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Ratings landmarks for UCT

UCT has passed the 400 landmark for its overall number of National Research Foundation-rated scholars, following the 2012 NRF ratings cycle.

Some 415 NRF-rated researchers hail from UCT, the highest number in South Africa, constituting 16% of the national total. This figure is well up from the 293 of just five years ago.

In addition, 117 of the university's record number of 118 applications in the 2012 round were successful, the highest number by a single institution in the history of the rating system.

UCT's applications made up 17% of those received by the NRF in 2012, and included 45 new applications and 73 re-evaluations.

Nationally, the NRF awarded 27 A-ratings (re-evaluations and new candidates), of whom 12 (44%) were from UCT; and three new P-ratings, two of whom work in UCT's Faculty of Science (66%).

The new ratings will be recognised by the NRF at their September awards ceremony.

Paying tribute to the newly rated researchers, deputy vice-chancellor responsible for research Professor Danie Visser also lauded the efforts of the Research Office, particularly the support provided by Professor Robert Morrell and Christina Pather in the form of workshops, one-on-one consultations, hands-on support and assistance with the online application process, and written narratives required as part of the lengthy application process.

The above is complemented by a formal review of applications by an internal panel, chaired by Visser, which includes seasoned academics from faculties – who are also rated, and have served on the NRF's assessments panels.

The sterling results are important to UCT's research endeavour, says Visser, because the NRF ratings focus primarily on the quality rather than the quantity of the applicant's research.

"The NRF likes to say 'we don't count, we weigh'. Important too, is the fact that an NRF rating gives access to funding, which in these times of

NRF RATED RESEARCHERS AT UCT, 2008 – 2012

	Rating categories						Total
	A	B	C	P	Y	L	
2008	33	94	134	5	26	1	293
2009	32	102	145	4	36	1	320
2010	32	105	151	3	43	2	336
2011	30	122	160	5	60	2	379
2012	33	147	165	6	62	2	415

Ratings have historically been awarded in six categories, targeting researchers with an established track record (categories A, B and C) or those who show promise of becoming established within a few years (categories P, Y and L, although the NRF is phasing out the L category).

diminishing resources is a considerable factor."

Visser also commended other support programmes such as the Emerging Researcher Programme (ERP), which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary.

"There is no doubt that there is a correlation between our growing numbers of NRF-rated researchers in recent years and the enabling environment we have been building at UCT, in which the ERP plays a vital role by supporting and

nurturing academics to become leaders in their fields, nationally and internationally."

News of UCT's latest A- and P-rated researchers appears on pages 4 and 5. ■

Conference marks Land Act centenary

More than 180 papers were presented at the Land Divided conference, that opened at UCT last week, providing an opportunity for scores of researchers and government and civil society representatives to explore the legacy of the segregationist and far-reaching Land Act of 1913.

The four-day conference marks the Land Act's centenary year and is being hosted by three of the province's four higher education institutions: UCT, and the Universities of Stellenbosch and the Western Cape, a collaboration deputy vice-chancellor professor Thandabantu Nhlapo said had "raised the flag" for academia and debate. Nhlapo officially welcomed delegates to the conference.

The Land Act of 1913 was the first major piece of legislation to dispossess most black South Africans of their land and livelihoods. In its wake came a long history of forced removals and evictions of Africans from their ancestral lands. It also took away Africans' right to own land.

The fallout reverberates across South African society today, through economic disempowerment and the disintegration of community and social structures.

The conference will explore the



Dr Mamphela Ramphele at the opening plenary of the Land Divided conference at UCT last week. (Photograph courtesy of Trevor Samson.)

intersections between these themes, and the need for fresh analyses and new ways of thinking. The first plenary, on 24 March, was addressed by the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform, Gugile Nkwinti;

former UCT vice-chancellor and politician Dr Mamphela Ramphele; deputy vice-chancellor Professor Crain Soudien; and other high-profile speakers.

Ramphele called for a more crea-

tive approach to the land issue, noting with concern that the country was losing farmers to neighbouring states, where they felt "safer and more appreciated". South Africans make up 50% of commercial farmers in Zimbabwe,

and there are 800 South African commercial farmers in Mozambique.

"Fifteen years ago there were 100,000 commercial farmers in South Africa. Now there are 36,000 commercial farmers, who are required to feed the nation."

She called for a plan to balance the needs of the small and commercial farming sectors in this country.

UCT presenters include Professors Maano Ramutsindela and Prof Timm Hoffman, who – with Professor Phil Woodhouse of the University of Manchester – will consider how a human rights perspective and the need for redress can be incorporated alongside the urgent need to address the global environmental challenges confronting the country.

In addition, the largest ever photographic exhibition on the South African land issue opened on 26 March at the Iziko SA National Gallery, and runs until July 2013. The curators – David Goldblatt, Bongzi Dhlomo, Pam Warne and Paul Weinberg, a senior curator at UCT Libraries – have developed a narrative about land that includes a thorough exploration of archival photographs and the work of committed photographers who have engaged with this issue for over a century. ■



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news in pictures • news in pictures • news in pictures • news in pictures

1 Members of the Cape Town-based all-girl soul singing group 3 Tons of Fun are on an exercise regime based on research by the UCT MRC Research Unit for Exercise Science and Sports Medicine at the Sports Science Institute of South Africa. This is aimed at making sustainable lifestyle changes for the group. In February, 3 Tons of Fun underwent in-depth testing and are now on an eight-week programme that includes three exercise sessions a week. Their final testing takes place on 11 April. In picture are 3 Tons of Fun: Sthe Mfuphi, Bulelewa Sakayi and Michelle Thomas, at the Sports Science Institute.

2 UCT's Jameson Hall was packed with concerned citizens as the Campaign for Safe Communities launched on 27 March. The national campaign, inspired by the 2012 Commission of Inquiry into Policing in Khayelitsha, is a coalition of civilians, from NGOs and academics to community organisations. It aims to address the issues that contribute to a high crime rate in South Africa. "The objectives of the campaign speak directly to our vision of working towards a safe South Africa, where freedom and security are the norm, rather than the exception," said Guy Lamb, director of UCT's Safety and Violence Initiative. Treatment Action Campaign founder and chairperson Zachie Achmat (pictured above) directed proceedings.

3 The role and use of bionanoparticles and nanohybrids is revolutionising medical science, particularly tissue engineering and drug development. UCT hosted a timely symposium on nanotechnology in March, under the auspices of VAIKUTUS, a European Union FP7-PEOPLE-funded project of the International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES). "Nanotechnology is a rapidly growing area," said Professor Iqbal Parker, host and head of the Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB), South Africa's official partner in the project. In picture are (from left, back) Prof Markku Leskela (University of Helsinki), Dr Iryna Grafova (University of Helsinki), Prof Cosimo Carfagna (ICTP-CNR), Prof Andriy Grafov (University of Helsinki), and Prof Iqbal Parker (ICGEB, Cape Town component, UCT). (Front) Dr Maria Grazia Raucchi, Dr Giovanna Gomez d' Ayala, Daniela Giugliano, and Dr Maria Luisa Pompili, all of the ICTP-CNR.

4 A workshop on fuel cell systems was co-hosted by UCT's HySA/Catalysis Competence Centre and Germany's Centre for Fuel Cell Technology (ZBT) in March, attended by representatives of South African and German industry, government and academia. The aim was to chart collaborations between the two countries in the field of hydrogen and fuel cell technology, which rely on platinum group metals. The HySA/Catalysis centre

aspires to provide 25% of the world's fuel cell catalysts by 2020, preparing South Africa to be an exporter of value-added technologies that include platinum group metals to the world. In picture are (from left) Dr Peter Beckhaus (ZBT, Germany), Dr Sharon Blair (HySA/Catalysis), Muhamed Sayed (Technology Innovation Agency), Vinny Pillay (Department of Science and Technology), Maja Clausen (German Embassy) and Dr Olaf Conrad (HySA/Catalysis).

5 Executive director of UCT libraries Gwenda Thomas has been awarded UNISA's Department of Information Science 2011 Alumnus of the Year Award. The accolade recognises Thomas' professional contribution to library and information science. It was one of several awards made to UNISA information science alumni in Pretoria on 6 March. In her acceptance of the accolade, Thomas lauded UNISA's role in her personal growth and experience and in South African education over the decades. "[As] ... the original examining body of South Africa before universities became established, it's been such an important support for so many people." Thomas completed her honours and master's degrees in library and information science through UNISA.

6 UCT mourns the loss of acclaimed Nigerian author, dubbed the "grandfather of modern African literature", and international scholar Chinua Achebe, who died on 22 March, aged 82. UCT's chancellor, Graça Machel, conferred an honorary Doctor of Literature degree on Achebe at a special graduation ceremony in September 2002. This ceremony took place in conjunction with the third Steve Biko Memorial Lecture, which Achebe delivered on 12 September. The special graduation was attended by former President Nelson Mandela (above right, pictured with Achebe). Achebe is best known for his novel *Things Fall Apart*, which tells the story of European colonisation in Africa from an African perspective.

7 Comedian and actor Riaad Moosa visited his alma mater, UCT's Faculty of Health Sciences, to commemorate the donation of a car on 12 March. Moosa, who graduated as a medical doctor in 2001, used his comedic talents in his show *Keeping You in Stitches* to raise almost R200,000, which was donated to the faculty. A Toyota Avanza 1.5 was purchased from the proceeds and will be used for student transport to the faculty's Vredenburg training site. Rondebosch Medical Centre sponsored the fundraising drive and N1 City Toyota donated a significant discount to the car's purchase price. In picture are (from left) Dr Nisaar Moosa (Rondebosch Medical Centre), Riaad Moosa, Prof Sue Kidson (Interim Dean of Faculty) and Dr MI Shreef (director at RMC).

8 Christopher Price, a registrar in the Division of Plastic, Reconstructive & Maxillofacial Surgery, was awarded an international travel grant by the American Society of Reconstructive Microsurgery to attend their annual congress in Naples, Florida. This grant is awarded yearly to a deserving candidate from a developing country who has shown a commitment to further development of microsurgical skills, in an effort to train reconstructive microsurgeons from developing nations. The picture shows Price (middle) with the outgoing president, Dr Michael Neumeister (right) and Dr Wyndell Merritt, former president of the American Association of Hand Surgeons.

9 Dr Sarah Chapman is the School of Management Studies' first postdoctoral research fellow. Chapman develops methodologies for evaluating programmes and initiatives to reduce poverty, increase agricultural productivity and improve health and nutrition in rural Africa. Chapman's work will add significantly to the quality of monitoring and evaluation research done in the school. "In many cases, evaluation should not only assess whether an intervention works, but also why and how an intervention works," said Chapman.

10 A SASOL Safety Auditing team visited UCT to conduct a sample audit of its laboratories and workshops. This audit is the first step in the university's commitment to satisfying minimum legal requirements for safety certification for all its facilities. The audit, conducted pro bono by SASOL's Safety Auditing team, took place in laboratories in the Faculties of Science, Health Sciences and Engineering & the Built Environment. The exercise was managed by the Laboratory Audit Working Group (LAWG), established by DVC Prof Danie Visser. LAWG ensures that UCT's laboratories are compliant with best international practice for health and safety. In picture are (from left) Liesl Phigeland (Safety, Health and Environment representative for the Department of Biological Sciences), Chris Beytell (Safety Officer, R&D, Sasol), Brett Roden (UCT Environmental Risk Officer), and Madhu Chauhan (Safety, Health and Environment representative for the Department of Molecular and Cell Biology).

11 On 8 March, the African Gender Institute (AGI) celebrated International Women's Day by launching *Feminist Africa 17*, a journal capturing research about the sexuality of young women and written by academics from universities across Africa. The journal is spearheaded by the AGI's Associate Professor Jane Bennett, who explained that the idea behind the journal was to use university spaces as political spaces. *Feminist Africa 17* contributor Peace Kiguwa, of the University of the Witwatersrand's Department of Psychology, was present at the launch, and spoke about her research in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender communities across the continent. ■

Ten years on: Programme incubates future generations of researchers

A flagship research development and support initiative, UCT's Emerging Researcher Programme (ERP), celebrates its 10th anniversary this year.

A cross-faculty programme located in UCT's Research Office, the ERP strives to ensure the transfer of essential research skills from experienced researchers to those academics who have yet to establish a research career. Its establishment was in part a response to concern that a cohort of senior academics, mainly white and male, who had been responsible for most of the research output, were soon to retire.

SA's aging research profile

At the ERP's anniversary celebration in March, Emeritus Professor John de Gruchy, who has been involved with the ERP since the outset, recalled a conversation between himself and former deputy vice-chancellor Professor Cheryl de la Rey. En route from an NRF meeting in Pretoria to the airport in Johannesburg, they mulled over reports about the aging profile of the country's – including UCT's – top researchers, and the fact that nationally the next generation was not being groomed in any substantial numbers. It was at this time that a proposal for UCT's response to this crisis was being penned by the former director of the Research Office and now executive director of research, Dr Marilet Sienaert. This went on to secure the necessary funding from The Atlantic Philanthropies to launch the ERP in 2003.

National imperatives

The ERP's objectives were also aligned to national imperatives set by the National Plan for Higher Education of 2001 and the National Research and Development Strategy of 2002.



Long haul: Assoc Prof Azeem Khan, Emer Prof Luigi Nassimbeni, Emer Prof John de Gruchy and Dr Lyn Holness were there at the start of the ERP, either as participants (Khan) or staffers.

The former warned of a decline in national research outputs and low enrolments in master's and doctoral programmes, and highlighted the need for the higher education system to improve both access and graduation rates, particularly for black and female students. It also prepared the way for a new funding formula which was to substantially increase rewards for research output.

The National Research and Development Strategy addressed the challenges faced by 'national competitiveness in a rapidly changing and increasingly knowledge-dependent international environment' and called for an 'improved quality of life, especially the reduction of poverty, for South Africans'. UCT's research community – including ERP participants – has responded by increasing its focus on finding solutions to problems that affect Africa, and impact on the rest of the world.

Objectives achieved

At the function, De Gruchy recalled the ERP's early days. This involved setting up the initial seminars and sessions alongside Dr Lyn Holness, who became the ERP's first co-ordinator (and, as many academics from that period have noted, "the face of the ERP"), and recruiting retired researchers, such as Emeritus Professor Luigi Nassimbeni, who is still involved with the programme, to guide and mentor emerging scholars. It was also necessary to solicit funding from the likes of The Atlantic Philanthropies and the Carnegie Corporation and Mellon Foundation, to ensure further development of the programme.

Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price said at the event that it was difficult to measure the success – or failure – of such a programme. But there was ample data in the case of the ERP to conclude that the programme had more than achieved its objectives. By the end of 2012, 548 academics from

all the faculties had received some form of support from the ERP, 56 signing up in that year alone. In 2012 alone, the programme, run from the Research Office, delivered 41 seminars to 765 participants, as well as 25 residential workshops attended by 326 researchers. Of the 58 academics who received ad hominem promotions in 2012, 34 had come through the ERP's ranks.

Leadership and guidance

Furthermore, the programme had changed the culture of academia, Price noted. In his time (an experience echoed by De Gruchy and Nassimbeni), emerging researchers had to thrive or fail against a backdrop of sink-or-swim "academic Darwinism".

"Fortunately, the current approach is a different one," Price said. "We can provide leadership and guidance, we can provide support, we can provide training, we can have a much higher

success rate, and people can enjoy their jobs more."

Emeritus Professor Luigi Nassimbeni recalled his own experience of being supervised at UCT and noted how much things have improved since then. He praised the role that the ERP played in developing supervisory skills. "I tell emerging researchers not to take a *laissez faire* attitude to supervision. A student is an asset that must be used to the advantage of both the supervisor and the student."

ERP alumni Dr Abongwe Bangeni (Centre for Higher Education Development) and Associate Professor Azeem Khan (Electrical Engineering), both among the original 2003 cohort, said the programme had helped them in many ways, from managing their time, planning sabbaticals, applying for research grants, and networking, to internalising institutional priorities such as supporting their own PhD students and applying for NRF ratings.

Hands-on support

Dr Mignon Breier, research development manager at the Research Office, said there was a sense that the programme had been a resounding success, and that the hands-on support of deputy vice-chancellor for research Professor Danie Visser was a contributing factor. Its broad-based focus had even earned plaudits from counterparts at Australian universities, she reported.

Breier confirmed that future plans for the ERP would see them establishing more formal links with faculties, trying to raise research funding for contract researchers (the main part of the programme is open only to permanent staff), doing more to promote the university's Afropolitan vision, and training researchers to write grant proposals. ■

CSSR welfare project gets vital UK grant

UCT's Centre for Social Science Research (CSSR) has been given a R5-million grant by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the British government's Department for International Development (DfID) for a project on welfare policy reforms.

The project is called 'Legislating and Implementing Welfare Policy Reforms: What Works Politically in Africa and Why' and is headed by CSSR director Jeremy Seekings.

The ESRC is the British government's funding agency for social science research, while the DfID administers Britain's overseas aid programme and commissions good research on development issues.

Seekings says Africa – which is the region of the world where poverty is most resilient – includes some of the countries with the longest histories of social assistance in the global South (South Africa and Mauritius) and is the only region in the world where more is now spent on social assistance programmes than on social insurance programmes.

"This research programme examines the politics of welfare programmes in Africa, i.e. what 'works' politically and why. The research will analyse the political conditions and factors that either favour or impede the enactment or implementation of social assistance programmes," he says.

The research will cover agenda-setting; elite and public opinion; electoral, inter- and intra-party competition; the roles of civil society, international organisations, and donors; and state institutions, technocrats and bureaucrats.

"A crucially important question in the African context is how socio-economic inequalities and racial or ethnic diversity affect policy-making. Research will be conducted in mostly East and Southern African countries," says Seekings.

He says that over the past ten to fifteen years there has been an explosion of interest in addressing poverty in the short-term through cash transfers.

These transfers come in three primary forms. Non-contributory 'social assistance', such as South Africa's old-age pensions and child support grants, are financed out of general taxation, and are often aimed at the poor.

Contributory 'social insurance', such as unemployment insurance in South Africa, is funded out of contributions paid by working people in formal employment (and their employers).

"In practice, few poor people benefit from this, because few people in formal employment are poor," says Seekings.

The third form, he explains, is workfare, including public works programmes, where

people are paid cash in return for work.

'Developmental' initiatives – whether big infrastructural development, helping small farmers or improving health and education – are necessary in the medium and long-term, but in the short-term 'just giving money to the poor' has proved very effective at both mitigating poverty and at helping poor people stand on their own feet.

"Cash transfers were not included in the Millennium Development Goals, but now have strong support even within the World Bank and from major bilateral aid donors," says Seekings. "Africa has very limited social insurance systems – i.e. contributory systems of providing for old age, or insuring against the risk of illness or disability – but a growing number of African countries have major social assistance programmes," he explains.

Seekings says while there has been a lot of good work on the benefits and design of cash transfers, there is very little work on what works politically, and why; i.e. on the political conditions that favour the introduction of cash transfer programmes.

"Here in South Africa we have the paradoxical situation that most government ministers and ANC leaders are ambivalent, if not hostile, about cash transfers, on the grounds that they encourage 'dependency'. The South African



Prof Jeremy Seekings

public is strongly supportive of cash transfers to the deserving poor, but critical of cash transfers to people deemed to be undeserving. Yet we have one of the most extensive and generous cash transfer systems in the world." ■

Doubles for UCT in the prestigious A- and P-ratings

UCT has a double pairing of new A- and P-rated researchers following the culmination of the 2012 National Research Foundation ratings cycle. They are Professors Jack van Honk (Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health) and Heribert Weigert (Department of Physics), who have received A-ratings, and Drs Dr Åke Fagereng (Department of Geological Sciences) and Andrew Hamilton (Department of Physics), recipients of P-ratings. The latter are significant as they indicate a strong line of developing scholars who show the potential to become future leaders in their fields.

New frontiers: Chemistry, the brain and behaviour

A world leader and pioneer in the multidisciplinary field of hormones, the brain and human social-emotional behaviour, Professor Jack van Honk is UCT's newest A-rated scholar.

Almost 15 years ago he became the world's first researcher to use both hormonal manipulation and brain stimulation techniques to gain direct insight into the psychobiological mechanisms underlying human social-emotional behaviour.

The announcement of Van Honk's A-rating follows the National Research Foundation's latest announcement for the 2012 cycle (see story p1).

An honorary professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health since 2010, Van Honk first came to work at UCT in 2008, and now spends ten months of each year here and two months teaching at his alma mater, Utrecht University, in social and affective neuroscience.

He is the department's second A-rated scholar. Head of department Professor Dan Stein was first awarded an A-rating in 2008.

Netherlands-born Van Honk leads several UCT research projects, funded by entities in South Africa, Holland and the US. His fields of specialisation are psychoneuroendocrinology, affective neuroscience and neuropsychology, on which he's published prolifically, with 75 research and theoretical papers in peer-reviewed journals in the past eight years alone.

This research has been funded by research grants from Utrecht University, the Netherlands Society of Scientific Research and the US Hope for Depression Research Foundation. It underpins the development of innovative treatment strategies, such as hormone manipulation and transcranial magnetic stimulation, to treat fear and aggression disorders like psychopathy, impulsive aggression, psychological trauma and human phobia.

In many ways, Van Honk's core field of research, social neuroscience, has followed the trend predicted for science by Pulitzer Prize-winning scientist and author Edward Wilson in his visionary book, *Consilience: The unity of knowledge*. Here Wilson explores a unified theory of knowledge that spans disciplines from physics and biology to the social sciences and humanity.

"Social neuroscience," according to Van Honk, "provides an excellent foundation for the creation of a so-called common body of knowledge, as it combines techniques and insights gained from psychology, sociology, neuroscience, biology and economics."

"My personal interest in this fascinating realm is not only to gain fundamental understandings of the psychology of human social behaviour, but also to understand and seek innovative treatments for the psychopathologies of fear and aggression."

His interest in human emotion was piqued 16 years ago as a PhD student at Utrecht. He was among the first researchers to introduce multiple biological measures to research human emotion.

"By the end of the 20th century the biological approach to human emotion had received enormous impetus – and I profited, with many publications and prestigious research grants for innovative research in the areas of social and affective neuroscience."

Over the years he's used a broad set of measures and techniques from the social, biological and neuroscience fields, ranging from simple reaction-time tasks to magnetic resonance imaging.

Although methodologically broad, his research through the years has been guided by his Triple Balance Hypothesis.

"This is a biobehavioural heuristic which



Biology and emotion: Prof Jack van Honk of the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health is one of UCT's two new A-rated researchers and a world leader in the multidisciplinary field of hormones, the brain and human social-emotional behaviour.

integrates several existing psychological, evolutionary and neurobiological emotion models and attempts to construct a comprehensive psychological model of human social-emotional behaviour, with clinical applicability."

Within the Department of Psychiatry, Van Honk is building capacity in psychobiological research among psychiatric populations. This work won him a Mellon Award in 2008 and an honorary professorship at UCT in 2010.

He also supervises research in social phobia and psychological trauma. Another project he leads, together with colleague Barak Morgan (human biology department), is a new line of research on Urbach-Wiethe disease, an extremely rare genetic-developmental disorder, charac-

terised by bilateral focal calcifications of the amygdala in the brain.

Research has shown that the amygdala play an important role in the 'social brain', processing memory and emotional reactions, such as social threat processing, empathy and fear conditioning. The Northern Cape is home to almost 20% of the estimated 200 people worldwide to suffer from UWD.

The move to South Africa in 2008 with his family, his archaeologist wife Florentine and their children Bowi and Tygo, has cemented his long-standing relationship with Southern Africa. At the time, the trip coincided with a short research visit as part of a sabbatical. The months turned into years. ■



On quarks and time: Professor Heribert Weigert's A-rating acknowledges his status as an international authority on matters of the Universe around the time of its 'birth'.

Shedding light on the Universe's deepest secrets

Looking back into the deepest recesses of time, into a Universe immeasurably different to the one we know today, has earned UCT's Professor Heribert Weigert an A-rating.

He operates in a world of particle accelerators, quantum-chromodynamics, finite temperature, non-equilibrium field theory and resummation of density effects in high-energy collisions. To which you might well respond, "Pardon?"

For the laypeople among us, Weigert's research centres on matter as it occurred in the early Universe, very shortly after the Big Bang, when the Universe was immensely hot – more than 100,000 times hotter than the centre of the Sun.

"This state of matter, the quark gluon plasma, is recreated today at the most powerful particle accelerators we have – the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN in Switzerland, and the Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider (RHIC) at Brookhaven National Laboratory on Long Island near New York," says Weigert.

He describes himself as a theoretical physicist and was one of the driving forces in the formulation of what is known today as the Color Glass Condensate, another extreme state of matter that sets the initial conditions in the accelerator experiments at CERN and BNL.

"I came to UCT to join a growing group of both theorists and experimentalists directly involved in this massive international effort to uncover the deepest secrets of our Universe," Weigert says.

"To hint at the tremendous opportunities the existence of such a lively group opens up for young South African students and scientists, I need only point out that our group of likeminded researchers here at UCT is already about to organise the third international conference in a row in this field."

He says he feels honoured by the recognition of his scientific efforts that the A-rating brings. "My immediate goals focus on nurturing and expanding our research group at UCT and its ties to the national and international scientific community – it belongs on the map of major centres of international particle physics."

Weigert's background in theoretical physics focuses on problems in quantum chromodynamics, the theory of strong interactions between particles, and their application to modern collider experiments.

He has considerable international experience – having conducted research in Germany, the US, the UK and Denmark – and obtained his Habilitation at the University of Regensburg.

In addition, he spent a semester as

a visiting full professor in Bielefeld, Germany, and served as a research associate professor at the University of Oulu, Finland for three years.

Since April 2011, he has been an associate professor in the Department of Physics at UCT, and in September 2011 he became director of the university's Centre of Theoretical and Mathematical Physics (CTMP).

Weigert says he was drawn to physics while still in high school, and has always loved popular science books.

"I still grab hold of all archaeological material that comes my way."

He has tracked Celtic and ancient Roman sites all over Bavaria and says that, for him, physics is linked to "heroes" like Einstein, Heisenberg, Bohr and Feynman, who introduced him to a unique intellectual adventure.

"You want to be right in it, instead of seeing it happen to somebody else in a faraway place."

Talking about faraway places, Weigert plans to continue navigating the labyrinthine ways of the early Universe, in his quest to shed new light on its origins and, hopefully, take a calculated step towards answering the greatest question of them all: Why are we here, and how did it all begin? ■

It's not hard to see where Dr Åke Fagereng's heart lies.

In his workspace, geological maps hang like wallpaper, the floor home to hunks of rock – some nearly as old as time – and a scree-like jumble of snow skis and boots.

At just 30, the earthquake geologist and lecturer in structural geology in the Department of Geological Sciences is five years inside the National Research Foundation's age limit for P-ratings. These can be awarded only once, but there is an expectation that the recognition and support (there's a grant attached to the P-rating) will grow not only his body of work, but a new generation of young geologists in his wake.

Fagereng (his first name is pronounced 'Oke') got his PhD only three years ago, but already has a sizeable publications list, mostly papers published in the past two years.

He's recently back from Antarctica where he camped out "in surprisingly good weather", some 150 to 200km inland from the South African base, to collect rock samples in the Sverdrup Mountains.

With funding from the South African National Antarctic Programme, the UCT alumnus is conducting a three-year project to study deep crustal processes recorded in the Antarctic rocks. That means looking for ancient, active fault lines that have been exposed to high temperatures and pressures from the Earth's shifting plates.

Studying the microscopic properties and formation of rocks,

Seismic counts for earthquake geologist



Earth mover: Dr Åke Fagereng has his new P-rating from the National Research Foundation for his research and studies in earthquake geology.

Fagereng unravels the age-old stories rocks tell about the geophysical processes that occur deep in the Earth's crust. His recent research is broadening understanding of subduction zone fault processes (where one tectonic plate is forced under another after colliding), particularly those factors that affect the 'seismic style' of the subduction megathrust interface.

The latter occurs when the ocean floor is forced under a

continent and slip occurs on this interface. How the interface responds (its 'seismic style') determines whether it produces large earthquakes like those in Japan and Sumatra, or creeps along slowly and silently, as is the case in the Philippines.

Fagereng also studies the physical processes behind the recently discovered seismic phenomena of episodic tremor. These are 'earthquakes' of very low frequency and

slow slip, characterised by seismic rumbling, or tremor, and slow slip along the tectonic plates. Usually, these events are imperceptible to humans and are not destructive.

In a couple of weeks he'll wing his way to New Zealand (he completed his PhD at the University of Otago, Dunedin, in 2010) to work with collaborators on the development of theoretical models for fault behaviour and conditions.

They'll compare geological ob-

servations in well-studied exhumed fault zones; regions of rock showing significant displacement along the fractures as a result of movement in the Earth's crust.

"The aim is to recognise and understand fossil examples of observed active seismic processes."

This involves mapping exhumed faults, analysing the microstructures of the deformed rocks found here and conducting laboratory analyses of these to understand the seismic activity and conditions that were present at the time.

A large chunk of his work will also be done off-shore, drilling through a fault section between the Pacific and Australian tectonic plates, a major subduction or earthquake zone; down through 2km of water and 6km of rock.

Fagereng is renowned among the 'fault community' for his extraordinary integration of geological and geophysical data. His geological maps trace and document fault lines, those places where the rock formations and chemical compositions point to weaknesses in the Earth's crust. The field studies (those dusty boots in the corner have travelled!) are used to elucidate seismogenic behaviour.

In June he's taking a group of students to Damaraland, Namibia, where he's already worked for some time on the Naukluft Thrust. He also has students working in the Cape Fold Mountains on a project to monitor intraplate seismicity at a microseismic scale. This project is funded by the South African-German collaborative Inkaba ye Africa project. ■

P-rating for particle physicist

Despite the "long and often complicated path" it takes to uncover the laws of physics, UCT's latest P-rated scholar, Dr Andrew Hamilton, believes they are inherently simple.

The National Research Foundation (NRF) bestows P-ratings on young researchers (usually younger than 35 years old) who have the potential to become world leaders in their field.

Hamilton's academic journey has spanned three continents and has seen him contribute to more than 200 peer-reviewed publications as a member of two large proton collider experiments, ATLAS and the Collider Detector at Fermilab (CDF).

He joined UCT's Department of Physics as a lecturer in July 2011, following a five-year stint at the ATLAS experiment, which he joined as a postdoc with the University of Geneva. The ATLAS project is one of two general-purpose detectors at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at the European Centre for Nuclear Research (CERN), the decades-long experiment to detect the Higgs boson particle.

Here, the Canadian focused on helping to develop the ATLAS trigger system.

"The trigger system is a vital component of the experiment, which selects which events to record for further analysis and which to discard," he explains.

His true interest, however, lies in analysing and interpreting the data collected by the trigger, specifically data related to the Higgs boson's decay into two photons, which is what the Higgs boson does in the Standard Model of the Universe.

Hamilton's teaching career began at the University of Alberta as a teaching assistant in 2001, and evolved into the supervision of master's and doctoral students at the University of Geneva. He also co-ordinated the Swiss Institute of Particle Physics' (CHIPP) doctoral programme from 2010 through to 2011.

Currently teaching physics from first-year to honours level, Hamilton previously taught nuclear and particle physics and advanced nuclear physics to senior undergraduate students. By sharing his own excitement for explicating science's most fundamental understanding of the Universe, he helps encourage students' own enjoyment of physics, he says in summing up his teaching philosophy.

His well-publicised public lecture at UCT in September 2011 followed the media hype around the first possible sighting of the Higgs boson particle. Asked what the Higgs Boson particle – if conclusively found – could be used for, Hamilton's frank response drew mirth from the large audience.

"I haven't the foggiest what we



Basis of being: Dr Andrew Hamilton, pictured here at a 2012 public lecture about the possible sighting of the Higgs boson particle, was awarded a P-rating for his continuing insights into the understanding the Universe at its most fundamental level.

could possibly use the Higgs boson for," he admitted at the time. "But it is cool to know that the Standard Model works!"

What inspires his curiosity about the smallest stuff that makes up our Universe?

"The idea of breaking down our understanding of the Universe into its most fundamental pieces attracted me to particle physics," he says. "The ability to observe a physical phenomenon as profound as the Higgs boson has kept me interested."

Hamilton's present research interests revolve around Standard Model direct photon production studies. He plans to continue research at the high-energy frontier of particle physics.

"The discovery of the Standard Model Higgs boson would be a triumph for the Standard Model, but there remain fundamental questions that the Standard Model does not answer," he observes.

"Perhaps the largest question in physics is how to realise a unified theory of gravitation and the forces of the Standard Model." ■

Due to the fundamental nature of contemporary particle physics, Hamilton admits that the impact of his and his peers' research on society might not be immediately visible.

"Just like people doing fundamental research in the early 20th century could not have predicted that an understanding of quantum mechanics would lead to the development of the computer, we don't know where our current fundamental research will lead." ■

Honorary doctorate for DVC Visser

The University of Edinburgh will confer an honorary Doctor of Laws on UCT's deputy vice-chancellor, Professor Danie Visser, in July this year.

The honour recognises Visser "as a consummate scholar with a strong international reputation and as a leading figure in the transformation of higher education in South Africa in the post-apartheid years".

The University of Edinburgh's statement also said that Visser had been singled out for "working tirelessly to promote academic co-operation between South Africa and Scotland, and in particular between the University of Cape Town and the University of Edinburgh".

In a message to staff and students, Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price

invited the campus community to join him in congratulating Visser for this recognition of his achievements.

The graduation ceremony will take place in the McEwan Hall at the University of Edinburgh on Wednesday 3 July 2013. On that date, at 15h00, members of the UCT community will be able to follow the ceremony on live webcast from the University of Edinburgh's main webpage at www.ed.ac.uk. ■

Honoured: Deputy vice-chancellor Prof Danie Visser will receive a Doctor of Laws from the University of Edinburgh on 3 July this year.



(Right) UN Special Rapporteur on Violence, Prof Rashida Manjoo (keynote speaker) with Reinette Popplestone (Head: Disability Service).

Colloquium on women's rights and 'disabilities'

A colloquium hosted by UCT's Disability Service has highlighted several pertinent topics with regard to violence against women. The title of the colloquium, *At the Intersection*, revolves around connections between violence against women with disabilities, HIV, sexual orientation, transnational refugees, and race and gender issues.

The event was opened by the director of the UCT Transformation Services Office (TSO), Glenda Wildschut, who said that the colloquium was a way to bring together the three different units of the TSO: the HIV/AIDS Institutional Co-Ordination Unit (HAICU), the Discrimination and Harassment Office (DISCHO), and the Disability Service.

She said, "While the focus is on disability, we want to stretch the scholarship a little bit more, so that's why there is a wide range of topics covered in the colloquium."

Other topics include Asperger's Syndrome, dyslexia and ADD/ADHD.

Wildschut said the conference highlighted workshops on learning disabilities because these are very common at UCT.

The keynote address was made by Professor Rashida Manjoo, the UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women. Her research revolves around the level of recourse from the law and governmental agencies when it comes to violence against women with disabilities, from a human rights perspective.

Manjoo said that the biggest challenge is the denial and lack of acknowledgment and accountability from institutions of power with regard to violence against women, and especially those with disabilities. Manjoo was adamant that a new kind of accountability needs to be created.

"Violence against women is increasing worldwide; and if this was a disease, we would be declaring a state of emergency." ■

Theism versus atheism

Oxford don puts forward the case for God

Is there 'too much ado about nothing' when it comes to negotiating the complex intersection between science, philosophy and theology?

This was the question posed by John Lennox, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford, in his recent Vice-Chancellor's Open Lecture titled *A Matter of Gravity – God, the Universe and Stephen Hawking*.

The majority of great scientists in the past had believed in God, he said.

"Were Galileo, Kepler, Newton and Maxwell, to name but a few, really all wrong on the God question?"

The very fact that there were leading scientists who believed in God, and leading scientists who did not, "shows us that the simplistic notion that science is somehow at war with belief in God, is false".

The conflict, he said, was a conflict of world views.

"On the one hand there is the naturalistic world view that says the cosmos is all that exists, and on the other is the theistic world view, which holds that the cosmos is not all that exists and that there is a God who created and maintains it."

Lennox described world-renowned physicist and cosmologist Stephen Hawking's recent statement that philosophy was dead and that scientists had become "the bearers of the torch of discovery in our quest for knowledge" as "startling", and said that this was, in itself, a philosophical statement.

"It's not a statement of science, but rather a metaphysical statement about science," he added. "The view that scientists have become the bearers of the torch of discovery smacks of scientism."

There was no inconsistency in being a scientist of the highest level, and simultaneously recognising that science was not in a position to answer every kind of question, including some of the deepest questions humans could ask.



The case for God: John Lennox, Professor of Mathematics at the University of Oxford, at his recent Vice-Chancellor's Open Lecture, A Matter of Gravity – God, the Universe and Stephen Hawking.

Hawking's flawed view of philosophy led to a flawed view of God, said Lennox. Without God, there would be nothing there for physicists like Hawking to study.

"God is the creator of the bits of the Universe we don't understand, as well as the bits we do, and it's the bits that we do understand that provide most evidence of his existence and activity.

"Just as my appreciation of a work

of art or engineering increases the more I understand the disciplines of art and engineering, so my worship of the creator increases the more I understand the Universe he has created," Lennox said.

Hawking's notion that a law of nature – gravity – explained the existence of the Universe was contradictory, since a law of nature depended on the prior existence of the nature it purported to describe.

He said nonsense remained nonsense, even when it was spoken by world-class physicists.

It was important to realise that statements by a scientist (including himself) were not necessarily statements of science. Immense prestige and authority did not compensate for faulty logic.

Lennox said Hawking had failed to answer the question, "Why is there something, rather than nothing?"

"For me, as a Christian believer, the beauty of the scientific laws reinforces my faith in an intelligent, divine creator. The more I understand science, the more my faith in God is confirmed."

He concluded: "As a scientist, I find that by far the most compelling explanation (for God's existence) is that behind the Universe, there is a grand designer of infinite wisdom and intelligence.

"It is my science, and not simply my faith in God, that tells me that it makes perfect sense to say about our Universe, in terms of its ultimate explanation, 'in the beginning was the word, and the word was with God and the word was God. All things came to be, through him'." ■

Baxter hosts gathering of master's artists

Cape Town theatre audiences and lovers of the arts can expect a treat when master artists William Kentridge, Peter Sellars and Wole Soyinka grace the stages of the Baxter Theatre Centre in *A Unique Gathering: Rolex Mentors and Protégés*, a weekend of artistic exchange from 5-7 April.

Baxter CEO and artistic director Lara Foot, a Rolex protégée to theatre mentor Sir Peter Hall in 2004 to 2005, has invited a group of mentors and protégés to Cape Town for a weekend of discussions and performances that will celebrate this extraordinary community.

Kentridge, Sellars and Soyinka, all mentors in the Rolex Arts Initiative, will join some of the world's rising stars, all protégés under this philanthropic programme. Eight protégés will participate. They are: Foot (theatre, South Africa), Edem Awumey (literature, Togo), Maya Zbib (theatre, Lebanon), Anani Dodji Sanouvi (dance, Togo), Antonio García Ángel (literature, Columbia), Aurelio Martínez (music, Honduras), Josué Méndez (film, Peru) and Mateo López (visual arts, Columbia).

The Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative was

established in 2002. It brings artistic masters together with talented young artists for a year of creative collaboration in a one-to-one mentoring relationship in seven disciplines: architecture, dance, film, literature, music, theatre and visual arts.

The Initiative contributes to global culture by ensuring that the world's artistic heritage is passed from one generation to another.

The weekend's programme, which includes four public events, starts on 5 April at 16h00, with a workshop by Kentridge. More information can be found on www.baxter.co.za. ■

Artistic heritage: Acclaimed Nigerian playwright, political activist and Nobel Prize Laureate Wole Soyinka (right) will join William Kentridge and Peter Sellars for the Rolex Mentors and Protégés programme at the Baxter Theatre Centre from 5 April. Soyinka (who delivered the TB Davie lecture at UCT in 2001), Kentridge and Sellars will be hosted by Michelle Constant for A Unique Gathering, a panel discussion on stage at the Baxter on 6 April.



EVENTS


**UCT
INAUGURAL
LECTURES**

Professor Lauriston Kellaway, Department of Human Biology, Faculty of Health Sciences. Topic: 'Neurons, Cells and Circuits – The Roadmap to Understanding Brain Function'. When: Wednesday, 10 April 2013, at 17h30. Where: Student Learning Centre Lecture Theatre, Anatomy Building, Faculty of Health Sciences, 17/04/2013 Prof Jacqui Greenberg IDMM Health Sciences 24/04/2013 Prof Lee Wallis Emergency Medicine Health Sciences

Philosophy Society Meetings Speaker: Professor Lawrence Blum. Title: Empathy and Fellow Feeling. When: Tuesday 30 April @ 20h00. Venue: Lecture Theatre 3, Humanities Building

The Environmental and Geographical Science Lunch Time Lecture: Speaker: Dr Gina Ziervogel. Title: Barriers to climate change adaptation: Lessons from South African cities*. When: 13.00-14.00 pm on Thursday 4 April. Venue: in Studio 5 in the EGS building

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Financial Reporting Lecturer, Education Development Unit (Commerce), Centre For Higher Education Development, Closing date: 22 April 2013

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer/Associate Professor/Professor, Michaelis School of Fine Art, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 30 April 2013

Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics & Applied Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 30 April 2013

Senior Lecturer/Lecturer, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 30 April 2013

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Coordinator: Research Grants Management, Department of Research & Innovation, Closing date: 2 April 2013

Assistant Finance Manager, Department of Finance, Closing date: 5 April 2013

Senior Manager: Organisational Development, Human Resources Department, Closing date: 5 April 2013

Project Manager, Department of Psychiatry & Mental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 5 April 2013

Junior PHP Developer, Communication & Marketing Department, Closing date: 8 April 2013

Scientific Officer, Division of Human Genetics, Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 8 April 2013

Research Officer (Project Coordinator/Analyst), Division of Human Genetics, Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 8 April 2013

Access Control Systems Administrator, Properties & Services, Closing date: 12 April 2013

Registered Psychiatric Nurses,

Department of Psychiatry & Mental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 25 April 2013

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY: EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Administrative Assistant, School of Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 5 April 2013 To view the full advertisements and application requirements for each post, please visit www.uct.ac.za and click on "Vacancies"

PROPERTY/ACCOMMODATION

Family home to rent: Furnished 4 bed 4 bathroom house near UCT middle campus. Pool, double garage. Avail end March to end December 2013. R19 000 per month. Contact erma.steyn@gmail.com

Two -Bedroom Flat Yearly Let - Available 01 June: Two- roomed fully fitted apartment upstairs available in old farmhouse in R'bosch. On Jamie Shuttle route, close to shops/restaurants. Complex in a tranquil and pretty setting. Visit www.ivydeneguesthouse.com No undergrads considered. Rental R10,000 all incl. "

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FLATLET TO RENT: Immediate Occupation: Flatlet to rent in Thornhill Rd, Rondebosch - other side of the Common. This is a self-contained bedsitter for one person with built-in cupboards, new carpets & curtains, single bed & 2 seater couch; a shower, toilet & hand-basin; and a kitchenette supplied with a bar fridge & microwave. Private entrance and off-street parking. It is a VERY quiet neighbourhood. 10 mins walk to Jammie Shuttle, or bike or scooter to campus. Rental (incl water & electricity) is R3500 p.m. negotiable. Non-smoker senior / post-grad preferred. Please SMS me on 0832617484 or phone Owen after hours at 0216896953

Flat to Let: Next to Kenilworth Centre, 2 bedrooms with bic, big lounge, kitchen, front garden and parking. Rent R5 500 pm. Please contact Mogamad on 082 4677699

Short-med term accommodation: Smart, spacious room in shared 2-bed sunny Observatory cottage. Ideal for visiting students/academics. Includes internet (wifi), linen & electricity etc. Close to UCT, transport, shops, bars and restaurants. See <http://tinyurl.com/obsroom>. tom.herbstein@uct.ac.za

Rosebank: Fully furnished spacious house. 2 large bedrooms and open plan lounge/ kitchen with off-street parking for one car. Suitable for visiting academics or small family. No undergrads. R10 000 p/m Avail: 1 April to 30 Nov 2013. Contact 0216855263/ 082 220 1937

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Fully furnished spacious bachelor apartment - available immediately till end May - Rondebosch. Close to GSH, UCT and Red Cross. Please contact Kerrigan on 0790763913

FLAT 4 SALE - TABLEVIEW (Small Block) One bedroom, bics, fitted kitchen, garage+ parking bay Priced: R570K for quick sale Contact: Marlene x 3784 or 0822950787

Excellent accommodation available for academic staff to rent close to UCT. It would suit either a single person or a couple looking to rent between Mid-April to Dec. 2013 inclusive. Contact Professor Graham Parker 021-671-3694 or 0795603235.

Short-med term accommodation: Smart, bright and spacious room in shared 2-bed sunny Observatory cottage. Ideal for visiting students/ academics. Includes internet (wifi), linen & electricity etc. Close to UCT, transport, shops, bars and restaurants. See <http://tinyurl.com/obsroom>. tom.herbstein@uct.ac.za

For Sale: Observatory, house for 2 families or sub-division on under 800m² in best position with stunning mountain views, vines & Pond. Asking price : R3,795,000.00. Contact: 0214481554 or 0730805787

Rondebosch: Bachelor Flat in Bankside Studios Complex available to rent as from 1 April 2013. Corner of Main and Hope Road Rondebosch and less than 2 minute's walk to Tugwell Shuttle Stop on Lower Campus. Unfurnished, with stove and fridge. Parking bay available in basement and laundry facilities on site. Electricity prepaid. Monthly rental of R4300. Contact to arrange viewing. 0791618022/ 0726279007.

FOR SALE

Book: Title: Back to work Author: Bill Clinton (ex usa president) Price: R60 new still wrapped tel: 0799090250

Book: Title: Land-Marked (Land Claims & Land Restitution in South Africa) Author: Cherryl Walker Price: R120 new still wrapped tel: ext. 4739 or 0799090250

UNO fire 1994: For Sale It has: 5 speed manual gears, Microdotting, Roadworthy Feb 2013, Service manual, Full service record Original purchase papers. only 2 owners, Interior is in very good condition, The car is ready to drive and has just had a service. Selling price R21000.00 onco. call Hugh 0823645116 hughknight99@gmail.com

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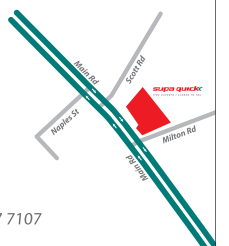
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Robust debate at Student Assembly

Whether or not to schedule examinations on Fridays and Saturdays and the Students' Representative Council's (SRC) stance on UCT's admissions policy were the main discussion points at 2013's first sitting of the Student Assembly on 14 March.

Worlds away from stereotypical notions of politically apathetic young people, more than 100 students engaged vociferously with the SRC's political and organisational reports.

The Student Assembly comprises all the university's official student structures that serve as advisory bodies to the SRC. It encourages input from all registered students, although voting rights are restricted to members. A committee is currently reviewing the Student Assembly's composition.

SRC president Lorne Hallendorff also spoke about a number of other key issues, including the campaign against gender violence and inequality.

Hallendorff noted that, since initiatives such as the mobile SRC

office had helped the student leaders to boost visibility on campus, the SRC would focus more strongly on policy development.

One such policy is UCT's admissions policy, which uses race as a proxy for disadvantage. While the admissions policy (and its use of race) is currently under review, some students expressed displeasure that the SRC had not formulated an official stance on the matter in time for a Senate meeting on the subject on 15 March.

Hallendorff was at pains to assure the house that the SRC had not fallen behind with its mandate, and that the 15 March meeting was not to decide whether or not to eliminate the use of race, but to decide on how to proceed with research on the subject before a final decision was made.

The issue of scheduling examinations on Fridays and Saturdays (exams are scheduled only from Monday through Thursday at present) also drew fiery debate. Dr Karen van Heerden, deputy registrar, was invited to explain the technical context



Held accountable: (From left) Sarvesh Balkaran (chair: undergraduate academics), Lwazi Somya (services and labour co-ordinator) and Chanda Chungu (societies co-ordinator) were among the SRC members to engage with the more than 100 students who attended the first sitting of the Student Assembly.

of the university's proposal to that effect. Religious commitments and unreliable public transport were key objections to the suggestion.

The SRC voted in favour of ac-

cepting the university's proposals to hold exams on Fridays and Saturdays, but the house was divided. The recommendation was rejected by a simple majority. A two-thirds major-

ity would have bound the SRC to the house's decision.

As it stands, the SRC needs to generate a final stance on the matter before Senate meets on 19 April. ■



If you connect, protect: Asanda Mini (left) and Chwayita Ntwasa convey an unambiguous message about safe sex.

Kampus Sutra campaign emphasises safe sex

Kampus Sutra is a campaign recently launched on campus in association with UCT's HIV/AIDS Institutional Co-Ordination Unit (HAICU) and Durex.

Students from universities across South Africa took part in a campaign that encouraged them to think about their views on safe sex and to capture their messages in photographs. The campaign tagline, Kampus Sutra, is a playful reference to the *Kama Sutra*, the ancient Indian Hindu text widely considered to be the standard work on human sexual behaviour.

Project Officer at HAICU Lucina Reddy advised that "innovative campaigns such as this, which get students to critically engage with the topic, are relevant and

important to the continued prevention message for our community". This campaign forms part of the broader university response to HIV through building open spaces for dialogue and ownership of the issue, and is in line with the HAICU first-term campaign: 'If you connect, protect'.

ACEs (AIDS Community Educators), the university's peer educators, were on hand to answer HIV-related questions and advise about university resources that students can access.

Students were encouraged to load their pictures on the HAICU Unit and DurexSA Facebook pages and Twitter accounts. ■



ICTS Training

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Courses available in April 2013



Outlook 2010

- Essential Skills: 3 April (pm)
- Time Management with Calendar: 4 April (pm)
- Effective email management: 29 April (pm)



Acrobat X Pro

- Basic: 3 - 5 April (am)
- Forms: 18 - 19 April (am)
- Acrobat on the Go!: 24 April (pm)



Word 2010

- Intermediate: 4 - 5 (full day)
- Advanced: 9 - 12 April (pm)



PowerPoint 2010

- Basic: 10 - 12 April (am)



Access 2010

- Intermediate: 15 - 19 April (pm)



eNewsletters & Mailing Lists

- Mailing Lists: 16 April (am)
- eNewsletter Design: 26 April (pm)

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- 9 April: Advanced Internet Searching
- 16 April: Working smarter with technology
- 30 April: Computing on the go: Accessing your files off campus
- 7 May: Mac for beginners
- 14 May: PowerPoint basics
- 28 May: Outlook: Effective email management

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Monday Paper

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