



"Thanks for the extra attention and help. We love it here. From all the Brubecks" (world famous jazz family)



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# Monday Paper

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## UCT dedicates May to Africa

This year the university will host a month-long celebration of its African connections

In the end, the decision to upsize UCT's annual one-day Africa Day\* celebrations to a month-long extravaganza was an easy one.

So explains deputy vice-chancellor responsible for internationalisation and the Afropolitan thrust at UCT, Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo, as he outlines the events for UCT Africa Month – themed Celebrating Africa – coming in May, and the thinking behind it.

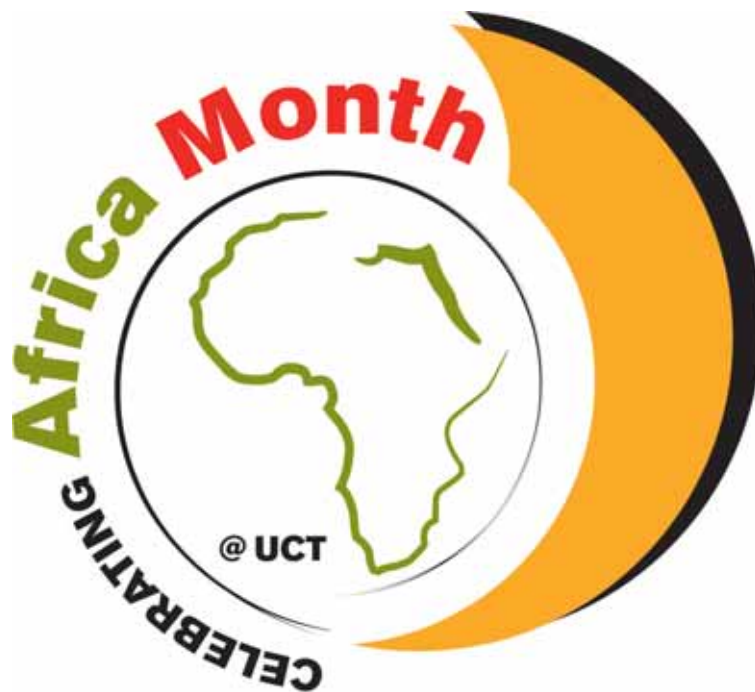
For one thing, said Nhlapo, a single day could no longer do justice to the university activities actually taking place on the ground. Too many initiatives in the faculties and PASS departments were overshadowed by the core events, which are centrally marketed.

"Also, the scale of the event did not match the importance the university attaches to internationalisation in the first place, and to the transformative aspects of the Afropolitan vision in particular," says Nhlapo.

So over the past months Nhlapo, as chairperson of the Africa Month core group, and the Faculty of

Law's Professor Evance Kalula, chairperson of a steering group on which all faculties and PASS departments are represented, have (with those two groups) pulled together a programme of many notes and textures. The core events are still there – including a panel discussion on 24 May, the Africa dress competition and an exhibition showcasing UCT's partnerships on the continent.

But the team is also tapping into other university events planned for May, including a lively programme of lectures and seminars across the university, featuring addresses by two cabinet ministers and public lectures at the Faculties of Health Sciences, Commerce, Science, Engineering and the Built Environment and the Centre for Higher Education Developments. In addition there are events at the Institute for the Humanities in Africa, the Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts, the Irma Stern Museum, All Africa House, the International Academic Programmes Office, the South African College of



Music, the Faculty of Law and the Students' Representative Council. (Watch the UCT website for news on the programme before May.)

In a change of pace, Africa Month will not be just inward-looking, says Nhlapo. The exhibition,

the panel discussion, two launches and the Africa dress competition will be moved to the Baxter Theatre Centre, the first tentative steps to include the wider community in UCT's African celebration.

UCT Africa Month is intended

not just as a celebration of UCT's identity, notes Nhlapo. But that theme, *Celebrating Africa*, also aims to draw attention to many of the good things happening on the continent. (He cites the example set by the Minister of International Relations and Co-operation, Maite Nkoane-Mashabane, who described her talk at UCT in March as an antidote to Afro-pessimism.)

It's also hoped, says Nhlapo, that the event will inspire those at UCT who have been doing work around the continent, but have thus far "been hiding their light under a bushel", to step up and take part in next year's festivities.

"Eventually we will get into the habit of seeing local, regional and continental engagement as mainstream activity, at which point the need for highlighting our partnerships and collaborations on a designated day or a designated month each year would fall away."

\* Africa Day is the annual commemoration of the founding of the Organisation of African Unity, or the OAU, on 25 May 1963.

## More academic traffic please, say DAAD alumni



From 13 to 15 April some 130 South African and international alumni from the German Academic Exchange Programme (DAAD) and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, plus a slew of local and international higher education leaders, met at UCT to reflect on and to encourage further academic exchange between South Africa and Germany. The alumni conference was themed *Change by Exchange: Higher education and research transformation in South Africa and Germany*. In pictures (from left): Dr Max Price and delegates at the DAAD gathering; Prof Neville Alexander, a Humboldt alumnus, delivered the event's keynote lecture; Minister of Science and Technology Naledi Pandor was one of the panellists on the last day of the conference.



**New diploma in psychotherapy**

UCT's Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health has launched a new Postgraduate Diploma in Psychotherapy – its aim to provide mental health and other health practitioners with the therapeutic competencies needed to work effectively with clients presenting with mental health problems. The diploma includes courses on ethical practice in psychotherapy, cognitive behaviour therapy, basic therapeutic competencies and evidence-based practice in psychotherapy. "There is an important need for such a qualification," says course convenor Dr Adele Marais, "especially as mental disorders rank third-highest among the burden of disease in South Africa". The diploma starts in July 2012, and will be offered part-time over 18 months. The deadline for applications is 7 May. For more information, contact Dr Adele Marais (adele.marais@uct.ac.za, 021 404 5416) or Louise Frenkel (louise.frenkel@uct.ac.za, 021 404 2135).

**Green Week in full swing**

Last week's annual Green Week featured a host of events under this year's theme *It's Not the End of the World*. The week kicked off with a 'vegilicious' bake sale on 16 April, followed by plaza events, talks by prominent speakers, and the launch of Act Now, a residence sustainability campaign, on Friday. First run in 2008, Green Week is one of a range of efforts by UCT to bring sustainability discourse to the fore among students and staff.



Going, going, green: *It wasn't just the Green Campus Initiative and Properties and Services that marked Green Week in April. Staff in the Faculty of Science also got their green on.*

**Stringing them along**

*Magnum Opus*, a series of three concerts organised by head of classical guitar studies at UCT's South African College of Music, James Grace, under the umbrella of his record label, Stringwise Records, proved to be a hit. Tickets sold out for the performance by Italian guitarist and professor of guitar at the Rossini Music Conservatoire in Pesaro, Italy, Giuseppe Maria Ficara (left in picture, with Grace), who kicked off the trilogy on 4 April. Seats were similarly hard to find for the follow-up performance by Goran Krivokapić, lecturer at the prestigious Koblenz International Guitar Academy in Germany, on 18 April. Grace will end the series on 25 April with his favourite pieces, including a version of Abdullah Ibrahim's *The Wedding*.

**Obz Square top of the pile, says funder**

UCT's new Obz Square residence is on par with residences at many top international universities. So said Philippa Charles, director of the UK-based Garfield Weston Foundation, when she visited the residence in April. The foundation has contributed more than R1 million towards Obz Square, one of the many projects they have supported at UCT since 1998. In thanks, the computer lab at the residence has been named the Weston Learning Centre.

**Jazz bursary launched**

The SACM recently hosted the launch of the Blue Notes Memorial Trust Bursary for Jazz, a programme made possible by a generous gift of £25 000 from the Blue Notes Memorial Trust. The bursary is named after The Blue Notes, a South African jazz sextet who went into exile in the 1960s. The launch drew together jazz icons such as Louis Moholo (on drums, above) and Ntshuks Bonga.

**Maths competition ups the stakes**

*Brainteasers: Learners like Elihle Kabalaza of Iqhayiya Senior Secondary School, Khayelitsha, had plenty to think about.*

A record number of 8,312 grade 8 to 12 learners from 153 Western Cape schools signed up for this year's UCT Mathematics Competition, which took place on 16 April. The learners were split into 63 venues around campus where they set about the 30 ques-

tions (ten easy, ten head-scratching, ten tough) that each grade had been assigned to tackle in 75 minutes in their respective papers. This year, over 500 learners from Khayelitsha alone – another record – took part in the competition. That was thanks to the efforts

of the Schools Improvement Initiative, who bussed in the kids from the community's 20 schools, all part of UCT's 100-UP programme. The results will be announced on 7 June. Sponsors for the event are Capitec, Aurecon, Casio and Oxford University Press.

**240**

The number of teachers who gave up their time to supervise and administer the 2012 UCT Mathematics Competition, staffing 10 registration tables and the 63 test venues. Without these teachers and the 30 student volunteers, says Prof John Webb, the event just wouldn't run at all.

**Our man in London**

Following his visit to Australia, Prof Kelly Chibale continued his efforts to drum up support and funding for his Drug Discovery & Development Centre, or H3-D, launched at UCT in April last year. With organisational help from the UCT Trust, Chibale addressed UK-based alumni this time around (in March), speaking at Goodenough College, London, on the ambitions of the centre to come up with local solutions to African problems such as malaria, tuberculosis and cardiovascular diseases.

**Food for thought**

In March, Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price hosted a breakfast at his Glenara residence to honour seven new members of the UCT Giving Circles. The Giving Circles form part of the recognition programme of UCT's Development and Alumni Department to thank individuals who have donated significant amounts to the university. For more information about donor recognition, contact Lungile Jacobs, senior manager: alumni and individual giving, at 021 650 2641 or at lungile.jacobs@uct.ac.za.

**Engineers cook at energy conference**

UCT engineering students Matthew Docherty, Tumelo Gabarane and Nwabisa Mabusela presented a paper, *The Township Caterer's Project (TCP): Experiences from the Student Chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB)*, at the Domestic Use of Energy Conference hosted at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology on 4 April. Their paper detailed the students' experiences as members of the UCT chapter of the EWB in providing higher-quality cooking stoves to street vendors in the Cape Town township, Nyanga.

**Opening the ivy-covered doors**

Where dreams take root: Thousands of hopefuls descended on UCT for Open Day on 14 April. Keen on learning as much as they could about the university, learners soaked up a wealth of information about the university from the screenings, campus and library tours and the dozens of stalls set out by faculties and departments. Some had come just to check out what the campus has to offer; others knew exactly what they wanted.

**Symposium talks ABCs of quality primary education**

UCT's School of Education hosted a two-day primary education symposium in March. Among those participating was the keynote speaker, renowned developmental psychologist Prof Anna Stetsenko of the City University of New York.

In her talk, Stetsenko argued that the traditional approach underpinning teaching

*Practice makes better: Prof Anna Stetsenko was the keynote speaker at a recent symposium on primary education.*

methods at schools today – where learning often happens with little regard for practical conditions and real-life experiences – is old-fashioned and hampers children's development.

Stetsenko is a leader in Cultural-Historical Activity theory, a developmental psychology and education approach that regards the child as an active participant in learning. In this model, knowledge is created (via teacher-learner-environmental interaction) rather than merely taught.



## HIV report: Building on existing portfolios



The university continues to produce important research on HIV and AIDS across all disciplines, as well as socially responsive initiatives and key HIV/AIDS management strategies. And when it comes to incorporating HIV and AIDS into the formal curriculum, there are many examples to build on.

So said the most recent report produced by UCT's HIV/AIDS Institutional Coordination Unit (HAICU) on HIV/AIDS initiatives at the university, a document HAICU presented to Council in early April.

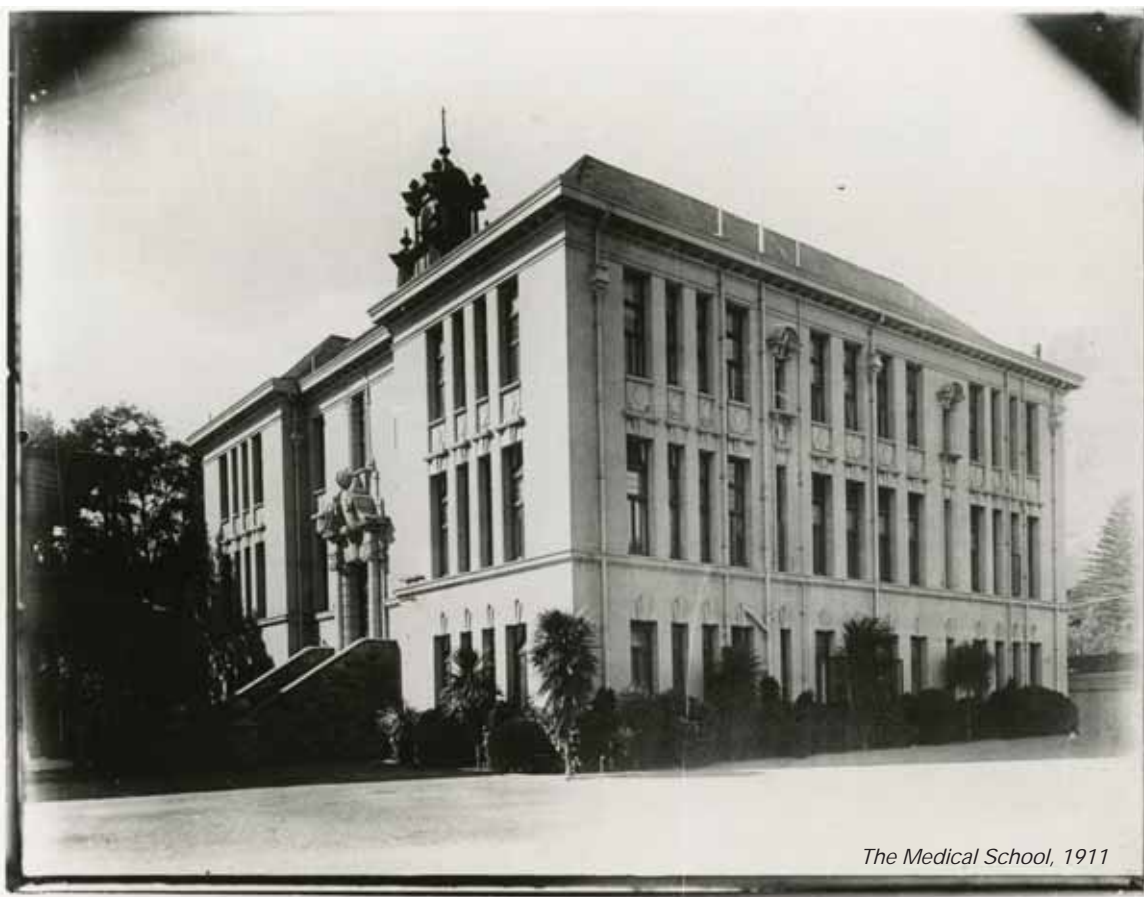
The report, based on findings from HAICU's annual mapping exercise, is designed as a comprehensive record of the university's response to HIV and AIDS in 2011, and critically assesses the challenges ahead for the university.

In that regard, the university is taking significant strides to sharpen and implement its HIV policies through its HIV/AIDS Policy Implementation Group (HAPI), the report highlighted. Cal Volks, director of HAICU, says that "in addition to a course component in the health sciences and commerce faculties, some interesting developments are emerging from the engineering faculty in addressing HIV and AIDS". Sianne Abrahams, project officer at HAICU who works with curriculum programmes, adds that there are innovative opportunities in the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment through the professional communication and management courses.

"The approach of an HIV-competent UCT is to move from a theoretical understanding of HIV as a personal issue to practical engagement with the management of HIV/AIDS as a workplace health issue," notes Abrahams.

During the year, HAICU aims to find the space within existing curricula to expand upon students' existing HIV knowledge, she adds.

"The intention is to equip graduates with leadership skills that recognise and respond to social challenges competently." ■



The Medical School, 1911

## Health sciences turns 100

Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Professor Marian Jacobs, writes about the faculty's centenary celebrations this year

2012 is a special year for the Faculty of Health Sciences: we have the privilege of celebrating a remarkable milestone on 6 June, 100 years after the first medical school buildings, Anatomy and Physiology, were opened on Hiddingh Campus in 1912. Our centenary gives us the opportunity to reflect on the past, to celebrate the present, and to plan for building towards the next centenary – three goals that represent the three themes of our celebrations, and which have also been colour-coded in our logo.

And we have much to celebrate. As the oldest medical school in sub-Saharan Africa, we can look back on our remarkable achievements, having educated some of the finest minds in the country, and having produced some of the greatest medical advances – such as the world's first successful human heart transplant in 1967, as well as the research that led to the development of the CAT scanner – all right here, from our base at the tip of Africa!

Eleven deans later, the Medical School has grown from one dominated by the teaching of physicians into a Faculty of Health Sciences, which comprises a much wider range of health disciplines, from strong basic sciences and clinical, health and rehabilitation sciences (including nursing) to public health – all led by the primary health care approach, and focused on building a strong health system, based on equity.

We have seen significant changes, modernising our curriculum, transforming our demographic profile, and substantially increasing our admissions of under- and postgraduate students from all corners of our country and beyond.

The faculty is driven by our commitment to educating health professionals for life and being an acclaimed hub for research – this in the context of working towards addressing the health challenges facing South Africa and the continent we do this by promoting access to quality health care for all.

We now educate almost 4,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students each year across many disciplines, and we've built a strong track record and reputation for teaching and research excellence. In 2011, we boasted one of the best pass rates ever achieved among our final-year students.



We have more than 20 research units and groupings, with seven of UCT's 31 A-rated scientists and eight of UCT's 26 National Research Foundation chairs.

So there is so much we can be proud of. And in this centenary year, our celebrations will take the form of academic meetings, social events, and personal reflections from alumni, students and colleagues that will capture the essence of the faculty – then and now.

Core activities include a documentary about the faculty, a photographic exhibition and publications (including a special edition of the *South African Medical Journal*), striking a commemorative medallion, releasing an official stamp and hosting an anniversary day event on 6 June.

In addition there are a number of departmental and student initiatives, such as an awards ceremony, and art, essay, cultural and sports competitions.

But we are also reflecting on the darker side of our history, and reaffirming our commitment to making sure that we do not perpetuate the injustices of the past. One of the ways in which we will mark this commitment is by saluting the many colleagues and students who spoke out against the impact of the atrocities of the apartheid system on health. Three of these are the late Francis Ames, Aadiel Moerat and Duma Baqwa, and we will recognise their contributions by naming three of the faculty's rooms in their honour.

This centenary year is also a platform to mobilise more resources for growing the faculty into the next century. We must strengthen our capacity and infrastructure in a more sustainable and appropriate way if we are to respond adequately to the health needs of the country.

So, as we stand on the threshold of a new era for the Faculty of Health Sciences, we plan to engage with our health partners to build and sustain the legacy of our faculty.

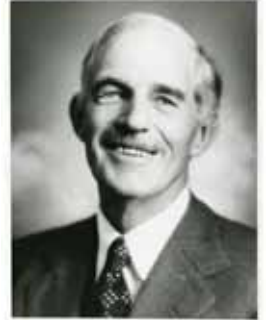
What better way to celebrate a centenary than by using this opportunity to look back, proudly revel in our achievements, and strengthen commitment to building a future in which we can continue to apply excellence and relevance in advancing health for all.

Professor Marian Jacobs  
Dean: Faculty of Health Sciences



### THEN

In 1920, the Faculty of Medicine introduced its first three chairs: in Medicine, held by Prof Arthur Falconer; in Surgery, Prof Charles Saint; and in Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Prof Eric Crichton. This allowed the faculty to provide the country's first complete medical degree.\*



(From top) Prof Arthur Falconer, Prof Eric Crichton and Prof Charles Saint, holders of the faculty's first three chairs.

### NOW

Today, the Faculty of Health Sciences hosts seven research chairs. In addition, it is home to no fewer than eight chairs under the South African Research Chairs Initiative, aka SARChI.

### Research chairs\*\*

The Chair in Primary Health Care, the Discovery Health Chair of Exercise and Sport Science, the Helen and Morris Mauerberger Chair of Cardiology, the William P Slater Chair of Geriatrics, the Vera Grover Chair of Intellectual Disability, the Chris Barnard Chair of Cardiothoracic Surgery, and the Charles FM Saint Chair of Paediatric Surgery.

### SARChI Chairs

The chair in Applied Proteomics and Chemical Biology, in Immunology of Infectious Diseases in Africa, in Clinical Neurosciences Research, in Lung Infection and Immunity in Poverty-Related Diseases, in Health and Wealth in South Africa, in Brain Imaging, in Cancer Biology, and in Vaccinology.

\*Source: The University of Cape Town 1918-1948: The formative years by Howard Phillips

\*\*Source: Faculty of Health Sciences Handbook



# Time of consolidation ahead for Price

Dr Max Price has been reappointed as UCT's vice-chancellor for a second term; that, he believes, will allow him the time to consolidate those themes and initiatives he's kick-started over the past three-and-a-half years

Most leaders elected for set terms of office, whether they head countries, sports teams or universities, like the idea of a second term. If the first is to get the ball rolling on grand visions and projects, the second term is to see them to fruition.

Dr Max Price is no exception. Recently reappointed as vice-chancellor for a second term that will run until 30 June 2018, Price now has an opportunity to see some ideas through to maturity – ideas that he first touted in his job interviews in 2008.

These would include many of the projects he unveiled in his installation lecture in August 2008 – an Afropolitan drive for the university, a more activist university, an innovative model for providing intellectual leadership in addressing social challenges, new transformation initiatives, and the new size and shape plan.

It took a while to get many of these projects going, explains Price. Things roll notoriously slowly at universities, and his strategic plan was approved by Council only towards the end of 2009, almost a year and a half into his term.

"The first year was basically an orientation period for me, to get to know the university and understand what the concerns and priorities were," he recalls.

Two years later and that strategic plan is taking wing, while Price's 'approval ratings' from Council and Senate are high – as confirmed through the voting in Senate and Council on the motion for his reappointment.

"I've enjoyed doing the job," says Price, "and feel that it's a privilege to be leading this university, and to see that our ambitions are being incrementally realised."

## Installation to-do notes

*What Price said in his installation lecture in August 2008, and how far along some of those projects are*

<p>"That [Mafeje affair] legacy still plagues UCT, and the university community has still not adequately tackled the need for attitude shifts, culture shifts and proactive redress to ensure that black people and women feel at home here."</p>	<p>The Khuluma programme was concluded and Transformation Services has just launched the in-house ADAPT programme to talk about the challenges of working in UCT's multicultural environment; an alternative system of dispute resolution and mediation has been implemented; the Ombud position was established and Zetu Makamandela-Mguqulwa dealt with some 100 visitors and enquiries in her first year of office. In 2012 we will repeat an institutional climate survey to see if we are making progress.</p>
<p>"(T)he vision of UCT becoming an Afropolitan university ... growth in African studies, particularly the economic sociologies ... if you want to understand Africa ... you must go to UCT."</p>	<p>Buy-in from the university was the first objective; now that 'Afropolitan' is a buzzword, the university is setting up more and more collaborations across the continent; Price himself sits on the Council of the University of Ghana. Examples of growing expertise include the new chair and Centre for Comparative Law in Africa; the new School of Development Policy and Practice; the GSB focus on emerging markets and new chair in social entrepreneurship; the Institute for the Humanities in Africa; the African Climate and Development Initiative and pro VC; the Carnegie doctoral and postdoc programmes for next generation African academics; and many more.</p>
<p>"I know I am not alone in fearing for the increasing fragility of our fledgling democracy."</p>	<p>UCT has established two chairs in constitutional governance and human rights, and both are now occupied by active commentators; there is daily political analysis and columns and you will have spotted academics, PASS staff and students – and the VC himself – at the Secrecy Bill marches and in other campaigns.</p>
<p>"UCT will not be afraid to speak out when other leadership and governance institutions in our society are failing us."</p>	<p>Monitor the papers and see how often the VC, the university, its scholars and students have been speaking out.</p>
<p>"The second [threat] is HIV/AIDS and TB. Friends, the greatest public health disaster of our time will be our undoing if we do not make it our top priority."</p>	<p>A large amount of money has been pumped into research in these areas, while the university's HIV/AIDS Co-ordination Unit provides outstanding support to students. The 2010 survey on prevalence and knowledge among UCT students and staff provided pleasing results.</p>
<p>"The third fatal threat is crime, particularly violent crime. Here I do not believe the university has been making a sufficient and coherent contribution."</p>	<p>This has had a slower start because UCT has been unable to appoint a pro VC for the initiative. A Safety &amp; Violence Initiative steering committee is up and running, which hosted a major conference in 2011. UCT is now re-advertising for a programme director.</p>
<p>"The fourth threat is the public school system, which has failed the country and the universities."</p>	<p>The Schools Improvement Initiative has been created, headed by Dr Jonathan Clark since 2011. Activities include lobbying; the '100-UP' programme for 100 grade 10 through 12 learners to improve the feeder system to UCT; collaboration with the Khayelitsha Development Forum and the WC Department of Education.</p>
<p>"UCT will ... create the conditions for a vibrant, argumentative university ..."</p>	<p>Perhaps nothing represents this better than the countless formal and informal debates on the admissions policy. Following the work of the Admissions Policy Review Task Team set up under Prof Crain Soudien in 2009, UCT has now established a commission under Judge Howie to include public views. Debate and thinking continue, but importantly, no-one has been called 'racist' because of the views they hold.</p>
<p>"I pledge ... this university will provide you with an education that is ... internationalised and world class."</p>	<p>UCT's position as a world-class university has continued to improve each year. The university receives delegations from other universities every week seeking exchanges and collaboration. The optional course Global Citizenship and Social Justice, open to all students, is running for the third year.</p>

## Later additions

*Topics that didn't come up in the installation lecture, but have done so a lot since then*

<p>Climate change: much was being done already, but needed to be pulled together to ensure UCT could have more impact.</p>	<p>Established the African Climate and Development Initiative in 2011, and appointed Prof Mark New as the university's pro vice-chancellor for climate change.</p>
<p>Poverty and inequality</p>	<p>UCT has appointed an interim pro vice-chancellor, Prof Francis Wilson, to corral research in this area and organise a national conference in September 2012, to inform and influence the work of the National Planning Commission.</p>
<p>The university's throughput rates in some faculties, while better than most, are nowhere near where UCT would like them to be.</p>	<p>UCT is adapting its size and shape plans. First-year numbers will not grow as they have previously; rather, the university will meet its targets by concentrating on teaching and learning, and keeping students in the system for longer.</p>





Even if he covered nothing new in his talk, it was the way in which the themes were strung together that made you sit up and take notice.

But pulling themes and projects together just about sums up the job description for Professor Mark New, UCT pro vice-chancellor for climate change and director of the African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI). So New's inaugural lecture, titled *Squaring the Circle: Climate change, development, sustainability*, delivered to an overflowing lecture theatre on 11 April, covered a lot of ground.

In his introduction, New noted, fittingly, that it's impossible to understand such a complex social-ecological problem without understanding all its components. And, indeed, bringing them together to form a solution.

It's in this spirit of true interdisciplinarity – the core driver behind the ACDI – that New drew together a cornucopia of research, including his own, to give the audience a broad-brush outline of climate change – the what, the why, and the where to from here.

It's not a pretty picture he painted.

There's no doubt that climate change is caused by humans, New said at the outset.

"We are pushing the earth system outside the conditions humans have experienced during modern human evolution."

To have a 50/50 chance of staying below a 2°C increase in global temperature, the internationally agreed target for avoiding dangerous climate change impacts, society would need to emit (from the year 1870 to 2300) no more than 1 trillion tonnes of carbon. But, said New, humans have "already used up 55% of that cake", ie 557.5 billion tonnes of carbon, and climbing.

"Essentially, two degrees is out of the window. The reality is we should be planning for coping with climate changes larger than two degrees, but



Prof Mark New in Kuyasa, Khayelitsha, where thousands of low-cost homes have been fitted with solar-water heaters, insulated ceilings and energy-efficient lighting - the kind of initiatives that are going to be essential if South Africa is to follow a climate-compatible development pathway.

# Plan for climate change, says New

at the same time pushing for emissions reductions to get us as close as possible to the two-degree target."

If the carbon emissions "business" continues as usual, temperatures are on track to reach a 4°C to 7°C increase by the end of the century, he continued.

For South Africa, a 2°C increase would mean a 3°C to 3.5°C rise in local warming.



Gearing up: Prof Mark New (in red gown) with deputy vice-chancellors Prof Danie Visser, Prof Thandabantu Nhlapo, Prof Sandra Klopper and Prof Crain Soudien, and Prof Michael Meadows, head of the Department of Environmental and Geographical Science.

With this would come more and greater extreme weather events, such as storms and floods.

What does all this mean? "We will see an exaggeration of existing climatic patterns – what's dry today, will get dryer; what's wet, will get wetter. Globally, rainfall will increase, but distribution will be very uneven."

And what does it mean for global sustainability and human development, especially in

Africa?

It's about finding a balance between necessary human development and what the planet can handle, New said.

For economies such as Africa's, which are often agriculture-driven, sit very low on the human development index and are on track for huge spikes in population numbers, change will require a rethink of future development. For one thing, by 2050 many African countries will have to bring in drought- and heat-resistant maize varieties, says New.

But the yields from these crops may be lower. So improved farming practices and more efficient food storage will have to go hand in hand with these new climate-resilient farming objectives to help overcome the shortfall.

Moreover, the increased demand for water will demand improvements in water-resource infrastructure. But how climate change will impact on water availability is still very uncertain.

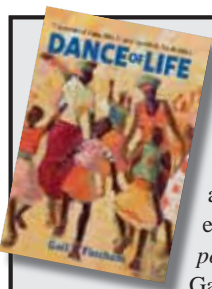
"We need to think about putting in place plans that allow for robustness or resilience across a range of possible futures, rather than the traditional engineering approach which is finding the optimal solution for the parameters you've been given."

The bottom line, New said, is that Africa has to find another development pathway if it wants to improve economic wellbeing and reduce damage to the environment. And that pathway cannot be based on the path taken by today's high-carbon emitters, and will rather have to call on green technology.

"We have the technology and the tools to do it, but the international political system is in gridlock," cautioned New.

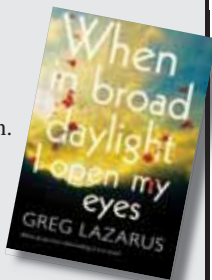
And it was with this parting thought that the audience filed out of the lecture theatre to tsunami alerts, and forecasts of an impending heat wave. ■

## By the BOOK



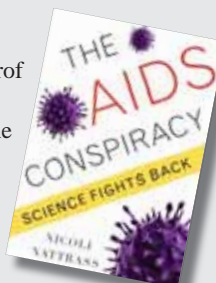
In recent years, the work of Zakes Mda – novelist, painter, composer, theatre director and filmmaker – has attracted worldwide critical attention. As a novelist he writes about social identity in the 'new' South Africa, and it is the many versions of this identity that are explored in *Dance of Life: The novels of Zakes Mda in post-apartheid South Africa*, written by UCT's Assoc Prof Gail Fincham.\*

A new psychological thriller by the Department of Philosophy's Dr Greg Fried, *When in Broad Daylight I Open My Eyes*, is set in a familiar yet sinister Cape Town. The novel, written under the pen name Greg Lazarus (it's authored together with Fried's wife, Lisa Lazarus) explores, in evocative and erotic fashion, the ways in which people prey on one another.



*Imagining the Cape Colony* by David Johnson of The Open University considers a variety of writers, from European intellectuals such as Camões, Southey, Rousseau and Adam Smith to travel writers like François Levaillant and Lady Anne Barnard, and draws from many sources, from the diaries of settler rebels and early African nationalists to the courtroom testimonies of African slaves and farm workers.\*

*The AIDS Conspiracy: Science fights back* by UCT's Prof Nicoli Nattrass is essential reading for anyone curious about why some will not accept scientific facts about the nature, origin and lethality of HIV. In her book, Nattrass, who directs the AIDS and Society Research Unit at UCT, explains how HIV denialism has become a conspiratorial attack on science and medicine.



\*Published by UCT Press

## Swop silos for team science/scholarship, says Kessel

Prominent inter/transdisciplinary research scholar and UCT graduate Professor Frank Kessel of the College of Education at the University of New Mexico, recently spent three months at UCT as an AW Mellon Visiting Fellow. *Monday Paper* spoke to him.

**MP: What is interdisciplinary/transdisciplinary research?**

FK: In a nutshell, interdisciplinary (ID) and transdisciplinary (TD) research are interactive, integrative processes where researchers work collaboratively, each drawing from their own discipline-specific perspectives to develop a shared framework involving new methods and conceptual models to address a common research problem (for ID); and in the case of TD, a problem that often involves meaningful community engagement. These approaches create opportunities for students and staff to move into new 'interesting-to-them' spaces, where they can explore other scholarship and disciplines, and synergistically share ideas and generate knowledge that could benefit the wider society.

**MP: Why is doing ID/TD re-**



Kessel is the co-editor of *Interdisciplinary Research: Case Studies from Health and Social Science*.

**search so urgent, and why now?**

FK: It has become increasingly evident that urgent social problems such as poverty, health inequities, violence, and sustainable development call for innovative ID/TD approaches. As important, this mode of research is increasingly being encouraged by many global academic and funding agencies.

**MP: What's happening at UCT?**

FK: In a number of ways UCT already practises the principles embedded in the ID/TD approach, eg the Vice-Chancellor's Strategic Initiatives, such as the African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI) and the Safety and Violence Initiative (SaVI); various programmes in the Research Office; and an upcoming workshop on transdisciplinary research in the Faculty of Health Sciences. The fact that the Mellon

Visiting Fellowship has been given to someone involved in this movement is a sign of the times. And UCT can become even more of a leader in this direction – perhaps in partnership with Stellenbosch University and the University of the Western Cape – by drawing on institutional-change models available in both the global South and North.

**MP: What about teaching?**

FK: To have innovation that will facilitate greater creative collaboration across departmental and faculty lines, ID and TD can be introduced at many levels. A modest but significant change to undergraduate teaching would be the cross-listing of courses that students from multiple departments, or even faculties, could take. At another level a series of courses labelled Interdisciplinary Studies could be offered. ■



## NEW STAFF

The following staff members have been appointed at UCT over the past few months. Some have just joined the university, others have been appointed to new positions:

**Sianne Abrahams** – project officer, Transformation Services Office

**Kasturi Behari-Leak** – lecturer, Centre for Higher Education Development

**Shannon Bernhardt** – senior lecturer, Department of Student Affairs

**Dr Matthias Brenzinger** – senior lecturer, School of Anthropology and Linguistics

**Prof Anthony Butler** – professor, Department of Political Studies

**Jumani Clarke** – lecturer, Centre for Higher Education and Development

**Albertrum Crowder** – lecturer, School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics

**Dr David Erwin** – senior lecturer, Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

**Kevin Fellingham** – senior lecturer, School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics

**Reuben Govender** – lecturer, Department of Mechanical Engineering

**Simon Hull** – lecturer, School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics

**Michael Louw** – lecturer, School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics

**Dr Xolela Mangcu** – associate professor, Department of Sociology.

**Carrington Mukwasi** – consultant, Information and Communication Technology Services

**Dr Zarina Patel** – senior lecturer, African Centre for Cities and the Department of Environmental and Geographical Science

**Jonathan Stones** – sport and recreation manager, Department of Student Affairs

**Elle Williams** – communication officer, Development and Alumni Department

**Dr Mark Williamson** – senior lecturer, Department of Chemical Engineering ■

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF

Lingeka Dili, aka Nelly, receptionist in the Department of Chemical Engineering



## What does her day look like?

As the receptionist for the very large building, Dili is the first point of contact for students and staff and visitors to the department. She assists students and parents with general information, helps with administration in the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment and supplies students with handouts. Dili also sets

up meetings between lecturers, tutors and students.

## What are the challenges of the job?

The department is among the busiest on campus, with a large number of visitors. Dili often finds it difficult to juggle tracking down people and attending to the non-stop

telephone calls. Dealing with the same questions over and over again is sometimes taxing. Demands from students when they can't see academics or tutors immediately are also challenging. Venues for meetings and lectures are in high demand, and it's stressful to deal with the double bookings that often occur.

## What are highs of the job?

Seeing happy, satisfied customers is always a great moment, says Dili. "Some visitors will come up to me before leaving the building and express their gratitude for the service I've provided to them." Also, seeing students she's helped over the years graduate or in high-powered jobs is very pleasing. ■

## Crime low but still a concern, says CPS

The numbers speak for themselves – crime on UCT's campuses has dropped dramatically over the past few years, and it's generally agreed that the university is much safer than the neighbouring residential areas.

Crimes reported to the Campus Protection Services (CPS) have gone down steadily, from 1,044 in 2001 to 323 in 2011, with 2010 (when security was prioritised due to the soccer World Cup) recording the lowest number, at 265 cases.

However, the university is not resting on its laurels, and is strengthening its crime prevention measures "because one crime is one too

many", reports Steven Ganger, UCT's investigations manager.

Among the criminal activities reported in March 2012 were eight vehicle break-ins on upper campus. Two people were arrested by CPS and handed over to the South African Police Service.

In addition, a student was robbed at gunpoint on the Blue Safe Walk along lower campus on 14 March. Two suspects were arrested by CPS officers the next day. The victim identified one of them, and some of her belongings were found in their vehicle.

Ganger said that most of the 24 incidents reported in March (39 cases were reported in the same month last year) were theft, mainly due to negligence.

He appealed to staff and students to be vigilant and refrain from leaving their belongings unattended.

In its drive for a zero-crime campus, CPS has increased the number of security guards and appointed a new crime prevention manager. UCT is also in the process of installing more closed-circuit television cameras at residences and on campus. ■



## We remember



## Herbert Hindley

Herbert Hindley, a staff member with the Projects and Maintenance unit in the Properties and Services Department, died in a car accident on 8 April.

Herbert, known as 'Herbie' around campus, joined UCT in 1982 as an assistant to the kitchen fitter in the upper campus maintenance section. After a restructuring exercise, he joined residence maintenance.

Because of his friendly nature, he slipped easily into the university community, becoming friends with colleagues and clients alike. He certainly did not buckle under pressure and took what was thrown at him, and seldom complained about the stress. He was considered

to be a meticulous worker, very precise and well presented. Nothing gave him more satisfaction than finding a solution for completing a job to the best of his ability.

Herbert was a dedicated family person and always involved in church and community work.

He will be missed by the department and clients due to the pivotal role he played in the day-to-day operations of the commercial kitchens at UCT.

A Memorial Service was held on 12 April at Rochester Hall, and was attended by over 200 people, which included his immediate family, friends and colleagues.

*By John Peters, maintenance manager: residences.*

## Ed Chihambakwe

Ed Chihambakwe was a lecturer in actuarial science in the Faculty of Commerce up until the end of 2011. On 13 March he was thought to have been caught in a rip tide in the sea off the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast. The National Sea Rescue Institute was unable to recover his body, and Chihambakwe is presumed to have drowned.

Chihambakwe grew up in Zimbabwe, graduated from UCT with a BSc in actuarial science in 2001, and subsequently qualified as an actuary. He moved to Cape Town at the beginning of 2010 to take up an academic post at UCT.

He was unmarried and did not have children. *With thanks to Shivani Ramjee, School of Actuarial Science.*



EVENTS

Seminars and Lectures and Meeting



When: Wednesday, 16th May 2012 at 17:30. Speaker: Prof Bernard Weiss  
 Title: 'Disagreement'. Venue: Lecture Theatre 1, Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus, UCT

**GSB Research Seminar** Title: "Financial Integration and the Banking Intermediation Spread in SACU". Speaker: Sephooko Motelle. Date and Time: 24 April, 13h00 - 14h00. Venue: GSB, Breakwater Campus, Green Point. RSVP tamlyn.mawa@gsb.uct.ac.za

**Royal Society SA** Prof M Vivier, Institute for Wine Biotechnology at Stellenbosch University, will give a free public talk on "The art and science of wine-making: What lies ahead?" on 25 April at 5pm at SAAO Auditorium, Observatory. No bookings. Go to <http://www.royalsocietysa.org.za/> for more info or call 021.650 2543.

**Potter Talks II** Join Potter Talks II, a series of exciting and thought-provoking short lectures, at the Fugard Theatre Studio from 7-9 May 2012. For more information, see [www.pottertalks.org](http://www.pottertalks.org)

HEALTH AND SAFETY

23 – 26 April 2012  
 Presented by: Safety, Health & Environment Department

"Setting the standard for a safer & healthier environment"

**MONDAY - 23 APRIL 2012**  
 09:00 - 11:00: Food Safety - Practical Solutions - James L, RW James Building • 12:00 - 14:00: Case Studies of Serious Fires @ UCT - Hoeri LT1, Hoerikwaggo Building

**TUESDAY - 24 APRIL 2012**  
 09:00 - 11:00: Construction Safety: Baxter Hall Residence, Chapel Road, Lower Campus • 12:00 - 13:00: Categorizing Hazardous Chemical Waste - M202 Maths Building • 13:00 - 14:00: Hazardous Biological Waste Management - M202 Maths Building

**WEDNESDAY—25 APRIL 2012**  
 10:00 - 11:00: Occupational Health - B106 Beattie Building • 12:00 - 12:40: Safely evacuating an unconscious person (demo) - B106 Beattie Building • 12:40 - 14:00: Practical Health & Safety - B106 Beattie Building

**SPECIAL EVENT: By invitation only**  
 ATTENDED BY: UCT SHE Representatives & Safety Delegates  
 DATE: Thursday - 26 April 2012. TIME: 09.30 - 12.30. VENUE: Smuts Hall,

Upper Campus  
 For more details follow us on:  
**Twitter:** @SHEDeptUCT **Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/pages/UCT-Safety-Health-Environment-Dept/160568077359899> **UCT Safety Blog:** <http://blogs.uct.ac.za/blog/health-amp-safety> **28 April:** "World Day for Health & Safety at work"

VACANT POSTS

**POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:**  
 To view the full advertisements and application requirements for each post, please visit [www.uct.ac.za](http://www.uct.ac.za) and click on "Vacancies"

PROPERTY/ACCOMMODATION

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**Ivydene Apartments:** offers long-term rentals in an old cape farmhouse. On Jamie Shuttle route, off- street parking, peaceful setting, close to shops & restaurants. Visit [www.ivydeneapartments.com](http://www.ivydeneapartments.com) for pictures & information

**Newlands, Fernwood.** Close to UCT and Kirstenbosch. Furnished Garden Flatlet with 2 large rooms, kitchenette and bathroom available for mature, responsible student or couple from June until September. R5000.00pm inclusive of water and electricity. email [jeanne.rousseau@uct.ac.za](mailto:jeanne.rousseau@uct.ac.za)

**B&B:** Tranquil B&B set in 2 acres of garden, situated 300m from Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens upper gate. 5 Km from UCT Campus – ideal for visiting academics. Self-catering available. Call 0027 (0)217622323, visit [www.kleinbosheuwel.co.za](http://www.kleinbosheuwel.co.za)

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**Holiday accommodation:** at Hermanus Beach Club.Top floor self catering apartment sleeps 4 from R500 per day.Contact: Mr Ashwell Anderson Cell no: 0837097788 email: [akanderson@mtnloaded.co.za](mailto:akanderson@mtnloaded.co.za)

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**Editing and Proofreading:** I offer an affordable editing and proofreading service for Dissertations and other academic writing. Credentials: MA Clinical Psychology (UCT); written and published numerous research articles.

**House Sitting:** Visiting professor is looking for housing for the months of June and July – I'll be in town from Johns Hopkins University with husband and daughter. Prefer 2+ bedrooms and proximity to campus or City Bowl. I have a budget to pay for accommodation, and am also willing to housesit. Please email [lfolda@jhu.edu](mailto:lfolda@jhu.edu)

**Worked with youth on violence prevention?** We need your help! The Gender Health and Justice Research Unit (FHS) is doing a scan of existing UCT projects on violence prevention with adolescents. Please answer our quick 4 minute survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5LCDJBV>

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# Levana kids pluck stars from sky

Hasta la vista, Arnie.

In a community such as Lavender Hill where residents still relate to the far-removed glamour and wealth of Hollywood but have few local heroes, school children need real role models. So student Emma-Louise Gray helped them come up with some, as part of her coursework for the final-year community development practice course in the Division of Occupational Therapy.

Earlier this year, Gray created a Hollywood Boulevard-style Walk of Fame at Levana Primary School in the underprivileged Cape township. During her seven-week stint at Levana, she had 24 grade-7 learners identify and honour 'heroes' who had also attended the school.

A pilot, a school teacher, an accountant and a famous actress were some of the heroes who visited the school to share their wisdom with the young dreamers, and were then honoured with a star on the walk.

"It is hoped that the learners will be inspired to keep working for their dreams, and will one day have their own stars painted at Levana," says Gray.

The project will continue under another student, Jamie Andrew. ■



A hero's walk: A UCT student had learners from Levana Primary School in Lavender Hill name and honour their own heroes.

## Ikeys live to fight another year

Sighs of relief all round. The Green Mile will host FNB Varsity Cup rugby again next year.

A disappointing season could have become a disastrous one had UCT's Ikeys not recovered from an early scare against the Central University of Technology (CUT) in the Varsity Cup promotion/relegation playoff on 9 April. After conceding a shock early try, the Ikeys cranked up the pace to thrash Varsity Shield runners-up CUT by 60-21.

Lock Levi Odendaal opened the scoring for UCT in typical forward fashion, bulldozing over near the poles. Havoc was duly cried, and eight more tries followed for an emphatic end to a season that previously featured just one Ikey victory (the obliteration of the Tshwane University of Technology's Vikings).



Over and out: Ikeys' Damian de Allende is tackled by CUT's Alec Mhlanga and Noel Marx in the playoff match.

For the defending champions, contesting a promotion/relegation

match was not on the agenda when Varsity Cup 2012 kicked off. But,

unable to shake their initial underwhelming form, the Ikey Tigers were forced to fight for their lives in a curtain-raiser to the final.

Before the match, UCT captain Ntsolo Setlaba had mentioned how eager the squad was to build a solid foundation for the future. "We're all looking forward to putting the Varsity Cup behind us and building towards next year," said Setlaba.

And, with UCT assured of a place in next year's Varsity Cup, all eyes could turn to the final, in which the University of Pretoria's Tukkies gave the Maties of Stellenbosch a 29-21 rugby lesson to clinch the crown. The win marked the first time in the competition's five years that the Cup silverware has left the Cape. ■

## Extra-ordinary performances at regatta

Records tumbled as the UCT Rowing Club won the University Sports South Africa (USSA) Sprint Regatta, held from 23 to 25 March.

The Ikey rowers made light of the windy and wet weather on the Vanderkloof Dam in the Free State to conquer the competition for the first time since 2002. Rivals were blown out of the water as UCT racked up enough medals – including 17 gold – to satisfy the entire Allied Powers.

The men's team came out tops with 299 points, more than 90 points ahead of the second-placed University of Pretoria. The women were similarly ruthless; 290 points was more than enough for a convincing victory, with the second-placed University of Johannesburg trailing in their wake with 246.

UCT's glory was compounded when five men and two women were called up to the South African senior team. Three more women and two men were also selected for the USSA grudge crew (B team). ■



## A brighter future for Emasi kids

A university's contributions to society reach far beyond the hallowed hallways of research and teaching, as illustrated by members of UCT's Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) student branch. Earlier this year they wrapped up the installation of an array of solar panels at the Emasithandane Children's Project in Nyanga. The panels will supply 75% of the home's power needs.

It wasn't the first time that UCT students have lent a hand to Emasithandane, which provides a home for orphaned and otherwise vulnerable children from the township. In 2010, postgraduate students from the Faculty of Commerce raised R55,000 for the home at the behest of lecturer Stuart Hendry.

UCT alumnus Michael Tladi is also a major benefactor. The electro-mechanical engineering graduate, who as a young boy was homeless and now works for the Department of Public Works, played a key role in raising thousands of rands for the home, and continues to support it today. ■