

Monday Paper

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Green, greener, greenest

Green Week takes place from 28 September to 2 October on campus, an oasis where we spotlight environmentally conscious living and work at UCT. It's all part of the Green Campus Initiative (GCI), started in 2007 by a handful of students and staff. Their members have swelled from 300 to over 1 100.

While recycling has gained huge momentum, it's not enough, says GCI member Kimon de Greef, a third-year ecology student.

"Some people don't think about the environment. One will open a packet of chips and throw the bag away without thinking about where it's going. One will walk past an empty lecture theatre with lights on."

Universities have always been places of change, of new thought, he added. "With the world facing global warming and energy and water crises, we'd love to see UCT leading the way in changing that."

These are some of the initiatives they are driving, co-ordinating and applauding.

(For more information on campus events visit www.uct.ac.za/about/greencampus or <http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=127586675951>. Or search "UCT Green Week" on Facebook).

Green philosophy



The folks at the Department of Philosophy take their recycling seriously. So everyone makes sure that paper is printed on both sides before it's dumped. They also have a regular pick-up of such paper, which earns the department a few rands in petty cash. Still not content, all staff – including the aptly-named Shamiela Green of Supercare, who pounces on any stray paper or other recyclable goodies in the office, which staffer Cindy Gilbert hauls off to Pinelands North Primary for her kids' Friday morning recycling competition.

Bin it



Daisy chain: Alumna Lauren Steyn (left) and staffer Shumi Chimombe get in the mood for Green Week.

UCT produces up to eight tons of waste a day. All bins on upper and middle campus have been grouped into stations and people are expected to discard waste in the correct bins. Waste is taken to a sorting facility and UCT receives some of the revenue from recycled goods.

Easy riders

Ridelink seeks to reduce carbon emissions from the UCT community by promoting carpooling, cycling and public transport. A key component is the Campus Carpooling system – an online database that matches interested students up with others who



live in their area. Campus Carpooling saves petrol, reduces parking congestion – and you make new friends.

Light up

In partnership with Eskom, the GCI promotes energy saving and efficiency. Residences compete to



reduce their total energy consumption. The GCI also works with house committees to raise awareness about environmental issues within the residences, such as using energy-efficient globes. Electricity meters are being fitted to each building.

Putting down roots

Properties and Services' clearing programme, to rid the campus of alien vegetation, is part of overall maintenance. "The entire value of our botanical biodiversity is taken into account, along with the diverse range of heritage trees and historic planting," says senior horticulturist Noelene le Cordier. "With respect to future tree planting we do not only



plant indigenous trees as it's important to maintain the style that has developed over the last 100 years on campus. From a conservation point, some of the trees that are classic to the university environment are Stone Pines, Mediterranean cypresses and Outeniqua yellowwoods, which need to be kept and replanted."

Waterwise plants

The Campus Biodiversity Project aims to make UCT's gardens more representative of the Cape's unique flora, such as fynbos. This provides a number of benefits such as water-use efficiency, providing a refuge for rare and endangered species and showcasing floral delights for the botanist and the layman alike, as well as boosting UCT's eco-friendly image.



Soak up the sun

The Graça Machel and Cadboll House residences lead the way in solar power systems that work with heat pumps. Residence maintenance manager John Peters said the heat is absorbed from the sun and trapped between the flat plate panels and the glass. That heats the pipes, which heat cold water, providing between



20% and 35% of hot water for both residences. **IMP**

Security teams told to be on their toes ahead of Soccer World Cup

The Soccer World Cup and the associated risk factors for South African campus protection agencies dominated talk at this year's Campus Protection Society of Southern Africa (CAMPROSA) conference.

It was hosted by the Western Cape's four higher education institutions.

Former Manchester United player and iconic South African goalie Gary Bailey was one member of the star-studded line-up; other speakers included Judge Dennis Davis, Helmoed Heitman (Southern African correspondent for Jane's Defence Weekly), and Marlon Lynch (president of the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators).

Bailey's presentation, a game plan for 2010 in South Africa, illustrated just why local campus security teams will have to be on their toes

"We don't know what's going to hit us," said risk services manager John Tunstall, chair of the organising committee.

While the cricket and rugby

world cups had attracted in the region of 45 000 visitors each, the Soccer World Cup will bring fans by the hundreds of thousands.

Many universities, including UCT, are planning to hire out residence facilities to capitalise on the boom.

Terrorism in Southern Africa was another watch-point discussed, and here it was the resurrection of People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (PAGAD) that elicited concern.

But it wasn't all serious business. Motivational speaker and life coach Ken Annandale, author of *Movers, Shakers, Moaners & Groaners*, encouraged delegates to find their purpose, use their unique survival kit – and live their dreams. (Helen. Theron@uct.ac.za) **MP**

My left foot: Author and life coach Ken Annandale took delegates at the recent CAMPROSA conference through the steps of ditching negative attitudes and living their dreams.



Doctors' strikes a see-saw between public health and self-interest



By its very nature, a doctors' strike is always controversial, and potentially disastrous.

It seems to go against the fundamentals of professional medical ethics, which are to do no harm, to prevent harm, to remove harm and to do good.

So said Dr Louis Reynolds, senior specialist in paediatrics at UCT's School of Child and Adolescent Health at the Steve Biko Memorial Event on 14 September.

In his lecture, titled *The Doctors' Strike-Ethics and the Bill of Rights*, Reynolds analysed the medical strike in South Africa, its impact and ethical complications.

"There are always ethical questions surrounding doctors' strikes, as doctors render an essential service to society."

Strikes produce both positive and negative outcomes, Reynolds noted.

"Negative outcomes include the delay or complete lack of treatment, needless suffering, irreversible damage to some patients, death, and loss of trust and prestige of medical professionals. But positive outcomes include fewer medical errors, better healthcare, a decrease in the brain

drain, brighter new students attracted to the profession, lower mortality and the development of a higher trust."

But, he points out, during a strike many people will argue that all they're experiencing is its negative aspects.

And children are especially vulnerable to doctors' strikes.

"In Cape town there is the situation of deteriorating child health, with more and more sick children. There has been a decline in medical staff, which is exacerbated by urban population growth. So we have to ask: can the best interests of the child be protected if declining staff numbers are treating growing numbers of very ill children in overcrowded facilities?"

Reynolds argues that doctors' strikes can be justified, but only as a last resort, and provided the main interest in the strike action is not pure self-interest on the part of the striking doctors.

"In a strike, there is a see-saw effect between public health and self-interest. But the intended good must always outweigh the anticipated harm," he says. (Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za) **MP**

Best paper award for Correia and Holman

UCT's Associate Professors Carlos Correia and Glen Holman of the Department of Accounting in the Faculty of Commerce have won the Standard Bank prize for best paper of the year in the SA Journal of Accounting Research for 2008.

Their paper is titled *An analysis of underpricing and aftermarket performance of initial public offerings on the Alternative Exchange (AltX)*. The prize carries a purse of R10 000.

The original research also attracted high praise when it was first presented. The pair won the PricewaterhouseCoopers Best Paper Award for this research at the Biennial South African Accounting Association (SAAA) Conference in Johannesburg last year.

The paper analysed aftermarket performance of Initial Public Offerings on the AltX, from inception in 2003 until October 2007. The



High praise: Assoc Profs Glen Holman (right) and Carlos Correia of the Department of Accounting in the Faculty of Commerce have won the Standard Bank prize for best paper of the year in the SA Journal of Accounting Research for 2008.

study found that investors would have earned a non-risk-adjusted cumulative return of 44% higher than the market benchmark, based on the opening issue price. However, once the first-day return is excluded

(which was mostly only available to financial institutions and hedge funds), investors would have earned a non-risk-adjusted cumulative return of only 6% higher than the ALSI market benchmark. **MP**

Labour force outgrowing jobs



Governing the crisis: Photographed at the 10th annual Steve Biko Memorial Lecture were (from left) VC Dr Max Price, speaker Tito Mboweni, Nkosinathi Biko, and the SRC's Portia Gama.

The South African economy has not created enough jobs to keep up with the growth in the labour force, Reserve Bank Governor Tito Mboweni said at the 10th annual Steve Biko Memorial Lecture at UCT on 10 September.

Mboweni concentrated on economic issues as he catalogued some highs and lows of South African macroeconomic development since 1994.

Foremost among the success stories has been the country's ability to keep inflation in check, a necessary condition for sustainable growth and

prosperity, said Mboweni.

"I would like to believe that Steve Biko would have been gratified by the fairly contained pace of inflation over the past 15 years," said Mboweni, "knowing the dire consequences of inflation for the poor – those who are usually least able to hedge against inflation – in particular."

But recent wage settlements above the projected rate of inflation are worrying, he added. So, too, have been the outbreaks of xenophobic violence in South Africa. This undermines the "lofty ideals" of

establishing a free trade area, a common market and a monetary union in the Southern African Development Community region, among other outcomes.

While there have been a number of economic victories, including increases in real GDP and real gross national income per capita, they have not always delivered the desired results, said Mboweni. For example, the South African economy has not created enough jobs to keep up with the growth in the labour force.

"The growing unemployment rate, combined with the partly undesirable inequality trends, can be fertile ground for exacerbating polarisation between South Africans, leading to social tension across racial, class and gender lines," said Mboweni.

The current global economic crisis has also added to the country's woes, he noted.

"It is eroding some of the achievements we have made in stabilising the economy, broadening economic participation and improving the living conditions of many South Africans." (M.Morris@uct.ac.za) **MP**

New head wears many hats

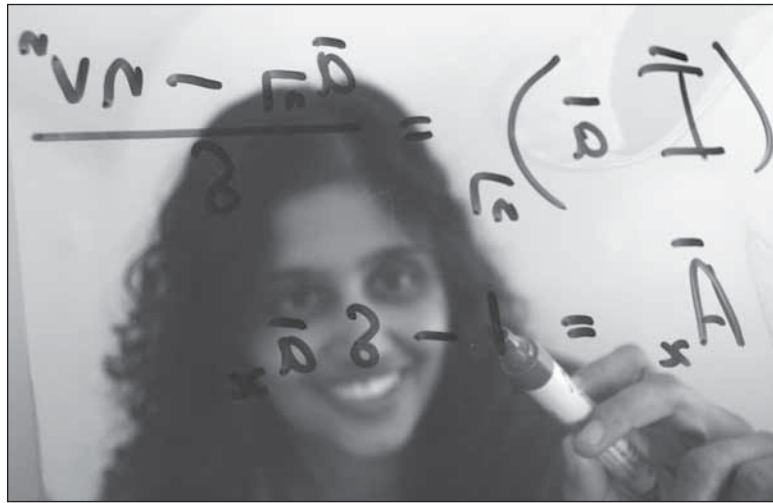
Shivani Ramjee's appointment as head of the actuarial sciences section in the School of Management Studies is a milestone in many ways.

At just 30, Ramjee is the first woman and the first black person to lead the section. Notable, yes – but Ramjee wants to concentrate on other matters, such as leading the section and juggling her roles as administrator, academic (much of her research has been on the numbers behind medical schemes) and mother.

Obvious one first – the popular image of actuaries is that of number-crunchers who make a mint. Is this true, and if so, why did you turn to academia instead? What's the attraction?

Yes, actuarial professionals do earn well. The potential to contribute positively to South Africa and to the actuarial profession drew me to academia. I love teaching, and I believe we have an important role to play in producing mathematically skilled graduates who are well prepared for the commercial environment and its challenges.

The potential for an exciting, intellectually stimulating research career is also very attractive.



One would assume that actuarial science is a career monopolised by white men, yet it would appear that half the faculty in the section are women. Did you ever feel as if you were the odd black woman out in the field?

A third are women (two women, four men). And no, I didn't feel like the odd black woman out in the field (even though I clearly am!). Perhaps it's because all actuaries go through the same rigorous training – you are treated with respect regardless of your gender, or the colour of your skin. I've always felt able to contrib-

ute positively to my work environment, and I'm comfortable enough in my own skin for it not to bother me.

Much is said of the negative impact that motherhood has on career opportunities for women. Do you feel that tug of war between work and motherhood?

I love being a mother, and having the career that I do. Both are extremely fulfilling, but in different ways. There is no doubt that the demands on your time can be stressful, but I strive to be fully present and give of my best at work when

I'm working, and at home when I'm with my little one.

What are the priorities of the section at the moment?

The key priorities of the section are: Ensuring our readiness for presenting the new courses required for the new local actuarial qualification;

Growing our postgraduate programmes (including enhancing our supervision capacity);

Enhancing our contribution to the transformation of the profession – one of the new initiatives under way is that from 2010 we will be offering an academic development programme specifically for actuarial science students.

What are the immediate challenges for the head of section and, more specifically, for you?

I see my immediate challenge as freeing up capacity within the section – the staff need breathing space to be innovative, and to spend the necessary time on research. This means greater efficiency, managing down the administrative loads carried by academic staff, and ensuring that teaching loads are fairly shared. We will also be recruiting more staff to assist with the local education offering.

It's been said that actuaries are there to manage risk. How do you think the job has been shaped or reshaped by the current economic crisis?

I think it's too early to say – the profession is still in the process of being reshaped. I do think that the area of enterprise risk management will become a bigger part of professional education as a result.

Why the interest in medical schemes?

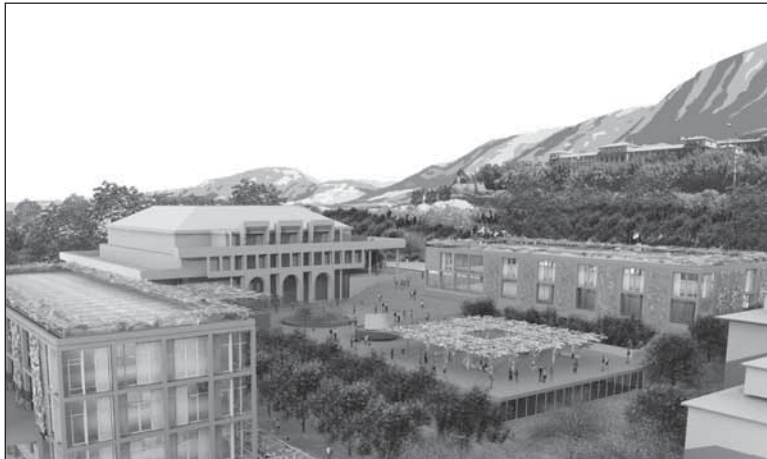
I'm attracted to the dynamic nature of healthcare financing and the constant challenges faced by the sector, particularly in managing the cost of care. I strongly believe in the principle of universal access to quality healthcare, and in the powerful role effective financing of care can play in enhancing access.

What's your first major task as head of actuarial sciences at UCT?

I wish there was just one major task! First up is the recruitment of new staff to take us into 2010. We are so excited about the move to a local qualification, and it's important that we have the right staff in place to enable the transition.

(M.Morris@uct.ac.za) MP

New buildings go green



The new building development on middle campus marks a number of firsts for UCT's commitment to environmental matters. As a result, these will be the first buildings on campus to be rated by the Green Building Council of South Africa, which has given the project a three (out of five) star rating.

Environmental concerns, such as energy saving, recycling and water attenuation, have played a crucial role in the design and construction processes of the R200 million development, which will include a new administration building, house the new Graduate School of Economics and extend the Kramer Law Building.

"Firstly, we placed great importance on the orientation of the building,"

explains John Critien, executive director of UCT's Properties and Services. Its façade is north facing, which will allow for maximum use of sunlight to keep the building warm during winter and bright throughout the year. All light fittings will use the best available low consumption bulbs, with motion sensors, where possible, to lessen power usage.

The buildings will also be equipped with innovative, efficient new ventilation solutions.

"We still have some really old ventilation units on upper campus, which consume substantial amounts of water and electricity. The new system will cut down these costs," he says.

Another concern was water attenu-

ation. Because rainwater running freely down slopes can erode and damage property, the development includes attenuation ponds, which create retention areas for water to accumulate, and finally sink harmlessly into the ground.

This, says Critien, is another first for UCT, and in line with new city bylaws on storm water attenuation aimed at the preservation of the Cape rainforest.

Recycling was a key feature of the demolition process, with all steel, concrete, bricks and sand removed for re-use elsewhere. A stone crusher was on site to process the rubble, and steel was taken away to be melted down.

"Recycling not only makes perfect sense, but it's also cost-effective," says Critien. "We incorporated recycling in the cost planning, and although it does take some extra effort to separate raw materials and crush rubble, the process actually reduced the development costs."

The development, expected to be completed by 2011, is aimed at lessening the load of upper campus, which, Critien quips, has become "sufficiently densified".

The economics building will house two lecture theatres, and the new administration building will be occupied by staff currently on upper campus, as well as the International Academic Programmes Office. MP

Put young guns to work on global warming

If the politicians won't take the lead in tackling global warming, then perhaps universities should step into the breach.

So says deputy vice-chancellor Professor Jo Beall, who recently returned from South Korea where she joined a band of African and Asian universities at the first University Presidents' Forum on Climate Change & Sustainable Development in Asia & Africa, held at South Korea University in Seoul.

On behalf of UCT, Beall also signed The Seoul Declaration on Climate Change & Sustainable Development in Asia and Africa, which commits the 12 signatories – UCT was one of two universities representing Sub-Saharan Africa – to form a "network for research and education" to address these twin issues.

If there was one sentiment that underpinned the meeting, it's that countries on the two continents have

much in common, reports Beall. Both are pushing ambitious development programmes, which raises immediate environmental concerns.

"No issue is more central to economic growth and development," said Ban Ki-moon, secretary general of the United Nations, in his keynote address to the forum. "No issue is more vital to the wellbeing of billions of people, particularly in the poorest countries of the world." MP



Arts festival lights up the town

There's a story doing the rounds at the annual Clanwilliam Arts Project that some people have never heard Associate Professor Mark Fleishman speak in a normal tone of voice.

That's because in marshalling 600 or so children (up from about 150 when the project first started, nine years ago) plus a small army of assistants, Fleishman (head of the Department of Drama at UCT) is usually found bellowing orders at the top of his voice or through a

loudhailer.

No one seems to mind, though, as the project, made up of a week-long workshop that culminates in a lantern-lit procession through the Clanwilliam streets and a showpiece performance, is a highlight on the town's calendar. The performance includes traditional /Xam storytelling elements such as fire-dancing and music, as well as more contemporary techniques such as shadow puppetry, arts and crafts, and this year, a huge fireworks display. MP

GIS software that gives you the advantage

Did you know that UCT has a GIS laboratory which acts as a consulting and resource centre for Geographic Information Systems researchers and postgraduate students?

The laboratory acts as a central data warehouse, offers support for GIS related queries and provides a consulting service for project planning, course design and lecturing. Staff can be taught how to use the GIS software and how to integrate it into their course.

For more information on services and equipment visit the Vula site – GIS at UCT or email

Nicholas.Lindenberg@uct.ac.za or Thomas.Slingsby@uct.ac.za

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

College of Fellows boosts their ranks by seven

The UCT College of Fellows has named seven new members: academic staff who are recognised for their original and distinguished academic work. The 'newcomers' – acclaimed scholars with vast experience – bring the tally for UCT's fellows to 65. Two of the new fellows hail from the Department of Chemistry. The seven are:

Professor Susan Bourne, Department of Chemistry



Bourne's research interests lie in structural chemistry, and she's published widely on supramolecular structures (compounds with more than one molecule) and their larger properties. Widely cited, and a leader in crystal engineering, Bourne has made considerable advances in looking at the reactions of one solid to another, reactions that are carried out without solvents and so are of considerable interest to industry, because they are both environmentally friendly and more energy-efficient.

Professor Kelly Chibale, Department of Chemistry

Chibale's first job after university was making commercial explosives for use in mining in Zambia, his country of birth. It was turning to



as his standout achievement. In the absence of consistent and reliable empirical data, the model has become the 'national reference point' for anyone with an interest or say in tracking and combating the pandemic.

Professor Jill Farrant, Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology



Farrant, UCT's first A-rated woman scientist, is said to be the only researcher in the world running a holistic study of desiccation-tolerant plants, aka resurrection plants, working her way up from the molecular level to plant physiology. Understanding how these unique plants weather droughts could prove useful in the production of drought-tolerant crops. She also works on the other extreme of plant/water relations, conducting research on desiccation sensitivity in recalcitrant seeds. These seeds germinate immediately on shedding, and die if they go without water, and so cannot be stored for germplasm

less noisy chemistry that sparked his career, though. A prolific publisher and supervisor and now director of the UCT/Medical Research Council Drug Discovery and Development Research Unit, Chibale's research is aimed at the discovery of potential drugs to fight malaria, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, cancer, hypertension and cardiovascular disease.

Professor Robert Dorrington, School of Actuarial Science



Dorrington has held the UCT chair of actuarial science for over 20 years, so it's no surprise that his résumé makes for lengthy, impressive reading. However, some have singled out the Actuarial Society of South Africa AIDS and Demographic Model

(the hereditary genetic material) conservation.

Professor Estelle Lambert, Department of Human Biology



Known as Vicki around UCT offices, Lambert's work spills over from the lab into wider society. She's inspired a cadre of young, mostly female scientists, played a major role in the development of teaching and research programmes in biokinetics, is doing groundbreaking work with a leading medical insurance company to track the health behaviours and outcomes of 1.5 million South Africans, promotes physical activity as part of an international network, and boasts a panoramic oeuvre of scientific research.

Professor Anna-Lise Williamson, Division of Medical Virology



Williamson's initial work was on a novel retrovirus in sheep, but it is her ongoing research on the human papillomavirus – a leading cause of cervical cancer – and the human immunodeficiency virus that has defined her career thus far. As head of the HIV Vaccine Development Group at UCT, Williamson nursed the first African-developed candidate vaccines – both targeting HIV subtype C, the most common strain in Africa – to human trials in 2009.

Professor Robin Wood, Department of Medicine



The 2008 Special Medicine Service Award from the South African Medical Association was but the latest tribute to Wood's contribution to HIV/AIDS research in South Africa. Tracking the spread and impact of HIV for over 15 years, Wood's particular interest has been the fatal, all-too-common combination of HIV and tuberculosis in South Africa. Out of the lab, he has spearheaded studies on the promising impact that antiretroviral therapy has had on HIV/TB co-occurrence. **MP**

Extend SRC's work beyond campus, says president-elect

The Students' Representative Council should represent the voice of young people in society, and should broaden its work beyond the university, says Sizwe Mpfu-Walsh, UCT's SRC President-elect.

Speaking after his 15-member team met for the first time, Mpfu-Walsh, a second-year student in economics, politics and philosophy, said dealing with internal matters was important, but student politics could do more than just focus on campus.

"We need to think about how we can contribute to addressing social and economic inequalities, the HIV/AIDS pandemic and other pressing issues in society," he said.

This vision was at the heart of Mpfu-Walsh's SRC campaign, as it was when the elected members met to allocate portfolios.

However, he added that these were his thoughts only. The new council members, who are set to take office on 1 November, are still to finalise their official, collective vision.

The Johannesburg-born Mpfu-Walsh said he hopes the new SRC leadership will build links with student leaders in other institutions, both in South Africa and on the rest of the



Sizwe Mpfu-Walsh.

continent.

Mpfu-Walsh contested the elections as an independent candidate, and hopes that his committee will unite the different constituencies of the SRC, with its strong Democratic Alliance Students Organisation and South African Student Congress representations.

Other issues he would like to see addressed include students ploughing back into the community, and the promotion of environmental awareness.

"We want to make UCT the symbol for a clean environment in South Africa," he explained, one week ahead of Green Week on campus.

Also high on his priority list is the inefficiency of the Jammie Shuttle Service on satellite campuses, as well as the academic and financial exclusion of students.

"We cannot have a situation where a student gets As in all subjects but is excluded because he can't meet financial requirements," he said.

What fuels his interest in politics? His parents were activists from two diverse communities, factors that shaped his perspectives.

"I'm optimistic about human beings finding solutions to problems confronting them."

Myolisi.gophe@uct.ac.za **MP**

Council Report, 2 September 2009

In the period up to 2004, Council operated without an Executive Committee (Exco), meeting in plenary session 11 times annually. In 2004 Council decided to establish an Exco, but did not delegate decision-making powers to it.

After a year into its four-year term, the new Council has reviewed its modus operandi and has decided, in principle, to move to quarterly, full-day board-type meetings, giving Exco as-yet-unspecified decision-making powers and at the same time giving the Executive greater delegated powers.

A Council committee has been appointed to flesh this out. It is likely to have significant knock-on effects on the cycles of committee business, and on making some key committees more important and allowing Council to give more attention to strategy, and on holding the executive officers (the VC and the DVCs) and senior managers accountable.

The Audit Committee reports to Council after each of its meetings. Its report in September dealt with internal audit matters, planning for the 2009 audit, and the need to address concerns that the independent auditors have about controls on UCT's ICT environment.

The Vice-Chancellor reports to each Council meeting. Highlights of his report in September were: reflections on his recent meeting with the new Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Blade Nzimande, and his advisors; and his announcement of the appointment of John

Samuel as a part-time, short-term special assistant to review UCT's activities related to schools.

The Institutional Forum (IF) is one of the statutory organs, the others being Council, Senate, the SRC and the Student Affairs Committee (USAC). The IF has specific roles, provided for in the Higher Education Act and in UCT's Institutional Statute; these roles essentially require it to advise the Council.

For several years the IF has felt that it was being less than effective; in part, because of a communication gap between it and Council. The IF made some proposals that would have given it access rights to Council meetings. Council recognised recently that communication between the IF and Council needs attention, and, in addition to agreeing to the role that the DVC (who is both a Council member and one of the IF co-chairs) is expected to play in this regard, has endorsed the role of a lay Council member, who is one of the Council appointees on the IF.

Ms V Doo has agreed to play the part of an interlocutor between the IF and Council. However, Council did not accept the new IF proposals; but it has confirmed its willingness to assist the IF in undertaking its functions, to receive IF advice and submissions and not merely responses and reactive reports, and to consider requests (to be made via the Chair of the Council) from the IF. It also agreed to allow the IF to address Council on particular matters in particular circumstances. **MP**

Sea urchins: an environmentally viable alternative to abalone?

UCT marine biologist Mark Cyrus took the best student presentation award at the 9th Conference of the Aquaculture Association of Southern Africa, held in Swakopmund, Namibia, from 8 to 13 September, for his work on the development of export-quality sea urchin gonads.

What was your presentation about?

The development of an artificial diet for the production of export quality gonads from the sea urchin *Tripneustes gratilla* based on the main findings of my MSc.

We created diets using artificial ingredients and natural seaweed to produce urchins with significantly larger gonads with a very good, marketable colour. In just 12 weeks, we increased gonad weight by 205%.

So why their gonads?

Their gonads are also known as "uni", which probably sounds better if we're going to be talking about them for a while. They're highly valued on the Asian market, and unlike abalone, which takes at least three years to



grow, urchins reach adulthood in just over nine months.

How much do they cost?

They can fetch up to R4 000 per kilogram - which is a lot of money for something's gonads. Even abalone is not even R1 000 per kilogram.

What are the benefits of farming them?

The world's sea urchin fisher-

ies are over-exploited, and this is an untapped resource in South Africa.

Are they nutritious?

Not only are they nutritious, but they're also said to be an aphrodisiac.

What do they look like?

A commercially valuable gonad is large, has a firm texture and is bright yellow or orange.

Are they difficult to harvest?

Not if you don't mind getting your hands dirty. The animals, however, find it very difficult.

So, what does it taste like?

Similar to mussels, but uni is a lot richer, and dare I say, creamier. I always save the best-looking ones from each of my dissections to enjoy... I mean, conduct extensive tests on after hours. All you need is a little soya sauce and you're good to go.

Is it a new product?

No, they've been harvested for thousands of years in Japan. But declining stocks worldwide are a problem, and that's where my study comes in.

And finally, your goals for the future?

Is an urchin farm on the South Coast too much to ask? Just kidding. I would like to see this industry help South Africa. There's real potential to earn foreign income and provide jobs for local communities. **MP**



Vaccination programmes a moral obligation

"Vaccinating our children is a moral obligation," said the Department of Health's Dr Ntombenhle Ngcobo at the opening session of the 5th annual Vaccinology Course in Cape Town this month.

Ngcobo was one of two keynote speakers.

The course is a partnership between UCT's Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine's (IIDMM) Vaccines for Africa (VACFA), GlaxoSmithKline, NESI, Troped, and Sanofi-Pasteur. It develops an understanding of the necessity of vaccines in saving lives, and the need for their uptake

in Africa.

Citing the successful measles immunisation drive, the World Health Organisation's Dr Wandile Chauke (the other keynote speaker) said vaccinating remained one of the most cost-effective interventions in preventing infectious disease.

Both opening speakers said that although vaccines had been around for decades, 27 million children are still not being reached in developing regions of the world. Chauke called for greater financial commitment to immunisation programmes in Africa.

Co-ordinated by Dr Charles

Wiysonge, vaccinology programme manager at the IIDMM, the course brought together 60 participants from 14 African countries.

The course has been presented in five African countries so far. As IIDMM director Professor Gregory Hussey said, "If there is one idea we'd like you take back home with you, it's that you need to become advocates for vaccines in Africa."

Hussey illustrated this using the home page of the new Vaccines for Africa (VACFA) website, <http://www.vacfa.com/>. The website is a key advocacy tool for promoting the uptake of vaccines in Africa. **MP**

Developing world needs resources to tackle intellectual disability

There is a dearth of research relating to issues of intellectual disability in South Africa, and government must recognise it as a public health priority, along with mental health, said Professor Colleen Adnams in her recent inaugural lecture.

Adnams cited a study undertaken by Dr Maureen Durkin of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, which shows that although more than 90% of children and families affected by developmental disabilities are likely to live in developing countries, the majority of research and clinical service in this field takes place in wealthier, developed countries.

This is the case in South Africa, where 3.6% of children have some form of intellectual disability and public health resources are limited. Many of these cases may be attributed to Foetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, a cause of intellectual disability that has been at the heart of Adnams' research and clinical work since she was appointed head of the Child Developmental Service in 1994. She was instrumental in setting up Developmental Paediatrics as a national sub-speciality for this rapidly advancing clinical field.

In 2007, she was promoted to the Vera Grover Chair and Professor of Intellectual Disability in the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, which is the only chair of intellectual disability in Africa. Adnams has also been instrumental in initiating the MPhil in Intellectual Disability Mental Health, to commence at UCT in 2010.



Public health priority: Intellectual disability has been at the heart of Prof Colleen Adnams' research and clinical work since she was appointed head of the Child Developmental Service in 1994.

In his vote of thanks, Professor Dan Stein (head of the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health) paid tribute to Adnams' work, and described her as someone who has the means to "bring intellectual disability to the forefront". He described her as a team player and a fighter for the underdog, and praised her ability to mentor other people. **MP**

Cosmology and the universe in a nutshell



Distinguished scientist: Prof George Ellis gave a crash course on cosmology.

In trying to pin down the origins and nature of the universe, cosmologists - reams and reams of maths and data notwithstanding - occasionally have to fall back on philosophy and metaphysics, explained Emeritus Professor George Ellis at the Faculty of Science's Distinguished Alumni Lecture, on 16 September.

In his breakneck introduction to the topic, Ellis noted that astronomers and cosmologists have made great strides in their knowledge of the physical universe, from its early Hot Big Bang era - when it was made up of nothing other than hot gas and radiation - to today's expanding universe, crammed with billions of galaxies, each in turn containing billions of stars and planets. Mathematical models and observations - such as those pertaining to the cosmic microwave background, the leftover radiation from the Big Bang - bear out this Standard Model of Cosmology.

But even in these "data-rich" times, there are glaring gaps in the cosmology canon. For example, cosmologists 'know' hypothetically that dark matter and dark energy account

for the vast majority of the mass of the observable universe - yet they do not know what dark matter and dark energy are.

There are other scientifically-unanswerable issues - such as how the universe started, and why it has the very special nature that makes it a hospitable environment for life to exist on planet Earth.

"The problem is, you can't do the relevant experiments - you can't re-run the universe, you can't reach the energies and densities," said Ellis.

Instead, cosmologists and mathematicians have to resort to conjecture and speculation to fill these gaps in knowledge. So, for example, some have mooted the idea of a multi-universe - a set of multiple universes, all of which exist at once; and each, perhaps, with its own set of physical laws.

But because this hypothesis can't be tested, it's not quite science, argued Ellis. Questions remain, though.

"From now on," offered Ellis, "cosmology is going to have to interact with philosophy much more, and much more consciously, than it has done in the past." **MP**

A day in a life of the Media Relations Unit

The Media Relations Unit, part of the Communication and Marketing Department headquartered at La Grotta on middle campus, is staffed by media manager Ray Hartle (middle), media liaison officer Pat Lucas, and intern Bongani Kona (left), who is doing his master's at the Centre for African Studies.

What does the unit do on a day-to-day basis?

Crisis communication, media scanning, advising the VC on thorny issues, dealing with the bereaved parents of students who die, attending court cases involving UCT, organising press conferences... any mix of the above fills their days, nights and sometimes weekends. (Their cell phones are seldom off.)

First thing in the morning they scan the newspapers, looking for any mention of higher education or UCT. This information goes into a daily media report for different stakeholders, such as university management. They compile reports on issues flagged in the media, to keep UCT one step ahead – for example, during the swine flu scare. To help them scan the gamut of news, they use monitoring services such as Meltwater News and Monitor South Africa.



What are the challenges?

Getting strategic information into the media. "Often the media call us and want us to say certain things, to answer certain questions. But we also want to get out to the media the message the vice-chancellor wants to get out, in terms of where UCT wants to go," Lucas explained. Monitoring social media (traditional media are no longer the

only means of mass communication) is also a challenge. "How do you use things like Twitter and Facebook strategically?" said Kona. Hartle added that the general elections earlier this year were a good example of how media is used and even abused. "If you followed the commercial media in this election you would have had an idea of what the outcome would be. Actually,

the outcome was totally different to what the media were saying." To deal with such challenges, the team is considering exploring different ways of getting into social media, such as blogs.

What are the highs and lows of the job?

The interesting community and the beautiful campus are pluses. But

the decentralisation can be both problematic and positive. Academics are encouraged to share their expertise, but sometimes it can be hard keeping a handle on everything going on, especially as academics are free to talk to the media about their area of research without working through the media relations team. Sometimes it's necessary to ensure that the media are aware that an academic's view on corporate matters is not necessarily an official view. Media queries come thick and fast from all corners, and it can be a huge mission to track down an expert to comment on an urgent story.

What is the weirdest thing they've encountered?

They get a lot of irrelevant media queries on a weird and wonderful range of topics, from canola oil hoax emails to more serious matters. More recently, Bart the baboon was a regular visitor to their office. Once, a journalist called the unit enquiring about the surnames of coloured people named after months. "He'd heard of Mr January, Mr April and Mr October, but he'd never heard of a Mr December," said Hartle. "I must confess I did not manage to find an expert at UCT to respond to that."

UCT join forces with ER24 for medical emergencies

UCT has signed an agreement with ER24 Emergency Medical Services for a 24-hour medical emergencies response service on all campuses. When required, an ambulance or emergency vehicle will respond and stabilise the ill or injured individual. The cost for transporting the injured or ill person will be for the individual's medical aid or the individual's personal account. The service may be used from the beginning of October by all staff, students and contractors on university campuses.

ER24 will provide a 24-hour helpline for medical advice, counselling (trauma, substance abuse, poison, suicide, bereavement and rape), and for any medical emergency.

Campus Protection Services will only be informed if an ambulance is being dispatched. They will be informed that a call has been received, but the nature of the call will not be revealed.

ER24 may be contacted on 084 124, or 8110 from inside UCT.

Queries or comments about the service may be referred to BAS-HealthandSafety@uct.ac.za.

Musicians score at top competition



UCT student Olga Rademan and UCT alumnus André Petersen were crowned mistress and master of the keys after winning the 2009 Southern African Music Rights Organisation (SAMRO) Overseas Scholarships competition, held at UNISA in Pretoria recently.

Rademan, currently completing her BMus in performance at the South African College of Music, walked off with a R160 000 scholarship in the Western Art Music category for her suite of performances. These included Scarlatti's *Sonata in E Major* and Ravel's *La Valse*, as well as two pieces by South African composers Hendrik Hofmeyr and Roelof Temmingh.

Petersen, an accomplished jazz pianist who has taught and performed



widely in South Africa and abroad, clinched the Jazz/Popular Music scholarship to the same value. He performed one of his own compositions, *Cape Doctor*, as well as Antonio Carlos Jobim's *Agua de Beber*, Bud Powell's *Hallucinations* and Paul Hanmer's *Simple Song*.

UCT alumnus Bokani Dyer, the son of jazz musician Steve Dyer, took the R40 000 runner-up prize in the Jazz/Popular Music category. He also nabbed the prize for best performance of a prescribed work in his category.

Monique Hellenberg, another UCT alumna and 2007 SAMRO winner, sang a medley of hits by SAMRO writers, arranged by Assoc Prof Mike Campbell. **MP**

New staff appointments

Nancy Odendaal has been appointed by the African Centre for Cities as the project co-ordinator of the Association of African Planning Schools, a voluntary, peer-to-peer network of higher education-based programmes and departments that



educate and train urban and regional planners. Odendaal is also researching digital networks in the African city.

Caroline Skinner joined the African Centre for Cities as the Urban Policy Co-ordinator for Women in Informal Employment: Globalising and Organising. She is researching urban informality in Africa, India



and Latin America, a project funded by the Gates Foundation. Skinner is the co-author of a book, *Working in Warwick*, which is about street trading in urban planning.

Villeneuve Camilo, an attorney of the High Court of South Africa, has been appointed as a senior attorney for the Refugee Rights Project. He is involved in strategic litigation, having previously worked for Lawyers for Human Rights. In his free time, he works with Girls' & Boys' Town South Africa, and does annual moti-



national speaking for projects around the country.

Thabile Maphumulo has been appointed as a senior human resources advisor, leading a team of three



human resource advisors and senior human resource officers. Maphumulo is responsible for the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, the Department of Alumni and Development, Finance, Properties and Services, and the Communication and Marketing Department, as well as the Office of the Vice-Chancellor and Baxter Theatre Centre.

Lesedi Makhurane has been ap-



pointed the organisational development manager for giving leadership to the Staff Learning Centre and recruitment teams. **MP**

EVENTS

Beyond Reconciliation

Conference: Dealing with the Aftermath of Mass Trauma & Political Violence Wednesday 02 – Sunday 06 December 2009 Baxter Theatre & Kramer Building, UCT Middle Campus, Woollsack Drive, Rondebosch Janet Sirmongpong. Tel: 021 406 6733. Fax: 021 448 6263 Email: janet.sirmongpong@uct.ac.za

ICTS Courses Courses Offered During September: 14-15 - Groupwise 8 Level 1 (AM) • 17-18 - Groupwise 8 Level 1 (AM) • 16-18 – Visio Level 1 (PM) • AM (9:00-12:00) /PM (13:30-16:30) www.icts.uct.ac.za/Training/ICTS Training/Course Booking Form.

The Vice-Chancellor Dr. Max Price has pleasure in inviting you to the Inaugural Lecture of Professor Alan Rycroft Department of Commercial Law on The problems of process pluralism, or Why are we resolving our disputes so badly?" Wednesday 30 September 2009, Lecture Theatre 2D, Robert Leslie Social Science Building, University Avenue, Upper Campus, UCT. Guests to be seated by 17h15. Refreshments will be served after the lecture. RSVP: Centre for Extra-Mural Studies Tel: 0216502888 Fax: 0216502893 E-mail: ems@uct.ac.za For more information: <http://www.uct.ac.za/calendar/events/inaugurals/>

Philosophy Department

Tuesday 20 October @ 20h00 Philosophy Society Meeting: Dr Elisa Galgut (Philosophy, UCT) Title: Do paintings resemble what they represent? Venue: Room LS1A, 1st floor, Robert Leslie Social Science Building Elizabeth Gubb. Tel: 0216503316. Fax: 0216505203

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Director: IIDMM, Department of Medicine, closing date: 30 September 2009; Tel: 021 650 2220; Roslyn.daniels@uct.ac.za

Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor: Demography, (CARE), closing date: 30 September 2009; Tel: 021 650 2220; Roslyn.daniels@uct.ac.za

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer: Private Law; closing date: 2 October 2009; Tel: 021 650 2220; Roslyn.daniels@uct.ac.za

Economics Internships: Faculty of Commerce; closing date: 2 October 2009; Tel: 021 650 2192; Charlotte.Snyders@uct.ac.za

Growing Leaders in Emergent Markets: UCT GSB, closing date: 16 October 2009; Tel: 021 650

3003; Fiki.Nhliziyo@uct.ac.za

Professor/Associate Professor: African Gender Institute, closing date: 16 October 2009; Tel: 021 650 2192; Charlotte.Snyders@uct.ac.za

Lecturer & Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Psychology; closing date: 9 October 2009; Tel: 021 650 2192; Charlotte.Snyders@uct.ac.za

Donald Gordon Creative Arts Fellowships: Humanities; closing date: 22 October 2009; Tel: 021 480 7142; fin-gjpca@uct.ac.za

Professor/Associate Professor & Head: Medical Virology; closing date: 23 October 2009; Tel: 021 650 2192; Charlotte.Snyders@uct.ac.za

Senior Lecturer: Social Development, closing date: 23 October 2009; Tel: 021 650 3003; Fiki.Nhliziyo@uct.ac.za

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Research Assistant: Human Genetics; closing date: 30 September 2009; Tel: 021 406 6995; Natalie.Jacobs@uct.ac.za

Programme Assistant (1 year contract): Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation; closing date: 30 September 2009; Tel: 021 650 6969; jobs@hiv-research.org.za

Administrative Assistant (1 year contract): Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation; closing date: 30 September 2009; Tel: 021 650 6969; jobs@hiv-research.org.za

Information Services Librarian: Hiddingh Hall; closing date: 30 September 2009; Tel: 021 650 2192; Charlotte.Snyders@uct.ac.za

Digitisation Manager: Centre for Popular Memory, Humanities; closing date: 2 October 2009; Tel: 021 650 4758; Renate.Meyer@uct.ac.za

Scientific Officer (2 posts): Clinical Laboratory Sciences; closing date: 5 October 2009; Tel: 021 406 6756; Debbie.Stewart@uct.ac.za

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

Assistant Finance Officer: EBE Finance Section; closing date: 5 October 2009; Tel: 021 650 4195; Billy.Daubenton@uct.ac.za

All UCT vacancies can be viewed at: <http://www.uct.ac.za>, Click on "Vacancies".

PROPERTY

Rondebosch. Garden Flat, Suitable for quiet-living post-grad female student. R2500 pm, including L & W. Contact Andrew: 0833210221 or acarlyle@openmail.co.za

Spacious apartment for time-out in McGregor: Private courtyard, big bedroom, bathroom and sunny study: R2000 pm and Loft accommodation for short stays with bedroom, bathroom, kitchenette & braai-deck with tree canopy R100 pp,pd. Contact Jo: 0236251688.

Cape Town: Furnished CBD bachelor flat available 14 Nov-14 Dec 2009. Fantastic Mountain view. Walk to Hiddingh, Kloof & Long Streets. R4k incl. Contact: Kim at thekimzee@gmail.com

Rondebosch: Old Cape Farmhouse with 4 self-contained, furnished apartments (DSTV & broadband, beauty salon www.revealbeautybar.co.za, fireplace, Jammie Shuttle on doorstep). Contact 0216851747 or e-mail ivydene@mweb.co.za or www.ivydene.homestead.com

Khayelitsha: Erf 19914 - No. 10 Victoria Mxenge, Mandela Park. 2 Bedrooms, lounge & diningroom, en suite & bathroom, outside secured. Price: Negotiable. Contact: Siviwe 0724843043 or Thembeka 0760404217.

Mowbray: Lovely Victorian cottage, mt views, fully furnished 4 bedrms (sleeps 5) secure parking R600.00 for cottage/night for 4 people-additional charge for 5th person. Min. 5 nights. Available Dec/Jan ONLY. Rates excl electricity. Contact: 0217123818.

Observatory: House to rent. Within walking distance of Groote Schuur Hospital. Fully furnished 3 bedroom 1.5 bathrooms + small private garden. To let from 1 November 2009 to 28 February 2010. Rental R5000p/m. Contact: Paula 0825053483

FOR SALE

For Sale: Telefunken TV full colour portable, 32cm screen with remote. R550. Contact: Maeve 0823432979.

For Sale: CD Seville (Music of Spain 11) R120 brand newly launched. Contact James Grace 0216504739 or 0716775061.

For Sale: Metal woodwork items for sale. Contact: Mrs Flack 0217624268.

For Sale: VW Beetle 1600, late 70's model. Yellow/mustard, great condition. Cost 12 500 ZAR (negotiable). Contact: David Wilkinson 0728789244 or wlkdav008@uct.ac.za

For Sale: 2nd Hand Rosieres free standing gas stove (electrical oven)R1300. Contact: Pei-yin

GENERAL

Obs/Wdstk/City: UCT Lecturer with cat, seeks garden (pref.

with climbing tree).Two or more bedrooms with high ceilings for a tidy lifetime of books. Needed asap Contact: 0832472198.

Proofreading and language editing of academic articles, theses and other texts. Contact: 0834831522 or Email: marindacilliers@yahoo.com

Proofreading: Proofreading & editing of thesis and journal articles. Competitive rates. Contact: Deborah 0725326362 or proofreader@mweb.co.za

Editing/Proofreader: 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

House Sitting: Personal house sitting service. Short and long term. Includes caring for pets and overseeing staff. Client references available. Competitive rates. Contact Tessa on e-mail tessa@bindingrenaissance.co.za or on +27(0)72 527 0414

Binding: Theses binding. No quantity restriction. Standard colours. Typeset in gold or silver on cover/spine. Competitive pricing. Contact Tessa on email tessa@bindingrenaissance.co.za

Char: Reliable char with excellent references seeking work on Wednesdays. Also available on Saturdays. Contact: Vatisa 0735538306

Typing: Typing offered (Thesis and other). Contact: 0714952272

Yoga: Ashtanga Yoga instructor to give Yoga every Monday and Wednesday 12h30-13h30. First lesson free, R45 per class or R350p/m. For venue details contact: Christie 0216506964 or chris_davies@mweb.co.za

Recruiting: Recruiting obese black and white SA women (30-45 years) for a research trial examining the risk for type 2 diabetes. Contact: Hendriena. Victor@uct.ac.za or 0216504563

Transport: The lady bus, corporate and leisure transport. Safe, reliable and personalised transport. Contact Vanessa or Felicity at feva@telkomsa.net

Adoption Support Group: offered by Clinical Psychologist.

Weekly sessions on Saturday mornings 08h30-10h00 in Newlands from 10 October. Email ct.adoption.support@gmail.com

Healing & Health Techniques: Do you struggle with cravings or suffer from phobia's, aches & pains? Have you tried EFT? Contact: Nicky at towardshealth@gmail.com or 0828432765 a/h

Dorylee le Roux Biokineticist offers 15% discount to UCT students and staff for all musculo-skeletal rehabilitation and sports massage sessions. Book now: 0861-BOOKME (0861266563)

Professional Service: Aluminium sliding doors, windows, security gates, burglar bars. Excellent rates. Contact Adeeb 0794909436 or randprod@gmail.com

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Young scribe bags sportswriter of the year accolade

Yusuf Omar's heart sank at the pre-awards discussion for the 19th Sanlam Awards for Community Press, the largest of South Africa's annual 32 press competitions, held in Johannesburg on 18 September.

There one of the judges was running through the judging criteria and nominees – no names mentioned – for the Sports Journalist of the Year Award, the category in which Omar had been nominated for his monthly column, *Sports Talk*, for *Muslim Views*. Yes, the quality of the writing was particularly high this year, especially among the shortlisted nominees (some with some serious pedigrees), announced the judge; but one writer in particular, he added, stood head and shoulders above everyone else.

That's when Omar's heart sank. Oh, please don't let me be that far behind the winner, he thought.

It turned out he wasn't. That selfsame evening, Omar, at just 20 the youngest nominee there, got the surprise of his life when he was called



Write up there: UCT student Yusuf Omar has been named as the national community press sports journalist of the year.

up to receive the top honour in the sports category.

It was pretty much a blur from then on, says Omar. (He almost left the stage without the winner's cheque.)

"He writes with a maturity well beyond his years and handles the tools of his trade – words – with skill and alacrity," noted one reporter afterwards.

But Omar almost didn't get the *Sports Talk* column, called in only as a stopgap after the regular columnist had left. Having penned one or two political pieces up to then, Omar's first contribution was a new take on the already exhaustively-covered Peter de Villiers 'sex tape' saga.

"While taking an analytical approach to the subject, his style of writing makes the column an entertaining read," says editor Farid Sayed, who had initially planned to use a couple of writers for the column. "That first article convinced us that Yusuf should be the regular Sports

Talk columnist."

A keen sportsperson, fan and even coach, sports writing is not too much of a stretch for Omar. He admits to consuming sports pages – anything he can find online – by the dozen.

"It's a lot of fun writing about something you love," he says.

It also makes up a little for the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship, which grooms talented but disadvantaged young students for a possible career in academia, which he lost out on earlier this year because of passport delays. But Omar has other plans up his sleeve.

The sports beat is one he has no qualms in covering as long as people will read his stuff. But he admits that his heart lies elsewhere.

A third-year politics and media student with a bent for current affairs, he plans to sign up for honours studies in political communication at UCT next year.

Politics' gain may well be sports' loss. **MP**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Dear Jammie Shuttle

I feel I know you so well, so many are the close encounters we have had! Squeezing past you on the Ring Road bend next to RW James, with you nearly on the wrong side of the road, coming at me... getting sandwiched between two of you when one of you pulls out next to me, with another coming the opposite way... getting forced onto the centre island in Mowbray when one of you has just changed lanes without warning... dodging you outside Leo Marquard when you rely on your size to bully your way into the lane, without signalling, twice (yes, you –

the big one!).

And the best one: having you repeatedly stop me getting out of my very-difficult-to-exit parking place by charging through the turnaround at the North end of University Avenue so as to cut me off – only to pull in to the stop directly opposite, leaving me blocking traffic, with nowhere to go.

Of course, I have retaliated by slowing down in front of you twice – and forcing you off the road once, with some banging on your driver's door and some expletives deleted (or was it twice?) – but this is getting silly.

I appreciate that the University

has been sadly lacking in imagination when it comes to providing either a decent terminus at the end of University Avenue, or suitably sited stops, or even to widening the road enough to allow proper traffic flow. I appreciate that you run to a schedule, that you often run late, and that we other drivers are often an annoyance when we insist on staying in our lanes – but they are the enemy, not us!

All we ask is some consideration – and some space on the road.

Sincerely,
A UCT driver

Donald Gordon creative awards on offer

The Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts (GIPCA) is asking for proposals for Creative Arts Awards. This is the second year these awards will be offered, following a donation from Sir Donald Gordon. GIPCA is an innovative institution at UCT promoting new interdisciplinary creative research in music, dance, fine art, drama, film and media, and creative writing; and in particular, collaborations among disciplines. Interdisciplinarity is a key theme of the institute, defined here as consisting of two or more disciplines. Projects should be created specifically for development in the institute.

Applications should be made by current UCT staff. While ap-

plications may be selected from any discipline (including sciences, social sciences, medicine, engineering, the humanities, law or commerce), GIPCA reminds applicants that the awards are designated for creative projects, with year-end outcomes realised in practice. For that reason, consultations or partnerships with GIPCA-affiliated departments may strengthen proposals. A total of R900 000 is available for disbursement, with the anticipation of funding four or more projects.

All projects must be completed and ready for public showing by 12 December 2010. The deadline for applications is 15 October 2009. For more, please contact Rob Baum on 021 480 7142. **MP**

Collaborative teaching award applications open

Applications are open for the Centre for Higher Education Development (CHED) awards for collaborative educational practice (CEP). Awards of up to R40 000 are available in 2009.

These awards are open to groups of two or more UCT staff who have collaborated on a project to enhance the teaching and learning environment. Examples of groups might be a teaching team, a curriculum development team, a pair of lecturers or a department.

Projects might involve curriculum development at course or programme

level, materials development, language development, innovation in teaching delivery or assessment practice, the appropriate use of educational technology, tutor support, student support or addressing student throughput.

The closing date for applications is Friday 16 October 2009.

If you would like to apply or would like to nominate a group of your colleagues please refer to documents on http://www.haesdu.uct.ac.za/Haesdu_teachaward.html or contact Dr Jeff Jawitz on 021 650 3351 or jeff.jawitz@uct.ac.za. **MP**