

# Monday Paper

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## Post-Apocalyptic SAX Appeal



*Breakfast round: Fearsome zombies and SAX Appeal vendors Leyla Heylen (left) and Zarreen Kamalie, both of the Students' Health and Welfare Centres Organisation (SHAWCO), were among hundreds of UCT students who peddled the magazine on Cape Town streets from the wee hours of 7 February. This year's theme, Post-Apocalyptic SAX, celebrated that great non-event of 2012, the end of the world. SAX Appeal is the brainchild of student charity Remember and Give (RAG), who sell the magazine every year to raise funds for charity. RAG hopes to sell 36,000 copies of SAX Appeal this year.*

## TB vaccine candidate trail results disappoint

Data published in *The Lancet* on 5 February from a Phase IIb clinical trial evaluating the safety and efficacy of MVA85A, a candidate vaccine for preventing TB in infants, show that a single dose is not sufficient to confer statistically significant protection against TB or infection in infants vaccinated at birth with BCG.

MVA85A is designed to boost immune responses already primed by the Bacille Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine, the currently licenced and widely-used TB vaccine.

The Phase IIb study was sponsored by Aeras and conducted by UCT's South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI) in the Western Cape where nearly 2 800 HIV-negative infants were enrolled. The vaccine was originally developed and investigated by the University of Oxford.

There were 32 cases of TB disease in the infants that received BCG + MVA85A compared with 39 cases of disease among those receiving BCG + placebo. Non-significant vaccine efficacy was measured at 17.3% (95% CI -31.9% to 48.2%) at study completion. The vaccine candi-

date also did not provide statistically significant protection from infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the bacterium that causes TB, which was a secondary efficacy endpoint.

"Although the results of this first efficacy trial of a new TB vaccine are not what we had hoped for, further analysis of the data should reveal a great deal about how the body's immune system protects against TB and what is necessary to develop an effective vaccine," said senior author Professor Helen McShane, a Wellcome Trust Senior Clinical Research Fellow at the University of Oxford.

"The results from this study should let us know far more about the type and level of immune response required, and that will boost future efforts to develop an effective TB vaccine by Oxford and other researchers throughout the world. The difficulty of this task is one reason why there has not been a new TB vaccine since BCG was developed more than 90 years ago, but one is still urgently needed, and I'm not about to give up now."

MVA85A is the first novel, preventive TB vaccine candidate since BCG to complete a Phase IIb safety and efficacy study.

The study was successful in that the vaccine was well-tolerated and there was no evidence of any harm to the trial participants. It also showed it is possible to conduct a large infant efficacy clinical trial in an area of high TB incidence with robust endpoints for detecting disease, something that is expected to greatly benefit future testing of TB vaccine candidates.

Funding for this clinical trial was provided by Aeras, a nonprofit biotech with a social mission to develop TB vaccines, The Wellcome Trust, and the Oxford-Emergent Tuberculosis Consortium (OETC), a joint venture between Oxford and Emergent BioSolutions.

It is anticipated that further analysis of the data and samples collected will be conducted for information that may be helpful for the development of new vaccine candidates. For example, blood samples will be used to identify markers that can predict whether a child will develop

TB disease in the future. These biomarkers are termed "correlates of risk" and may substantially aid the development of new vaccines and contribute to different trial designs in the future.

"The results are not what we wanted to see, but I wouldn't say the trial was unsuccessful," director of SATVI Willem Hanekom said in an online article in *Deutsche Welle*. "We thought we had a strategy that might work, but in the end it did not. Now we have to find out why."

"It may be necessary to use a higher dose or even multiple doses – or perhaps the vaccine should be administered by inhalation, not by injection."

Hanekom said half a million South Africans develop the disease every year.

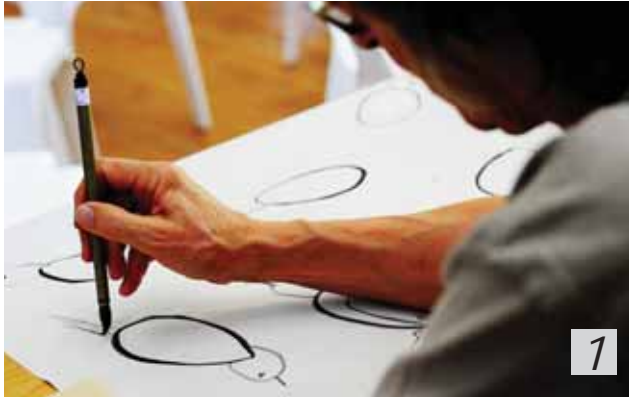
"Prevention by an effective vaccine would be the best way to get the epidemic under control. With this goal in mind, our group will continue to test multiple new vaccine candidates in the Worcester area. We are very grateful for the commitment of the local community in this effort." ■



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

**1. 2013 Summer School wraps up:** Summer School 2013 wrapped up a successful two-week season of lectures and workshops. Director of Summer School Medee Rall reports that 2 421 Summer Schoolers enrolled for 7 132 courses, taught on and around campus. The Chinese Brush Painting course and Understanding Post-Apartheid South Africa, with Professor Colin Bundy, proved popular. Highlights included the Faculty of Science's Seeing the World Through Science course, which profiled five scientific disciplines and the Kirstenbosch centenary course.

**2. IAPO welcomes international students:** UCT students from beyond the Limpopo River were treated to a warm welcome to the continent's leading university as the International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO) kicked off its orientation programme. Orientation leaders gave the students a rousing introduction, shared equally between dancing and speeches. More than 400 new international students enrolled at UCT in 2013.

**3. Introduction to campus:** Some 850 local and 1 450 out-of-town parents relived their progeny's first days of school as UCT's Parents' Orientation Day helped settle anxious minds. Vice-chancellor Dr Max Price cautioned the parents not to underestimate the gap between school and university. Raj and Veronica Behari, from Durban, whose daughter, Philicia, is studying actuarial science, say they chose UCT because "it's the best in Africa".

**4. Faculty orientations:** UCT's orientation programmes kicked off in typically colourful fashion on 21 January, with the Faculty of Humanities leading the charge. Gradually the other faculties got in on the act, and brightly-dressed orientation leaders (OLs) guided eager first-years around the many campuses and through the various channels. Merada Richter, OL in the Faculty of Science, described orientation as "a week of shock" for the freshers, due to the "change in cultures" many experience.

**5. Welcome to your home-from-home:** Two thousand-plus freshers acquainted themselves with their new homes-away-from-home in UCT's 39 residences on 29 January. Students embraced their new surroundings with the aid of residence wardens and senior students. Not everyone was nervous about living away from home for the first time. Tracy Adams, a first-year student from Uitenhage, was excited about her UCT career. "I don't know anyone at this university, but that doesn't scare me!" she declared.

**6. Freshers' Braai:** UCT's first-years were only too happy to flop onto the grass at the annual Freshers' Braai on 31 January after taxing orientation programmes. One third of Upper Campus's famous Green Mile was crammed with first-years making merry in the evening sun. The braai'd food and cold drinks (of the soft kind) were washed down with a rich dessert of live entertainment, from a tug-of-war with the Students' Representative Council (SRC) to an assortment of musos.

**7. Award for Crowe:** UCT's Dr Anna Crowe has been awarded the American Educational Research Association's (AERA) Outstanding Dissertation Award for 2013. Titled *Standards of South African Senior Certificate Biology Examinations: 1994 to 2007*, Crowe's dissertation analyses Senior Certificate examinations in South Africa under the lenses of cognitive demands and international standards. Crowe was one of two winners of the prestigious award in 2013.

**8. Yende's star debut at The Met:** UCT alumna Pretty Yende, a young soprano from Mpumalanga, had barely two weeks to rehearse for her debut at New York's famous Metropolitan Opera on 17 January. Tasked at a moment's notice with replacing the indisposed performer originally cast in the role of Countess Adèle in Rossini's *Le Comte Ory*, the undaunted UCT graduate jumped at the chance. Before her standing ovation at the Met, Yende had received her Performer's Diploma

in Opera as well as her Postgraduate Diploma in Opera (Performance) – both cum laude – from the SACM.

**9. Xhosa Graduation:** Learning a new language as an adult is one of the riskiest spaces one can enter, says Associate Professor Sue Shay, deputy dean at UCT's Centre for Higher Education and Development (CHED). At the recent 'graduation' of the newest group of staff and students to have completed the Masithethe isiXhosa course, Shay noted that it required "humility" for adults to learn a new language. The course is offered by the Multilingualism Education Project (MEP) in CHED.

**10. Flamingos on the Black River:** A flock of flamingos has found an unusual new home on the Black River alongside the N2. "It's not the first time that flamingos have been found at the river, but it is rare," says Professor Les Underhill, director of UCT's Animal Demographic Unit. "It seems that even though there's an awful lot of junk in the river, the water is remarkably clean, for the birds to be there."

**11. SRC Plaza Week:** Jammie Plaza buzzed as thousands of new students enjoyed the sights and sounds of the annual Plaza Week from 4-8 February. More than 90 student societies, sports clubs, development agencies and other student initiatives, from the UCT Film Society to the South African Space Association, paraded their wares.

**12. VC hosted by new alumni chapter:** UCT vice-chancellor Dr Max Price enjoyed a discussion with members of the new UCT Zurich Alumni Chapter on 27 January. "[Price] made us feel at ease and also addressed tactical approaches for how we could contribute to UCT," said Phiwe Mtwebana, a chapter member. "We are confident of defining a strategic focus ... to support and give back to UCT and its immediate community in Cape Town." ■

# UCT trio on epic journey down the Orange River

A trio of UCT researchers is paddling the length of the Orange River (!Gariep) to conduct a mega-transect of the waterway – all 2 200km to the Atlantic.

The two-month Senqu2Sea expedition will take the trio from Qacha's Nek in Lesotho to Alexander Bay. The three, PhD student James Puttick, recent MSc graduate Sam Jack and Ian Durbach, a statistical sciences lecturer, aim to paddle 40 km a day.

The transect will provide an ecological census of the natural vegetation and ecosystems along the country's biggest waterway – and test the health of its myriad tributaries and water systems. The expedition is being supported by UCT's Plant Conservation Unit, the Mazda Wildlife Vehicle Fund and the National Research Foundation's South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON), Arid Lands Node.

Puttick studies vegetation and climate change in eastern South Africa. He is taking photographs from his kayak at 2-km intervals, and also from various elevations along the banks, to document the changing vegetation and land-use impacts. The GPS positions will allow others to take pictures later for historical comparisons, providing a mirror of landscape changes and development along the river.

To test the river's health the team will collect diatom samples for a project sponsored by SAEON and led by Jonathan Taylor at North West University. Roger Diamond, who leads an oxygen isotope project in UCT's Department of Geology, will study these water samples collected from the main tributaries and from the Orange itself, information that will sketch a picture of the different conditions in the tributaries' watersheds during rainfall events. ■



*Databanks: A trio of UCT researchers is paddling the length of the Orange to conduct a mega-transect of the river, an ecological survey of its geology, vegetation and the health of its water. (Photo: James Puttick Photography.)*

## “Internationalisation is my passion” - New IAPO head



*Reach out: New IAPO director, Prof Evance Kalula, is repositioning the organisation to enhance and facilitate internationalisation at UCT.*

The new director of the International Academic Programmes Office (IAPO), Professor Evance Kalula, says he wants to reposition IAPO in the university environment to better facilitate internationalisation.

Internationalisation, along with the Afropolitan niche, is one of UCT's key strategic drivers. The new focus, says Kalula, will see closer ties forged with other units – particularly faculties – that are involved in internationalisation.

Kalula, who hails from Zambia, says he's had “a bit of a chequered academic history”. He studied at four universities, among them the University of London and Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar.

“I came to UCT 21 years ago and worked my way up through the ranks in the research unit, and rose to full professor in the Faculty of Law in 2002.

He held a number of positions in the faculty, including that of deputy dean. His last position there was as Director of Internationalisation.

His non-academic roles included a stint as a member of a commission of inquiry, which looked at freedom of association in Zimbabwe.

“My academic interest is labour law and social security, and I also served as chairperson of the SA Employment Conditions Commission for 12 years, retiring from the post last year.”

His abiding passion, though, is internationalisation.

“I want to spend the rest of my UCT career in this field, particularly in realising the university's Afropolitan vision, which means reaching out to the rest of Africa and strengthening our ties with other African universities, all the while maintaining our global reach as Africa's leading university.”

Kalula says IAPO has made a great contribution to UCT.

“If you look at our rankings, one of the most important factors in this regard has been our international profile. Since IAPO was established in 2006, it has done loads of work. Its workload has increased, but not necessarily its resources!”

His main objective is not only to maintain IAPO's good work, but also to renew it. He wants to reposition the organisation in the university environment to better facilitate internationalisation.

This, he says, is a growing and more complex area today than ever before. Marketing IAPO will be important.

“Many people do not know what it does, in terms of servicing foreign students.”

When IAPO was founded in 1996 there were fewer than 200 foreign students at UCT. Today there are over 4 000.

The services IAPO provides include welcoming these students, helping them settle in, and guiding them during their entire stay at UCT.

“We need to liaise much more with other departments involved in internationalisation, including the Department of Student Affairs, to try and ‘bring home’ internationalisation and ensure that South African students have a sense of what internationalisation is,” says Kalula.

Internationalisation has dual benefits; students who come to UCT enrich the experience of their South African counterparts.

“As we reach out to the world, we want the world to know that if they want to know anything about Africa, we are the experts.” ■

## Changing guard at Department of Medicine



*Ring in the changes: Three new heads in the Department of Medicine are Prof Keertan Dheda (pulmonology), Prof Nonhlanhla Khumalo (dermatology), and Prof Mpiko Ntsekhe (cardiology).*



Three new top appointments at UCT's Department of Medicine – all black staff – are proof that the university is well on its way to becoming “a home for all South Africans”.

This is the view of department head Professor Bongani Mayosi, who says the appointments also show that UCT is, indeed, “growing its own timber”.

Professor Mpiko Ntsekhe has been appointed head of cardiology, Professor Keertan Dheda head of pulmonology, and Professor Nonhlanhla

Khumalo head of dermatology.

“For some time now UCT has been trying to appoint black scholars of international repute. Here we have been fortunate to appoint three in one fell swoop,” said Mayosi.

It's also unusual that all three are scientists as well as doctors; global players in their fields, with substantial records of published scholarship between them. And to top it all, they all “came through the ranks” at UCT.

“They were part of our succession strategy, and their appointments show

that UCT is truly planning for its future,” said Mayosi.

Ntsekhe, who earned his degree in the US and trained as a cardiologist at UCT, is a world expert on pericarditis, and now holds the Helen and Morris Mauerberger Chair in Cardiology.

Khumalo is one of the world's leading experts on disorders affecting African hair, while Dheda is a leading pulmonary expert who earned his PhD at University College in London. ■

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# Academic ad hominem promotions announced

Fifty-nine top-performing UCT academics have been promoted, with effect from 2013, following the culmination of the latest academic ad hominem promotions cycle. The process is a rigorous one, assessing the incumbent's performance against criteria that include teaching, supervision, research output, administration and leadership contributions, as well as participation in socially responsive activities.

Among the newest academic honourees are 15 professors, 21 associate professors and 23 senior lecturers.

"The purpose of academic staff promotion is to recognise the achievements and professional contributions of academic staff and their demonstrated capacity to contribute to UCT's mission by undertaking duties at a higher level than their current appointment," added Miriam Hoosain, executive director of human resources.

"These achievements are significant, given the strength of competition throughout the university and the need to continue delivering in one's current role, and requires noteworthy effort and dedication on the part of each promotee. Heartiest congratulations to all who received a promotion. It is through such excellence that UCT can justifiably claim to be world-class."

**In the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment the candidates were:** Dr Hans-Dieter Beushausen (associate professor), Dr Aubrey Mainza (associate professor), Dr Randhir Rawatlal (associate professor), Associate Professor Pilate Moyo (professor), Associate Professor Harro von Blottnitz (professor) and Samuel Ginsberg (senior lecturer).

**In the Faculty of Humanities:** Dr Mark Fleishman (professor, wef 1 July 2012), Dr Lesley Green (associate professor), Dr Sa'diyah Shaikh (associate professor), Dr Kevin Thomas (associate professor), Johann van der Schijff (associate professor), Dr Catherine Ward (associate professor), Associate Professor Stephen Inggs (professor), Associate Professor Fiona Ross (professor), Dr Patrick Blond (senior lecturer), Dr Andrea Brigaglia (senior lecturer), Sylvia Bruinders (senior lecturer), Susan Malcolm-Smith (senior lecturer), Dr Musawenkosi Ndlovu (senior lecturer), Dr Ibrahim Saleh (senior lecturer), Dr Mantoa Smouse (senior lecturer) and Dr Sandra Young (senior lecturer).

**In the Faculty of Law:** Kelly Phelps (senior lecturer), Graham Bradfield (associate professor), Associate Professor Alexander Paterson (professor), and Associate Professor Elrena van der Spuy (professor).



Double celebration: December was a month of celebration for the Faculty of Health Sciences' Prof Robin Wood, who was awarded his DSc (Med), and his wife, Linda-Gail Bekker, who received news of her ad hominem promotion to full professor. Fifty-nine academics were promoted in the latest cycle of academic ad hominem promotions.

**In the Faculty of Science:** Dr Christopher Clarkson (associate professor), Dr Edmund February (associate professor), Associate Professor Stephen Richardson (professor), Dr

Heather Marco (senior lecturer) and Kenneth Rafel (senior lecturer).

In the Centre for Higher Education Development: Abongwe Bangeni (senior lecturer), Dr Cheryl-Lee

Brown (senior lecturer) and Carla Jayne Fourie (senior lecturer).

**In the Faculty of Commerce:** Associate Professor Lawrence Edwards (professor), Dr Beatrice Conradie (associate professor), Dr Clara Delavallade (associate professor), Dr Gert Human (associate professor), Dr Lisa Seymour (associate professor), Dr Farayi Gwenhamo (senior lecturer), Dr Ines Meyer (senior lecturer), Elsamarie Botha (senior lecturer), Salah Kabanda (senior lecturer), Alison Meadows (senior lecturer, teaching-focused), Shaun Parsons (senior lecturer) and Maureen Tanner (senior lecturer).

In the Graduate School of Business: Dr Hamieda Parker (associate professor).

**In the Faculty of Health Sciences:** Lorna Olkers (senior lecturer), Dr John Lazarus (associate professor), Dr Ambroise Wonkam (associate professor), Dr Michael Levin (associate professor), Dr Collet Dandara (associate professor), Associate Professor Linda-Gail Bekker (professor), Associate Professor Susan Fawcus (professor), Associate Professor Arieh Katz (professor), Associate Professor Malcolm Collins (professor), Associate Professor Tania Douglas (professor), and Associate Professor Lauriston Kellaway (professor). ■

## Classroom support is now managed by ICTS



The new Classroom Support Services Team: (From left, back) Stefan Philander, Rory Thomas, Mark Neutt, Shaheed Clark, Deon Alexander, and Franco Groenewald. (Middle) Garth Herman, Emma Peters, Clint Oliver, Nicole Thompson, John Crow, and Denzil Manel. (Front) Kira Chernotsky, Sakkie Janse van Rensburg, and Roshan Harneker.

Teaching venues have become much more reliant on technology over the last few years. Consequently, a decision was made last year to move the Classroom Facilities Unit to the Information and Communications Technology Services (ICTS) department under the leadership of Kira Chernotsky, Director of Customer Services.

A full audit of all teaching venues, a satisfaction survey and visits to lecturers highlighted an extensive list of changes that were needed to improve both the facilities themselves and the support provided to lecturers using the teaching venues.

A Classroom Renewal proposal was approved and budget was allocated to the project, which began in November last year. The three-year project aims to standardise and improve the equipment in classrooms and improve support. "We are both daunted and excited to be running a project of this magnitude, that has the potential to contribute to teaching and learning in a truly meaningful way," says Chernotsky.

Most of the physical maintenance work scheduled for Phase 1 took place over the Dec/Jan vaca-

tion, and saw renovations take place in 41 out of the 152 venues. One quick fix was to replace the security safe keys with proximity readers, so that lecturers need carry only their staff cards and won't have to worry about safe keys. Lecture capturing got a boost too, as new equipment was installed in six venues; and four other venues received audio upgrades.

One notable change, apart from the improved venues themselves, is the support model. The existing CFU team were inducted into ICTS, and additional members have been employed to bump up the support offered to lecturers in teaching venues. The new team, called Classroom Support Services (CSS), consists of a dedicated group of consultants to handle classroom support queries over the phone, and a group of onsite consultants who will attend to problems in the venues. Even though the same x4500 phone number as for the IT Helpdesk will be used, an interactive voice response system will direct calls for classroom support straight through to the CSS consultants. This will minimise the length of time callers wait to be answered.

A central email address (icts-css@uct.ac.za) will also direct calls to the CSS consultants. Stock will be held of commonly required items, so that quick swap-outs can take place.

Another change visible in the teaching venues is the provision of standardised user documentation explaining how to set up and use the equipment in each venue. The user documentation is available from the ICTS website, as well as in printed form at each venue.

ICTS has also addressed a burning issue among teaching staff: an online database is in development, which will make it easy to see what equipment is available in any given teaching venue. Lecturers no longer need to race across campus carrying their own equipment just in case their allocated venue doesn't have the equipment they need. The database will be updated to reflect any changes that occur as a result of improvements and upgrades to equipment.

You can track the progress of the project on the ICTS website by navigating to [www.icts.uct.ac.za](http://www.icts.uct.ac.za) > About ICTS > ICTS Projects > UCT Classroom Renewal. ■

## Online Hluma will train thousands of African entrepreneurs

UCT's Graduate School of Business (GSB) is launching a new online learning course for African entrepreneurs, which will focus on the basics of business management and organisation in 'challenging contexts'. It has the potential to train thousands of entrepreneurs across Africa.

Participants will "learn by doing", creating learning communities, with the option of learning only what they need to run a successful business.

The course is aimed mostly at entrepreneurs with a business sense of what is termed "the forgotten middle", that is, people who have two to three entrepreneurs in their business and want to grow to a larger company.

It is the first online programme in the world launched as part of the United Nations Global Compact Prime programme.

GSB director Professor Walter Baets says this has been a passion for almost 15 years

"My dream is to have free education for all."

He says the biggest challenges facing entrepreneurs in Africa today are education and access to finance.

"Online learning is big in its target market and big in its contribution to job creation, and there are a number of virtual teaching courses, but for this scale and target group, it's quite unique for UCT," said Baets.

"Africa needs more jobs and businesses. This course is in perfect



Online course: The GSB's Prof Walter Baets – "My dream is to have free education for all."

vision with UCT's Afropolitan focus because it means that instead of Africans talking about taking our destiny into our own hands business wise, we're actually creating an easy platform to do so."

The GSB Hluma online course is free and open to anyone. However, for additional tutor support there will be a fee. Pilot courses will be launched in the upcoming weeks.

The course teaches the basics of management and the 'how to' of building a business plan. The 800 working hours required to complete the course is the equivalent of a Level 6 qualification.

"We're hoping the course will be certified, but for now the programme will be launched independently of certification," Baets said. ■

# New discovery determines gender in fossil birds

An international team of palaeontologists led by UCT's Professor Anusuya Chinsamy-Turan has discovered a way to determine the sex of 125 million-year-old birds.

Chinsamy-Turan (head of Biological Sciences) conducted the study with Dr Luis Chiappe, director of the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County's (NHM) Dinosaur Institute; Dr Jesús Marugán-Lobón of Madrid's Universidad Autónoma, Cantoblanco; and Gao Chunling and Zhang Fengjiao of the Dalian Natural History Museum in China.

The discovery is significant, added Chiappe, as it provides the first case of sex identification in an ancient bird. The research paper was published in *Nature Communications*.

Chinsamy-Turan and the team studied hundreds of *Confuciusornis* fossils unearthed from rocks deposited at the bottom of ancient lakes in northeast China.

*Confuciusornis* specimens show

remarkable differences in plumage (some had long, almost body-length ornamental tail feathers, others had none), features that have been interpreted as the earliest example of avian courtship. However, the idea that male *Confuciusornis* birds had ornamental plumage, and females did not, has not been proven until now.

In this study, Chinsamy-Turan and the team found undisputed evidence of a gender difference: the presence of medullary bone.

"Just like modern hens, female *Confuciusornis* birds that lived 125 million years ago formed this special bone inside their long bones, and then used it to make the calcium-rich eggshells," she explained. "Finding such tissue – present during a short period of time in reproductively active females – in a specimen that lacked long feathers proved that those birds without ornamental plumage are females."

"This now permits us to assess gender differences in the growth and



A reconstruction of male and female *Confuciusornis* birds.

development of this Mesozoic bird."

But while this discovery offers evidence that early female avian species were essentially using the same physiological strategy to reproduce

as their modern counterparts, it also spotlights an important difference in when they reached sexual maturity.

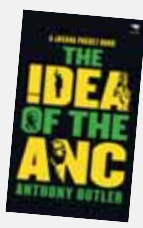
"Now we know that early birds began reproducing way before they

were fully grown – a pattern that contrasts with what we know of living birds, which typically begin reproducing after they reach full body-size," said Chiappe. ■

## BY THE BOOK



*Medicine and the Politics of Knowledge*, edited by UCT's Dr Susan Levine, is an ethnographic collection that critically examines South Africa in the context of science, medicine, tradition, and the politics of knowledge. It provides key insights about South Africa in the context of global debates about science and medicine, which help us to understand this particular area of the history of South Africa.



*The Idea of the ANC* explores how leaders and intellectuals of the African National Congress interpret the historical venture of their movement. The author, Professor Anthony Butler of UCT's Department of Political Studies, explores how the notions of power, unity and human liberation have shaped South African politics in the past, and how they will inform ANC leaders' responses to challenges of the future.



Randolph Vigne illustrates the journey of Thomas Pringle's life (1789-1834) in this biography, titled *Thomas Pringle: South African Pioneer, Poet and Abolitionist*. He documents Pringle's quest for the democratic rights of the Cape Colony Settlers, and his contribution to initiating a free press by launching a literary journal and co-editing the Cape's first independent newspaper. \*

\*UCT PRESS



Postgraduate boost: Dr Nelleke Bak, new director of Postgraduate Studies at UCT.

## Bak to the future: New director will develop postgraduate enterprise

With the global flux in higher education provision, UCT is uniquely poised to play an even larger role in offering educational services to Africa than it already does.

This is the view of Dr Nelleke Bak, UCT's new director of Postgraduate Studies, who says it's a privilege to be part of the academic community of Africa's top-rated university.

"From what I've already seen, there are innovative and exceptional postgraduate projects at UCT, involving students in cutting-edge research."

Bak says UCT is responding to the growing need for high-end skills regionally, nationally and internationally, by committing itself to strengthening the postgraduate profile of the university.

She holds the following degrees: BA (Ed) (University of Pretoria), BA (Hons) (University of Natal), MA (UCT) and PhD (University of the Western Cape). She was previously

director of UWC's highly successful Postgraduate Enrolment and Throughput Plan, and also Associate Professor of Philosophy of Education.

Bak set up the National and International Fellowships Advisory Office at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and taught in the Philosophy Department there. When UCT recruited her, she was Professor of Education Policy Studies (part-time) at the University of Stellenbosch.

Bak has also published a best-selling book, *Completing your Thesis: A Practical Guide* (Van Schaik's, Pretoria, 2004) and compiled a series of guides for postgraduate students.

She says her brief is "to support the various graduate programmes across campus, to encourage appropriate innovation and to help streamline and enrich the whole postgraduate experience for both supervisors and students".

The aim is to leverage the diversity of structures across UCT, including

recruiting and throughput promotion strategies, not to encourage over-centralisation. Essentially, Bak's main task entails "thinking and linking," and she will be tapping into the diversity of UCT's research structures and strategies to promote recruitment and throughput.

She says her first priority is to develop a central postgraduate website. This will consolidate the various bits of information scattered across sites to make it easier for visitors to navigate, and will link to the websites already developed by specific faculties and offices.

"Moreover, I hope to enhance the community of postdoctoral research fellows by ensuring a greater flow of information across faculties, and by strengthening support systems."

She says UCT's structures are highly devolved, "and to create synergies across departments and faculties will require insight, patience and careful listening". ■

## If you want your lectures to be recorded...

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# SHAWCO to consolidate and build brand in 2013

SHAWCO's new fundraising, marketing and public relations manager, Greer Blizzard, says working with students for the first time in her career is proving to be a highly rewarding experience.

"I am learning as I go, and I enjoy their energy and enthusiasm," she says. "I am amazed at how they always go way beyond the call of duty".

SHAWCO, says Blizzard, is a "good, solid 'brand', and one of her main aims will be to consolidate this, both on and off campus, and to draw more attention to some of the organisation's many achievements.

SHAWCO, a student-run NPO based at UCT, seeks to improve the quality of life for individuals in developing communities within the Cape Metropolitan areas. It is the largest student-run organisation in South Africa.

Currently it has 2 050 student volunteers running at least 25 health and education projects at a host of SHAWCO centres, as well as at other locations within the Cape Metropole.

Education projects are run in Khayelitsha, Nyanga, Manenberg, Kensington and Hout Bay, while health clinics are run in Gugulethu, Khayelitsha, Philippi, Joe Slovo, Masiphumelele in Noordhoek, Imizamo Yethu in Hout Bay and Du Noon in Milnerton.

SHAWCO's Social Enterprise arm is involved in three initiatives: Rags2Riches, SHAWCO Community

Transport Services and SHAWCO Shift IT, which generate a surplus of funds to support its sustainability efforts.

Blizzard joins SHAWCO at a momentous time – 2013 sees the organisation celebrating 70 years of service. The organisation was started in July 1943 by Andrew Kinnear, a UCT medical student, who spent the vacation driving an ambulance to earn money to pay for his medical training. He was appalled by the poverty, lack of hygiene and lack of medical facilities in areas like Kensington and Elsies River, and became determined to do something about it.

Kinnear asked Dr Golda Selzer of the Pathology Department at Groote Schuur Hospital to assist him in establishing a clinic. Selzer became one of the co-founders of SHAWCO and remained SHAWCO honorary life president until her death in 1999. In 2001, Graça Machel, UCT's chancellor, agreed to become SHAWCO's new life president.

Blizzard has previously worked in the small to medium enterprises (SME) space, predominantly in the marketing field, and also has experience in the area of corporate social investment (CSI). She was involved in two organisations where she was responsible for managing CSI projects.

She says SHAWCO is being proactive in a space that is "challenging", having changed from an organisation

that was fully funded to one which now has several of its own revenue-generating initiatives.

"We're therefore becoming more and more self-sustainable."

For SHAWCO to survive and thrive, it has had to rethink its strategy, which has seen it review its current assets and look for revenue-generating opportunities.

The move has resulted in a number of initiatives that provide surplus cash flow for the organisation, which is then invested into its education and health projects.

These initiatives include Rags 2Riches, which sees clothes donations – mainly from UCT students and staff – being washed, sorted and sold at SHAWCO's Rags2Riches shop in Mowbray, and SHAWCO Community Transport Services, which hires out buses to other NPOs, schools, clubs, churches and organisations.

Blizzard sees SHAWCO's education initiatives, including Saturday School, as powerful interventions during this time of education crisis in South Africa.

"Education projects, whether run by students or staff, help learners to access education, increase access to tertiary study, and offer additional interventions such as arts, sports, entrepreneurship, life skills and career advice.

In addition, 2012 ended on a high note, with three pupils from Winder-



Caption: Greer Blizzard, SHAWCO's new Fundraising, Marketing and PR Manager. The organisation was established in 1943 and has been an integral part of UCT's community outreach for 70 years.

mere High School in Kensington, who participated in the KenSMART project, being nominated as the overall Top Achievers in their respective grades (Grades 8, 10 and 11).

Blizzard says she has a passion for

sustainable development and social responsiveness and, when she is not working, you will find her in a pool or running on the road. At the moment, she says, it's all about gearing up for the Two Oceans Half Marathon. ■



Great loss: UCT mourns the death of ornithologist Prof Phil Hockey, who died of cancer on 24 January.

## Leading ornithologist Phil Hockey dies

UCT is saddened by the death of Professor Philip Hockey, director of the Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology and a leading global authority in the field, who died of cancer on 24 January.

The Percy FitzPatrick Institute is one of UCT's two DST/NRF Centres of Excellence. Hockey was instrumental in elevating the centre to one of the top three in the world. His academic standing was impeccable, and he was much loved by those he taught, supervised or lectured. Recognised as an expert in his field, he was often interviewed on radio and television. He leaves UCT with an invaluable resource: his work as co-author of the best-selling regional field guide *Sasol Birds of Southern Africa*, and as editor-in-chief, along with Richard Dean and Associate Professor Peter

Ryan, of the seventh edition of *Roberts – Birds of Southern Africa*.

Most of Hockey's research focused on coastal and estuarine bird ecology. He led research expeditions to Chile, the Canary Islands, Mauritius, the Seychelles, Kenya, Madagascar, the Arabian Gulf and Namibia. His research included the ecology of bird movement and migration, as well as avian life history evolution, with the aim of analysing and predicting avian responses to climate change, as well as promoting appropriate conservation strategies.

Born in England in 1956, he obtained his BSc honours degree in ecological science at Edinburgh University in 1977. He moved to South Africa and joined the Percy FitzPatrick Institute in 1979. He obtained his PhD from UCT in 1983, for a study

of the ecology of the African Black Oystercatcher.

Hockey was appointed the institute's director in July 2008 and was a member of the advisory services of 17 learned societies, councils and steering committees. During his time at the institute, 33 MSc students and 18 PhD students under his supervision were awarded their degrees. Their research has been widely disseminated.

In 2008, Hockey was awarded the Stevenson-Hamilton Medal of the Zoological Society of Southern Africa, for contributions to the public awareness of science. He was also earlier named the Marine and Coastal Communicator of the Year by the South African Network for Coastal and Oceanic Research.

UCT extends heartfelt condolences to Hockey's wife, Samantha. ■

## Farewell to Colin Richards, artist, writer, curator

Professor Colin Richards (59) of the Michaelis School of Fine Art was an internationally renowned writer on contemporary South African art – a field he was instrumental in shaping – and also an acclaimed artist and curator and a highly respected art educator.

Richards, who died recently, was widely regarded as an authority on conceptual art in South Africa, and his theorisations on 'critical' humanism in relation to the contemporary art of Africa are also considered significant contributions to the history of art.

Deputy vice-chancellor Professor Danie Visser described Richards as "an original thinker, distinctive in how he combined both scholarly and creative work to reflect on the social and philosophical questions that concern us today. His incisive

scholarly work constitutes a lasting contribution to the study of South African art within an international context".

Richards was born in Cape Town and studied at the University of South Africa, Goldsmiths' College (University of London) and the University of the Witwatersrand, where he was awarded his PhD in 1995. He served as a medical illustrator at the Wits' Faculty of Medicine from 1977 until 1985 when he joined the Wits Fine Arts department, where he attained full professorship in 2002.

During his period of service at Wits, Richards played a leading role in the restructuring of the Fine Art Master's programme, as well as in initiating the teaching of Art Criticism to undergraduate students. It was during this time that he established an international reputation for rigorous scholarship

and for confronting fundamental questions about the disciplines of Fine Art and History of Art.

His strong interest in psychoanalysis led him to more overtly healing forms of intervention. "A registered art therapist in both South Africa and the United Kingdom, he played a pivotal role in the development of professional art therapy in South Africa," Visser said. Together with Mamatlakeng Makhoana he established an art therapy service in Orlando, Soweto, and was also actively involved in professional bodies in art therapy.

Richards joined the Michaelis School of Fine Art in 2010, where he quickly won the deep respect and affection of his colleagues.

In addition to teaching the history and discourse of art, he managed the reintegration of the Art History programme with the Fine Art programme. ■



The late Prof Colin Richards.

## Pensioner Norah Roberston turns 100

Best wishes go to UCT pensioner Mrs Norah Robertson, who turned 100 in January. Mrs Robertson is the widow of the late Professor Reginald Robertson, a former professor of civil engineering.

Mrs. Robertson currently resides in the UK.

Professor Robertson was born in 1900, took a 1st at Oxford in 1922 and came to UCT from Nottingham, beginning his time as a professor here in 1949.

He retired in 1965 and died a few years later, in May 1969. ■

**EVENTS**

**Department of Medicine Thursday Forum:**

Date: 14 February 2013

Presenter: Professor David Castle  
Topic: "Medical Care of People with Mental Illness: What Every Physician Should Know"

Date: 21 February 2013

Presenter: Dr Grant Theron  
Topic: "Perspectives on the Gene Xpert MTB RIF Assay for Clinicians"

Date: 28 February 2013

Presenter: Dr Malika Davids (PhD series)  
Topic: "The Role of Regulatory T-Cells in Extensively Drug-Resistant TB"

**VACANT POSTS**

**EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:**

**Senior Lecturer/Lecturer:** Petroleum Geophysics, Department of Geological Sciences, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 28 February 2013

**Professor/Associate Professor,** Department of Oceanography, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 28 February 2013

**Professor/Associate Professor/Senior Lecturer/Lecturer,** Department of Archaeology, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 1 March 2013

**Dean and Professor,** Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 8 March 2013

**Associate Professor:** Macroeconomics, Department of Economics, Faculty of Commerce, Closing date: 15 March 2013

**RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)**

**Principal Officer,** UCT Retirement Fund, Human Resources Department, Closing date: 14 February 2013

**Assistant Principal Officer,** UCT Retirement Fund, Human Resources Department, Closing date: 14 February 2013

**Senior Library Assistant:** Jewish Studies, UCT Libraries, Closing date: 28 February 2013

**Research Medical Officer,** Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 21 February 2013

**Pharmacist (Research Officer/Senior Research Officer),** Division of Clinical Pharmacology, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 21 February 2013

**Senior Scientific Officer/Chief Scientific Officer,** Centre for Minerals Research, Department of Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Engineering & The Built Environment, Closing date: 24 February 2013

**POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:**

**EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:**

**Finance Officer/Assistant Finance Officer,** Faculty Finance Office, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 13 February 2013

**Administrative Assistant,** Research Office, Closing date: 15 February 2013

**Administrative Assistant,** Office of Postgraduate Studies, Closing date: 15 February 2013

**Warden:** University House Residence, Student Housing & Residence Life, Department of Student Affairs, Closing date: 18 February 2013

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Please note that your attendance at the forum can only be accommodated if you RSVP to [mahlodim@mg.co.za](mailto:mahlodim@mg.co.za). Due to limited seating in Kramer Lecture theatre 1, seating will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis."

Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany Pretoria



# Ikey athletes shine at USSA games

While most of their UCT counterparts enjoyed the summer vacation, Ikey athletes were playing their hearts out at the annual University Sport South Africa (USSA) Sports Week in early December 2012.

The water polo squad was in sizzling form as teams took to the pools at the University of the Western Cape (UWC). UCT Men 1st were indomitable as they placed 1st overall from ten teams. Memorable victories included a 35-2 thrashing of the University of the Free State in the round-robin and dispatching arch-rivals Stellenbosch University (1st team) 10-3 in the final.

UCT Women placed 2nd overall from eight teams, pipped 3-4 at the post by Maties in the final. UCT Men 2nd placed fifth overall, and recorded a satisfying 8-7 triumph over Maties.

The students' swashbuckling showings were rewarded by call-ups to the SA students' team for 13 water polo players. Christopher Baker, Ryan Cumming, Jonathan Hock, Nicolas Hock, Christopher Icely, Marc Neto and Mattieu Theron were selected for the men's team, and Caitlin Armstrong,

Tisha Benneti, Amica Hallendorff, Courtney Healy and Megan Weston won spots on the women's team.

Tennis courts at the University of Pretoria (Tuks) bore the scars of intense rallies as UCT placed 5th overall from 20 teams. Richard Mellon and Kelly Nel were the top Ikey performers. Mellon notched five victories and three losses in his eight matches, with Nel not far behind with four wins and four losses in her eight matches.

UCT used home advantage to full effect on the Theewaterskloof Dam as the UCT Yacht Club claimed the top two spots in both categories. It was, for all intents and purposes, plain sailing for the Ikeys, as UCT B was second only to UCT A in the Pikes Overall Trophy standings, with the same arrangement for the 420's Overall Trophy. The University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) A placed 3rd on both logs. Wits's Vicky Stock walked away with the Women's Best Skipper award.

Back on terra firma, the UCT cricket team finished a commendable 4th from 16 teams at the competition



Waterborne: UCT goalie Mattieu Theron at the USSA Sports week where the men's water polo squad took the laurels.

hosted by Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU). The Ikeys got off to a losing start, falling to hosts NMMU by three wickets, but bounced back to clinch a thrilling two-run vic-

tory over Maties and a more comfortable 99-run defeat of the University of Johannesburg.

Losses to UWC and Tuks in the semi-final and 3rd/4th playoff respec-

tively followed. UCT batsman Michael Pote was acknowledged for his two half-centuries during the tournament with a call-up to the SA Students Cricket team. ■



Silver screen: UCT students Katey Carson (second from right) and Dylan Bosman (third from right) at the Sundance Film Festival in Los Angeles, where their short films were screened.

## UCT students' work screened at Sundance Film Festival

UCT students Katey Carson and Dylan Bosman had their short films screened at the Sundance Film Festival's GFS MasterClass Showcase in the US, from 17 to 27 January.

Both are third-year students at the Centre for Film and Media Studies, and were two of only 24 students selected for the Screen Production stream last year. Carson and Bosman entered short films in a Google Plus initiative called GFS MasterClass, the brainchild of the Ghetto Film School of Los Angeles.

Their films, along with six other entries, were chosen to be showcased at this year's Sundance Film Festival.

Carson's *The Washing Up* and Bosman's *The Running Girl* were the product of four weeks of intense preparation that culminated in expertly crafted and visually arresting films.

The Sundance Film Festival, associated as much with its chairperson, Robert Redford, as with Park City, where it is held annually, is one of the biggest film festivals in the US, and a showcase for independent talent from America and around the globe.

Directors who got their big break at Sundance include Kevin Smith, Robert Rodriguez, Quentin Tarantino, Steven Soderbergh and Darren Aronofsky. The Ghetto Film School had an exclusive screening on the 17th January dedicated to the eight GFS MasterClass competition finalists, at which a panel of producers, actors and directors gave feedback on their films.

(View the interview Carson and Bosman did for the UCT Film Society at <http://filmsoc.co.za/?p=2684>)

For updates on the US trip, see the CFMS Facebook page ■

## Trio wins national marketing competition

Three UCT students have won the national competition of Pernod Ricard's International Business Game, a competition to create a digital marketing strategy.

Business Science students Tetlanyo Lekalake and Thembeke Setlogile and computer science major Sizwe Ndlovu of the Faculty of Science came out tops. They will be representing Pernod Ricard South Africa at the international finals in Paris in March this year, when they will compete against the world's top marketing students for the lead prize – an internship in Europe at one of Pernod Ricard's holding companies.

Head of marketing in the Faculty of Commerce Dr Gert Human said: "I am especially proud of our students – who managed to fend off very stiff competition from advertising schools – because our degree is not specifically aimed at training advertisers, but is rather a comprehensive business degree."

The students, called the Brandiacs, created an innovative



Brandiacs: The winners of Pernod Ricard's International Business Game, UCT commerce students Tetlanyo Lekalake and Thembeke Setlogile, were announced at a gala event hosted by Jo-Ann Strauss (left).

digital application aimed at helping the Absolut Vodka brand remain "the creative visionary among its competitors".

The next series of this competition will be rolled out nationally at the end of this year. Final-year and postgraduate students can keep an eye out for more information on the Spirits of Entrepreneurs website.

<http://www.spiritsofentrepreneurs.com/> ■

## Frustration for Ikeys in Madibaz draw

FNB UCT Ikey Tigers were held to a 5-5 draw by Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU) in the opening round of the 2013 FNB Varsity Cup on 4 February.

UCT couldn't capitalise on a monopoly of possession and territory as Madibaz equalised early in the second half through flanker Ulrich Pretorius, after Ikey centre David Ambunya had given the home team the lead with a superb touchdown in the first half. Ambunya and midfield partner Tiger Bax were constant thorns in the Madibaz's side, with their clever running and brave defence.

Neither team converted its try on a typically blustery night on UCT's Green Mile that witnessed fewer kicks than one would in a boxing match. Ikey flyhalf Ross Jones-Davies spurned a chance to give his team the lead in the second half when his penalty attempt from dead in front drifted agonisingly wide.

The spectators behind the Madibaz goal-line had the best view of the second half as UCT spent large periods camped on the opposition five-metre line. Chance after chance went begging as



Put foot: Ikey centre David Ambunya gave the home team the lead by touching down in the first half of the FNB Varsity Cup opener. The Ikey Tigers held Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University to a 5-5 draw.

the Madibaz defence held firm against a relentless Ikey onslaught.

UCT head coach Kevin Foote was frustrated with the result but praised both defences for their sterling work.

"Ja, man; conditions were tough and we didn't get to express ourselves but I think both teams defended bravely," said Foote after the match.

Foote was pleased with the way his charges dominated possession, with few of the handling errors that blighted their

2012 campaign present against NMMU.

"We're there!" he said. "We've worked hard, our physicality was there, maybe just in these conditions we couldn't finish it off, but it's the same for both teams. I'm sure [NMMU] were also affected."

Ikey fans accustomed to seeing their team dominated up front could take heart from the impressive home tight five, which didn't take a step back in the scrums and at one stage stole three defensive Madibaz line-outs in a row.

"We've had [former Springbok] Hanyani Shimange and [US international] JJ Gagiano come in and they've worked well with the forwards, and they're doing nicely there now," reported Foote. "It's a focus for us. Teams think they're going to bully UCT, so we've put emphasis on our tight five; making sure they man up every game, so that no team is going to come here and think they're going to push us around."

UCT's next FNB Varsity Cup match is an away fixture against defending champions FNB Tuks (University of Pretoria) on 11 February. That match will be televised. ■