Fish River Canyon to Lüderitz Bay in Racing the Planet's 250-km journey, completed over six days.

She will carry everything in her backpack (she chose one over another for the 400g weight dif-

ference): sleeping bag, mat, food, medicines, water and an MP3 with "some great desert blues music", Van Morrison and Mark Knopfler.

"I'm so excited about this adventure and it has been such fun getting fit, running up and down Table Mountain through Cecilia Forest, across dunes at Noordhoek beach and then experimenting with all kinds of foods to find out what goes down well, what's delicious, or what I just can't digest."

The food-energy-to-weight-ratio is important. Her pack weighs 12kg but she's hoping to whittle this to 10kg.

She's especially particular about her shoes (she's running in New Balance), which must offer the comfort of slippers but protect her feet from rocky terrain, and gaiters to keep abrasive desert sand out.

Endurance is a mind game, she says.

"Always start with the end in mind, and you will get there with great aplomb. We have no idea of what our bodies are capable of." **MP**

Great race: This month health sciences staffer Deana Edwards will compete in the Racing the Planet's 250-km run from the Fish River Canyon to Lüderitz Bay, a six-day epic.

## UCT hosts disabled sports evening



On 7 May UCT's Disability Service, in collaboration with the League of Friends of the Blind and UCT Sport & Recreation, hosted a sports evening at the UCT Sports Centre that included wheelchair rugby and goal ball.

South Africa's national teams demonstrated how the games are played, and spectators were challenged to join them for both sports.

Goal ball is a team sport designed for blind athletes, in which sides of three try to throw a ball with bells embedded in it into the opposing team's goal. Sighted players wear blindfolds to compete fairly. Wheelchair rugby, originally called murderball, is a contact sport with its roots in wheelchair basketball and ice hockey.

The event is aimed at creating awareness of disability sports among both disabled and non-disabled people, and at bringing the disciplines and athletes closer to the mainstream sporting arena. **MP**

## SPORTS wrap

### JUDO

UCT finished fifth overall at the University Sports South Africa (USSA) judo championship, hosted by the Cape Peninsula University of Technology at its Bellville campus from 24 to 27 April. Among the star performers for UCT was Ernest Louw (in picture), who bagged the gold medal in the men's under-81kg division; Shaun Woodman, who finished second the men's under-66kg division; and Nico Louw, who took bronze in the under-73kg division. Mikhaila Job also picked up third spot in the women's under-



70kg event. Woodman and Ernest Louw were also selected to attend the Universiade in Belgrade, Serbia, in July. UCT will host the 2011 USSA championships.

### RUGBY

On the whole, the UCT FNB First XV will be pleased with their recent performances in the Western Province Super League. Yes, they lost 20-39 to Victorians on 22 April, but bounced back with a 22-7 win over Villagers three days later (25 April), and then thrashed Helderberg 50-14 on Workers' Day, 1 May. Just four games into the season, that clutch of wins now has them nipping at the heels of early log leader, Hamiltons, and Stellenbosch University. Their next game is the intervarsity against archrivals Maties on 9 May, in a curtain raiser to the Stormers/Western Force Super 14 game at Newlands.



UCT's Kaspar Hagedorn (left) fends off a challenge from Ashford's Rafique Esburgh.

### SOCCER

Coach Craig Hepburn read the Riot Act to the men's soccer first team after their 1-6 hammering from Ashford Athletics in their Cape District Football Association Super League match on 2 May. Not just short one player - this after the bench was bursting at the seams at a game the Wednesday before - the team looked all at sea as they let in a brace of soft goals and squandered at least half a dozen opportunities of their own. Poor preparation, chided Hepburn. What's needed, he insisted, was more commitment from his players. And more goals.

### SWIMMING

The UCT Aquatics Club fielded five relay teams and six individual swimmers in this year's Cadiz Freedom Swim. The endurance event pits 180 swimmers against the frigid waters of Cape Town, crossing 7.5km from Robben Island to Big Bay in Bloubergstrand. On the day, 26 April, the water temperature was a nippy 13 degrees, with cold spots of 11 degrees. Fortunately for the swimmers, the water was relatively flat with a small swell and weak current. The Cadiz Freedom Swim is a fundraiser for Cape Town's Vista Nova School, which caters for children with special needs.

### WATER POLO

UCT's Laura Barrett and Jade Liddell have been selected for the South African senior women's water polo team that is playing in the FINA Women's World League in Lille, France, from 8 to 10 May. **MP**

## Sports Centre gets workout

The slate panels covering the western facade of the Sports Centre on upper campus have, through delamination as well as deterioration of the fixing mechanism, become a hazard to people visiting or passing by the facility. The condition of the slates is monitored and inspected annually by David Elston (Structural) Engineers. Recent collapses of the fixing mechanisms have now necessitated the removal, for inspection purposes, of all 383 panels. These panels can weigh up to 150kg each, a falling hazard that must be avoided at all costs.

The panels will be individually inspected, as well as the exposed facade concrete structure. Opinions of both the engineering and architectural professionals will be obtained for remedial measures and/or replacement.

Stripping of the panels will commence during the first week of May and could take up to 6 weeks. While the areas of work will be cordoned off, everyone is requested to avoid the area if at all possible and obey the route diversions at all times.

The building was designed and executed by Roelof Uytendogaardt, a UCT professor, in his practice Uytendogaardt, Macaskill and Schneider in 1977, and is a work that has won awards, and regularly attracts international attention as a masterful work of modern architecture. The 'floating' slate panels are an important element of the design.