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Beware laws that muzzle press – Biko lawyer

Unlike the UCT vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, Sir Sydney Kentridge never mentioned the Protection of Information Bill by name.

He was loath to comment on something he hadn't read and wasn't familiar with, Kentridge explained after delivering the 12th Annual Steve Biko Memorial Lecture at UCT on 12 September. But it wasn't that difficult to connect the dots in his talk, in which he looked back at the 1977 public inquest that, on the face of it, was meant to reveal the truth behind Biko's death in custody that year.

In his lecture, co-hosted by the Steve Biko Foundation, Kentridge spoke of the national and international outcry following Biko's death. He outlined the details of the inquest, where he, George Bizos (in the audience at UCT) and the late Ernie Wentzel, a UCT law graduate, had represented Biko's mother and his widow, Ntsiki. (Ntsiki Biko also attended the lecture, along with other family members.)

If there was consensus at the inquest that Biko had died of extensive injuries to the brain, then the "real issues", explained Kentridge, were rather the cause of those brain injuries, and the way Biko had been treated throughout his detention.

The security police denied ever assaulting Biko. Instead, they blamed the injuries on a scuffle that followed after Biko's supposed attack on the officer in charge of his interrogation, Major Harold Snyman. (Kentridge also refused to name Snyman, whose application for amnesty to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 1997 was turned down on the grounds that he and others had not made a full disclosure on the 1977 events.)

Despite the medical evidence that suggested that Biko had been assaulted and, shackled and stripped naked, had received no proper medical care for days after the assault, the presiding chief magistrate found otherwise. There was no evidence, he concluded, that anyone was responsible for Biko's death.

"Given the history of previous inquests into deaths of detainees, the verdict, perverse as it was, was by no means a surprise to us," said Kentridge.

One of the lessons to come out of



Remembering the past: VC Dr Max Price (left) with Sir Sydney Kentridge, who delivered the 12th Annual Steve Biko Memorial Lecture at UCT on 12 September.

the Biko inquest, and apartheid as a whole, was the need for an independent and critical free press, said Kentridge. (Later in 1977 he would represent the *Rand Daily Mail* and its political correspondent – and now premier of the Western Cape – Helen Zille, brought before a press council for revealing the true details behind Biko's death. The press council found in favour of the government.)

While the press was "surprisingly free" to criticise government action during apartheid, Kentridge said, it was a criminal offence to publish any false statement about the police or about prisons unless the publisher could show "due care" had been taken before publishing. Due care, however, included giving the authorities advance notice of the proposed publication, and waiting for the authorities to comment.

"The chilling effect on the press was inevitable."

So beware of any law that seeks



Students' Representative Council president Amanda Ngwenya presents a portrait to Sir Sydney Kentridge. They are flanked by Nkosinathi Biko (Steve Biko's son, and CEO of the Steve Biko Foundation) and VC Dr Max Price.

to regulate the press, Kentridge cautioned.

"Still more dangerous would be any extension of the Official Secrets Act beyond its traditional scope of protecting military secrets which could be of use to any enemy," he

added. "Any more general definition of official secrets would inhibit legitimate investigative journalism."

Price was not so guarded in his criticism of the Protection of Information Bill. Should the bill be passed, he said, the country would return to

1970-type conditions where, for example, those wishing to leak the Biko medical reports or publish details of the torture of prisoners would have been subject to criminal prosecution.

"Those lessons we had to learn once again after Biko's death under the control of the intelligence agencies; those lessons which we reaffirmed at the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, are all once again under serious threat of being negated with the impending signing into law of the Protection of Information Bill."

After a year of debate and protest, a number of gratifying changes have been made to the bill, said Price. But he urged civil society to continue to voice its objections.

"Let us hope that we can protect the rights of whistleblowers, investigators, professionals, academics, journalists and others to reveal the circumstances of future Steve Bikos." (video and podcast at <http://www.uct.ac.za/news/lectures/stevebiko/>). ■

Online tutoring in bio-entrepreneurship

DANIELLA POLLOCK

A need for SA-driven drug innovation, worrying unemployment rates among university graduates, and a keen eye for opportunity prompted UCT graduate-turned-bioconsulting-entrepreneur Dr Nirvana Pillay to develop three courses aimed specifically at turning great scientists into great business minds.

Pillay is managing director of Xcell BioConsulting, which has joined forces with UCT's Graduate School of Business to present online courses in bioentrepreneurship. These 10-week, certificate-level programmes are aimed at those in the medical and life sciences who wish to awaken the entrepreneur within.

"There is a lack of entrepreneurial spirit in this field," says Pillay. "Only one in 10 000 lead com-

pounds actually become commercialised drugs, hardly any of which are developed in South Africa."

Science graduates may choose from three specialised bioentrepreneurship courses, depending on their level of interest in management and their level of interest in science.

The courses are Biopharma Research Management Training, which focuses on project management; From Molecule to Market, looking at marketing and commercialisation; and From Science to Business, for those interested in making the transition from science to business.

And there are a number of advantages to doing the courses online. For example, the students will enjoy full access to all online study materials, and can also access the course convenors via discussion forums or email.

For more information, send an email to info@xcellbioconsulting.com. ■



"Violence is a topic of concern for everyone..." - VC Dr Max Price.

Conference explores trends in violence

The 'culture of violence' in South Africa, violence in schools and in communities, and innovative responses to violence, were but a few of the topics raised at the first conference of the UCT Safety & Violence Initiative (SaVI), hosted on 8 and 9 September. At the event, experts in these fields, some from as far afield as Jamaica, Scotland, and Switzerland, shared their insights on the topics. "Violence is a topic of concern for everyone in South Africa," said the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, in his opening talk, "and through SaVI, UCT hopes to make a difference in this area." ■



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Recovery is still a little way off – Maria Ramos

If there's no master plan to pull the world economy, Phoenix-like, out of the embers of a still-smoking recession, it could be because the financial world is somewhat at sea.

"It's difficult to talk about the state of the economy and the way forward because at this stage, I think, all of us have many more questions than we actually have answers for," said Maria Ramos, group chief executive of the Absa Group, at a talk hosted by UCT's School of Economics in September. "All we know is that there is a significant amount of uncertainty out there."

As a result, there is plenty of volatility in the markets, and in response, said Ramos, investors are bulking up on safer assets. Surprisingly popular now are American Treasuries (the US's debt-financing instruments, such as Treasury bills and bonds); this despite the recent downgrading of the US's credit rating to AA-plus, one point off the top-tier AAA that it had since 1941.

There's also trouble brewing in the European Community. Greece, Ireland and Portugal are in deep financial waters, but even more worrying are the looming crises in the larger economies of Italy and Spain, reported Ramos.

If there is good news, it's that emerging markets like those of China, South Korea and India are playing a more important role. And even though South Africa's wagon is well and truly hitched to the global economy, the country has been able to weather the financial storms better



Troubled waters: Recovery from the global financial crisis has come in fits and starts, said Maria Ramos at a recent talk at UCT. (Listen to a pod cast at <http://www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/sound/2011/>)

than most, explained Ramos, thanks to its sound fiscal policies – the country's debt-to-GDP ratio stands at about 30%, well below that of the US or some EU nations – and a growth in the range of what it's exporting and who it's exporting to, among other factors.

But a global recovery is still some way off – perhaps another four or five years, according to some, said Ramos. And there are questions over whether the tried-and-tested instruments that policymakers understand

and are comfortable with are, in fact, enough to tackle the structural problems that are plaguing world economies.

But care should also be taken once (if?) the world finally does recover, Ramos noted.

"Discipline is never harder to maintain than in the good times," she said. "The real challenge for anybody – the challenge for CEOs, the challenge for regulators – is to make sure that the reforms that get started in the crisis are actually implemented." ■

Social Responsiveness Award – nominate!

In 2009 the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, established a Distinguished Social Responsiveness Award, alongside similar awards for teaching and research.

The award recognises UCT academics who demonstrate that social engagement has enhanced the teaching and learning process – one of the university's priorities. The value of the award is R30 000.

The deadline for applications is 26 September. Please contact Sonwabo Ngcelwane at sonwabo.ngcelwane@uct.ac.za for the criteria and procedures.

The recipient of the 2010 award, Dr Hanna-Andrea Rother, has commented: "The award has been fantastic for me professionally at several levels; it profiled and gave recognition to my work,

which I had not received in other ways. I have had students who want me to supervise them as a result of receiving this award. It has made my work more public and drawn attention to a very important but silent public health problem. I am still getting newspapers who would like to write about the subject; it strengthens my CV." ■

Information Bill talks continue



Discussion on the Protection of Information Bill at UCT continued with a lunch-time talk, titled *Secrecy and Academia*, on 14 September.

Part of the lead-up to last Saturday's *Stop the Secrecy Bill* march to Parliament, the event was hosted by the Students' Representative Council, Students for Law and Social Justice, the History and Current Affairs Society and the Debating Union. Leading the discussion were the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, and Professor David Benatar of the Department of Philosophy.

The talk weighed up the bill's pros (like ensuring state security) and cons (like classifying information as secret that may actually be in the public's best interest to know).

"The problem we have with the bill is that it doesn't offer any public defence clause," said Price. "There

are things we *should* be criticising the government about."

Benatar concurred. "In a proper execution of our right to freedom of information we need information about what our government is doing," he said. "If we don't [know], the judgement that we make in voting is uninformed."

On 15 September Judge Dennis Davis chaired a debate between Dario Milo, associate professor at Wits University; Dennis Dhlomo, special advisor to the Minister of State Security; Fatima Hassan, co-director with Zackie Achmat of the non-profit organisation Ndifuna Ukwazi, which looked at leadership training and social justice issues; and Martin Welz, editor of *Noseweek* magazine. (View video <http://www.youtube.com/user/UCT-SouthAfrica>) ■



On track: Assoc Prof David Jacobs addresses the Faculty of Science Transformation Forum's panel discussion..

Affirmative action here to stay – for now

Debates on affirmative action often spark heated arguments, and the Faculty of Science Transformation Forum's panel discussion was no different.

Titled *When to end affirmative action at UCT?*, the event looked at the extent to which the university has achieved equity of staff, if there are mechanisms for strengthening the equity policy, and if there is a need for supportive and/or alternative strategies.

Panel member Associate Professor David Jacobs suggested that UCT should transform from providing preferential access to certain races, genders and cultures, and from Euro-centric curricula. It should also stop producing citizens who expect privilege and entitlement on the grounds

of race and gender, on one hand, and who are disempowered and alienated on the other.

"Both kinds of citizens are too myopic to become agents of change in a real world," he said.

Jacobs said UCT should be an institution where access is determined solely by merit, where the curricula celebrate all the achievements of human civilisation, and that the university should produce citizens who have a realistic view of the world.

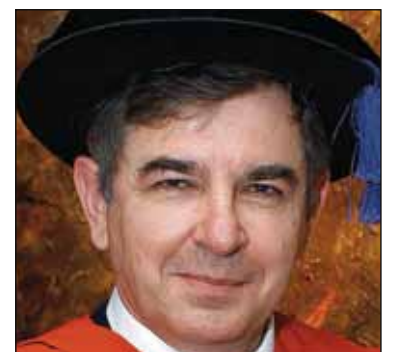
UCT currently falls short of those ambitions, he said.

Fellow panellist, vice-chancellor Dr Max Price, said that employment equity statistics show that the university's transformation process is largely on track. But based on the graduate throughput, and on

how long it takes for the growing cohort of black PhDs to move up the career ladder through lecturer, senior lecturer and associate professor to professor, it would take between 25 to 30 years to achieve a 50-50 black/white staff ratio, and even longer to approximate the national demographics at all levels.

"But that doesn't mean we should favour black applicants in selection for 30 years, because there are clearly downsides. Affirmative action is much more than the selection process. It includes identifying talent and potential, career development and acceleration. In my view, as one approximates 50-50, the pressures and imperatives for moving to 80-20 will diminish and probably be eliminated." ■

NRF kudos for scholars



Standout: Profs Bongani Mayosi, Frank Brombacher and George Janelidze have been recognised by the NRF for their work.

UCT scholars featured prominently among the recipients of recent awards presented by the National Research Foundation (NRF).

Professor Bongani Mayosi, head of the Department of Medicine, received the NRF Transformation of the Science Cohort Award, which recognises an individual who, according to the organisation, "has played an outstanding role in addressing the challenges

of getting more women and black scientists to advance world-class research performance". Mayosi was hailed for his scholarly work, as well as for his contributions to mentorship, the establishment of research capacity-building programmes and the development of healthcare policy.

In addition, the NRF renewed the A-ratings of Professor Frank Brombacher, who holds the national research

chair for the immunology of infectious diseases in Africa, and Professor George Janelidze of the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics. These ratings confirm their standings as world leaders in their fields.

In addition, Professors David Glasser and Lyn Wadley, UCT graduates now both based at the University of the Witwatersrand, also received A-ratings. ■



HAVE YOUR SAY! ADVISORY COMMITTEE: NAMING POLICY OF THE CITY OF CAPE TOWN

In accordance with Paragraph 9.1 of the Naming Policy of the City of Cape Town, nominations are invited for suitably qualified persons to serve on the Advisory Committee for the period of office of the Cape Town City Council.

Written nominations on the prescribed form, with the consent of the nominee, and supported by three persons must be received no later than 30 September 2011.

Nominees should possess knowledge and/or experience in one or more of the following: cultural customs and history; faith and belief systems; local, regional and national history; language and literature; town planning; geography.

The Executive Mayor reserves the right to augment the Advisory Committee where insufficient nominations have been received, where there are concerns about demographic diversity or insufficient expertise in the required fields.

Other provisions, the nomination form and the Naming Policy may be found at www.capetown.gov.za/namingprocess

Further information is available from:
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Public Participation Unit
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UCT group joins global fight against torture

Many around the country and further afield recently commemorated the death of struggle icon Steve Biko (see story on pg 1). This adds some perspective to the work done by a new initiative to address the use of torture in African countries.

Despite the fact that most African states have ratified the United Nations Convention Against Torture (UNCAT), this human rights violation is very much alive, especially in situations and areas where people are denied many of their liberties.

Claims that torture still takes place in detention facilities in emerging African democracies are often met with indifference.

In spite of Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 5 of the African Charter on Human and People's Rights, which guarantee the right of all people to be free from torture, and the efforts of the African Commission on Human and People's Rights (ACHPR), much work remains to be done to prevent and eradicate torture in Africa.

Enter the European Union-funded Article 5 Initiative, a collaborative effort between UCT's Gender, Health and Justice Research Unit (GHJRU), the University of the Western Cape's (UWC) Community Law Centre, the University of Bristol Human Rights Implementation Centre, and the African Policing Civil Oversight Forum.

The initiative focuses on six post-conflict African countries (Burundi, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa and Uganda), and aims to develop guidelines and norms to prevent and eradicate torture and

other ill-treatment in places of detention.

Standards such as those set by the UNCAT are often too abstract to have operational meaning. Furthermore, international instruments are often seen as 'foreign', or imposed.

"With Article 5, we aim to develop clear standards that are context-relevant to each country," says initiative co-ordinator Professor Lillian Artz, who is based at the GHJRU.

"In South Africa, for example, prison conditions vary greatly," explains project co-ordinator Lukas Muntingh of UWC. "Some are world class, but some are well below what we should expect in a constitutional democracy."

It's another remnant of the continent's colonial past, he argues.

"In Africa, we have this colonial hangover. The ways of the colonial powers were perpetuated by the people who came into power, and there isn't always great awareness around human rights issues."

It was only with the death of Steve Biko in 1977 that the UN General Assembly commenced work on the drafting of the UNCAT, observes Muntingh.

"Prisoners should be made aware of their rights, and those in charge of their responsibilities. After all, what is monitored is managed."

But why now?

"These countries are all going through a critical period of democratisation and development," says Artz. "The timing is good to work within that reformatory gap."

The project will kick off with baseline studies to establish the



Human rights abuse: UCT's Prof Lillian Artz and UWC's Lukas Muntingh are leading a project that will look into the use of torture in Africa.

state of affairs in each country.

Though the project is still in its inception, the research team has well-established relationships with human rights institutions in the target countries, as well as with the African Commission on Human and

People's Rights.

For now, the team is looking to establish an appropriate methodology. And later there may well be opportunities to expand its examination of places of detention beyond prisons and police cells to psychiat-

ric institutions, repatriation centres and juvenile detention centres, among other facilities.

The point of departure though, they agree, is that there is never an excuse for torture; the prohibition must be absolute. ■

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

DIEPSLOOT

AUTHOR

Professor Anton Harber

Head of Journalism and Media Studies
University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

SPEAKER

Ms Maureen Isaacson

Assistant Editor/Books Editor
Sunday Independent, Johannesburg

SPEAKER

Mr Andile Mngxitama

Policy Advisor
Foundation for Human Rights, Johannesburg

Date: Tuesday, 20 September 2011 • Time: 17h30 – 19h00

Venue: Centre for the Book • 62 Queen Victoria Street • Gardens • Cape Town

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Archive and curatorship project kicks off



A talk in August by renowned art historian and visual theorist Professor James Elkins marked the launch of a new research project, *Archive and Curatorship: The visual university and its columbarium*.

Supported by the Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Fund, the project is anchored by two existing and complementary projects at UCT – the Centre for Curating the Archive at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, and the Archive & Public Culture Research Initiative, funded by the National Research Foundation and based in UCT's Department of Social Anthropology. The new umbrella project offers opportunities to highlight the many projects at UCT

already involved with archive and curatorship.

"There are objects and images everywhere in the university," says Professor Carolyn Hamilton, who holds the NRF Chair in Archive and Public Culture. "They are to be found in its classrooms, laboratories, storerooms and assembled collections; in the working materials and offices of its scholars; in its constituted libraries and museums and at the heart of many disciplines."

In keeping with the new project, Elkins, of the Art Institute of Chicago, considered the variety of image-making and image-interpreting practices employed at universities today. These images, he said in his talk, *Visual Practices Across the University*, should be given the platform to speak for themselves.

For more information, visit the ARC website at www.arc.uct.ac.za. ■

Let images speak: Prof James Elkins addresses the launch of the project *Archive and Curatorship: The visual university and its columbarium*.

ICTS high performance computing underpins UCT research

It's been two-and-a-half years since Information and Communication Technology Services (ICTS) at UCT first ventured into the realm of high performance computing (HPC).

In 2009, the executive director of ICT at UCT, Sakkie Janse van Rensburg, challenged ICTS to provide an affordable and accessible HPC solution, encompassing hardware, software and user support for the university's research community. Two senior engineers from ICTS's Computing Platforms team, Timothy Carr and Andrew Lewis, were chosen to drive the project.

With limited hardware and no prior experience in HPC they were fortunate to join forces with the South African National Grid (SAN-Grid) initiative, co-ordinated by Dr Bruce Becker at the Meraka Institute of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. This enabled the ICTS's fledgling HPC team to attend several international training events in Europe, build contacts with other South African universities and research groups, and gain access to invaluable support and

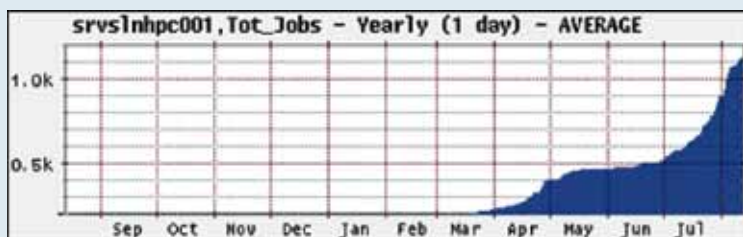
experience.

In addition to running the ICTS-dedicated research cluster, the team plays a key role in supporting the SAGrid project, allowing UCT researchers to gain access to additional resources both in South Africa and internationally via the European Grid Initiative (EGI).

HPC progress at UCT was slow initially, but after attending a European Union-funded application porting school in Sicily, the team gained sufficient confidence to deploy a local cluster dedicated to UCT research. They also began to convert scientific applications from standalone desktop to HPC format.

Since then there has been a rapid uptake of users and a steady demand for new applications. Over 20 scientific software programs have already been ported to HPC format and the team are currently working on additional programs.

The team currently supports users from nine university departments, and recently surpassed 10 years' worth of computing time – the equivalent of one computer working constantly for 10 years.



Number of UCT research jobs submitted since the ICTS HPC cluster went live in March 2010.

Local UCT researchers account for over 80 000 computing hours, while the remainder of the HPC infrastructure is dedicated to international collaborative projects. This is largely due to the fact that it is possible to submit multiple jobs simultaneously to the HPC cluster.

It is worth bearing in mind that jobs can run for a month or longer, so ICTS ensures a stable and highly reliable service by making sure that the ICTS data centres are equipped with an uninterruptible power supply (UPS), in-line diesel generators, environmental control and disaster recovery systems. Once a job is running on the cluster, the researcher can carry on with other work on his or her personal computer without having

to worry about processor utilisation or power failures.

Along with providing application support, the team also makes sure that ICTS has sufficient hardware to support the HPC requirements, and regularly adds to the number of CPUs (central processing units) that are available.

Later this year, ICTS also hopes to provide support for applications that require extreme computing power, and will be looking to expand its disk-storage pool into the multi-terabyte range.

The goal is to provide a low-cost, sustainable HPC architecture and to increase and retain HPC skills inside the university. Ultimately this will make ICTS HPC a more affordable and attractive model with which to do research. ■



Jobs submitted by UCT and international researchers to the ICTS Grid Cluster.

Find out more about the team by reading the ICTS HPC blog at <http://blogs.uct.ac.za/blog/big-bytes/>.



Inaugural procession: DVCs Profs Crain Soudien and Thandabantu Nhlapo, Dr Linda Ronnie, VC Dr Max Price, Profs Eric Wood and Walter Baets (GSB director), DVC Prof Danie Visser, and Dean of Commerce Prof Don Ross. (Listen to a podcast at <http://www.uct.ac.za/news/lectures/inaugural/2011/>)

Value creation key to sustainability - Wood

Looking at his track record, it would be fair to conclude that Professor Eric Wood is the kind who walks the talk.

After he bought a majority stake in a loss-making business 10 years ago, Wood managed to turn it around in a short time. And his weapon of choice was value creation – the topic of his inaugural lecture, titled *The Art of Value Creation*, on 7 September.

Wood, who teaches innovation and entrepreneurship at UCT's Graduate School of Business and in the Netherlands, believes that value creation is central to the sustainability of any society. Yet it is a struggle to create value as a nation, and failure to do so is typically shouldered by the poorest of the poor.

Wood's views are backed up by the Global Entrepreneurship Monitoring survey, which shows (among other findings) that productivity per employee in South Africa declined by 6% between 1994 and 2007, that the country has the lowest survival rate of young firms among developing nations, and that there is large-

scale value destruction in both the public and the private sectors.

According to the government's Special Investigating Unit, a state body that investigates corruption, 20% to 25% of state procurement expenditure (amounting to R30 billion a year) is wasted on overpayments and corruption. In addition, there has been "appalling" anti-competitive behaviour and other abuses of market power by the private sector in many prominent industries.

"Value creation is important to South Africa, and the country offers fertile ground for deepening our understanding of which principles make value creation, and which don't," Wood said.

He added that the fundamental problem is the possibility that one stakeholder may make gains at the expense of another, which is not value creation but value transfer.

He argued that it is the so-called 'softer' fields of stakeholder theory, business ethics and sustainability that produce the most helpful and inclusive insights into value crea-

tion.

"I propose that value creation occurs when all of an organisation's stakeholders, such as customers, end-users, employees, the communities in which the organisation is operating, the environment, the taxman – as well as its owners – are so rewarded that they are positively inclined to dedicate the same amount or more of their applicable resources to it in future, even if for no better real rate of return than before.

"If, as managers, we have a responsibility to ensure value creation, it means we have to ensure that none of our stakeholders is left out or exploited in the process."

Ultimately, this requires that all stakeholders accept responsibility for their respective parts in delivering the necessary rewards to all other stakeholders.

To achieve that, Wood proposed that stakeholders should strive to create meaning in their practices, be obsessed with excellence, invest in the truth and be willing to subject themselves to scrutiny. ■

Treated wood dumped for energy-efficient wood stoves



Treated wood for cooking is a health risk for caterers and households in townships. Addressing this issue is the Technology Deployment for Sustainable Urban Development project (TD4SUD), aka the Township Caterers Project, led by Professor Harro Von Blottnitz of UCT's Department of Chemical Engineering. The research project aims not only to prove this claim, but to establish methods of diminishing harmful emissions. To this end, the project has collaborated with students from Engineers without Borders and Students in Free Enterprise to design a mass distribution plan for energy-efficient wood stoves. An awareness event, held at the UCT SHAWCO centre in Nyanga in 13 August, included a live stove demonstration and Q&A session. ■

New media's impact on performing arts



Dance and YouTube: Keynote speaker Deirdre Towers, artistic director of the New York based Dance Films Association, explored the history of dance for the camera.

UCT's Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts (GIPCA) kicked off its programme of screenings, panel discussions and talks titled *Film & Dance: Innovative Art on the Rise* in August, with some style.

To get discussion going, it launched the event with the premiere of *Pina 3D*, a spectacular doccie-style dance film about the life and work of the late German modern dancer,

choreographer, teacher and director, Pina Bausch. The film is directed by renowned German filmmaker Wim Wenders, and features Pina's Tanztheater Wuppertal Pina Bausch dance company in a visually stunning journey of dance; all in 3D, of course.

The rest of the weekend was something of a dance and film aficionado's heaven, with screenings of local and international filmmakers' work, panel discussions and lectures.

In her keynote address, artistic director of the New York-based Dance Films Association Deirdre Towers took the audience on a trip through the first 100 years of dance for the camera – from household names like Ginger Rogers and Michael Jackson, to *West Side Story* and the beginnings of Bollywood – and then on to the radical experiments of contemporary film and dance makers.

It elicited questions of artistic

integrity in these techno-rich times.

"It takes 10 years to make a dancer and it could take 10 years to perfect your art, but it could take two minutes to hit a button to record and another to share on YouTube," said Towers. "The opportunity here, to write in images, is endless."

For GIPCA, this event furthers their commitment to an interdisciplinary approach.

"This is a way to put our feelers

out and see what the prominent movements out there are, and bring them into this space," said GIPCA director Jay Pather. "It produces material for further postgraduate work, and brings innovative and state-of-the-art methodology into sharp focus to inform curriculum design."

Based on the successful reception of this year's events, next year's *Film & Dance* will be more extensive, Pather promised. ■

Safety nod for Obz Square

Anyone who's ever visited the building site of Obz Square – the seven-storey residence that will accommodate 887 students from 2012 – will know that everyone there takes safety very seriously. It's an ethic that's earned the construction company working on the site, NMC Construction, third place in the R200-R500-million category of this year's Master Builders and Allied Trades Association Western Cape (MBAWC) Safety Competition. It's the second MBAWC award that NMC has received for their work on Obz Square – they were runners-up in the same category in 2010. ■



African dance gumbo

Celebrating the diversity of South African dance, *African Gumbo*, directed and choreographed by Maxwell Xolani Rani, was showcased by UCT's School of Dance recently. Performance pieces were based on several works from Sandile Dikeni's poetry volume, *Telegraph to the Sky*; *Sonho De Mae Negra (Dream of an African Mother)*, a protest poem by Mozambiquan liberation leader Marcelino Dos Santos; and *The Birth of Shaka* by Oswald Mbuyiseni Mtshali. ■



Turn universities into hothouses of thinking

Deputy vice-chancellor Professor Crain Soudien called on universities to create environments that incubate "good knowledge" that can be put at the disposal of communities. Opening the board meeting of the South African Higher Education Community Engagement Forum (SAHECEF), a body made up of representatives from all 23 South African institutions of higher education, Soudien said that creating "hothouses" for thinking and deliberation was deeply important. It is the base on which universities become good and relevant to society, he added. The meeting on 2 September was hosted by the Institutional Planning Department, and will be deliberated on in the SAHECEF's working groups and its planned conference in November, reports chairperson Dr Jerome Slamet. ■

Shortlisted names



The Naming of Buildings Committee (NOBC) has considered the proposals for the naming of buildings received in response to the call for proposals issued in May 2011. The committee has assessed the proposals against the criteria it had specified. It has agreed on a shortlist. The committee has decided to publish this shortlist, and invites members of the university to comment on the proposed names before it makes recommendations to the university Council, which will make the final decisions. Please submit your comments to Marius Lund at marius.lund@uct.ac.za by 21 September 2011. (The full list of proposals is available at <http://www.uct.ac.za/about/honours/buildingnames/>) ■

EVENTS

UCT INAUGURAL LECTURES

Date: 21 September 2011. **Speaker:** **Professor Nigel Worden**, Department of Historical Studies, Faculty of Humanities. Title: The Global Cape: Breaking the Boundaries of the early Cape Colony. Venue: Lecture Theatre 1, Kramer Law Building Middle Campus, University of Cape Town. Time: Guest to be seated by 17h15 for 17h30

Date: 28 September 2011. **Speaker:** **Professor Colin Tredoux**, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities. Title: Pragmatic Psychology and the perils of eyewitness identification. Venue: Lecture Theatre 2D, Leslie Social Sciences Building, Upper Campus, University of Cape Town. Time: Guest to be seated by 17h15 for 17h30

Date: 05 October 2011. **Speaker:** **Professor Wayne Derman**, Department of Human Biology, Faculty of Health Sciences. Title: Broken Hearts, Spacemen, Wattle Trees and a Man with One Leg. Venue: Sports Science Institute, Newlands, University of Cape Town. Time: Guest to be seated by 17h15 for 17h30

Philosophy Society Meeting: Date: Tuesday 20 September @ 20h00

Speaker: Professor Peter Collins.

Title: Moral Decision-Making in real time: Dennett's Evolutionary Ethics.

Venue: LS3A, 3rd Floor, Robert Leslie Social Science Building.

COURSES:

Architectural and Urban

Conservation: Skills Development: certificate course, Monday evenings 26 September - 28 November 2011, presented by Dr Stephen Townsend. For further information please see website www.cpd.uct.ac.za or contact Sandra Jemaar 021 6505793 or email ebe-cpd@uct.ac.za

Principles of Project Management: certificate course, Tuesday evenings 4 October - 8 November 2011. Presented by Prof Paul Bowen and Mark Massyn. For further information please see website www.cpd.uct.ac.za or contact Sandra Jemaar 021 6505793 or email ebe-cpd@uct.ac.za

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- Researching and Assessing Heritage Resources: 10 - 14 Oct 2011, 08h30 - 13h00, Presented by Dr Stephen Townsend

- Transport Modelling: 24 - 28 Oct 2011, presented by Centre for Transport Studies

- Integrated Urban Water Management: 31 Oct - 4 Nov 2011, presented by Dept Civil Engineering

- Local Area Transport Planning, Management and Design: 28 Nov - 4 Dec 2011, presented by Centre for Transport Studies

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VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Associate Professor: Actuarial Science & Finance, Management Studies, Faculty of Commerce. Closing date: 20 September 2011

Pieter Moll & Nuffield Chair of Orthopaedic Surgery & Head of The Division of Orthopaedic Surgery,

Department of Surgery, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 30 September 2011

Lecturer, Social Anthropology, Faculty of Humanities. Closing date: 03 October 2011

Lecturer, Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities. Closing date: 03 October 2011

Academic Development Lecturer/Senior Lecturer, Education Development Unit, Centre for Higher Education Development. Closing date: 07 October 2011

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor/Professor, Political Studies, Faculty of Humanities. Closing date: 14 October 2011

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer, Archaeology, Faculty of Science. Closing date: 14 October 2011

Lecturers/Senior Lecturers, Historical Studies, Faculty of Humanities. Closing date: 14 October 2011

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Manager: Access Services, UCT Libraries. Closing date: 23 September 2011

Research Study Nurse, School of Child & Adolescent Health, Faculty of Health Sciences. Closing date: 24 September 2011

Research Study Nurse Assistant, School of Child & Adolescent Health, Faculty of Health Sciences. Closing date: 24 September 2011

Fieldworker, School of Child & Adolescent Health, Faculty of Health Sciences. Closing date: 24 September 2011

Medical Officer, School of Child & Adolescent Health, Faculty of Health Sciences. Closing date: 24 September 2011

Senior Technical Officer, Department of Geomatics, Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, Closing date: 25 September 2011

Research Radiographer, Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences. Closing date: 30 September 2011

Laboratory Technologist, Medical Microbiology, Faculty of Health Sciences. Closing date: 30 September 2011

Key Technology Specialist: Fuel Cell Stack, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, Closing date: 07 October 2011

Key Technology Specialist: Fuel Processor, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, Closing date: 07 October 2011

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

Data Capturer, Medical Microbiology, Faculty of Health Sciences. Closing date: 30 September 2011

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London: Flat swap Lovely 1 bedroom flat available in West Hampstead for the month of December, in exchange for flat/home in Cape Town, preferably Southern Suburbs. I'm a South African healthcare professional living in London but returning for a holiday and wanting to do an exchange. Please email west-hampstead-flat@mail.com or SMS me on

+44 7981517702 and I'll email you some photos. References needed."

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Holiday Lets: Llandudno, Idyllic holiday base. Sea and mountain views, walking distance to beach; fully equipped, four bedrooms, mes, open plan kitchen & living area, separate TV lounge, deck and patio make for great outdoor living. Available for 3 weeks from December 16th (negotiable); R 2 100 p.d. Contact 0784199482

Rosebank/Little Mowbray: Four bedrooms, mes, family bathroom, large open plan kitchen living area, separate dining room and lounge, study, large cellar/storage room. Private sunny garden and enclosed swimming pool, carport and parking space for two other cars behind electric gate. 2m perimeter fencing, alarm system, outside laundry room/kitchenette and domestic quarters. R 17 000 pm, long lease and available November 1st 2011. Tel 0784199482

Strand: Beachfront flat to let. Stunning views. Fully equipped plus linen. 1 bedroom plus sleeper couch. Garage. R450/night for 2. Also monthly. Brenda 0828220607

Claremont: Upper Claremont short term accommodation available immediately secure private suites self catering or B&B see website www.avetorquay.co.za

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Oranjezicht: 2 bed apartment to let in Oranjezicht. Walking distance to Hiddingh Campus, Gardens Centre. Cat friendly. Balcony with views. From 1 Oct. R 7500/month. Contact roman.roth@uct.ac.za.

Rondebosch: Female housemate required preferably senior student or postgraduate. Furnished Room with ensuite bathroom in rondobosch, secure off street parking. R3000/month includes amenities, maid and dstv. Available for 2012. Contact 0827820675 for further details or with any queries.

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GENERAL

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Students ponder quality and diversity

It would appear that both academics and students are grappling with issues of diversity, especially when it threads its way into teaching and learning.

And there's still plenty to debate and mull over, as was evident at the Student Forum on Quality Assurance, hosted by the Students' Representative Council (SRC), the Institutional Planning Department (IPD) and the Department: Student Affairs (DSA) on 13 August. Themed *Promoting Diversity through Teaching and Learning*, the forum discussed the pros and cons of making UCT's course on Global Citizenship compulsory for most (if not all) students, and creating an enabling environment for students, especially those with disabilities.

"Quality assurance is now not only discussed by the academics or the management of the university,"



said the SRC's Insaaf Isaacs, "but has also branched over to its student leaders, and guidance is sought from fora such as these and incorporated into university policy."

In keeping with its central concern, the forum also launched its Students Quality Assurance Handbook, aimed at encouraging students to contribute to the discussion. ■

SRC election campaign in full swing



Campaign trail: SRC candidate Student Kwadwo Owusu introduces himself at the election launch.

One thing stood out at the launch of the 2011/2012 Students' Representative Council elections on 12 September: more and more students at UCT are interested in student governance.

This year, no fewer than 40 students will vie for 17 seats (increased from 15 seats, in accordance with the new SRC constitution) on the student body, up from 30 last year and 23 way back in 2007. (There have been promising increments in student voting.)

"The large number of candidates is a clear indication that interest in student governance is alive on campus," said outgoing SRC secretary,

Sean Darge. At the launch, candidates introduced themselves to a packed Molly Blackburn Hall, some resorting to humour, theatrics and even strong language to draw attention.

The launch was followed by the first of five scheduled evening question-and-answer sessions, held at Liesbeeck Gardens. Others took place at Graca Machel Hall, Rochester, Forest Hill and Clarinus.

More sessions were held daily during lunchtimes, at Medical School, Kramer Building, Hiddingh Hall and Upper Campus.

Voting will take place from 19 to 23 September, and instructions for voting can be found on Vula. ■



UCT chaplain Swartz celebrates decade of service

Now in his seventh year as the Anglican chaplain to UCT, Reverend Christopher Swartz celebrated the tenth anniversary of his ordination as a priest at a thanksgiving celebration, hosted by the chaplaincy and the university's Anglican Society, on 8 September. As full-time UCT chaplain, Swartz describes his work as providing pastoral and spiritual care, as well as building connections with other faiths and support services, such as the Student Wellness Service and the Discrimination and Harassment Office. "Students are at a very enquiring stage of their lives," says Swartz, "so it's important to connect with every available resource to give them as much support as possible." ■

Students win e-waste competition

A multinational team of students from UCT and the Indian Institute of Technology, Team eWastex, has won the gold medal and US\$3 000 (about R21 000) in prize money as runner-up in the re-use category of the Second International eWaste Design Competition, hosted by the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign in the US. The team's concept is to use discarded hard drives in a micro-energy generator, which, in turn, functions as a technology platform for multiple applications, including harnessing wind energy and powering small electronics such as cell phone chargers and desk lamps. The UCT contingent in Team eWastex – Justin Alvey, Jono Lewis and Matt Walsh, (in picture, right) – had won the Business Masters International Business Case Competition 2011 earlier this year. ■



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