

# MONDAY MONTHLY

THE UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN NEWSPAPER

MARCH 2015

The background of the entire page is a collage of South African flags, featuring the characteristic green, yellow, black, white, and red horizontal stripes. Overlaid on this collage are numerous white paint splatters of varying sizes, creating a textured, artistic effect. The text is centered within this composition.

## WHAT IS THE STATE OF OUR NATION?

We ask UCT academics for  
their take on SONA 2015.



## editorial



Photo by Michael Hammond

## DIGGING BELOW THE SURFACE

At the heart of this month's edition of *Monday Monthly*, there's an apt metaphor for our changing approach to this publication. You'll find a map of main campus, but looked at not just from the surface. John Compton takes us down into the Earth's mantle to expose the layers of rock on which UCT stands, and of which it's built.

When it started out 33 years ago, *Monday Monthly* (then *The Monday Paper*) was a two-page weekly publication aimed primarily at staff – with a calendar of interesting events on campus, short articles on staff escapades and successes, and university updates. It had an incredibly successful run. With more communication moving online, however, the role and emphasis of *Monday Monthly* started to change. Over the last few years, you might've noticed new features appearing, and tweaks in the publication's look and feel. In the next year, we'd like to start digging deeper into UCT. While we thoroughly enjoying scratching around the surface of UCT as it looks currently – its daily events and activities – we're also intrigued by its hidden aspects, its untold stories and unsung heroes. We'd like to start digging down and unearthing those layers.

2015 is our year to experiment with stories that take in a broader range of perspectives and people. Look out for regular features such as 'ask an expert', where we ask pressing questions of UCT's researchers and practitioners (this month, the burning questions on our lips were largely to do with SONA, and its fallout). Or our centrespread map, an opportunity

to explore UCT and its surrounds through different lenses – whether those are of memory, history, science, art or research. This month it's geology. Next month, a special feature in time for Freedom Day, drawing on some of the recollections from students and staff who attended UCT during the struggle years – their memories of sit-ins, Casspirs on campus, and the day-to-day of Moscow on the Hill).

At the same time, we're also experimenting with UCT news online, and how *Monday Monthly* works in the digital space – looking to create more visual, interactive features.

If you have any feedback for *Monday Monthly* or UCT news – whether in print or digital formats – we'd welcome it. Furthermore, if someone you know has an untold story, is an unsung hero, or has an interesting perspective on our campus or its surrounds – even if they don't work or study at UCT anymore – please get in touch with us at [newsdesk@uct.ac.za](mailto:newsdesk@uct.ac.za). We hope to tell stories that are as deep as they are wide, as diverse as they are common to all human experience. Without you, however, not only do we not have an audience; we also don't have the storytellers.

Bring your tales, your trowels, your excavation equipment, and join us. Dig it?

The Newsroom Team

## We've come a long way!

Cover pages from the past – when *The Monday Paper*, a staff commune, first came out in 1982.



## NOT THE MONDAY PAPER

*Monday Monthly* has had its fair share of rival publications during the past three decades. First was the *Friday Paper*, published by the underground press in 1984 during the notorious years of press restrictions. Later came the highly entertaining *Not the Monday Paper*, authored by a team of world-class academic pedigree, freed gloriously (but briefly) from the shackles of peer-review.



Page 3 Drama at SONA 2015



Page 6 Digging at UCT



Page 8 Violence in South Africa

## MONDAY MONTHLY

*Monday Monthly* started out in 1982 as a weekly staff newsletter. Since then, it's grown into a monthly publication covering a broad variety of campus life – from research, to student initiatives, to human interest. If you have an interesting perspective on the university, or a great story to tell (whether in words, pictures or any other medium), mail us at [newsdesk@uct.ac.za](mailto:newsdesk@uct.ac.za). If you're looking to advertise in the classifieds, or subscribe to our mailing list, drop us a line at [Ads-MondayPaper@uct.ac.za](mailto:Ads-MondayPaper@uct.ac.za). For general information, contact Sharifa Martin at 021 650 5816.

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ask an expert

UCT minds applied to your pressing questions

SONA  
POLITICS AS THEATRE

The chaotic State of the Nation Address (SONA) on 12 February 2015 probably said more about the real state of the nation than did President Jacob Zuma's address. It also revealed, in a very public way, the rickety platform on which democracy, leadership and accountability teeter. Members of UCT's academic community reflect on moments that stand out in their memory.

Compiled by Helen Swingler  
Photos taken by David Harrison,  
Mail & Guardian

## UNCONSTITUTIONAL BEHAVIOUR



PROFESSOR PIERRE DE VOS  
Claude Leon Foundation Chair  
in Constitutional Governance  
in the Faculty of Law

"First, [SONA] was striking for what I will not remember: namely, anything said by President Jacob Zuma in his State of the Nation Address. This is partly because other events detracted from it, and partly because speeches delivered in Parliament seldom have a direct and meaningful impact on the lives of ordinary people. It's politics as theatre ...

"Second, the scrambling of the cell-phone signal and the clumsy attempts to explain this away as a glitch were striking for what they said about how security agencies overestimate the powers they have in terms of the law and the Constitution, and how clumsy and amateurish

they have been in trying to cover up their bumbling over-reach.

"Third, the admission by the presiding officers that they had outsourced the security of Parliament to security agencies – in contravention of the Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliaments and Provincial Legislatures Act – was striking for what it said about their ineptitude, and their willingness to invite a breach of the separation of powers.

"The Power, Privileges and Immunities Act (especially the part that allows security forces to arrest those who disrupt proceedings in Parliament) must be amended to remove any legal uncertainty. The Constitution prohibits any MP from being arrested for anything he or she says in Parliament, and this must be clarified.

"Was SONA a watershed moment? The apocryphal story about Chinese premier Zhou Enlai comes to mind. When asked in the 1970s what he thought of the French revolution of 1789, he is famously reported to have said, 'It's too early to tell.'"



Speaker for the National Assembly Baleka Mbete and chair of the National Council of Provinces Thandi Modise confer with a parliamentary adviser during SONA.



ON LANGUAGE LOST  
AND NO TRANSLATION



**DR TESSA DOWLING**  
African Languages Section in the School  
of Languages and Literatures

“Seventy percent of our population has an African language as a first language and 40 percent of our population can’t speak English; and yet the Pedi praise singer’s words weren’t given English, Zulu, or Venda subtitles – or subtitles in any other language – so it was merely used for ‘decorum’; to symbolise ‘Africanness’, and not to actually convey meaning to the majority of the population.

“Zuma’s speech was largely in English and subtitled into African languages. When he did use the occasional Zulu word – for example, *Bakwethu* (our people) – it was just to add a little African flavour.

“The argument might be that there are so many languages in South Africa that one cannot choose one over the other. The fact is that these languages can be divided into two language groups (Nguni and Sotho); and sub-titling and interpretation should be provided in these languages if the president does not speak them.

“Sign-language interpretation was provided, so why not Tswana or Xhosa or Zulu interpretation? What about people who have a keen interest in politics but who cannot speak English?

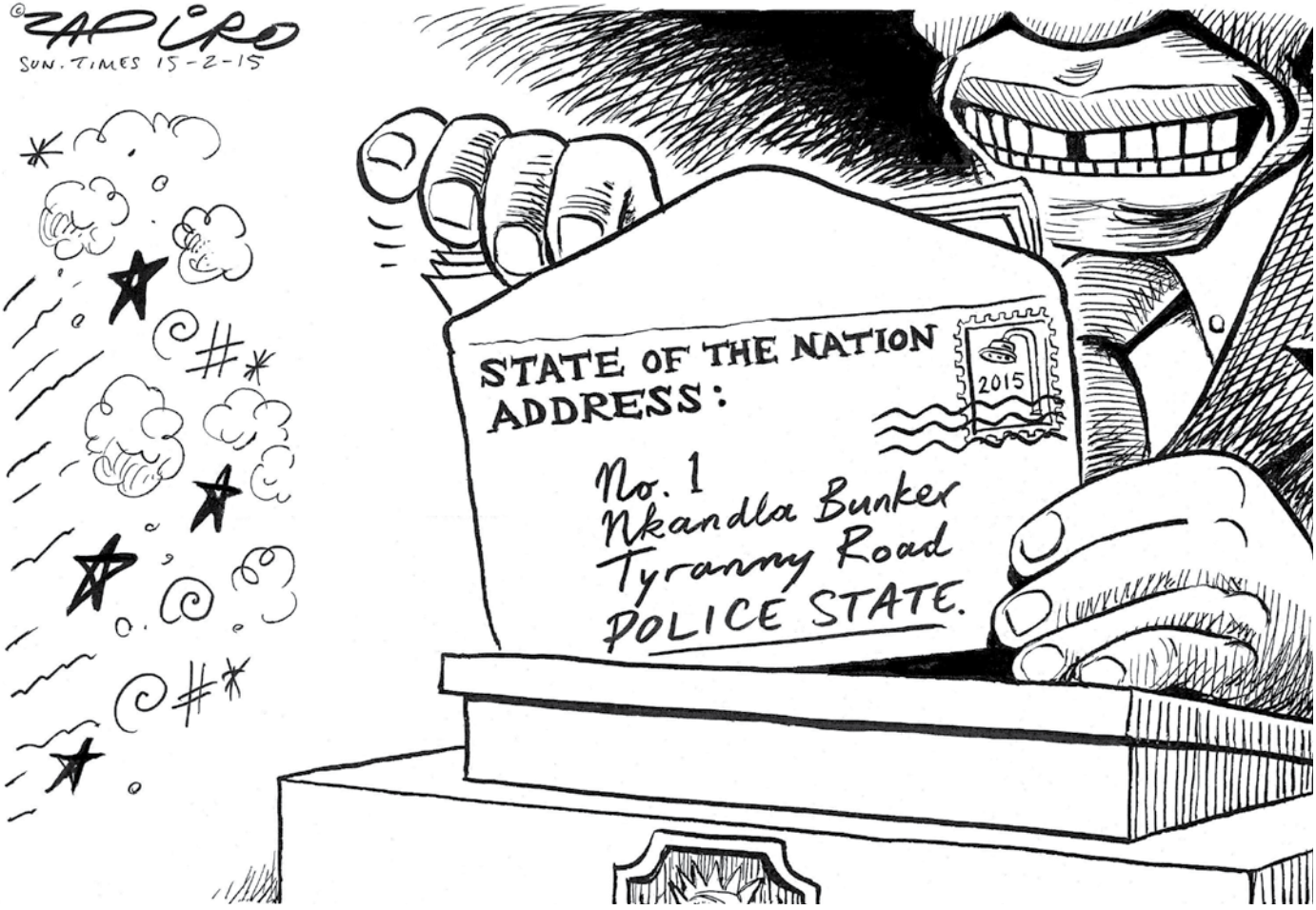
“Zuma would have been better off speaking Zulu (by far the biggest language group in South Africa), but it would seem in South Africa there is no respect for African-language-speakers – and somehow, resorting to English allows for more insincerity and obfuscation.”

PARLIAMENT  
BECOMING ‘REAL’



**IAN-MALCOLM RIJSDIJK**  
Senior lecturer in the Centre for Film  
and Media Studies and director of the  
African Cinema Unit

“First, it brought the esoteric elements of Parliament into sharp public focus. At the same time, many people knew that Nkandla and the



**The Address of the State of the Nation by UCT alumnus Jonathan Shapiro (aka editorial cartoonist Zapiro): “SONA 2015 will be remembered as the night Parliament lost even more of its historic glamour, and constitutional democracy took a bit of a hammering. It will not be remembered for anything Zuma said, promised or envisioned.”**

issue of ‘the money’ was a relatively minor concern with rolling blackouts looming and the nuclear deal lurking in the background.

“I was also struck, once again, by Speaker Mbete’s unsuitability and the fact that she had to hand off responsibility to someone else.

“The third [memorable] moment came during the eTV studio discussion. The anchor crossed to the galleries where a frantic correspondent was heard saying ‘I need a f\*cking wide shot’. It wasn’t so much that it was so obviously heard on public TV; it brought home the discrepancies between how SONA was being covered (in terms of camera and editing) and what was actually happening.

“For many people, Parliament as a physical

space and an institution is far removed from their daily reality. The value of this conflict is that it perhaps made Parliament ‘real’ for many viewers, even if they watched it only on YouTube after news got out. I also think it’s a good example of where discourse and context come into conflict with each other. The friction between the context of Parliament and parliamentary discourse reveals growing opposition to government policy and administration.

“What was more alarming than the interruptions was Zuma’s own behaviour – and the insubstantial speech he proceeded to deliver. The chaos and his behaviour can be read either as complete dislocation from the current concerns of the state, or as extreme cynicism.”

A LEADERSHIP  
CRISIS



**PROFESSOR WALTER BAETS**  
Director of the Graduate School of  
Business

“I see a leadership crisis on many levels. Leadership should be related to purpose (vision) and contribution (to society). I am not sure all the players [in Parliament] had that view. “A second quality of leadership is accountability; and with respect, this is really missing in South African politics. Who is accountable for what, and to whom? And then, are our politicians ‘feeling’ that accountability and taking it?

“The third quality is responsibility: feeling society’s need and considering it one’s task to realise that vision and contribution to society.

“A last remark is that in South Africa, ‘freedom of speech’ is considered to be a free invitation to say whatever, about whomever, and no-one is responsible for what they say. Leadership requires one to be respectful to all.”



“The signal-jamming debacle was extraordinarily amateurish ... and the shifting explanations over the following week sounded like a schoolboy trying to explain his missing homework.”

**IAN-MALCOLM RIJSDIJK**



**Once the EFF were thrown out of Parliament during SONA 2015, there was a cheer from the ANC. And President Zuma, surrounded by security, chuckled.**

THREE ICONIC  
INCIDENTS ... AND  
A RESIGNATION



**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
RICHARD CALLAND**  
Director of the Democratic Governance  
& Rights Unit in the Department of  
Public Law

“Three events or incidents [stand out]: first, Ramaphosa’s note to the Minister of State Security, which I have reason to believe contained an instruction to immediately halt the jamming of cellphone signals in the National Assembly.

“Second, President Zuma’s decision to ignore what had happened with the removal of the EFF MPs from the Chamber, and to try and continue his State of the Nation Address as if nothing had happened – an extraordinary and inexplicable failure of political leadership.

“Third, the decision that Musi Maimane, the leader of the DA, took to lead his party from the Chamber on a matter of principle – whether the security forces that had entered the Chamber were members of the police or not.

“The speaker of the National Assembly, Baleka Mbete, should resign; a group of political elders should be convened by an independent organisation to seek consensus about how to resolve political disputes such as those that led to the incident during SONA.”

THE UNBEARABLE  
LIGHTNESS OF  
WOMEN’S RIGHTS



**TABETH MASENGU**  
Democratic Governance & Rights Unit in  
the Department of Public Law

“One aspect I will remember is related to gender and governance. Apart from the mention of the opening of sexual offences courts to assist with crimes pertaining to women and children, there was nothing else concerning women’s livelihoods.

“[There was] no specific mention of the continued scourge of gender-based violence, the gender discrimination women still face in the workplace, how the SMEs and the funds allocated to communities would equip and empower women, or the scarcity of women in higher echelons of government, and private and public companies.

“While the president commended the Banyana Banyana captain [Sports Star of the Year] and the three young schoolgirls from Soweto [who attended the G20 summit in Australia], this was not enough to give an impression that ordinary women’s hardships are recognised.

“SONA provided us with a watershed moment to stop and think about the threats to democracy in South Africa. As stated by Professor Anthony Butler at an Open Society Foundation for South Africa-organised post-SONA discussion, what occurred in Parliament was evidence of the real-life conflicts many communities face.

“There needs to be a concerted effort to protect Parliament and the separation of powers, so that the police and other state security officials do not encroach on that space in the name of security.”

ON THE ECONOMICS  
OF SONA



**PROFESSOR HAROON BHORAT**  
Director of the Development Policy  
Research Unit in the School of Economics

“On the ‘economic SONA’, we face a low-growth outlook for at least the next fiscal year, placing the economy onto a low-growth trajectory not seen since the third quarter of 2008. Lower growth inevitably starves the economy of jobs as well as limiting the fight against poverty and inequality.

“Lower growth also further constrains what the fiscus is able to do in terms of redistribution and poverty alleviation. This must mean that greater efficiency in fiscal spending is required.

“The threat of an imminent downgrade to our ratings in bond markets (potentially to ‘junk status’) – although unlikely – is a key signal to watch for, as it would be a game-changer for the domestic economy, and for our ability to raise equity in foreign markets to fund economic development.”

DID YOU KNOW?

**Since August 2014 members of the police have been deployed in Parliament no less than three times. According to former UCT postdoctoral fellow Christi van der Westhuizen, the most recent incident of a similar nature was the 1998 fistfight between ANC MP Johnny de Lange and National Party member Manie Schoeman.**

“The profound joy that the president seemed to get from [the disruption] is an incident that many people found shocking. The president should connect, not divide: not in word, not in action (or non-action).”

**WALTER BAETS**

SCHIZOPHRENIC  
MEDIA



**EMERITUS PROFESSOR  
IAN GLENN**  
Centre for Film and Media Studies

“The arrogance of the secuocrats who thought they could block communications strikes one at once as both sinister and naïve. Whatever its faults, South Africa has quite a strong and vibrant media sector, and one wonders who in government thought they could get away with this – and with denying they had done it.

“[What also stands out is] the fact that Zuma showed no glimmer of statesmanship in addressing the complaints against him. His laughter at the expulsion of the EFF and the walkout of the other parties struck me and many others as partisan and unbecoming. One commentator drew a comparison with how Mandela made a point of greeting adversaries when he made his SONA speeches. The EFF really seem to have got under the ANC’s skin.

“I don’t think there is anything that can be done to an ANC that sees itself as having a majority mandate until voters turn against them, or parts of the ANC revolt. Perhaps the COSATU split will help.

“I suspect that the ANC bias of the Independent Group now means that they don’t know what to do, and have reacted schizophrenically – see the Dov Fedler cartoon on the front page of the *Cape Times* after the SONA speech. I think it may drive voters/viewers from having trust in the SABC, but I’m not sure this will amount to much. At least the media stood up against the signal blocking.

“I’m not sure how the average black voter and ANC supporter will feel after all this. I suspect Buthelezi spoke for many who found the EFF behaviour unseemly and impolite, but how are the media treating the EFF? This would be worth a study.”

SARTORIAL  
POLITICS



**PROFESSOR ANTHONY BUTLER**  
Head of the Department of Political  
Studies

“First, the EFF was dressed in red – and their sartorial politics is catching. The DA wore matching black suits and looked very much like a troupe that had escaped from the Cape Town Carnival. The police heavies were dressed as caterers, in black trousers and white shirts.

“Second, there was the ‘signal-jamming’ incident. It is difficult to see what this was intended to accomplish – perhaps it was meant to supplement censorship of television images of the forced removal of EFF MPs. (The TV feeds were manipulated to prevent the public seeing the invasion of the Chamber by the caterers.) Whatever the intention, the jamming (and then its lifting) suggest that the ANC is deeply divided, and confused, about the character of a democratic society.

“Third, shadowy men were seen, ludicrously, carrying a large box around the precincts of Parliament. The whole thing smacked of profound incompetence on behalf of state security operatives: a lack of operational capability so complete that it was almost mind-boggling. Recent intelligence leaks have confirmed the dire state and politicisation of our intelligence and state security systems.

“Finally, many – perhaps most – of the ANC MPs came out of the chamber celebrating the violent eviction of fellow MPs from the parliament. This is a useful indicator of the anti-democratic sensibilities of many of the governing party’s MPs.”



**Journalists chanting “bring back the signal” after the cellphone signal was jammed in Parliament before the 2015 State of the Nation Address.**



# UCT ROCKS

The masonry structures on upper campus keep their rock treasures well hidden. Geologist Associate Professor John Compton took *Monday Monthly* on a tour to uncover these geological gems – and discovered an exquisite continuity between the rocks found in nature (both above and below ground) and those on campus.

Curated by Abigail Calata  
Photos by Michael Hammond



## John Compton

John Compton is trained as a low-temperature geochemist, and his general area of interest is the geochemistry of marine sediments. More recently, he's become interested in the role of Pleistocene climate change and sea-level fluctuations in the evolution of humans in Southern Africa. He also convenes the first-year course, Introduction to Earth and Environmental Sciences.



## SANDSTONE

Sandstone adorns various door and window frames on campus. It is also the rock making up the cliffs above upper campus.

The colourful stones that make up some of the embankments are also examples of sandstone. These stones owe their different colours to mineral deposits such as iron oxide (responsible for the reddish-brown, rusty hues) and manganese oxide (the purple-to-black stains).

Sandstone is sedimentary rock that forms where sand (from the beach or in riverbeds) accumulates and becomes cemented through burial. It is so resistant to weathering because it is made almost entirely of the mineral quartz, says Compton.

Sandstone is most visible (Table Mountain's cliffs are all sandstone) because it makes up the uppermost layer of rock. The sand from which the stone is made was deposited on exposed Malmesbury rock and granite between 510 and 500 million years ago, after these deeply buried rock groups rose to the surface, the result of a series of continental collisions.



## CAPE GRANITE

Jammie steps, as well as other features on Jammie Plaza (including the fountain), are made of Cape granite.

Some 540 million years ago Cape granite magma pushed up through the Malmesbury rock from deep below the African continent. This magma began to cool and crystallise, approximately 10 kilometres below Earth's surface, into the granite rocks we see today. Lion's Head rests on a foundation of granite, and large granite boulders (such as those at Camps Bay and Boulders Beach) dot the shoreline of the Cape Peninsula.

Granite boulders are distinct from the jagged exposures of sandstone and Malmesbury rock, firstly because granite is an igneous rock. "This means it is crystallised from a liquid magma rather than deposited as sediment particles that form layers upon a sea floor. Granite therefore forms large, relatively homogeneous masses (blobs) – in contrast to sediment, which forms stacks of successive, flat-lying layers," reveals Compton.

According to Compton, the granite used on upper campus (as well as at Rhodes Memorial) most probably came from the Higgovale quarry at the foot of Table Mountain.



## MALMESBURY ROCK

The rock upon which the university is built is the oldest in the Cape Town area. It derives its name – as is often the case – from the area where it was first or most completely described, says Compton (the town of Malmesbury). Furthermore, the Malmesbury rock group started out as marine mud and muddy sand, and underlies much of the coastal plain, Signal Hill, Mowbray Ridge and the hills of the Tygerberg. The rocks visible from the Sea Point Promenade are examples of Malmesbury rock.

"How far down the Malmesbury rock goes, nobody knows," explains Compton. "We know it's the oldest in Cape Town because it occurs at the lowest levels, and all other rocks either rest on top (sandstone) or cross-cut it (granite)."

How long ago the sediment that would eventually become Malmesbury rock was deposited is not an easy question to answer, because the rock lacks fossils; however, it is estimated that the Malmesbury sediment was deposited around 560 million years ago. The absence of fossils indicates that the sediment accumulated before there was abundant animal life on Earth.

The dark Malmesbury slabs at the base of the Rhodes statue on upper campus were probably quarried at the Waterfront basin, according to Compton. He explains that Malmesbury rock is more easily worn away than granite or sandstone, and is therefore less visible than its harder counterparts. An explanation for the greater resistance of the rocks under Signal Hill and the Tygerberg Hills is that these formations were baked from below by hot magma, which "now lurks out of sight beneath the surface as long-since-cooled granite".



## Explore UCT

UCT's newsroom and publications department is keen to explore campus and its surrounds from different viewpoints – through the eyes of history, memory, science or art. If you have a story to tell or an interesting perspective that could make for a good walking tour or map, get in touch with us at [newsdesk@uct.ac.za](mailto:newsdesk@uct.ac.za), using 'Explore UCT' in the subject line.



## Sandstone

The door frame of the main entrance to the Centlivres Building is made of sandstone.



## Granite

Jammie steps, as well as stones in the fountain on Jammie Plaza, are classic examples of Cape granite.



## Malmesbury

The black stones between the granite paving below the statue of Cecil John Rhodes at the bottom of Jammie steps are Malmesbury rock, which is the same stone on which upper campus is built.



## Pink granite

It is uncertain where the pink granite adorning the entrance to the RW James Building comes from, but it is believed to have been imported from Italy.



# A HISTORY OF VIOLENCE

The nation commemorates Human Rights Day on 21 March – a day that for many embodies the brutality of the apartheid regime, and its police force in particular. Yet two decades since democracy was won, incidents of violent and often deadly clashes between South Africa’s police and ordinary people, particularly during times of political protest, continue to haunt the country. *Monday Monthly* explores the history of policing and public protest in South Africa, to try to understand why the trend continues.



Andries Tatane – who joined some 4 000 Ficksburg residents on 13 April 2011 to protest poor service delivery in the area – clutches his chest after police shot him with rubber bullets; he collapsed and died 20 minutes later.

It was on 21 March 1960 that apartheid-state police opened fire on a PAC-led march against the pass laws outside the Sharpeville police station, gunning down more than 200 people, 69 of whom were killed.

That date has since been commemorated in various forms; first as Sharpeville Day, then Heroes’ Day, then Freedom Day, until the name was officially changed to Human Rights Day in 1995, “which means nothing, really”, argues Dr Thiven Reddy of UCT’s Department of Political Studies.

But police-versus-citizen violence has made headlines in the country recently, with high-profile cases sparking furious public debate, such as that of community leader Andries Tatane, who was shot dead by police in a so-called ‘service delivery’ protest in Ficksburg in 2011, and the massacre of mineworkers at Marikana the following year.

What is it about the South African socio-political landscape that leads to such frequent violence between an arm of the state and the people it serves?

## POLITICAL PROTESTS: PRESENT AND PAST

Writing about Marikana, Andrew Nash, associate professor in UCT’s Department of Political Studies, says that South Africa has had its share of massacres. “But,” he adds, “this one differs from all the others in that it is our first ‘democratic’ massacre – the first time a democratic government has approved a massacre of black workers who fought for the overthrow of apartheid and voted the ANC into power; the people for whom they are supposedly providing a better life.”

While Sharpeville was a watershed for South African policing, the Soweto uprisings were the real game-changer, says Reddy. The Soweto demonstrations were organised by young people who objected to the apartheid government’s Bantu education system, which required students to learn in Afrikaans, regardless of their mother tongue.

“[Soweto] introduced the young kid with the stone and the petrol bomb willing to target

symbols of oppression,” says Reddy. That modus operandi of political protest continued through the 1980s, and there was a lull in the 1990s – but now it’s back, he says.

Guy Lamb, director of UCT’s Safety and Violence Initiative, agrees.

“You’re looking at Sharpeville as a commemoration; and Sharpeville was a turning point, but not such a big turning point for the police. The big turning point for the police was Soweto in ’76.”

Sharpeville involved an organised crowd that marched on a police station, with police allegedly feeling besieged and opening fire with live ammunition, killing dozens of the marchers. Soweto was different, says Lamb, because it involved a huge and agitated crowd, with police who had no specific training in crowd control. The ensuing chaos was hugely embarrassing for the police force, and sparked a realisation that they would have to ‘do things better’.

“I don’t think there was a particular concern for the people who had been killed, but the

concern was [that the police] looked like they were incompetent,” he says. “That’s when you saw an increased militarisation, focused on counter-insurgency and those sorts of things.”

## GLOBAL TREND: ZERO TOLERANCE

Where political protests used to have a “human rights element” about them, the discourse now is “zero tolerance”, says Reddy.

“There are global patterns regarding policing, repression and violence,” Reddy observes, pointing to the United States and European governments, who appear to be leading the ‘zero tolerance’ policy.

There’s an increase in what the police call ‘public violence’, says Lamb. When a community protests and burns tyres, these expressions are typically labelled ‘service delivery protests’, but they’re not always about service delivery per se, he adds.

Lamb recalls a statement made by one of the interviewees in a study called ‘The Smoke That

Calls’, by the Centre for the Study of Violence and Reconciliation: “If we protest and burn stuff and destroy stuff, someone will come and listen to us.”

“So there’s the sense that we’ll only get attention if we do this,” he says. But from the police’s perspective, what do you do when you’re at this coalface, and people are throwing stones at you and (in some cases) firing shots at you? “You respond aggressively,” says Lamb.

But Marikana showed that serious and careful thought needs to go into how one polices crowds, he adds.

## FOLLOWING THE CROWD

Reddy notes a “false dichotomy” between the apartheid state and the democratic dispensation. It is too simplistic to view everything the apartheid state did as ‘bad’ and therefore view the actions of the post-1994 government as necessarily the opposite.

Government has been put in a contradictory position, Reddy argues; it wants to claim the struggle history against repression, yet it behaves like “every other state” in violently repressing dissent by its citizens.

It is ironic that the ANC’s rhetoric around state-sponsored violence has become “justificatory, dishonest”, and undermines “certain fundamental values of a free society, [one of] which is that a democratic state must not kill its citizens!” Reddy says.

“It’s a slippery slope of morality.”

So we have moved from the fraught society that was apartheid to a democratic one marred by endemic corruption and elites indulging in self-interest, often at the expense of ordinary people.

“Politics becomes about means and ends. This is not what you want to build a strong society on.”

South Africa is a society filled with pathologies and contradictions.

“I don’t think it’s unique to South Africa. These contradictions are part of every society,” says Reddy. “It’s just in South Africa we see it [manifested] in incidents such as Marikana, in taxi violence, in two people fighting on a roadside.”

## SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE – MILITARIST HISTORY

South African police have always been militarist, notes Lamb.

“There’s a difference between ‘militarised’ and ‘militarist,’” he continues. “If you trace the history of the police back to when the first organised police happened, it was from colonial intervention, and the police were effectively a quasi-military body that were deployed to the borders of the colony, or the frontier, to police;

because that’s where there were other societies or people who were opposed to colonial intervention.”



Aggressive policing was pursued, said Lamb. This was true of South African police in their various models, from the colonial to the South African Police, established in 1913 by amalgamating the police bodies of the four colonies. This body became the South African Police Service (SAPS) in the mid-1990s.

“South African police have always been hierarchical; centrally managed, and incredibly top-down,” Lamb says. That brought certain traditions, which have manifested in the police adopting military ranks and the use of paramilitary-type equipment, for example.

“In the United States at the moment you see a very clear trend towards paramilitarisation, specifically in the way in which police are dressed, the way in which they are armed, and the way they interact with people,” Lamb says.

With the South African police, this militarisation is less clear-cut.

“The history here is, you have a police [force] that was highly militarised in the seventies and eighties.”

Democracy heralded an attempt to make cosmetic changes to the militarised aspects of the police, with the military ranks being abandoned and the name changed from ‘police force’ to ‘police service’.

The South African Police Service reverted to its original military rank structure in 2010; which, SAPS said, would improve discipline, “with the ultimate inference being that it will enable the police to deal better with the high crime levels that are bedevilling communities”, as Joey Berning and David Masiloane wrote in the *South African Journal of Criminology* in 2011.

## RANKS OUT; ETHOS REMAINS

“They didn’t really police crime,” says Lamb about the apartheid police in black areas. “They policed resistance against apartheid, essentially to police that political struggle. They weren’t really interested in crime.”

Though there have been attempts since 1994 to forge links between communities and the police, the hierarchical ethos remains.

A change that was noticeable was when Jackie Selebi became Commissioner of Police.

“The change from having professional police running the police to political appointees coming in as civilians – but parachuted in, not understanding the policing organisation – has, in a way, politicised the police.

“Often the police have been doing the bidding of the ruling party, and that’s been kind of obvious in many respects; Marikana is obviously one of the key cases of that [happening].”

With that came an even stronger militarisation of the police, and the belief that crime could be solved with force.

“We’re seeing this militarisation largely around the policing of crowds,” adds Lamb.



Dark visions from Sharpeville (1960) and Ficksburg (2011). Photos courtesy of Gallo Images and Willem van der Berg.

## POLICE REJECT MILITARY INTERVENTION

Somewhat ironically, the police maintain that sending the military in to fight gangs in townships is “the worst thing you can do – and that’s my view as well”, says Lamb.

“It’s interesting in terms of militarisation towards the policing of agitated crowds, in that [the attitude is that] we have to subdue them, we have to repress the threat; and in the case of gangs, there’s a realisation that the military option is not going to work here. We need to think of creative ways of doing this.

“Militarisation does exist; the ethos is there. But how the police address problems is not always militarised.”

## IS THERE ANOTHER WAY?

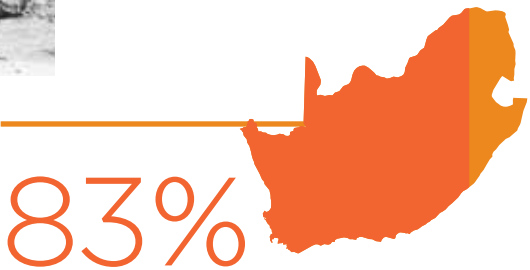
The Swedish police, for example, use a different model, which lends itself to less lethal outcomes. They have specific police officers who deal with strikes, by trying to establish contact with strike leaders and looking at ways of preventing the situation from escalating.

“But sometimes the arrival of the police on the scene escalates it,” cautions Lamb.

Closer to home, the Khayelitsha Commission has benefited parts of that community already, reports Lamb. Upon the conclusion of the commission, a new station commissioner was appointed for all three stations in the crime-stricken community.

Lieutenant-General Johannes Jacobus Brandt immediately made contact with civil society organisations such as the Social Justice Coalition, and resolved to find ways to implement the commission’s recommendations.

“He’s now got a really good team together,



**83%**  
IN 2014, 181 OF 218 PROTESTS INVOLVED VIOLENCE OF SOME FORM – WHETHER PERPETRATED BY PROTESTORS OR AUTHORITIES – UP FROM 46% IN 2007.

Source: Civic Protest Barometer, published by the University of the Western Cape.

and has decided that ‘we need to do something about this.’” Lt-Gen Brandt also approached academia for help, and on the recommendation of a subsequent UCT study, the Department of Community Safety now funds Khayelitsha’s local ‘peace committees’, which are extra-state bodies that try to solve potential flashpoints in communities before they need to be taken to the police.

This is very much a community-driven way of reducing crime, says Lamb.

“For me, here, it is about a different style of policing. It’s not all about beating people into submission and using aggressive policing. It’s about saying, ‘we’re here, we acknowledge there’s a problem, and let’s do something about it,’” Lamb says.

The attitude, then, is about trying to solve the problems in a very poor community that suffers from a lot of crime.

So it’s entirely possible to exploit the hierarchical ethos in the police to find less aggressive ways of managing crowds, too, says Lamb. ■



# TECHNOLOGY TRENDS SHAPING HIGHER EDUCATION

Data analytics, innovaton hubs and the future of graduate employment. These are the topics trending at higher education institutions worldwide. *Monday Monthly* writer Helen Swingler interviewed Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price for his insights from this year’s meeting of the Global Universities Leaders Forum (GULF) at the World Economic Forum.

**GULF is a World Economic Forum initiative** that brings together the leaders of 25 of the world’s foremost universities, selected by WEF founder and executive chairperson Klaus Shwab.

Price has attended the meeting each year since 2010, along with leaders from Harvard, the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne, the London Business School, MIT and Columbia, who meet to discuss the trends that are shaping higher education worldwide.

The event is an opportunity to network with business and government leaders, global NGOs, and up-and-coming global leaders, Price says.

“It’s also an opportunity to fly the flag for universities in Africa – UCT was the only African university represented – and for UCT, which is important for our own politicians and corporate leaders to see.”

## GLOBAL TREND THINK TANK

Interspersed with economic and geopolitical trend analyses, the regular WEF programme has a programme of scientific workshops and panels to identify future technology trends that will affect business, governments and society.

This year, these trends were robotics, neuroscience, synthetic biology, energy policy and carbon, food security, and big data.

“All of these have implications for thinking about the kinds of jobs our graduates will have in ten to twenty years’ time, and therefore should influence our thinking about curricula,” Price says.

“They also influence our thinking about steering institutional research strategy. Some of these topics may appear a bit narrow and mainly of curiosity value; so let me take just one example – robotics – to illustrate the value of such discussions.

“The focus on driverless cars highlights the growing confidence in robots to do complex technical jobs – including piloting everything from autonomous vehicles to machinery – better, and with fewer mistakes, than humans.

In ten years, it was stated, most traditional manufacturing jobs will no longer exist.”

The implications are wide-ranging, and will affect economies, employment, skills mixes, and importantly for universities, graduate competencies.

“For developing countries, the speed, quality of performance, and ultimately the lower costs of production that result from robot use will make even our relatively low-cost labour economies uncompetitive.

“So we have to get into the field of robotics ourselves if we want to compete. New jobs will eventually be created, but there will probably be a lag. Entrepreneurship is seen as the major area of job creation, and universities need to take this far more seriously as a skill all graduates should probably have.”

Even more crucial to UCT, and at the heart of Price’s annual pilgrimage to Davos, was the one-day GULF meeting, at which the 25 university presidents and vice-chancellors shared their experiences and reflected; a high-level dialogue on the broader trends expected that will shape higher education.

This year, there were three main topics on the GULF agenda.

## DATA ANALYSIS SKILLS VITAL

First, the digital future, and the need for data analytics.

“This was a discussion with Eric Schmidt, founder and chairperson of Google, who highlighted the exponential demand for data scientists. His view is that 70 to 80% of all jobs in the near future will require some familiarity with data science. From next year, all UC Berkeley four-year undergraduates will be required to include a course on data analytics – different courses depending on an individual’s facility with calculus.”

## INNOVATION HUBS

The second topic was facilitating innovation, and particularly innovation hubs, science parks and similar facilities.

“MIT’s Lincoln Laboratories and the Singapore Research Campus were presented as successful examples of government-sponsored university business research and development centres – with the Singapore Park open to partnerships with universities from around the world,” says Price.

“The discussion covered issues of intellectual property protection versus very liberal regimes; collaboration with business and government; benefits of small start-ups versus big industry collaboration; access to risk capital and other barriers to innovation. One particularly interesting initiative, driven by the US National Science Foundation, is I-Corps, access to which we are exploring for UCT.”

## GLOBAL RECRUITERS

The third topic was the future of graduate employment.

Presenting was the CEO of a global labour broker company called ManpowerGroup, which primarily places graduates. Labour broking is significantly shifting up the skill ladder to highly skilled and professional graduates.

Price said Manpower employs 3.5 million graduates from 81 countries around the world, mainly under 34 years of age, who are placed with companies that need specialist skills. More than 40% that come through Manpower will end up being employed by the companies to which they are deployed.

While the practice “presumably improves efficiencies and flexibility for employers and the global labour marketplace”, the implications for universities were profound, Price pointed out.

“This changing mode of employment, lack of job security, shifting or absent employer allegiance, and arguably ruthless attitude of employing people only for as long as you need them, is forcing universities to think about how to prepare graduates better for this sort of marketplace.”

## SUSTAINABLE CAMPUSES

As sustainability is a key imperative, all GULF members have committed to on-campus programmes to improve the environment and promote sustainability.

“We each submit a report to GULF prior to the meeting, and the WEF secretariat compiles a booklet of innovative practices at different universities. UCT featured two pages of innovative practices in the compilation.”

## POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

One of the overarching WEF themes this year was the Millennium Development Goals, time-bound targets set by the United Nations that are due to expire this year, after 2015.

“It’s likely that these goals will now be called Sustainability Development Goals,” says Price. “There was considerable discussion at WEF about sustainability, particularly food security.

“But it’s not just about goals; much of the discussion was also about strategy, and a key theme is moving away from placing people in ‘good’ and ‘bad’ categories. Instead, the focus is moving towards co-operation and partnership, moving from ‘name and blame’ to ‘know and

show’ strategies to find better ways of dealing with sustainability.”

Price said discussions at the WEF indicated a tipping point in the world, with a growing number of large companies and chiefs committed to issues of sustainability, and increasingly willing to take these on unilaterally, without waiting for government to lead.

Another discussion focused on how universities deal with intellectual property rights, and the trade-off between fostering innovation by student and staff inventors, and smothering it because of restrictions safeguarding the institution’s investment.

“These are the kinds of discussions we want to ensure our academics are part of.” For Price, the value of attending WEF hinges on this aspect.

For example, startling progress in the field of neuroscience (UCT itself will soon be launching a new clinical neuroscience centre) will require new academic structures, curricula, degree structures and funding mechanisms to facilitate this cross-disciplinary field.

“Exposure to these high-levels discussions changes the way I think about the organisation of the university and its departments, research programmes and their funding, and the overall curricula design to facilitate these developments. This is to provide the environment that will ensure the science will advance.

“In the end, this is what providing leadership in a university is about.” ■

## WEF Africa in Cape Town

In addition to the main annual meeting in Davos, the World Economic Forum holds regional fora in various parts of the globe. This year marks World Economic Forum Africa’s 25th anniversary.

WEF Africa takes place in Cape Town every alternate year. Last year it was in Abuja, Nigeria, and this year it will be hosted in the Mother City from 3 to 5 June.

The theme is ‘Then and Now: Reimagining Africa’s Future’.

It’s a significant milestone, as 2015 marks the end of the region’s combined efforts to reach the United Nations Millennium Development Goals to eradicate poverty. Africa has a GDP outstripped by the world average by two to three percent, and the world’s biggest youth population. According to WEF Africa, its working-age population is expected to double to 1 billion in the next 25 years.

This year WEF Africa will convene regional and global leaders to take stock of progress over the last 25 years, and identify innovative approaches to inclusive growth and sustainable development in the future. And it’s at this level that UCT’s leading researchers will provide input.

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Opportunities to join the University of Cape Town

UCT is committed to the pursuit of excellence, diversity and redress. Our policy on employment equity is available at [www.uct.ac.za/about/policies/eepolicy.pdf](http://www.uct.ac.za/about/policies/eepolicy.pdf)

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

### Database Manager

Department of Economics,  
Faculty of Commerce  
**Closing date:** 06 March 2015

### SQL Programmer

Public Health & Family Medicine,  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
**Closing date:** 25 March 2015

### Data Manager

Public Health & Family Medicine,  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
**Closing date:** 25 March 2015

### Research Officer/Senior Research Officer (Epidemiologists) x4

Public Health & Family Medicine,  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
**Closing date:** 25 March 2015

### Research Officer/Senior Research Officer (Data Scientist)

Public Health & Family Medicine,  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
**Closing date:** 25 March 2015

### CRS Clinical Manager

Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation,  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
**Closing date:** 27 March

### Senior Clinical Research Worker

Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation,  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
**Closing date:** 27 March

### Clinical Research Worker

Desmond Tutu HIV Foundation,  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
**Closing date:** 27 March

### Technical Assistant

Department of Human Biology,  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
**Closing date:** 30 March

### Junior Research Fellow

Southern Africa Labour & Development  
Research Unit,  
Faculty of Commerce  
**Closing date:** 15 April 2015

## FOR SALE

**Pure Wild Blossom Honey** R37.00 per jar or R39.00 for a squeeze bottle. Please contact June by email: [june.reeler@uct.ac.za](mailto:june.reeler@uct.ac.za)

**HERBALIFE health products** can be ordered directly from your distributor on UCT campus. Our 3 day trial programme includes 2 wellness assessments & products sufficient for 3 days. Email: [bbaayesha@gmail.com](mailto:bbaayesha@gmail.com) / 084 584 4799/021 486 9011

**Raw food diet for dogs and Cats** I am a Distributor of a healthy raw food diet for your pets. It is sold in 20x500g tubes = 10kg bags. For more information, please email Janine on [bengal.tiger31@gmail.com](mailto:bengal.tiger31@gmail.com)

## EVENTS

### Philosophy Society Meeting

Date and Time: Tuesday 24 March @ 20h00,  
Speaker: Dr Greg Fried , (Philosophy, UCT).  
**Title:** God and Mathematics.  
**Venue:** Lecture Theatre 2, Humanities Building

### Cape Town Psychoanalytic Society for Psychotherapy (CTSP) Public Lecture by Mark Sanders

Why Are You Learning Zulu? What I Learned About My History When I Learned Zulu.  
**Date:** Thursday 16 April 2015  
**Time:** 8pm  
**Venue:** UCT Lung Institute  
**Cost:** Public R50, CTSP Members R45, Pensioners & Students R40

## EXECUTIVE AND ACADEMIC POSTS:

### Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor

African Institute of Financial  
Markets and Risk Management,  
Faculty of Commerce  
**Closing date:** 31 March 2015

### Lecturer

Department of Astronomy,  
Faculty of Science  
**Closing date:** 31 March 2015

### Lecturer

Department of Chemistry,  
Faculty of Science  
**Closing date:** 15 April 2015

To view the full advertisements, application requirements and response details, please visit “vacancies” at [www.uct.ac.za](http://www.uct.ac.za)

## ACCOMMODATION

**Accommodation – Pinelands:** Available with immediate effect: situated in quiet area, close to Howard Centre and 10 min walk to Old Mutual Station. One spacious, fully furnished bedroom (double bed, desk, built-in cupboards, shelves, TV). Exclusive use of bathroom and shower. Ideal for single person. Facilities: capped wifi, DSTV, excellent security and secure parking, pool and bar area, and generous living area. R5000 per month, which includes accommodation, electricity and water, light breakfast and dinner (Mon - Fri), laundry. Available to mature, responsible person with pleasant disposition. Call 021 531 0030 or 082 658 2847

**Accommodation Offered:** Furnished room in home for rent. Includes meals. Laundry services can be made available. R2500 single R3500 2 people sharing. Maitland area. Contact Jessie - 073 310 0090

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• Close to UCT, shops and restaurants  
• Easy access to airport, city, False- & Hout Bay  
• 33 en-suite rooms, each tastefully furnished with satellite TV, telephones, FREE Wifi, air-conditioned & much more  
• Two pool areas  
• Inviting dining room, Great Breakfast!  
• You will love our relaxed atmosphere

**R770 single      R990 double**

## GENERAL ADS

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### EAGLE TRANSCRIPTION & TRANSLATION SERVICES:

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**Au Pair required:** I am urgently seeking an au pair to drive and assist with homework for my two children ages 11 & 13. Must have a valid South African licence and own vehicle. Mon-Thurs: 2.15-6.30pm. Fridays 12.30-4pm. Females only. Kids school in Pinelands and home is in Rylands. Please contact Farhana @ 083 417 7868 and provide CV and references.

**Academic editor:** Former technical editor on the South African Medical Journal. I offer technical and copy editing, especially in the health sciences and medical humanities. Julia 082 400 3002, [jem@mweb.co.za](mailto:jem@mweb.co.za)



## 2016 HARVARD-UCT MANDELA FELLOWSHIPS

Established through generous support from the Andrew W Mellon Foundation of New York, the Harvard-UCT Mandela Fellowships are intended to strengthen connections between UCT and the WEB Du Bois Research Institute (at Harvard’s Hutchins Centre for African and African American Research), by providing opportunities for UCT staff to gain international experience, and supporting the professional advancement of academics, particularly those within the humanities and social sciences.

Founded in 1975, the WEB Du Bois Research Institute has annually appointed scholars who conduct individual research for a period of one to two semesters in a variety of fields within African and African-American Studies.

### Award details

The award includes a stipend, and grants for housing, medical coverage, air travel between South Africa and the US, childcare and an allowance for attendance at an academic conference in the US during tenure of the award. Details of the package will be negotiated individually with candidates.

### For this application round, dates available are:

January 2016 to May 2016  
August 2016 to December 2016

If possible, your application should clearly state for which period you are applying.

### How to apply

1. To be eligible, applicants must have been awarded a PhD degree at the time of application, and have permanent or T3 academic posts at UCT. In line with UCT’s equity objectives, preference will be given to applicants from the designated groups, with particular emphasis on black South Africans.
2. Applicants can be from any disciplinary field, but must demonstrate how their research contributes to the ongoing development of teaching and learning in South African higher education.
3. Candidates are therefore requested to specify what the outcome of the research will be, how it will impact on teaching and learning, and where appropriate, how it will

be disseminated beyond the lecture room and made known to a wider audience (for example, through publications and public seminars).

### Applications should:

- outline the intended study and research whilst at the WEB Du Bois Research Institute,
- demonstrate the relationship of this work to the development of teaching and learning in higher education in South Africa, and
- include a curriculum vitae and the names and contact details of two referees.

Successful applicants will be expected to submit a substantial report on their research at Harvard on their return to UCT, and give a seminar on how the fellowship has contributed towards teaching and learning.

**The completed application package should be emailed to Kathy Erasmus at the Centre for Higher Education Development (CHED) by 4 April 2015:** [kathy.erasmus@uct.ac.za](mailto:kathy.erasmus@uct.ac.za)





# AN EPIC RIDE

The 2015 Absa Cape Epic Prologue was hosted by UCT for the first time on Sunday 15 March 2015. A total of 1 200 participants took on the dusty 20km race with a climb of 600m up the slopes of Table Mountain to earn their seeding in the seven days of stage racings that followed. The Cape Epic is rated as the mountain biking equivalent of the Tour de France, and is a highlight on the calendars of all professional endurance mountain bikers around the world.

Photos taken by Nardus Engelbrecht and Michael Hammond



Cyclists pacing up to Dead Man's Tree, with views of Cape Town's City Bowl and Signal Hill beyond.



Cyclists from Velokhaya – a non-profit organisation that uses cycling to teach important life skills to youth – also had an epic Sunday. These young riders, most of them from Khayelitsha, were hosted by UCT's cycling team, and spent the morning on a training ride, then watching the outcome of the 2015 prologue.

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Kevin Vermaak, founder of the Absa Cape Epic, is a UCT electrical engineering graduate.



As cyclists head down toward Newlands picnic area on a technically challenging single track, spectators encourage them through the last few kilometres.



Phillimon Sebona and Jan Motshioa racing over Jameson Plaza. Both were competing in their fourth Cape Epic, despite being only 23 years old.



Two-year-old Matthew greets his dad Gareth Parker as he gets ready to enter the starting pin early Sunday morning.