

DOES GOD EXIST?

- YES
- NO
- PROBABLY

TO FIND A COURSE
SMS 'ALPHA' TO 33009
or visit alphawcape.co.za



R1.50/SMS. Network charges extra, WAP Required. No free SMS's apply.

Monday Paper

14 – 27 Feb 2011

Vol. 30#01

Newspaper of the University of Cape Town



This edition and other editions of *Monday Paper* are available online at www.uct.ac.za/mondaypaper. For daily online news at UCT, please visit www.news.uct.ac.za/dailynews

Welcome to UCT in 2011



Higher education partnership prospers

Representatives from the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) sat down with Premier Helen Zille and members of her provincial government at UCT last week to review the partnership between the consortium and the Provincial Government of the Western Cape (PGWC). In keeping with the aims of the partnership, CHEC institutions – UCT, the Cape Peninsula University

of Technology, Stellenbosch University and the University of the Western Cape – set out to address regional concerns through the design and make-up of academic programmes. In addition to looking back on the achievements of the partnership to date, the consortium and the PGWC also discussed a three-year planning framework.

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za

Looking ahead: University rectors and vice-chancellors Prof Brian O'Connell of UWC, Prof Vuyisa Mazwi-Tanga of CPUT, Premier Helen Zille, Prof Russel Botman of Stellenbosch and UCT's Dr Max Price at a recent meeting between CHEC and the provincial government.



New parasite medicines from African biodiversity

Professor Kelly Chibale, who holds the national research chair in drug discovery at UCT, has joined an international project that will 'prospect' African biodiversity to find potential treatments for diseases caused by parasitic worms. Chibale, of the Department of Chemistry and the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine (IIDMM), will join forces with standing collaborators Professor Timothy Geary and Dr Eliane Ubalijoro, of McGill University in Canada, who received a two-year, \$1-million grant for this landmark work. This money will be shared with scientists, including Chibale, from the two African institutions (UCT and the University of Botswana) that partnered McGill University in the grant application. The funding for the work hails from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Grand Challenges Canada, and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

More than one billion people, or one-sixth of the world's population, suffer from Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), which cause disfigurement, disability and even death in the developing world. Geary's research focuses on parasitic worms,



Wormy woe: A mass of Ascaris lumbricoides worms, which had been passed by a child in Kenya. (Picture courtesy of James Gathany/CDC.)

or helminths, which live inside the body, unlike external parasites such as lice and fleas. Approximately three billion people around the world are said to be infected with helminths. (They're also responsible for massive loss of livestock productivity, Chibale points out.)

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za

Best-value MBA surges up international rankings

The Graduate School of Business' (GSB) full-time MBA programme has moved up 29 places to 60th place in the latest Financial Times (FT) of London's Global MBA Top 100 Ranking, released in January.

The GSB degree is also ranked the top best-value-for-money MBA in the world today.

The GSB remains the only business school in Africa in the FT MBA Top 100, and this is the seventh consecutive year that the school has featured in the rankings.

In addition to being the number one MBA for value for money, there are other notable achievements in 2011. The GSB was ranked seventh in the International Experience category, and inside the Top 35 in seven other assessment categories. This included placing 31st in the Career Progress rank, 31st in the International Faculty rank, and 28th in the International Mobility rank.

An evaluation of the 2011 rankings table shows that once again the GSB ranks among the top five



To the top: Prof. Walter Baets: "It testifies to the high quality of our programmes, the remarkable impact we have on students and the exceptional quality of our MBA in particular."

business schools based in the BRICS emergent-market countries – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

"It testifies to the high quality of our programmes, the remarkable impact we have on students and the exceptional quality of our MBA in particular," said GSB director Professor Walter Baets of the new

rankings.

The FT ranking shows that GSB MBA graduates are doing well for themselves across the globe, evidenced by the three strong rankings in International Experience, International Mobility and Career Progress.

"These three categories confirm that our graduates go on to achieve great things wherever they go and are highly valued in the international market," said Baets.

In dollar-weighted terms, GSB alumni are also earning at the top of the table (position 16) just behind top-ranked London Business School and ahead of graduates from the likes of New York University, UCLA, Oxford and Cambridge.

At the top of the 2011 FT rankings is London Business School, but Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania has moved up one spot and now holds the number one ranking with London Business School. Harvard Business School has retained its third place and Stanford University GSB and INSEAD jointly hold fourth place. ■

Anti-poverty network launched at SALDRU

The close interface between economists at UCT and policymakers in South Africa refutes accusations that universities are ivory towers, said vice-chancellor Dr Max Price at the launch of the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab for Africa (J-PAL Africa) in January.

J-PAL Africa is the fourth regional office of the international J-PAL research network, based at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The project aims to reduce global poverty by ensuring that government policy and programmes are based on scientific evidence.

The project's other key partners are in Chile, France and India, each of which serves as a node for its home continent while also conducting comparative work globally. J-PAL Africa will be led by executive director Kamilla Gumede and hosted by Professor Murray Leibbrandt, director of the Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit in the Faculty of Commerce.

Welcoming delegates to the



Partners against poverty: (From left) Executive director of J-PAL Africa Kamilla Gumede, Minister Trevor Manuel and vice-chancellor Dr Max Price.

launch from 23 countries, Price said UCT has deep roots in the fight against poverty, and that SALDRU had implemented a range of innovative surveys in this regard over the past 30 years.

"We are privileged to have been given the opportunity to host the African node of J-PAL because it speaks directly to two of our strategic goals:

to increase the impact of research, as well as to establish UCT as a hub of academic connectivity between Africa and the rest of the world."

Trevor Manuel, Minister in the Presidency: National Planning Commission, spoke at a private dinner on the eve of the launch. (His speech may be read at <http://www.uct.ac.za/news/lectures/misc/>.) ■

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

MBEKI AND AFTER: REFLECTIONS ON THE LEGACY OF THABO MBEKI

CHAIR

Dr Adekeye Adebajo

Executive Director, Centre for Conflict Resolution
Cape Town

SPEAKER AND EDITOR

Professor Daryl Glaser

Department of Political Studies, University of Witwatersrand

SPEAKER

Professor Chris Landsberg

Department of Politics, University of Johannesburg

Date: Tuesday, 22 February 2011 • 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.



Tug of war around bumper enrolments

According to UCT's preliminary size and shape targets for 2013, set in liaison with the Ministry of Higher Education and Training, student numbers were set to hit just over 26 000 in 2013.

Now it appears that UCT will top 26 000 enrolments this year, after the university received no fewer than 33 000 applications in 2010. Given past take-up rates, UCT should have made – at an educated guesstimate – a total of 6 888 offers.

Instead, the university made close to 8 000 offers for the approximately 3 800 first-year places it had planned to make available in 2011. Accordingly, preliminary registrations suggest UCT will sign on over 26 000 students in 2011, reported Registrar Hugh Amoore last week at the university's PASS Forum. (By 2010 UCT

student enrolments had reached 25 000, well over the initial target of 24 000 for the year.)

"The shape and size debate is going to be a very important one, both in Senate and in Council this year," said Amoore.

Already, early numbers show all faculties were well above their 2010 enrolments. In the Faculty of Commerce, for example, registrations had already topped 5 100 students, well above the 4 400 mark it reached at the same time last year. The Faculty of Humanities, too, has exceeded its 2010 numbers, but not excessively so (5 259 for 2011 versus 2010's 5 208).

But it all adds up, and by last count on Wednesday, 9 February, UCT had already enrolled around 1 500 students more than at the same time in 2010.



This way: Vice-chancellor Dr Max Price enjoys a tussle at the Freshers' Braai, held on campus last week, attended by hundreds of newly-enrolled first-year students.

New project to PRIME mental health services

By all measures, £6 million is a lot of money. But when stacked up against the ambitions of the new Programme for Improving Mental Health Care (PRIME) – to illustrate just how mental health-care services in five resource-poor countries can and should be overhauled – it may appear but a drop in the bucket.

The funding, awarded to the UCT-based programme by the Department for International Development (DfID) in the UK government, will go towards setting up a series of 'demonstration sites' in the primary-study countries – Ethiopia, India, South Africa and Uganda – and in one "fragile state", Nepal. "Mental health is often a

neglected issue in public health, often with under-funded services," explains Associate Professor Crick Lund, PRIME director. "So there's an international move, led largely by the WHO (World Health Organisation), to try and build the capacity of primary healthcare clinics and primary healthcare practitioners to deliver basic mental health services at primary healthcare level."

Lund will direct PRIME as a project from the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health at UCT, working with a host of partners and collaborators across the five countries and elsewhere.

Over the six years of the programme, research teams in these countries will work with doctors,

nurses, health ministries, academic institutions and civil society organisations to set up these demonstration sites. There they will attempt to implement a set of clinical guidelines drawn up by the WHO, known as the mental health Gap Action Programme, aka mhGAP.

mhGAP is designed as an action plan to scale up services for mental, neurological and substance abuse disorders for countries with low- and lower-middle incomes. In line with those guidelines, PRIME will target three priority mental disorders, namely depression, alcohol use and schizophrenia, which make up the burden of mental health disease in such countries.

The work will involve train-

ing the primary healthcare workers in these guidelines, and then measuring how well the guidelines are applied and implemented, and how successful they are in treating patients.

There's a lot of lost ground to make up, suggests one PRIME partner, Professor Vikram Patel of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine in the UK, and Sangath, a health NGO in India. For too long it was assumed that mental health was not a developing-country issue, the upshot of which was that little money was invested in mental health services.

PRIME will allow a country like India, says Patel, to "establish affordable, equitable and feasible

models of scaling up what we know works to help improve the quality of life of people affected by mental disorders and, in so doing, show that we can address mental health problems even in very resource-poor health systems".

At the end of the six years, says Lund, PRIME will have produced the kinds of information that will show policymakers how to integrate mental health services into primary health care, and what kinds of resources it would demand.

"I think it will not only address the public health questions, but also development questions, on what the impact of these services would be on societies and communities."

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za



Henry "Bud" Kreh, who was an Ambassadorial Scholar at UCT in 1950, on the steps of Jameson Hall during the Rotary International Reunion programme. (To view footage go to www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/stream_videos/series)

Rotary alumni reunite

UCT played host to two days of Rotary International's four-day reunion in Cape Town last week, allowing a number of Rotary alumni from UCT to share their experiences with fellow graduates.

Specifically, UCT hosted the reunion of a number of alumni who have over the past 60 years benefited from Rotary International's suite of education grants, notably for its Ambassadorial Scholarships, Group Study Exchange and Rotary Peace Fellowships programmes.

These cover travel both ways.

So, thanks to the Ambassadorial Scholarships, UCT has hosted over 200 scholars from nine countries since 1947, while around 30 UCT graduates have travelled overseas on such scholarships. They include Professor Jennifer Thomson, who

spent 12 months over 1974 and 1975 at Harvard University in the US, and Francis Moloi, now the country's High Commissioner to India, who did likewise over 2000 and 2001.

In turn, American Ray Klingensmith, now president of Rotary International, and compatriot Henry 'Bud' Kreh, among more recent visitors, spoke of their years at UCT over 1960 to 1961 and 1950 to 1951, respectively.

And it's been a programme that has served everyone well, said vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, with many of the visiting scholars maintaining their links – often professional – with South Africa and its communities.

"Evidence shows that the continent and the country have benefited enormously from this," Price noted.

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za

Centres of excellence up the research game

As Dr Albert van Jaarsveld – President and CEO of the National Research Foundation (NRF) – pointed out, there's a lot to learn from the country's eight Centres of Excellence (CoEs).

At the annual CoEs symposium, hosted at UCT by the NRF and the national Department of Science and Technology (DST) on 1 February, Van Jaarsveld ran through some of the centres' success stories. These include a healthy and growing number of master's and doctoral graduates since the CoEs Programme was launched by the DST and the NRF in 2004, around 400 peer-reviewed publications in 2010 alone, plus a host of local, national and international collaborations; all, he stressed, on about R15 million in funding per year.

"What this demonstrates to us is that the CoE instrument is very effective at upping our game and strengthening our outputs," said Van Jaarsveld. "And it's a model, I think, we should be exploring in the system."

That sentiment was echoed by UCT vice-chancellor Dr Max Price. "It's clear from the recent international review of the CoEs," said Price, "that together they have

the potential to bring a significant slice of South African research into the bracket of world-class research excellence."

Among the guests at the event was the Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor, who received potted introductions to each of the centres, including the two hosted at UCT – Birds as Key to Biodiversity Conservation, run from the Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, and the Centre of Excellence in Catalysis, aka c*change, in the Departments of Chemical Engineering and Chemistry. (UCT is now also a partner in the Stellenbosch University-based Centre of Excellence for Biomedical TB Research, co-headed by Professor Valerie Mizrahi, newly appointed director of UCT's Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine.)

In particular, Pandor pointed to the role that the CoEs can play in tackling issues specific to South Africa and Africa.

"I think, for me, it is really very, very encouraging when we see the centres really looking at what the issues of development are that we might begin to address."

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za



Upward and forward: Minister Naledi Pandor of Science and Technology. (To view footage go to www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/stream_videos/series)

No room for mediocrity with Mizrahi at the helm

Professor Valerie Mizrahi took the scenic route in a distinguished career path that has led to her new appointment as director of UCT's Institute of Molecular Medicine and Infectious Diseases (IIDMM) from 1 January.



Prof Valerie Mizrahi. (To view the interview go to www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/stream_video/series)

Mizrahi has not arrived empty-handed. She brings with her a newly-formed partnership with the University of the Witwatersrand and Stellenbosch University in the form of a national centre of excellence for TB research.

Mizrahi's journey began with mathematics and chemistry, but after earning her chemistry PhD at UCT in 1983, she abruptly took a detour into the fresh complexities of biology.

"It was the ground-breaking start of molecular biology, so I really felt the need to capitalise on that," she recalls. "People said that suddenly changing fields was either reckless or brave, but I found that my chemistry and maths background really set me up well for moving into biology."

Mizrahi took on a postdoctoral fellowship in biochemistry at Penn State University in the US, in the lab of the world-renowned enzymologist Stephen Benkovic, then returned to South Africa in 1986 to join the Centre for Molecular and Cell Biology, based at Wits and supported by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

Following a year of "hard-core biology", Mizrahi returned to the US to join pharmaceutical giant Smith Kline & French to work in the field of HIV drug discovery.

"So I went from chemistry to biochemistry to molecular biology to drug discovery, and I think this is where my interest in infectious disease research was inspired."

In 1989 Mizrahi finally decided to settle in South Africa and returned to launch the Molecular Biology Unit at the South African Institute for Medical Research.

But after two years of HIV research, she once again reached a T-junction and abruptly changed direction.

"I realised that TB was an under-

explored, hugely important area in which I could use my knowledge as a biochemist. But I knew nothing about microbiology or genetics, so again I had to learn."

Steering her lab team in this new direction, in 2000 Mizrahi established the Molecular Mycobacteriology Research Unit, jointly funded by the South African Medical Research Council, the National Health Laboratory Service and Wits; and then served as co-director of the Centre of Excellence for Biomedical TB Research, jointly funded by the Department of Science and Technology and the National Research Foundation.

"We need better vaccines, shorter treatments and better diagnostics..."

"Repeatedly, I have been given the freedom to reinvent myself," says Mizrahi, "and this has helped define my career. I believe that giving young people with fire in their bellies an opportunity can make all the difference."

Now at UCT's IIDMM, Mizrahi not only takes the reins as institute director from Professor Greg Hussey, but also comes on board as head of the UCT node of the partnership with Wits and Stellenbosch in the Centre of Excellence for Biomedical TB Research.

"Silos of real strength and international leadership in this field have emerged from the Western Cape, so it's an obvious place for me to be."

Mizrahi plans to bring a "my-

cobacterial physiology and genetics presence" to some of the clinically-oriented TB work at the IIDMM.

"I have to distinguish between coming in here as a director and coming here with a lab which I'm establishing with my colleague, Digby Warner," says Mizrahi, "but in a way, these are aligned. I saw the opportunity to bring TB-focused bacterial genetics, physiology and metabolomics research to the institute, as it's not an area that's been particularly active."

A key aspect of Mizrahi's vision for the institute is collaboration.

"I've always run a small and focused group. The members of my group and I are looking forward to the opportunity of establishing collaborations across the institute, while maintaining our identity and continuing to strive for excellence in the work we do and the people we train."

Excellence is a word that has followed Mizrahi throughout her career.

"There's no room for mediocrity here. Excellence is what I've aspired towards in my own work and excellence is what this institute is about."

Mizrahi acknowledges that to call the goals of TB research daunting would be a gross understatement.

"We need better vaccines, shorter treatments and better diagnostics. Taking the existing regimen of TB drugs for six months is very tough on patients. Yes, they work, but the most recent drug we use was developed more than 40 years ago. And in diagnosing TB, we are still reliant on methods that have been used for over a century.

"This is why world-class research on diseases such as tuberculosis is so important. Better tools for controlling TB will revolutionise our ability to deal with a disease that preys on poverty and social inequality – problems that continue to plague our continent."

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za

Briefs

Cavalier Caira honoured with Italian knighthood

UCT's Professor Mino Caira celebrated his roots in December when the Italian government awarded him the title of *Cavaliere*, or Knight. Caira was formally presented with the national title – *Cavaliere dell'Ordine al Merito della Repubblica Italiana*



(Knight, Order of Merit of the Italian Republic) – by the Italian consul in Cape Town, Dr Emanuela Curnis. Caira now shares the honorific with his immediate neighbour in the Department of Chemistry, Emeritus Professor Luigi Nassimbeni. Caira received the award in part for his celebrated academic work in the field of chemistry and his longstanding collaborations with universities and pharmaceutical companies in Italy. In addition, the award recognised his role as president (for over a decade)

of the Cape Town branch of the Zonderwater Block Association of Ex-POWs. This association is named after the camp at Zonderwater, a farm area near Johannesburg, where Italian prisoners of war were held between 1941 and 1947. Caira's father was

one of the 90 000 or so Italian POWs who lived in the camp, and one of a select few hundred who chose – and were allowed – to remain in South Africa after the war. These days the association is made up mainly of the descendants of the original POWs, most of whom, like Caira's father, have since died. So the presentation of the knighthood had its poignant moments. "My first thought was of my father," says Caira, "and I kind of silently dedicated [the award] to his memory." ■

Ties that bind

UCT has strengthened its relationship with Makerere University in Uganda, with the two institutions signing a Memorandum of Understanding recently. Makerere is a long-standing UCT partner, specifically on the University Science, Humanities & Engineering Partnerships in Africa (USHEPIA) project, but now the partnership has been pushed up a level to provide a formal platform for developing new

initiatives. "Makerere has chosen UCT as an institution with which they want to develop key collaborations around research and capacity building, as well as staff and student exchange," explained Lara Hoffenberg, manager of mobility and links at the International Academic Programmes Office. The agreement enhances the Afropolitan goal of UCT, and will be an asset to both universities, says Hoffenberg. ■

Boost for refugee rights

The Refugee Rights Project at UCT's Faculty of Law will upgrade its teaching and research portfolios, thanks to a boost from the Foundation for Human Rights. During 2011 the project will conduct research and produce reports on access to justice for victims of xenophobia, the right of refugees and asylum seekers to work in South Africa, litigating the rights of refugees in South Africa, and the future management of permanent residence for long-stay refugees. The project will also use the new funding to run courses for an initiative known as Sustained Advocacy for Empowering Refugees (also known as SAFER), which is aimed at providing training on the rights of refugees and asylum seekers, and the mechanisms for rights enforcement. Refugee Rights Project director



Enabled: Refugee Rights Project director Fatima Khan (middle) with senior Attorney Tal Schreier (left) and lead researcher Vicki Igglesden.

Fatima Khan said: "The refugee law course has attracted a steady stream of students, but funding was desperately required to complete our vision of 'practise, teach and research'. The Foundation's grant is greatly welcomed, as it will significantly elevate the project in the direction we aspire to go."

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za

SATVI raises TB in Parliament

In January, two major tuberculosis-vaccine partners – the South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI) and the Aeras Global TB Vaccine Foundation (Aeras) – addressed the Portfolio Committee on Health at the South African Parliament in Cape Town, to keep them abreast of South Africa's (and SATVI's) leading role in finding a new, more effective vaccine against TB. Among the speakers was Dr Hassan Mahomed, SATVI co-director, who explained the dire need for a new vaccine to curb the spread of the disease, especially in the face of TB's growing drug-resistance. In turn,

Sebastian Gelderbloem (the head of Aeras Africa) outlined the progress made in TB vaccine development globally. And SATVI co-director Professor Willem Hanekom of UCT's Institute for Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine pointed out that most funding for TB vaccine research (almost all of SATVI's 2010 budget of R50 million, for example) originates from overseas rather than from South African coffers, despite South Africa having the second-highest TB rate in the world. Overall the meeting went well, reports Hanekom, and SATVI is planning to follow up with key funders in government. ■

Science faculty welcomes new dean

Professor Anton le Roex of the Department of Geological Sciences has taken the helm as the new Dean of Science, replacing Professor Kathy Driver, whose term as dean ended last year. A former deputy dean of the faculty, a position he held since 2001, Le Roex took office on 1 January.

Le Roex grew up in Pietermaritzburg. He earned his BSc (cum laude) at the University of Stellenbosch in 1975, his honours degree in geochemistry (first class) at UCT in 1976, and his PhD at UCT in 1980. He has been at UCT since 1982, and has held the university's Chamber of Mines Chair of Geochemistry since 1997. In addition to posts at UCT, he has held teaching and research posts at the University of Hawaii and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts, USA.

In addition to his teaching and research duties at UCT, Le Roex has held numerous administrative posts. He headed the Department of Geological Sciences from 1991 to 2005, has been a member of the Senate since 1991, and was a student advisor in the science faculty from 1986 to 2002. Since 1998 he has served on 17 UCT and faculty standing committees, and he remains active on at least 10, two of which he chairs.

Le Roex has also sat on a score of scientific committees and working groups, including a number associated with the National Research Foundation (NRF). He is a member of the Geological Society of South Africa, the American Geophysical Society of South Africa, the Mineralogical Society of South Africa, the



In the hot seat: As new dean of the Faculty of Science, Prof Anton le Roex knows he'll have his work cut out for him.

logical Society of South Africa, the Royal Society of South Africa and the Geochemical Society.

His research interests lie in the field of igneous geochemistry and he has authored or co-authored 86 articles in peer-reviewed journals, two chapters in books, 23 extended

abstracts and 95 abstracts. Since 1986 he has held a B1 rating from the NRF, and has been a Fellow of UCT since 2004.

Le Roex understands that, for the duration of the deanship at least, much of his academic work will have to take a back seat. The full-time

move into administration, he says, springs from the crossroads he found himself at after nearly 10 years as deputy dean.

"The time had come for a change," he observes. "I had to consider either moving more formally into a higher administrative position,

or withdrawing and moving back to a full-time research and teaching position."

The job is made easier by virtue of the faculty's high standing – it's easily the most decorated and celebrated science faculty in the country and on the continent (as the NRF ratings and international rankings will attest), and the international credibility of its degrees. The trick is to keep up that momentum; and as an academic himself, he realises that the faculty's reputation is built on that of its researchers.

"My job – and I've enjoyed doing this with my colleagues as deputy dean – is to try and facilitate activities that will allow them to operate more efficiently, and hopefully help the faculty grow in strength," Le Roex says.

There is one major challenge that the faculty will have to pay attention to, he believes.

"We have a lot of work to do to get our undergraduate throughput up. I think we can do better, and we have to be cleverer about how to do this without compromising what we believe are the appropriate standards."

The key, he says, is appointing the right people, and getting the right degree and support structures into place. ■

New journey for human resources head Hoosain

January was something of a red-letter month for UCT's Miriam Hoosain; the start of a new year and of a new career as new Executive Director: Human Resources.

With 11 years' experience in management and HR, Hoosain is no stranger to the complexities and demands to be found in management at a large and dynamic institution. She started in the university's HR Department in 1999, when she was employed as an Employment Equity Officer. She has been promoted steadily in the department over the years, and has served as senior HR advisor to the Faculty of Health Sciences since June 2004.

In August last year she took over as acting executive director of HR.

Hoosain is well versed in the challenges that the UCT department faces. These include the accessibility of the service, the sometimes inconsistent advice provided, policies and proce-

dures that are open to interpretation, and an HR system that has to operate in an appropriately consultative academic environment (so none of the 'convenience' that comes from the top-down chain of command common to corporates, for example).

A self-confessed workaholic, Hoosain is not backing off from these challenges.

"I have all these ideas which I think will work," she says. "But I think it's about working with people – it's not a personal journey – and about motivating a department, and each and every person in the department, to take on this challenge, and see this as a journey for all of us to deliver a different kind of service to UCT."

A victory for HR, she says, would be for more to see people issues as integral to the university. "For UCT to measure its success by the success of its people," she says.

Human resources is not Hoosain's first calling. She worked as a scientist at the Centre for Epidemiological Research in the Medical Research Council, as a researcher for the Gender Equity Unit and a lecturer in the Psychology Department at the University of the Western Cape, and as a researcher in the New York Psychiatric Institute in the US.

Her areas of academic interest are in women's health as well as psychology.

Hoosain will report to deputy vice-chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo. She will be responsible for the leadership and management of the HR function at UCT, and will contribute to UCT's mission as a member of the executive team. She will provide strategic direction for the university's HR requirements through the development and implementation of an institution-wide human capital management strategy. ■



Into office: Miriam Hoosain is UCT's new Executive Director: Human Resources.



THE UGANDAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION has sent at least 43 air tickets to evacuate study-abroad scholarship students in Egypt following political unrest in the country.

Following a R450-million revamp, hopes for the **UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG'S SOWETO** campus to become an internationally recognised South African university might soon be realised.

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY in Kampala, Uganda, was ranked the best university in Africa outside South Africa in the Webometrics

Survey.

Students and management at the **UNIVERSITY OF LIMPOPO MEDUNSA CAMPUS** met to discuss students' concerns following unrest at the campus.

Tweeting could be used to improve academic performance by allowing students to communicate with lecturers and have online group discussions with other students, according to a study at **LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY** in Pennsylvania in the US.

GAINESVILLE STATE COLLEGE in Georgia in the US has

removed an art professor's painting from public view, after it was deemed too controversial because it includes the Confederate battle flag.

A district attorney in the US charged 11 **UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA** students for their alleged roles in organising and orchestrating a protest in which an Israeli ambassador was repeatedly heckled and eventually shouted down.

Despite continuing unrest in Egypt, the **AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO** started its spring semester on February 13.

A student at Youngstown State

University in Ohio in the US was killed and 11 other people, including six Youngstown State students, were wounded when gunfire erupted during a weekend party at a residence near the campus.

AS E-READING DEVICES gain popularity, professors and students are struggling to adapt them to using proper citations. The Kindle, for example, does away with page numbers entirely.

Sources: AllAfrica, Times Higher Education, The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za

In January, during Mali's driest season, seven UCT staff members, three colleagues from the University of the Western Cape, and two representatives of the Ford Foundation arrived in the fabled city of Timbuktu. The week-long visit was organised by the Tombouctou Manuscripts (Mss) Project, led by Associate Professor Shamil Jeppie. Since 2002, the project has been working with various aspects of the manuscript tradition of Mali, including research, translation and digitisation of the historical documents. Dr Marilet Sienaert of the research office and master's student Sarrah Jappie penned this report.

This particular trip was part of the project's broader focus on the history of writing and book culture on the African continent. The visit was both an introduction to the wonders of Mali for our South African colleagues, and an intellectual exchange between our local scholars and their West African counterparts.

The main drawcard was an academic seminar, co-hosted by the Tombouctou Mss Project and SAVAMA-DCI, a Malian non-governmental organisation working on manuscript preservation. The two-day seminar, *Writing in African History*, covered a host of issues, from the politics of archives to the use of oral sources and the instability of written sources. The Malian scholars provided insight into working with the Timbuktu manuscripts, both as sources for history and historical texts themselves, while South African scholars offered insight into practical and conceptual issues regarding the writing of history in South Africa.

The group also spent a day on the Niger River, travelling by pirogue to Djenne. Seen as a sister city of Timbuktu, Djenne has its own – although less well-known – manuscript tradition, which locals are beginning to unearth and conserve. As a part of emerging restoration efforts, the Tombouctou Project organised a workshop on conservation with custodians of the Djenne Manuscript Library. This included a discussion on the principles and importance of conservation, led Shamil Jeppie, Professor Pippa Skotnes (Michaelis School of Fine Art) and Professor Carolyn Hamilton (Archive and Public Culture), and a practical session on manuscript conservation, facilitated by Fousseyni Kouyate of SAVAMA-DCI.

In the context of UCT's Afropolitan aspirations, the trip was particularly significant in terms of relationship-building. It's clear that meaningful collaboration requires time, patience, mutual trust and constant adjustment to a range of worldviews. The Tombouctou Mss Project is exemplary in this regard, as Shamil has been working closely with the manuscript custodians for more than 10 years. The respect and appreciation for each other's efforts to meet on common ground were tangible throughout

Journey t



The Institute of Higher Studies and Islamic Research in Timbuktu, built by the South African government under former president Thabo Mbeki.

“It’s clear that meaningful collaboration requires time, patience, mutual trust and constant adjustment to a range of worldviews.”

the sometimes complex discussions, facilitated by interpreters between Arabic, French, English and local language speakers.

In addition to the scheduled seminars, we spent some time exploring the towns and visiting historical sites around Timbuktu, Djenne and Bamako, Mali's capital. In Timbuktu and Djenne we were taken on guided tours to see some of the thousands of historical manuscripts held in private libraries and family collections. We were also able to visit the historic Grand Mosque of Djenne, the largest mud structure in the world, the Sankore Mosque of Timbuktu, site of the world's oldest centre of higher learning, and the archaeological site Djenne-Djeno, dating to the 3rd century BC.

What struck me very strongly was the fact that in order to position ourselves in relation to

Africa and to ensure that we really contribute to development on this continent, there can be absolutely no quick fixes. Providing endless bursaries and churning out PhDs will only scratch at the surface. The real challenge is for us to invest time in building relationships and be willing to accommodate a range of worldviews and value systems when collaborating on a project. This means that the goals of a research project must be negotiated through the obstacles presented by these different ways of 'being in the world'.

To give you an example: The custodians of the manuscripts are no longer keen to have them placed in a central archive where they can be conserved in state-of-the-art facilities as provided by the South Africa government. For them the manuscripts are artifacts, precious family relics that have been passed on from generation

to generation, tied up in string and kept in trunks and wooden boxes.

The notion of conservation and digitisation in an archive, for others to have access to the work, is foreign to them. Shamil has painstakingly been building up their trust in him over the past 10 years (with on average four visits per year!), and we are now starting to see the benefits.

Some manuscript owners in Djenne (the other fabulously interesting UNESCO world heritage town we visited) have recently agreed to store their manuscripts in the local imam's library (which is properly constructed and maintained), where each family is assigned a cupboard with their name on it, for which they retain the key.

Only recently have some families have started to say that the imam may keep their keys. In other words, they are slowly developing an appreciation for a scholarly archive in the Western sense. And we have been sensitised to their way of investing the manuscripts with values that extend beyond their scholarly importance.

Shamil has been exemplary in his patience and respect for the situation, all in the context of different worldviews, different approaches to history and different ways of investing in the

O Timbuktu



The manuscripts are precious family relics passed on from generation to generation.



(From left) Premesh Lalu (UWC), Marilet Sienaert (UCT), Ciraj Rassool (UWC), Carolyn Hamilton (UCT), Mbongiseni Buthelezi (UCT) and Seydou Traore (our wonderful local interpreter and guide).



The people protect themselves from desert dust by wrapping themselves in robes and turbans.



Djenne has remarkable mud buildings.

understanding and the value of the manuscripts. As a matter of interest, although the content is mostly to do with Islam (codes of conduct, etc) there are a great many judiciary accounts (rich socio-economic material; for example, on the role of women, and how slaves were treated) as well as astronomy and astrology texts. There is a claim that a large percentage of the Djenne manuscripts are esoteric in nature, but this still has to be fully investigated and constitutes rich ground for further research.

On our travels I was struck by the enormous expanse of empty, arid space (most of Mali is desert, after all) that one sees from the air, and the notion of carving out an existence in a land that seems so desolate and empty of vegetation and wildlife.

The poverty of the people is indeed extreme, but in places like Timbuktu and Djenne this translates into a kind of simplicity and aesthetic that takes one by surprise. The extraordinary mud architecture is one example, but the people themselves (tall, of slender build and graceful) move slowly in the heat and protect themselves from the all-invasive desert dust by wrapping themselves in robes and turbans in a range of stunning and varied colours.

The Tuareg's trademark blue clothing make

“What struck me very strongly was the fact that in order to position ourselves in relation to Africa and to ensure that we really contribute to development on this continent, there can be absolutely no quick fixes.”

these traders stand out from afar and their persuasive salesmanship and incessant bargaining became quite exhausting at times (a three-step, fast-paced trading process is required, which really stretched our French and mental arithmetic in calculating the exchange rate for CFAs at high speed!).

In bustling Bamako the women are strikingly elegant, wearing narrow calf-length or long slitted skirts in local cotton fabrics with fitted, matching tops. Although the dirt streets are narrow and dusty, they are social sites with people sitting under makeshift canopies along the sides, talking, cooking and eating, praying, heckling...

In the dusty north we all bought turbans like the locals' to protect ourselves from the dust and wind.

To get from Mopti to Djenne we travelled for 10 hours in a wooden pirogue on the Niger, sitting on narrow wooden benches under a canopy of woven palm matting. Our crew consisted of one man sitting at the back stopping and starting the small diesel engine on the command of the navigator standing at the front of the pirogue with a long pole. His job was to steer us through the sand banks (the river was low) and he would shout to the engine master whenever more or less power

was required. The cook on board was a woman, who prepared delicious fresh fish and peppery vegetables with rice over a small open fire. We were struck by the many small villages along the way, each with its own small but beautifully maintained mud mosques and herd of cattle. All along we saw men casting their fishing nets from small pinasses, or wooden, motorised canoes.

In Timbuktu we stayed in a large local house that had been renovated by a French woman now married to a Tuareg. It is now managed as lodgings for visitors and the kitchen is run by the owner's mother, who relocated from France to help her daughter set up the business. A cheerful woman in her sixties, she has opted to stay on (that was 12 years ago!), resigning from her job as a successful chemist in France. As a consequence we had French cuisine made with mostly local ingredients (think onion tart and chicken with ginger). The bread was brought in from the streets where it is baked in clay ovens, delicious but a bit gritty, with the odd bit of (camel?) fluff. An enduring memory is sitting down to dinner on the roof of our dwelling, with a full moon over Timbuktu and a head full of mind-blowing impressions garnered during the day. ■

Summer School success

Averaging about three courses each, 2 400 students accounted for over 6 600 registrations for 46 courses during UCT's Summer School 2011, which took place from 16 to 27 January.

"But these numbers don't account for people who registered at the door," notes Medee Rall, director of UCT's Centre for Extramural Studies. "Some came to individual lectures and paid at the door. This was particularly the case with the Baxter music course."

Programme consultant Terrill

Nicolay says that several Summer School courses were especially popular, receiving high praise from students. These included *Human/Wildlife Conflict in the Cape Peninsula*, convened by Dr Justin O'Riain of the UCT's Department of Zoology; *Children of the New Democracy*, convened by Dr Rachel Bray; Dr Jean Moorcroft Wilson's lectures on 20th century British poets, and in science history, Dr David Wolfe's *Newton and his Enemies*.

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za



Broad strokes: Painting and art courses were popular once again at this year's UCT Summer School.

Afrikaans play a first for Fleishman



Milestone: After winning the Donald Gordon Creative Arts Award 2010, Assoc Prof Mark Fleishman produced *Die Vreemdeling*, his first Afrikaans-language play.

In a career first, Associate Professor Mark Fleishman of UCT's Drama Department has directed his first Afrikaans production.

Die Vreemdeling, which runs at UCT's Magnet Theatre from January to February, is the result of Fleishman's Donald Gordon Creative Arts Award 2010, and is part of a larger project that has taken the production to small towns along the N7 highway, the Aardklop National Arts Festival and (later this year) the Klein Karoo National Arts Festival.

Exploring familiar South African themes such as migration, identity and xenophobia, *Die Vreemdeling* comments on the boundaries and fences people construct; not only on the landscape but also in

themselves.

But why an Afrikaans play at an English-medium university?

"Why not?" Fleishman responds, and then provides a more descriptive answer.

"The project was originally produced outside UCT for communities along the N7 highway from Okiep to Citrusdal, and these communities are predominantly Afrikaans-speaking. Also, UCT's Drama Department trains actors in English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa, and the three performers (Ephraim Gordon, DJ Mouton and Rudi Swart) are all graduates of our bilingual English/Afrikaans programme."

Fleishman describes the play as "a charming, heart-warming, bitter-sweet story of love and loss and the

inability to move beyond our limited perspectives and prejudices".

Part of the Magnet Theatre's broader focus on migration over a number of years, *Die Vreemdeling* includes Fleishman's earlier (and ongoing) work, *Every Year, Every Day, I am Walking*, which deals with African migrants.

"There is a saying that when visiting farms you make sure to always shut the gates that you find shut," says assistant director and writer Frances Marek. "But through the story the characters start to ask the question whether that is actually such a good idea. And what would happen if you opened a gate in your heart to someone from beyond the fence?"

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za

Renowned doccie director Yule is back on campus

Acclaimed South African-born film and television director Paul Yule is back in the country for a three-month lecture programme for undergraduates at UCT's Centre for Film and Media Studies.

But before the first semester officially started, Yule was already at work on an outreach project, teaching an intensive two-week course on the rudiments of producing documentaries to aspiring filmmakers.

About a dozen students, hailing from as near as Khayelitsha and as far as Zimbabwe, and ranging in age from 17 to 58, had no option but to hit the ground running.

"It was a bit like boot camp," said Yule. "I told them the course would end with a film festival, and they were going to be the stars."

Each student produced a short documentary on a subject of their choice, which ranged from an elegiac film about commuter trains to a campaigning film about spousal abuse.

"The students were all highly motivated and had a lot to say, but without the means to say it – not so much on the technical side but in the know-how of framing a story. So this is what the course became about."

A motto for Yule is "Being there isn't enough – you also have to have something to say".

"New technology is an incredibly powerful tool," explains Yule. "Now, film can be used to communicate to millions of people almost instantly. But the film audience has also become very sophistica-

ted. Viewers want stories that speak to them with some depth. It's about the subtext, so that the really good films are not really about what they seem to be about at all."

Yule believes that the students, many of whom had all won a Nokia-sponsored competition in which they had to produce short movies with cellphone-shot footage, were transformed by the course.

"Aspiring filmmakers soon learn that they're working in a very collaborative medium," observes Yule. "Some people still think they can do it all on their own, but they're the ones who fail, ultimately."

(To see the video interview go to www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/stream_video/series)

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za



Stay alert, CPS cautions campus community

Prevention is better than cure, is the message from Campus Protection Services, as the new academic year moves up a gear. While UCT is a fairly safe environment, UCT's Campus Protection Services are asking students, particularly freshers, to be alert on and off campus.

"They [the students] come from different backgrounds and this is not to scare them, but to prepare them for the university environment," Gary Dyssel, campus protection manager, said of the safety talks the department

conducts as part of the UCT student orientation programme.

Students are asked to:

- avoid walking with their cell phones/wallets visible;
- ignore people asking for directions;
- refrain from using cell phones or iPods while walking, as these can distract them from their surroundings;
- avoid offering unknown people money;
- use backpacks rather than laptop

bags when using public transport;

- Avoid carrying additional money with them (no more than necessary for food, transport, etc); and
- use registered cabs because others could be illegal and not insured.

For students staying in residences, CPS has this advice:

- Don't prop open access control doors to keep them open;
- Don't use access cards to open entrances for strangers;
- Do report all suspicious activity to

CPS;

- Do lock doors at all times.
- always walk in groups when going out at night and stay off Main Road,
- always know where you are going and who you are going with,
- always inform room-mates or subwardens when going out,
- don't take open drinks from strangers in case the drinks are spiked.

Students and staff leaving the university late are encouraged to use the blue safe route and the CPS

escorting service. The escorting service for students means an officer will walk or drive a student from a place of learning to a UCT residence. (Students are not allowed to drive CPS vehicles, though.)

If threatened, even if no weapons are visible, students are advised to hand over their items and try to get good description of the perpetrators and the direction they have headed, to help CPS and the police.

CPS can be reached at 021 650 2222/2121. ■

Deane captures UCT on video

Meet Nawaal Deane, UCT's video journalist, a brand new position that will extend the university's communications 'reach', both internally and externally. Based in the Communication and Marketing Department, Deane's job is to give a "face and voice" to UCT's strategic message, as she puts it. She will do so by covering specific research and executive communications, and creating research documentaries that best illustrate the university's goals, with the intention of distributing them to broadcasters and online sites such as YouTube.

The function was borne out of the realisation that most universities and media organisations are moving into the digital era, in which online news complements print and radio output. The video journalist position aims to enhance the strong communications UCT already has by adding a video component.

Of the importance of her job, Deane said: "Interviewing someone on camera gives them a voice and captures the essence of the person,

which all people – regardless of their background or education – can then experience."

This means that in the near future, important bulkmail messages such as the *From the Vice-Chancellor's Desk*, key talks and ground-breaking research will be shown on video. Deane is currently working on her first research stories, which she will add to UCT's official channel on YouTube, where the work can be viewed from anywhere in the world.

Deane brings an abundance of skills to UCT, having worked as a journalist, producer, camera operator, media consultant, and in technical operations for television and various national and international media organisations.

But what attracted her to UCT?

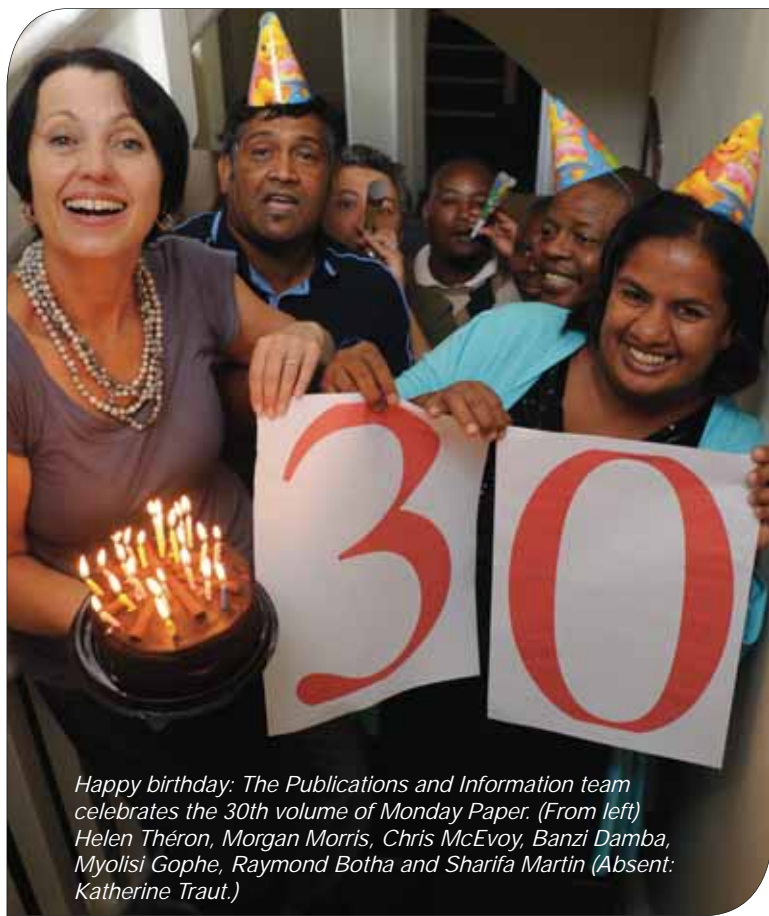
"There are numerous social responsiveness studies under one roof, where dynamic researchers are having an impact on the lives of ordinary South Africans.

"These are the stories I'm bursting to cover." ■



Video taste: Nawaal Deane, UCT's new video journalist, shooting her first research documentary on the West Coast.

Three decades of history in *Monday Paper*



Happy birthday: The Publications and Information team celebrates the 30th volume of *Monday Paper*. (From left) Helen Theron, Morgan Morris, Chris McEvoy, Banzi Damba, Myolisi Gophe, Raymond Botha and Sharifa Martin (Absent: Katherine Traut.)



As *Monday Paper* enters its 30th volume this year, we look back on three decades of newsmongering, our pens and cameras having recorded a colourful and sometimes dramatic wealth of history at UCT. Helen Theron reports.

The staff communiqué, an advertising bulletin dressed up as a newsletter in those days, first appeared on January 1982. Yes, we've endured jibes about being the *Tuesday Paper* or the *Wednesday Paper*, depending on the efficiency of departmental mail sorters. We even tolerated the brief appearance of a rival *Friday Paper*, published by the underground press in 1984 during the notorious years of press restrictions. Later came the highly entertaining *Not the Monday Paper*, authored by a team of world-class academic pedigree, freed gloriously (but briefly) from the shackles of peer-review.

We've documented protracted student and staff resistances to the abuses of the apartheid era, starting with front-page news of a "dignified protest" on May 2, 1983, to express the university's opposition to the quota clauses in the

Universities Amendment Bill. And when the International Association of Universities declared in 1984 that UCT was the only acceptable South African university, the UCT community read about it in *Monday Paper*.

Monday Paper has spotlighted the achievements and contributions of scores of intellectual giants. Many of these luminaries are still making news at UCT. (The torsos were sleeker back in the '80s and '90s, and hairlines still lapped the high-water mark.)

We've also undergone a physical metamorphosis. In 1985 *Monday Paper* shrank from its tabloid size to an A4 format, one that was maintained until the team revamped the newspaper in 2000.

Looking back it's clear some things never change. Consider these headlines: "Student digs sought", "Cost of medical

aid to rise". That was 30 years ago. And when last did you last read headlines like these: "The staff's year-end big splurge" (1982), and "Academics get 21 percent" (1984)? Ah, the heydays.

There have been some eye-catching headlines (such as "Remodelling Jagger's Rear"), and gaffes too horrible to mention (not in our time, mind). We've also recorded some intriguing news snippets, like the report that a parcel of blood-sucking leeches (*Slugella vampiri*) had gone AWOL on campus.

Apparently the zoology department had imported these delightful creatures from California. There was proof that the parcel had been cleared through customs, but after that poof! Gone! The *Monday Paper* didn't say if they ever turned up in someone's pigeon hole in Bremner, or whether they were eventually apprehended while registering for

semester abroad studies. Tsk, tsk. Bad reporting.

We've documented the country's agonising battle against HIV/AIDS and UCT's response to the crisis. Keeping our camera flashes in check because of eye damage he sustained while incarcerated on Robben Island, we photographed former president Nelson Mandela receiving an honorary degree Doctor of Laws (1990) from UCT. We reported on the death in 2002 of the Queen Mother, a UCT alumnus (honorary Doctor of Laws degree, 1947) and an integral part of UCT's history. We followed billionaire alumnus and honorary graduate Mark Shuttleworth into space (2002), interviewed UCT Nobel Laureate Sir Aaron Klug about the controversy surrounding the discovery of the double-helical structure of DNA, this to mark the 50th anniversary

of its discovery (2003), and captured Einstein's Miracle Year (2005).

With UCT flying flags half-mast, we featured a tender photograph of the late Walter Sisulu and his wife, Albertina, to mark the passing of this great icon (2003). We also recorded Prof JM Coetzee's 2004 Nobel Prize for Literature and the once-in-a-lifetime eclipse phenomenon of the transit of a petit Venus across the vast and fiery face of the sun (2004).

Importantly, *Monday Paper* has been witness to the multi-faceted transformation of this institution, guided by no fewer than four vice-chancellors, Dr Stuart Saunders, Dr Mamphele Ramphele, Professor Njabulo Ndebele and Dr Max Price, and two chancellors, Harry Oppenheimer and Graça Machel. Here's to the next 30 volumes! *Imini emnandi Monday Paper!* ■

UCT law students to represent South Africa in Washington, DC

A team of five UCT law students has won the 2011 White & Case South Africa Jessup Competition, part of the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, held at the University of Johannesburg on 29 January.

The team, consisting of Muhammad Ebrahim, Douglas Ainslee, Unesu Moyo (who also bagged the Best Oralist Prize), Shalom Ndiku and Soseipriala Amabeoku, is eligible to represent South Africa at the White & Case International Rounds in Washington, DC, from 20 to 26 March.

Guided by advisor Benson Olugbuo, a teaching and research assistant and a PhD student in the Department of Public Law, the team beat the Universities of KwaZulu-Natal, Pretoria, the Western Cape and Johannesburg to win local honours. The second-year students will now compete against 110 international teams for the coveted White & Case Jessup Cup.

"It has been truly inspiring to witness the hard work and dedication demonstrated by each student participating in this competition," said Steve Raney, partner at White & Case Johan-

nesburg and Jessup Competition Judge. "We have seen firsthand how teams of students analyse complex problems and work together to find viable solutions. These are valuable skills that will help them throughout their legal careers."

The UCT team clinched first place in a tight final against the University of Pretoria.

"The final was especially close and could have gone either way," added Raney. "Both teams should be commended for their impressive performances."

Team advisor Olugbuo attributed the UCT team's success to the members' ability to think for themselves.

"And they put in a lot of hard work at the two practice rounds."

South African universities have competed in the Jessup since 1979, with the University of the Witwatersrand winning the Jessup World Championship in 2002.

"UCT won the South African leg of the competition in 2009 and we are thrilled that the 2011 team, who gave up a substantial part of their summer vacation, are national winners once again," said Dean of Law Professor



High five: The UCT law team that won the South African national round of the Phillip Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition is (from left, back) Muhammad Ebrahim, Douglas Ainslee, Soseipriala Amabeoku and Benson Olugbuo (team advisor). (Front) Unesu Moyo and Shalom Ndiku.

PJ Schwikkard. "Unfortunately we're unable to send the whole team to Washington."

(Follow the UCT team throughout the White & Case International Rounds on the Jessup website at www.jessup.com.

Or you can follow the group on Twitter by going to www.twitter.com/JessupWhiteCase.) ■

A DAY IN THE LIFE of the Student Housing and Residence Life Department

The department has its main headquarters in Avenue House in Mowbray, with the Student Housing Admissions section based in the New Student Administration Building on Middle Campus. It is among the biggest support staff departments at UCT, with a staff of over 100.

Student Housing and Residence Life comprises the following sections:

- The Directorate is made up of the Director, Grant Willis, an IT coordinator, the office manager and a personal assistant.
- The 60-strong Student Housing Facilities section has staff located in residences. They include Residence Facilities Officers who ensure that rooms are properly maintained and that keys, telephones, laundries and other essentials for comfortable living are available and in good working order. Also included are handypersons who perform maintenance, and front-desk assistants who deal with inquiries. This section is headed by Glenn von Zeil.
- Each residence has a warden, and the larger ones each have an assistant warden. The 30 wardens belong to the College of Wardens, which is chaired by Professor Anwar Mall.



Wardens are responsible, along with house committees, for creating friendly and comfortable environments in which students are able to pursue their academic objectives and achieve personal growth.

- The Residence Life team, managed by Charmaine January, comprises four members who deal with general residence life issues such as orientation, mentoring, academic development, and sub-warden and house committee training.
- The Student Housing Admissions and Advocacy Services, headed by acting manager Nolukholo Tshwete, has seven members who are responsible for the administra-

tion of the admission process into residences and for ensuring that the Student Housing Admissions Policy is adhered to.

- Peter Coode manages the Commercial Enterprises Section, which is made up of eight staff. They are responsible for the vacation accommodation programme, staff housing and All Africa House. They also deal with commercial interests such as shops and garages.
- Then there's the Finance Section, for which Yumna Thomas is the manager, and has three staff. They take care of the Department's finances and have responsibility for the budgeting process.

- Noel Adams manages Off-Campus Student Accommodation Services. This section arranges alternative accommodation for students who could not be admitted at residences by alerting them to rental accommodation available elsewhere.

MP spoke to Grant Willis.

What are the challenges of your duties?

Every year has different challenges. In 2010 the FIFA Soccer World Cup posed a big challenge in providing accommodation to world cup guests. The focus for 2011 has turned to the review of the Student Housing administration policy and the challenge of ensuring that Obz Square, to become our biggest residence in the system with 930 beds, is up and running by the beginning of 2012.

What are the highs and lows of your work?

A low point is explaining to desperate parents and students that all residence places have been taken. We have to listen to them and express empathy, but also be realistic that we can't make more offers. It is always difficult to explain why we don't have space for

them; fortunately we have experienced staff to cope with these situations. I hope in the years to come we will have more accommodation and less anguish from parents and students. A high point is the start of the year, as students enter their residence armed with suitcases and various implements they think they will require. A cycle is about to commence and with it the responsibility bestowed upon one's shoulders.

What is the strangest thing you have encountered?

Avenue House, Student Housing's new home, has a hall next to it. The hall and the house used to be attached. In the past the venue was let to the filming world, but in between shoots it was not utilised – we thought. One day I was checking on the venue and heard strange thumping noises emerging from the hall. Having beat a hasty retreat into a neighbouring residence, I called Campus Protection Services to establish what was going on. CPS, with me at a safe distance behind, slowly approached the hall and peered inside, expecting to see a ghost, only to find three children riding their BMX bicycles. ■

Cupid's bow backfires say UCT students

Love isn't dead. Well, not yet, anyway. But according to some UCT students, it's on its death bed surrounded by relatives. *Monday Paper* asked students what they're doing for Valentine's Day, and this is what we heard:

Chloé Gilbert, BCom, first year

"I think I'm going to have an anti-Valentine's day to be honest. Apparently there's a group of people on upper campus who are organising a speed-dating thing for all the single people and it's going to be a huge party. The tradition is cute, but it's actually a card-selling con. And it's quite a lot of pressure, especially for the poor boyfriends having to buy the teddies."

Lara Alexander, BSocSci, first year

"I really don't enjoy Valentine's Day, probably because I'm not the boyfriend type. It's all too intense. People must be single and keen to mingle – live a little. Later we can get serious, but now we should be having fun."

Samantha Malunga, BA, first year

"It started out quite nicely, with the idea of celebrating love and everything, but it's become too corporate. People are selling love, making money out of something that should be beautiful and special. I'm ignoring Valentine's Day because my boyfriend is far away."

Hlekani Moyani, BMus, first year

"If you have someone that you really love you'll enjoy it, but if you're lonely you're not going to enjoy it so much – and this year is going to be

lonely. So I'm going out with friends maybe... to find a Valentine."

Johann Durgadoo, BSc, third year

"I don't hate it – I like it – but it's too commercial. If you want to spoil your girlfriend you can do that every day. I give my girlfriend a flower whenever I want to – usually to say sorry. But I'm pretty sure girls like it because they get gifts. Guys don't get gifts – at least I never got a gift."

Takudzanashe Matumbwa, BSocSci, second year

It's supposed to be about love but it's all about spending money. It's complicated right now because I'm not really sure if I'm in a proper relationship. But if I am, I'd probably like



No-no: Students Samantha Malunga, Azola Qhina and Ntombi Sibiya.

Valentine's more.

Tom Moyo, BCom, first year

"People tend to take love for granted as they stay longer in relationships. So it's one of those days that reminds

people about the meaning of love. If I had a girlfriend I would celebrate it, but for now, I'm just going to celebrate with my boys."

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za

EVENTS

Philosophy Society Meeting

Date: Tuesday 22 February @ 20h00, Speaker: Professor Judith Baker (York University, Canada). Title: Character, Talent, and "Epistemic Irresponsibility". Venue: LS3B, 3rd Floor, Robert Leslie Social Science Building

Department of Medicine Thursday Forums Date: 14 February 2011.

Dr David Nathan- "Current concepts of dialysis treatment". Date: 24 February 2011. Prof Marc Mendelson- "Transplanting an HIV positive donor organ into an HIV negative patient - A step too far or equity personified". The new UCT Safety and Violence Initiative (SaVI) will be hosting a one-day colloquium. Date: Friday, 1 April 2011. Venue: Kramer Law Building. Contact: Mercy Brown-Luthango, mercy.brown-luthango@uct.ac.za or Julie Berg, Julie.berg@uct.ac.za by 28 February 2011

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Senior Lecturer: Social Development, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 21 February 2011

Lecturer: African Languages & Literatures, School of Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 25 February 2011

Sue Streungmann Chair of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry & Mental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 25 February 2011

Executive Director: University Libraries, Office of the Vice-Chancellor, Closing date: 28 February 2011

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Head: Business Development & Client Management, Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 14 February 2011

Research Radiographer, IIDMM Wilkinson Group, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 14 February 2011

Research Nurse, IIDMM Wilkinson Group, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 14 February 2011

Senior Scientific Officer, Department of Geological Sciences, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 14 February 2011

Chief Scientific Officer, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 14 February 2011

Finance & Operations Manager, Baxter Theatre Centre, Closing date: 14 February 2011

Senior HR Advisor, Human Resources Department, Closing date: 15 February 2011

HR Advisor, Human Resources Department, Closing date: 15 February 2011

HR Administrator, Human Resources Department, Closing date: 18 February 2011

Site Co-ordinator (Part-time), Primary Health Care Directorate, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 18 February 2011

Research Assistant, Department of Psychiatry & Mental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 28 February 2011

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

Administrative Officer: Academic Administration, Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, Closing date: 14 February 2011

Administrative Assistant: Academic Administration, Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, Closing date: 14 February 2011

Administrative Assistant, Department of Civil Engineering, Engineering & The Built Environment, Closing date: 18 February 2011

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

PROPERTY/ACCOMMODATION

Plattekloof: Housemate wanted to share with two UCT students - R3000 per month excl l/w, Plattekloof area. Have MWEB, DSTV, pool and domestic worker. Please sms at 0793850287 or email mascre2005@gmail.com.

Accommodation wanted: Visiting academic family of 3 seeks housing near UCT for June and July. Can pay rent or housesit as needed. 2+BR/1+Bath in a secure location. Contact lfolda@jhu.edu

MOWBRAY: 2 large furnished rooms (share bathroom) available in secure, clean, well organised digs. Internet access, Jammie on doorstep, serviced. R2900/mo. Contact: treagus@telkomsa.net

Accommodation wanted: UCT Staff looking for a 3 bedrooms, 1.5/2 bathrooms unfurnished house to rent. Occupation on 01 March 2011. Please contact Moctar @ 0216504334 or 0827059072

Oranjezicht: 3 bed, 2 bath house, kitchen, lounge, garden, garage, post grad/academics only, R10,500.00 per month, available April 2011. Please call Tessa on 082 706 3535

Rondebosch: Professional couple looking to rent close to UCT upper campus from 1st of March. Preferably 2-3 bedrooms with a garage and good security. Non smokers. Please contact 0836483384

RUYTERWACHT: I have a 2 bedroom freestanding outbuilding with open plan lounge/dining/kitchen and a nice bathroom to rent to be shared. Looking for single people only or two people prepared to share the place. R1700 DEPOSIT per person + RENT REQUIRED per person.

Rondebosch: Cottage newly painted, 2 bed , study private garden, 2 bathrooms fully furnished and equipped and serviced , off street parking. Professionals only. R9200 p/m avail 1/3/2011

City Bowl: Self Contained, Serviced, Furnished, Mountainside Cottage. R5500 per month, off street parking, wi-fi and security - sleeps one - Cathy 0837971900

FOR SALE

Rings: Diamond wedding band in Mint condition and Diamond engagement ring. Both White gold rings R4500.00. Valuation certificates included. Contact 0781309723 or abigail.parenzee@uct.ac.za

TV: Sony Trinitron TV , 29 inch. R 1800 oco. Contact becky x2638 or 0824561152

Car: Mercedes C200 1999, Bronze, full house. Full service record, spotless condition. Owner upgrading R59, 995. Contact Dr Shutte 0214392255 / 0832611958

Computer desk: Towerline oak computer desk hardly used R700. Contact digby.sales@uct.ac.za

AO drawing Board: With old-school, arm-like machine. No rulers. R600 (Price negotiable). Contact Emil: 082 722 7414

Puppies: Golden Retrievers. Progeny of beautiful pedigree parents. Born 27th December, ready for homes early March. Contact: jane.english@uct.ac.za

Furniture: 2 Cane couches and 2 cane armchairs with cushions. Good condition. R3,000. Contact 0829561339

Car seat and Stroller: Used baby car seat and stroller combo in red and grey for sale. Price R900. contact Lisl.

George@uct.ac.za or 072190326"

TV: 80 cm Olaf & Ludwig flat screen TV in perfect working order (approximately 3 years old), but remote missing. R 1200.00, o.n.c.o. Contact Marius: marius.lund@uct.ac.za or 0216504004

Sleeper Couch: Black mock suede sleeper couch (Mr Price Home). One year old @ R 1 000-00, o.n.c.o. Contact Marius: marius.lund@uct.ac.za or 0216504004

Car: Champagne Gold Ford Fiesta Flite 1.3i 2003 model. 160000 kms. Serviced end 2010. New tyres. Roadworthy certificate. Licensed end 2011. Excellent condition, R35,000 ono

Phone: Blue Nokia 5800 Xpress music phone for sale. Still in original box with all accessories. Price: R1400 neg.

Candice.King@uct.ac.za

GENERAL

Editing of dissertations. Please contact A. Harold, BA (Hons), MA (Wits); BA (Hons), MA (TESOL) (Cum Laude), HED (Unisa) 0214611483 or 0724140064 or alby01@telkomsa.net

Database researcher: NGO based in Mowbray requires an assistant for 6 months to gather information and manage database. Good working knowledge in Excel essential and ability to speak French an advantage. Send your CV to 0866117713 by 15 February 2011

Expert Typing and Proofreading skills: I am a very good typist with many year of experience. Please contact 0827498929 or email carlairving@gmail.com

Domestic work wanted: 2 mornings/ week. Very trustworthy and reliable, good with children. Contact Gill 0824988210 or Hilda 0828419755

Proofreading and editing of thesis and journal articles. Competitive rates. Call Deborah: 0725326362 - proofreader@mweb.co.za

Weight loss: A Healthy Lifestyle is Important. Lose 4-10kgs in 30 days. See results in 3 days It's never too late to change your shape. Contact Pat 0840851913/0216745415"

Professional Editing & Proofreading. Improving language, expression and formatting. Postgraduate dissertations, articles, papers, etc. Very experienced and reliable. Reasonable rates. Tel: Regine at 021531 3330. Email: regine@cybersmart.co.za

Yoga Class: Fridays 12h45 - 13h45

- EGS Dept - Upper Campus R60 per class. Contact: Sharon Adams x2873

Carin 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

Housekeeper: Kind, caring, patient, Grace Randall, urgently seeks full time employment as a carer / companion / housekeeper. Excellent references available. Please contact Dorothy on: ext: 5603 or 0215341876/ 0798637007

On Time Transcribers - Student rates! For all your transcription needs. Thesis, interviews transcription www.ontimetranscribers.yolasite.com / ottranscribers@gmail.com Call Elaine at 021 5534409 / 0766064266

Housesitting: Housesitter available Feb 12-20th. I am a UK academic visiting Cape Town. Contact judithanneharris@yahoo.co.uk or 0214396788.

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.

Biodanza - Dance with Life: Experience the joy of living through the power of movement. Open classes on Thursday evenings 7pm in Gardens. Contact Shumi : 0721922261 shumi.chimombe@uct.ac.za Lisa: 0825587106 lisa@lisafirer.co.za

Editing: Have your thesis, publication, dissertation edited professionally to improve language and style. Free assessment and consultation. Rapid turnaround. Contact Pamela 0723406238 or pamelal1@mweb.co.za

Editor/proofreader

Available for postgraduate theses, journal articles etc. Experience in academic publishing. CV/references on request. Contact Dave 0828990452 or david.buchanan@telkomsa.net

supa quick
TYRE EXPERTS
CLOSER TO YOU

OBSERVATORY
321A MAIN ROAD
Tel: 021 447 0591 Cell: 082 076 4381 • 087 3539 442
Email: supaquickobs@partsave.co.za

Get 2010 prices in 2011
GET A FREE
20 POINT SAFETY CHECK.
(Valid at R100)
NUMBER PLATES MADE WHILE YOU WAIT !!

<p>155/80x13 → R349</p> <p>175/70x13 → R395</p> <p>185/60x14 → R449</p> <p>175/65x14 → R499</p> <p>195/50x15 → R495</p>	<p>205/55x16 → R749</p> <p>195/65x15 → R649</p> <p>205/40X17 → R649</p> <p>225/45X17 → R849</p> <p>225/40X18 → R999</p>	<p>BATTERIES INCLUDES OLD BATTERY</p> <p>from R449 FITTED</p>	<p>CV JOINTS</p> <p>FROM R295 PER SIDE FITTED</p> <p>6 MONTHS GUARANTEE</p> <p>For most popular vehicles</p>
<p>BAKKIE & 4X4</p> <p>195x14 → R650</p> <p>195x14 WSW → R795</p> <p>Includes fitting but Exclude balancing and tubeless valves</p>	<p>245/75xR15 → R1185</p> <p>205/70x15 ALSO FITS ON QUANTUM → R895</p>	<p>BRAKES</p> <p>from R295 FITTED</p>	<p>WE DO ALL SUSPENSION REPAIRS AT VERY COMPETITIVE PRICES !!</p> <p>* ALL WORK GAURANTEED!</p>

GREAT MAG WHEELS SPECIALS!
(WIDE VARIETY IN STORE)

4 X 13" RIMS From **R1 799**

4 X 14" RIMS From **R2 699**

4 X 15" RIMS From **R2 899**

4 X 17" RIMS From **R3 499**

SHOCKS
MONROE & GABRIEL

Now Less **60%**

3-YEAR GUARANTEE FITTED!

FUEL SAVER EXHAUST
BOSAL & TUFFEX

60% 1 YEAR GUARANTEE

FREE 3D WHEEL ALIGNMENT CHECK!

SAX Appeal sellers hit the streets

UCT RAG's annual feather ruffler and beacon of free speech, *SAX Appeal*, may be a septuagenarian, but a magazine is only as old as the people who sell it.

First published in 1933 and first banned in 1942, the magazine took to the streets once again on 10 February, carried by undergraduate men and women who appeared to have raided the same wardrobe.

Monday Paper was there to ask, "How're sales going?"

Sorrel Charmichael, BA, second year

"I got here at 5am and there are loads of us. I'm having great fun. We have lots of people so the sales will be good, but individually the numbers won't be so great."

Chobie Ngcobo, BSc, first year

"It's been a very good experience and a way to give something back to the community. I've made only three sales and I've been here since three in the morning, it's that hectic. And some people are quite mean, but that's okay. That's just how life is."

Celeste Jacobs, BA, third year

"It's been fine so far, except one lady told us not to touch her car and she was quite aggressive, but I think it's just because she's not a morning person."

Chris Parker, BSc, first year

"I enjoy selling it, but it's actually very difficult. I didn't realise that some people can be really stingy. I mean, it's only 20 bucks and it's going towards charity. But the day's not over. I've had a few dirty looks but that might have something to do with the way I'm dressed. At least it gets their attention."

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za



Soft sell: Sax Appeal vendors out in force.

Scrappy but solid win for UCT in Varsity Cup opener



Streaky stripes: Marcel Brache takes on a cordon of Shimlas defenders in UCT's opening Varsity Cup game recently. (Picture courtesy of Varsity Cup/Van Zyl Naude /Gallo Images.)

It took them a while to shake off the cobwebs, but FNB UCT, aka the Ikey Tigers, earned a deserved 26-10 win over the University of Free State's FNB Shimlas in the opening 2011 Varsity Cup match, played in front of a sparse crowd at Shimlas Park Bloemfontein.

It was an untidy game much of the time, with too many handling errors and scoring opportunities going to waste. New UCT coach Kevin Foote may also have been worried by the number of penalties – mostly unpunished – that his team conceded.

It took just under 20 minutes, in fact, for the first score – a try for UCT by flank Don Armand after a break through the middle by

centre Marcel Brache. Tigers' flyhalf Demetri Catrakilis converted, and a penalty for Shimlas took the score to 7-3 at halftime.

UCT was a little neater, more inventive and pumped up in the second half, while it was Shimlas' turn to give away points. Catrakilis made the Free Staters pay, booting over three penalties without reply, taking the score to 16-3. UCT followed that up with a try by Zimbabwean Sabelo Siyakatshana and a second conversion by Catrakilis to make it 23-3.

As is their wont, Shimlas scored a late consolation goal (23-10) before Catrakilis added his fourth penalty of the day to take the final score to 26-10, and his personal tally

to 16.

UCT's inside centre, Adrian Kritzinger, will don the Man of the Match's pink shorts – part of the Varsity Cup's campaign against violence against women and children – in UCT's next clash, against North-West University's Pukke in Potchefstroom on 14 February.

The Ikey Tigers' new coach, Kevin Foote, a former SA Sevens captain under Chester Williams, appreciates that he has big boots to fill, replacing John Dobson who is now head coach of the Western Province Vodacom Cup side. But he plans to stick to the team's winning formula – UCT's brand of running rugby.

Morgan.Morris@uct.ac.za



ICTS Training

ICTS offers a variety of training courses ranging from Microsoft products to Web publishing and PhotoShop



ACCESS EXCEL WORD POWERPOINT PUBLISHER PROJECT WEB SEARCH SOCIAL MEDIA GROUPWISE WEB PUBLISHING WEB DESIGN

ICTS's professional and qualified trainers provide relevant, practical computer training courses to UCT staff and postgraduate students. Our reasonably priced training courses include a comprehensive reference manual and exercise CD. The ICTS Training room is situated in Room 102.1, Level 1, in the Wilfred and Jules Kramer Law building, Middle Campus.

Courses available in March 2011

- ACCESS**
Level 2: 14 - 18 March (pm)
- WORD**
Level 1: 1 - 4 March (pm)
Level 2: 29 March - 1 April (pm)
- EXCEL**
Level 3: 1 - 4 March (am)
Tips & Tricks: 8 March (full day)
Level 1: 10 - 11 March (full day)
- SOCIAL MEDIA - AN INTRODUCTION**
Level 1: 30 March - 1 April (am)

Courses available in April 2011

- ACCESS**
Level 3: 4 - 8 April (pm)
Database Relationship Explained
11 April (pm)
- ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER DESIGN**
Level 1: 5 April (am)
- WORD**
Working with large documents : 6 - 8 April (am)
- EXCEL**
Level 1: 12 - 15 April (am)
- WEB PUBLISHING STARTER**
Level 1: 12 - 14 April (pm)

Courses available in May 2011

- EXCEL**
Level 2: 3 - 6 May (am)
Pivot Table Workshop: 17 May (pm)
Level 1: 17 - 20 May (am)
Tips & Tricks: 23 May (full day)
Level 3: 24 - 27 May (pm)
- WEB DESIGN**
Level 1: 3 - 6 May (pm)
- WORD**
Level 1: 10 - 13 May (am)
- EFFECTIVE WEB SEARCH**
Level 1: 18 - 20 May (pm)
- ACCESS**
Database Relationship Explained
9 May (am)
Level 1: 9 - 13 May (pm)
Level 2: 30 May - 3 June (am)

NEW COURSES

Book now: www.icts.uct.ac.za | Training | ICTS Training | Course Booking Form

Email: icts-training@uct.ac.za

Monday Paper

Published fortnightly by the Communication & Marketing Department of the University of Cape Town | Executive Director: Gerda Kruger | Editor: Helen Theron (helen.theron@uct.ac.za, tel. 650 3735) | Senior Writer: Morgan Morris (morgan.morris@uct.ac.za, tel. 650 4145) | Writers: Myolisi Gophe (myolisi.gophe@uct.ac.za, tel. 650 4447) | Chris McEvoy (chris.mcevoy@uct.ac.za, tel. 650 4144) | Photographer: Katherine Traut (katherine.traut@uct.ac.za, tel. 650 5452) | Junior Photographer: Raymond Botha (raymond.botha@uct.ac.za, tel. 650 5492) | Design & Layout: Zwelibanzi Damba (banzi.damba@uct.ac.za, tel. 650 3734) | Ads: Sharifa Martin (sharifa.martin@uct.ac.za, tel. 650 5816)