

Long-service stalwarts honoured

It's a highlight on the UCT calendar, and last week's Long Service Awards dinner in the stately Smuts Dining Hall, honouring those who'd notched up 15, 25 and 35 years of service, underscored the importance of the event.

Altogether, 87 long-servers have been honoured at UCT this year, having contributed 1,660 years of service in diverse areas.

"You all represent a truly remarkable repository of institutional memory!" said Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price at the event. "It is increasingly rare to find employees that stay with an organisation for long periods, but I would like to think that what makes our organisation different from others is that no matter what job we undertake at UCT, we all share common goals and take the university's mission to heart."

Six staffers were honoured for 35 years' service: Sydney Jansen (Baxter Theatre Centre), George Jacobs (Immunology) Shaheema Luckan (Libraries, Music), David van SENSIE (HR Administration and Payroll), Nazeem Damon (Human Biology), and Robert Johnson (South African College of Music). (Another 35-year service awardee, Graham Foule, was unable to attend.)

Each has witnessed significant change within the university and beyond campus. And each will no doubt remember 1977, the year they signed up at UCT. In South Africa's broader history it was momentous too: Pik Botha was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs; the Antipolis, a Greek oil tanker, ran aground at Oudekraal; Black Consciousness leader Steve Biko died in police detention; and the Progressive Federal Party was formed.

Six of the best

Nazeem Damon (Department of Human Biology)

Having joined UCT's Building and Services Department, Damon probably never imagined he'd be working with animals, both in simulated and in wet-laboratory conditions. He started out as a switchboard operator in the Department of Physiology and then took a post as laboratory assistant in the department. It was something of a giant leap, and in 2007 a unique position was created for him as lab assistant/IT liaison assistant in the Department of Human Biology. He now provides IT support to a large body of staff and students. Damon has also played an integral role in the transition of undergraduate laboratory physiology from wet labs to computer-simulated student practicals.

George Jacobs: Division of Immunology

Jacobs joined the Faculty of Health Sciences as a cleaner in the Anatomy Building but was soon learning to operate the telephonic switchboard that serviced the building. Rewarded for his initiative, Jacobs took over the Animal Unit's switchboard and when UCT moved to a central switchboard in the late 1970s, he joined the Department of Clinical Science and Immunology as a laboratory assistant. Here he established himself as the 'go-to' laboratory assistant, able to perform any duty. Jacobs' on-going contribution enables the Division of Immunology laboratories to carry out the essential functions of research and teaching.

Sydney Jansen (Baxter Theatre Centre)



Dr Max Price thanks staff members for 35 years of continuous service: (Clockwise from top left) Nazeem Damon (Department of Human Biology), George Jacobs (Division of Immunology), Sydney Jansen (Baxter Theatre Centre), Shaheema Luckan (Libraries, Music), David van SENSIE (HR Administration & Payroll), and Robert Johnson (South African College of Music).

Jansen joined the Baxter as a stage hand but soon found his niche in the Lighting Department, rising to the rank of senior lighting technician. During his long tenure he's seen to the rigging, focusing, plotting and operation of the lighting for hundreds of shows and events in all three Baxter venues. Jansen has also witnessed the development and staging of ground-breaking local theatrical productions, as well as touring international shows. In 1985 he accompanied the production of *Miss Julie* to the Edinburgh Festival and the Market Theatre in Johannesburg. His lighting has helped evoke a mood and atmosphere that becomes an integral part of the audience's experience.

Robert Johnson (South African College of Music)

After obtaining a national trade certificate in industrial electronics (with distinction), Johnson began his career as a sound engineer at the Baxter. After his appointment in 1981 to technical officer at the SACM, he rose rapidly through the ranks to

senior technical officer in 1984. In 2007 he was appointed chief technical officer. Johnson plays a vital role at the music school. As the SACM's resident sound engineer, he has created a vast archive of sound recordings and has made a significant contribution to the maintenance and acquisition of a large array of audio-visual equipment. Throughout his career, Johnson has shown attention to detail and a keen interest in the latest audio technology.

David van SENSIE (HR Administration and Payroll)

Van SENSIE's debut at UCT was at the Baxter Theatre Centre as a switchboard operator, but the versatile staffer also doubled up as a driver. He moved up the ranks at the Baxter, first as an office assistant, and later as a deputy front-of-house manager. In 1993 Van SENSIE joined Campus Control before taking a post in Personnel. He later joined the Registry Office as the registry assistant under registry controller Jean Chambers. Following Chambers' retirement in 2003

Van SENSIE was promoted to registry controller, and this is where he's made his home. A loyal member of the university community, Van SENSIE is renowned for his sense of humour, which brightens many a meeting.

Shaheema Luckan (Libraries, Music)

Luckan's career began in the Periodicals Department of the Libraries and she has vivid memories of how elated she was to get the position. She'd had to choose between studying at the University of the Western Cape and a job at UCT. After 15 years in periodicals, Luckan moved to the Cataloguing Department. After an eight-year stint here she moved to the WH Bell Music Library, where she's still part of the busy team. There have been many changes in libraries and information. She remembers managing hundreds of stock cards in steel cabinets. Now, accessing tons of information is a click of the mouse away! Never giving up on her dream of a degree, Luckan is studying towards her bachelor's in library and information science. ■



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News in pictures • News in pictures • News in pictures • News in pictures • News in pictures

1 The burst of pink on health sciences staff and students each Friday in October is an initiative by the Health Sciences Student Council (HSSC) to create awareness around Breast Cancer Awareness Month. According to campaign organiser Noetse Lerotholi they were capitalising on people's fear of missing out (FOMO) to wear pink and in this way promote awareness of breast cancer during the month of October.

2 Influential businessman Cyril Ramaphosa delivered the keynote address at UCT's South African Actuaries Development Programme (SAADP) year-end function earlier this month. Ramaphosa, seen here with Nokwanda Mkhize, executive director of SAADP, invited students and alumni of SAADP to help craft a vision for South Africa for 2030.

3 UCT's Graduate School of Business recently served as one of the virtual conference centres for the 2012 *Berlin Conference on the Human Dimensions of Global Environmental Change*. Dr Richard Hill of the Department of Environmental and Geographical Science, who organised the event at the GSB, calculated the cost for each of the 10 conference participants in Cape Town to be about one-twentieth of the cost of personal attendance at the conference.

4 UCT construction studies students have raised R52, 800 for the Thembaletu School for children with special needs. As part of a mandatory course, first-year students spent some weeks during the second semester raising money for this Gugulethu school. The students also collected donations of equipment, materials, cement and paint from local industries.

5 UCT's Students' Representative Council (SRC) 2011/2012 was rewarded for their year's hard work with a braai at the Vice-

Chancellor's residence on 16 October. The outgoing student leaders, due to vacate their posts at the end of October, were thanked for their service to the university by VC Dr Max Price. He assured the students that their experiences in office would stand them in good stead throughout their careers.

6 "Enriched on every level," is how UCT master's student Melani van der Merwe (fourth from right) describes the pay-off from her time at the 2012 *Hague Symposium on Post-Conflict Transitions and International Justice*, held in The Netherlands in July and August. Fifty-three students from around the world gathered at this leadership training initiative, offered through the International Peace and Security Institute.

7 Conference room three in the Barnard Fuller building on UCT's medical school campus will from now on be known as the Aadir Moerat Room. The room will serve as a memorial to Moerat, a UCT graduate who became known as the 'people's doctor' in Gugulethu, before his untimely death in 1998. Dean Prof Marian Jacobs – together with Moerat's mother, Makia Moerat, and his two sons, Danyal (right) and Jaraad (not in picture) – unveiled the plaque bestowing his name on the room.

8 Former UCT academic Prof Peter Cook has been elected to the board of the Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC), a body aimed at transforming aquaculture into a sustainable and socially responsible industry. Cook, an internationally recognised abalone expert who used to head UCT's Department of Zoology, has also been appointed as the chair of the ASC's technical advisory committee.

9 The Development and Alumni Department hosted its last Alumni Leadership Forum for 2012 on 9 October. Guest speaker Zapiro (aka Jonathan Shapiro), a UCT architecture graduate,

addressed around 600 alumni at Jameson Hall. He reflected on his career as a cartoonist and delighted the audience while highlighting significant political moments in South Africa, captured through his cartoons. Humorous and engaging, Zapiro left the crowd reflecting on our nation's political future.

10 "The long-awaited healing of a sore point," is how Professor Judith Sealy, head of UCT's Department of Archaeology, described the new exhibition of archaeological artefacts and images in the Beattie Building. Speaking at the opening of the exhibition – to be found in the foyer of Beattie's level 3 – Sealy praised the efforts of Professor Pippa Skotnes and her team for putting the display together, a feat which, Sealy said, many had tried but failed to do in the past. In picture is Carol Orten.

11 This year, UCT's Professional Communication Unit added a new twist to its annual team report competition. Each year students studying towards a Postgraduate Diploma in Management are challenged to analyse a small- to medium-sized enterprise in terms of its triple bottom line. For the 2012 class, the businesses in question were invited to a two-day mini-conference, where each student delivered an oral report on their findings.

12 This year's winner of the Green Campus Initiative Backsberg Sustainability Award champions the cause to reduce staff and students' exposure to hazardous chemicals, especially pesticides. Dr Hanna-Andrea Rother, of UCT's Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health Research, won the award in recognition of her work to stop the spraying of herbicides for weed control on the health sciences campus, and to reduce herbicide spraying on upper campus. ■

Don't copy – innovate, says Britton

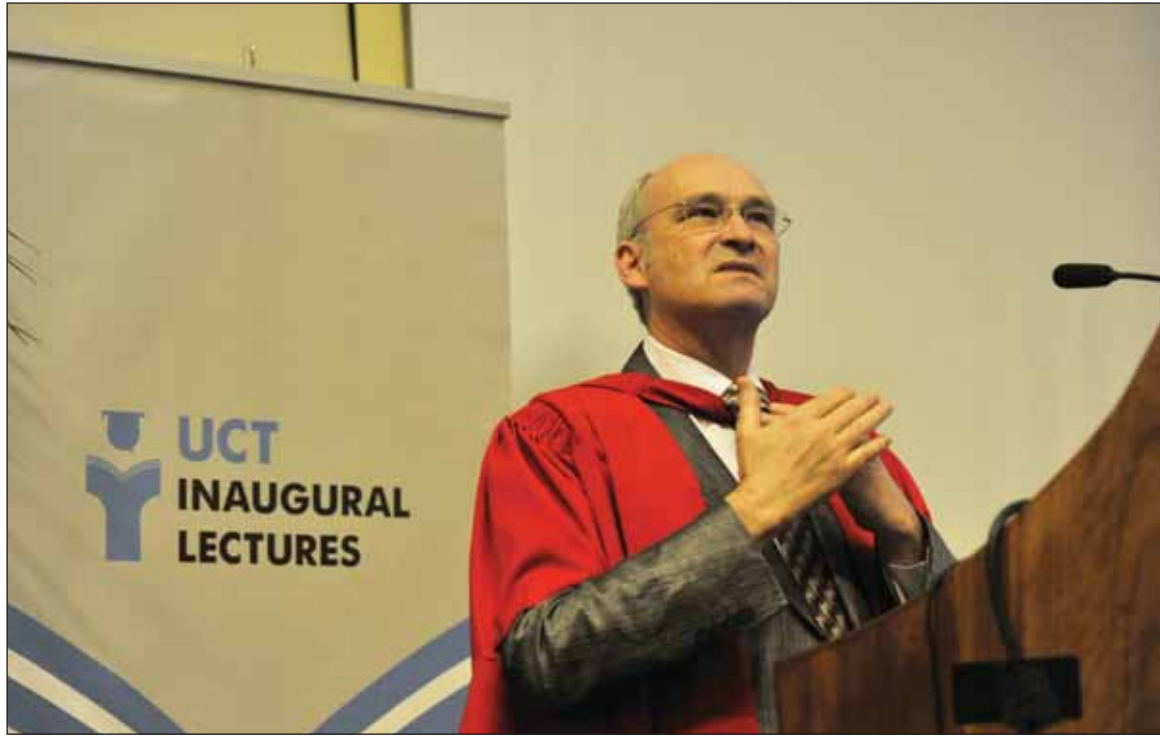
It was clear from the title of his talk, *Nanoscience, Nanotechnology, and Nanovation*, that Professor David Britton had a lot to explain in his inaugural lecture, delivered at UCT on 17 October.

And he did not disappoint.

Nanoscience, Britton started, is the basic and applied research into nanostructured materials and nanoscale processes. By comparison, nanotechnology is applied research and development using nanoscale materials and nanoscale processes. And lastly but by no means least, nanovation is social and commercial innovation enabled by nanotechnology and founded on nanoscience.

In brief, this is the kind of work that Britton, past chair of the South African Nanotechnology Initiative, and his team have been doing at UCT these past 10 years. Those efforts led to the formation of UCT's Nano-Sciences Innovation Centre two years ago, of which he is the founding director, alongside long-standing collaborator Professor Margit Härting.

The centre, based in the Department of Physics, is the principal hub of the USAID-funded Nano-Power Africa Network. This partnership spreads over four African countries,



Ahead of the game: At his inaugural lecture, Prof David Britton called on scientists to keep the innovation chain when developing new products. Link to podcast of Prof Britton's inaugural <http://www.uct.ac.za/news/lectures/inaugural/2012/>

and aims to build research capacity and promote entrepreneurship through collaborative research – its ultimate objective to develop an indigenous solar-cell technology.

As a technical director of PST

Sensors, a spin-out company from UCT, Britton helmed the development of the company's first products – printed silicon temperature sensors.

To achieve these, Britton says they had to get the “innovation

chain” right.

The first step is to make something that someone wants, he said.

“The old story about ‘building a better mouse trap and the world will beat a path to your door’ won't

work,” he warned. “Most intelligent, sensible people have cats.”

Also, scientists have to understand the basics of science.

“There is no point trying to develop something without knowing how it works, not if you're going to new territory.”

And scientists need to collaborate with other roleplayers and be innovative, he advised.

“One thing that is fatal when it comes to development and innovation is just copying.”

He learnt this from bitter experience, he noted.

“When we developed printed silicon transistors we had a new material, knew how it worked, but tried to copy the technology that was used for the normal thin-film silicon. It didn't work, and after a long time we had to go back to basics.”

Britton and his team are now working on commercial and social innovations. One of the devices they are developing is a time-temperature tag for food and pharmaceutical products. They have also embarked on a project to roll out low-cost solar cells in other African countries, starting with Botswana, Ethiopia and Rwanda. ■

Retired prof hailed as IS pioneer

Sure, it's fine being called a pioneer in casual conversation, but it's always better when someone does so officially.

This is what the Council of the South African Institute for Computer Scientists and Information Technologists (SAICSIT) did, recently naming UCT Emeritus Professor Derek Smith as a pioneer of the information systems discipline. At its annual conference in Gauteng in October, SAICSIT presented Smith with its Pioneer Award. He is only the second IS scholar to receive the award, following in the footsteps of another UCT academic, Professor Dewald Roode.

Smith first joined UCT as a senior lecturer in the early 1980s, after completing an MCom in information systems here. He took over as head of the IS Section, then based in the Department of Accounting, in 1992.

A few years later he drew up the organisational blueprint that led to the establishment of the Department of Information Systems. He was the first head of the new department, serving multiple terms.

SAICSIT sang Smith's praises for his work and publications track record, and notably for the honours course he designed, as it has become a key feeder of graduates to top companies, including BSG, Accenture, KPMG and Openbox.

“Professor Smith developed outstanding links between IS academia and industry which was significant for the success of the UCT IS department,” said Dr Doncho Petkov, professor of IS at the Eastern Connecticut State University, in support of the SAICSIT accolade. “He was seen by colleagues from other universities as one of the founders and authorities of the



Breaking ground: Emer Prof Derek Smith has received the SAICSIT Pioneer Award.

IS discipline in the country.”

The award, says Smith, is “recognition for the team”.

“We were one of the early players in this space and put together a strong relationship with the profession. Today we have one of the strongest IS departments in the country.” ■



Special recognition: VC Dr Max Price (left) with new Fellows Profs Gerald Nurick and Alison Lewis, and DVC Prof Danie Visser.

University doffs hat to new Fellows

Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price honoured two new UCT Fellows on 18 October. Professors Alison Lewis of the Department of Chemical Engineering and Gerald Nurick of the Department of Mechanical Engineering were welcomed as new Fellows.

Fellowships are awarded to members of the permanent academic staff in recognition of original, distinguished academic work that the university Council believes merits special recognition.

Three recipients of the 2012 UCT College of Fellows Young Researcher Awards were also named. They are Drs Hans Beushausen, of the Department of Civil Engineering, Ake Fagereng, of the Department of Geological Sciences, and William Horowitz, of the Department of Physics.

The annual Young Researcher Awards are offered in recognition of outstanding scholarly work by young academics. ■

R25 million grant for collaborative heart research in the global South

Professor Karen Sliwa, director of UCT's Hatter Institute for Cardiology Research in Africa, has (together with several Australian collaborators) been awarded a R25 million research grant by the National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia.

The grant will go towards building research capacity in reducing inequality in heart disease in South Africa and Australia. One of the research projects for which the money is earmarked is the Hatter Institute's Heart of Africa Study. The money will go towards supporting PhD students and paying for equipment and running expenses. The grant period is from 2013 to 2017.

Sliwa's long-time collaborator, Professor Simon Stewart of

the Baker IDI Heart & Diabetes Institute in Melbourne, Australia, and Honorary Professor at the Hatter Institute, is among the chief investigators for this grant.

“This is one of a few South-South collaborations,” Sliwa said in reaction to the good news. “The funding will strengthen our collaboration with the Baker IDI Heart and Diabetes Institute.”

“I am delighted that these funds will allow us to move forward with research projects aimed at a reduction of the precursors of heart disease in pregnancy, or identifying those conditions earlier to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality related to cardiovascular disease,” she added. ■



Heart-warming: Prof Karen Sliwa of the Hatter Institute believes a recently-awarded R25 million grant will boost a range of collaborative research projects to reduce inequality in heart disease in the global South.

The sneaky bird catches the worm

Animals steal food from other animals. That's hardly news, but one southern African bird has become an ace at conning other creatures out of a meal

It would perhaps be wrong and unfair to assign human attributes to the fork-tailed drongo.

That said, on hearing about the foraging habits of these insectivorous birds, the temptation is to start throwing around labels like 'wily', or just downright 'sneaky'. Dr Thomas Flower, a post-doctoral research fellow from the UK now based with UCT's Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, has been tracking the drongos for years, so it's no surprise that he has a few choice descriptives of his own.

But name-calling aside, Flower is also enthralled by the birds, specifically the ones found in the South African Kalahari.

Like many other animals, the drongo sometimes steals food from other animals, a practice known as kleptoparasitism. In a series of papers, including a recent one in the *Journal of Animal Ecology*, Flower has described how the drongo has elevated kleptoparasitism to an art form.

It's not that they're full-time kleptoparasites, he's found. It's a seasonal thing, he explains in the *Animal Ecology* paper, stealing food mostly in the winter to complement their staple diet of flies, whose numbers drop in the cold season. At such

times, the rewards from stealing are just much greater than foraging, Flower explains.

What's really impressive is how drongos go about their stealing, says Flower. The first of their two MOs – which they split nearly 50/50, according to his count – is straightforward: brute force. This is when the drongos, small birds by any measure and really no bigger than a swallow, simply attack other animals handling food, screeching, grabbing and pecking away at other birds. The genteelly-named sociable weaver commonly falls prey, for example.

But they're not just bullies – they don't pick on smaller birds only. Drongos are not afraid to attack birds of prey, like hawks. They're very acrobatic, says Flower – “insanely good fliers”.)

It's when they have to contend with larger creatures who may put up more of a fight, like the meerkat, or larger birds like the pied babbler – two marks of choice – that the drongos get really clever.

In the wild, explains Flower, animals rely on the calls of other animals to alert them to any predators, especially during feeding times. The drongo has learnt to exploit that predicament, using false alarm calls to dupe animals into abandoning

meals that they can then pounce on.

And when the animals get wise to their trickery, the drongos show that they're no one-trick ponies. Renowned as mimics, they resort to impersonating the calls of other animals, using the call of a pied babbler to mislead other pied babblers, for example. And when the babbler (say) cottons on to the deception, the drongos will adopt another animal's call – even mammals like the meerkat – to the same good effect.

“They can just keep one step ahead of the game,” says Flower.

There's much more Flower wants to learn about the drongos' kleptoparasitism. Such as, is it innate or learned? And is it passed on from community to community or, as an evolutionary advantage, from generation to generation? And does it have anything to do with the size of their brains, relatively big for such a tiny bird? And how – if at all – are they able to sense other animals' states of mind, understanding when to change their calls?


The answers could shed light on some big questions about the evolution and minds of birds and animals. For now, however, one thing's for sure – whatever names one chooses to call the drongo, 'bird-brained' would not be one of them. ■



Sneak attack: The drongo has become a master at conning other animals out of their food.



Bird man: Dr Thomas Flower has discovered some interesting facts about the local drongo.



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Child Gauge 2012 shines spotlight on inequality and poverty

Being a child in South Africa can be trying. No fewer than 60% of children in South Africa live in poor households, where the income is less than R575 per person per month.

These are some of the stark facts highlighted in the South African Child Gauge 2012, released on 17 October by UCT's Children's Institute (CI), in partnership with the United Nations Children's Fund and UCT's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit, or SALDRU. This seventh issue of the annual review of the situation of South Africa's children focuses on *Children and Inequality: Closing the gap*, as children are more affected by poverty and income inequality, which



impact on their survival, development and life trajectories.

“Children have equal rights under the Constitution, but the worlds into which they are born and their opportunities in life are unequal,” explains Katharine Hall, senior researcher at the CI.

Trevor Manuel, minister in the presidency, praised the report. “It is important to remember that children do not experience poverty and inequality in the same way as adults,” he said.

“Children growing up in poorer households don't only experience hunger, but the lack of nutrition impacts on their ability to concentrate at school and their ability to excel at sport.” ■

Concrete unit built on strong foundation

UCT's Concrete Materials and Structural Integrity Research Unit is racking up a growing number of accolades and honours



Team building: (From left) Profs Pilate Moyo and Mark Alexander with Assoc Prof Hans-Dieter Beushausen.

UCT's Concrete Materials and Structural Integrity Research Unit (CoMSIRU) was formally established just two years ago. But it has been two decades in the making, both through the endeavours of individuals and, since 2006, a research group in the Department of Civil Engineering. Its concerns have always been much the same – building capacity in an unsung discipline of engineering: the maintenance and repair of infrastructure. Now, not only has the unit cemented its reputation for its pioneering work in the field, but its students are also amassing awards aplenty, and the unit is on the verge of launching a first-of-its-kind master's programme.

At CoMSIRU they can still remember how, not too long ago, academics were scouring countries near and far for graduate students.

Professor Mark Alexander, who lay the foundation for the unit with his own research in the early 1990s and now heads it, was pitching in Kenya. At the same time, Professor Pilate Moyo – just promoted to full professor – was recruiting in Zambia. And Associate Professor Hans-Dieter Beushausen – also just promoted – travelled to Germany and other European countries to enlist students there.

"We only had about one PhD student each and were all wondering where the next student was going to come from," recalls Moyo.

This was around 2005 or 2006. What a difference a few years can make.

In 2012, CoMSIRU boasts no fewer than 35 postgraduate students, including 10 PhDs. And many of those students, quite a few of them women, are making their mark.

This year, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) presented Women in Science Fellowships to master's student Lombe Mutale and doctoral student Gladwell Nganga. In turn, star pupil Rachel Muigai, who bagged a scholarship worth a princely R300,000 from the Cement

and Concrete Institute in 2009 and a L'Oréal-UNESCO Fellowship in 2011, just recently won a Green Talent Award, presented each year by the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) to 20 talented researchers from around the world. Muigai is the second CoMSIRU student to pick up a Green Talent Award, following in the wake of current PhD student Mike Otieno in 2010.

Medals galore

It's not just the students beating the unit's drum. In March this year, Alexander and Beushausen – with Otieno – were named the winners of the prestigious Wason Medal for Materials Research for 2012 by the American Concrete Institute (ACI), this for the publication of their joint paper, *Suitability of Various Measurement Techniques for Assessing Corrosion in Cracked Concrete*, published in the *ACI Materials Journal* in 2010.

In September, Alexander was elected as President of RILEM (The International Union of Laboratories and Experts in Construction Materials, Systems and Structures), becoming the first scholar from Africa to be so appointed. In addition, Beushausen serves as chairperson of one of RILEM's technical committees.

There have been other major milestones for CoMSIRU. In 2011, it was awarded full research unit status at UCT, becoming the first official research unit in the Department of Civil Engineering. And in September, the unit hosted a very successful 3rd International Conference on Concrete Repair, Rehabilitation and Retrofitting, or ICCRRR 2012, as well as the Annual RILEM Week (where Alexander was named president), an event that attracted some 420 participants, including 200 overseas delegates. (The unit had also hosted the previous two ICCRRRs, in 2005 and 2008, then under the auspices of the South African Research Programme in Concrete Materials, run in partnership with Wits University.)

Finally, come 2013, CoMSIRU will launch its first full master's stream in the department, a master's in Civil Infrastructure Management and Maintenance.

The unit's achievements are all the more impressive when seen in the light of the work it's engaged in – "infrastructure performance and renewal". Or, as the unit's academics explain, "maintenance and repair".

Traditionally, it's understood that civil engineers apply their labours and skills to building new structures, be they bridges or wastewater treatment facilities, sidewalks or rail systems. But what happens over time, when corrosion starts to eat away at a dam's concrete, or bridges weaken under their daily load of wear and tear?

Initially, when Alexander started the unit, its focus was very much on the building of more (but new) sustainable structures. That changed as Moyo and Beushausen joined.

Now, CoMSIRU commits much of its time to infrastructural deterioration. Its concerns include deterioration science, developing and applying assessment models and technologies to examine the conditions and processes under which structures and materials break down, and extending the service life of physical infrastructure systems and components.

All this work, as can be seen, revolves around modest concrete. (Several chunks are on display in Beushausen's office.)

That focus is reflected in the work of the students. DST winners Mutale and Nganga, as well as Green Talent's Muigai, are looking at various aspects of concrete sustainability, whether it's on the penetration of chloride into the concrete, reducing the clinker or cement content of the concrete, or thinking up prediction models for concrete sustainability.

Public infrastructure

CoMSIRU's work is becoming all the more timely, too. The cost of

maintaining the country's aging infrastructure gets a number of mentions in the National Development Plan of the National Planning Committee.

"Around the world, in civil infrastructure management, we teach students about building new structures," says Beushausen. "In the meantime, most money is spent on repairing infrastructure, because our infrastructure built over the past 50 years is falling apart."

Alexander cites the pervasive "short-termism" for the current infrastructure worries.

"We don't value public infrastructure as we should as a society," he says. "We have become a self-enrichment society where the value of public space and public enterprise is downgraded. Consequently, we do not look with pride on the quality of our public infrastructure."

Teamwork

The honours and accolades, international allure and growing student cohort reflect the quality of the work being done at CoMSIRU, all three academics agree. And students, especially those from elsewhere in Africa, are initially attracted to the unit and its programmes as much as they are to the university brand, which they certainly enjoy when they get here. Reports would also suggest that graduates' word-of-mouth is making it easier to get others to enrol.

The three academics all agree that teamwork is key to their work and results. They are pooling their sometimes overlapping interests to good effect – in sustainable structures, structural dynamics and assessment, reinforcement corrosion, durability testing, and computational modelling, among many other areas.

"We combine a good range of skills and techniques and expertise," says Beushausen.

The students, adds Moyo, are responding to that. "There's a sense of belonging." ■

By the Book

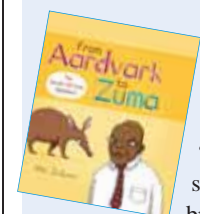


Gogo's Song by Emer Prof David Donald is the story of a brave and resilient orphan who, despite losing her mother

to AIDS when she was little and, some years later, losing her much loved Gogo (grandmother) in a terrifying accident, makes her way through many challenging experiences in her journey to her final graduation as a nurse. It is aimed at a child or youth readership ranging in age from 7 to 19.

The Hungry Season: Feeding Southern African cities

takes Leonie Joubert – of UCT's Centre for Criminology – and photographer Eric Miller into the lives of people in eight Southern African locales to trace the complex undercurrents driving food security in urban spaces. It tackles the fundamental question: Why is it that Southern Africa seems to produce enough calories and nutrients to keep the region full, satisfied and well-nourished, and yet still has so many people living with hunger or the fear of hunger?



Beginning with the word 'Aardvark' and ending with 'Zuma' (with all sorts of animals, brands, characters, places and plants

in-between), *From Aardvark to Zuma*, by UCT graduate Alex Latimer, captures and alphabetises the essence of South Africa, tongue lodged firmly in cheek. Latimer's other books include *The Boy who cried Ninja*, *Penguin's Hidden Talent* and *The South African Alphabet* (English and Afrikaans).

Within Southern Africa

there is an observable increase in democracies dominated by one political party over a prolonged period of time, replacing the one-party systems that dominated Africa's political landscape after the first wave of liberations in the 1950s and 1960s. *Friend or foe? Dominant party systems in southern Africa*, by Nicola de Jager and Pierre du Toit, seeks to understand this trend and its implications for Southern Africa by comparing such systems with others in the developing world, looking at countries like India, South Korea and Taiwan.*



*Published by UCT Press

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ... MARY HILTON

Faculty communication and marketing representatives play a critical role in ensuring that communication lines with internal and external stakeholder are kept open. The *Monday Paper* caught up with one of the faculty reps – Mary Hilton, communications and marketing manager for the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment (EBE), to find out what her days are like.

MP: What's an average day look like for you?

MH: I usually get into the office around 07h00 and check all my emails, mainly from parents and applicants wanting to either visit the faculty, or needing more information on courses or updates on their applications. Some are from companies wanting to offer students bursaries or employment. I also get communiqués on various other matters such as story leads, information on seminars, lectures or visitors, as well as on orientation matters, alumni looking for information, and students seeking

help. Depending on what is happening in the departments, I will be collecting, writing and taking photographs for the faculty newsletter, our website, the *Monday Paper* and the external media. I meet with representatives from the EBE undergraduate and postgraduate councils and those from Engineers Without Borders, to assist them and give them guidance with their planning, events and any problems that they may be experiencing. Some days I will be arranging events, ranging from the Open Day to the awards evening, cultural evening, and campaigns on safety, health and the environment. I also visit schools and deal with NGOs who are running maths and science programmes at high schools. I am the 'ombudsman' for the faculty, so staff and students come to me when they need a safe space, often just for advice or someone to listen to.

MP: What are the challenges of such a day?

MH: The challenge is that my

portfolio is very broad, and sometimes it's hard to decide what takes priority. I am self-driven and willing to go the extra mile to make sure our clients get the service and information they require. This often sees me taking on things that are not in my portfolio.

MP: Any fun bits?

MH: My job is so varied, and I love it. I work with an amazing group of young and energetic students who truly give you hope for the future. I love watching them grow and develop, and with our alumni programme I am so pleased that I am able to keep up to date with their careers. Many of them keep in touch through LinkedIn and Facebook, which really makes me feel quite honoured. I receive emails out of the blue, just to ask how I am doing. They always put a smile on my face.

MP: And the not-such-fun bits?

MH: I guess the not-such-fun bit is attending too many committee meetings. ■



Over 1 000 staff members already migrated to new email platform

One thing we can all be sure of nowadays is that things are always changing. At UCT, one of the biggest changes currently under way is the email migration from GroupWise to Microsoft Outlook.

In 2011, the University Information Communication & Technology Committee (UICTC) gave ICTS the go-ahead to move UCT staff and students from GroupWise to a new email platform. From August 2011 to March 2012, undergraduate and honours students were moved to myUCT, a web-based email platform. Four months later, ICTS started migrating UCT staff to Microsoft Outlook on an Exchange platform. Since then more than 1 000 staff members from ICTS, Properties & Services, EBE, Finance, Health Sciences and Law have been migrated.

If you have not yet been migrated, don't worry; ICTS is in contact with your departmental and faculty management teams to determine the best time to schedule your migration. Once these dates are finalised you will receive an email message from ICTS indicating when your actual email migration will take place.

A migration guide showing you what you need to do before, during and after the migration is available on the ICTS website (www.icts.uct.ac.za | Email & Newsgroups | Outlook). This information, together with Outlook user documentation for Windows and Mac users, will help you get up to speed quickly on the new system. The dates for the Outlook information sessions, which are aimed at giving you a brief introduc-

tion to Outlook and some of its features, can also be found there. If you prefer more in-depth training, then book yourself onto the hands-on Outlook training courses by going to www.icts.uct.ac.za | Training.

ICTS have tried their best to make this transition as smooth as possible, and they are constantly looking at ways to streamline the process. However, if you need some extra hand-holding during this time of change, then log a call with the IT Helpdesk using one of the following methods:

Log an online call (www.icts.uct.ac.za | Helpdesk | Log a New Call)

Send an email to icts-helpdesk@uct.ac.za
Phone 021 650 4500 ■



Portraits: Myron and Julia Red/Green are two of Richard Smith's works that will go on show at the Irma Stern Museum.

Head and Shoulders at Irma Stern

Richard Smith will exhibit his latest charcoal and mixed media works – titled *Head and Shoulders* – at the UCT Irma Stern Museum in Rosebank from 30 October to 24 November.

Curated by Rose Korber, the content of the exhibition is large-scale portraits of existing people and of people imagined, as well as multi-panel drawings in charcoal and mixed media on paper. Also on the exhibition are a number of oils on panel.

The Portrait Series is a body of work which demon-

strates Smith's outstanding draftsmanship. The monumental portraits do not feature celebrities but "young people who are my friends and whose faces appeal to me," Smith comments. He often uses the language of the subconscious and the subliminal when referring to his work, suggesting a deeply personal and intuitive process of art-making.

The Museum is open from Tuesday to Saturday from 10h00 to 17h00. There will be walkabouts at 11h00 on 3 and 17 November. ■

We remember

UCT mourns the recent death of former deputy-registrar Peter Anthony Thornton 'Pat' Wild. Below is a tribute presented by Registrar Hugh Amoore at Wild's funeral.

Service, in the very best sense, characterises Pat Wild's UCT career. It spanned 37 formal years, and a good many thereafter as he was called back when we were stuck, to help out in such diverse areas as the science faculty office and as acting ops manager at the Graduate School of Business!

He came to UCT in July 1963, from Jack Gledhill's Rhodes Physics Department, via Manchester, where he had obtained his PhD in the Jodrell Bank radio-astronomy laboratory.

He taught and researched in physics and astronomy from 1963 to 1982 (having been promoted to associate professor in 1977, when the criterion for this was that the candidate be chair-worthy) and was on at least two occasions acting head of the department of astronomy. He was a committed and successful teacher, electing to spend two periods of study and research leave researching teaching at the then-Teaching Methods Unit – at a time when this notion was novel.

He was a legendary student advisor in the science faculty; it was in that capacity that I, as a student, first encountered him in 1971. In 1982, at a time when UCT had just been launched on its trajectory to be a researched institution, and after the retirement of Bill Hibbard, he was persuaded to leave physics and astronomy to give leadership to supplying the growing needs of researchers: the next 18 years were to be spent in increasingly complex and demanding (and sometimes difficult) administrative roles, first as head of research administration, and from 1992 until his retirement in 1999 as Deputy Registrar, Academic and Research.

The meticulousness and care that he had brought to teaching were the hallmark of his administrative contribution.

When Pat retired, he wrote to me about "the great privilege [it was] to be associated with the best university in Africa for the whole of my life".

Equally, it was UCT's privilege that Pat gave his entire working life in its service.

For that we are grateful indeed.

EVENTS

Seminars and Lectures and Meeting



When: Wednesday, 31 October 2012 at 17h30. Speaker: Professor Clive Gray, Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Division of Immunology, IIDMM, Faculty of Health Sciences. Title: 'Morning Targets. HIV and the Immune System: in Search of Self-Preservation'. Venue: Student Learning Centre Lecture Theatre, Anatomy Building, Faculty of Health Sciences

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Part-time Clinical Educator, Division of Human Nutrition, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 29 October 2012

Part-time Lecturer: Dietetics, Division of Human Nutrition, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 29 October 2012

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer: Geomatics, School of Architecture, Planning & Geomatics, Faculty of Engineering & The Built Environment, Closing date: 31 October 2012

Lecturer, Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 5 November 2012

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer: Biological Sciences, Academic Development Programme, Centre for Higher Education Development, Closing date: 9 November 2012

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Chief/Senior Research Officer, Drug Discovery Development Centre (H3-D), Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 29 October 2012

Field Site Manager, SATVI, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 30 October 2012

Resource Manager, SATVI, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 30 October 2012

Facility Coordinator (Radiotherapy), Department of Radiation Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 31 October 2012

Senior Medical Research Officer, IIDMM, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 31 October 2012

Medical Research Officer, IIDMM, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 31 October 2012

Research Nurse, IIDMM, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 31 October 2012

Part-time Senior Secretary, Department of Mathematics & Applied Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 31 October 2012

Pharmacist Assistant, Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation, Closing date: 31 October 2012 (not on UCT's conditions of service)

Administrative Officer, School of Education, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 1 November 2012

Data Systems Manager, IIDMM, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 5 November 2012

Chemical Safety Officer, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 5 November 2012

Deputy Director: Marketing & Online Communication, Communication & Marketing Department, Closing date: 9 November 2012

Part-time Small Group Facilitators, Department of Public Health & Family Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 16 November 2012

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Administrative Assistant, Department of Public Health & Family Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 15 October 2012

Front Office Receptionist: Systems Information & Communication, IAPO, Closing date: 29 October 2012

Research Assistant, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 31 October 2012

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GENERAL

Calling Ugandan students at UCT! We are looking for a Ugandan student with excellent written English, to transcribe and translate interviews. Experience with qualitative research transcribing and translating is preferable. If interested, please send an email and your CV to zoe.duby@hiv-research.org.za.

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Students shine at sports awards

The annual sports awards were presented by VC Dr Max Price and other VIPs in October. Here are the main category winners.

Jamison Cup: Sportsperson of the Year – Joe Mohle



UCT's Sportsperson of the Year for 2012, *Joe Mohle*, is considered one of the top five climbers in South Africa, ranked high in each of the sport's three codes – traditional Alpine climbing (in which he's No1), sport climbing and bouldering. As each discipline requires unique skills, such a high ranking in all three is rare. Mohle is also the only non-professional climber ranked in the top ten in the world. In January, Mohle was involved in the development of a new sport-climbing venue in the High Atlas Mountains of Morocco, where he also scaled the 4,000m peak of Biguinoussene and the tallest peak in North Africa, Mount Toubhal.

Transformation Trophy: Hockey



Since UCT hockey players, led by *Paula Dollman* and *Gina Sole* (in picture), have coached and mentored players at the Khayelitsha Hockey Club for two hours every Friday afternoon. The Ikeys also regularly

swop coaching knowledge with the club's trainers. Khayelitsha Hockey Club has since grown steadily, with more than 80 players, from seven- to 14-year-olds, now on the books. The help from UCT's Hockey Club, coupled with the dedication of the young players, has already seen the Khayelitsha Hockey Club's u13 boys' team compete in the Western Province Hockey Top Schools Competition.

Best First Year: Rugby – Dillyn Leyds



The Ikey Tigers endured a torrid 2012 campaign, surrendering both their FNB Varsity Cup and Western Province Super League A titles. From the ashes of a disappointing season, though, rose one *Dillyn Leyds*, a first-year student who lit up the Green Mile from fullback. Scintillating showings in the FNB Varsity Cup, capped by seven tries, earned Leyds a call-up to the Western Province set-up, and he established himself as the first-choice No 15 for the Baby Boks in the 2012 IRB Junior World Championships in June.

Butterworth Cup (Team of the Year): Rowing – USSA Crew

The UCT Rowing Club won the overall-points trophy at the University



Sport South Africa (USSA) Sprint Regatta in March, their first triumph in the event since 2002. Fourteen UCT rowers were selected for the national student teams. Six of the UCT crew were also selected for the USSA team who competed at the World Universities Rowing Championships in Kazan, Russia in September. With the re-introduction of the Indoor Rowing Universities Regatta Programme in July, UCT won all four divisions and the overall trophy. The club also beat archivals Stellenbosch University in all categories at the intervarsity event, and won the overall points standings at the USSA Race Regatta.

Landstem Trophy (Performance of the Year): Rowing – Leo Davis and Jozef Muller



Rowers *Leo Davis* and *Jozef Muller* won the silver medal at the World Universities Rowing Championships in Kazan, Russia in September. The heavyweight pair finished 1.16 seconds behind winners Italy after a titanic push to the finish line. So

quick was their charge to the finish, their final 500m time was the fastest quarter of any team in the 2km race, and left the likes of Australia, France, Poland and Russia – powerhouses in world rowing – trailing in their wake. (They are photographed with coach *Brendan Gliddon*, left, and VC Dr Max Price.)

Turpin Cup (Service to UCT Sport): Sarah Bishop



Sarah Bishop has been involved in UCT rowing for more than four years. She has rowed for the women's first eight and has served on the executive committee as women's captain for the period 2009 to 2011. She is currently responsible for the UCT Rowing community outreach programme and coaches 30 learners three times per week at Zeekoevlei. In September 2012 she was elected onto the USSA Rowing Committee as transformation officer. Bishop also served as secretary of the Student Sports Union in 2011 and chairperson in 2012, and serves on the UCT Sports Council.

Club of the Year: Rowing Club

The Rowing Club's twice-monthly or weekly minuted meetings with UCT sports administration ensured smooth and effective governance of the club: it handled a R1.2-million budget



with maturity; established an indoor rowing centre and maintained equipment worth R3.5 million; hosted five successful events this year; won the overall university trophy for rowing; was involved in useful community outreach coaching programmes; and raised more than R50,000 through an alumni initiative. (Above: Club president *Will Tipping-Woods* with sports manager *Jonathan Stones*.)

Chairperson's Award: Lorne Hallendorff



Prof Michael Meadows (left), chairperson of the UCT Sports Council, presented this award to *Lorne Hallendorff*. As the Students' Representative Council (SRC) sport and recreation co-ordinator and as a secondary member of the Student Sports Union executive, Hallendorff contributed towards many successful developments in UCT sport.

Link to photo gallery of Sports Awards at http://www.uct.ac.za/news/multimedia/photo_albums/local/

Wall-to-wall staff

UCT Sport & Recreation will host a Staff Squash Tournament that will run for two weeks, starting 19 November. Interested staff members must enter by 14 November. No entry fee will be charged for participation. Contact *Derick Adams* on 021 650 3564, 072 7977 496 or derick.adams@uct.ac.za.



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- Basic: 6 - 9 November (am)
- Intermediate: 4 - 7 December (am)



Excel 2010

- Basic: 6 - 9 November (pm)
- Intermediate: 20 - 23 November (am)



Outlook 2010

- Basic: 13 - 14 November (pm)
- Basic: 27 - 28 September (am)



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- Exchange project plan data with other applications
- Update a project plan
- Manage project costs
- Report project data visually
- Reuse project plan information

Prerequisites: Completion of Project Level 1, or a very good working knowledge of MS Project.

MS Outlook 2010: Info sessions

- 5 Nov (14:00 - 16:00) - Ulwazi Lab, Knowledge Commons, Chancellor Oppenheimer Library
- 6 Nov (13:00 - 14:00) - NSAB Boardroom 501, Student Admin bldg., Middle Campus
- 12 Nov (14:00 - 16:00) - Ulwazi Lab, Knowledge Commons, Chancellor Oppenheimer Library

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