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FREEDOM SONGS

'The Voice' Vusi Mahlasela will be performing at UCT's 20 Years of Freedom concert on the 22 May. Joining him will be Freshlyground, PJ Powers and Mi Casa. Watch uct.ac.za for details.

UCT ON THE GLOBAL STAGE

Story by Abigail Calata
Photo by Michael Hammond

Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price was recently elected chair of the World Universities Network (WUN) Partnership Board – the first from the Global South – signalling WUN's coming of age and a new opportunity for UCT on the global stage.



Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price, with Prof John Hearn, executive director of the World Universities Network (WUN), and outgoing chair of WUN's Partnership Board Dr Indira Samarasekera.

The World Universities Network (WUN) – a collection of 17 researched universities committed to building global research communities by supporting collaboration – held its annual general meeting for the first time in Cape Town in early April, marking what newly elected chair Dr Max Price termed a significant shift in focus from the Global North to

the Global South and signalling the organisation's "coming of age".

At a dinner in Smuts Hall, Price paid tribute to the leadership of his predecessor, Dr Indira Samarasekera. He praised her for the sterling way in which she "steered the ship", and added that he was "honoured" by the confidence shown by the board members who elected him. He also

outlined the organisation's collective vision and its intention to grow from 17 universities to 25 over the next five years.

Addressing WUN delegates at the dinner, Price pointed out that WUN had no members from South America, and also had membership gaps in – among others – Africa, Southeast Asia, Central Europe and mainland China.

"By increasing our spread we establish ourselves as a network that tackles world issues," he explained.

He observed that WUN members ensured their students were prepared for an increasingly globalised world by "facilitating student mobility" and by raising large research grants "that can sustain cross-continental, cross-institutional research projects".

Price added that the network played

a crucial role in the development of leadership, explaining that institute leaders were able to "draw on the wisdom of (their) peers".

"As we survey what WUN has become, it is clear that the network is unique. Unlike its competitors it is not too large, nor is it focused on just one region. We have something unique, and it is something we remain committed to," he concluded.



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Photo by Margaret Bourke-White



Photo by Raymond Botha



Photo by Je'nine May

NEWS IN PICTURES

1 Apartheid in black and white

This arresting image of residents of apartheid 'emergency camp' Moroka forms part of a compelling exhibition at the Michaelis Gallery of the work of acclaimed photographer Margaret Bourke-White. *Photos in Black and White: Margaret Bourke-White and the Dawn of Apartheid*, a photojournalistic portrayal of South Africa in 1949 and 1950, initially run in *Life* magazine, exposed the brutality of apartheid. More than 10 000 families, evicted from the surrounding land, lived in Moroka – a name that became synonymous with South Africa's worst slums. The exhibition concludes on 7 May 2014.

2 All that jazz

William Haubrich, the head of brass at the South African College of Music, recently took part in the *Living Jazz Legends* project to honour award-winning jazz trumpeter Feya Faku. Haubrich conducted, directed and performed with Faku and his jazz orchestra at the launch of the project in Johannesburg. Faku is the first of the beneficiaries of this project, sponsored by the National Lotteries Board, among others. The project will take the form of a recorded documentary of the featured artist, followed by a book of the artist's musical arrangements and a CD and DVD of a live recording.

3 Against discrimination

RainbowUCT joined a peaceful picket outside Parliament demanding that the South African government speak up against anti-gay legislation in Uganda and other African states. Organised by Free Gender, a Cape Town-based NGO, the protest followed Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni's signing into law a bill allowing for repeat homosexual 'offenders' to be jailed for life. "We were protesting to get the South African government to speak up about what is happening in other African countries," said Pam Dhlamini, chairperson of RainbowUCT. "South Africa was quiet when these bills were passed, and we wanted the South African government to say something, since [Uganda] falls under the SADC countries."

4 Motivate to innovate

Inspiring learners about the ways in which they could contribute to the growth of the continent, Professor Kelly Chibale addresses a Westerford High School audience during the school's TEDx programme staged earlier this month. Holder of the South African Research Chair in Drug Discovery and director of UCT's Drug Discovery & Development Centre (H3-D), Chibale spoke about Africa as a place of innovation, and gave the audience insight into the world of drug discovery. As Africa's first integrated modern drug discovery and development centre, H3-D aims to deliver drug candidates for clinical development.

GROWING PUBLIC GOOD PROFESSIONALS

Story by Yusuf Omar

What is the role of universities when it comes to equity and social justice? The University of the Free State's Professor Melanie Walker's responsibility is to grow students' social conscience – by embedding work for the 'public good' into core curricula.



How is UCT helping to grow professionals with a social conscience? Through initiatives like the Knowledge Co-op, students can connect their research with community needs. It was through the co-op that the UCT chapter of Engineers Without Borders teamed up with NGO SEED to launch an organic gardening project in Mitchells Plain. Known to the public as the Rocklands Urban Abundance Centre, the project stems from SEED's vision that whole communities can be transformed through growing a culture of outdoor learning at schools.

Embracing a capabilities-based approach to human development could unlock universities' full potential to reduce poverty and inequality in post-apartheid South Africa, argues Professor Melanie Walker.

Her capabilities-based approach – outlined in her latest book, *Professional Education, Capabilities and the Public Good*, co-written with Monica McLean – is rooted in economist Amartya Sen and philosopher Martha Nussbaum's notion that true equity occurs when all people are afforded the same opportunities to develop to their full potential, according to criteria that individuals deem valuable.

This is in contrast to the utilitarian approach to ethics and economics, which holds that an action's moral value is judged solely according to how much 'happiness', or utility, it creates.

Where universities fit into this equation is in terms of how they educate and encourage professionals. "Engineers, lawyers, doctors, teachers, nurses, economists, business leaders,

social workers and so on are now educated at universities," says Walker. "What kind of education could produce lawyers, social workers and nurses who act as if the world matters?" And what are the challenges?

The greater good

From the outset, Walker's research exposed some difficult hurdles. After investigating and interviewing a number of professionals, universities (including staff and students) and NGOs, she realised that many people saw public service as inherently at odds with making money. This was most prevalent in the legal and engineering fields.

There was also a pull towards the reproduction of social advantage through a university education, pointed out to Walker by the head of a social

work department in which they were collecting data: "She explained that they want to show students alternatives through their teaching programmes. But, she said, that's really hard for graduates to take on board, because everywhere else they are engaged in competition and individualism as a driving force."

Education as experience

Developing and using a capabilities-based approach is not a blueprint for a perfect public-good-professional education, Walker cautions. However, in Nussbaum's words, "human abilities exert a moral claim that they should be developed" – and not developing them would be tragic, she concludes.

Walker's book proposes an index – containing various elements –

that could aid in developing public good professionals. "The proposal is that all the elements of the index – valuable professional capabilities and functioning, educational arrangements and socio-historic conditions – constitute a framework for educating public-good-professionals; who in turn will be equipped, should they make this choice, to contribute to advancing capabilities for all in the society," she says. "It is our hope that university educators in professional fields will use or adapt the index to develop, evaluate, fête and debate about what they are doing, without waiting for perfect social structures or perfectly just institutions to be put in place."

Ultimately, though, the decision about which path to tread rests with students and graduates. Walker draws on work by Davina Cooper to argue that "There can be no social pathways to public-good professionalism without individuals whose personal trajectories have been shaped by their experiences, including their university education,

to walk public-good-professional pathways into existence."

With 47% of South Africans living below the poverty line (according to UCT's Professor Haroon Borat) there is significant scope for universities to contribute to the country's – and, indeed, the world's – transformation agenda, says Walker. She observes: "As Martha Nussbaum reminds us, people all over the world are struggling for a life that is fully human, a life worthy of human dignity."

Walker is senior professor of higher education studies at the University of the Free State. She was speaking at the first instalment of a UCT-hosted series of seminars addressing poverty and inequality. The next seminar will be held on 30 April 2014, and features Acting Pro Vice-Chancellor for Poverty and Inequality Emeritus Professor Francis Wilson, speaking about macroeconomic policy and development theory.

“What kind of education could produce lawyers, nurses & social workers who act as if the world matters?” Prof Melanie Walker

BRIEFS

Former chair of Council dies

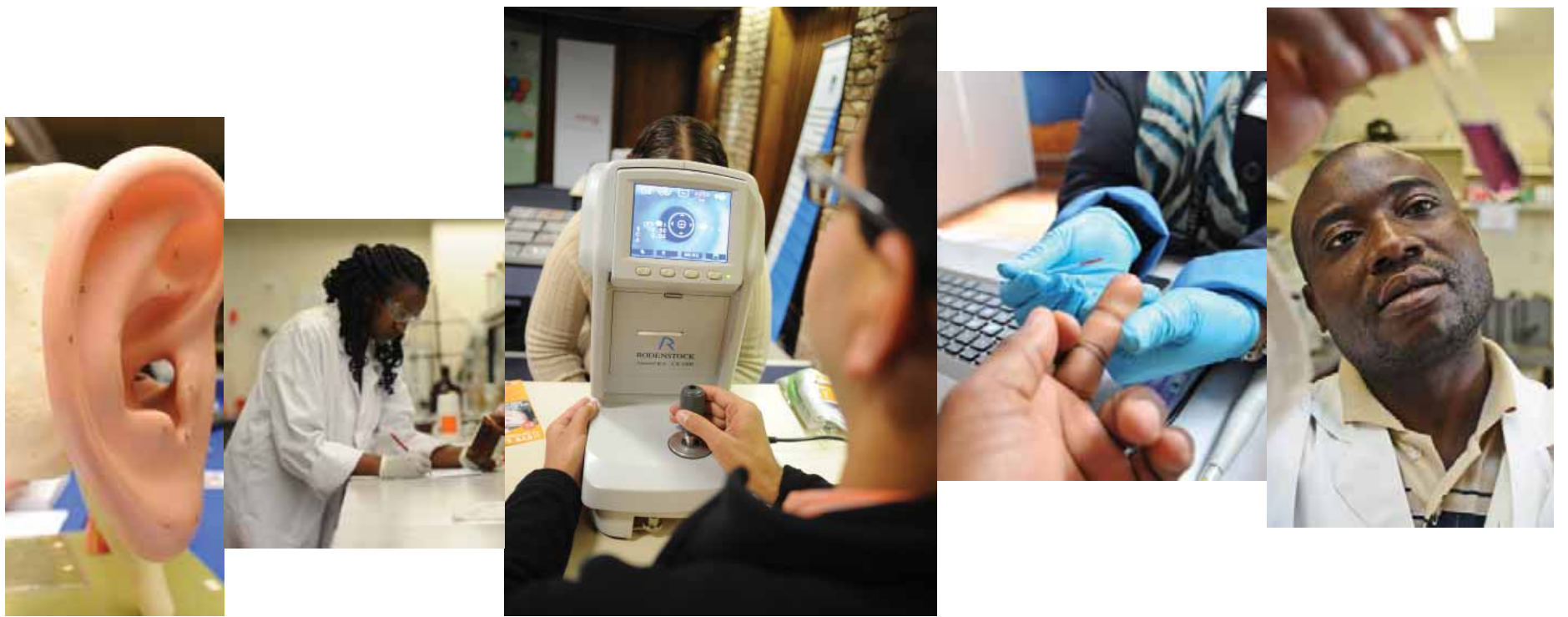
It is with great sadness that the UCT community notes the passing of Ian Sims CBE on 24 March 2014 in New Zealand, after a long illness. Ian Sims was chair of Council (1991 to 1998) at a time of transitions: from the Vice-Chancellorship of Stuart Saunders to that of Mamphele Rampele; from the old to the new South Africa in 1994; to a new Council structure, following an extensive consultative process involving the then-University Transformation Forum; the transition to a new faculty structure (ten faculties becoming six, and the addition of the Centre for Higher Education Development); and financial devolution to faculties. He took over at a time when UCT had just embarked upon two significant capital projects: the move of the GSB to the waterfront campus, and the acquisition of the Forest Hills complex. His extensive experience and his relaxed style enabled him to ensure that the Council was able to deal effectively with the challenges associated with these transitions.

Geophysicist chosen for high-profile lecture tour

George Smith, a senior lecturer in the Department of Geological Science, was selected by the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) to give lectures around Africa and the Middle East. An international scientific society based in the US and a dominant international professional society for applied geophysics, SEG chooses one honorary lecturer per continent in recognition of that person's expertise as a geophysicist and a speaker. Smith recently completed the lecture series through Africa and the Middle East, which saw him presenting 22 lectures in 13 countries. His topic – 'Amplitude Variation with Offset in Exploration and Production' – is about geophysical (seismology) interpretation technology used principally in the upstream oil and gas industry.

Salt of success seasons hypertension research

Two UCT researchers were recently honoured by the World Hypertension League (WHL) for their groundbreaking work in the field. Professors Krisela Steyn and Brian Rayner received the 2014 WHL Notable Achievement awards for their work in dietary salt reduction and hypertension respectively. The awards were given in recognition of their contribution to the prevention and control of hypertension. Rayner is head of the Division of Nephrology and Hypertension in UCT's Department of Medicine and Groote Schuur Hospital, and president of the South African Hypertension Society. Steyn is the associate director of the Chronic Diseases Initiative for Africa.



BUILDING CAPACITY IN AFRICA

Story by Carolyn Newton

The largest source of medical funding in the world – the US National Institutes of Health (NIH) – has assigned more than US\$9million to UCT research projects aimed at building capacity in Africa, helping the continent solve global health problems at home.

The University of Cape Town attracted more direct grant funding from the US-based National Institutes of Health (NIH) than any other non-American university in 2013 – a sum that has grown more than three times in the last three years. “NIH grants are highly competitive,” says Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Research Professor Danie Visser. “This growing support is confirmation that UCT, along with other research institutions in South Africa, is recognised internationally for making a significant contribution to solving global health issues.”

These research grants make it possible for UCT’s researchers to tackle some of Africa’s most intractable and neglected health problems, while building capacity in

Africa: most of the projects are large-scale, and many involve collaboration with partner universities on the continent.

One of the recipients of this funding, Associate Professor Crick Lund from the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, believes this kind of success isn’t just testament to UCT’s top scientists and infrastructure; it’s also about the university’s location: “If we’re talking about [building capacity in] lower- and middle-income countries, UCT is perfectly placed. We are the logical conduit for research in sub-Saharan Africa on a variety of health challenges.”

What kinds of projects are being funded?

Sickle cell anaemia

Sickle cell anaemia is the number-one human monogenic disease in the world – 300 000 people are diagnosed with it every year, the average life expectancy for patients in the US is 47, and the only effective treatment at the moment is bone marrow transplantation, which is expensive and largely unavailable in Africa.

Senior specialist in the Division of Human Genetics Associate Professor Ambrose Wonkam is trying to find out why some patients get sicker than others. He and his colleagues – based in South Africa, Cameroon (Wonkam’s home country), Ghana and Tanzania – are looking for genome variations that can determine which patients have the disease from birth.

“In Africa, we don’t know, but we think around half may die before one year,” says Wonkam. “Seventy percent of those with the disease were born in Africa, yet 70% of what we know about it was discovered outside Africa. It was first described 100 years ago in the US, but it has largely been abandoned since then, while other much more recently discovered diseases – such as HIV – have been attracting attention. We in Africa have to solve these problems ourselves: it is our duty.”

Mental healthcare

There is currently one psychiatrist for every 2 million people in Africa, one psychologist for every 2.5 million, and at least 75% of people living with mental disorders in low- and middle-income countries have no evidence-based mental healthcare. Associate Professor Crick Lund is working on a model for low-cost mental health interventions that can inform ministries of health across Africa – focusing specifically on the use of non-specialist health workers to provide mental healthcare under specialist supervision and training, otherwise known as ‘task-shifting’.

“If you were only to use specialists to treat mental disorders in Africa, the queue would stretch halfway across the continent,” says Lund. “We are evaluating the cost-effectiveness of interventions delivered by non-specialist health workers, to narrow the treatment gap.” AFFIRM (Africa Focus for Intervention Research in Mental Health) is part of a global drive to narrow the treatment gap; as part of AFFIRM, students from Ghana, Ethiopia, Uganda, Malawi and Zimbabwe are being funded to complete an MPhil in Public Mental Health.

Big data

Biological data from Africa so often has to be shipped abroad and analysed internationally – which also means international researchers are the first to publish findings. Associate Professor Nicola Mulder, head of the Computational Biology Group, is out to ensure African research stays on the continent. As part of H3ABioNet – a pan-African bioinformatics network comprising over 30 research groups distributed among 15 African countries – she’s helping develop bioinformatics capacity in Africa, so that researchers can access and analyse data digitally, and compute and publish their own findings. “In order to make new discoveries about the genetic basis for disease today, you have to generate big data,” says Mulder. “We are moving towards hypothesis-generating science, where you do big-data analysis to narrow down the gene involved. This requires training of the next generation of scientists with extensive skills in bioinformatics.”

Genetics

Head of the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health Professor Dan Stein is leading two NIH-funded projects: one on the genetics of schizophrenia in the Xhosa population of South Africa, and the other on the genetic and trauma-related risk factors for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and depression, and on what makes some people more resilient than others. Of his schizophrenia research, Stein says, “This project will be the first to use modern genomic sequencing approaches to study schizophrenia in a population of sub-Saharan African lineage. If successful, our approach will identify genes important for the disorder in populations worldwide ... and help develop more effective treatment and prevention strategies.”

As for the PTSD and depression research, Steyn says, “Despite the adversity faced by many Africans and South Africans, some cope and function remarkably well. Identifying genetic or other factors that allow these individuals to cope may elucidate the underpinnings of resilience, which could inform the search for novel preventative and therapeutic interventions for these prevalent and debilitating disorders.”

DID YOU KNOW?

UCT’s Faculty of Health Sciences was rated among the top 50 health-science faculties in the world in the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings in 2012* – the first tertiary institution from any developing country to make the grade.



UNIVERSAL HEALTHCARE: HOW & WHY?

Story by Yusuf Omar

Capitalist or communist, states should provide universal healthcare to their citizens, argues Minister of Health Dr Aaron Motsoaledi.

Global healthcare is on the verge of its third major transition in recent centuries, with publicly funded systems replacing the 'pay as you fall ill' model that dominates the South African landscape at the moment, says Minister of Health Dr Aaron Motsoaledi.

Following the advent of public health systems in the 18th century (think running water and sanitation) and the epidemiological transition of the 20th century, when immunisations were introduced, healthcare systems worldwide are starting to move away from the pay-first-and-treat-later model. Already, many European healthcare systems are funded by mandatory public payment – which would be the basis of South Africa's National Health Insurance (NHI) system, says Motsoaledi.

"When we released the green paper in 2011, people were still thinking that the NHI was just a South African adventure, and a very dangerous adventure, for that matter," says Motsoaledi. "But I need to warn that this phenomenon is now global. There is debate around the whole world about this issue; so much so that we have cause to believe that this year, that debate might enter the United Nations General Assembly."

Were this to happen, says Motsoaledi, it would be possible for publicly funded healthcare systems to be put on the agenda for adoption by all member states.

"So it's no longer an issue of [only] one country."

Healthcare financing

Motsoaledi underscores the importance of a healthcare financing system in achieving universal healthcare (the funding model he proposes draws on research by UCT's Professor Diane McIntyre). Part of the reason that healthcare financing systems have failed, says Motsoaledi, is because of "many declarations" that were made, but never – or poorly, at best – implemented.

The 1978 Alma-Ata Declaration, which committed nations to "the attainment by all peoples of the world by the year 2000 of a level of health that will permit them to lead a socially and economically productive life", was one such declaration – it promised much, but was barely acted upon: "Alma-Ata was really exciting, but I think that's fallen off the radar. It's no longer spoken about much."

"We were supposed to have healthcare for all by the year 2000. It came and went and nothing happened."

Instead, Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were declared. But, with the deadline for MDGs fast approaching ("I don't want to call them a failure yet"), Motsoaledi notes a global shift in attitudes. Now, some argue that health and education should be provided for all citizens by the state, regardless of whether a state thinks of itself as capitalist or communist.

"Ultimately, if you want human beings to develop in health and education, there cannot be financial barriers."

Human beings should be allowed to develop according to their talents rather than by virtue of how much money they have, he argues.

Setting a precedent

Motsoaledi, who made headlines for bucking the apparent trend and using the public health system himself, says his own use of the system he helps provide for the nation is a matter of sound morals.

"I believe in the public health system. All we need to do is improve it."

While NHI-like schemes have been unsuccessfully attempted throughout postcolonial Africa, Motsoaledi, referencing WHO Africa's Regional Director Dr Luis Sambo, cites a number of conditions for such ventures to succeed.

Strengthening the capacity of the public healthcare infrastructure to provide "effective, safe and quality health services" is crucial. This includes adequate staffing, new buildings, up-to-date technology, utilities such as electricity and water supplies, waste management, communication, finance and maintenance.

"I believe in the public health system. All we need to do is improve it."

Dr Aaron Motsoaledi

In Africa, for the most part, this infrastructure largely didn't exist: "This was the [issue] that failed Kwame Nkrumah [in Ghana]; it's the one that failed Agostinho Neto [in Angola], and the one that [wrecked] Madiba's dream in the new South Africa."

To prevent the NHI following the same ill-fated path as its continental compatriots, Motsoaledi launched pilot districts in 2012.

Pilot districts serve as prototypes for the NHI and are helping the ministry identify what is needed to implement the programme countrywide. The ten districts, which include Tshwane, the Eden district in the Western Cape and the OR Tambo district in the Eastern Cape, were selected according to their socioeconomic standing, their health service performance, and demographics.

Private healthcare and income tax

Motsoaledi rejects claims that a publicly funded health system is inherently unfair because it takes money from income tax to benefit all. "We can't claim that because 'we pay taxes', we [can] claim the resources for ourselves and the poor are left behind." After all, Motsoaledi points out, everyone in South Africa pays a form of tax, be it income-based or VAT.

Nor does a publicly funded healthcare system sound the death knell for the private healthcare industry, Motsoaledi says, stipulating that there is no policy to suggest that he or his department want to do away with private healthcare.

Motsoaledi's talk, *NHI: Turning the Tide in South Africa's Health Sector*, was hosted by UCT's Department of Public Health and Family Medicine in late March. For readers interested in how NHI financing can work, read Professor Diane McIntyre's paper in *The South African Medical Journal* in 2012: 'What healthcare financing changes are needed to reach universal coverage in South Africa?'

ZUMA: ASSET OR LIABILITY AHEAD OF ELECTIONS?

Story by Helen Swingler

Party stagnation, splits with trade union and youth movements, and a scandal around public funding of a privately owned presidential compound; it all makes for cumbersome baggage for the African National Congress (ANC) ahead of a crucial general election. The question Associate Professor Richard Calland wants to ask is: will President Jacob Zuma be an asset to the ruling party – or a dead weight?

The Zuma question could well be a “hinge moment” in South African politics, says Associate Professor Richard Calland, director of the Public Law, Democratic Governance and Rights Unit in the Faculty of Law.

Speaking at the university's Open Planning Forum in March – organised by the Institutional Planning Department, and aimed at facilitating the exchange of ideas across the university on topics of strategic importance – Calland presented several scenarios that could alter the electoral landscape, drawing on key trends in municipal and general election statistics.

The case of KZN

The fallout from Nkandla following the Public Protector's report is considerable and inconvenient for the ANC, Calland said. KwaZulu-Natal, a Zuma stronghold, is the country's most populous province. For the ANC, facing eroding majorities and a battle for supremacy in four major metropolises (Cape Town, Johannesburg, Nelson Mandela Bay and Tshwane), the province could be

decisive. “In the 2009 general elections Zuma was a massive electoral asset for the ANC,” Calland noted. “In eight of the nine provinces the ANC's vote went down 8% on average – but in KZN it went up 16%. It's the most populous province, so to do well there is to do well nationally.” That gap has been narrowing since the 2011 municipal elections, when international market research company Ipsos's study showed a similar trend.

“If his personal support in KZN declines, then the ANC will be substantially hit,” said Calland. “Of course Mr Zuma is aware of this, and so he's put in a huge amount of resources into securing or buoying up his support there.”

Youth and unions

But there have been other seismic shifts in the ANC. At the epicentre is the split with trade union movement COSATU, altering the geography and character of South African politics.

“This has been the biggest factor in the past 20 years, not just from a union perspective but from the ANC's perspective. The alliance has been at

its centre, holding everything together, like ballast.”

Calland believes the youth bulge will be particularly important in this election.

A divided African National Congress Youth League (ANCYL), post-Julius Malema, has cost the party dearly. “They've lost two big pieces of their mobilising campaigning power,” said Calland.

To aggravate matters, the red berets – the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), under Malema – have further destabilised the ANC. “Malema and his cronies can go into places and say things and do things that the ANC seems no longer able to do,” Calland remarked. The EFF is surprisingly well organised, with the capacity to draw 4 to 5% of the vote, he said. But Calland wonders whether many of their probable voters – the young, disgruntled and unemployed – have registered.

“And if they have, do they have the money, skills and muscle to chase them to the polls to vote on the day?”

The ‘born frees’, another significant youth bracket, are much more open to

WHAT DOES DEMOCRACY MEAN TO YOU?

Photos by Michael Hammond & Raymond Botha

Twenty years after the first free election in South Africa, what does democracy mean? We asked students around campus for their definition.



“Democracy is a system of government determined by the people, implemented for the people. Democracy means that I have the power to choose who rules over my country. Freedom, unity, equality, choice.”

Erin Wright, Jeremy Phillips, Lauren Davison

persuasion, offering another possible hinge moment in South African politics. But, Calland pointed out, their allegiances and keenness to vote are harder to determine.

DA nipping at the heels

More intriguing, he said, are the dynamics between the Democratic Alliance (DA) and the ANC. In an election where smaller parties like the Congress of the People (COPE) and the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) will be squeezed to get more than 10% of the vote, and in the likelihood of the EFF securing 4 to 5%, the ANC and DA would find themselves fighting over the remaining 85%.

"If the DAs starting point is the 24% they won in 2011 municipal elections, then every percentage point of progress the DA makes from this base will knock a percentage point off the ANC. There's a serious possibility that the ANC could fall below 60% in this election. If you're in the 50s, your majority looks more perilous.

"It could be a game-changing moment." The DA has presented itself as the party of change, and

could leapfrog the ANC, which finds itself mired in anti-transformation behaviour and protecting its own security and vested interests. Is this likely?

"One of the big issues in this election is whether the DA can make serious inroads into the black vote, especially the working-class black vote." Municipal election trends in Johannesburg and Cape Town between 2006 and 2011 showed that the DA had doubled – and even tripled – its support. "If you take a typical working-class area like Khayelitsha, one sees that DA support went from 0% in 2006 to 1.64% in 2011. Now, that's from nothing to tiny; but if you're trying to grow, tiny is better than nothing."

If the DA builds a critical mass of support in a "hitherto hostile political environment", the principle of exponential growth might come into play. With a stronger brand and leadership, the DA is stronger, and well positioned to build on this base, he added. "First in the Cape, and now – almost miraculously, and almost imperceptibly – in other parts of the country, the DA is now able to

position itself as the party of change, whereas the ANC increasingly appears like a conservative party whose interest is in maintaining the status quo.

"Now that's an extraordinary flip, and electorally powerful. Change is a very strong and powerful motif to an electorate that is disgruntled and unhappy with progress."

The 'good story'?

But don't discount the ANC, said Calland. They're seasoned campaigners, with the advantage of incumbency; a resilient brand that – despite Zuma, cronyism, and corruption – does have a good news story to tell, especially in the light of the '20 years of democracy' celebrations.

"The ANC's best chances are to look backwards; not at what it promises, but at what it stands for and what it's delivered; its historical role. Its two powerful motifs are its good news story, and that under the ANC, South Africa is a better place to live."

But this stance is ultimately unsustainable, and Calland suggests this will be the last election in which the ANC will be able to do this with

any degree of credibility.

The looming spectre, said Calland, is that we may end up with an electoral split. "Here, the ANC – whatever its leadership, its character and disposition, whatever its policies and government – presents itself as the party of the majority, the working class and the poor, and the DA captures and soaks up all other minority races, and virtually all of the middle class; the result being that despite what people say, increasingly we see a divide between classes and between races."

As he reminds us, much hinges on the DAs ability to win working-class black votes.

Madiba magic

And then there's the Mandela factor. This will be the ANC's first election without the talismanic 'Father of the Nation' as ballast for the party's image. "Does Mr Mandela's death in December remind voters that the ANC is a great liberation movement, or does it remind them of better days and that they have a leader now who doesn't stand up to scrutiny?"

“Change is a very strong and powerful motif to an electorate that is disgruntled and unhappy with progress.”

Assoc Prof Richard Calland



Vanessa Rubombora



Velani Mboweni

“Democracy is a theorised freedom. It's the worst form of government, except for all those other forms that have been tried from time to time. Democracy is the new type of oppression.”

Luthando Mili, Zukiswa Zono, Fern Harris



100 ON THE UP

Story by Yusuf Omar
Photo by Michael Hammond

Three years ago, 100 promising grade 10 students from Khayelitsha were chosen by UCT for a mentoring programme to help prepare them for university. Ninety of those students, who matriculated in 2013, were offered places at UCT for 2014, with 73 taking up the offer.



“The university needs you.”

This was Associate Professor Suellen Shay's message to the trailblazing cohort that graduated from UCT's 100UP schools programme and were accepted for first-year study at UCT this year.

Dean of the Centre for Higher Education Development (CHED), Shay was speaking at the launch of 100UP Plus, which supports 100UP students who have now enrolled at UCT. During their time at the university, and as part of 100UP Plus, students will be supported by a mentor from within their faculty and a peer-mentorship

support structure that includes workshops and social meetings.

“In order for us to be an excellent university, you've got to actually be here,” Shay told the students. “You've got to be in this place. What I want you to remember, even in those dark hours, is that this place needs you. It needs you to be here; it needs you to succeed; it needs you to walk across that stage and make a powerful contribution in our society.”

UCT's Schools Development Unit launched 100UP in 2011, selecting 100 of the most promising grade 10s from high schools in Khayelitsha to be mentored for possible admission to UCT. Ninety of those learners, who

matriculated in 2013, were offered places at the university, with 73 taking up the offer, and some opting to register at other tertiary institutions.

Dr Jonathan Clark, director of the SDU and UCT's Schools Improvement Initiative, lauded these students for being pioneers of the programme.

“Back in 2010, when we were still putting [100UP] together, if we had an event like this, do you know how many of you would be standing here?” Clark asked the students. “Fifteen. There were 15 Khayelitsha students from the twenty schools registered as first-year students in 2010. Last year there were more: 29, from 11 schools. But now you are 70, and there are another 10

students. Six of you [matriculated] in 2012, and there's even somebody from 2004 who is studying for the first time at UCT.

“Nineteen schools are represented here. When we stand here next year, I hope that this venue is not big enough.

“This is only the start, students. This programme will grow. I hope that the success which you have from the schools you come from will encourage your colleagues in years below you to aspire to be at UCT.”

“What I want you to remember, even in those dark hours, is that this place needs you. It needs you to be here; it needs you to succeed; it needs you to walk across that stage and make a powerful contribution in our society.”

Assoc Prof Suellen Shay

WHAT IT COSTS TO MAKE A CHANGE

Story by Abigail Calata

UCT Law Professors Hugh Corder and Anton Fagan are giving 5% of their salary (or more) to help reduce poverty – and are encouraging other South Africans to do the same. The Five Plus Project already has over 150 members committed to contributing financially to social change. Are you one?

You're on your way to work when you see a small child in a pond. Not waving but drowning. What do you do?

This is the challenge posed by moral philosopher Peter Singer in his book, *The Life You Can Save*, in which he argues that, just as you're morally obliged to save the drowning child (even if it makes you late for work), wealthy people have an obligation to help those less well-off.

Inspired by this challenge, UCT Law Professors Hugh Corder and Anton Fagan have started the Five Plus Project, as part of which they commit to giving at least 5% of their taxable income to poverty alleviation organisations – and are encouraging other well-off South Africans to do the same.

In a South Africa context, who is well off? If you're taking home an annual taxable income of R200 000 or more, you're in the top 11% of South Africans who are either employed or seeking work – and definitely count as wealthy. If you have adequate food, water, shelter, clothing, sanitation, healthcare, and education, you already have more than the 11% of South Africans below the

“Not only is poverty pervasive, but we also live in one of the three most unequal societies in the world ... I can't stand by idly when I see the drowning child in the pond.”

Prof Hugh Corder

World Bank's extreme poverty line of US\$1.25 a day.

Five Plus started with 118 founder members – including Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price, his wife Professor Deborah Posel, Deputy Vice-Chancellors Professors Sandra Klopper, Crain Soudien and Danie Visser as well as Dr Russell Ally, executive director of the Development and Alumni Department. Other

prominent South Africans who have publicly pledged to donate 5% of their income, are lifetime activist and Treatment Action Campaign founder Zackie Achmat, Constitutional Court Justice Edwin Cameron, Western Cape Judge Dennis Davis and former UCT Vice-Chancellor Emeritus Professor Njabulo Ndebele.

Since the project's March launch, an additional 30-plus people have signed. “Our goal is to recruit 1 000 members by the end of the year,” says Fagan, who has been leading the recruitment drive since December last year. “The most effective way to recruit is to contact people directly. This means that to reach our goal, we'll have to contact over 2 000 people.”

Fagan and Corder have enlisted the help of students to supercharge their recruitment drive using social media. “We're working hard to widen our geographical, professional and demographic spread,” says Corder.

He doesn't see Five Plus as a “substitute for other action or involvement to address the systemic reasons for inequality and poverty” but believes that something must be done: “Not only is poverty pervasive, but we also live in one of the three most unequal societies in the world ... I can't stand by idly when I see the drowning child in the pond.”

To take the pledge or find out more about the project, go to www.fiveplus.uct.ac.za.

“REPAIR THE FABRIC OF SOCIETY”

Stories by Helen Swingler
Photos by Raymond Botha

Every year, second-year social development students about to embark on fieldwork take a pledge – to be ethical, principled and responsible. At their April 2014 commitment, students heard more about the work that lies ahead, and what it requires of them. In one word: resilience.

“We are a troubled society and our social fabric is damaged; it’s in great need of repair,” Dean of Humanities Professor Sakhela Buhlungu said at the Department of Social Development’s professional declaration ceremony for second-year students – a red-letter event in which the students commit to ethical practices, principles, and responsibilities in their work.

“[Social work is] about building an ethical consciousness in society. It’s the beginning of restoring order. So to me it’s a great privilege to hear students [repeating the pledge] publicly ... A profession like this is about public service and selflessness.”

Buhlungu lauded the department for its leadership and teaching, and for the calibre of its qualification and academics, thanking head of department Associate Professor Vivienne Taylor. Taylor serves as an advisor to the National Planning Commission, and chaired an inquiry into a comprehensive social security system for South Africa and the introduction of the basic income grant.

Punctuated by musical and poetry offerings by students Anthea Appel and Pam Dhlamini, this year’s pledge emphasised the role of social work and social workers in advancing social justice and human rights.

It also marked the transition of 50 second-year social work students from a sole focus on studies, to a dual focus on theoretical and practice-based learning.

“For the rest of their four-year Bachelor of Social Work degree, students spend an increasing number of hours per week in the field, placed at a range of organisations, supervised both on campus and in the practice setting,” said Dr Margaret Booyens.

“[This rite of passage] serves to open the eyes of guests to the profession in general and to the requirements of those entering the social work profession, deepening their respect for the programme and the profession. Resilience is a key word. The fieldwork takes the student into a world of inequality, poverty, unemployment and many related social problems, ranging from domestic violence, substance abuse and child neglect, to under-resourced communities and the reality of drug cartels and gangsterism.”

The structure of the social development degree – and ceremonies such as the pledge – help students feel “supported in their need to develop resilience to face and work in such circumstances”, explained Booyens.



THE FACE OF RESILIENCE

Thirty-nine-year-old Mninawa Ntshongwana used to sweep and dust lecture rooms at UCT. Now he learns here, on track to graduate with a Bachelor of Social Work at the end of the year.

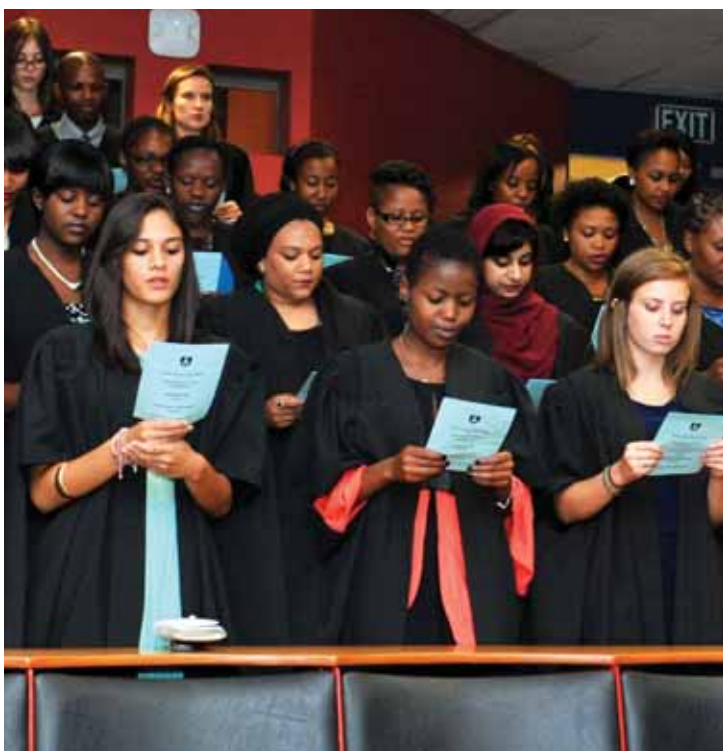
Mninawa Ntshongwana worked as a petrol pump attendant and as a bus driver, and in a variety of other jobs after being forced to give up law studies at the University of Transkei in the Eastern Cape where he was born and raised by his grandmother.

That was many years ago. His path to social work at UCT has been anything but direct. But his unique journey, countering poverty and prejudice, has allowed him to build resilience, understanding,

acceptance – and a determination to succeed.

It’s rare that a student is chosen to be the guest speaker at a pledge ceremony, but Ntshongwana’s story serves as such a powerful reminder to his fellow students – that there are many stuck in cycles of hardship and poverty, but with talent and ambition, with the right help at the right time, there is hope.

Ntshongwana received a standing ovation at the end of his talk.



FELLOWSHIPS: NOTICE INVITING NOMINATIONS/APPLICATIONS

The College of Fellows calls for nominations for the award of Fellowships. Fellowships are awarded in recognition of original, distinguished academic work.

1. ELIGIBILITY

- Members of academic staff appointed to permanent posts on or before 1 January 2010 are eligible for consideration;
- Persons whose candidacy for the award was considered in 2011, 2012 and 2013 may not re-apply and may not be re-nominated.

2. NOMINATIONS/APPLICATIONS

- Members of Senate are invited to submit nominations; and
- Staff eligible for the award, are invited to submit applications.

Such nominations and applications may be submitted to Ms D BENJAMIN, Room 141, Bremner Building) by no later than Tuesday, 30 April 2014.

3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Nominations and applications must be accompanied by a citation; a curriculum vitae; details (and copies) of

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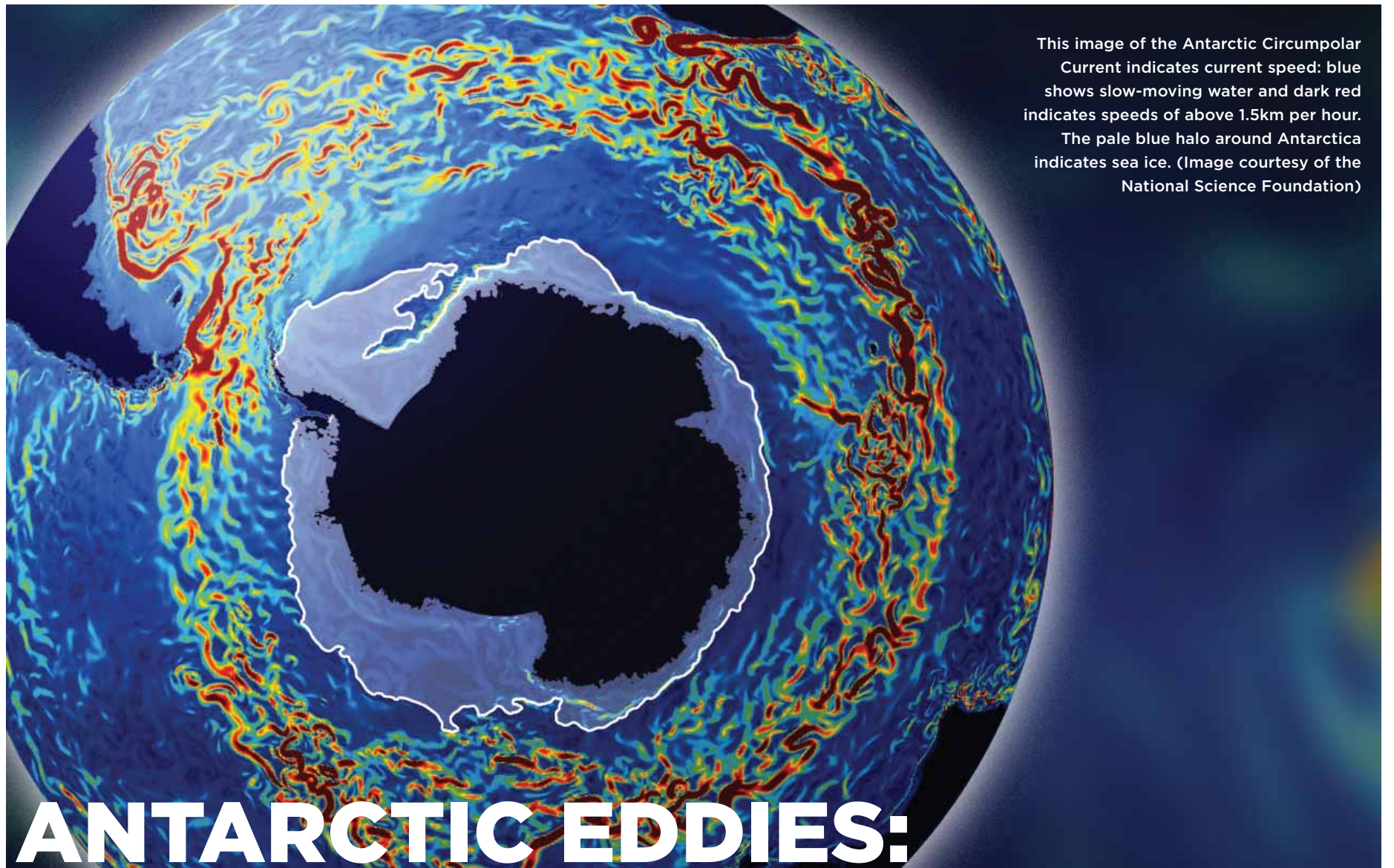
The names, addresses, fax number and email addresses of three referees whom the University may consult must be provided. Referees should be persons of standing (preferably of international standing, where the field of activity of the candidate makes this a reasonable requirement) in the discipline in which the candidate is working. The suggested length of the citation is a three-quarter page of typed text in single spacing.

It is also important for a nominator (or applicant) to identify the specific areas in which the nominee (or applicant) has made original contributions to knowledge and to point out the significance of his/her work, particularly in the international context, by, for example, reference to published work in international journals of recognised academic standing. Among such publications should preferably be a major work.

NB: A nominator (who is not a Fellow) and an applicant must provide the name of a person, not necessarily a Fellow to perform the role of orator at the meeting(s) of the committee to present the case for the candidate.



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This image of the Antarctic Circumpolar Current indicates current speed: blue shows slow-moving water and dark red indicates speeds of above 1.5km per hour. The pale blue halo around Antarctica indicates sea ice. (Image courtesy of the National Science Foundation)

ANTARCTIC EDDIES: SA AGULHAS II OUT TO SEA

Story by Helen Swingler

With huge daily operating costs, polar research vessel the *SA Agulhas II* doesn't often put to sea. So it was a high-five moment when Kirrin Reid heard that her honours research would be a dedicated focus during the ship's annual relief voyage to the subantarctic Prince Edward Islands. This research investigates the warm eddies affecting the frontal polar ice.

It's a blustery autumn day at the Cape Town docks and on the east pier the *SA Agulhas II* is being loaded, a riot of gulls above.

Six women attached to UCT's Department of Oceanography have just boarded their home for the next 36 days. They'll be supporting master's student Kirrin Reid, whose honours project (completed last year) will underpin the scientific part of the voyage.

Also on board is a Department of Environmental Affairs' (DEA) Oceans and Coasts division team.

Project leader and senior lecturer Dr Isabelle Ansonge is leading the all-woman UCT group and is something of a veteran of these research voyages, both on the old and the new ships.

In the subantarctic zone of the Indian Ocean, they'll be observing southward-propagating eddies that bring warm, salty water to the polar frontal band of ice circling the Antarctic.

These circular currents flow across the Antarctic Circumpolar Current that surrounds Antarctica, and into the Antarctic zone.

Warm water going south

Reid observed these currents during her honours research by studying satellite images. She found that only warm eddies move southwards, propagating along distances of 750km in 12 months.

Further investigation showed that the narrowest band of winter sea ice formation (between 20 and 30°E) could be attributed to this corridor of warm eddies. But Reid was unable to resolve the full scope of their physical and biological structure during her honours project.

Reid needed to conduct observations at sea. Now, on board the *SA Agulhas II*, she'll be able to do this, supported by four other postgraduate researchers attached to UCT's oceanography department: Katherine Hutchinson, Moagabo Ragoasha, Lisa Holton from the UK, and Alice Lebehot from France.

They'll start by studying two ocean eddies: a recently formed eddy in the subantarctic (at 49°S, 30°E), and one that has relocated southwards into the Antarctic zone (to approximately 58°S).

Importance of eddies

"Until the late 1960s, oceanographers thought ocean circulation consisted only of slowly moving interior gyres and fast-flowing boundary currents," Ansonge explains. "However, the oceans contain thousands of vigorous eddies at spatial scales ranging from 50 to 150 nautical miles, which evolve over time scales that range from weeks to months."

Drifting slowly, these eddies rotate and carry either warm or cold water masses – and their associated biota (the plant and animal life of the region) – between the ocean basins. (A DEA biological team, led by Dr Hans Verheye, will deploy net tows to depths of 2 000m to examine the biota within each eddy.)

"Eddies are one of the most dominant sources of flow variability in the world's ocean and they're linked

“It's a blustery autumn day at the Cape Town docks and on the east pier the *SA Agulhas II* is being loaded, a riot of gulls above.”

to areas of prominent topographic features, such as underwater mountain ridges," Ansonge says.

"They form isolated 'hotspots' of intense biological and physical activity and present one of the main mechanisms in which water characteristics such as heat, salt, carbon dioxide, nutrients and biota are exchanged around the oceans."

As such, they're a vital component in balancing Earth's ocean climate. But understanding their complex behaviour remains one of the grand challenges for oceanographers and climate scientists, says Ansonge.

Biological stations

Reid and her co-researchers will conduct their research via oceanographic and biological stations at 10 nautical mile intervals. The team will work 12-hour shifts, operating the oceanographic instruments and analysing the data.

A CTD (conductivity, temperature, depth) instrument is the main workhorse, measuring temperature, salinity and other hydrographic variables in the water column at depths up to 5 000m. Samples for nutrients such as nitrates, phosphates and silicates, and carbon dioxide will be collected manually from bottles attached to the CTD.

A suite of robotic data-gathering instruments will continue to record and relay high-resolution oceanographic data back to the scientists after the survey ends.

While Reid's data will provide information on the exchange of heat and salt fluxes along this subantarctic eddy corridor, water samples will also provide invaluable insight into the adaptability of plankton over time as eddies relocate southward, introducing waters typical of the subantarctic into the Antarctic zone.

Class afloat

As the trip is a module of the Oceanography-taught MSc class, the postgraduate students will attend lectures and tutorials in the dedicated lecture theatre – and collect data for mini projects related to the survey.

The all-woman team reflects a discernable, growing trend in a previously male-dominated field as more women are drawn to physical oceanography, says Ansonge.

And for postgraduate students like Lisa Holton from the UK, this expedition offers new insights and experience – it's her first trip into Southern Hemisphere waters on a ship like the *SA Agulhas II*, arguably the world's leading research vessel.

CLASSIFIEDS

EVENTS

UCT final year medics present:

The 'Love Your Body' fashion show To be held in Jammie Hall 7pm, 2nd of May.

Philosophy Society Meeting

Date: Tuesday 29 April @ 20h00. Speaker: Professor Simon Beck. Title: How Cricket Can Make You Bad. Venue: Lecture Theatre 3, Humanities Building.

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Senior Lecturer: Palliative Medicine – Public Health & Family Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date 24 April 2014.

Senior Lecturer: Medical Virology, Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 8 May 2014.

Lecturer: Structural Geology, Department of Geological Sciences, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 19 May 2014.

Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor in Social Innovation and Academic Convener of MPhil in Inclusive Innovation, Bertha Centre for Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship, UCT Graduate School of Business, Closing date: 23 May 2014.

Professor/Associate Professor/Senior Lecturer: African Institute of Financial Markets and Risk Management, Faculty of Commerce, Closing date: 31 May 2014.

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

Assistant Finance Manager: Centre for Higher Education Development, Finance Department, Closing date: 25 April 2014.

Fertility Care & Research Nurse: Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 30 April 2014.

Data Systems Manager (Bioinformatics): Computational Biology Group, Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 30 April 2014.

Project Coordinator (Genomics and Bioinformatics): Computational Biology Group, Department of Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 30 April 2014.

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CELEBRATING AFRICA

Photo by Je'nine May

May is Africa Month at UCT. What does this mean, and why do we celebrate? Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo – who's responsible for UCT's African and international connections – shares his vision for the celebrations, and highlights for 2014.

"The celebration of Africa Month at UCT is important because it influences perceptions of the continent among members of our community," says Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo. "We see our place in Africa as a place in a vibrant, dynamic and progressive continent with a wealth of future prospects. Africa Month is our antidote against Afro-pessimism."

What's in store for Africa Month 2014? "The university-wide Africa Month Steering Committee has done a wonderful job in populating this year's calendar with activities. For the first time, in addition to popular sporting events such as the mini-Africa Cup for soccer, we shall be featuring indigenous games (yes, stick-fighting and morabaraba) and popular township games in which everyone will be able to participate. The month is also going to be a very musical one, with no fewer than three concerts planned. On the serious side, we will continue our tradition of scholarly engagements in the form of lectures, seminars, workshops, roundtables and debates. All in all, there will be something for everybody."

“Africa Month is our antidote against Afro-pessimism.”

Prof Thandabantu Nhlapo

AFRICA MONTH HIGHLIGHTS

5 MAY

After Freedom: The Rise of the Post-Apartheid Generation in Democratic South Africa

VC Open Lecture by Prof Katherine Newman

Kramer Lecture Theatre 3 from 18h00

15 MAY

Traditional African Games

An interactive experience including morabaraba board game, stick-fighting and kennetjie

Jammie Plaza from 12h00 to 14h00

22 MAY

20 Years of Freedom

A celebratory concert featuring Vusi Mahlasela, PJ Powers, Freshlyground and Mi Casa

UCT's Green Mile from 19h30

29 MAY

Queer in Africa: confronting the crisis

A symposium and festival focused on gender and identity on the continent

18h00 at a venue to be confirmed



LSE-UCT July School students like Triya Govender visited RLabs in Athlone – a social innovation space – last year where they worked with social entrepreneurs to develop business vehicles for their ideas.

LSE-UCT JULY SCHOOL

Story by Abigail Calata

Photo by Michael Hammond

London School of Economics and UCT are hosting their second July School in Cape Town – aimed at students and professionals, and focused on key challenges and opportunities in Africa.

Students and professionals registering for the 2014 LSE-UCT July School in Cape Town will have access not only to outstanding academics from two internationally renowned tertiary institutions, but also a diversity of personal, academic and professional experiences through participants.

Just under 100 people participated in last year's inaugural programme, one of whom is Samson Mbebe, a student currently completing his master's degree at UCT. "Although

I found the course content highly informative, the most valuable aspect of the programme was the diverse group of people I interacted with. I experienced different views from different schools of knowledge and lines of thought, which made for an enriching experience."

The format is simple: 10 courses are presented over 10 days, made up of nine days of coursework and an exam. Each participant may take only one course.

The short format makes for an intensive but rewarding learning experience, explains Professor Thandika Mkandawire, the programme's academic director from LSE: "After thinking about issues so intensely, writing an essay and sitting an exam gives people a chance to give form to their thoughts and reflect on their experience and new knowledge. Of course, the teaching is broken up, and often very interactive. The mornings tend to be

lectures, with less formal small group seminars in the afternoon, where everyone is involved in discussing the issues at hand and forming their own opinions."

The programme arose from of LSE and UCT's institutional partnership, established in 2010, and aimed at broadening their academic reach through innovative opportunities for students.

"This innovative programme – aimed at students and professionals

– includes cutting-edge courses that deal with key issues relevant to Africa, providing access to new scholarly insight," says Associate Professor Suellen Shay, Dean of UCT's Centre for Higher Education Development and an academic director of the LSE-UCT July School.

Visit the LSE website for course details and to apply: www.lse.ac.uk (search for 'LSE-UCT July School')