



Monday Monthly



Newspaper of the University of Cape Town

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Page 6 With the release of *Hard Livings* leader Rashid Staggie, are the police any closer to tackling gangsterism?

Page 9 When we talk of transformation, are we just swopping one ‘race’ for another, asks Gay Morris.

Page 10 From fact to fiction to photography, UCT creates a buzz with top quality books across genres

TB takes centre stage

HELEN SWINGLER

Snow on the Hex River Mountains has turned the wind thin and cold, and there are few people on the streets of Worcester. There’s the sense of a town in hibernation, chip packets and plastic bottles wheeling in gutters.

But the doors of the Klein Teater are open, lights burning. And backstage, a cast of teens from Worcester Senior Secondary School is preparing for a special show, *Karina se Keuse* (Carina’s Choice).

The Klein Teater is an unlikely place to learn about TB. But drama is playing a central role in educating the Worcester community ahead of a new TB vaccine trial targeting adolescents in this Boland town, where the incidence of TB is among the highest in the world. (See sidebar.)

In the third quarter of 2013 the play was staged 12 times at seven high schools in the Worcester region, creating awareness among 7 500 adolescents about TB (and HIV) – alerting them to symptoms, dispelling myths, and illustrating the importance of drug trials.

“These performances were thoroughly enjoyed by the large audiences, who recognised and connected with popular music – and local



Picture by Michael Hammond

Steal the show: Performers from Worcester Senior Secondary School use drama to convey essential messages about TB and the upcoming trials.

Overview of new TB vaccine trial

- Aimed at adolescents, the trial will rely on community buy-in to recruit almost 1 000 participants.
- It is the first efficacy trial of a new TB vaccine to be conducted among adolescents since the current vaccine, Bacillus Calmette Guerin (BCG), which was first used in 1921.
- It will focus on prevention of infection with *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the organism that causes TB, rather than protection against disease itself.
- Adolescents in the Western Cape have very high rates of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection, associated with increased risk of active TB disease in later years. An intervention aimed at adolescents will therefore help to control the epidemic.
- The candidate vaccine will be compared to repeat vaccination with BCG, which is given routinely at birth, and to an inactive placebo.
- Some 990 adolescents from high schools in the greater Worcester region will take part in the trial, for up to two years.

slang used,” said physician and lead researcher on the drama project, Dr Michele Tameris.

The new trial will be launched in January 2014 by UCT’s flagship South African Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI). SATVI is Africa’s largest dedicated TB vaccine research group, and is based in UCT’s Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine.

It will be based at SATVI’s field site at the Brewelskloof Hospital and will rely heavily on buy-in from this tightly knit community.

Show and tell

A visiting UCT contingent, including Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price and the Faculty of Health Sciences’ new dean, Professor Wim de Villiers, joined the audience in the Klein Teater to share the experience with SATVI personnel – and witness how the region’s teens are being sensitised to the new vaccine trial.

The play’s refrain sets the scene and lingers long afterwards: “Wie het vir julle gesê om in TB se pad te lê?”

But Karina is no stranger to this community. *Karina se Keuse* is an adaptation of a comic by the same name, developed of the then-SATVI-

based Linda Rhoda in 2010 under the watchful eye of the Worcester Community Advisory Board and funded by a grant from the WHO Global Partnership to Stop TB.

Its storyline closely reflects the community experience: a young mother chooses to enrol her baby in a SATVI TB vaccine trial, but encounters resistance from family and friends, based on hearsay.

Partnerships

Last year Tameris secured a Wellcome Trust International Engagement Grant to bring the play to life and to evaluate knowledge gleaned by the teens about TB, via surveys conducted by UCT social scientist Amber Abrams.

Drama has proved to be a highly efficient communication vehicle for vital health messages, says the UCT drama school’s Dr Veronica Baxter, whose work in HIV/AIDS education in communities spans many years and who has delivered many successful grassroots interventions.

Baxter and her senior students assisted Worcester Senior Secondary School’s drama teacher Natasha Africa to mould and

professionalise the production.

On many levels, SATVI’s relationship with the Worcester community has been carefully built and maintained.

“We’ve conducted several TB studies among adolescents in the Worcester region over the last decade and we work closely with community leaders, teachers, and the departments of education and health to engage with high school learners and their parents,” said Associate Professor Mark Hatherill, SATVI deputy director (clinical trials and epidemiology).

“Community involvement is critical to the success of these studies. Already, more than 20 000 people have participated in studies at the Worcester field site.”

Across disciplines

The intersection between humanities and health sciences is soon to be formalised at UCT, when the medical humanities master’s degree is launched next year.

Based in the Department of Social Anthropology, the degree will be co-hosted by Dr Susan Levine (social anthropology) and Professor Steve Reid (primary healthcare). ■



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NEWS IN PICTURES

1 Flashback to student protests: UCT students protest during apartheid in a picture by Adil Bradlow currently on show at the Good Hope Gallery. Images by Adil and fellow anti-apartheid photographers Benny Gool and Zubeida Vallie are on exhibition until 11 October. Curated by Siona O'Connell from the Centre for Curating the Archive, *Martyrs, Saints and Sellouts* features images of well-known activists and politicians, such as Trevor Manuel and Tokyo Sexwale, alongside thousands of other activists. Bradlow, who continues to focus his lens on hotspots, was recently released after being detained in Egypt while working for Al Jazeera.

Picture by Adil Bradlow

2 Wards of the weedy river: UCT's Green Campus Initiative and Friends of the Liesbeeck roll up their sleeves to clear a section of the wetland along the Liesbeeck River in Mowbray, choked by Common Reed. Large areas of the neighbouring wetland in Mowbray are clogged by the invasive Common Reed, which grows rapidly in high-nutrient conditions and when water levels drop. Members of both societies banded together to help create a patchwork of habitat within the wetland, which will mean there are areas of open water, dense reeds and patches of less-dense reeds that will attract a wider diversity of animal species – particularly birds.

Picture by Michael Hammond

3 A Woman in Waiting: Thembi Mtshali-Jones takes the audience on a colourful journey of her memories of a rural childhood through to the complicated life of domestic workers in an urban milieu. Described as a "biographical journey into the dark heart of what life was like for women in apartheid South Africa", *A Woman in Waiting* has won several international awards, including the *Scotsman* Fringe First at the Edinburgh Festival in 2000. The one-woman show, directed by Yael Farber, previews at the Baxter Golden Arrow Studio on 25 September and runs nightly at 20h15 until 12 October.

Picture supplied

4 Opening doors: Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo officially marks the start of Pink Week by addressing students on Jammie Plaza. The pink closet – placed in a visible public space so that people can write messages of pride and support – has become a familiar sight at UCT during Pink Week, and is intended to raise awareness about homophobia. Organised by RainbowUCT, the week-long programme included panel discussions, debates and film screenings to promote awareness of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) rights.

Picture Raymond Botha

5 Fare well: A student has their blood checked during the Wellness Fair in Jameson Hall. The fair was hosted for students and staff by the Organisational Health Section of the Human Resources Department earlier this month. Services included head and neck massages and fitness demonstrations, as well as screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, diabetes, psychological distress, Body Mass Index (BMI) and HIV. The event is part of an ongoing effort to ensure that health services are readily available for the campus community, and that people take responsibility for their own well-being.

Picture Raymond Botha

In DAD's footsteps

Dr Russell Ally has taken the helm at the Development and Alumni Department as Jim McNamara retires after 23 years with UCT

HELEN SWINGLER

Russell Ally is on the run; the sandwich triangles and a Woolies salad are half-eaten, the remains of a working lunch. Soon his lift will hoot outside to take him through teeming August rain to another rendezvous on campus.

Twenty-eight days into his first month, Ally is taking stock. "It's been a rollercoaster," says the new executive director of the Development and Alumni Department, the homely and benevolent-sounding DAD.

In addition to the legion meetings, new faces, long titles, satellite campuses and reams of emails, it's tax season; and the many donors and corporates that provide unflagging support to UCT's academic enterprise are clamouring for tax certificates.

But the hardest part of adjusting to UCT lies in an idiosyncrasy.

"Actually, it's the acronyms," he says, bemused by the plethora of unintelligible truncations for committees, units and entities that litter UCT speech and reports; baffling to the unversed.

"I try very hard not to use acronyms, difficult as I know this is."

And therein lies an important indicator of the inclusivity and the plain speak that characterise Ally's leadership style. But he'll talk about that later. First is the background of the UCT-trained historian (BA, 1979).

In his mid-50s, Ally is an all-rounder: historian, fundraiser, academic and former member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Human Rights Violation Committee, chaired by Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu.

After completing a master's at Rhodes University and a PhD at Cambridge, Ally started off as a high school history teacher in East London, later moving to senior history researcher at Wits, where he served on Senate and Council. He's published in leading journals and has authored a book on South Africa's mining industry.

Before his appointment to UCT, Ally spent five years as the Ford Foundation's programme officer for Southern Africa, overseeing their governance and civil society programme in South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

The new post at UCT melds his interests in academia and development. One of his main tasks is to look after and



Picture by Michael Hammond

Open door: Ally believes that transparency is key.

He's brought good stock: a wealth of experience in grant-making. Prior to joining Ford, he was the country representative and executive director of the South African Office of the prominent Charles Stewart Mott Foundation in the US. Before this he was human rights project manager at the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights. And in 1988 he was the main author of South Africa's national Action Plan that was submitted to the UN in 1998 as part of the commemoration of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights' 50th anniversary.

And yes, the fund-raising environment is tough, but the money is still there, and funders are still looking for quality projects to spend it on.

"It's not so easy to give away money," says Ally. "You have to look at the impact and the quality of the project; many boxes need to be ticked to ensure the money covers all the bases specified."

"Our challenge is, how do we get access to that money? How do you make a convincing and compelling argument for it?"

Ally doesn't believe it approaching fund-raising from a "deficit perspective".

"We want to enter into partnerships with donors, with common objectives in mind."

As a leader, Ally believes in being open and transparent, with an open-door policy. He believes in systems and structures and objectivity and impartiality.

But he likes to take people into his confidence.

"I'm not a great one for hierarchies. I know there are lines of accountability and responsibilities, but I don't believe in using those to treat people differently."

Outside there's a driver hooting.

Running is second nature, he says before departing.

Off duty Ally is a passionate road runner, with nine Two Oceans and nine Comrades to his credit. But there's one last word before he goes:

"My best Comrades was 6.29, but that was many years ago."

Speed – and endurance – will stand him in good stead. ■

BRIEFS

» Engineering 'giant' honoured

UCT bestowed a Doctor of Science in Engineering, *honoris causa*, on alumnus and 'giant of engineering science' Professor Klaus-Jürgen Bathe, at a special ceremony in the Leslie Social Sciences Building on Sunday 1 September.

German-born Bathe is hailed as a pioneer in the field of finite element analysis, a technique to find approximate solutions to partial differential equations.

Bathe graduated from UCT's Department of Civil Engineering as the best engineering student and Gold Medallist in 1967. He returned to UCT years later to complete a Doctor of Science degree, after further studies in Canada and the US.

» Golden Keys for top UCT students

Some 450 of UCT's top students were inducted into the university's chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society late in August.

Founded in 1977 and described as the world's largest honour society, the organisation recognises the top 15% of achievers across the academic disciplines at over 400 universities in Australia, Canada, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Bahamas, and the US.

The guest speakers, Western Cape premier Helen Zille and alumna and Pick n Pay transformation director Suzanne Ackerman-Berman, were inducted as honorary members during the ceremony.

» Kaplan appointed to TIA board

The School of Economics' Professor David Kaplan has been appointed to the board of the national Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) and will help set the agency's strategic direction.

The TIA was established by an Act of Parliament in 2008, with the objective of intensifying innovation in order to improve the quality of life of all South Africans. The agency is poised to play a critical role in universities' research and commercialisation endeavours, according to Kaplan.

» Special NRF award for Ramutsindela

Associate Professor Maano Ramutsindela from the Department of Environmental and Geographical Science has won a National Research Foundation (NRF) Special Category Award for Transformation of the Science Cohort.

It was one of three special awards announced by the NRF on 27 August, and recognises "superlative work" by senior researchers in a broad range of fields.

Ramutsindela's category is focused on transforming the science cohort by attracting more black scientists to academia and helping them become leaders in their fields.

The Centre for Conflict Resolution (CCR), Cape Town, invites you and members of your organisation to a public dialogue on

THE FUTURE OF TRADE UNIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA

CHAIR

Dr Neva Makgetla

Deputy Director General, Policy Economic Development Department, Tshwane

SPEAKERS

Mr Terry Bell

Journalist, Cape Town

Professor Sakhela Buhlungu

Deputy Dean and Acting Head, Department of Sociology, University of Pretoria

Mr Tony Ehrenreich

Provincial Secretary, COSATU, Cape Town

Date: Thursday, 24 October 2013 • Time: 17h30 – 19h00

Venue: Centre for the Book, 62 Queen Victoria Street, Gardens, Cape Town

RSVP: Lavenia Benjamin • Email: lbenjamin@ccr.org.za

Tel: (021) 689-1005 • Fax: (021) 689-1003 • Website: www.ccr.org.za

All are welcome and entry is free. Kindly RSVP for seating.



Actually, it's the acronyms. I try not to use them

build relationships with 150 000 alumni, 90 000 in South Africa and the rest scattered through 100 countries abroad. And through fund-raising, he will advance UCT's goals of strengthening research, improving access to higher education and enhancing the quality of teaching and learning.

DAD's fundraising strategies must ensure that enough money comes in to fund these aspects of the university's mission when higher education funding streams are under threat.

"It's all about relationship-building with donors," says Ally.

And with his team; Ally manages a team of some 30 people and five alumni office representatives abroad in the US, UK, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Happy hearts

More children undergo arrhythmia corrections at Red Cross Hospital following pilot procedure

HELEN SWINGLER

Eight young children have had life-changing arrhythmia procedures at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital in the past two months. And there are more patients to come.

This follows the successful non-surgical correction of a nine-year-old girl's heart rhythm abnormality (arrhythmia) by UCT-affiliated surgeons at the hospital in August, thanks to the Western Cape Government's recent purchase of new radio frequency ablation equipment for the hospital, advancing care for children with heart rhythm disease.

The first patient was able to leave the hospital a day after being admitted, free of medication and free of a malady that tires the heart muscle and can precipitate heart failure, palpitations, blackouts and fatigue.

The successful pilot was the forerunner of a service launched officially this month at the hospital. In the past, arrhythmia corrections were performed at Groote Schuur Hospital (GSH). Both facilities serve



Picture by Michael Hammond

Heart to heart: Dr Ashley Chin explains, how the radio frequency ablation technique corrects arrhythmias.

as UCT teaching platforms.

GSH's Dr Ashley Chin conducted the ablation procedure at the Red Cross Hospital, assisted by the catheterisation laboratory staff.

UCT-trained, Chin completed his training at GSH and spent two

years at McMaster University in Canada learning ablation techniques. These skills are being transferred to paediatric surgeon Dr George Comitis and his team at the Red Cross Hospital.

Radio frequency ablation is a

highly successful intervention for arrhythmias, delivering electrical energy to the heart via a slender catheter inserted percutaneously into the venous system, via the jugular or femoral veins, to ablate or burn the abnormal electrical circuits.

To position the catheters, cardiac electrophysiologists are guided by fluoroscopy, an imaging technique using X-rays to get real-time, moving images of the patient's heart. They map the heart's electrical signals via a computerised mapping system to determine the nature of the arrhythmia.

"The pattern of the signals also tells us what type of arrhythmia we're dealing with," Chin explained.

A variety of atrial or ventricular arrhythmias are found in children. But the first patient at the Red Cross Hospital presented an interesting case.

"Her arrhythmia was caused by an accessory pathway, a congenital abnormality that connects the atrial and ventricular muscle and causes a re-entry arrhythmia."

Chin and the team managed to ablate the accessory pathway, restoring the heart's circuitry.

Depending on the complexity of the case, each takes three to four hours to complete. Success rates are high, with only 1% risk of serious complications, says Chin.

Although this therapy has been available for many years at GSH and other 'adult' centres in Cape Town, the recent developments at Red Cross Hospital mean children with rhythm disorders can be treated in a child-focused facility. ■

Invitation

14TH ANNUAL STEVE BIKO MEMORIAL LECTURE



The Acting Vice-Chancellor of UCT, Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo, in association with the CEO of the Steve Biko Foundation, Mr Nkosinathi Biko, invites members of the public to attend the Steve Biko Memorial Lecture.

Guest Speaker: Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma
"Pan Africanism and the African Renaissance"

The lecture will be delivered by Dr Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union Commission – the first woman to lead the institution – in this, the 50th Anniversary year of the formation of the Organisation of African Unity. During her years as a student at the University of Natal in the early 1970s, Dr Dlamini-Zuma served as the national Vice President of the South African Students Organisation, a formation established by Biko. She later went into exile and held key leadership roles in the anti-apartheid struggle before returning to South Africa in the 1990s. In 1994, during the era of former State President Nelson Mandela, she was appointed Minister of Health. She remained in this portfolio until 1999, and thereafter served as Minister of Foreign Affairs (1999 – 2009), and Minister of Home Affairs (2009 – 2012). Dr Dlamini-Zuma has a BSc from the University of Zululand and an MBChB from the University of Bristol. She is the recipient of several national and international awards, as well as honorary doctorates.

Date: Wednesday, 2 October 2013

Time: 18:00. Doors open at 17:00

Venue: Jameson Hall, Upper Campus, UCT

Please note that seating will not be reserved and tickets to attend the lecture will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis.

Tickets can be collected between Wednesday 25 September and Friday 27 September from the UCT Communication and Marketing Department, "Welgelegen", Chapel Road Extension, Rosebank.

The office will be open from 08:00 – 16:00. Enquiries may be directed to Ms Zukiswa Dlelembé on 021 650 3759 or via e-mail Zukiswa.dlelembé@uct.ac.za

www.uct.ac.za

Knowledge Co-op is spreading the skills

YUSUF OMAR

For residents in Bridgetown, a makeshift crossing point from one side of a canal to another had become a health and safety risk for anyone using it. A request sent from The Women's Circle – an NGO working in the area – to UCT's Knowledge Co-op asked if they could assist with researching and writing a motivation for the building of a footbridge. The co-op then went about finding the answers to key questions: who crosses the canal and why? Why are present routes avoided? Why is the temporary bridge inadequate? What benefits would the building of a footbridge bring?

Though the bridge is a real one in this instance, the UCT Knowledge Co-op has made it their business to build other types of bridges: metaphorical ones that cross the divide between issues that communities face in the real world, and the ways in which research at UCT can help close the gap.

According to an evaluation

report published in July, the Co-op has met most of its deliverables and objectives during its pilot phase, and, says Barbara Schmid, project manager of the Knowledge Co-op, there are a number of reasons universities worldwide are investing more time and money to close this divide.

"Institutions funded by public money have a responsibility to produce research and outputs that make a contribution to issues of public concern," says Schmid. "It is also a valuable learning opportunity for students to have a chance to apply and test what they have learnt in a real context."

Launched in 2010 to boost the university's ability to share its expertise and resources with wider society, the Knowledge Co-op also aims to provide students and staff with opportunities to apply theories in real-life projects.

Community members or groups are invited to submit ideas for projects, and the Knowledge Co-op attempts to find the best-suited UCT staff and students to help them complete the project. Students need to produce an academic paper,

but the Knowledge Co-op works to disseminate the knowledge in other forms, too, whether in a poster, policy brief, workshop, or on their website.

During the pilot phase, 121 ideas for projects were submitted from 57 different community entities, with "just under one-fifth of viable projects" under way, says the report. Just short of one-third of the "viable" projects have been completed, and research outputs are either already available or are being finalised.

There were some challenges; Schmid reports that sometimes "real-life issues don't quite fit disciplinary boundaries", while there is also a need for more "hands on board".

Fundraising to keep the Co-op going beyond the pilot phase and employ student interns is crucial for its sustainability, says Schmid. She and her Co-op colleagues, in the meantime, are preparing for a "string of projects" for when the 2014 students arrive.

■ Visit their website at: www.knowledgco-op.uct.ac.za

Marine reserves turn the tide

A new paper shows that protected areas are boosting fish stock beyond their perimeters



Face to face: Dr Colin Attwood lifts a Red Roman - a species he is researching - out of the water during an excursion.

HELEN SWINGLER

There's a well-thumbed seafood recipe book of a certain vintage that Dr Colin Attwood is trawling for

among his academic tomes.

"It must be at home," he says, disappointed.

He's keen to show that flecking, gutting and filleting a wide variety of fresh fish was part of the ordinary housewife's culinary skill-set not too long ago.

But the fishmongers and wet fish markets (where one could buy a whole kabeljou, steenbras, or the ubiquitous Red Roman) have all but disappeared, along with the success of artisanal and recreational fishers.

The collapse of the country's inshore fisheries has prompted the creation of several marine protected areas along South Africa's 3 300km coastline.

These have allowed dangerously depleted fish populations, like the Red Roman (*Chrysoblephus laticeps*), to be replenished.

But the reserves haven't been popular with everyone, particularly not the struggling fishing communities reliant on a collapsing resource. These communities include those of Struisbaai, Kassiesbaai, Kalk Bay and others, who believe government has effectively shut down their livelihoods.

However, a new paper in *Nature Communications*, harnessing 28 years' worth of data collected by the former

Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, shows the converse: that a reserve actually improves the fishing yield, without disadvantaging artisanal fisheries.

The Department of Biological Sciences' Attwood co-authored the paper with colleagues: research associate Dr Sven Kerwath and postdoctoral research fellow Dr Henning Winker.

Kerwath and Winker have been collecting data on satellite-tracked Red Roman for three to four years, working off boats in the Goukamma reserve

Area, contradicting trends across the species' distribution.

Attwood and his co-authors are confident that marine reserves are not only doing a good job of protecting species – "That's your capital in the bank" – but are also increasing fish stocks outside the reserves.

Their research provides empirical evidence that the loss of fishing ground to protected areas is more than compensated for by an increase in their catches beyond these boundaries.

Two mechanisms were likely to have caused the increase, says Attwood.

"The first was simply a result of the protected fish abandoning their home ranges in Goukamma as fish densities increased and then straying outside, into the range of fishers.

"The second, a delayed effect, resulted from a boost in egg production from the protected area."

Red Roman egg spawn floats, and currents ensure that the young are distributed some distance from the spawning event, and well outside the protected area by the time they boost fisher's catches.

"It takes four to five years for fish populations to increase. But it takes time to build spawn stocks and for juvenile fish to grow. Steenbras take 20 years to mature."

"We need a very robust way of protecting fish and the livelihoods of people," Attwood adds.

"For marine protected areas to gain acceptance among fishers, it's necessary to show that the loss of part of their fishing ground is more than compensated for by an increase in their catches." ■



A reserve
actually
improves the
yield

between Sedgefield and Buffalo Bay.

Red Roman is a good species to study, says Attwood. It's an endemic, sequential hermaphrodite (mature females turn into territorial males), reef fish that has become over-exploited.

Their study shows that catches of Red Roman increased in the vicinity of the Goukamma Marine Protected

University a mixed bag for the deaf

ABIGAIL CALATA

The best way for hearing people to accommodate the deaf is by learning Sign Language.

So says June Bothma, who for the past two years has taught South African Sign

Language (SASL) to third-year speech therapy and audiology students at UCT. Bothma is a clothing pattern maker by trade, but always harboured dreams of teaching.

"I always wanted to be a teacher. During the 80s deaf people were not allowed to be teachers. I was very disappointed. There were other choices open to me, but these were not deaf-friendly because there were no great opportunities for the deaf back then," she says.

Her UCT colleagues and students communicate with her via email or text messages. In class she uses PowerPoint presentations. She also mouths the words she is signing for her students' benefit. "Many students struggle to follow me on the first day, but they eventually 'tune' in to my voice."

She started teaching SASL at Christ Church in Kenilworth in 1992. She had been looking for a deaf-friendly church, and was stopped after the

service by the minister who asked why Bothma's friend, who during the service was interpreting for her, had her "hands moving in the air". They explained: to which he replied that they must show him and the congregation how the church could better accommodate deaf people.

"This is when my real passion came out, and I have been teaching (SASL) ever since. Some of my work friends who have seen me teach say I am a different person to when I'm at work. I know it, because it is my passion to teach and help people communicate with deaf people."

Bothma's daughter, Jessica, is also deaf, and will be attending UCT next year. She says that so far she has been impressed with the support they have received from UCT's Disability Service. At Jessica's interview they arranged for an interpreter to be present.

According to Reinette Popplestone, director of UCT Disability Service, the university employs a sign language interpreter on a full-time basis. This interpreter accompanies the two deaf students currently studying here to their lectures and tutorials. Twenty lecture venues have facilities that transmit a lecturer's voice directly to the hearing aids of those using them. These facilities will become standard, with all lecture venues being upgraded as part of the classroom facilities refurbishment project.

David Silva, a deaf fourth-year student in the humanities faculty, finds that the support offered by



Picture by Michael Hammond

Deaf awareness month: June Bothma (right) encourages hearing people to learn Sign Language.

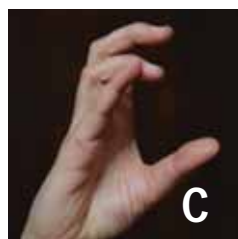
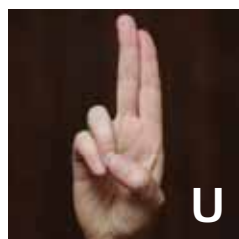
the Disability Service has improved greatly since his first year. The Sign Language interpreter has been available to him since last year.

"Initially Disability Service gave me note-takers from other faculties instead of people from my own class. We sorted it out, because a person in the course doing his notes and mine would be the best."

For him, the most challenging aspect of student life is making friends.

"People are quite fickle. Many times I will struggle to get used to someone's lips (everyone's lips move in different ways, so you have to get used to how they say each word) and that will irritate them, because often I ask them to repeat themselves – as opposed to just standing there and having a small fake smile that says 'I have no idea what you're saying'." ■

Picture by Michael Hammond



Gangsters versus police: an uneven battleground

With Staggie's parole under scrutiny, role of police in spotlight

ABIGAIL CALATA

When Rashied Staggie's release from prison was set down for late September this year, the inevitable happened: violence flared up on his old stomping ground of Manenberg in the months leading up to that day, schools were closed as a means of protection, and non-government organisations brought their activities to a halt.

And, it is anticipated, the political underworld of gangsterism in Cape Town will shift once again whether the release comes to pass or not.

Staggie could be given day parole, in which case he will be 'free' during the day but will have to return to prison or a halfway house in the evening. He could be placed on full parole in March next year provided he doesn't commit a crime before then. He has served 10 years of the 15-year sentence he received on charges of robbery, rape, housebreaking and theft, as well as the illegal possession of firearms and ammunition.

But the fate of the Hard Livings leader is just one flashpoint in a decades-long scourge that has shaped life on the Cape Flats in myriad ways.

Irvin Kinnes, a UCT PhD student researching the policing of gangs in the Cape, says "there is no finality on the number of gang members", and suggests "that new empirical research must be conducted" to determine the number of gangs and the extent of gang membership.

Presently, it's estimated that between 80 000 and 100 000 people belong to approximately 120 gangs. Gang members are believed to comprise about 5% of the total population of the Western Cape, and criminologists estimate that up to 60% of serious violent crime in the Cape Peninsula is gang-related, while the police attribute approximately 70% of total crime in the province to gang activity.

Kinnes reports that from 1994 to 2006 the police launched many operations against gangs; but, he says, these have been largely ineffective. He argues that their ineffectiveness can be attributed to three main

issues: firstly, gang crime is not recorded as such, and as a result there is no scientific, statistical picture of gang-related crime. Secondly, gangs have been able to rapidly reinvent themselves as organised crime bodies; and thirdly, gangs have decentralised over a number of years, and this has translated into a tighter, more cohesive structure.

Police officers' collusion with gang members is another problem that bedevils their policing, according to criminologist Liza Grobler. Their involvement could range from a refusal to act against gangsters operating drug dens and shebeens in the areas in which they live, to tipping off gang leaders about impending police raids. In her book *Crossing the Line*, Grobler quotes a gang boss estimating that at least thirty out of 100 police officers are in collusion with his gang.

Tony Roshan Samara, author of *Cape Town After Apartheid*, does not believe that increased or better policing will solve the gang problem.

"The continued strength of gangs is not a reflection of lax policing and an inefficient, under-resourced criminal justice system, but is the legacy of a half-century of State neglect and underdevelopment in the majority of the city's community. Gangs have occupied prominent places in the local economy, filling gaps created by the State," he concludes.

With the recent spate of gang violence in Manenberg the Democratic Alliance has again asked for the army to be sent in to restore law and order. Kinnes, supported in this sentiment by Samara, does not believe this to be the solution to the problem.

"In order to effectively address gangs, any strategy should and must deal with the creation of legitimate opportunities for young people to access the formal and informal economy without having to resort to the illegitimate economy that gangs and drugs offer," he concludes.

Where it all started

The oldest gangs in South Africa are the prison gangs, which have a history going back to the early 1900s. Street gangs are believed to have started in District Six, with the Globe gang being the most documented and best-known of these gangs. The Globe gang members were the sons of shopkeepers and craftsmen in District Six. According to Don Pinnock, who in 1982

(under the auspices of UCT's Centre of Criminology) undertook one of the first academic investigations into street gangs, they started out as a vigilante group protecting their families' business interests.

The emergence of gangsterism on the Cape Flats is attributed to three factors: forced removals as a result of the Group Areas Act; the resultant breakdown of the extended family unit; and unemployment.

Pinnock classified the gangs on the Cape Flats according to their structure, distinguishing between corner kids (playgroups formed on the streets), defence gangs (such as the Hard Livings and Americans), reform gangs (which originated in reformatories), mafias (families engaging in illegal activities) and syndicates (associations to secure the supply of drugs).

Samara refers to the forced removal of non-white communities in the 1960s and 1970s as a "catalyst for gang growth". He argues that during the 1980s "the problems associated with gangsterism were deepened through ... government negligence, as drugs and gang violence were not seen as a white problem".

According to the National Institute for Crime Prevention and the Rehabilitation of Offenders (NICRO), gangs get their income mostly from "drug-dealing, prostitution, liquor distribution, housebreaking and theft".

Consolidation of the gangs' power

After the transition to democracy in the 1990s, big gangs like the Hard Livings and the Americans became more organised. Gang expert Kinnes states that these gangs had the monopoly on drug distribution, but not supply. "It was inevitable that they had to become the natural partners of foreign syndicates with better resources to bring drugs into the country," says Kinnes, referring to this period as the time in which the gangs were coming of age.

The emergence of vigilante groups like PAGAD (People Against Gangsterism And Drugs) saw the police focus shifting to PAGAD instead of remaining on the gangs. PAGAD's execution of gang leaders and attempts to curb gang activities also backfired.

"The PAGAD actions succeeded only in uniting gang leaders and drug dealers," says Kinnes, thus consolidating the power of the gangs in their respective territories. ■



"I started documenting tik addicts - who are closely linked to gangs - after a family member got involved in the drug. I saw how it tore our family apart. Tik is the drug of choice in gangs." - photographer, Brenton Geach

Finding an innovative alternative to gangsterism

YUSUF OMAR

According to a study by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), participation in a unique football programme has offered some young people in Khayelitsha protection from violence and exposure to crime, peer pressure and substance abuse in their communities.

The ICRC, in partnership with a Cape Town-based NGO, undertook research to better understand the needs of violence-ridden communities and the potential impact that such programmes can have in terms of reversing the dangerous trends.

Amandla Edu-Football is the NGO in question. Launched in 2007, it created football leagues for young people from the impoverished township as a safer way to spend their time in an environment in which it is all too easy to slip into the drugs and gangsterism trap. Khayelitsha, the largest township in Cape Town with more than 500 000 residents, suffers from an unemployment rate of more than 50%.

And the initial feedback is that they have had significant success.

"Amandla participation in 2013 is significantly correlated with less deviant peers, less substance use, positive school attachment, positive future attitude and resiliency, and two of the main outcome variables (less pro-violent attitude and less self-reported serious offending)," reads the abstract of the study, titled *Analysis of two waves of panel data in the Khayelitsha Youth Violence Reduction Study*.

In addition, young people that participate in Amandla report "greater school attitude and attachment" than before.

"Thus, participation in the violence-reduction intervention, Amandla Edu-Football, seems to buffer school attachment beyond the effects of parents and peers, or those of another structured leisure activity, or attendance at a place of worship."

Four hundred young males (between 12 and 22 years old) living in Khayelitsha are being interviewed annually over a three-year period, from 2012 to 2014. The interviews explore the youths' family backgrounds, peer and environmental influences, their attitudes towards school, and thoughts on their futures and the use of violence. Half of the group opted to take part in the Amandla Edu-Football programme, which, among other ventures, runs a night league dubbed by residents as the "Crime Prevention League". ■



Pictures by Brenton Geach

The reality on the ground

ABIGAIL CALATA

Gang members have been getting younger. Boys as young as 14 and 15 years are running around with guns. There is also marked tension between the younger members and the older ones, who want structure and discipline within the gangs. We need a long-term solution to gangsterism."

This is what Cyril Pelston, manager of SHAWCO's Manenberg centre, has told the *Monday Monthly*.

He says that his community is exasperated with government's inadequate measures to combat this endemic problem, and that a long-term solution is needed.

"Our government must provide positive alternatives (to gangs) for the youth. Too many don't know what to do after school."

Pelston states that the government's response is only effective in the short term, and that authorities need to address other factors, such as poverty and the breakdown of the family unit.

"These contribute to the hopelessness young people feel, and that is why the children end up joining gangs," he says.

He believes that the solution lies in strategic partnerships that involve the government, NGOs and the private sector.

"Organisations like SHAWCO represent one cog in the wheel. We cannot do it alone. We need funding from the private sector and support from government to come up with a workable solution," he says.

According to Pelston, things have been getting worse over the years. And SHAWCO offices themselves are sometimes victims of the violence, because of their location in high-risk areas.

"Voluntary organisations like SHAWCO have a history of being on the receiving end of gang activities," he says.

However, this is not a new phenomenon. As far back as 1982, the SHAWCO clinic in Kensington is mentioned by a young gang member interviewed by Don Pinnock for his study on gangs. The gang member, identified as Fransie, tells the story of how he and a friend robbed the clinic. "We broke into SHAWCO at Kensington and broke open the safe. We got R3 500, but my buddy took it all for himself and gave it to his family. He was 13."

This year the organisation had to cancel one of its projects in Manenberg for a few days, because of a surge in gang violence which meant that a school normally used as a venue had to close its doors.

SHAWCO activities have since resumed. ■



Giant leap for space studies

2014 will see the launch of an innovative new master's programme

YUSUF OMAR

While Stanley Kubrick's cult film, *2001: A Space Odyssey*, may not have played out in real life as accurately as some movie buffs might have hoped, UCT is cranking up the ante in the quest to tame the final frontier.

The year 2014 will see the launch of a new multi-disciplinary postgraduate programme in space studies, convened by the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment. However, one doesn't necessarily need a degree in engineering to enrol for this Master's of Philosophy programme; it caters for students from a range of academic and professional backgrounds, and is meant to reflect the inherently multi-disciplinary nature of outer space systems, says Dr Peter Martinez, who will convene the programme.

"As you may know, South Africa has recently established a South African Space Agency (SANSA) to co-ordinate its national space activities," says Martinez. "At first when you hear about a space programme in a country like South Africa, with all its problems, like HIV/AIDS and poverty, you might wonder what space has to do with it. But these days space is really one of the cornerstones of the modern information society.

"We are all critically reliant on space, and I don't just mean government, institutions and businesses. I mean all individuals. Every time you switch on your cellphone, you are making personal use of the space system – not because your phone is a satellite phone, but because it uses the GPS signals that a cellphone network needs.

"Those same signals are used by ATM networks, street light networks, traffic light networks, power distribution networks, and many more. So, there are many space applications these days, and countries are beginning to organise themselves to take better advantage of these technologies."

A student with an engineering background might write a thesis about a technical aspect of Earthlings' relationship with outer space, but somebody with a commerce background, for example, might research the economics of the space industry, says Martinez. While there will be a science and engineering component, Martinez allays fears that non-mathematics boffins would be all at sea.

"If you've got a section of the course that is about the regulatory aspects of space, then somebody with a legal background would obviously have an easier time doing that, and the idea is that they would interact with the engineers, and vice versa.

"Again, this is to build the multi-disciplinary character of the programme, so that you have engineers who understand that



Dished up: The SKA project demonstrates the country's high degree of technical competency in space technology.

space systems and projects are more than just engineering projects – that there's a business component to it, there's a regulatory component and a policy component."

While budding astronauts might have to look elsewhere for a launch pad, Martinez says that space studies graduates would be employable in government agencies and in academia.

"As the space industry grows, the demand for people with the knowledge and skills of how to process data from space also grows. There is more of a drive to extract information that is meaningful to people. Examples would include disaster management, food security, and water management, to name but a few. All these areas require skills in processing space data. It would be in the space applications area and also in the aerospace and defence area."

Martinez believes that the programme could help banish perceptions that careers in space technology are the sole preserve of North Americans and Europeans.

"There's this iconic image of space technology, one that shows the Earth from space with the African continent at its

centre," he says. "To me, the ironic thing about that image is that it shows the continent where space technology is least developed.

"We are now finally seeing a situation where African countries are beginning to enter the space arena not as consumers of space technology or as passive bystanders watching the rest of the world, but as active participants.

"South Africa has shown through projects like SALT and the Square Kilometre Array that the country has a very high degree of technical competency in this domain, so there's no reason to suppose this country cannot develop the capabilities to supply its own space technology requirements in future. In order to do that, we need a skilled workforce, and that's where this programme comes in."

The MPhil will not reject expertise from Earth itself, however, and prospective students can look forward to learning from industry leaders from around the world.

For more information, contact Dr Peter Martinez at spacelab@uct.ac.za. ■

Research report published on heels of higher QS ranking



Guest word: Professor Valerie Mizrahi delivers the keynote address at the launch of the report.

HELEN SWINGLER

With an inverted globe showing Africa in the middle, the cover of the Research Office's 2012 *Research Report* has a clear message: UCT is at the top of the world. Or at the top of Africa, at least.

Serendipitously, the report's launch on 10 September came in the wake of news that UCT had risen nine places (from 154 last year to 145) on the 2013/14 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings. (Quacquarelli Symonds is a British company specialising in higher education.)

UCT thus remains Africa's top university in this international ranking, a Who's Who of the world's top 400 institutions.

Much of this success is a spin-off of research prowess, and the report showcases prominent projects and inter-disciplinary themes. It also provides a quick inventory of 2012 milestones (see information box).

The launch of the report was prefaced by National Research Foundation chief executive officer Dr Albert van Jaarsveld's address.

In an era of shrinking resources, he warmed hearts by announcing several NRF funding initiatives to boost research – and particularly for established and aspiring researchers.

Additional funding of over R350 million will help upcoming researchers establish themselves and give established researchers a chance to broaden their scope.

Funding is a contentious issue. In her keynote address, Professor Valerie Mizrahi, director of the Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine said it was vital that UCT articulate the important research, prioritise it and configure its system accordingly.

"What do we invest in, and how do we evaluate research?"

Mizrahi cited the development of new TB vaccines as an example – a highly complex interaction of multinational partners and collaborations and funders.

"We urgently need new TB drugs. With South Africa's historical incidence we [UCT] have a special responsibility to play a leading role in assessing the value chain in [drug] discovery and implementation. We have to be part of the value chain here."

There had to be significant and sustained support, she added.

"However, the commitment must be long-term, as there will be no quick fixes or easy solutions." ■

Milestones at a glance

- 1 218 research contracts;
- R682 million in research contracts;
- 415 NRF-rated researchers;
- 33 SARChI Research Chairs;
- 1 314.40 units publications count and 2 500 journals, books and proceedings;
- 8 248 postgraduate students;
- 1 391 doctoral students;
- 282 postdoctoral research fellows;
- R159 million postgraduate funding.

Transformation: Just swopping of races?

We need to open our cultural silos and let inspiration grow, says Gay Morris

I recently attended the conversation between Dr Max Price and Judge Dennis Davis, presided over by chair of council Archbishop Ndungane. The conversation was engrossing. However, the discussion around transformation made me uneasy, because the descriptor 'transformation' only referred to UCT's population demographic that remains disappointingly white. I don't think many UCT staff or students would disagree that UCT remains 'too white': the demographic inadequately reflects the racial composition of both the Western Cape and the country.

My concern is with the unhelpful use of the descriptor 'transformation'. Even Price and Davis apparently collapsed the meaning of 'transformation' into changing UCT's population demographic. If my guess is correct, then I ask Price, Davis and the readership: Is this seriously all we expect from a transformed UCT – that there will be more black (African, coloured and Indian) faces on the campus? Is transformation likely to occur simply because the racial demographic at UCT shifts? What do we actually need / want / hope transformation will achieve at UCT? Or would we actually prefer UCT to remain exactly as is, only be demographically more diverse?

As I understand the word, transformation means that the identity, character, customs – indeed, the culture of the institution as a whole – should undergo profound shifts; not merely

when the population changes, but also because the institution's culture is renewed, the place is altered, the space is transformed.

While many UCT staff are longstanding, UCT's student population is continuously changing. Despite this roll-over, I believe that there are many students and staff who experience UCT as a bastion of postcolonial English-speakers. Is this its problem? Or is an even deeper problem that the UCT community is suffering from a shortage of imagination?

Can we not disentangle 'transformation' from racialised associations, and consider transforming UCT? What would it entail? A hint was given during the Price-Davis event: one audience member lamented the fact that many young black South Africans respect UCT's excellence and seek admission, but only to collect an education and move on. He described UCT as "excellent", but not as "inspiring". Inspiration involves touching the heart. This speaker suggests that UCT fails to catch the heart of its students and staff, particularly black members who don't experience the residually English-SA educational tradition as inspiring, because they feel themselves to be outsiders to it.

Conceding that the above supposition is a flawed generalisation, I nevertheless maintain that it is hard to be inspired by cultural practices, or ways of doing things, to which you are an outsider. If this point is conceded then the ambit of 'transformation' needs to expand far beyond just thinking racially,

and consider UCT's culture as it is lived by its population on a daily basis.

If we accept that 'culture' is our shared ways of doing things, then I am sure any reader can identify cultures of eating, teaching, researching, conversing, communicating, recreating and even flirting at UCT – some of which are shared broadly across demographic markers such as race, gender or age, and some of which are not. When these cultures are not shared, people do not feel at home, do not feel acknowledged, and do not feel they are in the right place. Now if you do not feel in the right place then you probably make plans to move on as soon as is convenient or feasible. If UCT needs transforming, then sticking with what we know will not achieve it. It behooves us all to take action.

I suggest that there is not a single person on campus who should not be part of transforming UCT; and consider the following: Transformation does not happen to a university or a community; it is effected by the university community; It encompasses demographic change, but more importantly, cultural practices; it encourages awareness of our cultural positioning and the fact that many of our most treasured customs are not shared. But different ways are not dangerous, they are merely diverse. How open are you to other practices and ways of doing things? Is there any way in which you could expand your awareness of others' ways?

There is a dire need at UCT for us to discover, uncover and enjoy the value of alterity; indeed to delight in it. In *Theatre*

& *Nation* Nadine Holdsworth invokes Paul Gilroy's notion of conviviality for this purpose (*After Empire: Melancholia or convivial culture?*, 2004). She is writing about national consciousness, but I borrow her argument to apply to UCT's consciousness. She writes:

"The predominant civic and ethnic versions of the nation ... pay little heed to the ways that people, who inhabit and make up nations, function day to day through meetings, interactions and collaborations across national boundaries and ethnic cultures. At this level of national daily life, Gilroy's emphasis on conviviality becomes useful. He argues that the term enables a move away from the focus on identity and that 'the radical openness that brings conviviality alive makes a nonsense of closed, fixed and reified identity and turns attention towards the always unpredictable mechanisms of identification' (2004:xi)."

Transformation at UCT must encompass not only race change. More fundamentally, could the university community enjoy diversity a little bit more? For instance, could we open up understandings of transformation by means of student assignments? Could we set ourselves projects or thought experiments, wherein we imagine for a single morning, or even an hour, that every face that we meet on campus is of its opposite skin tone – so that my Xhosa-speaking tutor becomes in my head a 'pink, English-speaking South African'; or the white cafeteria attendant

is imagined as an Asian SA, or my so-called coloured classmate is imagined as Zulu? Could we also notice how we are greeted in different ways with different emphases? Could we try using that other greeting ourselves?

Noticing how diversely we practice companionship, banter, civility as a whole, can open our cultural silos and allow us to mingle with a sense of belonging in a broader array of spaces. Can we think into transformation and imagine it more richly than as a sterile conception of racial swopping? Transformation encompasses taking on the present, acknowledging that it is loaded with past baggage, but opening our hearts and minds to the richly diverse ways of being ourselves that affect how we communicate every day in every part of the campus. ■



Dr Gay Morris Emeritus Associate Professor, Department of Drama, University of Cape Town

Where are our graduates?

Pathway from university to world of work is illuminated by useful study, says Crain Soudien

The issue of graduate employment is of considerable public interest, but there is surprisingly little data to inform opinion on the matter. Not all universities in this country routinely carry out surveys to determine graduate destinations, and in particular, to establish whether and how their graduates find employment – as is the case in many other countries. Only one national-level tracer survey has been conducted in the past decade.

In 2005, the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) undertook a tracer survey of the 2003 cohort of 'drop-outs' and graduates at seven public higher education institutions. They reported an overall unemployment rate among their sample population of 32%, which is considerably higher than the average of 5% for Europe in the same period and 16% reported for Brazil.

The four universities in the Western Cape – Cape Peninsula University of Technology, University of Cape Town, Stellenbosch University and University of the Western Cape – under the auspices of the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) decided to carry out a Graduate Destination Survey (GDS) in 2012, in order to determine levels of graduate employment and to better understand the different pathways that our graduates follow from university to the world of work.

We chose to survey the entire cohort of 24 710 graduates who had received certificates and diplomas, undergraduate

degrees and postgraduate diplomas and degrees in 2010. They were surveyed in 2012 – two years after graduation. Their responses were captured either online or telephonically. We achieved a 22.5% response rate, which is comparable to similar surveys conducted internationally. The survey explored seven different graduate pathways: young, first-time entrants into the labour market; 'mature' graduates who had prior work experience; self-employed graduates; graduates employed in the informal sector; unemployed graduates looking for work; continuing to study full-time; unemployed but not looking for work (e.g. caregivers).

While some of the findings of the survey were not unexpected, others have been surprising.

We found total employment to be high, at 84%. Almost half of the employed graduates found work in the public sector, which is clearly playing an important role, particularly by employing significant numbers of women professionals as well as African and coloured graduates. Sixty-one per cent of whites and 58% of Indians were employed in the private sector, compared to only 35% of African and 44% of coloured graduates. These figures, read in conjunction with the finding that white students were the most successful group in tapping into social networks to find employment, raise important questions about employment practices within the private sector, which need further investigation.

While the majority of graduates were employed as professionals, of concern is

the number of graduates facing under-employment and/or low-skill work. For example, 26.2% of 'Business and Commerce' graduates were working in clerical jobs, as were 14.5% of Humanities graduates. In addition, just under 1% of the cohort was employed in the informal sector, most probably as a protection against unemployment. These patterns of employment need to be closely monitored in the coming years.

The rate of self-employment was low at just over 2% of the cohort, but comparable with international data.

Unemployment was measured at 10%, which is significantly lower than the 32% reported by the HSRC in 2005. However, behind this overall percentage lie some extremely disturbing patterns, which, in considerable measure, point to the perpetuation of historical inequalities in the graduate labour market: unemployment was at 19% for African graduates; high levels of unemployment were seen among graduates from Limpopo (19%), North West (17%), Eastern Cape (15%) and Mpumalanga (15%); unemployment was at 16% for CPUT graduates, many of whom have qualified with vocational higher education diplomas and certificates; 19% and 14% of unemployed graduates came from township and rural village secondary schools respectively; and 16% of those who received E-H symbols in matric maths were unemployed.

It came as no surprise that race emerged as statistically the strongest 'socio-demographic' predictor of employment.

Furthermore, unemployment is a problem particularly facing young people. 72% of the cohort's unemployed graduates were 25 years and younger, while only 8% of the unemployed were older than 36 years of age.

The GDS highlighted two very positive features of the 2010 graduate cohort.

Firstly, 31% of the cohort continued to study either full- or part-time after their qualification in 2010. This is high, by all accounts. In a 2006 graduate destination survey of 12 European countries, the continuing higher education cohorts varied from 20% in France to 4% in the Czech Republic. Western Cape graduates gave was personal fulfilment as the main reason.

Secondly, we found that 34% of the cohort was employed in the formal economy prior to the start of their studies, which is a significant measure of the determination of people to study while working.

Migration of skilled labour is a phenomenon which is strongly associated with the acquisition of higher education qualifications. About 10% of graduates lived outside of South Africa prior to coming to study in the Western Cape and would in all likelihood comprise international students. In contrast, only about 6% of graduates indicated that they lived outside South Africa after graduation. This represents a net gain of skilled personnel. While this is most encouraging, a further 5% of our respondents indicated that they would consider leaving South Africa

permanently some time in the future. Another concern was the high degree of uncertainty amongst graduates (26%) about whether to stay in the country or leave.

The GDS is a valuable instrument for providing a systemic view of how higher education works in relation to graduate labour. However, graduate destination surveys can only measure medium- to long-term trends if systematically repeated every five years on a national scale. We hope that the GDS conducted by the four Western Cape universities will be a catalyst for a similar study conducted on a national basis.

The full and abridged versions of the GDS report can be accessed on the CHEC website: www.chec.ac.za ■



Prof Crain Soudien, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, responsible for transformation and social responsiveness at UCT

'Bone reader' tales lauded

A book about the stories told by human bones recovered in South Africa was recently awarded a prestigious international award.

Missing and Murdered: A Personal Adventure into Forensic Anthropology by UCT's Professor Alan Morris was awarded the 2013 WW Howells Book Prize by the biological anthropology section of the American Anthropological Association.

Morris' book relates his experience of forensic anthropology in South Africa. It is aimed at lay-persons with a penchant for murder mysteries and television shows like *CSI*. According to Morris the book not only contains his personal experiences, but more importantly it aims to open its audience's eyes to the "the science behind the fiction that they read (or watch)".

"One of the things we are trying to counter is the 'CSI effect' – the belief that real science operates the same way we see on television. Sadly this is often not the case," he adds.

Morris' interest is in skeletal biology "and the stories bones tell about the original people". For him, forensic anthropology is distinct from other forms of forensic research, in that it uses the human skeleton as its knowledge base.

"Forensic anthropology is all about understanding human variation, and the best subject to explore that is biological anthropology. It is a specialised form of forensic research that is different from chemistry (fires and drugs) and pathology (which requires a clinical medical degree)."

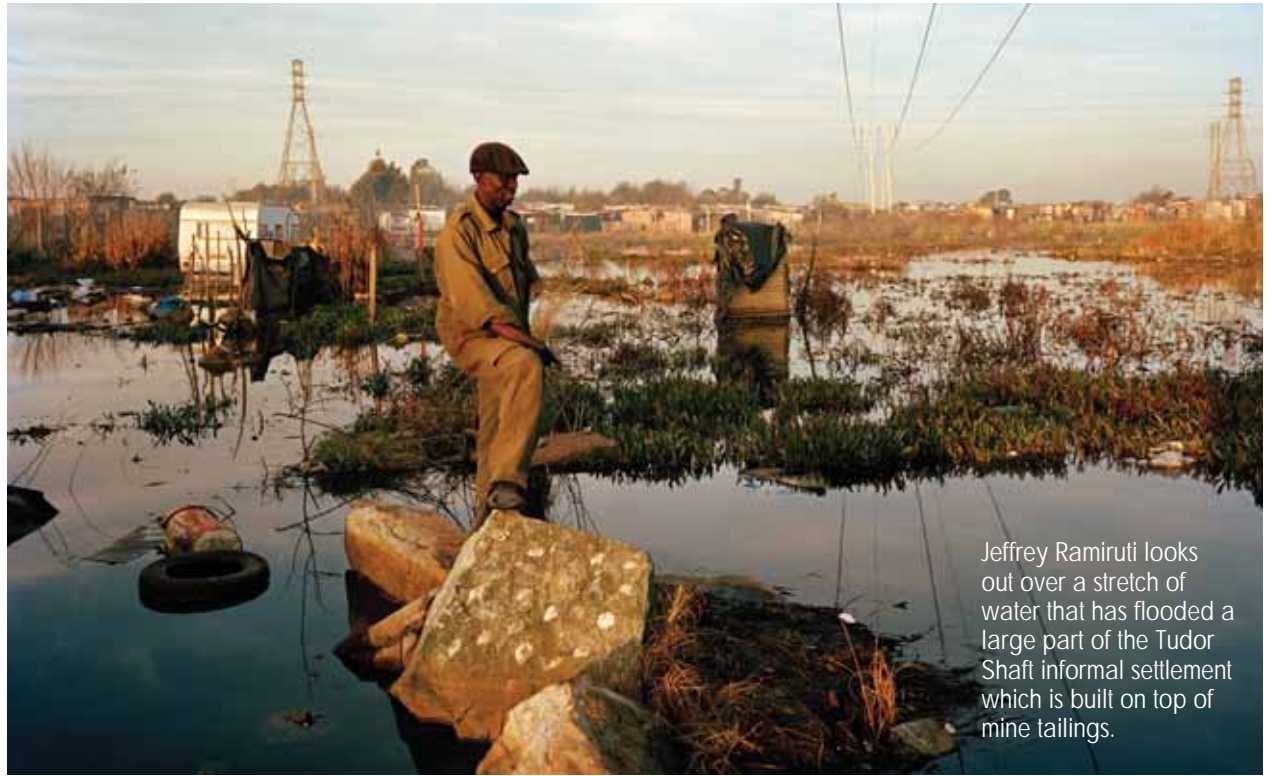
The bones Morris examines – and which are reported on in the book – include those from victims of political violence and muti murders.

"Books considered for the Howells Prize should represent the highest standard of scholarship and readability," says Sara Stinson, Chair of the Book Prize Committee. "They should inform a wider audience of the significance of physical or biological anthropology in the social and biological sciences." ■

– Abigail Calata



Message in the bones: Using bone fragments, Professor Alan Morris reconstructs the face of a woman in her late 20s, a prehistoric forager from the Later Stone Age.



Jeffrey Ramiruti looks out over a stretch of water that has flooded a large part of the Tudor Shaft informal settlement which is built on top of mine tailings.

Mining's impact dissected

What began as a nostalgic exploration of the area in which he grew up became a near obsession with the environmental impact and the legacy – political, social and relational – of mining in South Africa.

Documentary photographer Ilan Godfrey's obsession has spawned a book, *Legacy of the Mine*, and photographic exhibition (of the same name) in three cities.

His journey into the ravages wrought by the mining sector started in 2011. "I grew up in Johannesburg, and the mine dumps were always an element of the environment there – and my childhood," he says. Returning to his hometown after an extended overseas stay, Godfrey decided to photographically explore the impact gold mining has had on the environment.

This interest expanded to other types of mining, and got to the point where the theme of mining became the link to (among others) political and social issues, as well as how people relate to the land.

In 2012 Godfrey applied for, and won, the UCT-administered Ernest Cole Award. Managed by UCT Libraries, the award offers the winning photographer R150 000 to work on a photographic project with an emphasis on human rights and social change.

The legacy of the mines revealed itself in many ways, Godfrey writes: "... through land rendered unfit for alternative land uses, through public health crises within local communities unequipped to cope with the burden of air, land and water pollution, and through the disruptive influence of historical labour exploitation impacting on family structures and cultural positioning."

The book and exhibition take us from the poisoned rivers polluted by mine drainage, to a range of victims who suffer from silicosis (a chronic lung infection, and the mining industry's most pervasive disease); from the modern tragedy of the platinum belt where Marikana took place, to the ghost towns and communities that were once the heartbeat of mining culture.

For Godfrey the project sets out to offer a fresh examination of how we see our wealth and resources. "Ultimately I hope that this body of work ignites discussion about how as a society we need to stand together in bringing about a broader understanding of our shared resources."

The exhibition closed at the Irma Stern Museum on 21 September. It will be on display at the KZNSA Gallery in Durban until mid-October, before moving to the Wits Art Museum in Johannesburg.

– Abigail Calata ■

Rowed to redemption

A book that was started in 1992 and was rejected by 25 New York publishers has finally seen the light of day.

That book is *Flat Water Tuesday*, a novel that Ron Irwin, a lecturer at UCT's Centre for Film and Media Studies, published in 2012. It is the story of a man on the brink of losing the love of his life while he battles with demons from his previous life as a fanatical boarding-school rower.

It takes an invitation to his alma mater's fifteen-year reunion for the documentary filmmaker to recognise the opportunity he has to reverse the seemingly inevitable.

"I first finished the novel in 1995, and

it was rejected by 25 New York publishers because it was seen as geared to the young adult market," says Irwin.

"Thirteen years later, as I was driving to my lectures at UCT, it occurred to me that I could rewrite the novel from the point of view of a grown man who is in the middle of a catastrophic personal crisis. I literally found myself on the side of the road writing notes. The manuscript was duly submitted about a year later, and the first publisher that saw it asked to buy it."

Tales of reckless young men taking part in brutal training sessions, and an alcohol-stained relationship, merge into a "memorable and deeply moving testament to what it means to train and fight for both

love and victory, in sport and in life", as the blurb describes.

Like his main character, Irwin is a documentary filmmaker and former rower.

"But that is where the resemblance ends," he says. "I was more interested in exploring the pain of losing somebody that you love deeply, due to emotional callousness." – Yusuf Omar ■



Psychiatrist's tale of lost hours

Author and alumnus Dr Irvine Eidelman shares a special bond with Richard Underberg, the main character of his debut e-book.

Both are practising psychiatrists. But the fictional Underberg's career is curtailed by a dicky heart, resulting in a 'medical sabbatical'. He's drawn out of semi-retirement by a World

War Two veteran who has disturbing flashbacks to D-Day on 6 June 1944, when the Allied assault on Hitler's 'Fortress Europe' began.

A participant in of the strategic strike on the Caen Canal and Caen River bridges in France, the former soldier is unable to recall the 'lost hours', the critical sequence of events after landing in a flimsy glider – one of three – to take the bridges.

Inexplicably drawn in by his story,

Underberg turns amateur sleuth, visiting the battle sites in an attempt to piece together history and occurrences. In France, serendipity weaves its way between events and meetings and Underberg begins to uncover the truth – and troubling elements of his own past.

Blending fact and fiction, Eidelman's story recreates the historical details of the war's turning point.

"I tried to keep the novel as credible as I could against the historic background," he says.

He toured the beaches of Normandy as well as the vast cemeteries – and the harrowingly narrow glider landing sites targeted for the assault on the bridges to secure them for advancing Allied forces.

"I wanted to give readers an appreciation of an aspect of D-Day; its planning, scale, heroism and its traumas, as well as other traumas individuals can have and how they seek resolution – and, that resolution can take place."

– Helen Swingler ■



EVENTS

The Naming of Buildings Committee (NOBC), a Council Committee chaired is responsible for identifying appropriate names for buildings, open spaces, lecture halls and rooms, and makes recommendations for these to Council. The NOBC is calling for proposals from the UCT community for the naming of buildings. Please go to <http://www.uct.ac.za/> and look under Notices for the full call for proposals, details and the list of buildings requiring names or email jennifer.rogerson@uct.ac.za

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Lecturer: Spanish Language & Literature, School of Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 23 September 2013

Hyman Goldberg Professorial Chair & Head of Division: Biomedical Engineering, Department of Human Biology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 27 September 2013

SA Research Chair - Professor/ Associate Professor: Cancer Biology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 30 September 2013

Lecturer: French Language & Literature, School of Languages & Literatures, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 30 September 2013

Director: Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 30 September 2013

Lecturer in Philosophy, Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 04 October 2013

Lecturer in Psychology, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 04 October 2013

Professor: Film or Media Studies, Centre for Film & Media Studies, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 18 October 2013

SARChI Chair in Clinical Neurosciences, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 21 October 2013

SARChI Chair in Lung Infection & Immunity in Poverty Related Diseases, Department of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 21 October 2013

RESEARCH, PROFESSIONAL, ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPPORT POSTS (PASS)

Lead Clinical Investigator, Department of Clinical Pharmacology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 23 September 2013

Architectural Technologist, Physical Planning Unit, Properties & Services, Closing date: 23 September 2013

Research Officer (Clinical), SA Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI), Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 25 September 2013

Administrative Officer, Centre for Law and Society, Faculty of Law, Closing date: 26 September 2013

Project Director: Cohort Collaboration, Centre for Infectious Disease Epidemiology & Research, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 27 September 2013

Chief Research Officer, SA

Tuberculosis Vaccine Initiative (SATVI), Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 27 September 2013

Research Development Co-ordinator, Faculty Research Office, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 28 September 2013

POSTS FOR UCT STAFF ONLY:

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

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

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Editor: A. Harold BA (Hons), MA (Wits); BA (Hons), MA (Cum Laude), HED (Unisa) Professional Editor/Sworn Translator of the High Court of South Africa Member of the Professional Editors' Group (PEG) Tel.: 0214611483/Cell.: 0724140064 Email: alby01@telkomsa.net

Yoga Class: Fridays 12h45 - 13h45 EGS Dept - Upper Campus R60 per class contact: Sharon Adams x2873

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marking WCED Grade 3/6 mathematics and language scripts. They must have at least second year mathematics or languages. Contact riana.albertyn@uct.ac.za (x3987/5583)

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10 Sept: Using social media for your studies	17 Sept: Handy stats packages
October	
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Alumni re-interpret Williams in US

YUSUF OMAR

One year after becoming the first African theatre company to perform at the Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theatre Festival in the USA, a locally based company is set to perform two classic productions at this year's festival in September.

Abrahamse & Meyer Productions, a Cape-Town based independent theatre company, was co-founded in 2006 by UCT drama school alumnus Fred Abrahamse and Marcel Meyer. Their production of *Kingdom of Earth* impressed Provincetown audiences in 2012, and this year the group will add another Williams classic, *The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore*, to their repertoire.

The UCT flag will fly proudly at the festival, with Abrahamse (director, set and lighting) and actors Nicholas Dallas, Jennifer Steyn and Roelof Storm all UCT alumni. Meyer designed costumes while Charl-Johan Lingenfelder composed the music, including an original score for *Kingdom of Earth*.

"I suppose it's just a validation for us," said Abrahamse of being the first African company to be invited to the festival. "We've always thought that everything from 'overseas' is better... I think we do well in sport, but when it comes to art, we kind of undermine ourselves. I think we've got something we can be very proud of, and I think we can be particularly proud of the kind of training we get here."

Their performance at the 2012 Festival was widely acclaimed.

Curator of the Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theatre Festival David Kaplan said: "Our audiences – and the other festival artists from around the world – were

startled and moved by the care and insight this South African company brought to a very American play, revealing its universality, and at the same time, flooring us with the precision of the Mississippi accents and the loving details of American bad taste.

"*The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore* has Abrahamse & Meyer pursuing Williams' vision of theatre, past kitchen-sink realism, to poetry onstage: a South African fulfilment of an American author's lifework," adds Kaplan.

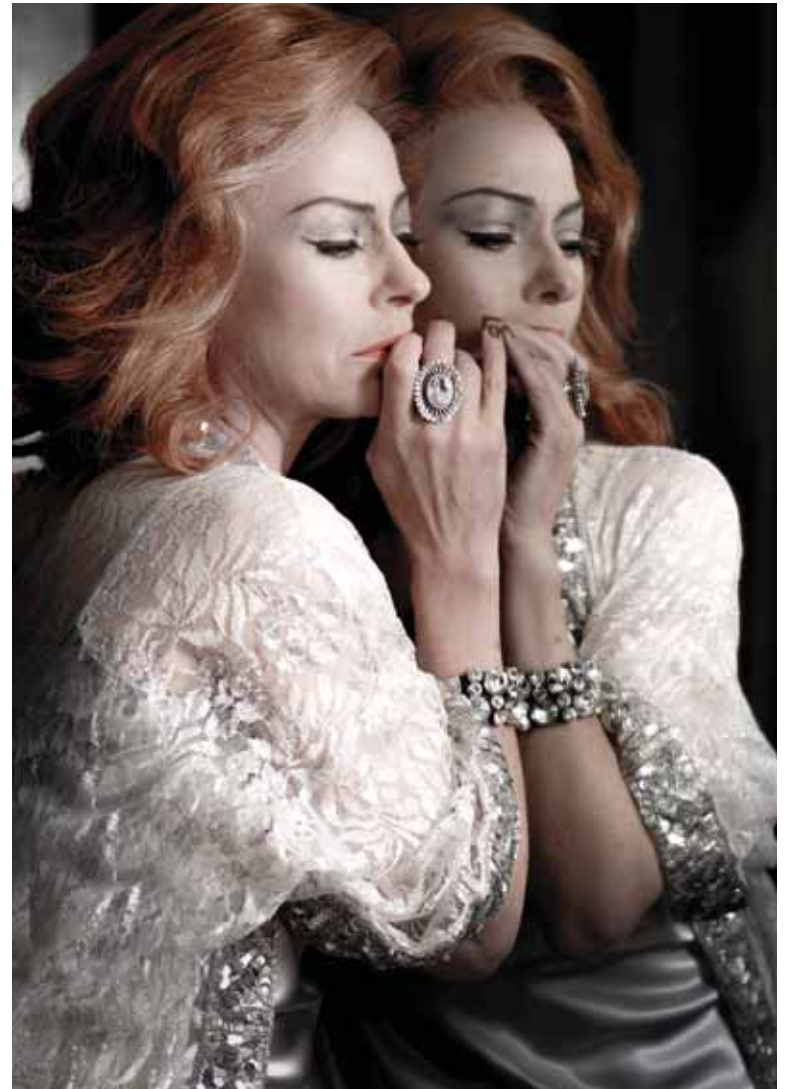
That 'uniquely South African' flavour, Abrahamse explains, is the depth of emotion that his cast and crew was able to draw on. Growing up during the dark days of the apartheid era and experiencing the atrocities and states of emergency allowed Abrahamse and his actors to relate intimately to the *Kingdom on Earth* characters – who are immersed in a racially-charged family feud in the 1960s Mississippi Delta.

The Milk Train Doesn't Stop Here Anymore is set in Italy, and centres on a dying, wealthy woman who catches a young man trespassing on her estate. It is one of the more common Tennessee Williams works to see the light of stage in recent years, while *Kingdom of Earth* is a lesser known work.

"Part of the aim of our company is to bring classic works to life," says Abrahamse. "The play is in the 1960s; the Washington riots were happening at the same time that South African mothers were sitting outside the Union Buildings and burning their pass books. There are such parallels.

"We [SA and the US] share an incredible history of slavery and the emancipation of the black man, so we found a massive amount of conversation that happened over there in 2012."

Abrahamse & Meyer Productions will perform the two plays from 26-29 September at the Festival. Upon their return to South Africa, *The Milk Train* will stop at the Artscape Theatre from 4-19 October. ■



Self-reflection: Jennifer Steyn is one of the UCT alumni who will perform at the Provincetown Tennessee Williams Theatre Festival.

MONDAY MONTHLY

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Mr Ronnie Kasrils

Former South African Minister

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WHAT'S ON

» **iPad as Teaching and Learning Tool:** In this ICTS-supported venture, Professor Peter Dunsby demonstrates how to use your iPad as a teaching and learning tool. **When:** 25 September at 13h00. **Where:** Hoerikwaggo 3A, Upper Campus.

» **Great Texts with Dorothy Driver:** Professor Dorothy Driver from the University of Adelaide will discuss recent revisions and reframings of Olive Schreiner's posthumously published novel, *From Man to Man*. **When:** 26 September at 17h00 for 17h30. **Where:** Hiddingh Hall.

» **2013 Social Responsiveness Award:** Nominations for the Vice-Chancellor's Social Responsiveness Award 2013 can be submitted to Sonwabo Ngcelwane, Room 231.1, Bremner Building, or Sonwabo.ngcelwane@uct.ac.za. **Closing date:** 30 September. The recipient of the award will be announced in December 2013.

» **Retirees' Dinner:** The Chair of Council, Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane, and the Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo, will host a dinner to honour retiring staff. **When:** 8 October at 19h00 for 19h30. **Where:** Smuts Dining Hall. Contact person: Rosina van de Rheede at 021 650 4468, or email rosina.vanderheede@uct.ac.za

» **Religious Studies Seminar: *The Neuroplastic Human: Ethics, subjectivity and truth.*** By Dr Annie Leatt. **When:** 16 October at 13h00. **Where:** Religious Studies Seminar Room, Leslie Social Sciences building, LS 5.67.

» **Astronomy in the Cape: A glimpse of the past, present and future.** This short course, led by renowned astronomer Emeritus Distinguished Professor Brian Warner, offers participants a broad introduction to astronomy. The course comprises lectures and guided tours of the South African Astronomical Observatories in Cape Town and the Sutherland Observatory in the Northern Cape. **When:** 19 October – 29 October. Contact: <http://www.col.uct.ac.za> to download application forms.

» **September Nederburg Concert:** UCT alumna and award-winning soprano Hlengiwe Mkhwanazi makes her Nederburg debut alongside the Stellenbosch University Percussion Duo. **When:** 29 September at 17h00. **Contact:** concerts@distell.co.za

» **SCILS Seminar:** Is the quest for quality or performance measures or indices destroying academic values and obstructing academic progress? With Professor Wilfred F. Van Gunsteren, of the Laboratory of Physical Chemistry, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology. **When:** 1 October at 15h30. **Where:** Lecture Theatre 5, PD Hahn Building.

» **SACM Jazz Festival:** This annual SACM Jazz Festival features the UCT Big Band and other groups from the jazz programme, as well as staff members Andrew Lilley, Mike Rossi, Amanda Tiffin, Darryl Andrews and Jason Reolon. Prices per evening: R55 / UCT Staff: R50. Senior citizens and students: R40 / Learners: R30. **When:** 17, 18 and 19 October at 20h15. **Where:** Chisholm Recital Room, SACM.