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Farrant one of big five in the life sciences

Plant physiologist and winner of a Harry Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Fellowship Award, Professor Jill Farrant has added another feather to her cap: the L'Oréal-UNESCO Award in Life Sciences

Professor Jill Farrant is a proud user of L'Oréal products, but soon she'll have another item bearing that brand in her home. On 8 November, she was named one of five women from around the world to win a 2012 L'Oréal-UNESCO Award in Life Sciences.

It's the latest in a string of accolades for the National Research Foundation (NRF) A-rated researcher.

A quick count uncovers the Harry Oppenheimer Memorial Trust Fellowship Award, the first woman in the life sciences at UCT to receive the NRF A-rating, a spot in *Mail & Guardian's* Book of South African Women, and the South African Distinguished Women in Science Award from the Department of Science & Technology. Farrant was also in the running for a National Science and Technology Forum-BHP Billiton Award earlier this year.

The L'Oréal honour is no small fry, either. Lest anyone think L'Oréal a mere producer of beauty products and a brand renowned for its attractive spokespeople, the company has packed some serious scholarly weight behind the award

An international network of nearly 1 000 scientists nominates the candidates for each year's awards, which form part of the L'Oréal-UNESCO Women in Science Programme. The five Laureates are then selected by an independent, international jury presided over by Professor Günter Blobel, winner of the Nobel Prize in Medicine in 1999.

One winner is named for each of five regions. In Africa and the Arab States it was Farrant; in Asia/Pacific, Professor Ingrid Scheffer of the University of Melbourne, Australia; in Europe, Professor Frances Ashcroft of Oxford University, UK; in Latin America, Professor Susana López of the National



L'Oréal woman: Prof Jill Farrant is the third UCT woman – and the fourth from South Africa – to win a L'Oréal-UNESCO Award in Life Sciences

University of Mexico; and in North America, Professor Bonnie Bassler of Princeton University in the US.

Together these scientists run the gamut of life sciences, covering plants, epilepsy, diabetes, rotaviruses and bacteria in their work.

"The work of the 2012 Award Laureates yielded remarkable insights into human health issues," Blobel said in a statement. "Their research is truly original, and each is among the best in five distinct regions of the world."

The women are singled out for the major impact their research can have on society.

Farrant, who holds a UCT research chair in the molecular physiology of plants, is renowned for her multi-angled work on resurrection or desiccation-tolerant plants, which are able to withstand prolonged drought or water loss – a looming climate change issue – but will spring to life once water arrives

Over the past years she's explored the roles that antioxidants and sucrose play in this Lazarus-like act, and is now trying to unpack the signalling pathways triggered by a group of lipids known as volatile organic compounds – and, in a recently published work, is attempting to get to grips with the genetic make-up of such plants.

It's work that could have a profound impact on the world.

"I believe in the potential outcomes of my work – ie the ultimate production of drought-tolerant crops, with the aim of addressing food security needs in Africa; which will become more important as climate change (increasing drought) continues to impact on agriculture."

As always, Farrant is at pains to point out that the many awards that bear her name are an acknowledgement of team effort.

"I have worked with amazing students and collaborators who have helped put me on this map," she says. "I might have initiated the research, and had many of the ideas that have been tested and published, but I alone did not do the work that has enabled me to receive such an award."

Farrant is the fourth South African woman, and the third from UCT, to receive the award. Previous UCT laureates are Professor Valerie Mizrahi, now director of the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine, in 2000; and Professor Jennifer Thomson, who also hails from Farrant's quarters in the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology, in 2004.

"Professor Jill Farrant is a truly deserving laureate," said Professor Danie Visser, deputy vice-chancellor for research. "This is yet another reminder of the telling impact that women have at UCT, and as the award demonstrates, on the world."

Farrant will pick up her award and prize money, US\$100 000, at a ceremony at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris in March 2012.

New academy welcomes young scientists

Three UCT scientists, all in their early to mid-30s, have been named among the 20 founder members of the new South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS).

Dr Shadreck Chirikure of the Department of Archaeology, Associate Professor Genevieve Langdon of the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Dr Jeff Murugan of the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics were inaugurated into SAYAS at a function hosted by the deputy minister for science and technology, Derek Hanekom, in Pretoria in September. "The group," said SAYAS in a statement, "was selected from among the best scientific minds in South Africa and represents a diverse range of talent in terms of race, gender and scientific discipline."

SAYAS is designed to bridge the gap between the more senior and well-established Academy of Science of South Africa, and the up-andcoming young scientists who may well be future leaders in their fields. It will also give a voice to young scientists on national and interna-



tional issues, and creates a platform

"For so long, young researchers for them to have their say in policy have been excluded in charting the country's destiny," says Chirikure

(33). "SAYAS is an opportunity to put this behind us, by showing the world that young South African re-



searchers can distil solutions that can move the country forward in topical issues such as climate change, employment creation and sound governance."

Now still in its infancy, the academy will need to gain ground and credibility. Which is where the young members can contribute, says Langdon (34).

"Our first priority is to establish SAYAS as a credible and effectively functioning organisation, which means applying our minds, raising some funding and identifying a strategy for projects and involvement across the country."

Being singled out in such an early stage of one's career is a feather in any young scholar's cap. But there is perhaps just a hint of expectation that comes with the honour.

"I guess there's a greater sense of responsibility," says Murugan (35). "And that there were only 20 founding members selected from nearly 150 nominations from across the country means that this is something of a vote of confidence."

UCT scores high in B-BBEE rating

revor Adams can't say for sure that UCT's recent Level-3 Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) rating is the best of any university in the country. But when he casually dropped the rating into conversation at a meeting with some of his finance counterparts from other universities, they were definitely impressed, he reports.

Based on a scorecard for higher-education institutions agreed to between Higher Education South Africa and the Department of Trade and Industry, UCT scored highly in most of the categories. The Level-3 rating (75 to 85 points out of a possible 100), awarded by B-BBEE verification agency Emex Trust, is also a vast improvement over the Level-6 (45 to 55 points) of 2010.

decisions.

The 2011 rating includes full marks (15 out of 15 in both categories) in enterprise development (which involved, for example, shrinking the payment period for the smaller businesses with which UCT trades) and socio-economic development (which includes UCT's multi-million-rand financial aid programme). The university

also scored well in the categories for preferential procurement (business with other B-BBEErated companies), management and control (which includes the make-up of its executive and UCT Council) and employment equity (staff demographics).

But there is room for improvement. UCT earned just 9.51 points out of a possible 20 in the skills development category, for example.

That perhaps reflects, more than anything else, that UCT hasn't kept a very good record of the training its staff members undergo,

says Carol Paulse, vendor management officer and the person who pulls together UCT's rating application. But as staff training will be chronicled in the new Personal Performance System, it's an oversight that will be corrected in the new year.

The B-BBEE rating serves as more than just a PR exercise, says Adams, head of Procurement & Payment Services in the Finance Department. For example, it could be the deciding factor in UCT winning a bid to provide a service to a government department or

state-owned enterprise when in competition with other universities, as B-BBEE ratings form part of the evaluation criteria for these entities to make such an award.

"BEE is not a nice-to-have," says Adams. "It's actually a business imperative."

UCT is one of only a handful of South African universities that have gone through the exercise. More are following suit now, Adams notes.

The trick for UCT, though, is to maintain or improve upon this rating, he adds.



You are cordially invited to a Social Responsiveness Symposium which will be held in the Mafeje Room, Bremner Building, on the 18 November 2011

In November 2008, UCT Senate and Council approved the Social Responsiveness Policy framework which makes provision for an institutional award to be called the 'Distinguished Social Responsiveness Award'. This award complements those already issued by the university to staff in recognition of their achievements in teaching and research.

Against this background, the 2011Social Responsiveness Symposium would like to profile the work of the 2011 SR award recipients. During their presentation, the recipients will reflect on their work and how it fits into the realm of social responsiveness as conceived in the policy framework

Venue: Mafeje Room, Bremner Building, UC1

Proposed programme:

8h00-8h15

8h15-8h30

Welcome and introductions and purpose of the colloquium: DVC Prof Crain Soudien, Chair: University Social Responsiveness Committee

8h30-9h00

Assoc Prof Ralph Hamann: The Southern Africa Food Lab; Linking action research to collaborative innovation on food security

9h00-9h30

Law Race and Gender Unit's Rural Women's Action Research Project

9h50-10h00 Launch of the SR Report and closing remarks by VC Dr Max Price

For catering purposes RSVP: Elaine Hendricks at Elaine, hendricks@uct.ac.za or at

0216502149

Physicist casts light on randomness

Nonsider a very simple experiment involving some light and a mirror. Half the light goes through the mirror, while the other half is reflected.

Remember, furthermore, that light consists of particles.

So what then determines which light particles will be reflected and which will be transmitted?

The answer, according to worldrenowned physicist Professor Anton Zeilinger, is that it is entirely random: You will know which particles were reflected and which went through the mirror only after the fact - and you can detect with a special apparatus which particles got through and which were reflected

This fundamental insight into quantum randomness, Zeilinger explained, was the subject of a profound difference of opinion and landmark public debate between two of the greatest scientists of the last century -Albert Einstein and Niels Bohr.

"Einsten would not accept that anything was random. He is quoted as saying: 'God does not play dice...', prompting Bohr's response: 'Who are you to tell God how to run her business," Zeilinger joked at the well-attended sixth and final Vice-Chancellor's Open Lecture of the year on 25 October.



Keeping track: Prof Anton Zeilinger audience on the subject of quantum physics. (Listen to pod cast at http:// www.uct.ac.za/news/lectures/ vc_lectures/)

Zeilinger is professor of physics at the University of Vienna, Austria, and director of the Vienna branch of the Institute for Quantum Optics and Quantum Information at the Austrian Academy of Sciences.

In his address, titled Quantum Games and Quantum Information, he described how quantum physics provides possibilities for winning betting games that are otherwise impossible to win. These are related to the questions of the nature of reality and information in a quantum context.

He outlined some of the fundamental debates in quantum physics over the past century, and described how quantum physics was only referred to once in the 10 years that followed the initial debate, and once or twice in the next 10 years - but interest in the subject has now taken off exponentially. No less than 500 scientific papers referring to quantum physics by name have been published over the

Zeilinger, who in 2005 was named by leading British current affairs magazine New Statesman as one of the "10 people who could change the world", is also renowned for his realisation of quantum teleportation - moving a basic unit of quantum information, ie a qubit, from one location to another without the qubit ever being transmitted through the in-between space with photons.

In the late 1980s he focused on quantum entanglement, which resulted in his most significant results and opened up the new fields of quantum teleportation, quantum information, quantum communication and quantum cryptography. Along with Daniel Greenberger and Michael Horne, he wrote the first paper on entanglement between two particles. The trio's GHZ Theorem – describing what's known as Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger states – is fundamental to quantum physics.

Libraries' head Rapps up her revolution

Could not have had a better professional life," said Joan Rapp, outgoing executive director of UCT Libraries, who handed over the reins to Gwenda Thomas at the end of October.

In an interview with *Monday Paper*, Rapp spoke passionately about her time at UCT, saying "it was the people, not the things, that counted".

Rapp is credited with leading the university's libraries into the 21st century - taking them into the digital age and developing a Digitisation Unit; facilitating a huge increase in the number of Heritage Collections; and reconfiguring the spaces and staffing in the Chancellor Oppenheimer Library to serve the different needs of undergraduates and postgraduates.

In addition, she introduced a few peculiar traditions in the libraries - an annual Easter egg hunt, and an end-of-year review during which Rapp looked back at the year past and spelled out her vision for the year ahead – wearing red antlers.

Rapp will stay on until August next year, to help complete the Carnegiefunded Research Libraries Consortium project.

The six-year project, which will develop research support from the libraries in six research institutions in South Africa, is in its final year. It is credited with providing a whole generation of UCT librarians a practical education in their profession, as well as with increasing the visibility of the UCT Libraries internationally.

Her wish for the "post-Rapp era" is that the libraries continue to think of themselves as "a key part of a great global university" – and that they build



Hot seat: Joan Rapp (left) came to a UCT Libraries enterprise that was a decade behind the rest of the library world; she now leaves successor, Gwenda Thomas (right), a state-of-the-art, globally connected facility.

on all the changes made.

The biggest challenge during her UCT career? "Initially, it was the one that came from the political situation in this country. The libraries were not communicating with other libraries, so they were not open to international influence. This made them a decade behind other libraries."

Thanks to support from Carnegie, Mellon and Ford, the country's academic libraries started working together and becoming more aware of trends.

Of her UCT career highlights, Rapp said: "I so enjoyed focusing on staff development. The decision to send people overseas allowed us to leapfrog over a decade of library development."

Another highlight was the "completely unexpected" Vice-Chancellor's Medal, awarded to her in 2008. The Carnegie Project had been another.

Paying tribute to Emeritus Professor Martin West, the former deputy

vice-chancellor who appointed Rapp as the Libraries' executive director in 1998, she said: "He had a vision of what a good academic library could and should be. He – and the rest of the executive - supported me in every possible way."

Besides keeping her finger on the pulse of libraries, Rapp, the devoted owner of two rescued German Shepherds, can't wait to get more involved in animal charities. "If I'd had my second choice of a career, I would have worked with animal charities all my life."

Rapp also intends improving her golf game along with her partner, Professor Ken MacGregor of the Department of Computer Science, who is also retiring this year.

"One thing I don't want to do is travel. I have travelled far too much. I just want to stay put in and enjoy Cape

Sustain nature, sustain humanity - Prince Charles

The birth of the world's sevenbillionth resident, marked symbolically on 31 October, offered a timely backdrop to the talk by the Prince of Wales at UCT on 5 November.

Prince Charles was addressing a packed Jameson Hall – the same venue in which is mounted a portrait of his great-uncle who in 1918, as Prince Edward, became UCT's first Chancellor; and where his grandmother, then known as Queen Elizabeth, received an honorary doctorate in 1947. But his talk was of another overflowing location – Earth.

Competing demands on the land, bring other consequences, said the Prince of Wales.

"What with the ever-growing need for more urban development

and the pressure to produce more food, it is fast becoming difficult to maintain essential services such as the supply of clean water, and ultimately to protect those areas that are rich in the diversity of life and which, whether we like it or not, are actually vital if nature is to continue sustaining herself, and therefore, us."

But these concerns have local repercussions. The Prince turned, therefore, to the needs of rural farmers and local fisheries.

Both are under pressure, he explained. Farming families, ironically, are growing hungry, and many fisheries are overexploited or close to collapse.

These resources have to be properly governed and planned, with an

eye on environmental sustainability, he urged. And international investment – deals for some 56 million hectares of land, much in sub-Saharan Africa, were announced in 2009 – has to be closely monitored.

"It seems to be absolutely essential, though, that such an investment is mindful of its impact on local communities and natural systems," the Prince of Wales said.

As has become a trademark, Prince Charles championed the cause of smallholders; specifically, in this case, those of Africa.

"I do not see small farmers as backward relics of the past," he said. "In fact, I see them as an utterly crucial cornerstone of the future, just as they are becoming in other parts of the world."



Welcome: The Prince of Wales in Jameson Hall. (Listen to a pod cast at http://www.uct.ac.za/news/lectures/misc/)



Hub of expertise: (From left) Profs Bruce Hewitson, Mark New and Harald Winkler address the media.

ACDI unveiled

Just hours prior to the arrival of the Prince of Wales at UCT on Saturday 5 November, the university formally introduced its new African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI) and its director and pro vice-chancellor for climate change, Professor Mark New, to the media. The ACDI is envisioned as a "multi-disciplinary, cross-university research, teaching and outreach programme that will address the challenges that climate change presents for Africa's economic, political, social and natural environment", New explained. The initiative will draw on expertise from around the university and become a "hub for world-class research and training", he added. But as befits its name, it is seen as an initiative that is of relevance to Africa as a whole, with the long-term aim of being a major hub in a network of such universities and research institutes tackling climate change on the continent. "African researchers and young scholars will find opportunities in the ACDI to contribute to the body of knowledge around [climate change] issues and bring their own perspectives to possible solutions," New said.

Align and integrate water research - Siebrits



Water-wise: Master's student Raymond Siebrits

7ith the water sector facing some serious difficulties, like the steadily dropping storage levels in Cape Town, UCT master's student Raymond Siebrits' seminar on water research challenges came at the right time. Titled Water Research Challenges in South Africa, the event was in line with UCT's goal of promoting multi-, inter- and trans-disciplinary research teams, and to connect research to Africa.

"UCT needs to create a non-faculty-aligned, integrated water research group that can attract long-term funding, support graduate training and enhance the already world-leading water-related research here," said Siebrits, who is based in the Department of Environment and Geographical Science

The meeting brought together the gamut of experts on waterrelated research, from health, economics, civil engineering and water treatment, to conservation, recycling, governance, drainage, wetlands and ecology.

The aim was to analyse the evolution of water research in South Africa since the establishment of the Water Research Act No 34 of 1971, to examine what's currently being researched, and to determine what should be prioritised.



Vitamin D deficiency linked to TB

R esearchers at UCT and the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) in the UK have found that vitamin D deficiency is extremely common in black Africans living in Cape Town, and is also associated with susceptibility to tuberculosis (TB) infection.

The research is published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in the US.

South Africa has the third-highest incidence of TB in the world, with 490 000 cases estimated to have arisen in 2009. Active TB can arise as a consequence of reactivation of latent MTB infection following compromise of the antimycobacterial immune response.

HIV infection is a major cause of such immunocompromise, and the high prevalence of HIV infection in South Africa drives its TB epidemic. But other factors may also contribute.

The prevalence of vitamin D deficiency in patients with TB in subtropical Africa has not previously been reported, although vitamin D deficiency is associated with susceptibility to TB in HIV-uninfected people in Europe. There is particularly good reason to investigate this question in Cape Town, because

TB incidence in this city is higher than elsewhere in South Africa, and the ability of sunlight to synthesize vitamin D is compromised during the winter in Cape Town.

Professor Robert Wilkinson is associated with both UCT's Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine and the NIMR's Division of Mycobacterial Research. He worked with colleagues in Cape Town and London to conduct a crosssectional study to determine whether vitamin D deficiency was associated with susceptibility to active TB in HIV-uninfected and HIV-infected black Africans in Cape Town.

He also investigated whether there was evidence of seasonal variation in vitamin D status and TB notifications in this setting over an eight-year period. The team measured vitamin D levels in the serum of HIV-infected and uninfected patients with TB, and of appropriate control subjects who did not have TB.

They found that vitamin D deficiency is highly prevalent among black African adults living in Cape Town. The deficiency is associated with susceptibility to active TB in both HIV-uninfected and infected persons, but the association is stronger in HIV-infected people. A seasonal pattern of notifications of TB occurs in Cape Town, with the lowest rates in the second quarter of the year, coincident with peak vitamin D serum concentrations.

Wilkinson said: "A growing body of evidence suggests that vitamin-D deficiency may also impair the immune response to mycobacterium tuberculosis (MTB). We have previously reported that vitamin D deficiency is associated with susceptibility to TB in London, and that this association is modified by variants in the genes for the vitamin D receptor (which senses vitamin D) and vitamin D binding protein (which carries the vitamin around the body).

"We have also shown that vitamin D supplementation enhances immunity to mycobacteria, both in healthy people and in a genetically defined subgroup of patients with active TB. Vitamin D supplementation might be a highly cost-effective, safe and simple means of reducing tuberculosis incidence."

This research is also of relevance to the UK because TB is more common among immigrants from Africa, who are more likely to be HIV-infected and vitamin D-deficient.

Derma

ven after he'd finished his medical Estudies, Professor Wayne Derman was unsure in which direction his medical career was heading.

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After a stint in the surgical pit at Baragwanath Hospital, he soon discovered that acute medicine (ie treating those who line hospital corridors) was not for him. But his professors didn't think much of at least one of the jobs he had lined up – as the medical doctor at a Club Med resort. (The other was ship's doctor on the ill-fated MS Achille

But he dodged those bullets (literally, in the case of the Lauro), and it all worked out pretty well in the end, as Derman explained in his inaugural lecture, Broken Hearts, Wattle Trees, Spacemen and a Man With One Leg: My extraordinary journey in medicine, delivered at the Sports Science Institute of South Africa on 5 October.

It all changed when Professor Asher Dubb, at Baragwanath Hospital (where Derman was based), suggested Derman fly to Cape Town and meet one Professor Timothy Noakes, and pursue a career in sports medicine. This, suggested Dubb, would allow Derman to marry his passion for sport with his passion for

It did – and in more ways than one, as Derman described in his four-stage

Broken Hearts. Initially, sports medicine was simply a byword for the treatment of sports injuries. That's changed.



You needed a strong stomach for Professor Lorna Martin's inaugural

But it wasn't just because of the graphic images dotted throughout the lecture, titled No Woman No Cry - A journey into forensic pathology services and violence against women, delivered in September. More brutal, perhaps, were the stories and statistics.

In what was in many ways a straightforward recounting of her career as a forensic pathologist, Martin started, more or less, with her medical studies at Wits University. It was here that she was "enticed" into forensic pathology as a fourth-year student by an "inspirational teacher" in one Dr Patricia Klepp.

Martin couldn't immediately follow in her mentor's footsteps, though. Unable to find a post in forensic pathology, instead she began as a district surgeon in Hillbrow in 1991. The post was in effect that of a catch-all clinical forensic medical practitioner, and Martin worked with everyone from drunken drivers to political detainees. And rape victims.

"It proved to be quite fortuitous," Martin says of the job, "because among these other things it exposed me to the clinical management – or lack thereof, actually - of rape survivors."

The job also got her picture in the papers. In 1992, she appeared in Die Beeld when she testified in the case of bodybuilder Gary Beuthin, charged with

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Notice

South African Association of Canadian Studies (SAACS)

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of SAACS will be held at 17:30 on Thursday 24 November 2011.

The AGM will be followed by a screening of Five Roads to Freedom: From Apartheid to World Cup, a 52 minute documentary by Robin Benger and Jane Thandi Lipman.

This event is open to all who have an interest in Canadian Studies, as well as members of SAACS.

Venue: Lecture Theatre 3B, Leslie Social Science Building, Upper Campus, UCT

Time: 17:00 for 17:30

RSVP: Centre for Open Learning on tel. 021 650 2888

e-mail: ems@uct.ac.za

Refreshments will be served.



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an recounts an' extraordinary journey' in medicine

orts and exercise medicine, as an creasingly reputable medical specialty, s a strong focus on the prevention and nagement of patients with chronic sease. Much of Derman's early work vith what was to become the Medical search Council/UCT Research Unit Exercise Science and Sports Medie (ESSM) – was on the association tween exercise and heart disease. That search spilled over into more 'holistic' dies on muscular damage, diabetes, ncer, peripheral vascular disease, psyosocial stress and a range of chronic seases; with exercise, diet and stress inagement emerging as an important estyle intervention in the management the abovementioned 'chronic diseases

Wattle Trees. Derman was chief edical officer for the South African ms that took part in the Sydney Olymes in 2000 and the Athens Olympics in 04. He was also medical officer for the 11 and that travelled to the Paralympics in 12 ijing in 2008, and the medical officer Cape Town at the FIFA 2010 World p.

And again, if anyone thought that uries would account for most of the edical team's labours, Derman's studshow quite the contrary. Illnesses and ergy (particularly related to the respiory and ear, nose and throat systems) ere as much of a concern, he found. hat applied to rugby's Super 14, too, a er study showed.)

"These medical conditions are as

important as injuries are," Derman said.

Take his experiences before and at the 2000 Olympics. Fearing that Sydney's wattle trees would be a major hurdle, Derman and colleagues at the UCT Lung Institute ran a series of tests with the athletes, and found that more than half of the SA team were atopic, ie prone to allergic reactions. Derman – along with ESSM colleague and good friend, Professor Martin Schwellnus – would eventually contribute those and other insights to the International Olympic Committee's Consensus Statement on Period Health Evaluation of Elite Athletes.

Spacemen. Here Derman described his role as flight surgeon to Mark Shuttleworth, on the latter's space flight to the International Space Station aboard a Russian craft in 2002. Over the months working with Shuttleworth, Derman would learn much about space science and medicine, from the Russian doctors – some of whom had worked with Yuri Gagarin, the first human to travel into outer space – and from his own experimentation with floating in simulated zero gravity.

A man with one leg: "My core passion" is how Derman described his work with South Africa's Paralympic athletes. If the world imagines the likes of Usain Bolt as the paragon of athleticism, the Paralympians have taught him differently, Derman said.

These athletes are able to bounce back from injury, logistical hiccups –



Lift-off: Prof Wayne Derman's career has had many memorable moments, such as when he (front) joined Mark Shuttleworth and Russian cosmonauts in a bit of zero-gravity training. (For video and pod cast go to http://www.uct.ac.za.news/lectures/inauqural/2011/)

even defeat – with unparalleled aplomb, he added. Similarly, they can embrace victory with self-deprecating humour.

It's work that has inspired papers that contain words you wouldn't normally expect to see in peer-reviewed scientific journals – transcendence, acceptance, integration and resilience, aka humour.

"I think how it works," said Derman, "is that if you can accept maybe some of the toughest hands that life can deal you, and truly are able to integrate that into your being, then the gift you're given is one of perspective."

Sports medicine isn't just about sport, Derman explained in conclusion. For example, he and Schwellnus are among the authors who penned a 15-part series of articles titled *Healthy Lifestyle Interventions in General Practice* – targeting chronic diseases – for the *South*

African Journal of Family Practice, between 2008 and 2011. An important North American journal now wants them to update that series for publication in the US.

"We believe," Derman said, "that in the future, sports and exercise physicians will play a vital role in the form of comprehensive lifestyle change, which can make a very, very big impact on people's lives and on their health."

ving a voice to the dead

the kidnapping, assault and attempted nurder of a former girlfriend. In an even more high-profile case, Martin had to reat serial killer Moses Sithole, who ommitted the so-called 'ABC Murders'.

The post also inspired Martin's first esearch. In December 1993, her study of rape in Johannesburg was published. Already a disturbing pattern was becoming clear – many victims were raped by then they knew.

That research persuaded her to stablish the country's first medicoegal clinic for rape survivors, set up in Hillbrow in 1992. Hand in hand with the linic, Martin also developed examination and management protocols for rape urvivors, and a training programme for taff of that and other (possible) clinics.

More high-profile cases would ollow, such as that of the Nasrec Serial Killer, Lazarus Mazingane. And when Martin moved to Cape Town in 1996, her esearch would also blossom under the nentorship of Professor Deon Knobel, who was beginning to put together a ormidable team in UCT's Division of Forensic Medicine and in the province's state Pathology Laboratory.

Martin's 1996 to 1998 study of the Cape Metropole showed that coloured women made up the overwhelming proportion of rape-homicide victims, a ull 70% of cases. More often than not, the perpetrator was someone the women them, sometimes intimately. (It's here

that the graphic images of brutalised victims came in.)

Those trends would be mirrored when Martin later tracked rape-homicide statistics in the province up to 2005, in a study conducted in partnership with colleagues from the School of Nursing from Johns Hopkins University in the US.

If there was good news to come out of this research, it was that it prompted Martin and colleague Professor Lynette Denny to develop a rape management protocol and training manual for the province. It also sparked new undergraduate courses in women's health, especially dealing with violence and health.

Martin's advocacy work also took off. She was invited to talk at a meeting of Amnesty International in 1998. She worked closely with the South African Police Service and a number of women's health groups, contributing to new legislation. She consulted to the World Health Organisation – and still does – on the health sector response to sexual violence. She published prolifically. In 2004 she helped set up the Gender, Health & Justice Research Unit at UCT. She was part of the team that did a prospective study of post-exposure prophylaxis following sexual assault in South Africa. That same year she contributed to a national female murder study, which revealed that a woman is killed by an intimate partner every six hours. (Coloured women were again the most common victims.)



Office hours: Prof Lorna Martin, here in scrubs at the Salt River Pathology Laboratory, still remains a hands-on pathologist, despite her duties as head of UCT's Division of Forensic Medicine. (See story on new Pathology Learning Centre on pg 8.) (For video and pod cast go to http://www.uct.ac.za.news/lectures/inaugural/2011/)

There was more research, more headline-catching cases, more terrifying cases and statistics. Martin also got to meet murder-mystery writer Patricia Cornwell, creator of famed medical examiner Kay Scarpetta, lead character of 19 of the author's novels thus far

Now head of forensic medicine at

UCT, Martin is looking ahead. The department is growing. There's the work on the digital-age Pathology Learning Centre, and the dream of a UCT Forensic Medicine Institute, which would be a first for Africa. Parts of this institute are already falling in place, including a new high-tech mortuary on the grounds of the Groote Schuur

Hospital, courtesy of the provincial government's Department of Health, and a new master's programme in forensic medicine, a first for the country.

All this in aid of a single objective, explained Martin. "Basically our core business is providing a voice for the dead. And we are the only ones able to do it."



Strong team: Members of the relocated UCT Law Clinic, (from left) Bev Bird, Paul Anthonie, Pat Norris, Matilda Smith, Zolani Buba and Siyaam Ally.

Law Clinic on the move

It took a change of location within the Kramer Building for some staff members in the Faculty of Law to appreciate that the UCT Law Clinic is indeed a fully functioning law practice.

For one thing, the clinic boasts an entry in the Cape Law Society's handbook. It also has a substantial staff body – three attorneys, two candidate attorneys, one admin manager and, wait for it, 60 supervised legal assistants in the shape of students registered for the final-year elective course in legal practice.

"What brings it home that this is a thriving law practice, I think, is the fact that since joining us in March, our candidate attorney, Paul, has been in court no fewer than 105 times," said director Bev Bird. And, she quips, the clinic offers a "pretty decent service, because as attorneys, we go to our clients and not vice versa, and as lecturers, we open our doors to students at 08h00 every day and don't close until it's time to go home".

Its new premises may better reflect the size of the practice.

The Law Clinic's new offices include a new, open-plan student workroom, a facility that was sorely lacking in the clinic's previous offices and that now houses the clinic's bulky case files and reference books. In addition, the new premises make provision, for the first time, for a private consulting room, where students can consult clients in a "professional and secluded atmosphere", says Bird.

There are also plenty of work stations for the legal practice students who serve as legal advisors.

Cutting the ribbon of the new premises at the 'opening' in October was client Mastoera Williams. For her the UCT Law Clinic meant a service she could trust and people with compassion and empathy who listened to what she had to say.

"You showed me that it was about following the rules, not about uselessly fighting for something, and I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of my community," said Williams. "We need your help. People lose their houses because they don't know the law."



Sculpted: (From left) Dr Max Price, Dr John Gardner, Sarah Holland (Gardner's sister), and British Consul General Christopher Trott witnessed the installation of the bust of Madiba

Madiba graces campus

New Zealand-based alumnus and world-renowned sculptor Dr John Francis Gardner has donated a valuable bronze bust of former president Nelson Mandela to UCT. The 30kg bust, which rests on a plinth made of sandstone from Naboomspruit, was presented by Gardner to the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, during his visit to New Zealand recently. The bust has now been installed at Smuts Hall residence. Gardner has created busts of a number of prominent public figures, including former president FW de Klerk, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, Helen Suzman and John Kani. He is currently working on three series of busts: Legends of Africa, Legends of the World, and Nobel Peace Prize Laureates.

UCT keen to open up access

YUSUF OMAR

Licencing, copyright, patenting, intellectual property and "open stuff" were recurring buzzwords at UCT's recent Open Access Week, which aimed to raise awareness of issues surrounding the availability of academic research work.

The university's open access commemorations, hosted by the Centre for Educational Technology (CET), formed part of the global movement aimed at freeing up access to peerreviewed journals to all students and researchers.

Seminars and lectures explaining the need for open licensing and UCT's new intellectual property policy were some of the highlights of the programme.

Open Access refers to the granting of unrestricted and free access to academic articles via the internet.

Articles that are freely available online are usually accredited with a Creative Commons Licence. Creative Commons uses a 'some rights reserved' approach to copyright, allowing greater and cheaper access to material while maintaining profitability for both copyright owners and licensees.

Standard models of availability are grounded in traditional copyright law, with the result that many articles are only available to researchers who can afford the privilege.

Dr Eve Gray, honourary research associate at CET, explains the typical life-span of a journal article. Born out of an academic's research, it is submitted to a journal of the author's choice, which Gray says is usually an American or European journal. Academics



Free access: Dr Eve Gray (left) and Assoc Prof Laura Czerniewicz at the start of Open Access Week.

then review the article at no charge, and once accepted, the author is asked to give up copyright and the journal is sold to universities at a high price.

Gray is among a host of intellectual property gurus who are determined

to create a more equitable and affordable academic knowledge-sharing environment

"It's a human rights movement," she says, with the right to knowledge a key driver of the campaign.

Christmas in a box

Christmas came early for underprivileged children when staff from the faculty office in UCT's Faculty of Health Sciences joined forces to collect gifts, which will be distributed over the next few weeks.

The goodwill was inspired by the national Kidz2Kidz Santa Shoebox Project. As specified, the gifts were wrapped in large shoeboxes, and included a set of new clothes, toys, educational supplies and toiletries.

Kidz2Kidz co-ordinates the donation, collection and



Giving spirit: In picture with their boxed gifts are (from left, back), Candice Solomons, Vuyi Mgoki, Jackie Cogill, Dianne Pryce, Taryn-Lee Safers and Salega Tape; and (from left, front) Lyndsay Williams, Abigail Fester, Lorraine McDonald, Jason Stoffberg, Adri Winckler and Charmaine Chalkley-Peters.

distribution of personalised gifts to underprivileged children, and helps parents to teach their children the importance of giving. Participating is described as "a profound, valuable and personal experience", as the donor knows the name, age and gender of the child that they choose to donate to, and the name of the organisation that cares for the child

Adri Winckler, manager of postgraduate administration in the faculty office, says the faculty office's involvement started when Charmaine Chalkley-Peters, administrative assistant in the department, approached managers about joining Kidz2Kidz.

The idea was so warmly embraced that some of the 13 staffers got their families involved. And the Christmas cheer won't stop there.

"We felt so inspired by this that we have decided to participate in the Angel Hugs project in early December, in which people contribute a bag of groceries for poor pensioners," explains Winkler.

The Office of the Vice-Chancellor also joined the shoebox initiative, filling eight boxes of cheer in October. \blacksquare



Tutu plays ball

rchbishop Emeritus Desmond A Tutu put in a guest appearance when two eponymous research units - UCT's Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation and the Desmond Tutu TB Centre at Stellenbosch University - celebrated his 80th birthday on 7 October with a game of netball. Following on a successful soccer match last year, won by the TB Centre, staff from the two facilities gathered at UCT on 8 November to toast 'The Arch', and to resume their friendly rivalry. (Although some players didn't get it that netball is not a contact sport.) And as the saying goes, a good time was had by all. UCT was also able to avenge their soccer defeat, taking the netball honours.

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Specialist Clinical Pharmacologist & Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 20 November 2011

Professor/Associate Professor/ Senior Lecturer/Lecturer,

Department of English Language & Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 21 November 2011

Professor/Associate Professor/ Senior Lecturer: Marketing, Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 25 November 2011

Senior Lecturer: Research Methodology, Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 25 November

Senior Lecturer, Allan Gray Centre for Value Leadership, Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 25 November

Senior Lecturer: Emerging Markets, Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 25 November 2011

Part-time Lecturer: Sesotho Language, School of Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 30 November 2011

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer: Clinical Epidemiology, School of Public Health & Family Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 5 December 2011

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Finance Officer, Faculty Research Grants & Finance Unit, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 14 November 2011

Senior Secretary, Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 16 November 2011

Chief Technical Officer, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 18 November 2011

Manager: Sport & Recreation, Department of Student Affairs, Closing date: 18 November 2011

Research Officers, IIDMM, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 20 November 2011

Systems Access Consultant, ICTS, Closing date: 21 November 2011 Technical Officer: Photography, Michaelis School of Fine Art, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 22 November 2011

Research Officer: Chronic Disease, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 15 December 2011

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

Interim Director: First Year Experience, Academic Development Programme, CHED, Closing date: 18 November 2011

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Rondebosch: Fully furnished, one bedroom + bathroom; lounge + kitchen, off street parking. Water and electricity included. Walking distance to Public transport. R4000. Contact: Maknow. 0834710825

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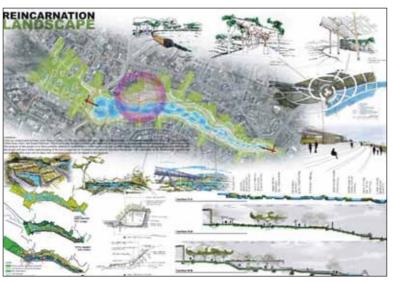






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International prizes for landscape architecture students



A river runs through it: Ke Lu's winning project.

YUSUF OMAR

No fewer than three UCT students currently doing their master's in landscape architecture placed in the top four of an international competition to redesign a portion of the Nairobi River front running through the centre of Nairobi.

The students were three of the five from UCT who entered the competition.

Competitors were called on to provide innovative solutions to the challenges facing cities and the planning of rivers that flow through them.

The students' projects were praised for the high quality of the landscape architectural concepts, the level of



Handing prizes: (from left) Julia McLachlan, Ke Lu and Ancunel Steyn took three of the four top spots in a landscape competition in Nairobi.

innovation, the depth of ecological aspects and the feasibility of the overall projects.

The winning entry, from UCT's Ke Lu and titled *Reincarnation Landscape*, sought to reinvigorate the river as a healthy, natural system and to design it so that natural systems as-

sociated with the project become powerfully visible and apparent to people engaging with the river. Lu pocketed US\$1 000 in prize money.

Ancunel Steyn's *Metamorphosis: Transforming river, transforming lives* claimed the runner-up spot and a handy US\$600.

Julia McLachlan was awarded a special prize for the most environmentally responsive design for her *Flowing waters: Cultural and knowledge streams.* She received \$500.

Five international landscape architects judged the entries. The awards ceremony was held at the International Federation of Landscape Architects Africa Symposium during the first week of October in Nairobi, Kenya.

Huge savings in staff, student laptop scheme



UCT is a participant in the national Student Laptop Initiative, which was negotiated with two hardware vendors by the Association of South African University Directors of Information Technology (ASAUDIT) and the purchasing consortium (PURCO) for South African higher education institutions. Starting from 14 November 2011, UCT staff and students will be able to purchase laptops directly from the two vendors, at greatly reduced prices.

Acer Education (selling Acer products) and Pinnacle (selling Lenovo products) have each made four models available, ranging from a basic netbook to a top-range laptop. The vendors have each created a website to facilitate online purchasing, and all orders must be placed directly with them – UCT will not be involved in the procurement process at all. The vendors will manage the entire process from initial purchase right through to after-sales support and warranty cover.

So, what's the deal? Staff and students at participating universities will be able to purchase up to two

laptops a year. Students will achieve a further saving of approximately R1 200, as the laptop they purchase will have Microsoft Windows 7 and Office 2010 pre-installed. The offer to include Windows and Office software may be extended to staff members at the vendor's discretion. Each vendor will also offer a range of accessories and upgrades, and you will be able to buy top-up warranties to extend your support cover.

Before choosing a laptop, think about how you're likely to use it. Do you see it just as a lightweight addition to your lifestyle, or do you want it to be a workhorse? How long do you intend keeping it before upgrading? Think about the kind of software that you're likely to use will it run optimally on the model that you're considering? And finally, look at the various warranty and support options offered by each vendor. Once you've made up your mind, go to the associated vendor's website and place your order. For more information about the offer, go to www.icts.uct.ac.za | Student Laptop Initiative.



From museum to showcase: Dr Jane Yeats in the new Pathology Learning Centre.

Pathology goes digital

YUSUF OMAR

The field of study may not be everyone's cup of tea, but UCT's Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences is giving its Pathology Learning Centre an exciting overhaul, says curator Dr Jane Yeats. The centre is slowly becoming a fully modern facility.

Previously a pathology museum, the learning centre showcases all the specimens that had been on show. There, students can look forward to examining bottled specimens of every conceivable body part and phenomenon, from amputated limbs and diseased organs to a selection of internal parasites.

For a building with such a macabre image, the learning centre looks unexpectedly attractive. The walls are decorated with colourful murals produced by talented students from the Michaelis School of Fine Art, which contribute to a generally cheerful ambience.

While the centre is still in the process of being made over, Yeats and her colleagues have already taken steps to maximise its reach by digitising the entire collection.

Once complete, it will feature photographs of every specimen, complete with a description and a brief history. While online research is all good and well, Yeats encourages students to make full use of the facility, saying that examining specimens in the flesh, so to speak, is a wholly more fascinating experience than seeing pictures of them in textbooks

"It's more exciting learning from real specimens," says Yeats.

The centre has generously made this open education resource available to everyone with access to an internet connection, under a Creative Commons Licence. But the website is still being tweaked, and much material still needs to be added.

The collection can be accessed at: www.digitalpathology.uct.ac.za.

Monday Paper

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