

Monday Paper

Newspaper of the University of Cape Town



23 August – 12 September 2010

Volume 29#12



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

Minister on whirlwind tour

UCT may have had to squeeze a day-long programme into half a day, but Dr Bonginkosi 'Blade' Nzimande, minister of Higher Education and Training, and his ministerial delegation could not say they were short-changed when they visited the campus on 17 August. As Mary Metcalfe, director-general of the ministry, pointed out, the delegation received a full if whirlwind tour of life and issues at UCT. The elbow-to-elbow sessions started with an overview by the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, and an executive commission of deputy vice-chancellors and deans. Over the rest of the five-hour stopover, Nzimande was brought up to date with UCT's academic development programme, met with student and staff representatives, learned about developments in research and research support, and was run through some of the university's social responsiveness initiatives. As it was a fact-finding mission, the minister and his delegation had a few choice questions, notably concerning UCT's admissions policy (how absolute is that points system?) and what role the university can play in higher-education development. So, for example, he wondered if the University Science, Humanities and Engineering Partnerships in Africa (aka USHEPiA) programme could



be rolled out to South African universities, and what input UCT

could make into Further Education and Training colleges. "How

do we get the experts and the expertise here to support the rest

of the [higher education] system?" Nzimande asked. **MP**

Women science winners are role models

No fewer than three UCT researchers featured among the recently-announced winners of the South African Women in Science Awards (WISA), made annually by the Department of Science and Technology during Women's Month to recognise and create incentives for women scientists and researchers, and to create role models for young women and girls.

2009 runner-up Professor Jill Farrant was named the Distinguished Woman Scientist in the Life Sciences, while Professor Karen Sliwa-Hahnle was second runner-up in the same category. Dr Floretta Boonzaier was first runner-up in the Distinguished Young Woman Researcher in the Social Sciences or Humanities category. (See www.dst.gov.za/the-2010-south-african-women-in-science-awards.)

Farrant, of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology and recent winner of the Harry Oppenhe-



Distinguished researchers: UCT's three winners of DST Women in Science Awards – Prof Jill Farrant, Dr Floretta Boonzaier and Prof Karen Sliwa-Hahnle.

imer Fellowship Award, was singled out for her work on drought-tolerant plants, her research and publication track record, and her national and international standing. Also mentioned was the Equity Development Programme she runs to source funding for black and women students.

"Two awards in one year is a huge gift," she says. "This is by no means a singular effort. I celebrate



by honouring the people – collaborators, students, and my wonderfully supportive partner and family who have helped make this possible."

Sliwa-Hahnle, professor of cardiovascular research at UCT and director of the Hatter Cardiovascular Research Institute, was honoured for her "substantial" contribution to the understanding of the causes and treatment of unexplained heart



failure in pregnancy (a condition that affects one in 1 000 women in Africa following childbirth), and to the Heart of Soweto study that she initiated and ran at Wits University, a programme that's now being rolled out nationally.

While flattered by the award, Sliwa-Hahnle takes more pride in its 'role model' element. "Fewer than 10% of cardiologists in South Africa

and Germany [her country of birth] are women," she says. "A lot needs to be done."

Boonzaier's WISA citation talks of her work in the Department of Psychology on the "construction of subjectivities" in relation to violence in intimate heterosexual relationships. That's a topic that Boonzaier has explored in her current projects, including a study conducted with Stellenbosch University that looks at intimate heterosexual relationships in a low income, semi-rural community in the Western Cape.

Boonzaier echoes Sliwa-Hahnle's sentiments on the importance of role models. "The academic environment has not always been welcoming for women, and black women in particular. Having role models and mentors can play an important role in facilitating the advancement of women's careers and making them feel like they actually 'belong' in academia."

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za



IMPORTANT NOTICE: Applications for undergraduate study at UCT close on 30 September 2010.

New threats loom for SA's democratic credentials

South Africa's already so-so score on the inaugural Open Society Monitoring Index (OSMI) could take a further beating from two much-decried legislative measures in the making – a proposed parliamentary media tribunal, and the Protection of Information Bill 6 of 2010.

This was the view of current and former UCT vice-chancellors Dr Max Price and Dr Mamphela Ramphela, when they spoke at the launch of the OSMI at UCT on 12 August. Developed and conducted by UCT's Democracy in Africa Research Unit on behalf of the Open Society Foundation for South Africa (OSF-SA), OSMI is designed to measure constitutional democracy in South Africa.

It does so by looking at three main 'dimensions': the free flow of information; inclusive, accountable and responsive government institutions; and adherence to the rule of law.

South Africa earned an overall score of 5.5 (out of a possible ten) on the first run of the index, and the 'rule of law' dimension earned the country its lowest rating of 4.3. Under the

index's nine sub-dimensions, 'free and fair elections' (7.4) was the only one in which South Africa scored higher than a six.

According to Zohra Dawood, executive director of the OSF-SA, the relatively high score for 'free and independent media', which came in at 5.6, was surprising, given the reports of attempted political interference in news reporting and the mismanagement of the SABC. "Despite these challenges, respondents felt media independence is safeguarded by relatively effective oversight institutions, such as the courts, and the public enjoys trouble-free access to reliable news sources."

But as she, Price and Ramphela pointed out, the proposed media tribunal and large parts of the Protection of Information Bill 6 of 2010 would probably undermine that freedom and access.

Speaking on the media tribunal, Price argued that there are ample and strong measures already in place – a Press Ombudsman, the courts – to ensure responsible reporting.

"A parliamentary media tribunal will sound the death knell to the free flow of information and hence the ability of the public to know enough to contribute to, criticise or challenge policy-making, hold government accountable for its decisions and actions of commission or omission, and ultimately to know enough to vote for change," he said.

The often open-ended clauses of the Protection of Public Information Bill leave the door ajar for misuse and abuse, said Ramphela, especially as state-held commercial information such as tender proceedings could be classified. "These clauses would seem to provide a cloak for corrupt practices that would obscure visibility to the public."

Which is where the Open Society and its index come in. Through them, threats to the free flow of information, transparency and free speech can be debated and government institutions can be held to account.

(Listen to the podcast at <http://www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/sound/>) MP



Open discussion: Dr Mamphela Ramphela at the launch of the Open Society Monitoring Index.



Countless invasions: Prof Hugh Corder addresses the Black Law Students' Forum on the Protection of Information Bill 6 of 2010.

Scepticism greets new bill

Even a cursory study of its contents suggests that the chorus of scepticism and opposition that has greeted the Protection of Information Bill 6 of 2010 is well founded. So suggested Professor Hugh Corder of UCT's Department of Public Law at a lunchtime meeting of the Black Law Students' Forum on 5 August.

While the Bill pays frequent lip service to the openness of government and freedom of expression, said Corder, it boasts countless invasions of these Constitutional values. Among these are its broad and open-ended definition of the 'national interest' that

underpins it, the subjective process of classification and declassification of information, a lack of transparent and independent review, greater workloads on an already thinly-stretched civil service, no protection for whistleblowers, and some frighteningly harsh minimum penalties for transgressors (likely to further discourage potential whistleblowers).

Said Corder: "What this Bill does is put – cheek by jowl – wonderful, ringing language about democracy and openness, and arbitrary mechanisms to close those down."

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za

Self-worth through status symbols

Self-styled maverick, academic dissident, and described by some as the best critic of America that America has ever produced, economist and sociologist Thorstein Veblen developed a theory of consumerism that still resonates today.

This was the message of a public lecture by Professor Deborah Posel, founding director of UCT's new Institute for Humanities in Africa, delivered as part of the Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts' Great Texts/Big Questions lecture series.

Titled *Conspicuous Consumption, Conspicuous Waste: Thorsten Veblen's theory of the leisure class*, Posel's lecture outlined the life and work of Veblen, focusing on his key publication, *The Theory of the Leisure Class*. Published in 1899 while Veblen was a professor at the University of Chicago in the US, the book is considered the first detailed critique of consumerism, but is written in terms that made Veblen instantly unpopular among his fellow economists.

"The book is a scathing attack on



Consumerism critiqued: "Much like today, people linked their sense of dignity and respect with their consumerism" - Prof Deborah Posel.

his world," said Posel. "Veblen lived in a time of disease, overcrowding and premature death. He was both fascinated and appalled by the cultural life of stuff. He asked why so many people, in so many societies, across space and time, have been so invested – psychologically, socially and financially – in the conspicuous display of objects with little functional utility – purchases that

orthodox economists would consider economically irrational."

"Veblen was deeply troubled by poverty alongside ostentatious displays of wealth by the rich, but vented his spleen in detailed commentaries on the use of material objects – such as dress, art works, household displays – to produce what he called social 'honour' or 'esteem' – a sense of personal wealth reflected through the eyes of others."

Posel pointed to Veblen's remarkable prescience as a nineteenth century thinker in anticipating writings on the modern consuming self: those whose identity is established by how other people judge their status as a consumer.

Posel cited a sociology study conducted in Lancashire in the UK in the late 1800s.

"A study of pawn shops showed that the first thing people pawned were the useful, functional things. The last of their possessions to go was all the stuff they had in their front room – the room that was very seldom used, but could be seen from the street."

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za

Women want to bridge the divide

As its title suggested, there was plenty to mull over at the recent panel discussion, *Women's Struggles: From the political to the personal, the global and local*, a UCT precursor to Women's Day on 9 August. But one theme surfaced regularly – the gap between those championing the feminist agenda in academia, and those who work 'on the ground' in communities.

For the occasion, the organiser and moderator – Associate Professor Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela of UCT's Department of Psychology – had assembled two tiers of panellists, representing two more-or-less distinct generations.

Representing the 'first-generation' were the 'elders', speakers deputy vice-chancellor Professor Jo Beall; Professor Jennifer Fish of the Department of Women's Studies at Old Dominion University in the US; former Member of Parliament and now

leader of the Coalition Against Trafficking in Women, Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge; and writer Dr Sindiwe Magona. As their counterparts, four younger speakers represented the 'second generation' – lecturer Rumbi Goredema of the Department of Sociology, students Mpumi Tshabalala and Samantha van Schalkwyk, and the guest speaker, community activist Eunice Oyugi.

A score of topics were raised – the nature of feminism in Africa, why women's stories have to be told (they become data, suggested one audience member), the gap between policies and reality, and how gender-based violence connects women across cultures and continents, among others.

But speaker after speaker, along with members of the audience, would circle back to one issue – the divide between academics and activists, and between academia and activism. MP

RUNEXTONTV




Louis B

MODEL/CHARACTER/ACTORS/SPORT

Tel: 021-910 39 36






CHARACTER DIVISION

LOOKING FOR EVERY DAY PEOPLE

AGE NEW BORN-85YRS TO BE ON T.V

COMMERCIALS, MOVIES, MINI SERIES

EARN EXTRA MONEY/ANY 1 CAN JOIN






ALSO A KIDS DIVISION

+SIZE MODELS, DANCE

AND SPORTS DIVISION

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE TO BE ON T.V



Music college struts its stuff at centenary concerts

From meagre beginnings in Strand Street in the city in 1910 – and an intake of only six students – the South African College of Music (SACM) has grown to become one of the country's premier music schools. To mark its centenary year, the college will showcase various music genres – from jazz to African, world and Western classical music – with a concert series that will run until 7 September.

On 21 August Mike Campbell and the UCT Big Band opened the SACM Centenary festival in the Baxter Concert Hall with a tribute to Count Basie. The series will end with a flourish at the Cape Town City Hall, with Francois du Toit playing a Mozart piano concerto with the UCT Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Bernhard Gueller.

The SACM was founded by a

group of musicians, led by Madame Apolline Niay-Darroll, with six students. In 1912, the English composer WH Bell became principal. Two years later the college moved to Stal Plein, and in 1920 Bell became professor of music.

In 1923 the college was incorporated into the university. Many renowned artists have graduated from the college, more recently soprano Pretty Yende, now studying at La Scala; pianist James Baillieu, a junior fellow at the Royal Academy of Music in London; and Golda Schultz, a postgraduate student at Juilliard.

For the full programme of concerts, please visit www.uct.ac/depts/sacm.

Book through Computicket, Shoprite Checkers, or at the door 45 minutes before the start. **MP**



Chinese visit underscores internationalisation

Internationalisation at UCT was spotlighted at a high tea for a high-level delegation from the Chinese Language Council International in Beijing, China, hosted by vice-chancellor Dr Max Price.

The delegation was led by Xu Lin, director-general of the Hanban and the chief executive of the Confucius Institute, a non-profit, public organisation that promotes Chinese language and cultures globally. Earlier this year UCT launched a branch in the Centre for Higher Education Development.

Price said the collaboration came at an opportune time for UCT. It is in line with the university's internationalisation strategy to become a global player that prepares students for an ever-changing global landscape.

"UCT students are going to operate in a world where emerging markets such as China are going to dominate," he elaborated. "Therefore, the more we



Welcome: (From left) Prof Nan Yeld, director of the Confucius Institute at UCT; Wang Lujiang, chairperson of the University Council, Beijing Language and Culture University; VC Dr Max Price; Xu Lin, advisor of the State Council, director-general of the Hanban and chief executive of the Confucius Institute headquarters; Prof Qianlong Wu, deputy director of UCT's Confucius Institute; Wei Yanggen, first secretary, education, Chinese Embassy in South Africa.

know about each other, including our languages and cultures, the better we can communicate."

UCT already offers lessons in

Mandarin to staff and students, and plans to extend that by introducing accredited courses in Chinese-language studies. **MP**

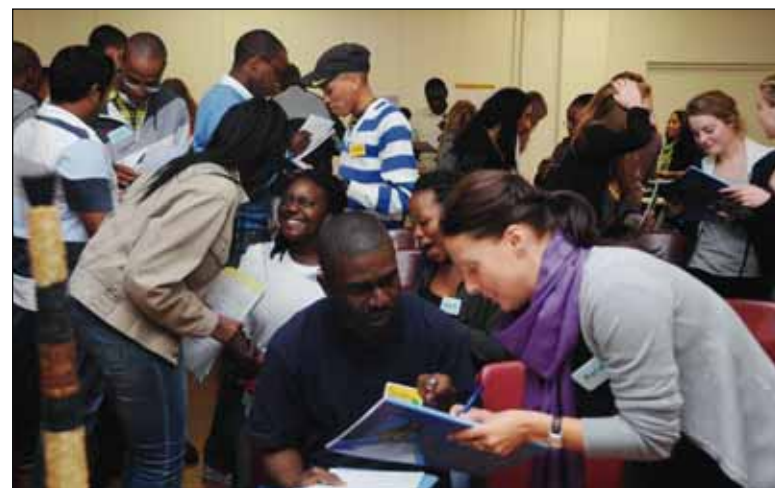
Free course to turn students into global hot property

UCT has launched an extra-curricular pilot programme, *UCT Global Citizenship: Leading for social justice*, that will hone students beyond their academic abilities and distinguish them as "hot property" in the international marketplace.

The Centre for Higher Education Development-based programme gives students an entrée into current issues and debates on global citizenship, leadership and social justice, and the value of voluntary community service. It stems from the university's commitment to enhancing graduate attributes and encourages them to think critically about the challenges facing Africa and the world in the 21st century – and their responses to these challenges.

At the launch on 4 August, vice-chancellor Dr Max Price noted that UCT intends to produce well-rounded graduates who understand social justice, and are part of an ethos of volunteerism.

"If we can get as many graduates as possible to be exposed that way, then we will make them distinctive," Price explained.



Deputy vice-chancellor Professor Jo Beall said the programme is part of UCT's strategic goal of internationalisation.

"It would be ideal for every curriculum to incorporate both global perspectives and service-learning components."

Concerned about students' roles in addressing social justice issues, Beall said the idea is to move students from mere rhetoric or web chatter to action.

The pilot phase, designed as a combination of online and group work, runs through the second semester. Students can opt to register for Part 1 (*Global debates, local voices*) or Part 2 (*Thinking about volunteering*) or both. While not credit-bearing, the programme is recognised on students' academic transcripts as a UCT short course. The course is free for students, as fees are covered by the Vice-Chancellor's Fund. **MP**



Managerialism a ruinous recipe?

With the rise of managerialism at universities – an issue of growing concern to the Academic Freedom Committee (AFC) – Robin Briggs' lecture, *The Knowledge Economy and Academic Freedom*, at this year's TB Davie Memorial Lecture on 12 August, was highly topical. Briggs had plenty of experience to draw on: he was "outed" as one of those at Oxford University opposed to plans by vice-chancellor John Hood to streamline

the university's structures; plans, said *The Times Higher Education Supplement* at the time, that were seen as an attack on Oxford's traditional democratic decision-making process. So Briggs spoke of his own experiences at Oxford: growing managerialism, state funding formulas for universities and the commodification of academia, and administrative careerism. (Listen to the podcast at <http://www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/sound/>). **MP**

The Centre for Conflict Resolution Cape Town, South Africa invites you and members of your organisation to a public dialogue seminar

SUDAN AT THE BRINK: REFERENDUM IN THE SOUTH AND PROSPECTS FOR NATIONAL UNITY

CHAIR

Ambassador James Jonah

Former United Nations (UN) Undersecretary-General for Political Affairs, New York

SPEAKER

Dr Francis Deng

Special Adviser of the UN Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide, New York

DISCUSSANTS

Dr Jan Pronk

Former Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Sudan

Ambassador Richard Williamson

Former United States Special Envoy to Sudan

Date: Wednesday, 25 August 2010 • Time: 17H30 to 19H00

Venue: The Centre for the Book, 62 Queen Victoria Street, Gardens, Cape Town • RSVP: Lavenia Benjamin • Email: lavenia@ccr.uct.ac.za

Tel: (021) 689-1005 • Fax: (021) 689-1003 • Website: www.ccr.org.za

All are welcome and entry is free. Kindly RSVP for seating purposes.



Track record a credit to researchers



Though not one given to self-congratulation, there was cause for a little bragging, vice-chancellor Dr Max Price noted at the launch of the 2009 Research Report.

UCT's standings are up in the world's leading research-based ranking systems, as is the university's publication count for 2009 (by 6.8% over 2008). The number of researchers rated by the National Research Foundation (NRF), at 322, remains the highest in the country. Research income grew by 18% to R769 million over the year. Faculties are paying greater attention to the impact of their research. The new Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Fund is pumping money into 29 research projects. And the university's force of postdoctoral research fellows now makes up 40% of the national tally.

"It is a track record that is a credit

to the people in this room," Price told the researchers at the launch.

But there are concerns, he pointed out, notably the ever-growing student-to-staff ratio that is putting more teaching and administrative demands on researchers, and the nagging funding concerns.

"So we have to make a serious effort to persuade the minister and ministry to maintain its funding of the university."

There was some good news on that front from Dr Albert van Jaarsveld, president and CEO of the NRF. He reported on the latest developments at the organisation, including new money being made available for researchers through the Rated Researchers Incentive Funding programme.

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za

Good reading: At the launch of UCT's 2009 Research Report were (from left, back) Dr Albert van Jaarsveld of the NRF, deputy vice-chancellor Prof Danie Visser, guest speaker Prof Lee Berger of the University of the Witwatersrand; and (front) Dr Marilet Sienaert, director of UCT's Research Office, and Dr Max Price.

Precious mettle



Emeritus Professor Cyril O'Connor of the Centre for Mineral Research at UCT has won the prestigious Brigadier Stokes Memorial Award for his distinctive work in minerals processing.

The platinum medal, awarded by the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, is made to an individual for the highest achievement in the field.

Professor Francis Petersen, dean of the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, notes that O'Connor is more than worthy of the accolade.

"Purely by viewing the list of previous recipients (among others, J Ogilvie Thompson, Pieter Cox, Brian Gilbertson, Leslie Boyd, Con Fauconnier and Patrice Motsepe), you are surely in high-level company," Petersen said.

O'Connor says that the honour is a wonderful tribute in many ways, and dedicated it to the colleagues and students he has worked with in mineral processing over the past 30 years, especially those who were helpful at the start of his research in the early 1980s.

"Thanks to their efforts, today the Centre for Minerals Research can claim – with some degree of confidence – to be one of the leading research centres globally in minerals processing, and this award is a tremendous recognition of their combined efforts. I just happened to be the lucky one to be around while it was all happening." *MP*

Human resources forms go digital

The Human Resources Department's move towards "an efficient and cost-effective" paperless system has taken its first tentative steps with its first interactive online forms.

Driven by the Human Resources Systems Support Office, the first e-form was launched on 16 August and, in a first initiative, will allow staff to capture and update their employees' personal details. It replaces the paper-based method that took up to six weeks – with the assistance of additional personnel – to complete.

Business systems manager Lisa Baxter says the new system will allow seamless integration into HR's SAP information system, without any intervention from HR administrators or Excel spreadsheet uploads.

Part of the Adobe Interactive Form Technology licensed to UCT, the e-form looks much like its hardcopy cousin, but with some electronic intelligence, Baxter notes.

The technology pulls information from the form, identifies the relevant employee, and updates their record on SAP. All this without clicking a button – apart from the 'Send' button to return the email and form.

"This will reduce manual effort, and we hope it will free staff up to focus on more customer service-oriented issues," said Baxter.

The initiative will also reduce paper and printing costs, and improve turnaround times and data quality.

(ICTS and Blueware Consulting helped implement the system.) *MP*



Away with paper: (From left) Linda Jones, Lisa Baxter, Siobhan Evans, Helen Duncan, and Karen Bergsma dumping the hardcopy method for an online system.

Crime down, but campus fringes problematic

Concerted efforts between the UCT Community, Campus Protection Services (CPS) and the police have seen a dramatic drop in crime on campus. However, crime on the campus peripheries remains a concern, said risk services manager Roland September.

Thus far 128 incidents have been reported in 2010, against 246 in the same period last year. In many cases arrests have been made, the latest on 13 August when two suspects were apprehended following the robbery of an international student in Cecil Road, Mowbray. Closed-circuit cameras captured the details of the perpetrators and their car registration. The student was robbed of his cellphone, wallet, ID card and his heirloom violin. Further work by the UCT Investigations Department and the Mowbray police led to the arrest of two suspects and the recovery of both the student's cellphone and his violin. The violin

had been sold to an antique dealer. The suspects appeared in court on 16 August and the case was postponed for further investigation.

In July, CPS staff nabbed a 24-year-old woman wandering in North Grange residence with two bags of stolen goods worth R15 000.

On the fringes of campus, particularly along the main road between Observatory and Rondebosch, there have been 19 robberies in the past few months. These include a surge in hit-and-run incidents, in which pedestrians are robbed by occupants of vehicles pulling up alongside.

Walk in groups and use the Jamie Shuttle whenever possible, says September. Also remember to display your staff or student card at all times – and don't swipe in other people.

In case of emergency, or if you have information about crime, call CPS at 021 650 2222.

Myolisi.Gophe@uct.ac.za

www.sawyerseminar.uct.ac.za

Knowledges, Ways of Knowing and the Post-Colonial University
the Sawyer Seminar
at the UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN 2009-10

The UCT Programme for the Enhancement of Research Capacity (PERC) in association with the UCT Sawyer Seminar Contested Ecologies

Mondays, Ben Beinart Room, Otto Beit Building
Programme: Lunch: 12h30/ Reading Group: 13h00-14h30/ Guest Seminars (on 13/09 and 18/10): 14h45-16h00

Mon 23 Aug: Reading Group
COSMOPOLITICS 1: Rethinking the tools for critical conversations between sciences, states and publics – including 'tradition' and 'the indigenous'

Mon 30 Aug: Launch of Sawyer/PERC Contested Ecologies Database and Reading Group
COSMOPOLITICS 2: Franco-Latin Dialogues on Knowledge
Note venue change this week: in the Research Office Seminar Room, Main Road, Mowbray (transport will be provided outside Arts Block from 12h00)

Mon 13 Sept: Reading Group & Seminar
COSMOPOLITICS 3: & Capital – Alf Hornborg on Commodity Fetishes and on Economic Environmentalities
After the reading group, Alf will present his paper for the CE series, 14h30-16h00.

Mon 20 Sept: Reading Group
KNOWLEDGE PRACTICES
States, Knowledge, Civic Epistemologies in the work of Sheila Jasanoff and Bruno Latour

Mon 4 Oct: Reading Group
COLONIALITY, MODERNITY & LATIN AMERICA, 1: Latin America, Post-Colonialism and Subaltern Studies

Mon 11 Oct: Reading Group
COLONIALITY, MODERNITY & LATIN AMERICA, 2: Reimagining Political Ecology
Guests:
Marisol de la Cadena (Dept of Anthropology, University of California at Davis)
Mario Blaser (Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Studies, Memorial University of Newfoundland).

13-15 Oct: Contested Ecologies Writing Workshop
Note venue: Research Office, Mowbray

Mon 18 Oct: Reading Group & Seminar
BODIES-KNOWLEDGES-ENVIRONMENTS, 1: Tim Ingold
After the reading group, Tim will present his paper for the CE series, 14h30-16h00.

Mon 1 Nov: Reading Group
BODIES-KNOWLEDGES-ENVIRONMENTS, 2: Michel Serres

To participate in the writing workshop, please contact DR Lesley Green, lesley.green@uct.ac.za
For readings or other information, contact Marieke van Zyl, mariekevanzyl@gmail.com
For regular updates visit www.sawyerseminar.uct.ac.za

Teaching hub will advance mental health studies

UCT's Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health and the Department of Psychology at Stellenbosch University launched a two-pronged initiative on 16 August – the Centre for Public Mental Health, and the inaugural Alan J Flisher Memorial Lecture, named in honour of the late UCT professor.

The two departments established the centre as an independent, interdisciplinary academic research and teaching hub for public mental health promotion and service development in Africa. The initial work of the centre, five years in the making, will build on the groundbreaking Mental Health and Poverty Project, led by a team of researchers from the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health at UCT.

The establishment of the centre has been supported by the WHO's Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in Geneva, the WHO African regional office in Braz-

zaville, and a number of national and international experts in the field.

"We envisage the centre being a nexus for African and international scholars to come together to address the pressing mental health questions facing the continent," said Stellenbosch's Professor Tony Naidoo at the launch at Valkenberg Hospital.

Professor Crick Lund, chief research officer at UCT's Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, noted that the centre will bring together a number of innovative researchers and mental health practitioners. "By conducting research and building capacity for public mental health in Africa, we hope we can carry forward the legacy of Alan Flisher's work," he said.

The Alan J Flisher Memorial Lecture series will run as an annual feature of the centre. Flisher, who died in April this year, was a pioneer in the field of public mental health in South



Scholarly nexus: (From left) Speaker Prof Vikram Patel, Dr Shekhar Saxena of the WHO, UCT's Prof Crick Lund and Prof Leslie Swartz of Stellenbosch University were among those to attend the launch of the Centre for Public Mental Health and the Alan J Flisher Memorial Lecture series.

Africa. He was the Sue Struengmann Professor of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry and Mental Health at UCT,

and was also director of the Mental Health and Poverty Project. The inaugural lecture was deliv-

ered by Professor Vikram Patel of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. **MP**

Security and shrinks: clashing views on climate change

"One of our concerns is exploring ways in which we think about security, govern it and manage our risks," said Professor Clifford Shearing, head of UCT's Centre of Criminology, at the first seminar in the *Changing Lives: Agricultural practices* series on 5 August.

"Our environment, which has been so crucial to sustaining us, is changing in a way that threatens our security. As a consequence, we are being presented with a whole new series of risks that are requiring us to rethink the nature of our security and how it can be preserved."

Shearing introduced four speakers who presented diverse and often conflicting views on possible agricultural responses to climate change.

First up was Dr Peter Johnston of UCT's Climate Systems Analysis Group, who effectively debunked the myth that climate change is a "hoax", with hard facts and statistics.



Green knowledge: (From left) Nigel Dorward, Rob Small, Monica Graaff, Michael Back, Peter Johnston.

"Yes, there are natural cycles of change," he said, "but nobody can explain this level of change. Temperature

is now increasing at such a rate that the warmest 12 years we've had all fall within the last 20 years.

"However," he concluded, "we don't know what climate change is going to look like. We can only act when we understand the full picture."

Rob Small of Harvest of Hope, an organic urban farming project, said participating small farmers have shown that it's possible to produce an abundance of food on minuscule plots of beach sand in bad weather conditions.

"So we don't worry about climate change. Vegetables are easily grown and we can live without fancy fruit."

Small argued that modern agriculture is only concerned with money, and not with feeding the world.

"But there doesn't have to be hunger," he said. "All we have to do is convince you that it's a good idea."

Nigel Dorward of the Better Trading Company explained how they act as an ethical agent for entrepreneurial farmers in Africa, connecting them with business interests in the rest of the world, as well as offering training,

technical assistance and support.

"We use natural assets such as fynbos and turn them into a viable resource," said Dorward. "Despite climate change, fynbos should still be here for a long time to come."

The final speaker was Michael Back of the Backsberg Winery, who expressed the view of modern farmers: "I want to be sustainable, but I also want to be profitable. Of course most professional farmers want to behave responsibly, but that responsibility comes at a cost."

From this perspective, Back was sceptical of green initiatives. "This whole process of being sustainable and reversing urbanisation? Forget it. It's not going to happen."

"But people aren't interested in numbers, they're interested in emotions, so we have to change our mindsets. But that's in the hands of the shrinks, not the scientists."

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za

Writers, old and young, on past and present

Given his interest in the topic, there are few better places than South Africa for famed Argentine-Chilean-American writer and human-rights activist Ariel Dorfman to sit down with up-and-coming writers and talk literature and reconciliation.

So in a recent discussion, titled *Suspect Reconciliation! A dialogue between Ariel Dorfman and four young South African writers* and arranged by UCT's Archive and Public Culture Research Initiative and the Nelson Mandela Foundation, Dorfman debated reconciliation and generational differences with Professor Njabulo S Ndebele, a senior research fellow with the initiative, and a panel of four South African writers born in the 1970s and 1980s - Kevin Bloom, Thando Mgqolozana, Niq Mhlongo and UCT graduate Henrietta Rose-Innes. (In the audience were a few more writers, young and old.)

"For these young authors writing now, reconciliation doesn't have the same meaning and the purchase that it has for people active in the anti-apartheid struggle or who experienced apartheid," says UCT's Professor



Writing home: At a recent discussion on reconciliation were, from left, Ariel Dorfman, Thando Mgqolozana, Niq Mhlongo, Prof Njabulo S Ndebele, Henrietta Rose-Innes and Kevin Bloom.

Carolyn Hamilton, holder of the South African Chair in Archive and Public Culture and founder of the Archive and Public Culture Initiative.

So, no surprise, the authors had different concerns from their older counterparts. Topics that came up were xenophobic violence, cultural practices, and racial division, identity, guilt, anger, and artistic struggle.

Dorfman challenged South Africans to examine the full implications of not having had a revolution but, instead, a negotiated settlement as a

"transitional mechanism to the future", reported Ndebele. While the transition was "intensely and wonderfully intellectual", it delayed the "rapid, if often tragic, transformative action that normally accompanies violent revolutions".

"The four young writers, in their different ways, called for social reconnection as the vehicle for transformative action," added Ndebele. "In doing so, they marked out an essential feature of our own South African revolution: thoughtful and creative social action." **MP**

The Centre for Conflict Resolution, Cape Town, South Africa invites you and members of your organisation to a seminar launch of the book

A PARADOX OF VICTORY: COSATU AND THE DEMOCRATIC TRANSFORMATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

by Sakhela Buhlungu

CHAIR

Mr Terry Bell
Journalist, Cape Town

SPEAKER

Professor Sakhela Buhlungu

Sociology Department, University of Johannesburg

DISCUSSANT

Mr Tony Ehrenreich

Western Cape Provincial Secretary, COSATU, Cape Town

Date: Monday, 30 August 2010 • Time: 17H30 to 19H00

Venue: The Centre for the Book, 62 Queen Victoria Street, Gardens, Cape Town • RSVP: Lavenia Benjamin • Email: lavenia@ccr.uct.ac.za
Tel: (021) 689-1005 • Fax: (021) 689-1003 • Website: www.ccr.org.za

All are welcome and entry is free.

The book *A Paradox of Victory: COSATU and the Democratic Transformation in South Africa* will be on sale at the event.

Kindly RSVP for seating purposes.



Students turn business idea into cash cow

It's probably one of the most successful business stories on campus.

A group of UCT students turned a R50 loan into R10 000 in just one week, and swelled that to over R250 000 six months later.

Now members of Wing It, a group of UCT students on the Postgraduate Diploma in Entrepreneurship (PDE), are on course to record the highest turnover in the programme's history (the current record is around R50 000). The PDE Genesis Project requires students – from diverse backgrounds and often with no business knowledge – to network, become part of a team of seven and develop a business for the year.

In what deputy vice-chancellor Professor Jo Beall described as a "fantastic example of the best teaching practices", the aim of the course is to give students first-hand experience of running a business, and to promote the use of green (environmentally friendly) and brown (community upliftment) initiatives in the development of businesses.

Earlier this month the PDE hosted a Genesis Product Launch, and the eight teams participating in the programme showcased their businesses and products, working to the theme of "original, green, fashion, student market", according to student Ashleigh Hayworth, who organised the launch with fellow student Dave Schilperoot and the launch committee. Companies such as Wing It, Kalabash and Back Cherry were selling everything from funky scarves and pillows to shoes and pouches.

What made Wing It so successful?

It all started in February when group member Mike Earp wanted to buy the now-popular car mirror socks – a new product at the time – in Johannesburg. He found that the company manufacturing the product was waiting for stock from China and would only receive it just before the 2010 Soccer World Cup in June.

"I thought the product had great potential, and realised that for three months it would not be available on



Entrepreneurs in the making: Wing It members Michael Earp and Caity Woolcott (front), Michael Pearce, Nick Knuppe, Michelle Clark, Tessa Cunliffe, and Bentolina Nnadi at the Genesis Product Launch of this year's Postgraduate Diploma in Entrepreneurship.

the market," Earp explained.

Back at UCT he ran the idea past his members, who agreed to manufacture the socks locally. (Before then, the group had raised R10 000 within a week, selling pancakes and

boerewors rolls in the Jammie Plaza – though there were other groups who made more than that during the same period.) Soon their car socks were selling like hotcakes.

"We saw a gap in the market, took

the initiative, grabbed hold of the opportunity. Had we waited, we might have missed the boat," Earp notes.

One big clothing store ordered 10 000 units, and Earp and company used up all their capital to meet that order. But the store didn't pay up for three weeks, leaving Wing It with a cash flow problem and unable to keep up with demand – just before the start of the World Cup.

This was but one of the challenges the students faced, but Wing It has proved that anyone can open a successful business, said Bentolina Nnadi, another member of the group. Leadership, teamwork and flexibility are some of the lessons they learnt along the way, she added.

And what is brown and green about their business?

Wing It used street vendors to sell their products, and since car socks are no longer in demand, they are recycling the materials into bikinis, bags and pencil- and sunglass-cases – all of which is creating much future opportunity for the business. **MP**

Nursing and midwifery doyenne scores ninety

July was a red-letter month for Professor Paddy Harrison, who celebrated her 90th birthday with members and graduates of the Division of Nursing and Midwifery.

It wasn't all about a milestone anniversary; Harrison's contributions to nursing studies at UCT were not forgotten.

This doyenne's time at UCT began modestly in 1959 when, on secondment from Carinus Nursing College, she ran the Sister Tutor's Diploma. She was appointed as a lecturer two years later.

In time, Harrison would flesh

out and strengthen nursing studies at the university. In 1972 she launched UCT's BSc programme in nursing, and 10 years later an MSc by dissertation. That same year, 1982, she was named the university's first Helen & Morris Mauerberger Professor of Nursing.

In addition to the UCT staff who celebrated Harrison's birthday, greetings and news came from graduates and past and present staff from around the globe. These were compiled into a book and presented to Harrison by Emeritus Professor Rosalie Thompson.

Graduates spoke with fondness of how well they were equipped in their undergraduate years, both for life and for their careers. **MP**

Birthday prof: Celebrating with Prof Paddy Harrison (back, second from right) were (back, from left) 1980 graduate Melinda Winfield, Dagmar Smuts (1982), Emer Prof Rosalie Thompson; 1977 graduate Teresa Moore, Nadine Szecsei (1976), and (front, from left) Justine Geiger (1985) and Gill Milligan (1985).



Admissions debate on 2 September

Keeping up its ongoing discussions and meetings about the university's admissions policy and following on from newspaper and television coverage – most recently on etv's Judge

for Yourself – UCT will host another debate on the topic. The debate will take place at 13h00 on 2 September in the Centre for African Studies Gallery. The event will feature four panel-

lists – Professor Neville Alexander, director of the Project for the Study of Alternative Education in South Africa (PRAESA); Professor David Benatar of the Department of Philosophy; chair

of Council Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane; and the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price. Honorary Professor Dennis Davis, who teaches constitutional law in UCT's Faculty of Law, will act

as moderator, as he did on Judge for Yourself. Space is limited, so seating will be allocated on a first-come, first-seated basis. (The gallery will not be allowed to fill up beyond capacity.) **MP**



Little Scotia

GUEST HOUSE

MUCH MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK !!

Some of the new offerings we've added in 2010 include:

- * 11 additional guest rooms
- * capacity for groups of 30 persons or more!
- * air conditioning in every room
- * expanded dining and lounge areas
- * reading lounge / small library
- * additional spa splash pool
- * 11 TV channels
- * secure parking – enough for everyone



Consider your options:

- * you could stay at a **Horrible Inn**
- * OR you could stay at a **SHIRTY LODGE**
- * OR you could stay at

Little Scotia

more value for your money any day!

5 Rustenburg Ave
Rondebosch
7700
Tel: 021 686 8245
Fax: 021 685 1887
scotia@new.co.za
www.scotia.co.za

EVENTS

Title: Mark Swilling, Stellenbosch, Rethinking Urbanism (Just Transitions: Explorations of Sustainability in an Unfair World). Date: September 1. Time: 3pm. Venue: Davies Reading Room 2.27 Engeo Building, Upper Campus. Title: Melissa Steyn, The City's Other: Small Towns in post-apartheid South Africa, Sociology and Director of Intercultural and Diversity Studies, University of Cape Town. Date: October 6. Time: 3pm. Venue: Davies Reading Room 2.27 Engeo Building, Upper Campus. Title: Steven Robbins, Urban social movements, rights talk and mass action in Cape Town, Department of Sociology, University of Stellenbosch. Date: November 3. Time: 3pm. Venue: Davies Reading Room 2.27 Engeo Building, Upper Campus.

Department of Medicine Thursday Forum August/September: 26 August 2010 - Prof Keymathri Moodley - "Medical Mistakes". 02 September 2010 - Prof Gillian Ainslie - "Years of Living Dangerously: Biomass Fuels & the Lungs". 09 September 2010 - Prof Siamon Gordon - "The role of the Macrophage in Immunity and Infection". 16 September 2010 - Prof Stanley Ress - "Clinical Immunology Overview - Infection Autoimmunity". 23 September 2010 - Prof Jean-Pierre Bassand - "Bleeding, Anemia and Transfusion in Acute Coronary Syndromes: A shift in the paradigm". 30 September 2010 - DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE RESEARCH DAY

Introduction to Project Management: A short part time certificate course presented on Tuesdays evenings from 24 August – 28 September. Accredited with ECSA for CPD points. For further information contact Sandra at tel 021 6505793 or ebe-cpd@uct.ac.za, or visit the website www.cpd.uct.ac.za

Commercial Property Valuation: A short certificate course presented from 6 – 8 September. Accredited with ECSA for CPD points. For further information contact Sandra at tel 021 6505793 or ebe-cpd@uct.ac.za, or visit the website www.cpd.uct.ac.za

"Property Development for Beginners: A short part time certificate course presented on Thursday evenings from 2 September – 11 November. Accredited with ECSA for CPD points. For further information contact Sandra at tel 021 6505793 or ebe-cpd@uct.ac.za, or visit the website www.cpd.uct.ac.za

Internet Super-user: Enroll now for the next Internet Super-user course starting 10 September. This 10-week course teaches novice and intermediate internet users how to harness the power of the internet. It is a collaborative effort between the Information Systems department and GetSmarter.

50% discount for UCT staff and students. For further information contact karin@getsmarter.co.za.

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Dean, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 23 August 2010

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Engineering Drawing, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering & The Built Environment, Closing date: 27 August 2010

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Child Nursing, Department of Paediatrics, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 30 August 2010

Lecturer: Biomedical Engineering, Department of Human Biology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 31 August 2010

Lecturer, Department of Molecular & Cell Biology, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 31 August 2010

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Joint position in Observational Astronomy, Department of Astronomy & The South African Astronomical Observatory (SAAO), Closing date: 01 September 2010

Lecturers: French Language & Literature, School of Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 01 September 2010

Lecturer, Department of Commercial Law, Faculty of Law, Closing date: 06 September 2010

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Construction Economics & Management, Department of Construction Economics & Management, Faculty of Engineering & The Built Environment, Closing date: 17 September 2010

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer: Property Studies, Department of Construction Economics & Management, Faculty of Engineering & The Built Environment, Closing date: 17 September 2010

Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 17 September 2010

Professor/Associate Professor/Senior Lecturer, Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 30 September 2010

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Senior Manager, Advancement Research & Information Systems, Development & Alumni Department, Closing date: 23 August 2010

Binder, UCT Libraries, Closing date: 23 August 2010

Senior Scientific Officer, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 23 August 2010

Records Assistant, Student Records Office, Office of the Registrar, Closing date: 24 August 2010

Systems Engineer: Linux & Windows based applications, ICTS, Closing date: 27 August 2010

Quality Control Officer, SATVI, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 29 August 2010

Alumni Relations Officer, Development & Alumni Department, Closing date: 30 August 2010

Biostatistician, School of Public Health & Family Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 31 August 2010

Director Designate: Physical Planning Unit, Properties & Services Department, Closing date: 10 September 2010

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

To view the full advertisements and application requirements for each post, please visit www.uct.ac.za and click on "Vacancies".

PROPERTY

Bergvliet: Studio garden cottage to rent in Elgin Road, Bergvliet. Large, bright and sunny room with a bathroom and kitchen. There is secure off street parking and a private patio. The cottage is fully furnished. Monthly rental is R3 500. Contact Mandy on 0833093822 or 021 7121438 or email MandyF@Netpoint.co.za

"WANTED: American family on sabbatical Jan-Dec 2011 seeks 3BR, 2 BA house, furnished or not, in Southern Suburbs, outdoor space a plus. contact: dackerly@berkeley.edu

Hout Bay: To let Private and secure bachelor flat, separate entrance, in large secure house. Ideal for a quiet professional. Mature, non smoker, good mountain view, 2 min from village and Llundudno beach. Medium to long lease available from 1st September or sooner if preferred. For info please contact Katja - 0786633539

Fernwood/Upper Newlands: Need a place to stay while visiting UCT with your family? 2 post-grads or staff want to do a house share? Furnished three bedroom cottage set in tranquil garden. Close to top schools. Available 1 Sept 2009. Min stay - three months. ADSL line, gardening service. Contact Shireen 072 140 8381

Mowbray: Garden cottage in upper Mowbray (round corner from Forrest Hill Jammie Shuttle stop or 15min walk to campus). Furnished with outside area, separate entrance and alarm system. R3700/m incl. water and electricity. Available 1 October. Contact Gina gina@csag.uct.ac.za, x4796.

Hout Bay: Old spacious farm

house to rent, on non-working farm above the Oakhurst Spar (12km from UCT). Unfurnished with 2 bedrooms (bics), 2 bathrooms (main en-suite), spacious open plan kitchen, dining room, lounge (with fireplace) and TV room. R10750 per month. Available 1 October. Contact Gina gina@csag.uct.ac.za, x4796.

Rondebosch: Rondebosch close to UCT: Room fully furnished as from 1 sept.10. Only for R2000 excluding Electricity .Short term preferable. 0822007793 Maureen.

Vredehoek: Conveniently located Art Deco bachelor flat in vibey Vredehoek, semi-furnished for short/long term lease. Ideal for student or couple. R4000 p/m. Email ceridwenm@gmail.com for details.

FOR SALE

CAR: Toyota Corolla, 1.6 GL, Auto, Model: 1991, Good condition, Price: R20,000, Tel: 083 2737517

SAMSUNG SLIMFIT TV - 74CM R 1,500, 12 months old. Used occasionally as a second tv. Comes with original box and packaging. contact 072 590 3698 email: daniel.smith@synergy.co.za

"Nintendo Wii package 2 remote controls and motion plus units 2 x nunchucks Wii Sports Resort, Wii Sports and Wii Play R 2,200 phone: 0725903698 email: daniel.smith@synergy.co.za "

GENERAL

EAGLE TRANSCRIPTION AND TRANSLATION: Transcription of digital sound files, audio recordings - tapes/cassettes, cd's, - typing of theses, disc hearings, interviews, excellent rates. R200.00 for 20 minute interviews. Very fast turnover time. Contact 0217611866 Cell 0848129386. Email: eagle@iburst.co.za OR lorrhein@gmail.com

Food Fanatics: Catering and Events - Lunches, Cocktails, Conferences. Contemporary creative menus. Staff/Hiring/Bar. Contact: 0217979819 or 0836508563

Transcribing: Accurate and efficient transcribing tailored to your needs: qualitative research, focus groups, conferences, etc. Work not outsourced, confidentiality guaranteed. References on request. Carin 021 4659904/083 6822245 carintranscribing@webafrica.org.za

DOMESTIC WORKER. Margaret is an excellent domestic worker and irons beautifully! She is 100% loyal and reliable. Due to relocation by employer, she needs to replace her weekly Thursday slot as soon as possible. Please call Owen 0832617484 or Medee 0833506240

Editing and Proofreading:

Experienced academic/editor offers excellent professional proof-reading, writing, style improvement service. Theses, dissertations, articles, essays, papers, reports, manuscripts. Contact Rose Jackson 0722911098/0217618825 and/or bettws@mweb.co.za ; Skype rosejackson6.

Char: Highly recommended char seeks sleep in/out cooking cleaning and ironing please ph Helen 0840208078 or Mavis 0732814908 any suburbs

Editing and Proofreading needs: Highly experienced editor will take care of all your proofreading requirements. Theses, dissertations, etc, prepared to the highest professional standards. Reasonable rates and quick turnaround times. Contact David Capel on davidcapel@24.com or 0726606211.

Pilates Classes: Wed mornings 7:30-8:30 at Sports Injuries Clinic, UCT Sports Center, Upper campus, UCT. R75 per class, booking essential, max 6 per class. Starting 1 Sept. Contact us on x3560 or info@sic.org.za.

Professional Proofreading and Editing: Improving language, expression and style. Postgraduate Dissertations, Essays, Articles, etc. Very experienced and reliable. Contact: Regine 0215313330 or email: regine@cybersmart.co.za.

Health: Want to know your health status? We're looking for SA Women of Mixed Ancestry ages 21-45 to participate in a research study involving body composition and metabolic disease outcomes. If interested, contact Maryse: PRTMAR014@uct.ac.za

"Proofreading: Proofreading and editing of thesis and journal articles. Competitive rates. Call Deborah: 072 5326362 - proofreader@mweb.co.za "

Piano Teacher: Looking for enthusiastic piano teacher for 2 scholars with 5 years of experience, close to UCT. Phone: 021-6894549 or 0828490432. Dr Eric Cloete Eric.cloete@uct.ac.za

Editing: Editing of dissertations. A. Harold, BA (Hons), MA (Wits); BA (Hons), MA (TESOL) (Cum Laude), HED (Unisa) 021461-1483 / 0724140064 / alby01@telkomsa.net.

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

Nimble performance from UCT fencing



Telling tally: UCT Fencing Club members Jacques Viljoen, Yasmin Hankel (middle) and Giselle Vicatos collected four awards at the recent USSA championships.

The UCT Fencing Club retained its status as one of the strongest in the country when it scooped four medals at the University Sports South Africa (USSA) championships, held at the University of the Free State.

The strength of the club was evident in the women's foil event, which ended in an all-UCT affair with Giselle Vicatos beating Yasmin Hankel for gold. Vicatos also took the silver medal

in the woman's *épée* event, losing out to Shih-Ya Yuang, a recent UCT graduate and former UCT sportsperson of the year. Jacques Viljoen, the current UCT sportsperson of the year, won the men's foil title for the second year in a row, bringing UCT's medal tally to two golds and two silvers. Notably absent from USSA was Michael Malahe, ranked first in men's *épée*, who had to withdraw due to injury. **MP**

It's not all Chinese to res students

Initiating business networks. Perhaps landing a job in the Asian powerhouse. These were among the draw cards for students attending the first Chinese language course on offer at Kopano residence recently.

The free course is offered by the Confucius Institute, launched earlier this year to teach the Chinese language and culture to UCT students.

Professor Wu Qianlong, the institute's deputy director, taught the inaugural class himself. Wu notes that they had expected around 20 students, but twice as many turned up.

They were eager and interested,

Wu noted, and citing the importance of learning Chinese for business reasons (China's economy is the second biggest in the world after the United States), and a desire to teach English in China after graduation.

Clumsy pronunciations of Chinese phonetics drew some giggles, others were awed by the task of writing the characters. But in the end, they enjoyed it, said Wu.

The institute is planning to invite Chinese nationals studying at UCT to tutor and assist students in group studies, and to offer Chinese credit-bearing courses from 2011. **MP**

Humanities dominates among SRC nominees

Politics is never usually this much fun. (Not on purpose, anyway.)

The 30 nominees for the upcoming Students' Representative Council elections were presented to the UCT student body in style on 12 August when they took one another on in trolley races, dancing and music performances.

It was all to encourage students to participate in the upcoming election process, which began with a launch on 16 August and Q&A sessions from the same day until 20 August, and continues with voting from 23 to 27 August.

With 46% of candidates, the Faculty of Humanities boasts the lion's share of nominees, followed by commerce and health sciences at 23% and 10% respectively, while the law and the engineering & the built



Pick me: Nominees for election to the SRC. Voting will take place from 23 to 27 August.

environment faculties are level at 7% apiece. Most candidates are in the second year of their studies (47%), followed by third-years at 27% and first-years at 20%. **MP**

Old hands, new techniques

At the ripe age of 34, the UCT Ju-Jitsu ('gentle art') club is thought to be one of the oldest martial arts clubs on campus – and is still going strong.

With 70 members, some of whom have represented the club internationally, the club teaches Japanese martial arts.

Ju-Jitsu was used by ancient samurai warriors and despite its pre-industrial origins, it has practical applications in the modern world. Its principles are used in training police and military unarmed combat units.

Sindy Tu, chairperson of UCT Ju-Jitsu, says the club focuses on unarmed, close-contact self defence, using throws, takedowns, locks and the like. "We also include basic grappling (wrestling) techniques."

It's a valuable skill, she adds. "I believe that people, especially women, should have some basic defence skills to be able to manage dangerous situations."

Recently, UCT Ju-Jitsu hosted the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Tokyokai Ju-Jitsu Club, their parent body. The event was attended by renowned international guest instructors, including the head of the All Japan Ju-Jitsu International Federation and 10th-Dan black belt, Alexey Kunin from the US, as well as Sorab Mowlabucus, visiting 7th-Dan black belt from Mauritius, who shared their techniques and knowledge.

Included in the celebration was a prize-giving that saw UCT students heaped with awards from the South African Ju-Jitsu Association. **MP**



Sterling performance: Thakane Ntholi (in picture) scooped the Best Newcomer Ju-Jitsuka award, conferred by the UCT Ju-Jitsu club. Other winners were Muya Koloko (best UCT Ju-Jitsuka), 2nd Dan black belt; Kate Davies (best female Ju-Jitsuka); and Graeme Paul (best pupil), orange belt.

supa quick

TYRE EXPERTS
CLOSER TO YOU

155/80 R13	R349
175/70 R13	R399
185/60 R14	R449
195/50 R15	R499
195/65 R15	R499
205/40 R17	R599
205/55 R16	R699
225/45 R17	R799
225/40 R18	R999

Includes fitting but Exclude balancing and tubeless valves

FREE SA FLAG MIRROR COVERS WITH EVERY SET OF TYRES!

OBSERVATORY

321A MAIN ROAD

Tel: 021 447 0591 Cell: 082 076 4381
Email: supaquickobs@partsave.co.za

BE SAFE THIS WINTER..GET A FREE 20 POINT SAFETY CHECK. (Valid at R100)

BATTERIES

INCLUDES OLD BATTERY



from **R449** FITTED

CV JOINTS

FROM **R295** PER SIDE FITTED

6 MONTHS GUARANTEE

For most popular vehicles

GREAT MAG WHEEL COMBOS



From **R3 699**

i.e 13" Rim and 4 X 175/70R13 Tyres



From **R4 199**

i.e 14" Rim and 4 X 175/65R14 Tyres

SHOCKS

MONROE & GABRIEL

Now Less **60%**

3-YEAR GUARANTEE FITTED!

BOSCH WIPER BLADES

from **R49⁹⁵** 18" FITTED

WE DO ALL SUSPENSION REPAIRS AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES!!

* ALL WORK GAURANTEED!







From **R4 999**

i.e 15" Rim and 4 X 195/50R15 Tyres



From **R5 999**

i.e 17" Rim and 4 X 205/40R17 Tyres

FUEL SAVER EXHAUST BOSAL & TUFFEX

60% 1 YEAR GUARANTEE