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Attenborough's lecture fulfils a promise

Sir David Attenborough, renowned broadcaster, writer and naturalist, described his Vice-Chancellor's Open Lecture at UCT on 13 April as the fulfilment of a promise made long ago.

In 1945, he explained, he went to Clare College at the University of Cambridge for his undergraduate studies, and there met Patrick Niven, grandson of Sir Percy FitzPatrick, author of *Jock of the Bushveld*, and son of Cecily Niven, who would later bestow the £15 000 endowment that underpinned the establishment of UCT's Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology. For years Patrick Niven beguiled him with stories of South Africa and its sights, inviting Attenborough to visit him here.

Despite his best intentions, Attenborough was never able to take up the invitation, until last Wednesday, when he spoke at UCT as a guest of the Fitztitute.

"Now sadly it's too late; Patrick died a few years ago," Attenborough said, "but I am keeping my promise to him as best I can."

Attenborough's lecture, titled *Alfred Russel Wallace and the Birds of Paradise*, was on the long-running collaboration between another two men, naturalists and scientists Alfred Russel Wallace and Charles Darwin.

The self-educated Wallace and the privileged Darwin, educated at Cambridge, couldn't have been more different, said Attenborough. But it was Wallace's travels and findings in South America and, particularly, the former East Indies or Malay Archipelago (now Indonesia and Malaysia), and his independent mooting of a theory of evolution based on natural selection, that would convince Darwin to outline his own theory in his revolutionary and provocative 1859 book, *On the Origin of Species*, probably "the most important book in the whole history of zoology", Attenborough explained.

The two men would, however, collaborate in the joint publication of two papers, which ran under the combined 1858 title, *On the Tendency of Species to form Varieties; and on the Perpetuation of Varieties and Species by Natural Means of Selection*.

Attenborough dedicated the bulk of his lecture to Wallace's groundbreaking work on the flightless birds of paradise – renowned for the strikingly colourful plumage of the males, used to full effect in mating rituals – in New Guinea and surround-



Natural marvel: Sir David Attenborough speaks on the work of Alfred Russel Wallace and the amazing birds of paradise.

ing islands. Wallace became the first European to actually see the birds in all their glory, collecting a number of red birds of paradise from the island of Waigeo, today part of Indonesia.

"Wallace . . . had one overwhelming passion – for birds of paradise," said Attenborough. The birds, he added, had been an obsession of Europeans for hundreds of years, bewitched by their plumage and tales of their origins. (Birds who "float eternally in paradise", and so had no need for wings.)

Attenborough also showed footage from his own BBC documentary on the birds, *Attenborough in Paradise*, in which he finally fulfilled a childhood ambition to follow in Wallace's footsteps. (In addition, he regaled the audience with a story of his technologically challenged first attempt – sound hiccups, black and white footage – to film the birds in the 1940s.)

It was these birds and his later travels around the East Indies that inspired Wallace's contributions to the theory of evolution and the role of natural selection, which explains that those biological characteristics that are

more useful for survival become, over generations, the most dominant ones, while not-so-handly traits become less common; and also prompted his theories on how different species are forged under different environmental pressures.

"It sounds simple, but its implications are very complex and profoundly important," said Attenborough.

Wallace wrote up this theory in a series of letters that he mailed to Darwin in England. The rest is well-recorded history.

Darwin has since become a byword – Darwinism – for evolutionary theory. But Wallace has not gone unsung, even though he often departed from Darwin on some of the details of evolutionary processes (and Darwin was usually proven right).

But Wallace was, in his later years, lavished with awards and national honours, including the British Order of Merit.

In addition, his book, *The Malay Archipelago*, in which he recounts his eight years in the region and published in 1869, remains an "amazing book", part adventure story, part scientific exploration, and peppered

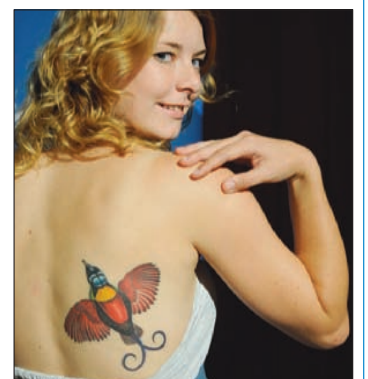
with profound insights, said Attenborough.

Attenborough ended his lecture with a quote from that book: "It seems sad that on the one hand such exquisite creatures should live out their lives and exhibit their charms only in these wild inhospitable regions. This consideration must surely tell us that all living things were not made for man, many of them have no relation to him, their happiness and enjoyments, their loves and hates, their struggles for existence, their vigorous life and early death, would seem to be immediately related to their own well-being and perpetuation alone."

The packed and enchanted Baxter Concert Hall, naturally, gave Attenborough a standing ovation. And, noted vice-chancellor Dr Max Price, having Attenborough at UCT could be likened to Wallace seeing those birds of paradise for the first time.

(A podcast of the lecture can be found at www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/sound/2011/, and video footage will be available in the executive communications and public lectures section at www.youtube.com/user/UCTSouthAfrica in due course.) ■

Girl with the bird tattoo



Sir David Attenborough had the audience eating out of his hand. No more so than when, in a Q&A following his lecture, young British student Hayley Evers-King, doing her PhD in oceanography at UCT, pointed Attenborough to a tattoo of her favourite bird of paradise on her back. "Which is your favourite bird of paradise?" she asked Attenborough. "It would be very ungentlemanly of me," he replied, ever the gentleman, "to say anything other than, naturally, yours." Cue more laughter and rapturous applause.

Yeld steps in as acting DVC

Associate Professor Nan Yeld, dean of the Centre for Higher Education Development (CHED), has been appointed as acting deputy vice-chancellor in the place of Professor Jo Beall for the period of 1 May to 31 December 2011.

Yeld's term will be shortened or extended depending on the completion of the parallel process of making a full-time appointment to this position.

Beall recently resigned from UCT to take up the position of director of education and society at the British Council in London. She will be leaving at the end of April.

Beall's portfolio will be redistributed as follows: Internationalisation will be combined with Afropolitan goals under Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo. The size and shape strategic exercise will be headed by Professor Daya Reddy. The Executive Director: Libraries will report to DVC Professor Danie Visser. Co-ordination of the 'First Year Experience' has been transferred to DVC Professor Crain Soudien.

Yeld will be responsible for academic planning, teaching and

learning, graduate attributes, the reporting lines for Institutional Planning and Information and Communication Technology Services (ICTS), and general DVC activities such as selection committees, executive management and official functions.

Yeld has a long association with UCT. She obtained her Bachelor in Education degree in 1978, and later her MEd in 1987 (with distinction) and PhD in 2001.

She was appointed dean of CHED in July 2003.

Yeld has been involved with academic development since the late 1980s, with a focus on developing procedures and instruments for widening access to university study for students from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds. Her work is well known locally and internationally, and has attracted considerable interest for its innovative approaches to assessment.

Yeld currently represents the higher education sector on the Ministerial Working Group to oversee the development and implementation of the National Senior Certificate for adults. This is

one of several other appointments by successive ANC ministers of education to serve as chair and member on various ministerial committees, investigating such issues as the future of the Senior Certificate, differentiation in school curricula, the assessment at key National Qualification Framework exit levels, and the status of independent and foreign examining bodies.

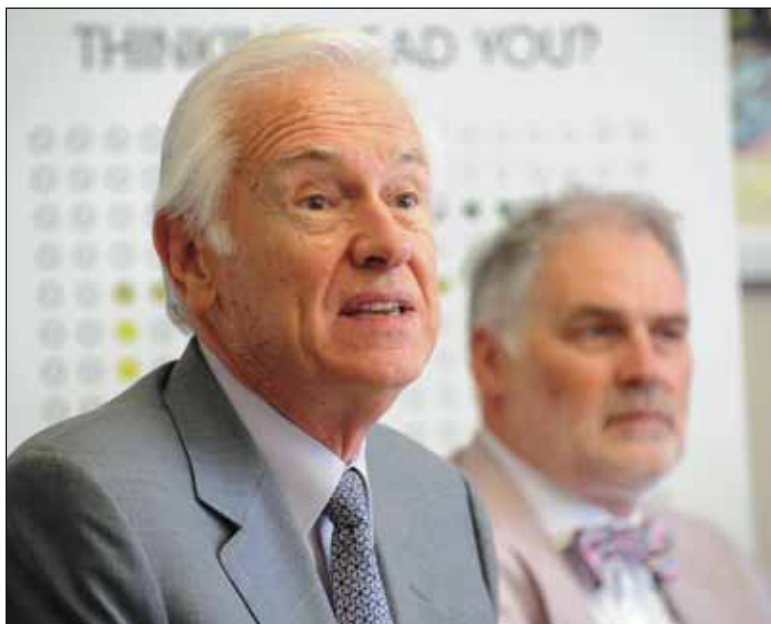
Yeld's publications are in the areas of language, assessment and academic development.

She was a Senior Africa Fulbright Scholar, based at the Educational Testing Service, in Princeton, New Jersey, over 1999 and 2000, and a Nelson Mandela Fellow at Harvard in 2002 to 2003, based at the WEB Du Bois Institute for Afro-American studies. ■

Into the breach: Assoc Prof Nan Yeld has been appointed as acting DVC, in place of Prof Jo Beall, who leaves UCT at the end of April.



Values-based leadership is centre's core business



Pioneering centre: The Allan Gray Centre for Values-based Leadership was launched at the GSB recently. In picture are Allan Gray (left) and Prof Walter Baets, director of the GSB.

The Graduate School of Business (GSB), in association with the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation, has established a Centre for Values-based Leadership that is committed to exploring new ways of doing business, based on purpose, sustainability and responsible practices.

The centre is the first of its kind in South Africa and will raise issues of sustainability and values-based leadership to priority status in the country and beyond. It has been established through sponsorship from Allan WB Gray, founder of Allan Gray Limited and the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation.

The Allan Gray Centre for Values-based Leadership will follow an agenda formed by both the GSB and the foundation. The goal will be to explore new ways of doing business that will be good for business, good for society and good for the

environment.

"Values-based leadership is an exploration into creating dignity and belonging and initiative through business," said Professor Walter Baets, GSB director, at the launch.

"It is a fundamental questioning of the principles by which the world has been doing business. We've seen that how we have been doing business is questionable and we should bring in a new way of thinking. I believe values-based leadership is a fundamental building block of new business and economic practices."

The centre builds on the long relationship between the GSB and the Allan Gray Orbis Foundation.

"Not many business schools have a values-based leadership faculty," Baets said. "It shows that Allan Gray is innovative and visionary, and that business supports the GSB's vision and mission."

The Allan Gray Orbis Foundation is an organisation that was established in 2005 as an education and development catalyst to assist a generation of high growth entrepreneurial change agents to bring about job creation in Southern Africa.

The partnership is by no means standard because the relationship will be more closely knit than traditional partnerships of a similar sort between sponsors and business schools.

"In the case of this centre, the foundation will be at the forefront of the research agenda and they will help select the faculty members. It is a mutual responsibility and endeavour," said Baets.

But the relationship between the two will mean more than just research; for students at the business school there will be internships and mentorship programmes available through the foundation. ■

Kennedy's ripple returns to UCT in new film

"It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centres of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance."

This is Robert F Kennedy's epitaph, and a quote from his now legendary 'Affirmation' speech in UCT's Jameson Hall on 6 June 1966. This landmark moment in the South African struggle for liberation has come full circle with a special screening of the new documentary *RFK in the Land of Apartheid: A ripple of hope*, which took place at UCT on 6 April.

Including previously unseen footage, the film documents the virtually unknown event of Kennedy's visit to South Africa, his speeches at a number of 'liberal' universities and his unprecedented visit to Nobel Peace Prize winner Chief Albert Luthuli, then under house arrest north of Durban.

"It's exciting to be screening the film where Kennedy gave the greatest speech of his life," says South African-born Larry Shore, who co-directed the documentary with filmmaker Tami Gold. "Kennedy challenged all South Africans to do their little bit, and the many thousands who did formed the non-racial movement."

Shore hopes the film will highlight the role played by those in the struggle who, he feels, are not given their due share, such as Luthuli, the

National Union of South African Students, white South Africans and American anti-apartheid activists.

"It's important that people understand the full range of their country's history, as its misrepresentation can affect the way people act in the present," says Shore.

"Kennedy's message is as relevant today as it was in 1966," says deputy vice-chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo. "In a week in which we are celebrating the Constitution at UCT, coming on the back of events to commemorate human rights a few weeks ago, and while we look forward to an election and the celebration of our own Freedom Day before the month is out, this reminder of the importance of speaking out on fundamental values could not have come at a better time."

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Screen time: Filmmaker Larry Shore, John Stodel of Scipio Entertainment Corporation, DVC Prof Thandabantu Nhlapo, and Albertina Luthuli were among those at the screening.

New centre will underpin drug development

Novel chemical compounds that will form the basis of a new generation of lifesaving drugs took centre stage at the official launch of UCT's new Drug Discovery & Development Centre (H3-D) on 7 April.

But chemical bonding wasn't the only topic under discussion at the event, MC'd by Professor Allen Rodgers, head of the Department of Chemistry, and attended by several national and international guests. Bonding between institutions and researchers was flagged as a top priority as H3-D (shorthand for holistic drug discovery and development) is the product of a chain of partnerships. Many of these partners were represented at the launch: the Medicines for Malaria Venture (MMV), the national Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) and pharmaceutical companies among them.

Harnessing their combined efforts and support, the centre, with director Professor Kelly Chibale at the helm, will identify a wealth of new chemical entities for potential development into life-saving medicines. In keeping with its setting, the centre will target diseases common to South Africa and Africa – malaria, tuberculosis and cardiovascular disease, which headline the list, and a slew of other infectious diseases.

But as Chibale explained, putting just one drug on the shelf takes time and money – and the pursuit of many dead ends. He likened the process to kissing a multitude of frogs before

finding one that turns into a prince – and a long value chain.

South Africa has been working from the polar ends of that value chain of drug discovery and development, says Chibale, who holds a national chair in drug discovery under the South African Research Chairs Initiative. The country is really good at the basic science on one end, and conducting the clinical research at the other.

However, it has not been adding value in the areas in-between, where the real opportunities exist, he argues.

"This centre is aimed at bridging the gap between the basic sciences and the clinical sciences."

That needs skills and experience that have been lacking on the continent. So H3-D has a second objective.

"We will be training a new generation of African scientists in the modern tools of conducting drug discovery."

It's an objective that resonated with organisations like TIA that, together with the MMV, will award R20 million to H3-D over the next four years. And TIA chairperson and former UCT vice-chancellor, Dr Mamphela Ramphele, was just one of the speakers who raised the topic of alliances.

"Drug discovery programmes, as has already been said, are expensive exercises; there is no way that a single institution can put together the [money] that is needed to go through this painful process, that journey of kissing frogs before one finally turns



Novel bonds: Prof Kelly Chibale, director of the UCT's new Drug Discovery & Development Centre (H3-D). (View the video under the research category at www.youtube.com/user/UCTSouthAfrica)

into a prince," she said.

Speaking of the benefits of institutional and industrial co-operation in his capacity as chairperson of the Scientific Advisory Board of H3-D, Dr Anthony Wood said: "What we're about is creative partnerships that allow us to combine our experiences, avoid unnecessary expenditure, and avoid kissing frogs when we recognise they're not going to turn into princes."

(Wood is also senior vice-president and head of Worldwide Medicinal Chemistry for Pfizer.)

Comparing it to the passing of a baton in a relay race, Dr Timothy Wells, chief scientific officer at MMV, added: "The key is getting the interactions between government, between institutions, between the not-for-profit sector, between pharmaceutical companies, getting those handovers clean,

that's how we're going to get the next generation of medicines."

H3-D fits in well with UCT's vision of itself as a model, a "brilliant example" of a developing-world university, said deputy vice-chancellor Professor Danie Visser at the launch.

"This is a university that looks both to the world and to its country and continent to identify its tasks and challenges." ■

UCT and Samsung launch innovative cell phone applications

UCT and Samsung Electronics have launched a multimillion-rand partnership to develop innovative mobile phone applications in response to unique needs in Africa.

The UCT Samsung Mobile Innovation Laboratory (SMILe), Samsung's first innovation unit in Africa, will increase mobile innovation and skills development. The partners in the joint venture include UCT's Information Systems Department and the Computer Science Department as well as the Cape IT incubator, Bandwidth Barn. The lab has been launched for an initial period of three years.

Brett Loubser, product manager at Samsung South Africa, said: "We chose to partner with UCT as there is a clear alignment not only with our corporate social responsibility programmes, but also with our vision of developing technology that is 'Built in Africa, for Africa, by Africa'."

Professor Gary Marsden of Computer Science added: "The African continent in general, and South Africa in particular, poses unique challenges, constraints and opportunities in respect of innovative mobile applications. There is a need for a creative application development space where innovative ideas can be explored."

This is the first time that a multi-disciplinary laboratory of this nature



Made in Africa: Photographed at the launch were (from left, back) George Ferreira (chief operations officer, Samsung), Prof Jean-Paul Van Belle (HoD, Information Systems) and Chris Vermeulen (general manager, Bandwidth Barn). (Front) Ntutele Tshenye (corporate social responsibility, Samsung), Prof Gary Marsden (ICT4D & Mobile Researcher, Computer Science) and Brett Loubser (product manager, Samsung).

has been developed and will explore how Samsung mobile technology can be used by African students to address technology needs within Africa.

The laboratory is the brainchild of Professor Jean-Paul Van Belle, head of Information Systems at UCT.

"The Department of Information Systems at UCT is recognised internationally as an ideal environment for nurturing the innovation professionals of the future and we are delighted that Samsung has selected our campus as its first research partner in Africa," said Van Belle.

The initiative will bring together academics, practitioners and researchers to pursue innovative research and to develop leading-edge products and applications that will improve the quality of life and provide unique solutions to African needs.

General manager of Bandwidth Barn, Chris Vermeulen, said that each year between 10 and 20 prototype mobile applications would be developed and the most promising of these fast-tracked to commercialise the technology. ■

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Raising women to raise the world

Vice-chancellor Dr Max Price participated in the global colloquium of some 20 university presidents, hosted by the United Nations (UN) Secretary General, Ban Ki Moon, and the new executive director of UN WOMEN, Michelle Bachelet, former president of Chile. The purpose of the colloquium was to discuss how universities can assist the UN to empower women to play leadership roles in the world.

The colloquium was hosted on behalf of the UN by the president of the University of Pennsylvania, Dr Amy Gutmann, on 4 and 5 April on its campus in Philadelphia, US.

"It was disturbing to confirm that even in countries where the universities annually graduate more women than men and despite the generally accepted statistic that women students do better than male students, the leadership strata in all

universities, political systems, and the UN system are heavily dominated by males," said Price.

"This is the case even in the United States where women have dominated student numbers for the last two decades at undergraduate and postgraduate level. There are scarcely any universities around the world that have more than 30% women at professorial levels. Only 13 of the 500 largest corporations in the world have a female chief executive officer and almost one third of Fortune 500 companies have no women executive officers at all in their highest ranks."

He added: "Worldwide, on average, only one in six cabinet ministers is a woman. The notion that the increased pipeline for women in education will resolve the gender inequality in the work environment and in leadership positions in particular

has proven untrue. Women remain systematically underrepresented in positions of political power and economic leadership."

Price said that there was also a clear sense about the important role women can play on the international stage. Discussions centred on expanding women's influence in the global peace and security agenda, enhancing women's economic empowerment and making gender equality priorities central to national, local and sectoral planning and budgeting.

Universities each shared success stories and challenges in the sphere of empowering women: There will be a compilation of ideas and best practices.

"The colloquium has provided a renewed stimulus to reflect on these issues and also to see what crossover there is for intervening in empowering under-represented groups at UCT," Price said. ■



Gadgets galore for geeks

Technophiles, gadget geeks and the rest of the geekerati were in their element at the recent ICTS Technology Festival, aka TechFest, hosted by Information and Communication Technology Services at the end of March. Run over two days this year – due to the festival's growing popularity – the event allowed the university's approved ICT vendors to showcase the latest gadgets and gizmos either already on the market, or soon to be released. Tablets (of the iPad rather than pharmaceutical variety) hogged most of the limelight, but also on display were notebooks of every brand and spec, plus a gallery of servers, multitasking printers, software and peripherals. UCT does business to the tune of around R20 million a year with ICT vendors, so the TechFest allows departments to get in some early window-shopping, explains Margherita Introna, team leader of Acquisition Services at ICTS. Vendors also generously footed the bill for all the foodstuffs that visitors to the event could tuck into, and donated an array of lucky-draw prizes. ■



Resource packs bring chemical industry to the classroom

UCT's DST-NRF Centre of Excellence in Catalysis, Sasol and PetroSA have developed a chemical industries resource pack for teachers and learners. Designed to bring chemistry alive in the classroom, the comprehensive learning kit will be distributed to more than 6 000 Grade 11 and 12 physical science teachers at training sessions throughout the country. The pack supports the changes to the Grades 11 and 12 physical science curriculum, which has been reviewed to include a stronger focus on the role of science in industry, technology and the environment. Learners are now expected to engage with chemistry in ways that help them understand its application in the real world.

UCT has worked extensively with Sasol and other industry leaders on this project over the past two years, bringing together its scientists, engineers and educators to document all the chemical processes now included in the chemistry curriculum. The product of this is the Chemical Industries Resource Pack, which will provide teachers with material that is comprehensive and relevant.

The pack includes a teacher's guide with classroom activities and accompanying model solutions, a DVD with animations, video footage and chemical process simulations, and a school research project.

"Working with Sasol on this project has given us a superb opportunity to use our educational and scientific expertise to benefit physical science teachers across the country. The Chemical Industries Resource Pack is being extremely well received by teachers who are participating in our workshops," says Associate Professor Jenni Case, the project's academic co-ordinator.

Sasol's involvement in this project is part of the group's wider strategy of bringing the International Year of Chemistry (IYC) 2011 to South Africa.

The resource pack and all the material is also at www.sasol.com

Legal services hosts biannual practitioners' forum



Legal wise: Dr Andrew Bailey at the Legal Practitioners Forum, held at the GSB recently.

In March it was UCT's turn to host the Legal Practitioners Forum meeting, held twice a year, staging the event at the GSB.

Some 28 legal advisers from universities across South Africa were among those who put their heads together to discuss and compare notes on recently promulgated laws that affect academia.

Topics under discussion included the new Consumer Protection Act, the Safety at Sports and Recreational Events Act, and the Intellectual Property Rights from Publicly Financed Research and Development Act (aka the IPR Act).

Speaking on the IPR Act, Dr Andrew Bailey of UCT's Research Contracts and Intellectual Property Services outlined the intellectual-property (IP) challenges associ-

ated with research collaboration and commercialisation agreements.

IP arising from such research will belong to the university in terms of the Act and researchers who developed such IP will receive a benefit share. "It's about finding a fair way to distribute the revenue," observed Claude Bassuday, director of Legal Services & Secretariat at UCT.

Bailey stated that UCT's IP Policy is currently under revision to comply with changes in the legislative landscape and to bring it up to date in relation to new developments such as Creative Commons and Open Source. The IP Policy has been put to Senate for review.

The forum's next meeting is scheduled for August at the University of the Witwatersrand. ■

Wish fulfilled for new director of catalysis centre

It's all systems go for the UCT-based National Hydrogen Catalysis Competence Centre, aka HySA/Catalysis, now that it has a director. Dr Olaf Conrad officially took the reins in January, and calls his new post – and home – here at UCT a wish fulfilled.

Until December, Conrad was head of division of the fuel cell department at Next Energy in Oldenburg, Germany. But some clever headhunting by UCT brought him to our shores.

Conrad, who is now responsible for scientific leadership within HySA/Catalysis, based in the Department of Chemical Engineering, is an internationally renowned expert on polymer electrolyte membrane (PEM) fuel cells, with many years of experience in the development of electrocatalysts and their integration into membrane electrode assembly.

"These are the skills that were absent from the group," said Professor Jack Fletcher, head of the Department of Chemical Engineering and director of the Centre for Catalysis Research at UCT.

Conrad began his scientific career at the University of Münster, Germany, completing a doctoral thesis on the topic of high-temperature melt syntheses and the analysis of the crystalline structure of I-III-VI aluminium compounds. Later he completed postdoctoral studies in Finland and the US as a recipient of the Feodor Lynen Research Fellowship at the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation.

In his subsequent position as research chemist at the corporate research division of the Engelhard Corporation (today part of chemical company BASF) in the US, Italy and Japan, he helped develop and launch platinum electrocatalysts for fuel cells.



Good chemistry: Dr Olaf Conrad is the new head of the National Hydrogen Catalysis Competence Centre at UCT.

Asked about the plans for HySA/Catalysis, Conrad mentions firstly that it's a joy to work within an already established infrastructure. "Engineering here [at UCT] is top of the line in infrastructure, competence and academic staff.

"HySA/Catalysis' mandate, in keeping with that of the Department of Science and Technology, is that South Africa should build the competence base to create products that are home-grown, and so bring investment to South Africa by setting up businesses that use our mineral wealth to create higher, value-added opportunities. Human capital development is key."

Conrad adds: "When I started chemistry I hoped that one day I could use it for something that benefits many people. This wish was fulfilled in the opportunity to contribute to solving an energy problem and work in a country that is an emerging market that's come through change, and now wants to make the pursuit of happiness true for all." ■

Catalysis course draws industry's best

The National Hydrogen Catalysis Competence Centre of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) at UCT, aka HySA/Catalysis, has hosted its first short course.

Titled *PEM Fuel Cell Catalyst and MEA preparation and characterisation*, the course featured a host of international speakers and set the tone for things to come, promised the centre's new director, Dr Olaf Conrad.

"We have great scientists here and state-of-the-art laboratories," he said. "This course will encourage the transfer of cutting-edge knowledge."

HySA/Catalysis, which is co-managed by Mintek, South Africa's national mineral research organisation, is one of three competence centres that sprang from the DST's National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Flagship Project, better known as Hydrogen South Africa or HySA.

HySA's aim is to create knowledge and human-resource capacity that will develop high-value commercial activities in hydrogen and fuel-cell technologies using local resources and existing know-how.

"South Africa has more than 75% of the world's platinum group metal reserves," said Conrad. "HySA's objective to achieve a 25% share of the global hydrogen and fuel cell catalysts market is ambitious, but doable."



Pointing ahead: Prof Claude Lamy of the University of Poitiers, France, was one of the presenters at the course.

Dr Siyabonga Mange, deputy director of HySA, highlighted further goals and market spin-offs. "Our strategy is to address the global energy challenge, increase sustainability, security of supply and competitiveness, and curb unemployment."

HySA/Catalysis received its first project funding in 2009, and kicked off work at UCT, Mintek and affiliated institutions. The centre already has 18 projects under way, of which 12 are based at UCT.

"And this is but the start," added Conrad. ■



Shared experiences: The speakers at the PERC seminar of postgraduate teaching in Africa were (from left) Prof Di McIntyre, Assoc Prof Mills Soko, and Prof Robert Mattes.

Seminar highlights postgraduate teaching and African connections

UCT's postgraduate teaching reaches far into Africa, attracting students and engaging with continental realities. In a seminar titled *Teaching Postgraduate Courses on and for Africa*, a panel of three UCT academics, Professor Robert Mattes (political science), Professor Di McIntyre (public health) and Associate Professor Mills Soko (Graduate School of Business) discussed their experiences of designing and delivering master's degrees.

The seminar was organised by Professor Robert Morrell, co-ordinator of the Programme for the Enhancement of Research Capacity.

"Many UCT staff involved in postgraduate teaching have links with Africa, either through their students, in the way they construct their curricula, or through other forms of collaboration," he said. "The seminar was part of a university-wide approach to open debate on Afropolitanism and to encourage staff to orient their offerings towards the continent."

In the past six years two PhD and 24 master's students have graduated through Mattes' programme on Democratic Governance in Africa. Half of the graduates have come from continental Africa. The programme utilises a digital collection at UCT, the largest of its kind in the southern hemisphere. Students take at least one statistical course that enables them to mine this database. The teaching of the master's programme meshes with Mattes' research in the Afrobarometer project, which surveys public opinion in 20 different countries.

McIntyre is the South African Research Chair in Health and Wealth and a founder of the Health Economics Unit. Since 1996 she has been running a master's course in health economics. The programme has trained 150 African health economists, and 80% of the continent's health economists have graduated from her programme. She credits the success of the programme to a number of factors: strong support

of the World Health Organisation, strong links between a research agenda and teaching; and a refusal to let a narrow South African perspective overwhelm continental diversity.

Soko has developed an innovative MBA course called *Doing Business in Africa*. His initiative was prompted by the realisation that many South African students are unaware of developments in the rest of Africa, even though South African businessmen are major players in the continent's business affairs. Starting in 2008, Soko has been attracting large numbers of students to the course. They spend one week as interns with businesses in South Africa and beyond, and many are located far and wide for this week, from Zimbabwe to Uganda, and Tanzania to Rwanda.

The participants agreed that there are great benefits in shaping the learning experience of students to emphasise African conditions, highlight regional diversity and reveal the advantages of regional exchange. ■

Pesticide risk management diploma a first

The Faculty of Health Sciences recently launched the inaugural Postgraduate Diploma in Pesticide Risk Management, convened by Dr Andrea Rother, health risk management programme leader in the Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health Research.

The course brought together students from Fiji, St Lucia, Botswana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Deputy vice-chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo officially welcomed the 18 students, who were on campus for two weeks, before returning to their home countries to complete the coursework online, making use of UCT's Vula system. They will return at the end of 2012 to write final examinations and graduate.

Nhlapo said the programme highlighted Afropolitanism as a key strategic goal. "People who are assets in our countries don't have to go abroad to study the issues of Africa, and we are not sitting in South Africa, isolated from the rest of Africa and its issues," he said.



Dr Andrea Rother.

Rother acknowledged the role of the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), who approached her two years ago to initiate the course around the UN Code of Conduct on the Distribution and Use of Pesticides. This covers the regulation of pesticides, the health effects of pesticide use, and toxicology and ecotoxicology training. The course is funded by the FAO and the

Swedish Chemical Agency.

Prof Mohamed Jeebhay, acting head of the School of Public Health and Family Medicine, described the course as "another feather in our cap in terms of our outreach programmes".

All the materials developed for this course are open source and available as a resource to both participants and the general public. ■

Planning and prevention, twice

Ahead of the International Labour Organisation's World Day for Safety and Health at Work on 28 April, *Monday Paper* takes a snapshot of the work of the health and safety department at UCT. The message is clear: it's an issue that cannot be addressed in isolation. Procedure and prevention is serious business, and if left unnoticed, the consequences could pose a very real threat, writes Daniella Pollock.

Message from vice-chancellor Dr Max Price

As we celebrate the World Day for Health and Safety at Work on 28 April 2011, I would like to take this opportunity to express senior leadership's commitment to making UCT a healthy and safe environment for all. The health and safety culture should be embodied and embraced in all facets of university life. Our institution attracts many students and academics from all over the world – that is one reason we use internationally recognised health and safety standards and systems as our benchmark.

There is almost no activity that does not have some implication for health and safety. Whether you are planning a research programme or a soccer match, dealing with large classes that might require quick evacuation, or are responsible for offices and cupboards that are being (ab) used for storage and might constitute fire hazards, whether transporting students on a field trip or dealing with fumes and dust that accompany building renovations, health and

safety should always feature in your planning considerations.

I would like to thank our many staff volunteers safety, health and environment representatives, evacuation marshals, fire marshals and first aiders, and the various line managers who actively assist us in achieving the goal of making the university space a healthy and safe environment for all.

I want to say a special thank you to the Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Department, which facilitates the functioning of the occupational safety, health and environment system at UCT.

Help us make our university campus environment a healthy and safe place for our university community.

The Occupational Safety, Health & Environment Department can be contacted at <http://uct.ac.za/services/properties/occhealth/contacts/>. ■



The life and times of the health and safety department



Ready for anything: The Health & Safety Department is staffed by (from left, back) Michael Langley (manager), Sue Key (senior occupational health nurse) and Barry Platen (officer assessing physical areas, fire and public safety and contractor safety). (Middle) Angie Ngalonkulu (administrator). (Front) Brett Roden (environmental risk officer) and Charlene Esau (occupational health nurse).

The newly refurbished entrance to Shell court – home to the Properties and Services Department and health and safety unit – calls to mind a just-minted sixpence. But it belies the fact that the people inside regularly burn the midnight oil to make sure that the university community is safe at work. Health and Safety Manager Michael Langley answered some key questions:

MP What does the department do?

ML It ensures legal compliance for processing and following up on injury-on-duty claims and runs the Occupational Health Unit for staff and students working in hazardous environments. Team members do hazardous chemical, fire, ergonomic, first-aid and general risk assessments in all areas. They also visit departments to check on health and safety compliance, facilitate occupational safety and fire-safety talks, and investigate incidents. Other functions include training in first aid, training safety representatives and fire marshals; conducting safety inductions with staff, students and contractors; safety audits on all teaching and research and construction sites; and planning disaster exercises.

MP What are the challenges facing health and safety?

ML The seriousness of health and safety is often undermined and its central role in the person, home and work triad is often overlooked. People's perceptions are that they live and work in isolation, and getting them to accept that, in the workplace, each person is responsible for his own and others' health and safety is a big challenge. A health and safety mindset requires behaviour modification, as it is risky behaviour that results in unsafe conditions.

MP What is the strangest thing to have happened?

ML Everything about UCT is strange! Puff adder bites, cranes falling over, batteries exploding in their cabinets, or waste chemicals exploding. But the officials believe these incidents make it an exciting working environment. ■

Who're
you gonna
call?

CPS
021 650 2222/3

Er24
084124

Metro Ambulance
10177

Police:
Rondebosch – 021 685 7345
Mowbray – 021 680 9580
Woodstock – 021 442 3122
Cape Town – 021 467 8002
Risk Manager – 021 650 4858

Traffic Manager
021 650 4752/3314

Security Manager
021 650 2225/2222

Health & Safety Management
021 650 3552/2246

Occupational Health clinic
021 650 3873/2021

Student Wellness
021 650 1067/1020

n pillars of health and safety

Health and safety in situ

Michael Langley outlines some key health and safety-related matters. For a full listing of FAQs, information about occupation health, and course listings, visit <http://www.uct.ac.za/services/properties/occhealth/sheqa/>



Be warned: Construction sites are dangerous. Safety signs are there to protect you.

Safety in the laboratory

Though UCT has to take into consideration the risks associated with working in laboratories, laboratories are different from your run-of-the-mill office, and every laboratory has its own safety regulations and checklists. At the beginning of each year we do safety talks to all first-years who will be working in laboratories where they might be exposed to hazardous substances. In the faculties of science, health sciences and engineering, the students are issued red SHE 2011 stickers to show that they've attended these talks. No student can enter a laboratory without displaying their student card, sticker attached. At the talks, we give them the general information. From there on, departments carry out specific training and inductions.

Food and hygiene

We facilitate the process of hygienic audits of all areas where food is processed. This includes all formal and informal vendors on all our campuses, all catering residences, and restaurants at the Baxter Theatre and the Graduate School of Business.

Construction works

Excavation and building is still the order of the day as construction continues on the upper, middle and lower campuses. As is the case for all construction work areas, all reasonable precautions have been put in place by the construction companies, in accordance with the law for health and safety at construction sites and the immediate surrounding environs. The UCT community is requested to observe all safety signs and to co-operate fully by respecting the clearly demarcated alternate pedestrian and car routes on these sites.

Field trips

Students are medically covered by the university insurance while on official fieldtrips or community projects. Staff who are injured while on an official fieldtrip or official projects are covered by COIDA (the Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act). COIDA also covers staff injured while on official training.

UCT Disability Service

Over the past 20 years UCT has made significant progress in making its facilities accessible to people with disabilities and many institutions around the country envy the facilities and resources available to disabled staff and students at UCT. Reinet Popplestone, director of Disability Services at UCT, said people are usually ready to recognise the needs of disabled people. But for many it's still hard to distinguish between what is considered benign and voluntary granting of concessions to people with disabilities, from their rights.

The extent to which accessibility provisions for disabled people enhance the safety for all users of campuses is not well understood, says Popplestone. Clearly demarcated stairs, correctly placed hand rails, adequate lighting of hazardous areas and clearly legible signage improve the quality of life for everyone. Much has been achieved in improving certain aspects of accessibility, but much more remains to be done, adds Popplestone.

People who volunteer

There are some 229 first aiders, 281 safety, health and environmental (SHE) representatives, 400 evacuation marshals, and 14 radiation protection officers on campus. And that's just staff. In addition to these amazing individuals who volunteer their time, all Campus Protection officers and traffic officers are in possession of a valid first aid certificate.

Meet our volunteers

First Aiders are trained in at least Level 1 First Aid, which covers basic first aid (CPR and general medical emergencies). Each trainee is issued a certificate of course completion by a person/organisation approved by the Health & Welfare SETA or Chief inspector of the Department of Labour. They repeat the course every three years.

SHE representatives are those responsible for the overall safety and health of the working environment they have been appointed to.



Precaution's better than cure: Jeffrey Johnstone, SHE rep at the Sports Centre, says many improvements have been made to ensure that safety comes first.



Safety's not a gadget, but a state of mind: Hiddingh Hall Library's Kashiefa Shade has been a first aider for more than 15 years.

Kashiefa Shade, a senior library assistant at Hiddingh Hall Library, carries a kit for every calamity. Shade's been a first aider for more than 15 years, but she's also a SHE rep and fire marshal. "I'm always on duty," she quips. "Thankfully, nothing too serious has happened. Mostly, it's nasty paper cuts. But the students here do sometimes operate heavy equipment, and they need to know where to come, and what to do, in case of an emergency."

She adds: "Staff and students are responsible for their safety too. People sometimes just ignore the alarm during fire drills. That same bell could signal a very real threat."

Not an inch, bolt, or fire canister of the Sports Centre escapes the scrutiny of shift supervisor, Jeffrey Johnstone. He really is the all-round handy person here, and can tell you more about its never-ending labyrinth of nooks, corridors, and courts than well, anyone. He's been here for 31 years, after all. He's also the in-house SHE rep, making him responsible for staff and students' safety while indoors or on the adjacent sports fields.

"I was nominated as a SHE rep in 1999," he says. "My duty is to ensure that all equipment is intact, that the environment is safe to work and play in, and to report and record any injuries. The SHE rep programme is great. It allows me to act as its eyes and ears, and make recommendations to management. There have been some serious accidents that have led to big modifications and improvements here."

Improvements include the rail-reinforced spectator seating, a hydraulic basketball stand, and safety signs to boot. "And still students hang on the basketball hoop, jump over the railings, and often empty the fire extinguishers for fun. But I only need to warn them once. They know it's dangerous." ■

Your rights:

Important legislation relating to Health and Safety:

Section 24 of the South African constitution: Everyone has the right to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well being and to have the environment protected through reasonable legislative measures.

Section 8 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act

General duties of employers to their employees

Every employer shall provide and maintain, as far as is reasonably practicable, an environment that is safe and without risk to the health of his employees.

Section 13 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act

Duty to inform

The employer has the responsibility to

inform the employee of what hazards he/she might be exposed to in the workplace.

Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act

Workers who are injured or contract a disease through their work are able to claim from the Compensation Fund in accordance with the COIDA Act.

Your responsibilities:

- In case of an emergency, phone CPS (ext 2222/3) first. CPS use a unique incident management system that sends sms alerts to key people, who will – in turn – alert the appropriate emergency response units
- Know and respect your environment
- Know where to find the nearest emergency equipment
- Know your escape route
- Familiarise yourself with SHE reps, first aiders, and fire and evacuation marshals in your building

Chief Justice hails Conweek

The UCT Law Faculty's Constitution Week could not have asked for a better stamp of approval than that of Chief Justice Sandile Ngcobo.

Delivering the keynote address at the launch of the four-day series on 4 April, Ngcobo noted that events like Conweek ensure that the foundation of the constitutional jurisprudence, which is at its formative stage in this country, is sound and solid.

"Constitution Week provides a forum for a dialogue that brings expertise on constitutional law to reflect and engage on our developing constitutional jurisprudence," he said.

Constitution Week, the second of its kind at UCT, is the brainchild of the Democratic Governance and Rights Unit in the Department of Public Law, and draws attention to the Constitution while promoting constructive debate thereon.

There is widespread misunderstanding about the nature of a relationship between the three government branches (the executive, the legislature and the judiciary), said



Constitutional matters: Prof P.J. Schwickard, Dean of the Faculty of Law, and Chief Justice Sandile Ngcobo at the launch of the Constitution Week.

Ngcobo. This is evident in the criticism of the judiciary on judgements perceived to interfere with other branches and causing tension.

"All three branches have one mission in common – to uphold the Constitution."

Ngcobo added that the ten-

sion was natural and flowed from the Constitution. He said the focus should be on how to understand and manage this tension in the context of democracy. One way of managing this was through constitutional dialogue, which should be based on trust and good faith. ■

Experts talk on women and land

There is a shift in unmarried women's access to land, says a recent Community Agency for Social Enquiry (CASE) survey of 3 000 women in three rural areas that were part of the apartheid 'homelands'. This contradicts the oft-repeated claims that customary law denies women access to land except through their husbands, fathers, brothers or sons.

This research was presented for discussion at a workshop on Gender, Land Rights and Contested Boundaries in Customary Law Contexts, convened by UCT's Law, Race and Gender Research Unit (LRG) on 15 and 16 March. The workshop reflected a collaboration between UCT, the Institute for Poverty, Land & Agrarian Studies (PLAAS) at the University of the Western Cape, and the Department of Sociology & Social Anthropology at Stellenbosch University.

"The workshop brought together some of the world's leading anthropologists and legal minds," says Dr Dee Smythe, director of the LRG. "This



Balance of power: Bridget O'Laughlin (Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands) addresses workshop participants on the impact of AIDS on women's land rights.

workshop really opened up new possibilities for us in thinking about how we measure and interpret evidence of social change in our research."

A central question for discussion was how to explain the shifts in women's access to land. Some of the contextual issues include large (and possibly increasing) numbers of single

women establishing families outside of marriage and in a climate of increasing unemployment, particularly among rural men.

The impact of the transition to democracy in 1994 on the claims made by single women and the balance of power in rural areas was also highlighted as a central issue. ■

Multi-million rand project for universal health coverage

The European Union has awarded UCT's Health Economics Unit a collaborative five-year, multi-million rand research project that will focus on monitoring and evaluating policy formulation and implementation processes aimed at achieving universal health coverage in South Africa and Tanzania.

This new project is called the Universal Coverage in Tanzania and South Africa (UNITAS). It will track policy formulation process to help policy-makers manage the

compromises that must be reached to ensure adopted policies are acceptable to all.

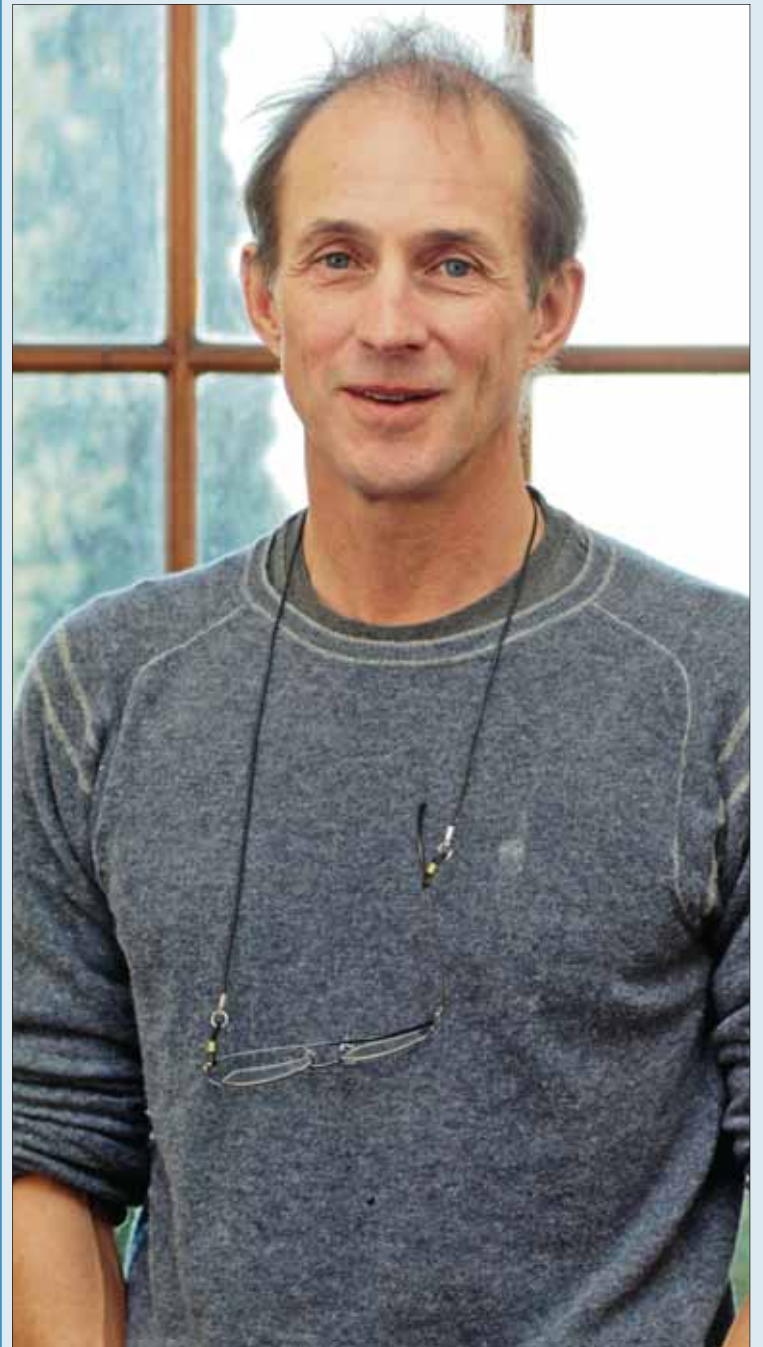
UNITAS will monitor policy implementation at district level, and establish an 'early warning system' of difficulties.

Providing a baseline against which the impact of these financing reforms can be assessed are the findings from SHIELD: the Strategies for Health Insurance for Equity in Less Developed Countries research project. The project

assessed who pays for, and who benefits from, health care in both countries.

"Our assessment of the policy context in South Africa and Tanzania from SHIELD shows that there is very strong government commitment to pursuing universal coverage," says UNITAS coordinator, Professor Di McIntyre. "Some interventions towards this goal will be implemented, even if in a somewhat different form to that currently envisaged."

Passing of poet and essayist Stephen Watson



Prof Stephen Watson.

The UCT community is saddened by the death of Stephen Watson, a poet and essayist of the first rank and a professor in the English Language and Literature Department in the Faculty of Humanities. Watson died of cancer early on the morning of 10 April 2011. He was 56.

As founding director of the Centre for Creative Writing at UCT, Watson helped to create a prestigious launching pad for local writing talent.

"His career illustrated what we are working to inspire all UCT students to do: to pursue academic knowledge not only for itself but to help develop others," vice-chancellor Dr Max Price wrote in a communiqué to the UCT community. "His most recent achievements illustrate how he touched people with his writing talent: *The Music in the Ice* has moved and impressed its readers, and many people shared in Stephen's pride at receiving the English Academy's Percy Fitzpatrick Award in January this year for his short story *Buiten Street*.

Watson was associated with the City of Cape Town and the university throughout his life and in his widely admired writing. He was a UCT alumnus, a beloved teacher, and a mentor and friend to many in

the university community as well as in the world of letters in South Africa and beyond. He is remembered for his generosity, humanity, imagination, and his rigour and elegance as a writer. He will be sorely missed.

He graduated with a BA in English in 1975, honours in 1977, a master's in 1980 and a PhD in 1993, all degrees awarded by UCT. His major research interests included 20th century British and American poetry, the American novel, and the work of George

Herbert, William Wordsworth and George Orwell. He began tutoring in the English Department in 1980 and was appointed on a permanent basis in 1986. In 1983 he published his first book, *Poems 1977-82* (Bateleur Press), followed by many other collections of poems and essays. His last book, *The Music in the Ice*, was published by Penguin Books in October 2010. It included essays on Albert Camus, with whom Watson had more than an ordinary connection, and on the singer Leonard Cohen. These are generally believed to be among his most daring and remarkable pieces of writing.

Watson is survived by his wife, Tanya, and their children Hannah and Julian. ■

SADC universities join forces

Senior university leaders from across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) officially pooled scholastic forces at the establishment of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Working Group on Research, Development and Climate Change, held at UCT recently.

The initiative, driven by the Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA), follows the adoption of a Framework for Action on Climate Change and Adaptation in Higher Education in SADC, formulated at the Vice-Chancellors' Leadership Dialogue, a meeting of vice-chancellors from 24 SADC countries in Mauritius in October 2010.

"SARUA's mandate is to bring people together," said SARUA CEO Piyushi Kotecha. "Today follows on the framework for action we adopted; to generate shared knowledge, build capacity, raise awareness, integrate multiple paradigms and enhance the development of multi-research networks."

In his welcome address, UCT

vice-chancellor Dr Max Price stressed the value of collaboration.

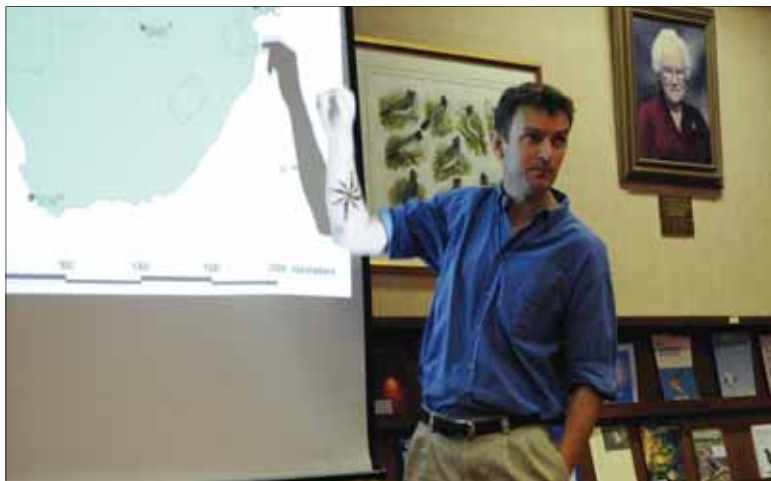
"Government participation in global policy on climate changes is often inadequately supported. If we could create a resource through SADC universities that can co-ordinate and provide briefing documents, background information, face-to-face briefings and seminars, there will be an academic authority channel through which policymakers can access this information better."

The same maxim applies to teaching, Price said. "We are all creating teaching programmes and courses which have significant overlap in content. Here, rather than duplicating courses, there's an opportunity for shared common ground and material. It's about stimulating collaborative synergistic research between universities, and sharing a common resource for the region."

The workshop provided a forum for unfettered discussion, and the general consensus was undoubtedly that getting the matter of water and climate change right was critical. ■



Collaboration: At the Working Group on Research, Development and Climate Change workshop were (from left) vice-chancellor Dr Max Price, deputy vice-chancellor Prof Thandabantu Nhlapo, and Piyushi Kotecha, SARUA CEO.



Centred on excellence: Prof Graeme Cumming speaks on Avian influenza and the movement ecology of African ducks. The research seminar was part of the Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology's annual general meeting.

Research takes centre stage at AGM

The Percy Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology, a Department of Science and Technology National Research Foundation Centre of Excellence, hosted a research seminar as part of its AGM on 8 April.

In his opening, FitzPatrick director Professor Phil Hockey reflected on the years since the centre's inception.

"Becoming a centre of excellence means you must change the way you think. It's not just about being a scientist or publishing good journals;

you have to impress some rather serious people. It comes down to output, impact and meeting key performance targets."

So, how are they doing? In 2010, the international impact of life sciences research at UCT was rated 12th in the world. Moreover, the centre's publications' impact factor – a measure of the frequency with which the average article in a journal has been cited in a particular year – ranges from 3.5-10. That's incredibly high if you consider

that 99% of the world's research journals have an impact factor of less than one. One of its coveted exports, *Roberts Birds of Southern Africa*, has, at last count, been cited over 300 times.

Research addressed at the seminar included these titles: Avian influenza and the movement ecology of African ducks, Feeling the heat: how climate change affects Kalahari birds, and Conservation genetics of threatened endemic seabirds. ■

Dogwatch sculpture added to UCT's living museum

Acclaimed sculptor David Brown's work, *Dialogue at the Dogwatch*, is the new permanent resident on the Alma Mater plaza between the Kramer Law Building and the new Student Administration Building on middle campus.

A gift from UCT alumnus Charles Diamond, *Dialogue at the Dogwatch*, sculpted in 1994 and 15 months in the making, is a major work Brown's oeuvre. With a footprint of about 100m², the bronze, copper, brass, Cor-ten (weathering steel) and stainless steel piece was originally commissioned by Diamond, a collector of sculpture, for his country estate in the UK. Diamond was president of the SRC in 1966/67 and graduated from UCT with an MA in economics. He became a successful global economist.

Speaking at an event in April to celebrate the installation of the sculpture, registrar Hugh Amoore said that although UCT didn't have an art museum, its growing art collection has allowed for the creation of "living museums" in the works on display across the faculties.

"This growth is largely a result of the tradition of alumni giving to their alma mater," said Amoore.



Signing off: *Dialogue at the Dogwatch* has been installed on the new Alma Mater plaza on middle campus. Photographed at the installation were (from left) Registrar Hugh Amoore, alumnus and donor Charles Diamond, sculptor David Brown, and VC Dr Max Price.

A number of works by Brown, also a UCT alumnus, can be found around the campus, including sculptures in the chemical engineering building, the Hoerikwaggo Building, the Robert Leslie Building, and in the Irma Stern Museum gardens, where a maquette of *Dialogue at the Dogwatch* is installed.

Diamond described "the dogwatch" as a nautical term for the hours between late afternoon and night, when fading light can play tricks on the eyes.

"It's important for art to ask questions and challenge perceptions," said

Diamond. "It's difficult for me to explain the piece, so when people ask me what it is, I usually just say, 'it's about seven and a half tonnes'."

A graduate of the Michaelis School of Fine Art, Brown's work has won several awards and is represented in both South African and foreign collections.

"Students who pass here might not always become art fans," said Diamond, "but they will be aware of the dogwatch hours – and maybe even what it means."

Chris.McEvoy@uct.ac.za

Exhibition revels in secrecy



An exhibition of works by Michaelis final-year Master's of Fine Arts students titled, *Heimlich Manoeuvres*, opened on 6 April.

"As the name implies, the title denotes a notion of secrecy and the dislodging, or retching, of those things that choke us," said Niklas Zimmer, co-curator of the exhibition with Clive Kellner. "It truly is a salad bowl of works, representing 11 sets of very different concerns."

The themes draw on nostalgia; varying from femininity and eroticism and what's considered to be appropriate behaviour for a 'lady' (Ceri Müller's works of phallic knitwear), to the effects of the notion of a double

consciousness on the contemporary black South African within the post-apartheid context (photographic series by Mohau Modisakeng).

The idea here, said Zimmer, is to have art that is fresh and accessible to a new generation, while leaving plenty of room for interpretation. "You don't just make pictures of people. You don't just make statements or tell people what to think about what you're doing here."

Heimlich Manoeuvres runs daily at Michaelis Galleries until 21 April and the gallery is open Tuesdays to Fridays from 11h00 to 16h00, and Saturdays from 10h00 to 13h00, excluding public holidays. ■

Leg-up for Khayelitsha school children

A UCT survey paints a gloomy picture: few learners from Khayelitsha schools enrol at UCT, and some schools have never had a matriculant at this university.

To turn this around, UCT has launched 100-Up, an initiative described by Dr Jonathan Clark, director of the Schools Development Unit, as a “bridge built from both sides”. Five academically strong Grade-10 learners from each of the 20 schools in the area have been recruited and will be mentored and armed with academic and life skills over the next three years to better prepare them for university life.

“Khayelitsha may be only 30km away, but in many ways it is a world apart from UCT,” Clark explained.

100-Up aims to build the learners’ “intellectual, social and cultural capital”. The 100 learners will be

encouraged to pursue degrees in the sciences, engineering, commerce and related fields. The project will involve residential camps, exposure to UCT activities, a bi-weekly tutoring programme and, from next year, a weekly Saturday school.

At the launch on 30 March, which was attended by parents, teachers and representatives of the Western Cape Department of Education, Clark urged the learners to dream big.

“Unlike a few years ago, it is no longer impossible for a Khayelitsha kid to come to UCT. You’ve got to believe you can be here in 2014.”

A longer-term objective is to use 100-Up to garner knowledge and experience, which can better inform the university’s bridging programmes and school-based interventions, Clark added. ■



Helping hand: Introducing the 100-UP Project were (standing, from left) Dr Jonathan Clark, Pumla Satyo, Prof Rudi Laugksch, Neliswa Dlodla, and Ferial Parker.

Donation bridges the digital divide



Information and Communication Technology Services (ICTS) hopes to contribute to increasing the computer literacy levels of young adults in Khayelitsha by donating a number of second-hand PCs to the Khayelitsha Centre (K2) of UCT’s Students’ Health and Welfare Cen-

PC fun: Photographed with the children of the Khayelitsha Centre were (from left, back) Zanele Lupondo (SHAWCO), Lorna Mngxunya (SHAWCO), Eltena Dirks (SHAWCO) and (front) Nick Parsons (ICTS).

tres Organisation (SHAWCO).

Nick Parsons, an ICTS helpdesk consultant, presented a proposal that he’d written to his manager, Willie du Plooy. He proposed donating a number of second hand PCs to a group or charity. “I am passionate about IT and wanted to give others the chance to experience it, too,” says Parsons.

The proposal was given a thumbs-up, so Parsons chomped through the necessary red tape by following the UCT Disposal policy recommendations. He then began

discussions with Eltena Dirks from SHAWCO.

Together they arranged for the delivery and installation of 11 PCs, monitors and keyboards that will supplement those already available at the K2 Centre. The centre provides comprehensive tutoring, including IT instruction, to children from neighbouring junior and senior schools. The handover took place at the end of March, when excited children from the area were brought in to view the newly installed computers. ■

Call for proposals for the naming of buildings

UCT is rolling out almost one billion Rands of capital expenditure (capex) projects over the next three years. The Naming of Buildings Committee (NOBC) is responsible for identifying appropriate names for buildings, open spaces, lecture halls and rooms, and makes recommendations for these to Council. The NOBC is calling for proposals from the UCT community for the naming of many buildings, including:

- The new ICTS building (7 Main Rd, Mowbray)
- The School of Economics Building (Middle Campus), on or adjacent to the site of an 18th century burial ground. (The site is to be memorialised.)
- The new Student Administration Building (Middle Campus).
- The Observatory Residence Complex. The 6000m² block, between Main Road and Williams Street in Observatory, will be the largest residence, housing 887 students.

- Exair, so named as it was a complex maintained by the SAAF and RAF Associations for ex-servicemen and their families who had served in the SAAF or RAF. This is to become a staff housing complex.
- 2 Rhodes Ave, which houses the Purchasing and Procurement Department and the Research, Contracts and Intellectual Property Services Office.

For the full list and more information on the criteria for naming buildings as well as the categories the Naming of Buildings Committee will use, please refer to the UCT website where a register of building names is also available (<http://www.uct.ac.za/about/honours/buildingnames/>). Proposals should be sent to: The Naming of Buildings Committee, attention Marius Lund, Room 142, Bremner Building, Lover’s Walk, Rondebosch. Or email marius.lund@uct.ac.za. The closing date for proposals is at noon on 31 May 2011.

Welcome to new staff

Alumna is new face at humanities



Libo Msengana-Bam.

UCT graduate Libo Msengana-Bam has returned to her alma mater to strengthen marketing and alumni relations in the Faculty of Humanities. Msengana-Bam brings a suite of skills to her role as the marketing and alumni officer, having worked as communications officer at M-Web Holdings, and Cadiz Asset Management, before serving as corporate social investment manager, as well as internal and external communications manager, over her four years with British American Tobacco South Africa (BATSA). When she

left BATSA in 2005, Msengana-Bam joined her husband’s business and simultaneously returned to UCT to complete her studies. She obtained her BSocSci in December 2010.

“I think that it is this combination of my corporate communications experience, my exposure to the business world, as well as my having returned as a ‘golden oldie’ student on campus, that will enable me to add value in this portfolio,” she said.

Off duty, Msengana-Bam enjoys reading and playing golf. She also works as a volunteer with the Friends of Valkenberg Trust.

Seasoned journo joins media team

It’s perhaps understandable that Linda Rulashe lists travel among her hobbies. Born in the Eastern Cape, her family moved to Zambia when she was young. They then trekked to Botswana and Swaziland before returning home. She finished her schooling in KwaZulu-Natal.

She also travelled a bit for work. During her 20-year stint as a journalist, Rulashe, who joined UCT’s Communication and Marketing Department as a communications and media manager in April, worked at various publications. She began with the Weekly Mail (now Mail & Guardian) followed by stints at Tribute Magazine, the Sunday Times and the



Linda Rulashe.

City Press before being redeployed by Media24 to start the Sunday Sun, where she rose up through the ranks from senior sports writer to news editor, production editor and finally editor.

But after two decades in journalism, Rulashe wanted something new, challenging and interesting. In fact, seeing things from the other side of the fence increased her interest in corporate communications, especially during a short stint with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform after leaving Sunday Sun.

Off duty, Rulashe also loves watching sport, jogging, reading and outdoor life.

We are the champions!

Champions at last!

Yes, it was touch and go and it took a few years longer than it should have, but UCT's Ikey Tigers were finally crowned Varsity Cup champions last Monday, this after beating a stubborn University of Pretoria by 26-16 in the final at the Tuks Rugby Stadium in Pretoria. And despite having two tries denied by the television match official (TMO).

In the pre-match interviews, both coaches were adamant that they would be sticking to their tried-and-tested game plans – Ikeys would run the ball; Tuks would dominate with their pack.

It was the Ikeys, however, who drew first blood, as number eight Greg Mallett touched down with just one minute on the clock. Flyhalf Demetri Catrakilis, top scorer for Varsity Cup 2011, converted, giving UCT a dream start and a 7-0 lead.

Things fell apart for the Tigers after that, though. UCT's lineouts – as was the case in other matches – went awry. They struggled to protect the ball, barely got out of their half (tenacious tackling kept them in the game, however), and the referee's calls all seemed to go against them.

It was Tuks who applied all the pressure, and by the first strategy break UCT was trailing 7-13, having conceded two penalties, a try and a conversion. The Tigers fell further behind after another Tuks penalty (7-16), but a three-pointer by Catrakilis just before half time helped the Tigers reduce the deficit to six points as the sides went into the break with the score on 10-16.

It would be a match of two halves for UCT.

Two Catrakilis penalties in the first 16 minutes of the second half levelled the scores (16-16), and the referee's calls suddenly went the Ikeys' way. Not so those of the TMO, who denied scrumhalf Nic Groom what appeared to be a clear-cut try shortly after.

UCT persevered, however, and as the Tuks players tired, began to create more openings. Hooker Matt Page benefited from the extra space,



Worthy winners: The triumphant Ikey Tigers after winning the Varsity Cup final, photographed at the Tuks Stadium, Pretoria. Vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, is in the foreground (right). Photo by Duif du Toit / Gallo Images.

and he touched down in the 60th minute, and gave UCT the lead again (21-16). Catrakilis, flawless on the night, converted (23-16 to UCT).

Then the always inventive Marcel Brache touched down in the corner in the 69th minute, and the game appeared to be all but done. Except that the TMO turned down the try.

Instead, the referee awarded UCT a penalty, which Catrakilis put between the poles, giving the Ikeys enough breathing space at 26-16.

The Tuks then threw everything at UCT, but the Ikeys defence stood firm.

By the 84th minute the referee finally called the game to an end, and UCT had their first Varsity Cup trophy.

"It was a true, hard final," commented Man of the Match, Catrakilis afterwards.

In the end, though, UCT just had too much to lose on the night.

"I know it was our third final, and maybe we wanted it just that much more," said captain, Nick Fenton-Wells, in the post-match interview as he shared a few words of condolence with the Pretoria players.

Vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price,

was among the university officials who accompanied the team to Pretoria.

"It is a great win," said Price.

"We are extremely pleased to finally be crowned champions of the Varsity Cup! We have made it to the final in three of the past four years so this is not just luck. The team and everyone around them have worked hard over the past few years. It is wonderful to finally taste the victory!"

And the Tigers had shown themselves to be worthy of the title, Price added.

"We have proven that we are, home or away, a rugby force to be reckoned with. The Ikey Tigers may not have been among the most-fancied sides when this competition first started, but our name is now synonymous with the Varsity Cup. We wish to thank all the teams that have participated and the many supporters on all sides that make this Cup so vibrant. To the losing team in the finals, we want to say that you were formidable opponents and we thank you for the excellent spirit in which you hosted us here in Pretoria." ■



Socially responsible: The first group of students to complete the Global Citizenship: Leading for Social believe the programme has changed their lives.

Global Citizenship programme growing

The UCT Global Citizenship: Leading for Social programme is becoming ever more popular, with over 200 students enrolling this year – more than double last year's intake.

At the launch on 11 April, students didn't waste time getting started, discussing some of the key ideas that will be explored over the programme – poverty, development, service, globalisation, citizenship and social justice.

The course is run by the Centre for Higher Education Development (CHED), and provides students with an opportunity to get to grips with current issues and debates on global citizenship, leadership and social justice, and to reflect on community service experiences. The programme stems from the

university's commitment to enhance graduate attributes by encouraging them to think critically about problems facing the country, the continent and the world, and to respond accordingly.

At the event, deputy vice-chancellors Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo and Professor Crain Soudien expressed the university's support for the programme.

Students who participated in the inaugural course last year, were recently presented with certificates, and gave the programme a thumbs up.

"I have come to understand the world I live in, and how to be a more socially responsible citizen," said one.

"This programme has made me an active

citizen, making me socially aware of my surroundings with issues such as poverty and development," added another.

Professor Ian Scott, deputy dean of CHED, congratulated the students, saying that they had made an important investment in doing the course.

"[Doing the course] is an investment in your future, and in giving hope to future generations who will have to confront the challenges of the contemporary world," he told the students.

This year's courses include lectures, online activities (blogging, e-debates, podcasts), learning events and reflective sessions.

For further information, visit www.globalcitizen.uct.ac.za. ■