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Ombud reports on first year

UCT establishes commission into student admissions

UCT Council recently established a Commission into UCT Students Admissions, its goal to broaden engagement with the policy review by Council members and the public.

The commission will be chaired by UCT Council member Judge Craig Howie and will consider material garnered by the university's admissions policy review task team, as well as the views of the public and sectors inside and outside the university.

The vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, has invited staff and students to make written submissions to the commission, to address matters of policy and principle and to offer any ideas for improving UCT's admissions policy. The deadline for submissions is 9 March.

Submissions must be emailed to commission@uct.ac.za or posted to The Commission into UCT Students Admissions, Room 106, Bremner Building, Lovers' Walk, Rondebosch, 7700.

After consideration of the written submissions, the commission will decide whom to invite to make oral representations at hearings to be held from 15 to 17 May.

The commission aims to have its report to the UCT Council completed by October 2012.

The 2012 admissions policy can be viewed at http://www.uct.ac.za/downloads/uct.ac.za/about/policy_2012.pdf.

When Zetu Makamandela-Mguqulwa started in her post as UCT Ombud on 1 January 2011, neither she nor anyone else really had an idea just how the post would pan out. Or, for that matter, what kinds of issues she would have to deal with. Now, a year and a sharp learning curve later, everyone has a better sense of the post and its duties. *Monday Paper* spoke to Makamandela-Mguqulwa.

MP: Did 2011 work out quite the way you imagined?

ZM-M: As you correctly put it there was no script, yet to a large degree, I agree. Early days went to establishing and promoting the office, understanding the role in the UCT context, learning and forging professional relationships with ombuds locally and internationally. (In the process I found the best mentor in the field, Mary Rowe of MIT.) There have been many times when people expressed their gratitude for the positive outcomes to their matters. Sometimes, I would not even know about the end result. A handful walked away disappointed that I did not support their intended course of action, but hopefully with appreciation of what informed my views. There were surprises and anxieties along the way. The first few months were quiet, but I used the time well, meeting with deans, the SRC, executive directors and the like – people who would probably be the first that those who would

eventually call on the Ombud would turn to.

MP: When the Ombud post was created, there seemed to be uncertainty about where along the grievance process the post would fit.

ZM-M: There is role clarity across the offices where duplication of effort was possible or perceived. These are HR, DISCHO, and the office of the Ombud. The former are UCT offices, while the Ombud is independent and sits outside the UCT grievance process, which is a formal approach. When I assumed office I had looked after mediation on campus; I recently recommended to the university that mediation be relocated to the Transformation Services office as a policy-driven UCT approach to resolving conflict. This is to protect the independence and informal standards of the Office of the Ombud.

MP: You've dealt with nearly 300 queries, covering just about everything. (See pie chart.) Is that caseload too broad perhaps?

ZM-M: Broad yes, but if you look closely at the issues that people bring, they are inter-related. Some emanate from the university systems, eg compensation and benefits, but even system issues are people-driven. It is in this role that I learned that 'soft' is the new 'hard'. I have been struck by two abiding things in most complaints I

heard: harshness of treatment and fear of retaliation. While I recognise that I saw a tiny fraction of what may be a largely contented, appreciative and loyal UCT community, it is worth noting that my visitors were less provoked by what was done, than how it was done.

MP: Are people making use of the office in the way that you would like? Or do you think there's still fear to knock on your door?

ZM-M: As I've mentioned, most people still choose to stay away from this office in fear of retaliation, being judged as not coping with their problems or seen to be escalating the issue prematurely and unnecessarily. For instance, there is a staff member that I have not seen in person, yet almost on a monthly basis she sends complaints electronically. I cannot quite help her to resolve her problems as I do not use e-mail for this. I offered to meet with her after hours for her protection and maybe over coffee if she wants; she is yet to respond.

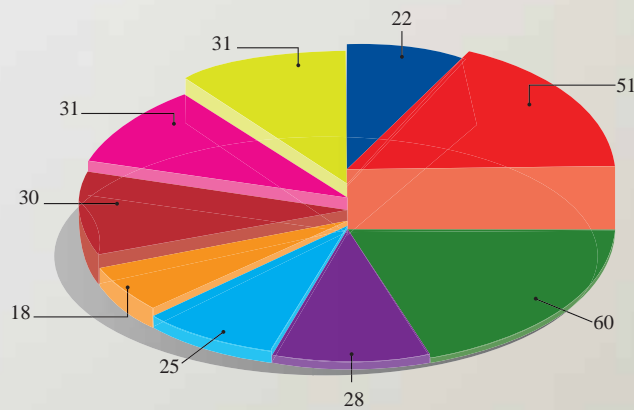
MP: You mentioned once that you don't quite have the judicial powers to tell UCT what to do or not do, or that person A is right and person B is wrong. Is that what people hope for when they call you?

ZM-M: While my office has authority derived from Council with privileges, eg confidential-

ity and access to information, it does not have the power to dictate terms to the university or to anyone; nor can it impose sanctions. I cannot judge who is right or wrong. Clearly it does not matter in this office. This may be the only office that has such a rare value of not judging people, hence people should take advantage of it. What really matters is what is fair, reasonable and in accordance with the university policies. It is also expected that my office would function as an early-warning system should the policies themselves fail the university, for one reason or another.

MP: What do you foresee to be the main focus/issues for your office in 2012?

After the first report and first-year experiences, and as I compile additional data and insights, there may be more opportunities to provide upward feedback and recommendations for systemic change and improvement. Also, when people approach the office of the Ombud, they seem to not understand the mandate of the office, where it fits in helping them to resolve their problems and what their role is in the process. Based on this experience my further three priorities would be education, education and education! ■



Nature of complaints: 2011	
Compensation & benefits	Safety, health & physical environment
Evaluative relationships	Services/administrative issues
Peer/colleague relationships	Organisational, strategic and mission-related
Career progression & development	Values, ethics & standards
Legal, regulatory, financial & compliance	



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Accounting adopts new name and ethos

They're in high demand, but South Africa is battling to produce accounting professionals in adequate numbers, particularly from black communities.

To improve both the quantity and quality of accounting professionals such as chartered accountants, auditors, financial managers and tax experts coming through the system, and more importantly, to help transform the profession, UCT's Department of Accounting is ringing in some changes this year.

The department, a globally-recognised leader in accounting education, has been renamed the College of Accounting. The college was officially launched to much fanfare on 9 February.

But the change is more than just cosmetic.

"The college will have a far more explicit professional orientation than its predecessor," explains Associate Professor Mark Graham, founding head of the college, "and this will be embodied in its vision, mission and

in the performance evaluation of its academics."

This, adds Graham, will allow the college to become involved in professional and transformational activities that will benefit both the accounting profession and society in general.

While the training programmes will remain largely the same, the college will explore different ways to improve its throughput, especially that of black students. So it may, for example, look at language issues in

the teaching of subjects.

"We need to understand how to better the teaching of students whose first language is not English," says Graham.

Beyond its own classrooms, the college works with the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants to assist Walter Sisulu University and the University of Zululand – two of the most disadvantaged institutions in the country – to ramp up their programmes.

Also, the college intends to play

a more active role in government, where accounting has been found to be "a little weak". Academics will be expected to provide high-level consultation to the state, and to be involved in the drafting of legislation, among other things.

It is with this ambitious agenda in mind that the college wants to kick off 2012.

"We want to focus on what we do well, and that is important to get the economy of the country sorted," says Graham.

Campus highlights

Not forgotten



The Cape Garrison Artillery, formerly the UCT Regiment and a Reserve Force Unit, together with a contingent from the naval vessel the *SAS Mendi* held a commemoration service for the *SS Mendi* at its memorial site at UCT on 19 February. The *SS Mendi* sank in English waters en route to France in 1917. Some 616 of the 646 crew members and soldiers died, mainly black troops of the South African Native Labour Corps.

Waste not, want not

Chemical Engineering's multi-award-winning Dr Dyllon Randall has scooped yet another award for his research on processing wastewater from mines. Randall was one of three South African researchers to be awarded the renowned Green Talents sustainability prize in Berlin in December. The prize is awarded to exceptional young scientists active in the field of sustainable development. Randall was also a runner-up in the Young Persons' World Lecture Competition in 2011.

UCT gamers host global jam



UCT's Department of Computer Science hosted the Cape Town leg of the Global Game Jam over the last weekend in January. Gamers in 47 countries and covering 242 locations kicked off at the same time to design a video or board game within 48 hours of a theme being revealed. Students from the UCT game development

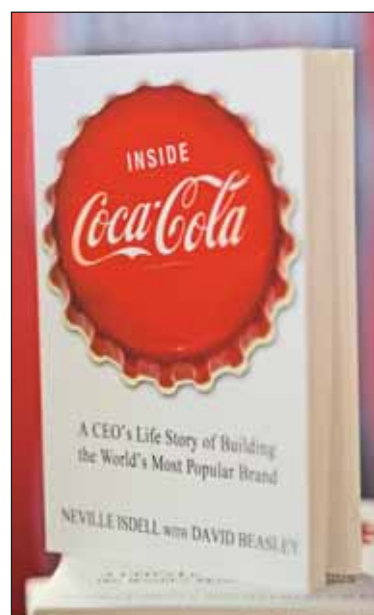
course formed part of the teams that finished first and third. In picture is a screenshot from the winning game, *A Mind Beside Itself*.

Same challenges



Universities and the media serve different constituencies and have distinct mandates, but at times they face the same challenges. This is why the two sectors need to strengthen their relationship, which is critical for economic growth, UCT vice-chancellor Dr Max Price (above, right) told editors at the council meeting of the South African National Editors' Forum (SANEF), held at the Baxter Theatre Centre on 11 February. Price is seen here with SANEF chairperson Mondli Makhanya (left) and Health Minister Dr Aaron Motsoaledi.

Isdell's book examines rebirth



In times of economic turbulence, such as now, the world probably needs more business minds like Neville Isdell. The problem is that graduate Isdell is retired. Not all is lost, though. In his first book, *Inside Coca-Cola: A CEO's life story of building the world's most popular brand*, launched at UCT on 14 February, Isdell chronicles how, as chairman and chief executive, he "regilded the tarnished brand image" of Coca-Cola. The book is said to take an important look at how companies can market themselves more ethically, and successfully.

Setting the record straight

In the 13 February, Vol 31 # 01 edition of *Monday Paper*, we stated that RAG, aka Remember and Give, had hoped to raise R200 000 through the sales of this year's *Sax Appeal*. In truth, they were aiming much higher. Little wonder – on the day they reached R730 370 in sales. That's about R35 000 more than in 2011. And according to RAG's Jean Barratt, plans are already being cooked up to make sure they go even bigger in 2013.

Easy writer



Even if at first they don't get it right, let them write: "Five to seven minutes of writing a day, that's all it takes." So said Dr Lori Assaf, director of the Central Texas Writing Project in the US, who presented a seminar titled *Using 'Quick Writes' to Help Learners Discover Topics that Matter* to a group of Western Cape teachers on 15 February. At the event Assaf discussed strategies to help learners develop the habit of writing and revision. "One of the key messages [of 'Quick Writes'] is that you don't need a lot of money and materials to make a huge difference," she said.

Physicists unite

A group of UCT physicists recently hosted a visit by Prof Raju Venugopalan, leader of the nuclear theory group at the Brookhaven National Laboratory, New York. At Brookhaven, home to the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider, renowned as the world's second-highest-energy heavy-ion collider, Venugopalan and others are planning a US\$1-billion upgrade to address questions that cannot be answered by the numero uno of particle accelerators, Europe's Large Hadron Collider. Over his stay, he also helped UCT's fledgling high-energy physics group – spearheaded by the likes of 'recent' appointments in the Department of Physics, Dr WA Horowitz and Prof Heribert Weigert – establish itself.

Democratic way

There is no contradiction between Islam and democratic governance as some have claimed, says Iraqi ambassador to South Africa, Dr Hisham Al-Alawi. In his talk, *Democracy and*

Good Governance in Islam: Lessons from recent developments in Iraq and the region, hosted by UCT's Department of Religious Studies in February, Al-Alawi noted that the key functions of a democratic state, such as respect for human rights, dignity and social justice, are at the heart of Islamic teaching.



Medicine meets music

UCT's professor of primary health care, Steve Reid (above), recently toured with the World Doctors Orchestra on their first South African 'session'. The group's itinerary included a seminar, hosted by UCT and Reid, titled *Musicians and Artists who are Health Professionals*, and a performance at the Baxter Theatre Centre, where they performed a piece by retired UCT professor of composition, Peter Klatzow. The SA tour was in aid of the Ndlovu Care Group, a community health and development project in Elandsdoorn, Limpopo. ■



the forum | the baxter launched their new value platters this month. Menus consist of fresh, locally produced ingredients that are made on-site and come at a great new price.

Based at the Baxter Theatre, the forum company ensures efficient service and a speedy delivery, but should you wish to get out of the office or boardroom, pop into our Play Bar for a coffee, drink or a light meal, or have a more substantial meal at Act restaurant.

For more information on our platters or any other bookings please contact: Thabisa Zilwa on 021 685 3888 or baxterbookings@theforum.co.za

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No more waiting as Jammie info system is launched

Thanks to a new travel information system, there'll be no more waiting in the rain for the Jammie Shuttle.

In December, UCT's Centre for Transport Studies (CTS) launched a pilot study aimed at improving transport information for the UCT community. The Jammie Shuttle Traveller Information System taps into the global trend of providing real-time information through the use of what's known as advanced traveller information systems.

In the system, buses are tracked continuously using GPS. Then, based on their current positions and historic information regarding their travel times, mathematical algorithms estimate the buses' arrival times.

This arrival time is then provided on the web, on various electronic signs and television screens around campus, and directly to commuters via sms.

For now, there are six televisions dotted around campus – in Menzies, Leslie Social Sciences, and in the Library building; with another planned for the Molecular and Cell Biology building. In addition, there are two electronic signs at the West stop outside the chemical engineering building on upper campus. Another sign outside Tugwell is in the pipeline, reports the CTS's Associate Professor Marianne Vanderschuren, the

'driving' force behind the system.

Though not complete yet – the web and sms services will be up and running soon – the system is a dream come true.

Vanderschuren, who has worked in the field of intelligent transport systems since 1996, has long nursed the idea of a Jammie Shuttle information system. A few years ago she finally secured funding to get the project off the ground. She joined forces with a group of former computer science students, who had been pondering a similar service, to start the roll-out of the project.

The maxim behind the system is straightforward – no more time-consuming waiting. "If a vehicle has broken down or is cancelled, people know that they have to find another vehicle or route," Vanderschuren says.

And the system shows potential far beyond UCT too. The City of Cape Town, for example, is keeping an eye on it.

There are many things wrong with the South African public transport system. But a service like this can be a nudge in the right direction.

"South Africa, as a whole, has very limited public transport information. In my view, real-time public transport information is one important step towards a high-quality system." ■



Timely: Assoc Prof Marianne Vanderschuren is test-driving a new traveller information system right here at UCT.

Call for Stella Clark Award nominations

UCT students and staff are invited to nominate a teacher who is currently teaching in a secondary school and who, in their opinion, deserves recognition for years of dedicated teaching to students from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds.

The successful teacher will receive a monetary award of R5 000 and will be expected to give a talk at an award ceremony. The school will receive R1 000 towards educational

resources. In addition, the UCT staff member or student who nominates the successful teacher will receive R1 500.

Each nomination should include:

- the nominator's name and contact details;
- the teacher's name and contact details;
- the name and address of the school;
- the name and contact details of at least one UCT student who has been taught by the nominated teacher; and

a detailed motivation providing reasons why you believe that the teacher has acted as a role model in encouraging students from educationally disadvantaged backgrounds to register at UCT.

Nominations should be submitted to Kathy Erasmus, Centre for Higher Education Development, Hlanganani Building, or kathy.erasmus@uct.ac.za. The closing date is 30 March. ■

Nominate for Distinguished Teacher Awards

Students and members of the academic staff are invited to submit nominations for Distinguished Teacher Awards in 2012.

All members of staff who teach students are eligible for the award. Outstanding 'junior' lecturers should be considered for nominations but only if they have been teaching for a minimum of three years, as the

award is made in recognition of a continuous record of excellence in teaching.

Nominations must consist of a detailed statement making the case for the award. Where possible, evidence of excellence in teaching over a number of years should be included, as well as some detail about the nominee's approach to teaching.

Nominations (marked Confidential, for the attention of Ms C Windvogel) are to reach the Office of the Registrar: Legal Services and Secretariat, Room 140, Bremner Building, by Friday 30 March.

It is not necessary to provide all the supporting documents by the deadline. ■

Law throws the book at students

To be a successful law student you need to read, read and read some more.

So said UCT's dean of Law, Professor PJ Schwikkard, at the launch of the faculty's first-year book club on 13 February. The first read for the club is *In a Different Time* by Peter Harris, which tells the story of the Delmas four trial in the late 1980s.

The book, presented to the students free of charge thanks to a generous donation from the Louis

Singer Charitable Trust, will prove an invaluable ice-breaker for the some 260 first-years, suggested Professor Alan Rycroft, the brain behind the club.

"It must be intimidating to be in such a large class," he told students. "You now have a reason to talk to others."

And, no, the book will not come up in exams, he consoled students, but may still be weaved into courses.

The idea behind the book club is

to graduate well-rounded lawyers.

"The aim is to start building graduate attributes from the ground up, to make our students realise that they are joining a community of people who read critically and debate big issues," Rycroft says.

As part of the initiative, the faculty will host lunchtime seminars by prominent speakers such as the author, as well as Judge Dennis Davis, Professor Pierre de Vos and others. ■

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Ad hominem candidates fêted

Hard work paid off when the achievements of 63 'top-performing' academics and scientific and technical officers were honoured at this year's ad hominem promotions dinner on 21 February.

Known as an extremely stringent and rigorous process,

moving up a rung at UCT by way of ad hominem promotion is a great honour. Applicants are rated across a broad range of their outputs, including, in the case of academics, teaching, learning, leadership, management, administration, social responsiveness and research.

Among the newest honourees, who were congratulated by vice-chancellor Dr Max Price on the night were 11 professors, 19 associate professors, 21 senior lecturers, three chief technical officers, three senior technical officers, two senior research officers, two principal scientific officers and one chief research officer. ■



CHED



Commerce



Engineering and the Built Environment



Health Sciences



Humanities



Law



Science

CHED:

(From left, back) Tim Low and Dr Kate Bennie. (Front) Assoc Profs Suellen Shay and June Pym and VC Dr Max Price.

Commerce:

(From left) Prof Martin Wittenberg, VC Dr Max Price, dean Prof Don Ross and Cecil Mlatsheni.

Engineering and the Built Environment:

(From left, back) Dr Steeve Chung Kim, Nicky Wolmarans, Assoc Prof Jochen Petersen, Dr Megan Becker and Dr Olabisi Falowo. (Front) Penny Park-Ross, VC Dr Max Price, Prof Jenni Case, dean Prof Francis Petersen and Assoc Prof Nic Coetzer.

Health Sciences:

(From left, back) Assoc Profs Brenda Morrow, Cynthia Sikakana, Roshan Galvaan and Elelwani Ramugondo, Gillian Ferguson, Assoc Profs Virna Leaner and Sharon Prince, and Morea Petersen. (Front) Hendrina Victor,

Assoc Prof David Coetzee, VC Dr Max Price, acting dean Prof Sue Kidson, Assoc Prof Pat Mayers and Geney Gunston.

Humanities:

(From left, back) Assoc Prof Adam Haupt, Dr Ian-Malcolm Rijdsdijk and Andrew Lamprecht. (Front) Prof Nigel Penn, dean Paula Ensor, VC Dr Max Price and Prof Gail Fincham.

LAW:

(From left, back:) Drs Andrew Hutchinson and Waheeda Amien, Prof Jaco Barnard-Naude and Assoc Prof Debbie Collier. (Front) Assoc Prof Dee Smythe, VC Dr Max Price, dean Prof PJ Schwikkard and Prof Loretta Feris.

Science:

(From left, back) Assoc Prof Rachel Wynberg, Dr Rob Ingle, Assoc Prof Tony Verboom and Dr Gina Ziervogel. (Front) Derick September, VC Dr Max Price, Terry Trinder-Smith and dean Prof Anton le Roex.



INVITATION

The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town, Dr Max Price, invites members of staff and students to attend the following seminar.

Guest Speaker: Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, from the Department of International Relations and Cooperation.

Title of the seminar: "Celebrating the legacy of Liberation Movements in Africa: Freedom through Diplomacy"

Date: Tuesday 6 March 2012
Time: 18:00. Doors open at 17:00
Venue: Lecture Theatre 3, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus, UCT

RSVP: Please note your attendance at the seminar can only be accommodated if you RSVP by Thursday 1 March to:

Edwina Kannemeyer
 Communication and Marketing Department
Tel: 021 650 5671
Email: Edwina.Kannemeyer@uct.ac.za

Due to limited seating in Kramer Lecture Theatre 3, seating will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis

One hundred years of health

The Faculty of Health Sciences marks its centenary this year. To celebrate this milestone, *Monday Paper* we will be featuring faculty 'then and 'now' highlights from the past 100 years.

Then:

The opening of the anatomical and physiological laboratories in Orange Street, Cape Town, on Thursday 6 June 1912, marked the founding of the South African College Medical School. At the time, the school boasted two staff members (Professors RB Thomson and William Jolly were appointed to the chairs of anatomy and physiology) and had enrolled 46 students (43 freshers and three second-year students) to its existing medical courses. The school would only introduce a full medical degree in 1922. Jolly served, from 1918 to 1931, as the faculty's first dean.

Now:

Today the Faculty of Health Sciences has 11 academic depart-



ments, each comprising a number of clinical and non-clinical divisions or specialisations. In 2011 full-time academic, research and scientific/technical staff in the faculty totalled about 348, of which some 95 are professors and associate professors. There are also 173 part-time academic, research and scientific/technical staff, as well as large numbers of joint staff on Provincial Health conditions of service. The

number of students in the faculty in 2011 was 3 641. Today, the faculty offers undergraduate degree programmes in medicine, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and communication sciences, and a large number of postgraduate degrees at diploma, honours, master's and doctoral levels (including medical specialisations). Professor Marian Jacobs, appointed in 2006, is the faculty's 11th dean. ■

If nature abhors a vacuum, it sometimes needs a helping hand to fill the gaps.

A push – or a tug, to be more exact – is exactly what a team made up of UCT mechanical engineer Dr George Vicatos, his MSc student James Boonzaier and maxillo-facial oral surgeon Dr Rushdi Hendricks offered Mother Nature. In benchmarking pieces of surgery – probably world firsts – last year, they harnessed some established surgical principles and fine metalwork to rebuild a patient's entire missing palate, or cleft palate.

A cleft palate, basically, is a hole where the roof of the mouth should be. This typically occurs when the body's natural structures don't fuse as they should before birth. Usually these clefts are filled by surgery soon after birth or in early childhood.

But the problem also remains common among adults. Such as when cancerous palates are removed in later life, for example.

Cleft palates visit a string of medical conditions on patients. Because there's no wall to separate the oral cavity from the nasal cavity (a condition known as velopharyngeal inadequacy), patients suffer from speech difficulties, and they have to bear the indignity of food passing from the mouth into the nasal passage, and the embarrassment of nasal fluids slipping into the mouth.

Remedies in adults include the use of a prosthetic known as a palatal obturator, which is more or less a souped-up denture. Another option is a bone graft, which involves replacing the palate with bone removed from elsewhere.

But these are unsatisfying, for different reasons. The obturator is still messy, and the bone used in grafting doesn't allow for teeth implants, for example.

For some years, however, Hendricks and surgeons around the world have been applying a technique known as distraction osteogenesis to regenerate bone in the lower jaw.

Distraction osteogenesis was the brainchild of Russian surgeon Gavriil Ilizarov, who in the 1950s developed the technique to grow missing bone, typically in the leg. Applying the law of tension-stress, he found that if he carefully severed (or distracted) the bone and, a little tug at a time, pulled it apart, new bone and tissue would fill the in-between space.

"The body does the work," Hendricks explains.

But the principle only works if the membrane lining the bone, known as the periosteum, is kept intact. That periosteum contains life-giving progenitor cells that, like stem cells, can



UCT engineers help make medical history

UCT engineers have helped a local clinician – and Mother Nature – in two groundbreaking surgeries repairing entire cleft palates. The work has earned the team *Popular Mechanics'* award for South Africa's Inventor of the Year

direct the body to grow missing bone and tissue where needed.

In his work with distraction osteogenesis, Hendricks borrowed from the design of a 'plate-guided distractor' developed by American surgeon Alan Herford. Think of the contraption as a train coach guided by a track, he explains. The distractor, which clamps onto a chunk of severed bone or 'transport disk' via a mesh 'basket', is the coach; the 'fixation plate', a metal plate commonly used in orthopaedic surgery, is the track.

Finally, a strategically placed screw allows the surgeons to move the distractor along the plate, pulling at the severed bone bit by bit.

And more tweaks to the design.

"We haven't just stopped working on the device after the first operation – we're continuously improving it," reports Vicatos.

The distractor is not going to be a luxury item only, the team promises. While they're still costing the entire exercise, they're confident that both the surgery and the gadget will suit the pockets of both medical schemes and state hospitals.

And they'll make sure the gadget will be produced by a local company. Which suggests that South Africa could soon be the talk of the maxillo-facial surgery world. ■

But while Herford succeeded in growing new bone and soft tissue in the lower jaw or mandible, other surgeons could not do the same for the upper jaw or maxilla because of its peculiar anatomical constraints. When they did, but could only work in a straight line of up to 20mm.

But now Hendricks has pushed that boundary to 40 mm and beyond. That requires the plate to negotiate some tricky corners and bends, or a "curvilinear vector".

"The problem is, how do you stretch bone and tissue around a curve?" he asks, spelling out the engineering hiccup.

While other engineers balked, Vicatos, of UCT's Department of Mechanical Engineering, gladly took up the challenge. He eventually turned it into a project for Boonzaier, who designed the contraption, now patented by UCT. (Boonzaier's involvement was funded by the Medical Research Council.)

In operations over late 2011, Hendricks implanted the team's distractor into two patients. In the first they filled a gap of 40mm, in the second, 80mm. The second surgery required a few ergonomic modifications to fit the demands of the patient's missing palate, and to replace three-quarters of the upper jaw.

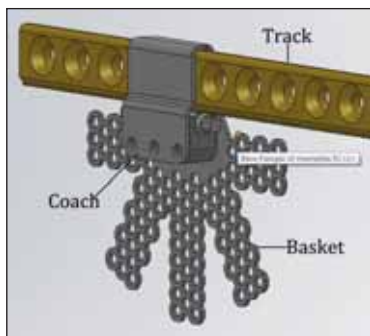
Other than the apparatus itself, Hendricks had a post-operation trick up his sleeve as well. While distraction is usually done at a rate of 1mm a day in adults and 2mm in children, he'd decided on 1.5mm per day in his patient. That, he explains, would allow for the growth of both the soft and hard bone and the tissue that make up the palate.

"It's more fantastic than I could have imagined," said a clearly impressed Boonzaier when he first saw the new palate forming.

Others have been equally awestruck. In late 2011, sci-tech magazine *Popular Mechanics* named the team South Africa's Inventor of the Year for the design. More operations are lined up.



The plan: The team's pre-surgery mock-up of how the distractor would fit onto the patient's jaw. (Images provided by Dr George Vicatos and Dr Rushdi Hendricks.)



Metal work: The team's revised, second design of the distractor.



Turning the screws: After the operation (from left) Dr Rushdi Hendricks, Dr George Vicatos and James Boonzaier move the distractor's 'coach' along the track.



Then and now: The patient's cleft palate (left) and full closure (right) a month later.

By the book

DANIELLA POLLOCK



The current global economic and ecological crisis has many facets, among them urban development, economic sustainability and soil health. *Just Transition: Explorations*

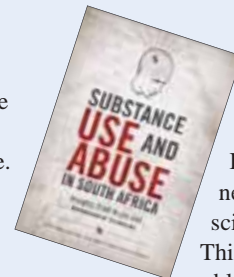
of Sustainability in an Unfair World by Mark Swilling and Eve Annecke, and published by UCT Press, provides a comprehensive overview of global challenges from the perspective of a southern, developing country and encourages ways of thinking about solutions.

Youth Violence: Sources and Solutions in South Africa, by UCT's Dr Catherine Ward and Assoc Prof Emer Andrew Dawes and Amelia van der Merwe of the Child, Youth, Family & Social Development research



programme of the Human Sciences Research Council, reviews the risk and protective factors for the likelihood of aggression among young people. The book, published by UCT Press, looks at a host of factors, including race, class and gender, and the role of the media.

Substance Use and Abuse in South Africa: Insights from brain and behavioural sciences, by UCT's Prof George Ellis, Prof Dan Stein,



at the problem of substance abuse from multiple perspectives, particularly in the light of recent discoveries in brain and behavioural sciences. ■

Assoc Prof Ernesta Meintjes and Dr Kevin Thomas, arose out of UCT's Brain-Behaviour Initiative, which relates neuroscience and behavioural science to social issues. This ground-breaking book, published by UCT Press, looks

A DAY IN THE LIFE of the Conference Management Centre

The centre is staffed by manager Deidre Raubenheimer; conference co-ordinators Belinda Chapman and Fatima Saban; Janet Sirmongpong, who works as a continuous professional development co-ordinator and an assistant co-ordinator; and Bianca Allison, an assistant co-ordinator; as well as accountant Rosemary Prew and finance officer Soliegha Yaghya.

What they do:

For over 33 years, the centre's core business has been to arrange conferences. Not only for the Faculty of Health Sciences, where they are based, but for other UCT and outside groups as well. And they don't just do conferences, organising everything from book launches to gala dinners. They also provide an A-to-Z service – drawing up budgets, sitting on committee meetings, sourcing venues, managing registrations, marketing and advertising the events, and managing the finances, among other things.

The challenges:

The team works to tight deadlines and has to juggle a multitude of tasks every day. Team members need to be flexible and well-organised to cope with the stresses.

"You must be able to adapt to last-minute changes, requests and mistakes," Raubenheimer explains.



(From left, front) Shandre Amroodt, Janet Sirmongpong, Deidre Raubenheimer and Belinda Chapman, (back) Fatima Saban, Rosemary Prew, Soleigha Yaghya and Bianca Allison.

The highs and the lows:

The satisfaction the team gets from organising a successful conference, from meeting interesting people and picking up on a range of tasks provide the highs. The downsides are that the job can be stressful, and members can

burn out fast. Also, they have to work to tight budgets.

The strange and the unusual:

Arranging conferences has funny moments aplenty. At one conference, everyone thought a delegate was the

then-Minister of Health and made a huge fuss over her, only to find out that she wasn't, in fact, the minister. At another event, an international delegate rushed to the registration desk, saying he urgently needed to get to a pharmacy for an emergency. "I offered to take

him, thinking it was a matter of life and death," Raubenheimer recalls, "only to find out he needed to take some injections, as he and his wife were trying to start a family, and he was going to see her in a week or so and did not want to upset his cycle." ■

100 years of art history transformed



YUSUF OMAR

It is often said that history is written by the winners.

But in the case of South African art, for example, no one's yet provided a big-picture overview from a post-apartheid perspective.

Welcome, then, *Visual Century: South African art in context, 1907-2007*.

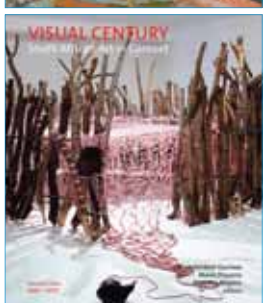
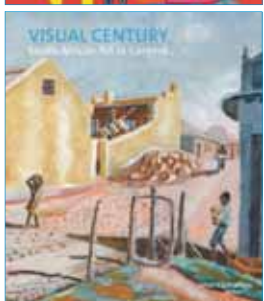
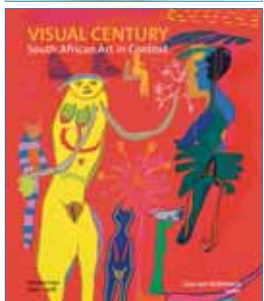
The four-volume series of publications, project-managed by non-profit organisation Africa South Art Initiative (ASAI), based at UCT since 2007, revisits 100 years of South African art history.

The brainchild of international artist and curator Gavin Jantjies, a graduate of UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Art, *Visual Century* called on the services of five editors and 33 writers, and is published by Wits University Press.

Mario Pissarra, head of ASAI and editor-in-chief of the project, says that the contribution of black artists was severely neglected in previous historical surveys. But things changed in the 1980s, explains Pissarra, a former research associate in the Department of Historical Studies and currently a doctoral candidate with the Department of Sociology.

"From the mid-80s, there was a new, revisionist trend in art history in the country where people went back to look critically at South African art history, and look particularly at the fact that black artists were almost completely excluded from South African art history."

Visual Century now builds on those revisionist labours, and tackles some essential questions in a way that almost no-one has done before. ■



Exhibition a response to artist's 'book'

Thought a book was just a book was just a book?

Not for the artists exploring the printed text – using the 'book object' as a conceptual reference – in *Context*, a new exhibition running at Michaelis Galleries until 7 March.

Curated by Michaelis lecturer Fabian Saptouw, the exhibition features the works of Michaelis staffers Associate Professor Fritha Langerman, Professor Colin Richards and Professor Pippa Skotnes, as well as other contributors like Phillip Raath, Chloë Reid, Morné Visagie and UCT senior librarian Tanya Barben.

The exhibition, says Saptouw, is a response to the work of Michaelis' newest artist-in-residence, American curator Mark Dion.

During his time here, which was arranged by the UCT Centre for Curating the Archive and funded by the Mellon Foundation, Dion is working on a project that will be exhibited at Documenta 13 in Kassel, Germany, later this year.

In this work, he continues his long-term exploration of the curating of objects – curating in the modern sense, in which disparate objects are brought together in novel and creative ways to



suggest new meanings. The collection of objects in question is the Schilbath Xylotheque, a wooden library housed in the Natural History Museum in Kassel. The library comprises 530 volumes of 441 European tree and shrub species – in encyclopaedic arrangement – each complete with bark spines, and containing a three-dimensional representation of the tree's life cycle.

Dion is adding six new books to the Xylotheque, each presenting a specific wood from one of the five continents not included in the original library. The six books will be created

during various residencies around the world.

Having already produced three books, he moved into the Michaelis Upper Gallery to create the fourth – the African installation, that of the Camphor Tree, a colonist tree to the Cape, first introduced here around 1670.

"The book is almost complete," said Thomas Cartwright, project manager at the Centre for Curating the Archive. And that's no mean feat – Dion's schedule here has been jam-packed with workshops and lectures. ■

Exhibition revisits traumatic pasts

Renowned Cape Town artist Arlene Amaler-Raviv's exhibition *Berlin Revisited* is now on show at the Irma Stern Museum.

The works in *Berlin Revisited* were created during a three-month studio visit to Berlin in 2011, and articulate all the major themes that have dominated her work over the past 40 years. The artworks, which are made up of reworked Berlin-bought postcards dating back as far as the 1930s, draw on the parallels between South Africa's and Germany's traumatic histories.

The Arab Spring, the pro-democracy uprisings currently sweeping the Middle East and which began during Amaler-Raviv's residency, adds yet another element to her work. ■

EVENTS

Irma Stern Museum: Arlene Amaler-Raviv's exhibition titled Berlin Revisited opens on Sat 18 Feb and runs until 10 March. There will be two opportunities for the public to meet the artist. On Sat 25 Feb at 11h00 Lloyd Pollak will give a talk on the current exhibition which will be followed by a walkabout by the artist and on Sat 3 March at 11h00 Lloyd Pollak and Andrew Lamprecht will give a joint talk on the artwork of Arlene Amaler-Raviv. The UCT Irma Stern Museum, situated in Cecil Road, Rosebank, is open Tuesday - Saturday from 10h00-17h00. Phone: 021 685 5686 Website: www.irmastern.co.za

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Academic Development

Lecturer: Mathematics, Education Development Unit, Centre for Higher Education Development, Closing date: 27 February 2012

Associate Professor/ Senior Lecturer/Lecturer:

Demography, Centre for Actuarial Science, Commerce, Closing date: 29 February 2012

Lecturer: Occupational

Therapy, Department of Health & Rehabilitation Science, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 5 March 2012

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Part-time Research Nurse,

Department of Paediatrics & Child Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 29 February 2012

Administrative Assistant,

Chronic Diseases Initiative In Africa (CDIA), Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 9 March 2012

Fieldworkers, Chronic Diseases Initiative In Africa (CDIA), Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 9 March 2012

Primary Health Care Nurse,

Student Wellness Service, Department of Student Affairs, Closing date: 12 March 2012

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

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

PROPERTY/ACCOMMODATION

Observatory: Fully-furnished rooms to let in house with big bathroom/shower, fully-equipped kitchen. R2500/month, includes water/electricity/cleaning service. One month deposit required. Bianca 0791574765

Newlands: Self-Contained Flatlet to rent in Kildare Rd Newlands. Easy Access to UCT. R 2750/ month. Post Grads Preferred. Please contact: 92kildare@nashuaisp.co.za

Southern Suburbs: Maisonette R720000 negotiable close to M3 and M5, schools and shops, 2 beds with bic and laminated floors 1 bed, cctv camera and access control.

View by appointment ph owner 0721982190

Mowbray: Bachelor flat available in Mowbray from end of Feb. You can convert to 2 bedrooms. Amount is R4540.00+ 1 month deposit. Please contact Thandiwe 0767206767/ 0730756101

Seaside business and property for sale: Rooi-els Village shop and flat. Ideal for retiring couple. Phone Jo Hensen on 0282738064 or cell 0834562163.

House Swap: Cambridge (UK) academic seeks house swap for four in central CT mid Dec - early Jan 2013. Cat lovers preferred! Email sch30@cam.ac.uk.

Rosebank: (Ambleside) 1 bedroom apartment, tastefully furnished. Security, parking, pool, laundry. Six-month lease (April-Sept.) to postgraduate visiting academic, non-smoking. R4500 021 685 8595

Rondebosch East: Self Catering home for Muslim students. Fully furn 3 bed house with 2 bathrooms (1 en suite)lounge\ dining,tv,ff kitchen,study,prepaid land line,pool,weekly maid service,parking x2 cars,alarm fully secured. To share between 4 Muslim male or female(not mixed) University students. R3500ppsh pm including W&E- lease until 15 December . Please call Ray 0724110151

Newlands: Fully-furnished Newlands cottage 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, DSTV to rent June/ July/August. R8000pm excl elect/phone. 10mins walk to UCT. Non-smoking. Phone 082 7718849

Short let: fully furnished flat in quiet road: will suit a visiting academic/PG researcher from 5th March to the 15th April or from 5 March to end of April. Walking distance to campus & close to shuttles. Contact kim.coetze@uct.ac.za

Retire at the seaside? Three-bedroomed cottage for private sale, R1.125m, Kommetjie. Outside room can be developed as teen pad/studio/garage. Call 0735997537.

Pinelands: 4-bedroomed family home to rent in Pinelands. Wooden floors throughout. Open plan leading onto beautiful patio and pool. 2 bathrooms (one en suite). Parking for at least 3 cars. Garden with veggies to boot. R13000, p/month Inclusive of water and live-in housekeeper (available to work 3 days a week). Electricity for your own account. Call 0721837866'

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Taking UCT sport to next level

Jonathan Stones is a man with a vision. UCT's new manager of sport and recreation in the Department: Student Affairs brings a wealth of top-level management experience and nous to the post vacated by John Donald. His impressive CV includes a two-year stint as managing director of South African Rugby, during which time a South African team won the Super Rugby tournament and the Springboks won the World Cup. *Monday Paper* caught up with the ambitious head honcho just days after officially starting in the post on 1 February, to hear what sports-mad UCT students and staff have to look forward to:

Q: What drew you to university sport, in general, and UCT specifically?

I think sport is an important element within a student's life at university. People talk about the holistic development of students. Our universities, UCT in particular, offer a wonderful academic experience. There needs to be, in essence, a counter-balance, an out-of-classroom experience. That's what I'm interested in; assisting that.

Q: What's your vision for UCT sport?

To meet the aspirations of all our students, from a mass-participation level, all the way up to the elite end. We've got to meet the needs, the aspirations of a complete array of student sporting abilities.

Q: Anything unique to the UCT sport structure that gives you confidence that you can execute your plan?



Eye on the ball: Jonathan Stones is UCT's new manager of sport and recreation.

I had a tour of the infrastructure last week from John Donald. I was in awe of what facilities there are here, but I'm also acutely aware that we are infrastructure-constrained. When you have the number of students that want access to sporting facilities that UCT has, we've got to find a way both to make our existing facilities operate in an optimal manner, and to find opportunities for expanding those facilities.

Q: In the few days you've been in the post so far, have you identified any major areas you feel could be improved?

I had the fortune to meet with a number of people in the finance department as well as one of the clubs before I'd even officially started at UCT, and I think the budgeting process is something that can be looked at. I'll say the real challenge for us is, in fact, infrastructure. There are

too many sportsmen and -women within the UCT community wanting to engage in sporting activities. Our current facilities appear to be overloaded. That's a real challenge for us. How do we expand those?

Q: How does your thinking about transformation fit into UCT's transformation agenda?

Look, transformation is an issue that everyone in South Africa

has to address. It's been a thorny issue. The professional sports codes have struggled with it. We've tried quota systems; we've tried various development issues. Some have worked, some haven't. We've got to find what works for this institution. All I can say is that I will attempt to do what is right for this organisation in terms of reflecting greater South African society. It's to everyone's benefit. ■

Ikeys back in business!

Gripping stuff: UCT's Dayne Jans is tackled by Zandre Grobler and JJ Breett as the Ikeys recorded their first win of the 2012 FNB Varsity Cup.



It took them three games to clock their first win, but the UCT Ikeys blasted their way back into semi-final contention when they demolished Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) 66-2 in their 2012 FNB Varsity Cup clash in Tshwane on Monday night.

Apart from being a welcome fillip, the massive win sets UCT up nicely for a charge at a sought-after semi-final berth. The five points leave Ikeys in sixth place, but just one adrift of fourth-placed Shimlas (University of Free State) and fifth-placed Pukke (North-West University).

University of Pretoria and University of Stellenbosch currently occupy the home semi spots with 14 and 13 log points respectively, with a tantalising clash between them looming in round four. The University of Johannesburg is third on 10.

Kevin Foote's men made up for a sluggish start in the competition by running in nine tries against the Varsity Cup's cellar dwellers to clinch the only away victory of the third round. Ikey wing Mark Winter went over within a minute to set the tone for a merciless assault on the TUT defence.

Flyhalf Nicholas Holton's con-

version was the first of seven as the playmaker continued his impressive form. Another major boost for the Ikeys was the return of South Africa under-20 scrumhalf Ricky Schroeder. The dynamite No 9's 35-minute second half cameo was his first outing since breaking his leg in training last season, on the eve of the announcement of the Baby Bok squad.

But it was rampaging No 8 Rayn Smid who stole the show in white and blue. In only his first Varsity Cup start, Smid laid waste to the Vikings with a phenomenal four tries in the second half. ■

Greenies host pub quiz

What happens to male chicks on chicken farms?

This was the sort of question thrown at a pub quiz hosted by the Green Campus Initiative (GCI) at the UCT Club on 16 February.

So, yes, maybe a significant amount of the undergrad students (who aren't normally allowed in the Club) were lured by the once-in-a-degree drinks and free snacks. But going by their performances, they're well versed in matters environmental and sustainable. The students had to rack their collective brains to answer questions on everything from the Fukushima nuclear disaster and international legislation to endangered rain forests and Angelina Jolie.

One of the biggest student societies on campus, with 500 new members this year, the GCI hosted the quiz as a fun way of introducing new members to each other and to environmental awareness issues.

"We find that, in a relaxed environment, and having conversations with people, it's a really nice way of introducing issues of sustainability to students' minds," explained GCI chairperson, Kate Pallet.

And so it was. Showing a remarkable amount of energy after a



long day of lectures, students created a buzz that could be heard all the way from the sports centre vending machines as they gamely tackled some challenging brainteasers.

The answer to the chicken question, by the way, is that they are killed. More power to the GCI. ■