

MONDAY MONTHLY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN NEWSPAPER

JULY 2014

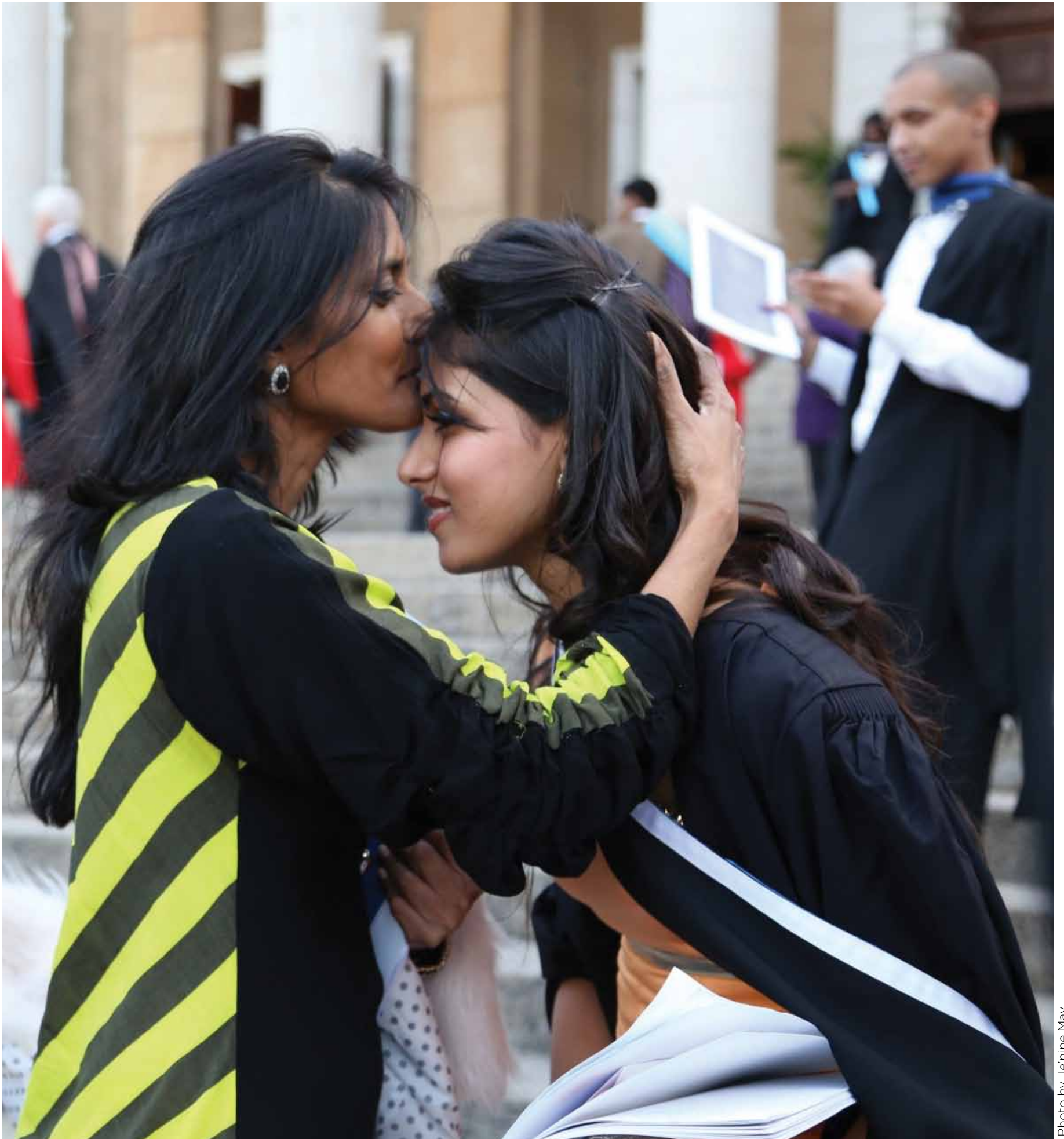


Photo by Je'nine May

GRADUATION SEASON

Celebrating June's graduates
PAGE 4&5

CARBON COUNT

What can be done about
UCT's carbon footprint?
PAGE 6&7

COSMOS AND CHAOS

Prof John Barrow on the
universe's origins and evolution
PAGE 3

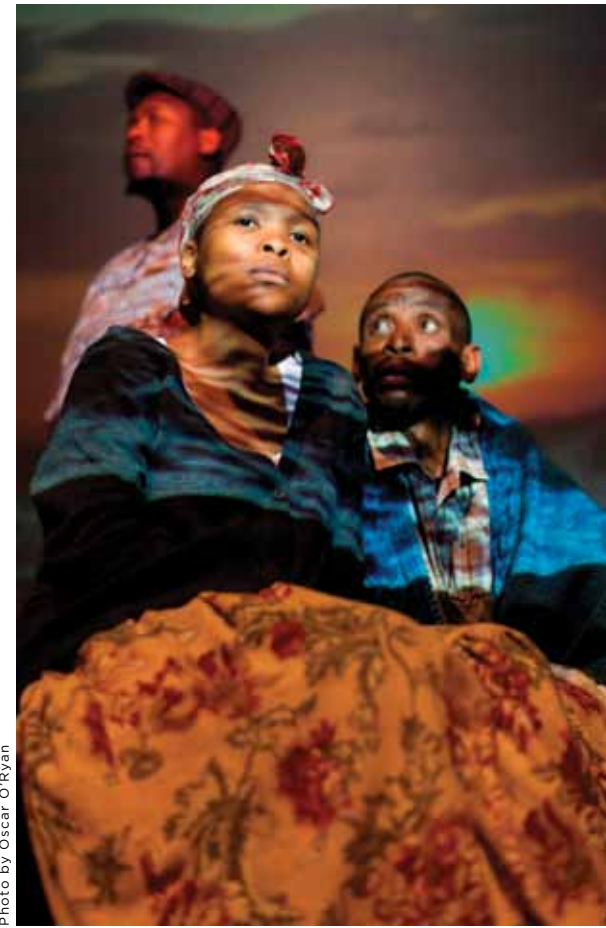


Photo by Oscar O'Brien



Photo by Je'nine May



Photo by Michael Hammond



Photo by Michael Hammond

NEWS IN PICTURES

1 Hope in Africa

Lesedi Job (left), Phillip 'Tito' Tindisa (right) and Mncedisi Shabangu (back) in a scene from *Fishers of Hope* (Taweret), playing at Baxter Flipside until 2 August after a successful run at this year's National Arts Festival in Grahamstown. This examination of the prospects of hope and livelihood on the African continent is written and directed by award-winning playwright Lara Foot, who is also the director and CEO of the Baxter Theatre Centre. Subtitled *Taweret*, after the ancient Egyptian goddess of childbirth and fertility, the play is layered with metaphors and magical realism, delving into the social and environmental circumstance of a family and community in a fishing village.

2 Mathletes en masse

UCT hosted the 55th International Mathematical Olympiad (IMO) from 3 to 13 July – the first time the competition has taken place on African soil. From seven countries taking part in the first IMO in Romania in 1959, the 2014 event saw young mathematicians from more than 100 countries participating. The range of nations that sent teams represents more than 90% of the world's population. Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price said it was an honour for the university to host the first IMO in Africa.

3 Firm foundations

Dr Denis Kalumba at the Darling Wind Farm, where, with some of his students, he's been researching best practice for the windmills' foundations, ensuring they're compatible with the soil type. A radical overhaul of UCT's Geotechnical Laboratory, and the addition of four pieces of fully automated soil-testing equipment, has enabled this kind of research and has propelled the lab to near the top of the geotechnical engineering ladder in Africa. Kalumba hopes that the revamped lab will eventually become a Centre of Excellence.

4 Stars in the making

Kevin Musikanth, UCT director of rugby and coach of the Ikey Tigers, 2014 Varsity Cup winners, helped future rugby stars improve their technique at the Rugby School of Excellence. A project of Musikanth and ex-Western Province cricketer and Cricket School of Excellence founder Ryan Maron, this holiday clinic for boys aged 6-13 years took place on UCT's Groote Schuur rugby fields. It included skills drills, instruction on rugby etiquette, and the laws and ABCs (agility, balance, co-ordination and speed) of the game. Instructors included Ikey Tigers players and several well-known club players, who gave of their time and skills to nurture young local talent.



The universe shows the interplay of great age and size, the formation of planets and stars over aeons creating the building blocks for life, said Prof John Barrow during his Vice-Chancellor's Open Lecture on 9 July. Barrow is Professor of Mathematical Sciences at Cambridge University and director of the Millennium Mathematics Project. Photo by Je'nine May

MADE IN THE STARS

Story by Helen Swingler

It's four billion years from now. Earth is no longer habitable, as our sun, now a massive red giant, has turned the planet into a hot, barren wasteland. Man – if he survived in an earlier age – has perhaps colonised a retreat in the galaxy. And in the night sky, the stars are no longer visible. Not a glimmer in the darkness from a distant planet or dusty constellation.

Because the universe has been expanding since shortly after the Big Bang 14 billion years ago, the planets and stars are receding further and further from Earth, "like raisins in a rising dough", until they can no longer be seen.

And the universe is so vast that if you emptied all the atoms from space and spread them equally in an array, you'd have one atom for every cubic metre – a reflection, says Cambridge cosmologist Professor John Barrow, of the enormous amount of expansion the universe has undergone across the aeons.

Old, big, dark and empty.

"As conditions for life, they're antithetical, really," said Barrow during his 9 July Vice-Chancellor's Open Lecture on the evolution of the universe.

But old, big, dark and empty or not, these conditions are all intimately connected to a process we call life.

Habitable zone in a time sandwich

"We live in a habitable zone of cosmic history," added Barrow, "after the stars have formed, so they can provide life-forming building blocks and environments for life, but before the stars have died."

After the universe was a quarter of a million years old, it began to form simple atoms, like hydrogen, and simple molecules. As it expanded, these atoms and molecules, along with other neutrino-like particles, slowly condensed to form all the galaxies and stars through complex processes involving nuclear reactions and other radiation processes.

"But on at least one planet in one of the solar systems, biochemistry developed and evolved into things like you and me," said Barrow. "We've no idea whether this is a process that has happened elsewhere, rarely, or even commonly. Maybe one day we will."

"The materials that made life of our sort possible; the elements heavier than hydrogen and helium, like carbon, don't appear ready-made in the universe or arise in its earlier stage. They formed in the later supernova deaths of stars, when they implode and undergo dramatic periods of nuclear synthesis."

"So it's no surprise the universe is so old; if you want to have the building blocks of complexity to make you and me and all other things we see, we need nearly 10 billion years of expansion."

"It's a remarkable interplay between time, space, density and temperature."

What's the big deal?

The vastness of it all perplexed at least one member of the audience; during question time, he asked testily: "So what's the deal? Why even study it?"

It's a germane question in light of recent scientific developments: the country now hosting a significant portion of the Square Kilometre Array, which will help us see back into the universe's 'dark ages'; and the Large Hadron Collider at CERN (the European Organisation for Nuclear Research), where researchers reported having glimpsed the elusive Higgs boson particle. In the next experimental runs of the collider, they hope to identify the mysterious neutrino-

like particles that make up the dark form of matter that dominates the make-up of galaxies, and even to find some clues to the remaining dark energy that makes up 68% of the universe and accelerates its present-day expansion.

Dark energy has a lot to explain.

When the universe was 75% of its present size, expansion "changed gear" from deceleration to acceleration. This process required the presence of anti-gravitational material: dark energy.

"So we see evidence of its existence, but we don't know what this dark energy is," said Barrow. "We believe it to be the quantum vacuum energy of the universe."

It remains the greatest unsolved mystery in cosmology and particle physics.

Young particle sleuths needed

"I suspect this great problem in fundamental physics will be solved by someone currently very, very young, maybe one of the students taking part in the International Maths Olympiad." [Barrow delivered his address during the IMO, attended by participants from 104 countries and hosted at UCT in July.]

Other scientists are trying to map cosmic radiation patterns in the universe, the faint signals of its cataclysmic beginnings, which provide "mountains of information" to help answer other big questions.

Tantalising information has come from the BICEP2, the second generation Background Imaging of Cosmic Extragalactic Polarisation telescope experiment at the South Pole, where John Kovac,

a radio astronomer at the Harvard-Smithsonian Centre for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and his fellow radio astronomers say they have found the imprint of gravitational waves from the Big Bang.

Scientific journal *Nature* describes this as the "signal of gravitational waves seen in the polarisation of the cosmic microwave background – similar to the kind of polarisation that certain sunglasses block over a small patch of sky".

The article continues: "This polarisation map, which is reminiscent of the way iron filings arrange themselves on a surface under the effects of a magnetic field, was found to have particular vortex-like, or curly, patterns known as B modes. The presence of B modes is a tell-tale sign of the passage of gravitational waves generated during inflation, a brief period during which the universe underwent an exponential expansion, right after its birth."

"If the findings stand up," continues the report, "they will put the current preferred picture of cosmology on solid foundations, and could have significant implications on fundamental physics as well."

There's been intense scrutiny of this claim, says Barrow.

"The type of polarisation signal they see in the background can be mimicked by the effects of dust in our own Milky Way galaxy. So when the radiation from the background comes through our galaxy, it can have imprinted on it a signal of that same polarising sort by interacting with the dust."

What's needed are further observations at different frequencies, and the full galaxy dust map that the Planck Mission team will publish in October. Then we will be able to see whether the BICEP2 observations are of a dusty region. If so, the evidence for gravitational waves will no longer be persuasive, Barrow says.

Fast forward

As our understanding of the universe is aided by new techniques of observation, there's as yet nothing to tell us whether we live in a multiverse (with parallel 'universes'), or what the geography of space looks like in the furthest reaches of the universe.

As for the long-term forecast, our universe is getting bigger, darker, emptier and colder.

Closer to home, our own sun is also undergoing a slow evolution. In around 5.4 billion years it will undergo a "serious energy crisis"; expanding dramatically into a red giant, and then imploding to a dense mass the size of the Earth, a white dwarf; a glowing cinder getting cooler and cooler until it gradually disintegrates.

The long-range view of the universe may be pessimistic, but it's all relative, says Barrow.

"There's no need to worry unduly about the fate of the universe as a whole. After all, things are bad enough in our solar system. In order for life on Earth, or its imprint, to survive the death of the sun, our descendants will need to go elsewhere. But we have more pressing problems to solve long before then."



A vision of the hot, barren wasteland Earth will become four billion years from now, when the sun becomes a red giant. This image is part of a panoramic shot of Mars, taken by NASA's Mars Exploration Rover Spirit in November 2005 (and originally made up of 405 individual images, shot using five different filters over five Martian days).

A SEASON FOR CELEBRATION

Photos by Michael Hammond and Je'nine May

Graduation season marks a moment to celebrate the students of UCT, and the personal determination, familial support and passionate teaching and mentorship it takes to see them through their degrees. And June 2014 was no different: many families, friends, staff and students gathered in Jameson Hall over two days and four graduation ceremonies to witness the conferral of 110 PhDs, multiple degrees and three honorary doctorates.



Three honorary degrees were conferred in June 2014. Social activist Dr William Carmichael, leading HIV researcher Professor Salim Abdool Karim, and the orchestrator of South Africa's winning bid to host the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) of radio telescopes, Dr Bernie Fanaroff, joined a company of honorary graduands that includes Miriam Makeba, Amartya Sen, David Goldblatt, George Bizos, Zakes Mda, Kader Asmal and Mark Shuttleworth.



Public protector of South Africa Advocate Thuli Madonsela urged outgoing students of the Graduate School of Business to stay strong in times of adversity, and stay true to what they believe in.

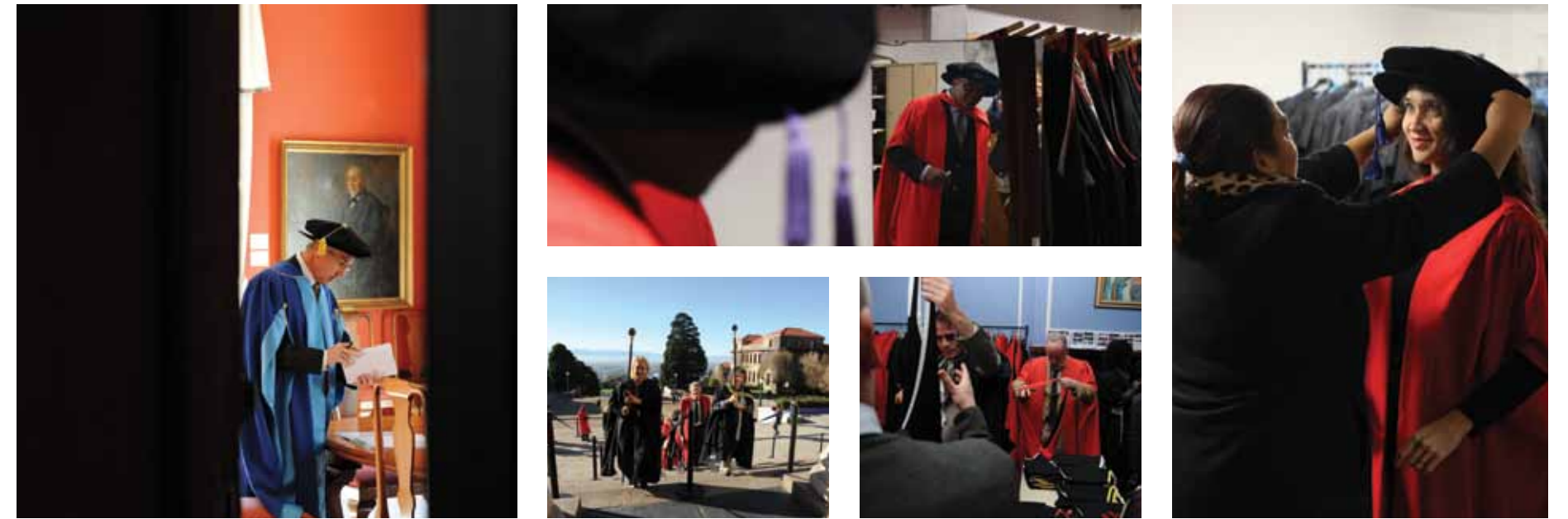
“You will be planted into the unknown with many uncertainties. Some of the success will not come overnight, but the important thing is that you don't compromise ... Even if success doesn't come instantly, stay the course. Honour your dreams and your principles. Your time will come.”

Advocate Thuli Madonsela

Meet one of June's graduates, Michelle Botha (and her guide dog, Panda, who was puppy-walked by Sheila Taylor from the South African College of Music). The classically trained singer, who already has a degree in music, was awarded an MSocSci in Gender Studies for her research into the ways in which people living with disability – women in particular – negotiate preconceptions of disability, and begin to redefine it. Botha plans to continue working as a vocal coach and singing teacher, mostly with children, while she searches for work in the disability sector.



Students lining up for their moment on the platform, where they are first capped by the vice-chancellor, then hooded by the registrar, before receiving their certificates.



Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price prepares quietly before the graduation ceremony. • Siyakha Mguni gets a first look in at life as a doctor of archaeology. • Tracey Toefy, graduating with a PhD in linguistics, gets fitted for her red robe. • Mace bearers on the steps of Jammie Hall, against the backdrop of a misty Cape Town morning. • Professor Don Ross, dean of the Faculty of Commerce, in the robing room before the graduation ceremony.



UCT graduands at one of the many photo booths set up in Jameson Hall. • New graduands waving their degrees at family and friends • Professor Salim Abdool Karim's signature in the Golden Book. • 2014 winner of the UCT Book Award Professor Nicoli Nattrass and honorary graduate Professor Salim Abdool Karim share a light moment before the formal ceremony on 12 June. • Three opera students from the South Africa College of Music – Levy Sekgapane, Makudupanyane Senaoana and Xolani Madalane – delighted two graduation audiences: first with Verdi's cheeky *La Donna è Mobile*, then with a moving rendition of Capurro's *O Sole Mio*.



“One of the most beautiful things about graduation is the proud and content look you see on the faces of parents and grandparents. For them, their finest hour will always be hearing your name being called, and watching you as you walk gracefully onto the stage. All they ever yearned for was this moment. It was not your first cheque, it was the satisfaction of a job well done by them as parents in giving you an education.”

Advocate Thuli Madonsela

UCT'S 2013 CARBON FOOTPRINT AT A GLANCE

Infographic by Kevin Shelley Davis

What is a carbon footprint?

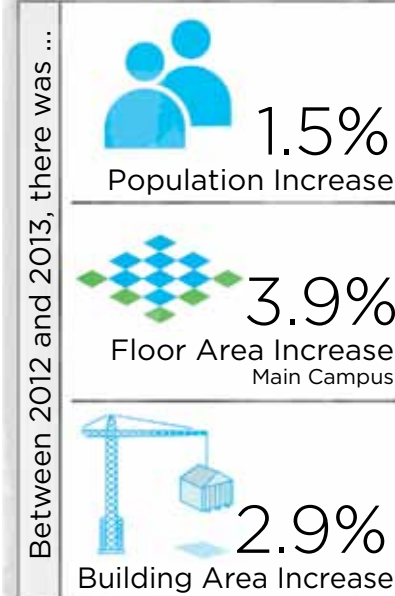
Your carbon footprint is a measure of your impact on the environment. Usually expressed in equivalent tons of carbon dioxide, CO₂e, it's a measure of greenhouse gases emitted by an activity over time.

There are a total of 18 greenhouse gases with different global warming potentials. But under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and its Kyoto Protocol, only the following gases are considered for the purposes of carbon accounting: carbon dioxide (CO₂); methane (CH₄); nitrous oxide (N₂O); hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs); perfluorocarbons (PFCs); and sulphur dioxide (SF₆).

The following infographic is a summary of UCT's impact over the course of one year, as outlined in the 2013 Carbon Footprint Report.

Last Year's Emissions

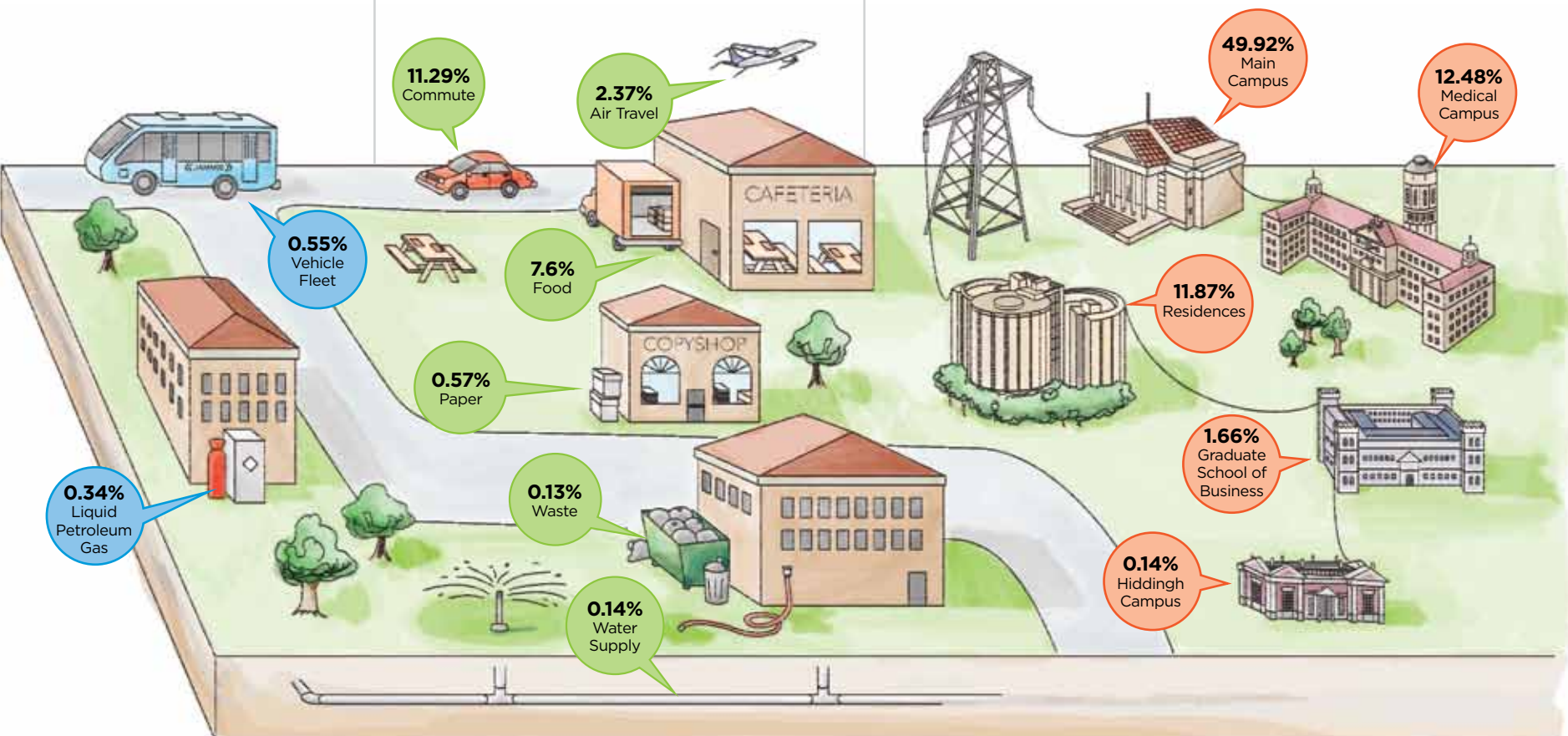
87 785 CO₂e



This means that UCT grew in size but reduced its emissions

DIRECT EMISSIONS

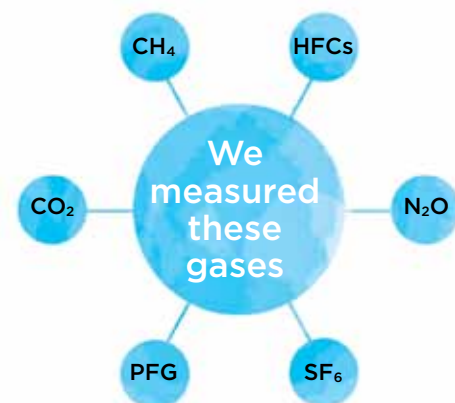
From sources owned or controlled by UCT



2013

85 299 CO₂e

Total Carbon Tons Emitted



To offset that, we would need
2 187 154
tree seedlings to grow for 10 years*

*Source: epa.gov



REDUCING UCT'S ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Story by Abigail Calata
Photo by Michael Hammond

Monitoring carbon emissions and producing an annual carbon footprint report is one of the ways UCT is promoting sustainability on campus. What is the university's impact on the environment, and what can be done about it?

In 2012, Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price signed the ISCEN-GULF Sustainable Campus Charter, which binds the university to three principles:

- Making sustainability considerations an integral part of planning, construction, renovation, and operation of buildings on campus
- Incorporating environmental and social goals into long-term, sustainable campus development, campus-wide master planning, and target-setting
- Aligning the university's core mission with sustainable development, facilities, and research; and linking with education to create a "living laboratory" for sustainability.

According to the charter, signatory institutions commit themselves to implementing these principles, setting and measuring goals related to them, and reporting regularly and publicly on their progress. Measuring the university's carbon footprint is one step towards this commitment, and UCT has just completed its carbon footprint report for 2013.

Cutting electricity

Electricity remains the major contributor to the university's carbon footprint, making up 76% of total emissions. While the lighting retrofitting programme is ongoing, the university also plans to install a digital meter to monitor usage in every building (similar monitoring of water consumption is also being considered).

According to sustainability consultant Sandra Rippon, author of the 2013 report, other positive

developments on campus are improved equipment maintenance and an end-of-life equipment upgrading scheme – in which the university's old equipment that no longer performs efficiently is replaced with the latest technology.

While electricity emissions have increased for off-campus residences, there are initiatives to make them more sustainable. Students, staff and service providers are being encouraged to sign a Green Residence Pledge, in which they commit to making small changes in their behaviour to promote sustainability, such as taking shorter showers, switching off lights and computers when they are not needed, and eating fresh food.

Disposing of e-waste

Another initiative that's little known but making a positive impact is the e-waste project, launched in 2010 by Properties & Services in collaboration with Information and Communication Technology Services (ICTS), through which redundant equipment containing electronic components is removed. This initiative runs in partnership with the Southern African e-Waste Alliance, a non-profit one-stop shop that "helps to coordinate the responsible management" of electronic waste.

At UCT, each building or department identifies an e-waste champion, who organises the collection and short-term storage of unneeded or outdated equipment. When the time arrives for the e-waste to be collected, the champion contacts UCT's Environmental Risk Officer, Brett Roden, who liaises with the e-Waste Alliance to remove it. Items that are removed in this way include computers older than five years, keyboards,

mouse devices, printers, and any other electronic equipment such as redundant laboratory equipment, as well as domestic appliances.

Electronic waste collected by ICTS, through their helpdesk, includes computers, printers and LCD screens that are not older than five years. Rippon reports that about 10 200kg of e-waste was collected from UCT last year and diverted from landfill.

Moving in tune with the environment

Travelling and commuting are notable contributors to the university's carbon footprint. In one year, air travel has increased by 13.5%. Rippon suggests that disincentives would help to make air travel less attractive and its cheaper alternative, video conferencing, more appealing. Furthermore, the report recommends that the university should consider an appropriate off-set approach, such as tree planting.

Cars remain a significant contributor to UCT's commuting emissions. A survey conducted as part of the carbon footprint report found that 74% of all commuting emissions are caused by privately owned vehicles. Aside from recommending that an annual traffic survey be conducted, the report suggests that a questionnaire on transport modes for commuting should be completed by students upon registration, as a way to monitor commuting emissions' contribution to the university's carbon footprint.

The university offers a number of services to wean the UCT community off its dependence on private vehicles. The latest, in addition to the carpooling scheme (see sidebar), is the pilot bicycle leasing service, Jammie Bikes. This joint initiative between Properties & Services and the Green Campus

Initiative makes 200 branded bikes available for annual rental at R1 800 each, of which R800 is refundable upon the bike's return.

As a first phase, clearly marked cycling routes have been developed on main campus and bike parking stations are planned, mainly at Jammie shuttle transport hubs, where bikes can be securely locked. Since the launch of this initiative in April 2014, ten bikes have been leased.

Food for thought

Food supply emissions are the third-highest contributor after electricity and transport. This is another area in which the university's carbon footprint can be mitigated. Rippon

suggests that the university adopt a sustainable food programme, which she describes as a holistic initiative "that looks at social, environmental and economic sustainability of the food supply chain".

The university has recently begun to include a clause on sustainability in contracts with our food vendors, which requires that they align themselves with UCT's sustainability objectives. Rippon provided examples of how this might be done, for instance by using biodegradable packaging and providing vegetarian options, since meals containing meat have a bigger carbon footprint than vegetarian meals.

Green office

Other than the campus-wide two-bin recycling system, the university has made provision for the recycling of white office paper and printer cartridges.

Any department interested in recycling their office paper should contact Mogamat Benjamin: mogamat.benjamin@uct.ac.za. UCT's printer cartridges can either be remanufactured or recycled by a company called Green Office. The person to contact for cartridge disposal is UCT's Environmental Risk Officer, Brett Roden, who will refer staff and students to the relevant person at Green Office: brett.roden@uct.ac.za

Travel smart

According to www.carbonfund.org, carbon emission from cars can be reduced through better driving. One can save more than a ton of CO₂ per year by:

- Accelerating slowly and smoothly
- Driving within the speed limit
- Maintaining a steady speed; and
- Anticipating your stops and starts

Furthermore, finding someone to carpool with has become that much easier with the revamp of the RideLink website by FindALift. Register and get information about those who travel to Rondebosch daily at www.findalift.co.za

UCT's 2013 Carbon Footprint Report is being tabled with the Environmental Management Working Group for final review and approval, and will be available for download later this year.



While the July School was under way, LSE ran a week-long workshop on research methods for invited supervisors and PhD students from UCT and UCT's five partner institutions in the African University Consortium. The workshop was brokered by UCT's Office for Postgraduate Studies. Standing (from left): Peter Magati (Nairobi), Elgidius Ichumbaki Bwinabona (Dar es Salaam), Prof Charles Opolot-Okurut (Makerere), Mawuli Kushitor (Accra), Dr Abel Yamwaka (Dar es Salaam), Anne Ampaire (Makerere), Dr Aude Biquelet (LSE presenter), Collins Badu Agyemang (Accra), Josephine Misaro (Nairobi), Johannes Koegel (UCT), Prof Ama de-Graft Aikins (Accra), Dr Sally Stares (LSE presenter) and Joanna Gouseti (LSE assistant). Seated (from left): Anthony Tibaingana (Makerere), Pilly Silvano (Dar es Salaam), Bukola Victoria Bada (Nigeria), Charles Unwon (UCT), Koudjoe Tumawu (UCT).

JULY SCHOOL: FERTILE GROUND FOR FUTURE COLLABORATION

Story by Yusuf Omar
Photos by Michael Hammond

The LSE-UCT July School, which ran in Cape Town from 30 June to 11 July, provided students and staff with an opportunity not only to learn from each other over an intense two-week period, but also to plant the seeds for future collaborations, say the programme's co-ordinators.

The second LSE-UCT July School attracted 146 students, from around the globe, who gathered to grapple with subjects in the social sciences that speak to pertinent social issues facing Africa and the Global South.

"There is a lot of student interaction, so the diversity of experiences the students bring is very much part of the learning process," says Medéc Rall, director of UCT's Centre for Open Learning and the July School programme manager.

"The growth isn't only about the teaching that takes place," Rall adds. "It's about future collaboration. Lecturers are talking to each other and developing research collaborations."

Peter Campion-Spall, deputy head of academic partnerships at the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) and the LSE programme manager of the July School, echoes Rall's

words: "Our aim, through these partnerships, is to build links at all levels, really, but particularly focusing on faculty-to-faculty links, which can result in research collaborations."

Year-on-year growth

The July School is only in its second year, but has already seen rapid growth.

"We ran the first programme last year and had 99 participants," says Campion-Spall. "They were from an enormously wide range of backgrounds, from lots of different countries all over the world, from a wide range of universities. About 25% were working professionals who saw this as a great opportunity to come and study with two leading universities, and study issues relevant to Africa."

"This year we've seen the programme grow by nearly 50 percent, which is amazing for just the second year of a new

programme. We've seen it become ever more diverse; we've been able to introduce some new courses, but we really feel that we're delivering an even stronger programme than we did last year."

The 146 students who participated in the 2014 July School represent 44 different nationalities, and come from all continents, bar Antarctica. Many of the students are professionals looking to enrich their performance at work.

In addition to the relevant course content, the two institutions' stature was a major drawcard for students and staff, says Rall: "You're associated with two leading universities, two universities known for their high-quality research and teaching."

July School's unique offering

Building on LSE's foundation in the social sciences, courses allow students to tackle key issues during an intensive two-week period,

"which really gives students an opportunity to gain a thorough understanding of the theory and ideas behind what they're studying," says Campion-Spall. "Being in Cape Town, we want to make sure that that theory and that background is very much applied in an African context. So the course gives them a real disciplinary background to studying issues that are relevant to Africa in the world today."

"We don't think that there's any other programme anywhere in the world, including at LSE or UCT, which manages to do that in quite the way we've managed," Campion-Spall continues. "We think that the institutions have put together something really unique, which is a really special opportunity for the students and faculty who join the programme."

Speaking at the July School launch on 29 June, UCT Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price said he was pleased with the programme's

"impressive growth": "We hope that we will entrench this as an annual programme that will attract people, as it does now, from around the world."

Also speaking at the launch, LSE Director Professor Craig Calhoun emphasised the need for students and faculty to network during the two weeks: "The chance to get to know each other in and out of class is a lot of what the July School is about – to take full advantage of your fellow students' presence here, and both to enjoy and at the same time to learn and build a network."

UCT and LSE signed an agreement to offer this programme for an initial period of three years. The arrangement is currently being reviewed.



Adriano Timossi (Brazil)

"South Centre in Geneva, where I work, is kind of a think-tank for developing countries. We support developing countries in the negotiation process. In multilateral negotiations, we support developing countries with forming a position, and with issues like development, trade, climate change and the environment. The course topic is completely related to my work because ... developing countries, which we consider emerging economies, are having a more and more important role in global economics ... I'm using July School as a way of complementing my [professional career] with my academic needs. I always see things from the political side, from the multilateral negotiations, so for me it's always good to have contacts in academia to see what they're doing that complements my work. But it is also to have an experience of emerging economies."



LSE Associate Professor Elliott Green (England)

"I like to think about the politics and economics of poverty, especially focused on Africa and including a lot of focus on South Africa. It's both theoretical and empirical, so we talk about theories of why poverty exists, what kind of poverties there are, how we measure it, and what the consequences of poverty are in terms of what kinds of policies we want to look at, and how poverty influences democratisation and other things. I taught it last year as well and I really enjoyed it. I'm happy to be back. It's been really interesting to see that the school in general has grown, but also that the students keep coming back. It's wonderful to get an opportunity to lecture to a variety of students."



Dishant Kharbanda (Indian-born)

"I finished my master's in the UK at Birmingham City University in 2004. Six years ago I started my own company in the UK – we do data analytics of student behaviour and student decision-making ... For me this course was a challenge, because I am a student with a non-economics or political science background. It's been a great experience so far, not just because of the course content, but also that you get to meet a lot of people from across the world ... who understand not just the theoretical element of what we're trying to learn here, but also the application side of it."



Bomi Okuyiga (England)

"I'm at LSE right now – I've just finished my third year, and I'm starting work in September. I'm joining the civil service as an economist. Some of my friends went to the LSE-UCT July School last year, so I thought I would try it this year. It's been really good so far ... Our course is about the informal economy, so we are looking at things like street vendors in Cape Town, but it's also focusing on Africa in general as well. We went to one of the markets in the city and just asked people about what their experience is. Some of the things that you normally think about the informal economy ... actually aren't true, like you are actually paying taxes all the time, which some people wouldn't expect. We also look at things like policy practices, what they're doing right now in South Africa, and things like how unemployment benefits affect them as well."



Lebogang Mahlare (South Africa)

"I decided to come to the winter school because I used to study here [at UCT]. I come from a chemical engineering background, so I did a very quantitative undergrad, and I wanted something that bridges the social sciences with the quantitative. I decided to do an economics course primarily because it's a way to understand social sciences, and the impact certain industries and the economy have on people and development as a whole ... I've always had an interest in finance and economics, and [the course] has directed my interests a bit more. It's spurred an interest to do my master's."

BOOKSHELF

Recent releases by UCT staff, students and extended community.

An Imperfect Blessing Nadia Davids

It's 1993. South Africa is on the brink of total transformation and 14-year-old Alia Dawood is about to undergo a transformation of her own. She watches with fascination and fear as the national drama unfolds, longing to be a part of what she knows to be history in the making. As her revolutionary aspirations strengthen in the months before the elections, her intense, radical Uncle Waleed reappears, forcing her parents and sister to confront his subversive and dangerous past. An award-winning author and UCT alumna, Davids' novel places one family's story at the heart of a country's rebirth.



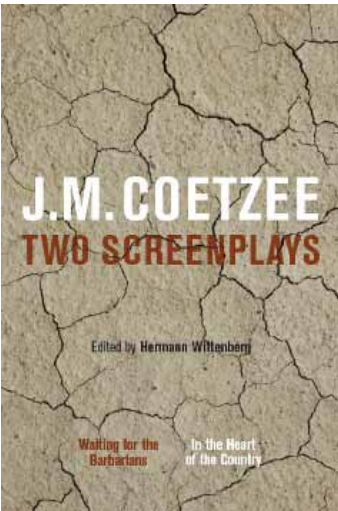
The Story of Anna P, as Told by Herself Penny Busetto

Anna comes from South Africa but has almost no memories of the place or the people there. It's only when she begins to connect emotionally with a young boy in her accidental care that she finds some value in herself, some place which she will not allow to be abused, and her life gradually changes. This 2013 European Union Literary Award-winning debut novel asks a number of questions about the nature of memory: Who are we if we lose our memories? What does it mean to have no identity? And if we have no sense of ourselves, how can we make ethical choices? Busetto is a UCT PhD candidate.



In Search of Happiness Sonwabiso Ngcowa

Author and UCT student Ngcowa's first novel is about Nana, who is 15 when she travels from her village in the Eastern Cape to the city. She is overjoyed to be reunited with her family, even if they are living in a tiny shack. But she struggles to fit in at her new school, and is shocked at the violence experienced by her Zimbabwean neighbours. When Nana becomes close friends with Agnes, and finds love in unexpected places, she learns first-hand just how brutal ignorance can be, and how tenuous happiness is.



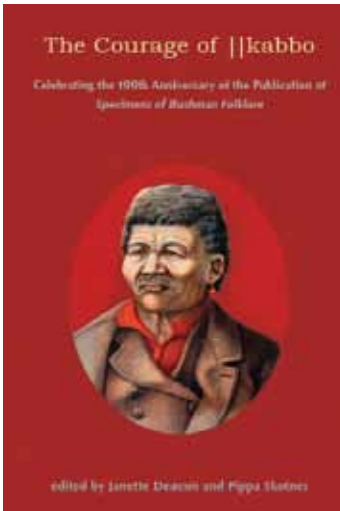
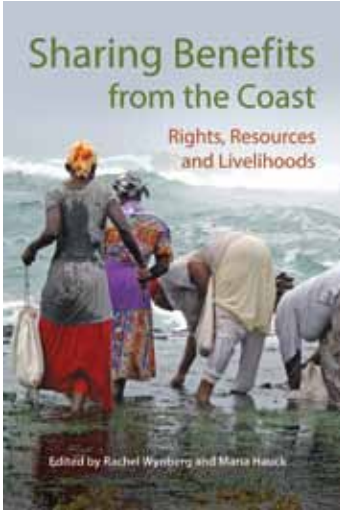
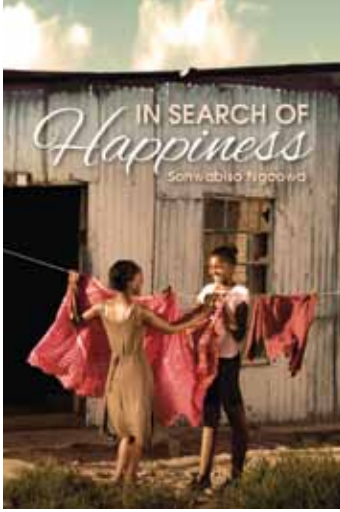
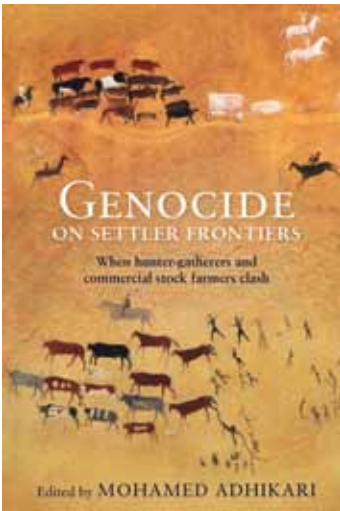
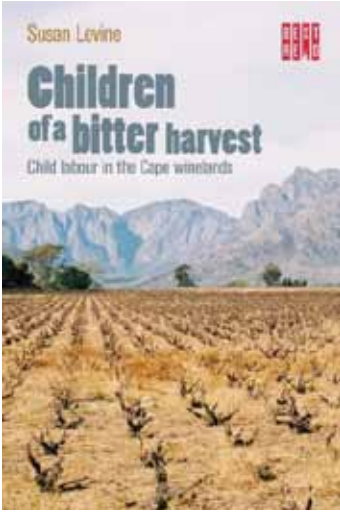
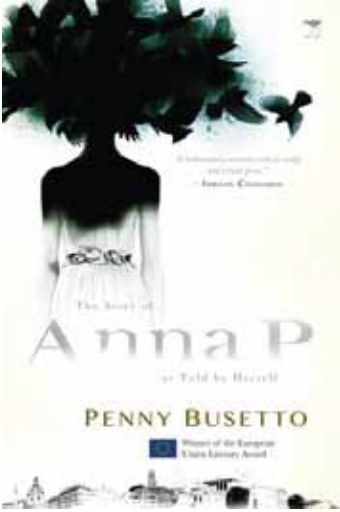
Africa-Centred Knowledges: Crossing fields and worlds

Edited by Brenda Cooper and Rob Morrell

Knowledge production is a highly political and politicised practice. This book questions the way knowledge about Africa is produced, and how this influences development policy and practice. Rebutting both Euro- and Afrocentric knowledge production, this collection proposes a multiple, global and dynamic Africa-centredness in which scholars use whatever concepts and research tools are most appropriate to the context. The first part of the book deals with key conceptual themes and epistemological foundations laid through questions of gender,

Children of a Bitter Harvest: Child labour in the Cape winelands Susan Levine

This latest text by Dr Susan Levine, an anthropologist and lecturer at UCT, is comprised of over 100 interconnected short stories that document moments in the lives of children who worked in the heart of South Africa's wine industry between 1998 and 2010, and are framed further by the farm uprisings of 2012. The children in the book – not all of whom manage to survive AIDS – are now young adults in a new South Africa



They show his versatility as a writer, able to cross over into the medium of scriptwriting and film. Academic Hermann Wittenberg's introduction to this collection examines the difference in treatment between the screenplays and the novels, as well as Coetzee's relationship with cinema and film-making. A Nobel Laureate, Coetzee is an emeritus professor in UCT's Department of English Language and Literature.

Genocide on Settler Frontiers: When hunter-gatherers and commercial stock farmers clash Edited by Mohamed Adhikari

This work gives perspective to historical European overseas conquests, which included many instances of extermination of indigenous peoples. In cases where invading commercial stock farmers clashed with hunter-gatherers – in Southern Africa, Australia and the Americas – the conflict was particularly destructive, often resulting in a degree of dispossession and slaughter that destroyed the ability of these societies to reproduce themselves biologically or culturally. The question of whether this form of colonial conflict was inherently genocidal has not been addressed by scholars in any systematic way until now. Through chapters written by leading academics, this volume explores the nature of this conflict. Associate Professor Adhikari is a member of the Department of Historical Studies at UCT and a 2012 winner of the university's Social Responsiveness Award for his work with the Harold Cressy High School community, spanning two decades.

The Courage of //kabbo: Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the publication of *Specimens of Bushman Folklore* Edited by Janette Deacon and Pippa Skotnes

2011 marked the centenary of Wilhelm Bleek and Lucy Lloyd's *Specimens of Bushman Folklore*, a unique record of the language and poetry of the now-extinct /Xam. It's named after //kabbo, a prisoner released from Breakwater Convict Station in the 1870s, but who remained in Cape Town and spent his final years teaching Bleek and Lloyd his language and making his stories known through books. The stories in the Bleek and Lloyd archive are all that remain of the /Xam worldview. Chapters in this book comment on past and present treatment of Khoisan groups, and attempts at keeping language and culture alive. Professor Skotnes is an artist and member of the UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Art. Deacon is an honorary professor of anthropology and archaeology at UNISA.

Two Screenplays JM Coetzee

Coetzee's screenplay versions of *In the Heart of the Country* and *Waiting for the Barbarians* are original and (as yet) unproduced cinematic adaptations of his novels. For readers familiar with Coetzee's writing career, the screenplays, published for the first time in this volume, are an unusual and unexpected addition to his oeuvre.

CLASSIFIEDS

EVENTS

From Waste to Wealth
G2C2 Workshop - Global Green Chemistry Centres. 24–26 August 2014, Two Oceans Aquarium, Cape Town. www.greenchemistrynetwork.org

VACANT POSTS

EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

Lecturer/Senior Lecturer, School of African and Gender Studies, Anthropology and Linguistics, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 21 July 2014

Lecturer: Gender Studies Section, School of African and Gender Studies, Anthropology and Linguistics, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 21 July 2014

Nellie Atkinson Chair of Radiation Oncology, Radiation medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 15 August 2014

Professor, Computer Science, Faculty of Science, Closing date: 15 September 2014

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

Clinical Educator, Health & Rehabilitation Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 21 July 2014

Gallery Curator, Michaelis School of Fine Art, Faculty of Humanities, Closing date: 25 July 2014

Section Manager: Access and Visibility, UCT Libraries, Closing date: 25 July 2014

New media Communications and IT Manager, Centre for Higher Education Development, Closing date: 25 July 2014

Policy and Training Associate, School of Economics, Faculty of Commerce, Closing date: 27 July 2014

Faculty Health and Safety Manager, Operations, Faculty of Health Sciences, Closing date: 01 August 2014

ACCOMMODATION

Oxford: Terraced house in central north Oxford available December 2014/January 2015: suit single or couple. Conveniently located for local shops and buses to city centre. Fully furnished and equipped; Wi-Fi and satellite TV. £650 p.m. which includes utilities. Please contact colin.bundy@gtc-ox.ac.uk

Rondebosch: Ivydene Guest House offers short and medium term stays in charming old Cape farmhouse on Jammie shuttle route, close to shops and restaurants and Main road. Visit www.ivydeneguesthouse.com Email ivydene@mweb.co.za (+27216851747)

Tokai: Large 4 bedroom family home in Tokai with garden/pool, close to forest. Quick access to M3, close to shops. Available immediately. Occupancy time negotiable. R19500/month. Contact Nadine on 0762161266

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

Short-Med term accommodation - Large 4-bed home high up on mountain above Boyes Dr (Muizenberg). Glorious views all round. Private access to mountain trails. Bright, spacious with large mountain garden. Outside Jacuzzi spa. 20 mins to UCT. From R1200/night. Monthly rates available. See <http://isg.d/highpoint>. Contact Tom on 0724270569 or tom.herbstein@uct.ac.za

Newlands apartment for visiting scholar: downstairs study, upstairs lounge, kitchenette, ensuite bedroom (sleeps two). Balcony with mountain view. Wi-Fi, DSTV, offstreet parking. Single R6000 pm and Double R8000pm. Contact Terri 021 6503412 or 021 6744968

FOR SALE

Silver 2010 TOYOTA AURIS 160IXR: Excellent condition: 52,000km, service plan@5yrs/90,000km, full service history. Alloy wheels, a/c, CD/MP3, MF steering wheel, leather seats, cruise control, R170,000(neg), for details contact Ricky 0797942121

Black iPhone 4. 16gb. With portable charger and pink cover. R2500. Contact Candice.King@uct.ac.za

2006 Renault Clio 2: Manual, 1.4l. Black, power steering, air con, central locking, fuel efficient, excellent condition and mechanically perfect. Price R49 900 onco. Contact 0822681060.

2014 Toyota Etios 1.5Xs Hatch: Manual, White, power steering, air con, electric windows, central locking, fuel efficient, Brand new. Price R115 000 onco. Contact 0822681060.

GENERAL

EAGLE TRANSCRIPTIONS: Very fast and accurate transcriptions, excellent rates. Work guaranteed, confidential. TEL: 021-7611866, CELL: 0848129386. eagle@iburst.co.za, or lorrhrein@gmail.com

House Sitting: RESPONSIBLE: Lady is available to look after your home while you are away - good caring for animals & your house. Available short / long term Excellent references please ph Lally / Nelly 084 8187147 or 0732814908 southern Suburbs.

On Time Transcribers: We do your transcription - on time - every time! Student rates. Give us a call for a free quote 0766064266 or email us on info@ontimetranscribers.co.za

Professional Editing & Proofreading: Improving language, expression, style, formatting. Postgraduate dissertations, theses, articles, etc. Very experienced and reliable. Good rates. Tel: Regine at (021) 531 3330. Email: regine.lord@gmail.com

Proofreading and editing Good rates and quick turnaround times. Contact Tara at tarafoster7@gmail.com or on 0793840275

Accounts Payable, Receivable, Bookkeeping, Budgets, Variance Reports, Company Amendments Registration, Financial Reports, Fixed Assets, Internal Audit Control & Implementation, Inventory, Payroll, Risk Assessment, Skills Transfer Contact LetusKay Financial Solutions 0823604418

TRANSCRIBING: Skilful and efficient transcribing tailored to your needs. Qualitative research, focus groups, conference proceedings. Over 18 years experience: work not outsourced, confidentiality assured. carintranscribing@webafrica.org.za 0214659904 / 0836822245

All your editing/proofreading needs: Highly experienced editor will take care of all your editing/proofreading needs. Dissertations, theses, journal articles, etc. Excellent rates and quick turnaround time. Contact David: davidcapel@gmail.com or tel: 0726606211

For your typing needs - email me on erikam@webmail.co.za for anything you need to be typed, from a thesis to a project, anything you might need assistance with. I am situated at the Faculty of Health Sciences at UCT.

Academic Editing and Proofreading: I have experience in editing PhD and Masters dissertations (APA 6th ed), and Research articles (journal specific formatting). Contact jacquelinegamble@telkomsa.net

Typist: Looking for any kind of typing needs. I'm available Mon- Fridays from 1pm onwards. Southern Suburbs areas only. Contacts 0789787378

Join a group of women in a weekly reflective space in Rondebosch to embrace the challenges of mid-

life. Contact Lindy Ackermann (Psychologist) 082 2960167 or linack@mweb.co.za

Professional Wedding Cakes: Standard Two Tier Cakes R2 500. Delivery to venues @ R250 extra. No deliveries outside 40km radius from Durbanville. Please enquire at erika.morey@uct.ac.za or KATRYN'S CREATIONS - katryngru@telkomsa.net

New Course: The SpaceLab at the University of Cape Town offers a multi-disciplinary research-based Masters degree in Space Studies, with the possibility to upgrade to a PhD. Please see: <http://www.spacelab.uct.ac.za/>

Home Care: My mom's home carer is looking for work from Monday -Friday. She is very caring, compassionate and reliable. She takes care of her over weekends and has been with her since January 2011. Please contact me for a reference at 082 9361 094, june.saldanha@uct.ac.za or Suki herself on 0823519909.

TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES: 10 years experience in transcribing audio recordings of interviews regarding a variety of fields of research. Guaranteed confidentiality.

Online Thesis Printing & Binding

thesishero.com

References available on request. Please contact me on 0794768363 or 0217851036 or email gcooper.transcriptions@gmail.com

Housesitter: Responsible mature man, very caring for animals. Availale short or Long term. Advance booking advisable. Excellent references. Phone Steve @ 0843363797

Char/Housekeeper: My reliable char Nelly is looking for part-time work, Monday-Saturday. She has been working for me since 2005 and is very efficient. Please contact me for a reference: jurgen.gcitner@uct.ac.za, 021 650 1821 or contact Nelly directly on 0737317175

General Practitioner: Now open at Serenity Clinic, St Peter's Square, Observatory. Discounted rates for students and pensioners. Services include Intramuscular injections, Blood pressure testing, sugar testing, Pap smears, Stitches, Blood tests, X-Rays, Incisions and drainage of Abscesses, Ear Syringing. Tel: 0214475148 or serenityclinicgp@gmail.com

VILLA GARDA B&B

5 Osborne Road | Upper Mowbray

Tel: + 27 (0) 21 686 8138

Cell: 082 718 8088

E-mail: info@villagarda.co.za

Website: www.villagarda.co.za

WALKING DISTANCE UCT

Naming of Buildings Committee: Call for comments and proposals

The Naming of Buildings Committee (NOBC), a Council Committee, 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 comments on suggested names received; and proposals for the naming of any as-yet-unnamed buildings, lecture rooms, and open spaces from the UCT community. To obtain a list of these and the criteria used by the NOBC to assess proposals please visit www.uct.ac.za and look under notices.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

When deciding where to do your articles, consider Nolands...
IT'S A COOL PLACE TO DEVELOP INTO A HOT PROFESSIONAL!

B.Com or B.Com (Hons) CA route...?

**COME & ENJOY
A COOL MILKSHAKE,
OR HOT CHOCOLATE
AND LET'S CHAT!**

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
CAREER DAY - Thu 31st JULY
WWW.NOLANDS.CO.ZA

Nolands
NOT YOUR ORDINARY AUDITORS

VISIT SUPA QUICK OBSERVATORY

FOR HOT DEALS ON:
TYRES • SHOCKS • BRAKES • BATTERIES • AIR CON REGAS • MAGS • ALIGNMENT • BALANCING • CV JOINTS

10% STUDENT AND STAFF DISCOUNT

supa quick
TYRE EXPERTS | CLOSER TO YOU

SUPA QUICK OBSERVATORY
321A MAIN ROAD, OBSERVATORY TEL: 021 447 0591/0500 FAX: 021 447 7107

Medindi Manor
Boutique Hotel in Rosebank

Tel: 021 686 3563 Email: reservations@medindimanor.com Web: www.medindimanor.com

15 bedrooms with En-suite
Secure off-street parking
Delicious breakfast included



OPINION

CAN INVESTORS MAKE RESPONSIBLE INVESTING MAINSTREAM?

Stephanie Giamporcaro

Senior lecturer at the UCT Graduate School of Business

By taking a more active interest in the management of their portfolios, socially conscious investors can make the market more responsible and earn profit with principle.

Sustainability issues are front of mind in South Africa today, as the country attempts to address the interrelated challenges of climate change, urban development and access to resources. Both business and government are active in laying the groundwork for change, but individuals also have a role to play.

By choosing to put their money where their principles are, to support sustainable projects, organic options and fair trade businesses, every person with an investment portfolio can now drive change.

An instrument for social change

Global trends show that socially responsible investors are increasingly attracted to portfolios that align their ethics with their investments. According to a recent survey from PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) of US asset managers with a significant portion of investments in markets across the globe, four out of five international investors have considered these concepts in one or more investment contexts in the past year. About 85% said they expected to consider them three years from now.

A new study from the UCT Graduate School of Business (GSB) backs this up. In a survey of 100 full-time retirement-fund-contributing employees and fiscal beneficiaries at the GSB, 77% believed their investments could be used as an instrument for social change. If presented with the opportunity to do this, through a Sustainable and Responsible Investment

(SRI) portfolio for example, more than 65% said they would most probably sign on.

But according to the PwC report, a lack of options and poor corporate reporting about sustainability are preventing investors from acting on their beliefs. “They are still not getting the information they’re looking for. Investors want to be a part of the sustainability dialogue. And they want direct engagement with the companies in which they invest,” write the authors of the report.

The role of financial planners and employers

More genuine dialogue is also needed between investors and their financial planners. According to the GSB study, limited engagement between the two parties is preventing conversation about SRI, and as a result the market for SRI products remains under-developed.

The study found 69% of respondents with an active retirement portfolio had simply expected their trustees to take into account ethical, environmental, social and governance criteria when investing their funds. But that doesn’t mean employees have confidence in their appointed trustees. More than 82% of respondents were concerned about the kinds of portfolios in which their retirement funds were invested.

The GSB study further suggests that part of the problem is that the structure of modern retirement fund plans makes it difficult for even the most socially minded investor to direct the make-up of their portfolio.

In the defined-contribution model of retirement fund investment, which has become widespread all over the world, fixed contributions are paid into an individual account by both employers and employees. These funds are then invested, in the stock market for example, and returns – whether they are positive or negative – are credited to the individual’s account.

Despite the fact that the employee in a defined-contribution plan has the right to direct investment decisions, the employer retains a significant degree of fiduciary responsibility over the investment of plan assets, including the selection of investment options and financial providers. Thus, the make-up of their portfolio is left to full-time professionals appointed by the employer, whose aim may be to secure the best financial performance rather than ensure ethical practices.

The principles for responsible investment

The push for employers to act responsibly in their investments hit headlines in the US earlier this year. In April, nearly 100 members of Harvard’s faculty signed an open letter to the university president and fellows calling for a divestment of the oil, gas, and coal holdings in its \$33-billion endowment. Harvard, which has the largest university endowment in the US, was the first university in the world to become a signatory of the UN’s Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) in 2014.

The Principles for Responsible Investment were launched by Kofi

Annan in 2006 at the New York Stock Exchange. The six aspirational principles include commitments to incorporate environmental, social and governance issues into investment decision-making and ownership practices. Signatory institutions also commit to encouraging transparency from the entities in which they invest, and to being transparent themselves. Since their launch in 2006, numbers have grown from 560 global investment institutions to 1 200 signatories who manage assets valued at approximately \$34 trillion.

As noted by James Gifford, senior fellow at the Initiative for Responsible Investment at the Harvard Kennedy School, the PRI have a strong focus on shareholder engagement – that is, engaging proactively with investee companies on environmental and social issues.

Issues in which to invest

Divestment of fossil fuel is becoming the flagship of a new generation of SRI activists. In a *Guardian* editorial just days before this year’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report was released, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu called for an anti-apartheid-style boycott and divestment campaign against the fossil fuel industry for driving global warming.

“People of conscience need to break their ties with corporations financing the injustice of climate change,” he wrote. “We can actively encourage energy companies to spend more of their resources on the development of sustainable energy products.”

Gifford says that climate change is hugely important and divestment can be a powerful tool to tackle it, but there are also many other challenges that responsible investors can engage with investee companies on, including human rights and labour standards in supply chains, gender diversity on corporate boards, anti-corruption, biodiversity loss, excessive executive remuneration, and conflict minerals, for example.

The more widespread SRI becomes, the more inclusionary it becomes. As managers of sustainable and responsible investment funds begin to see greater value in the practice, they will seek out and engage with companies that strive to minimise their carbon footprint, for instance, or companies that actively promote good corporate governance, or that invest in low-income communities and inclusive businesses.

In South Africa, the value of SRI does not have to come from international trends or news headlines. With Africa’s biggest institutional investment market, the country has a total of R4-trillion assets under management, of which retirement funds represent about half. This is a substantial sum with which to send a message of change.

After all, there is money to be made from sustainable and responsible investments, but the only way to prove that is to demand it is done. Whether that means engaging with employers on their practices, or taking the reins on their personal portfolio, investors are the ones who can move SRI into the spotlight and from niche to mainstream investing.