

Monday Paper

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Pg 2



Pg 4



Pg 8

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Welcome to UCT!

The academic year swung into gear in late January and early February, with seasoned Summer Schoolers rubbing shoulders with hundreds of newbies getting to know their campus for the first time. Here's a round-up of the activity in numbers.

1 The number of new residences opened in 2012 – this being Obz Square, home to 880 senior students, in Main Rd, Observatory.

10-38 The unflattering score in the Ikey Tigers' opening Varsity Cup match against the Free State Shimlas. Enough said.

Countless: Hearts that sank as UCT players fumbled the ball at crucial times.

34 Estimated (but incorrect!)

temperature, in degrees Celsius, on Monday, 6 February – the day O-Week kicked off. (The *Monday Paper* team has the sunburn to prove it.)

54 The world ranking of the Graduate School of Business' full-time MBA – this according to the Financial Times (FT) of London's Global MBA Top 100, released in January. The GSB was also voted best value for money yet again.

200 Orientation leaders called on to welcome the newbies to campus – students from around the globe, representing over 100 nations.

565 Energetic semester-study abroad students who will spend time at UCT.

2 500 Attendees at the Summer School, which ran from 17 to 28 January.

4 200 Freshers expected to register in 2012.

6 600 The tally of students expected to check into residence life.

25 200 Undergraduate and postgraduate students expected to fill every nook and cranny of the campus this year.

45 000 Copies of *Sax Appeal* were up for sale on Thursday 9 February, as droves of students took to the streets in all manner of becoming – or unbecoming – garb, while several of the Mother City's streets were being prepped for the opening of Parliament.



Students Khanyisile Masango and Phathiswa Magangane during the O-week HAICU Condom Fashion Show.



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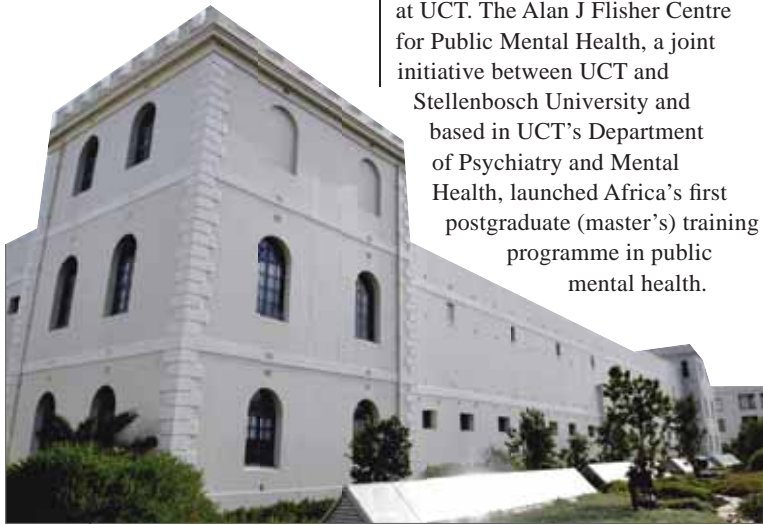
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Campus Highlights

Leg up for grant workshops

UCT's Research Office received a supplementary grant from the US's National Institutes of Health (NIH) to improve the success rate and management of grant applications from Africa. This year the NIH will fund a series of training workshops, two involving UCT and three other African universities: Mbarara University in Uganda, Moi University in Kenya and the University of Zambia.



Best-value MBA

UCT Graduate School of Business' full-time MBA programme has moved up the ranks again (by six places, to 54th spot) in the Financial Times (FT) of London's Global MBA Top 100, released in January. This is the eighth consecutive year the school has been listed. The GSB programme has also been ranked the best value-for-money MBA in the world – a title it held in 2011 and 2009.

Diploma for healthy teaching

UCT launched a postgraduate diploma to improve health professionals' teaching skills. Run by the Education Development Unit in the Faculty of Health Sciences, the one-year programme (it can also be done over two years) will strengthen participants' knowledge and skills in health professional education in the areas of teaching and learning within a primary health care system and curriculum.

Land cover workshop

A workshop titled *Counting the Cost of Land Cover Change* was held at the University of Pretoria and attended by a network of scientists, conservationists and policymakers known as the Land Cover Change Consortium (LCCC). UCT academics such as Professor William Bond of UCT's Department of Botany, Dr Phippen Anderson, Department of Environmental and Geographical Science, and Professor Timm Hoffman of UCT's Plant Conservation Unit attended.

COP17 aftermath



UCT hosted a COP17 feedback session, *What happened at COP17? Hear the inside story*, on 24 January. The panel discussion on the showcase 17th Conference of

the Parties, held in Durban at the end of 2011, was convened by UCT's newly-established African Climate & Development Initiative (ACDI), the Cambridge Programme for Sustainability Leadership and Sustainable Energy Africa. Professor Mark New, ACDI director and UCT's pro vice-chancellor for climate change, chaired the event.

Postgrad training in mental health

Health practitioners from around Africa attended the first public mental health postgraduate course at UCT. The Alan J Flisher Centre for Public Mental Health, a joint initiative between UCT and Stellenbosch University and based in UCT's Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, launched Africa's first postgraduate (master's) training programme in public mental health.

Service) to some 40 million listeners worldwide.

'Home'-built PCs donated



UCT's Scientific Computing Research Unit donated computer equipment to local non-profit organisation Heal Our Children (HOC). After consideration of a number of worthy NGOs, unit director Professor Kevin J Naidoo selected the Heal Our Children organisation. The handover of three PCs and two printers to HOC director Theresa Witbooi in December was made possible by postgraduate students in the SCRUC computer laboratory, who built and prepared the machines for 'home' use.

Part-time commissioner



UCT public policy lecturer Raenette Taljaard has been appointed to the Independent Electoral Commission. Her IEC appointment as part-time commissioner is for seven years. The former shadow Minister of Finance (she was a Member of Parliament for six years) also serves on the Regional Agenda Council for Africa of the World Economic Forum, and on the boards of loveLife and the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study, to name but a few.

New branding for immunology



UCT's Division of Immunology has a new logo and vision statement. At the end of 2011, the division's new and first full-time head, Professor Clive Gray, challenged its staff and students to come up with a design for a new logo, and to coin a new vision statement. Dr Claire Hoving claimed top prize – an iPad 2 – for her colourful and thought-provoking efforts. Dr Nasiema Allie's design clinched second spot, and a 500MB external hard drive.

Honour for Jeebhay



UCT's Professor Mohamed Jeebhay has been elected a fellow of the Collegium Ramazzini. The Collegium is an international academy founded in 1982 to advance the study of occupational and environmental health issues. It comprises about 180 fellows from around the world, elected for their contributions to these fields. Jeebhay joins Professors Rodney Ehrlich, Leslie London and Jonny Myers as Collegium fellows from the Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health Research.

Troublesome genes

Dr Nyasha Chin'ombe, a Claude Leon Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow, attended the 16th International Conference on AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections in Africa – themed *Own, Upscale and Sustain* – in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Chin'ombe and Dr Michelle Skelton, both postdoctoral research fellows from the Division of Human Genetics, presented findings from their work on human genes that may make Africans susceptible to infectious diseases.

Human rights project

The Article 5 Initiative (A5I) in South Africa was launched on 13 December 2011. The A5I is a partnership between the Gender, Health and Justice Research Unit at UCT, the Community Law Centre's Civil Society Prison Reform Initiative at the University of the Western Cape, the Human Rights Implementation Centre, University of Bristol, UK, and the African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum. The three-year project will build capacity at African institutions to improve domestic compliance with, especially, the United Nations Convention against Torture and the African Charter on Human and People's Rights.

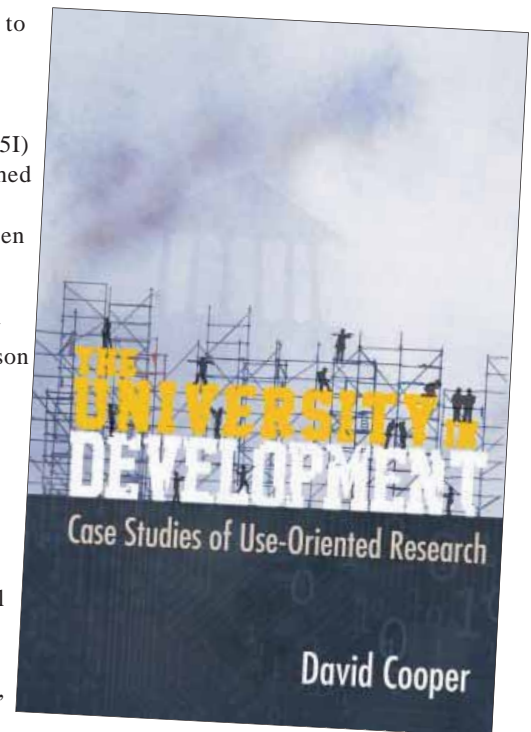
Fillip for Mother City

UCT's African Centre for Cities (ACC) will have a hand in selecting a Cape Town project (or projects) to receive the 2012 Deutsche Bank Urban Age Award, a major international prize focused on the world's cities. An international jury chaired by the ACC's director, Professor Edgar Pieterse, will select the winning project, which will be announced in April 2012. In November, the Society named Cape Town the 2012 recipient of the

award, which is valued at US\$100 000 (around R750 000). The annual award is made by the Alfred Herrhausen Society of the German-based Deutsche Bank.

Evolving universities

UCT sociologist Professor David Cooper released a new book, *The University in Development*, in November. The seminal study analyses the complex relationship between universities and the



rapidly changing world they operate in. Traditionally seen as centres of teaching (first mission) and basic research (second mission), the pressures of operating within a neo-liberal paradigm have strongly encouraged universities to focus on developing skills and research that could fit into an industrialised labour market. This is leading to an emergent university's so-called third mission of 'economic development'. In the book, Cooper argues that the third mission should be conceived more broadly: as 'socio-economic-cultural development'. ■

Back on the beat: Professor Sandra Klopper, new deputy vice-chancellor

Professor Sandra Klopper took office on 1 January as UCT's most recently appointed deputy vice-chancellor. While educated at Wits University and in the UK, she's no stranger to UCT or Cape Town. Specialising in African art, she taught at UCT from 1989 to 2001, before joining Stellenbosch University for seven years. She left the Cape in 2008 when she was appointed dean of the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Pretoria. *Monday Paper* caught up with her briefly to ask about her new post.



MP: Selection panel-type question first – what made you decide to come to UCT?

SK: I'm not really coming to UCT; I've come back to UCT. And that is significant because, in my long academic career, I've spent more time here – 12 years in all – than anywhere else. I learnt an immense amount during my time at other institutions, but I'm very happy to be back at UCT. This is where I really feel at home.

MP: You've just received a B-rating from the National Research Foundation. But you've now also taken on a senior executive position – how do you hope to balance the two 'careers'?

SK: I've been in largely administrative roles for at least six years now. But research is a lifeline for me; it's never been something I was prepared to give up. I think the temptation to just get swamped by the admin and all the other stuff that you have to do is so great that you can easily stop being a researcher. I learnt long ago that to retain my research profile, I need to do something every single day – however small or seemingly insignificant – to keep my connection to my research alive; even if it's

just half an hour to read an article, or speak on the phone to a research contact. It's just something I do for myself, because I think my research feeds me. It's nurturing.

MP: There are concerns that the humanities has lost some of its prestige in recent years. Do you hope, in your role as DVC, to play some part in championing the cause of the humanities, even if it has little to do with your portfolio?

SK: The humanities are being championed now by ASSAf, and also by the minister of higher education and training, which is fantastic. But even so, I think we've got to change people's perceptions and prejudices because there is a common belief that a degree in the humanities is worthless. And that's just not true, as countless studies have shown.

MP: What's the first month back at UCT been like?

SK: It's been wonderful. My learning curve has been very steep. I keep telling people maybe it's been so steep I'll end up falling flat on my back! But it's been interesting and challenging. I'm really happy and very excited about being here. ■



Principled: Principal Phadiela Cooper believes it's the extra work that learners are expected to put in that's set COSAT apart.

COSAT now among province's best

Principal Phadiela Cooper likes to say that her school has been flying under the radar for some years.

But in January, the Centre for Science and Technology (COSAT) in Khayelitsha suddenly lit up everyone's monitors when the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) named COSAT as one of the top ten schools in the province. Based on its performance in the 2011 National Senior Certificate (NSC) examinations, COSAT was an unlikely rival for the likes of Rustenburg Girls High, Herschel High School, Bishops and UCT's parent institution, the South African College of Schools.

The WCED's rankings in this 'excellence in quality' category looked at schools' pass rates in the NSC exams, the rates of bachelor endorsements (ie learners who qualify for admission to university), and the ratio of passes in mathematics relative to the number of grade 12 candidates at the schools. Coming in at number nine, COSAT's results more than measured up to the others in the top 10.

All 70 of the grade 12 learners that wrote the exams passed. More than 78% did so with university endorsements. And 98.6% (69 learners) passed mathematics.

"This is an historic moment for the Western Cape," said Premier Helen Zille when the WCED presented awards to schools and individual learners in January. "For the first time ever, a school in one of the most disadvantaged parts of South Africa is one of our top 10 schools in the province."

But if COSAT, established as a

Dinaledi school focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics training in 1999, can now be mentioned in the same breath as its more celebrated companions, by most other measures it is, still dwarfed by them. The grounds of the school's new premises in Ilitha Park in Khayelitsha are modest, even if the green lawn is carefully maintained and the school's facilities are a cut above those of surrounding schools. (You can't miss the school, pointed out Khayelitsha residents when asked for directions.)

It benefited from being classified as a Dinaledi school, but its operating budget is equally unassuming. (It has to raise its own funds for any add-ons.) As is typical for township schools, parents pay no fees, so the school foregoes tens of thousands of rands in income. (Even more so since it started taking in Grade 8s and 9s in 2011.)

And if it did match the likes of Rustenburg and Herschel and Rondebosch and Westerford for NSC results, it doesn't boast the same pedigree. Rustenburg averaged about three subject distinctions per learner in 2011, and Herschel more than four; the 70 COSAT learners mustered 'only' 40 in total.

Even so, the 2011 results are no out-of-the-blue spike, emphasises principal Cooper. The learners' performances have been no less impressive over the past few years. The school has had a 100% pass rate for all except one year since 2001. Its average pass rate over 2008 to 2011 is 81%.

COSAT's results can be accredited to the way to the school is run.

Days are long, running from eight in the morning till just after four in the afternoon; that includes an hour at the end of the day when students get extra lessons or can do their homework, with support from teachers. And the learners are expected to come in for an extra four hours of lessons on Saturday, a project financed through fundraising. And teachers, Cooper says, are dedicated and motivated.

"We do what we're supposed to do, and we do it well," she says. "We get the basics right – we get our learners in class, and we get our teachers in class."

Cooper also praises the school's former principal, Dr Jonathan Clark, for putting the school's regimen in place. Clark, now director of the UCT-based Schools Development Unit (SDU) and UCT's new Schools Improvement Initiative, headed up COSAT during its formative years from 2000 to 2007.

He, in turn, believes that other factors also contributed to the school's success. The focus on mathematics and physics keeps the curriculum simple and clean, for example. It is a small school, even with the new Grade 8 and 9 recruits. It's been able to recruit specialist teachers. Those teachers are able to inspire learners. And the school is well managed, which sets it apart from many others.

"It's a school that works."

COSAT is one of the 20 schools in Khayelitsha that participate in the SDU's 100Up project, designed to help prepare 100 learners from the area for possible admission into UCT. ■

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It took some long discussions and even

longer hours of work, but the Institutional Planning Department (IPD) managed to submit UCT's Higher Education Qualifications Framework (HEQF) templates to the Council for Higher Education in the nick of time, the department's Vakele Nobongoza hitting the send button

Testing templates

mere hours before the 15 January deadline.

The templates list the

university's existing qualifications and their amendments, all aligned with the HEQF. A week or so after this nailbiting finish, the IPD held a small celebration to thank all those – with a gift of a scarlet T-shirt – who contributed to the document. ■

Campus round-up

SRC 100Plus good sports



A new addition to O-week was the SRC 100Plus sports tournament. Taking place in the Sport Centre and on the adjacent Green Mile (rugby fields), greenhorns got a taste of some sports on offer at UCT. The two-day social event was organised by the Students' Representative Council and led by sport and recreation co-ordinator Lorne Hallendorf, and sponsored by energy drinks company 100Plus. First-years, new undergrads and international students could try their hand at a range of martial arts, as well as football, gymnastics, netball and volleyball, among other codes.

Re-cycling for change



Poles apart: Environmental and geographical sciences student Lisa Bloss (front) and law student Ohene Ampofo (the polar bear) of UCT's Green Campus Initiative cycled for change on Jammie Plaza as O-week shot into gear on 6 February. Societies, blistering heat, sports clubs, and free gifts were the order of the day. Jammie Plaza buzzed as enthusiastic freshers negotiated dozens of stalls and impressive athletic demonstrations.

Freshers' braai draws a crowd



Pump it up: The annual Freshers' Braai is one of the highlights of the orientation programme. And not just because of the free boerewors rolls. As hosts, the Students' Representative Council also lays on some entertainment. This year included a dance competition, with UCT Radio providing the music. Loudly.

Sax Appeal galore



Saxxy get-up: Sax Appealers hit the streets of Cape Town on 9 February, getting their saxxiest kit on or off (why boys, why?) for charity. This year some 45 000 copies were up for sale, with about 1,200 students doing the peddling. RAG hopes to raise R200 000 in sales.

HAICU Condom dress competition



Choice made: On 6 February, UCT's HIV/AIDS Institutional Co-ordination Unit (HAICU) hosted its latest condom fashion show. Popular DJ Craig de Sousa and DJ Suga were there to spur things on. Pictured here is the winner, Phathiswa Magangane (left), with runner-up Khanyisile Masango.

Residences welcome newbies



Two peas in a pod: Best friends and roommates Nomvuso Maitin and Anthea Thompson were among those who set up their new 'home' at UCT as residences opened in January. With the addition of newly-completed Obz Square, about 6 600 students will take up residence accommodation this year.

Parents' Orientation

Parents of new students were given a reassuring welcome by UCT delegates when they attended the Parents' Orientation. Nervous parents and caregivers were put at ease by, among others, DVC Professor Crain Soudien, who introduced the guardians to the range of support systems and extra-mural activities at their progeny's disposal.

Orientation kicks off en masse



Great escape: Students' Representative Council (SRC) president Insaaf Isaacs and deputy vice-chancellor Professor Crain Soudien head for the exit as the fun hits the fan in Beattie Theatre. An expected 4 200 first-years got their first taste of life at UCT as orientation kicked off in January. UCT expects to have some 25 200 students on campus in 2012.

International students beat it out



To the beat: DVC Prof Crain Soudien was among those who welcomed the hundreds of international students who joined UCT on either full-degree programmes or as semester-study abroad (SSA) students this year. As has become tradition, the International Academic Programmes Office hosted a drum circle for the SSA cohort. Staged by members of the local company Drum Cafe, the occasion allows the students to get into the rhythms of UCT and Africa.

HAICU flash drives deliver the message



If you connect, protect: First-years in 2012 received special flash drives in their orientation packs. The flash drives contain information (that can't be deleted) about the services offered by UCT's Transformation Services Office. The content, which is presented in an interactive way, includes material on transformation, sexual and racial harassment, disability and HIV/AIDS. Pictured here are HAICU project officers Stella Kyobula (left) and Lucina Reddy, who also co-designed the content.

Family bond endures

At first glance Niel Claassens looks like your typical, fresh-faced first-year.

He is, and he isn't.

Niel is the fourth generation of Claassens men to study engineering at UCT. Still not convinced? Then consider this – they are a staunch Afrikaans family, yet their ties to this campus run deep.

The lineage goes something like this: Niel's great-grandfather, Jakobus Claassens, was a civil engineering student at the then-dual-medium UCT in the early 1900s, graduating in 1919. He went on to become the first town engineer in Worcester.

Enter Daniel Claassens, Niel's grandfather. Daniel studied civil engineering here from 1949 to 1952. He spent his whole professional life in the Department of Water Affairs, and retired in the late eighties as director general.

Niel's father, Tian, studied here in the turbulent 1980s. His troubles started as soon as he announced his intentions to come to UCT. At the Af-

rikaans Hoër Seunskool, from which he matriculated in 1979, he was called in by the principal, who wanted to discipline him.

Things were equally fraught at UCT.

"The 80s were stormy years and to an Afrikaans-speaker from Pretoria, UCT was like a different planet," Tian says.

At home in Pretoria no-one wanted to speak to him (other than to call him a traitor), and here he was called 'boertjie'. But he didn't let the name-calling get him down; he'd set his mind on coming to 'liberal-for-its-time' UCT. He graduated with a degree in chemical engineering in 1983.

Things are much easier for civil engineering student Niel, who fits in here just fine, he says.

"I came to UCT because I wanted to; there wasn't any pressure from my family. I came here because of UCT's top-class engineering faculty."

And Tian is quick to add: "Yes, we are an Afrikaans family. And to my mind UCT has such a rich Afrikaans



heritage and has in its own right made such significant contributions to Afrikaans that there is no reason why an Afrikaans family cannot maintain such a relationship with the university, in spite of the fact that tuition is in English.

"My hope is that in the new South Africa, more Afrikaans families will re-discover their UCT roots."

And who knows – maybe one day a Claassens girl will join the ranks. ■

Next step: Niel Claassens comes from a traditional Afrikaans family, but he has become the fourth generation of Claassens men to study at UCT. Here he is above (far right) with grandfather Daniel ('Doddo') and father Tian.



A DAY IN THE LIFE of Obz Square wardens



New beginnings: Jerome September and Dr Kevin Thomas are enjoying their early days as wardens of Obz Square.

By its size and appearance, the new Obz Square residence could easily be mistaken for yet another posh Cape Town hotel – including one of the students, who asked for directions to the swimming pool. In her case, the management were quick to remind her that she is in fact in a living and learning environment, as UCT authorities call residences. Days after the residence opened its doors to its first occupants and with more moving in, *Monday Paper* caught up with wardens Jerome September, manager of student governance and leadership in the Department of Student Affairs; and Dr Kevin Thomas, senior lecturer in the Department of Psychology. September, the former assistant warden at Kopano residence, is in charge of the 550 senior undergraduate students in the second-tier section (from ground

to fourth floor). In turn, Thomas, a former assistant warden at Liesbeeck Gardens residence, is responsible for 330 postgraduates residing on floors five to seven.

What have their days been like thus far?

With the help of sub-wardens and the Residence Life Association (known as house committees in other residences), the wardens have ensured that the signing-in of students has run smoothly, that students have been inducted into the ethos of the building, that residents have been helped to adapt to their new homes, and that any other problems arising have been addressed.

Any challenges so far?

The mix of senior undergraduates and postgraduates is tricky to negoti-

ate, as they have different lifestyles. Postgraduates often prefer a quiet environment, while undergraduates tend to be more 'social'. The challenge is to have a vision for the building that suits everybody as far as possible. So students have been asked to come up with living agreements at their hub/kitchen level that will be enforced by the management.

What have been the early highlights?

Seeing the building 'come to life' for the first time, and students' reactions to the out-of-the-box facilities.

Any teething problems?

The plumbing's not quite played along, and the water in some of the showers was running either hot or cold, but not that ideal middle ground. The problem is being addressed. ■

Obz Square right on the money, students say

The foyer's buzzing with students, some lugging cases, some carrying washing to the well-stocked laundry; and most humming to their iPods. It's safe to say that Obz Square is no longer the gargantuan res-in-waiting in Observatory; it's a living and breathing community of UCT folk. Walking through its arteries – or corridors, if you must – is something of an olfactory road trip. Yes, it's very big, so expect the scent of anything from burnt toast and bacon to incense and soap to greet you. We knocked on a few doors to find out what life is like in UCT's newest residence that, in case you don't recall, boasts 880 rooms, and 92 fully equipped kitchen, among other features.

Rohan Ramguttu, third-year student in BSc construction: "Obz Square has been built really well. It



has everything a student needs."

— **Thato Makhatholelo**, third-year business science student: "It's a leap from the catering residences; the facilities are great, and having an on-suite bathroom is a bonus."

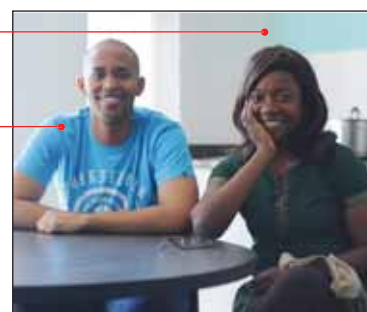
Third-year chemical engineering student, **Farirai Sanyika**: "I am very excited about being in faculty hubs [Obz Square have tried as far as possible to keep faculties together – eight to 11 student in the same discipline make up a faculty hub]. It promotes respect among us; because when you're busy, they're busy."

Natasha Narh, a fourth-year quantity surveying student, cooking up a traditional Ghanaian rice dish in the kitchen: "It feels like a modern home, what with its unique look and luxurious amenities."

Loyiso Maqubela, a masters' student in psychological sciences:



"The communal kitchens are a great idea – it gets people to meet and interact, creating something of a micro-community."



Yuka Shimamura, a social anthropology honours student who hails from Japan: "I was surprised by how big the campus and residence is. In Japan, the residences are much smaller housing about 32 people per residence."

— **Noba Jakalase**, doing her post-graduate diploma in accounting: "I absolutely love it!"



Adapt paves new paths at UCT

In more ways than one, Adapt is going to be a departure from its predecessors Khuluma and Mamela.

This new initiative doesn't so much start from where those two transformation programmes left off, as take the discussion in a whole new direction. If Khuluma was about talking and Mamela encouraged listening, Adapt will instead explore new ground in bringing UCT's ever-more diverse staff together.

The workshops will target "intercultural competencies as a key methodology to explore difference and otherness", according to the Transformation Services Office (TSO) synopsis.

While much good came out of those earlier initiatives, there was also a sense that they were unintentionally divisive. Some felt that this process resulted in guilt and shame rather than on unifying the UCT community, says the TSO's Khaironisa Foflonker, who is also project officer for Adapt. The compass will now be readjusted.

"We need to speak to those intercultural competencies that would allow us to be open, flexible and honest; and willing to really listen to other people."

And while it's a foregone con-



Point of view: (From left) Kirsten Corin, Noel Adams, Sashni Chetty and Dr Jonathan Clark discuss the new transformation initiative, Adapt.

clusion that race will dominate the conversation, workshops will also delve into related – "intersectional" – concerns such as gender, power dynamics, leadership, bureaucracy, and sexuality, as well as respect and tolerance for cultural, religious, political and other differences. "We're trying to add the other issues that have fallen off the agenda," says

Foflonker.

Adapt, initially conceived as a leadership training course, also promises to be less abstract. Making liberal use of video clips, the programme draws on real issues and situations.

In another parting of ways from Khuluma and Mamela, which were presented by outside consultants,

Adapt is a home-grown initiative for the most part. Firstly, it's run in partnership by DISCHO, under director Francois Botha, and the TSO, directed by Glenda Wildschut.

More critically, perhaps, the majority of the facilitators are UCT academic and PASS staff, some of whom have also been trained either as anti-discrimination advisors

(ADAs) or as harassment advisors. Yes, it does make the programme more sustainable, but it's not designed just as a cost-saving feature, says Botha.

More importantly, these "seasoned facilitators and practitioners" understand the UCT environment and dynamics. They are also well versed in its angers and frustrations.

Three external facilitators appointed recently have been brought on board to provide a reflection of UCT's institutional culture, which will enable us to keep a check on our blind spots.

"I think that the competencies we're targeting are those leadership qualities that we would dearly like to see in our leaders," summarises Botha.

Fifty workshops are planned for 2012, the bulk of these aimed at senior staff. Follow-up workshops are planned within three months. Student leadership has also been targeted, and student facilitators will be recruited to run the first leg of STAP (the Student Training Adapt Programme).

Professor Joha Louw-Potgieter has been appointed to conduct the monitoring and evaluation of the Adapt programme. ■

Relationships crucial for transformation

International multiculturalism and social justice expert, Associate Professor Biren "Ratnesh" Nagda, of the University of Washington School of Social Work and director of the Intergroup Dialogue, Education and Action (IDEA) Centre, presented a series of workshops to UCT Adapt co-ordinators, staff and faculty in January. *Monday Paper* spoke to him briefly about his work and his visit to UCT.

What is the message you want to convey at UCT?

The possibilities of multiculturalism cannot be taken for granted; they must be actively engaged in every facet of the university to realise the true potential. The work of transformation is not merely individual change but also institutional change. Multiculturalism and transformation have to involve everyone, those who

have been marginalised and those who are privileged. One method for doing this is to provide structured opportunities for honest, real, and courageous conversations among diverse constituents so that we may collectively reshape the institution and forge the path toward justice.

What does multiculturalism mean in this context?

One way I like to think of multiculturalism is as a patchwork quilt. By that, I don't mean that the different pieces of the quilt represent different people and cultures. Rather, multiculturalism is an ongoing, engaged process of weaving our lives together, the ways in which we thread our connectedness in the context of societal separatedness. Building relationships as a nexus of change is crucial for transformation. The challenge is to find a way to

bring people from different realities together to make a greater whole – where we recognise our different experiences and understand why these differences exist, bridge these differences while we honour our distinctive identities, and develop a shared responsibility for greater justice.

What is your experience of UCT and South Africa?

I am excited about the transformation ideas and programmes at UCT. I am struck by the diversity of students from different backgrounds at UCT, not only from South Africa but also from other African countries and other parts of the world. Yet UCT cannot rest on its laurels as a premier university, but needs to wrestle with the legacies of justice it can create for South Africa, and Africa, and indeed for our shared global future. ■



We remember

Philanthropist Shirley Rabinowitz, wife of Ben Rabinowitz, and both of the Ben & Shirley Rabinowitz Foundation, died at age 80.

Over the years, the Rabinowitz couple dedicated their lives to charitable causes. In 2009, they were presented with the Inyathelo Lifetime Philanthropy Award for their support of a number of charities, projects and causes in South Africa. Throughout, their emphasis has been on education.

At UCT, they have made donations to the Faculty of Law and the Baxter Theatre Centre. Ben personally donated to the UCT Rugby Club, the Kaplan Centre and the Upper Campus Project.

As part of UCT's Law 150 endowment

campaign in 2008, the couple established the Rabinowitz Visitorship, an initiative that brings leading lawyers, whether academic or practising, to participate in the intellectual life of the faculty.

More than 700 people attended Rabinowitz's funeral on 18 January.

Rabinowitz is remembered not only for her boundless giving, but also for her punchy one-liners and her great sense of humour.

Former head of paediatrics, Professor H ('Boet') de V Heese, died on 27 January, two weeks after his wife, Margaret.

Heese was the second Professor of Paediatrics and Child Health at UCT. He served in the department from 1970 to 1989. Heese was a highly respected academic and the breadth of his contributions to child health is enormous. Among other things, he led the development of UCT's Institute of Child Health, Child Health Unit, and first poisons centre. He was known for his outgoing personality, integrity, sincerity, extraordinary vision and superb ability to mentor and develop people. He leaves his son Jake, his daughter Sue, and his grandchildren Ashleigh and Abbey.

Former staffer Bill Campbell died on 1 January. Campbell had been a member of the academic staff in the Department of Chemistry from the 1950s until his retirement, as senior lecturer, in 1997. Many of the current academics in the department remember him as an inspiring and dedicated teacher, who was unfailingly polite and showed great kindness to students and colleagues alike. Campbell served as student advisor for many years. On retirement, he took up a contract position in the Department of Pharmacology, where he continued his research in the isolation and characterisation of active agents from plants. He leaves his wife June, daughter Dawn and two grandsons. He was 79 years old.



Winners: The water polo teams had reason to smile after their showing at the USSA games.

Water polo teams make splash at USSA games

YUSUF OMAR

UCT's water polo teams impressed at the University Sport South Africa (USSA) games in East London at the end of last year.

The men's team came home triumphant, having convincingly beaten all comers. That included a resounding 9-5 victory over archrivals University of Stellenbosch in the final, their second win over the Maties in the competition.

The women's team couldn't manage top honours, but did claim the runners-up spot after narrowly losing 8-10 to nemesis Maties in

the final. (In direct contrast to the men, they lost to Stellenbosch twice over the competition.)

Elated UCT men's captain Ryan Cumming lauded coach Zsolt Desai and the commitment of his team-mates as key factors in their victory. "We have an extremely talented and dynamic mix of players from all over the country," Cumming says.

Cumming was also chuffed at getting the better of the Maties in a second successive USSA final.

"(It) was hugely pleasing for the team, and served as a considerable confidence booster." ■

Baxter remembers sinking of Mendi



The sinking of the troopship SS Mendi in the English Channel on 21 February 1917 and the death of 616 South Africans on their way to France, including 607 black troops of the South African Native Labour Corps, is considered one of South Africa's worst military disasters. Now that story is being retold in *Did We Dance: Ukutshona ko Mendi* (The Sinking of the Mendi), on at the Baxter from 25 February to 10 March. The title of the play is derived from the legend of the 'death dance' – the men of the labour contingent performed one last, barefooted dance on the tilting deck of the Mendi before she sank. In picture are Apollo Ntshoko, Warona Sean and Thando Doni. ■

UCT represented in legendary production

YUSUF OMAR

Billed as the world's greatest love story, Andrew Lloyd Webber's *The Phantom of the Opera* has been setting audience's hearts aflutter in South Africa recently.

And there were plenty of UCT names among both cast and orchestra of the Cape Town and Johannesburg productions. Christine, the woman at the centre of the tussle between love-rivals Phantom and two UCT students, Robin Botha and Magdalene Minnaar. Anthony Downing plays

Raoul. And Hanlee Louw and Kurt Haupt play important supporting characters Carlotta and Monsieur Reyer, respectively.

The Cape Town orchestra – for the staging at the Artscape Theatre Centre – was also packed with no fewer than 15 UCT alumni, staff members (current and former) and students.

The Christines and Downing have been roundly applauded for their performances in the Cape Town leg of the show. As *Cape Times* reviewer Astrid Stark said, "Christine and

Raoul's very popular All I Ask of You had the tears flowing."

Star Tonight reserves special praise for Botha and Downing. "Botha is endearing as Christine, managing to bring out the vulnerability of the character without turning her into a flaky, whiny bore. So, too, you root for Downing, who provides just enough backbone for Raoul to create a hero without overshadowing Christine."

The *Phantom of the Opera* runs at the Teatro at Montecasino until 25 March. ■

Disappointment for Ikeys in Varsity Cup opener



Fumble: All too often, UCT's handling – with the goal line beckoning – let the side down.

YUSUF OMAR

FNB UCT's title defence got off to the worst possible start with a 10-38 loss to the University of the Free State's Shimlas in the opening round of the 2012 Varsity Cup on Monday, 6 February.

The Ikeys were punished for a litany of missed chances and unforced errors as the players from Bloemfontein outscored them by four tries to two. The home team seemed to be its own worst enemy on an unusually windless Green Mile.

Despite creating several clear

scoring opportunities, UCT's pack were outgunned in the set-pieces and tight-loose, forcing the team onto the back foot. The visitors had raced into a 16-0 lead before UCT finally troubled the scorers through fullback Dillyn Leyds, who finished an expansive move in the corner.

UCT conceded a further 14 points before they scored again, but captain Ntsolo Setlaba's five-pointer came when the match was already lost. Kevin Foote's team rued twice dropping the ball with the try-line at their mercy.

Ikeys flyhalf Nicholas Holton, one of the few in blue and white

hoops who caught the eye, saw his expertly crafted opportunities squandered by team-mates far too often. Foote was crestfallen.

"Our handling was just atrocious, and we couldn't get through any phases," the coach said.

Foote refused to blame match-day nerves for his new-look squad's defeat.

"We're better than that," he said, adding that the next game against the University of Johannesburg was crucial. "We have to fight for our lives going up to Johannesburg. If we don't, then this campaign is going to finish before it's even started." ■

Cape Town hosts World Schools Debating Championships

YUSUF OMAR

Robust debate is an essential ingredient in the drive to consolidate democracy in societies like South Africa's. It was with some pride, then, that Cape Town hosted the World Schools Debating Championships 2012. More than 420 of the world's best teenage debaters descended on the Mother City. All but one of the competition's organising committee were UCT students or graduates, and UCT also hosted one of the early rounds of the competition. In the final, the young team from Scotland defeated Wales. Teams negotiated topics such as South Africa's use of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) instead of prosecuting apartheid criminals, whether feminist movements should seek a ban on pornography, and whether states should legally enshrine socio-economic rights. ■