The Centre for Social Science Research &

The Institute for Democracy, Citizenship and Public Policy in Africa



Director's Report

This year saw the establishment of the new Institute for Democracy, Citizenship and Public Policy in Africa (IDCPPA), building on foundations established within the Centre for Social Science Research (CSSR). Various projects and activities previously accommodated within the CSSR – including the entire former Democracy in Africa Research Unit – moved across to the new Institute, which also embarked on new initiatives. As this report attests, the CSSR itself has not only continued with its other work, but also moved in new directions. This Annual Report for 2017 serves as a composite report for both the CSSR and the IDCPPA.

The CSSR comprised in 2017 three research units. The Families and Society Research Unit (FaSRU), headed by Elena Moore, focuses primarily on the sociology of the family. The major focus of the AIDS and Society Research Unit (ASRU), headed by Rebecca Hodes, is the Mzantsi Wakho project. Mzantsi Wakho is the largest longitudinal study of HIV-positive adolescents on antiretroviral treatment. The Sustainable Societies Unit (SSU), headed by Beatrice Conradie, focuses primarily on the challenges of environmental, economic and social sustainability, especially in the Western Cape. During 2017, CSSR researchers initiated major projects on topics as diverse as managing rats in poor neighbourhoods and the consequences of social grants for inter-generational relationships.

Whilst most of the work of the CSSR has focused on South Africa, the new Institute is concerned primarily with the rest of Africa, and (at present) more narrowly on politics and public policy. The Institute held several workshops and began to plan a major programme on political parties and candidates in East and Southern Africa. The Institute accommodates the Afrobarometer data management team, who were responsible for getting into the field the 7th round of Afrobarometer surveys (of public opinion) using – for the first time – electronic data capture.

The CSSR (as in previous years) and new Institute invest heavily in capacity-building among graduate students. In 2017, we supported about fifteen PhD students, about ten masters students and 2 post-doctoral fellows. Most of our students are black. We support teaching of research methods in the Political Studies and Sociology departments. We usually run a Summer School, in collaboration with Afrobarometer, but were unfortunately unable to do so in 2017 because the university calendar was moved in response to protests at the end of 2016. In 2017, several of our students – including Nicole Daniels, Lwando Scott, and Lesley Gittings – published work in peer-reviewed journals. Others published their work as Working Papers. We assisted students to attend and present work at major international and local conferences.

The CSSR and Institute's research is clearly what is now called "engaged". Our research is designed to be policy-relevant, and we partner with groups and individuals outside of the University. Our research and partnerships expose us to the challenges facing a wide range of people in both our corner of Africa and elsewhere. One such challenge is the drought that has beset the Western Cape. In late 2017, Beatrice Conradie – who has been the lynchpin of our partnership with farmers and others in the Karoo – organised a workshop for farmers on dealing with drought. More generally, we work closely with both government and civil society. For example, ASRU played a central role in drafting South Africa's new Adolescent and Youth Health Policy, whilst Institute researchers worked closely with civil society organisations around social protection policy across Southern Africa.

Jeremy Seekings resumed the Directorship of the CSSR at the end of 2016, with Elena Moore and Beatrice Conradie stepping in as Acting Directors whilst Jeremy was away in the latter part of 2017. Jeremy also served as Interim Director of the IDCPPA. The CSSR's Operations Manager, Marius Coqui, resigned in early 2017, and was then appointed as financial and administrative support officer for Mzantsi Wakho. Sarah Walters stepped up into the position of Assistant Finance Officer, servicing both the CSSR and Institute. Becky Maughan-Brown was appointed as part-time Operations Manager for the new Institute. Dumi Hlwele continues as Senior Administrator for the CSSR. Thobani Ncapai continues as a CSSR fieldworker. Esthie Hugo continues as Publications Editor for the CSSR and Institute.

Families and Societies Unit (FaSRU)

Publications

Elena Moore published *Divorce*, *Families and Emotion Work*. The book focuses on parental commitment to family life after divorce, in contrast to its common perception as an irrevocable breaking up of the family unit, which is often perpetuated by representations from popular culture and the media.

Other notable publications in 2017 include two articles from Nicole Daniels in the *Journal of Gender Studies* and Lwando Scott's article in *Agenda*. Nicole Daniels is undertaking a PhD on birth choices and co-authored an article entitled "Doing homebirth like a man? Constructions of masculinity in South African men's narratives of homebirth" in the Journal of Gender Studies. Lwando Scott is undertaking a PhD on same sex marriage in South Africa and published an article entitled: "Disrupting Johannesburg Pride: Gender, race, and class in the LGBTI movement in South Africa" in *Agenda*. Moore also published an article in *Agenda*, as part of a special issue on Intersectionality. The article, "Centering the intersection of race, class, and gender when a customary marriage ends", was co-authored by Prof. Chuma Himonga.

Intergenerational Relationships in South Africa

FaSRU's major project examines intergenerational familial relations in South Africa. Moore raised two grants totalling R650,000 (including a R500,000 grant from DST-NRF Centre of Excellence in Human Development) to fund the research of graduate students and a part-time post-doc. The research is about relationships between members of families and wider kin groups, especially their significance as sources of practical and financial support. It includes an analysis of quantitative data from a study of household income and expenditure.

In April, scholars from Cape Town and elsewhere in South Africa, together with two visiting scholars from North America, participated in a workshop on "Intergenerational relations and social grants". Some of the papers from this workshop were accepted for a special issue in *Critical Social Policy*.



Grace Khunou & Mark Hunter at the Social Grants and Intergenerational Relations Workshop

Graduation and Completed Theses

We have also seen the submission of the first PhD thesis by a FaSRU researcher. In July, Susan Holland-Muter submitted her thesis, "Permeable and intersectional life worlds: counter narratives of lesbian queer world making in Cape Town." Two other FaSRU students completed their research projects this year: Seo-hyung Lee and Jill Chidisha Samukimba.

FaSRU Seminars

9 Feb	Researching the transmission of wealth in middle class Black South African families	Zandile Ndebele
11 April	Doing ethnographic field work on families and children in KZN	Mark Hunter
9 May	Describing and explaining the ways in which low-income mothers in KZN balance work and family life	Nonzuzo Mbokazi
22 June	Writing for publication	Elena Moore, Asanda Benya
22 August	Narrowing down your research question	Amal Fekry, Shuvai Finos
28 September	PG session: Submitting the thesis	Susan Holland-Muter
25 October	PG session: Publishing a Working Paper	Nicole Daniels, Kirsty Button

AIDS and Society Research Unit (ASRU)

From "access" to "adherence"

The politics of HIV in South Africa have changed substantially since ASRU's founding, yet the importance of engaged, critical and empirical scholarship on the HIV epidemic remains. Today, almost four million people in South Africa have initiated antiretroviral treatment (ART). In reflection of these changes, ASRU's research focus has shifted in recent years from the challenges of access, to the challenges of adherence, of HIV treatment. In keeping with the CSSR's broad objectives, ASRU researchers conduct multidisciplinary research, combining qualitative and quantitative research strategies.

ASRU doctoral student, Lesley Gittings, continued her research on adolescent masculinities, traditional and biomedical health practices, and adherence to medicines during traditional initiation. Gittings spent most of 2017 in the Eastern Cape, working with the Mzantsi Wakho research team.



Researchers at the Mzantsi Wakho offices in King William's Town

In partnership with the Southern African Social Science and HIV (SASH) programme at UCT's School of Public Health and Family Medicine, ASRU provides supervision and support for a cohort of graduate students.

Samantha Malunga and Namla Sicwebu completed their coursework for Masters degrees in Public Health. Malunga's research focuses on the motivations of activist men's work in Gugulethu. Siwebu's dissertation concerns a caregiver-led HIV-disclosure programme piloted by Médecins Sans Frontièrs (MSF).

Our primary project is Mzantsi Wakho, a mixed methods study about ART adherence and sexual health among adolescents and young adults in South Africa. Mzantsi Wakho is currently the largest known, longitudinal, community-traced study of adherence to ART among adolescents. Through Mzantsi Wakho, ASRU supports a team of over forty researchers and students based at the study offices in King William's Town and East London.



ASRU students and researchers at a workshop on the ethics of qualitative research, King William's Town

ASRU welcomed Dr. Elona Toska as a postdoctoral fellow. Toska completed her PhD at Oxford, entitled "Sex in the Shadow of HIV: factors associated with sexual risk among adolescents in a community-traced sample in South Africa". In addition to managing quantitative research for Mzantsi Wakho at UCT, Toska published several papers.



Toska presents at a training of health programmers to implement South Africa's National Adolescent Health Policy

With the support of UNICEF, ASRU hosted a study on the use of mobile health technologies (principally smart phones) for improving connectivity between adolescents and healthcare workers. This study was led by Craig Carty, an ASRU research associate and D.Phil student at Oxford University. The study aims to determine the feasibility of using mobile phones to connect adolescents living with chronic illnesses to clinicians. A mobile application has been developed and a trial will begin in 2018 in Limpopo province. Craig Carty, Rebecca Hodes, and Lucie Cluver co-authored an extended abstract published in ACM Proceedings in July 2017 on this ongoing work.



At work/play: Mzantsi Wakho's Teen Advisory Group

ASRU researchers lead-authored South Africa's National Adolescent and Youth Health Policy. Initiated in 2014, this project was led by Rebecca Hodes and Lucie Cluver (co-Principal Investigators of the Mzantsi Wakho study) and included CSSR colleagues Rajen Govender and Nicoli Nattrass. The policy drew on methods and findings from participatory research with adolescents. In order to strengthen the capacity of provincial health authorities to implement the policy, a training was designed and conducted with 50 key officials representing all South African provinces in the last quarter of 2017. Hodes and Toska designed and conducted components of the course.



Conferences, presentations and collaborations

ASRU researchers made academic presentations at the Universities of Cape Town, Johannesburg, the Witwatersrand and Stellenbosch. Our conference presentations included the INTEREST Workshop (Lilongwe, Malawi), the Southern African AIDS Conference (Durban, South Africa), a workshop on "Childhood, Youth, Health and Care" (Wits School of Public Health, Johannesburg), the Medical Humanities workshop (Wiser, Johannesburg,) and AIDSImpact 2017 (Cape Town, South Africa). Hodes made plenary presentations at the Workshop of HIV and International (Johannesburg, October 2017) and the Paediatric-Adolescent Treatment for Africa (PATA) summit on "Delivery on the frontline" (Johannesburg, October 2017).







Pictured left: Participants of the Pharmaceutical Humanities Workshop, co-organised by ASRU's Rebecca Hodes

Sustainable Societies Unit (SSU)

Researchers in the Sustainable Societies Unit work on a variety of environmental and social sustainability projects, several with close ties to the Institute for Communities and Wildlife (iCWild).

Karoo Predator Project

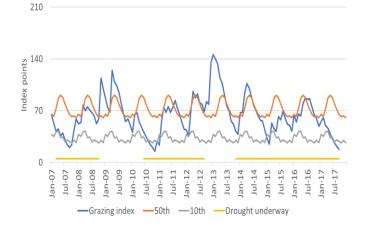
The western half of South Africa is in the grip of a multi-year drought, which is causing severe hardship in the Central Karoo. This drought is at its worst in the Swartberg where farms currently operate at - 75% of their grazing capacity. Livestock and wildlife are dying on a large scale. Carrion could cause a spike in "problem animal" numbers, i.e. predators preying on domestic livestock. Weakness and ill health might put livestock at risk. Despite drought disaster relief from the Western Cape government and generous private fodder donations from across the country, the farmers we work with have become financially extremely vulnerable and so the risk of overgrazing is immense.



Grazing conditions in Koup, November 2017

The Karoo Predator Project's field work was concluded in 2016. This year was spent on analysis and write up. A farm management study is underway on the main determinants of productivity of the system and possibilities for climate change adaptation and mitigation. One possibility is for the landowners to partner with international conservation bodies in a large-scale stock removal scheme as ongoing feeding seems financially ruinous.

Nicoli Nattrass has been most active in the predator management space, taking a lead on a book on the Karoo that begins with predator ecology, passes through the farming system and will end with policy recommendations for wildlife management. With Marine Drouilly and Justin O'Riain, Nattrass contributed to PredSA – a scientific assessment of predators and predator management in South Africa. Some of their expert input into the process appeared as CSSR working papers 398 and 399.



Actual and expected grazing index according to Du Toit (2010) Krisville Farm, Koup

We keep in touch with the farmers by disseminating new research results to them from time to time. Marissa Hattingh is collecting information on the impact of this intervention. Nattrass and Beatrice Conradie published a new estimate of the impact of predation on the Karoo and Jed Stephens has been making land use maps that have been the basis of several useful policy interventions. Conradie briefed the provincial leadership of the Wool Growers' Association and Predator Management Forum in October, and met with Minister Alan Winde, the CEO of Agri Karoo in Beaufort West, the provincial chairman and CEO of Agri Western Cape, as well as various officials of the Department of Agriculture.

Total Factor Productivity Studies

The total factor productivity studies project is a collaboration between the CSSR and the Agricultural Economics Department at Stellenbosch University. Conradie joined forces with Profs Nick Vink, Jenifer Piesse and Colin Thirtle to investigate the post-regulation performance of the wine industry. This study, hosted by Vinpro, uncovered a difference between an ongoing pursuit of quality in Stellenbosch and Paarl and a scramble for survival in the rest of the industry.

Craig Galloway concluded his study of sustainability in pasture-based dairy production in the Eastern Cape. His main finding is that market pressure is driving farmers towards the adoption of best practice methods that are good for the environment. Hein Gerwel is investigating the productivity effects of historical and current spending on agricultural support in the Eastern Cape. He joined the Agricultural Economics Department at Stellenbosch in September.

Lesego Moshikaro is studying the performance of firms in the automotive industry and hopes to hand in early in the new year. Catherine Namome is making the final adjustments to her thesis on viable alternatives to tobacco in Uganda.

Other SSU Projects

Mariska Oosthuizen and Ida Hansen, both undergraduate students, conducted a cost benefit analysis of a township waste recycling pilot project initiated by an NGO in the Hangberg Community. These results have been presented to the City of Cape Town and has informed the design of a similar project.

Khayelitsha Rodent Study (KRS)

The KRS is a joint initiative between the SSU and the new Institute for Communities and Wildlife in Africa (iCWild) that focuses on the socio-economic and spatial aspects of rodent infestation in a poor community and related implications for the use of rodenticides and other poisons. This quantitative and qualitative study seeks to understand the challenges facing residents of Khayelitsha and local government officials in the Khayelitsha Environmental Health Unit. The team comprises Nicoli Nattrass, Jed Stephens, Jorich Loubser, Fezeka Lephaila, and Thobani Ncapai.



Household rodent damage

We conducted qualitative research with policy makers and designed and implemented a household survey of more than 200 households in Site C, Khayelitsha. We observed the work of the Khayelitsha Health Unit and traced the progress of a private-public partnership to adopt pesticide-free rodent control.



Household rodent damage

Outreach and Media

The KRS provides evidence-based policy considerations for the Khayelitsha Health Unit, our objective being to guide local policy-making in ways that improve the lives of Khayelitsha residents as well as promote animal welfare and environmental sustainability. The household survey collected information, but also provided residents with an opportunity to tell their stories and obtain information about where to report their problems with rodent infestation.



Jorich, Fezeka and Jed

Institute for Democracy, Citizenship and Public Policy in Africa

At the beginning of 2017 a set of CSSR activities were moved across to a newly-established Institute for Democracy, Citizenship and Public Policy in Africa. Jeremy Seekings is the Interim Director of the new Institute, and Becky Maughan-Brown was appointed as part-time Operations Manager. A strong Consultative Committee has been established, including members from across UCT and beyond.

Our research focuses on three broad topics:

- Effective and predictable political (including judicial) institutions: This entails research on institutions of representation and accountability, focusing on issues such as constitutional design, legislatures, courts, rights, political parties, sub-national government and bureaucracy.
- The factors that encourage an active and critical citizenry: This involves research into, inter alia, public opinion, political activism and the media.
- The effects of public policies on social and economic dimensions of citizenship as well as its political and civil dimensions, including through economic growth, social welfare (including health care) and the regulation of everyday life (including family life).

In short, the Institute is dedicated to the critical re-examination of democracy in Africa and the development of Africa-centric theory through systematic empirical research and a critical engagement with scholarship on other parts of the world.



First seminar of 2017

Our core researchers are Jeremy Seekings, Alecia Ndlovu, Chris Saunders, Carmen Alpin, Jamy Felton, Boniface Dulani, Vino Naidoo, Gabby Kelly, Bob Mattes, Matthias Krönke, Thomas Isbell, Xolani Zitha and Hangala Siachiwena.

Our first year was taken up primarily with building on the foundations of existing research and consolidating new networks of Africanist scholars for further research. The Afrobarometer Data Management team (primarily Carmen Alpin and Jamy Felton), Vino Naidoo's research (with Evan Lieberman of MIT) on South African Councillors and the "Legislating and Implementing Welfare Policy Reform" research programme all moved from the CSSR to the new Institute. The year was especially busy for the Afrobarometer team, who oversaw a shift from pen-and-paper questionnaires to electronic data capture. Carmen and Jamy travelled extensively to help set up and train fieldworkers in the new technology.



Afrobarometer training in Zambia

Prospective new activities include a major project on political parties in Africa, and a secondary project on judiciaries. With respect to citizenship, we have been integrating data collection through Afrobarometer more fully into the intellectual life of the Institute and University. With respect to public policies, we have continued to publish extensively on social policy in diverse countries across Africa. Our most important initiative is focused on political parties in Africa. It has become increasingly clear that political parties are the weak link in the systems of representative democracy re-established across Africa over the past thirty years.

Many political parties in Africa are very different to the parties discussed in the comparative literature, rooted in the experiences of the long-established democracies in capitalist societies across the global North. Many are more accurately understood as fluid and contingent coalitions. Our research on political parties will expand in 2018.

Institute Seminars & Workshops

4 April	Rorisang Lelalake	Opposition Parties in Southern Africa	
9 May	Vinothan Naidoo	The South African Councilor Panel Study (SACOPS)	
16 May	Jeremy Seekings	Ideologies of Welfare in Africa	
13 June	Ndangwa Noyoo	Innovative strategies for development in South and Western Africa	
11 July	Chris Saunders & Jeremy Seekings	The state of African Studies across Europe	
26-28 July	Workshop with SAIPAR, Lusaka, Zambia	Elections in Zambia	
3 &4 August	Workshop with Dept of Political Studies	Politics in Ghana: The 2016 elections and their aftermath	
8 August	Robert Mattes, Sara Lockwood & Robert Nyenhuis	Patrons, clients, brokers and populists: Research in South Africa and Latin America	
17 &19 October	Henning Melber	The State of Democracy in Namibia/Political Parties in Southern Africa	
14 November	Sibusiso Nkomo	The Media Presentation of Political Leadership in South Africa	

CSSR Seminars &Workshops

14 March	Amanda Gouws	Recognition and Redistribution: The state of the South African Women's Movement 20 years after democratic transition	
28 March	Andrea Mendelsohn	A Comparison of Adolescent Sexual Reproductive Healthcare Utilization at the DTHF Youth Centre vs. an Adolescent-friendly City Clinic	
4 April	Carole Uhlaner	Racial and ethnic politics in the United States: The positive effect of political representation on political participation in the US	
4 April	Franziska Meinck	Child abuse in South Africa: prevalence, risk factors, prevention and measurement issues	
11 April	Mark Hunter	Thinking Historically about the "Black Tax": Gender, Schooling, and Race in Umlazi Township	
28 April	Matthias Krönke & Sarah Lockwood	Do electoral systems affect how citizens hold their government accountable?	
25 April	Heinrich Gerwel	Induced Innovation and Total Factor Productivity: Has it promoted pro-poor rural outcomes in the Eastern Cape Province of SA and can it do so in the future?	
9 May	Eve Wong	Growing Up Daughters of 'The Doctor of District Six': Generational Continuity and Contest in the Political Ideology of the Abdurahman Family in early Twentieth-Century Cape Town	
16 May	Jeremy Seekings	Ideologies of welfare in Africa	
23 May	Roberta Hlalisa Mgidlana	Should South Africa criminalise ukuthwala leading to forced and child marriages?	
30 May	Beatrice Conradie	Does self-reported predation vary with the intensity of a human-wildlife conflict?	
6 June	Duncan Money	'Aliens' on the Copperbelt: Citizenship, national identity and non-Zambian Africans in the mining industry	
13 June	Nkosikhulule Xhawulengweni Nyembezi	Civil Society Observation of the violation of the Electoral Code of Conduct during the 2016 South African Local Government Elections.	
11 July	Luke Bantock	Cashless payment systems in Australia and SA.	
22 August	Namhla Sicwebu	Perspectives and experiences of caregivers enrolled in a paediatric HIV disclosure programme in the peri-urban township of Khayelitsha, Cape Town.	
29 August	Elona Toska	Vectors or Victims? High HIV transmission risk among adolescents living with HIV in a community-traced study in the Eastern Cape, South Africa	
5 September	Robert Nyenhuis	Politics and Business as (un)usual? The Electoral Performance of Businessmen Presidential Candidates in Africa and Latin America	
12 September	Bishnupriya Ghosh	Blood in the File: Living Archives of HIV/AIDS Epidemics	
19 September	Dee Blackie	Sad, Bad and Mad: The individualisation and medicalisation of child abandonment in South Africa	
10 October	Kinyanjui Mungai	The Relationship between Mental Health and Socioeconomic Status: Depressive Symptoms among Adults in South Africa	

CSSR & Institute Publications

Books

Lefko-Everett, K., Govender, R., & Donald Foster. (eds.) Rethinking Reconciliation: Evidence from South Africa. Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Moore, E. Divorce, Families and Emotion Work: Only Death Will Make Us Part. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Chapters in books

Hodes, R. "The 'Hottentot Apron': Genital Aberration in the History of Sexual Science", in V. Fuechtner, D. Haynes and R. Jones (eds.), *A Global History of Sexual Science 1880 – 1960.* Berkeley: University of California Press, 118-138.

Hodes, R. "Abortion politics in a state in transition: Contesting South Africa's Choice Act.", in Stettner, S., Ackerman, K., Burnett, K., and Hay, T. (eds.), *Transcending Borders: Abortion in the Past and Present*. New York: Springer, 171-185.

Hodes, R. "Popular perspectives on teenage pregnancy in South Africa," in Mkhwanazi, N & Bhana, D. *Young Families: Gender, Sexuality and Care.* Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Lefko-Everett, K., **Govender**, R. & Foster, D. "Measuring Social Change in South Africa," in Lefko-Everett, K., Govender, R. & Foster, D. (eds). *Rethinking Reconciliation: Evidence from South Africa*. Cape Town: HSRC Press.

Mattes, R. "South African Politics and Society." in Kurzer, P (ed.) Comparative Governance: Political Structure and Diversity Across the Globe. New York: McGraw-Hill Education.

Mattes, R. "The Surprising Growth in Minority Support for the 'Rainbow Nation," in Lefko-Everett, K., Govender, R & Foster, D. (eds.) *Rethinking Reconciliation: Evidence from South Africa.* Pretoria: Human Sciences Research Council.

Saunders, C. "Reflections on Mandela's Role in Ending Apartheid and Promoting South African Democracy," in Ngcaweni, B & Ndlovu-Gatsheni, S.J. (eds.) Nelson R Mandela: Decolonial Ethics of Liberation and Servant Leadership. Trenton: Africa World Press

Saunders. C. "Descolonização na África Austral: Reflexões Sobre os Casos Namibianos e Sul-Africanos," in Simões de Araújo, C. (ed.) *A Luta Continha. Anos Depois: Histórias Entrelaçadas da África Austral.* Maputo: Alcance Editores.

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Seekings, J. "State capacity and the construction of pro-poor welfare states in the "developing" world", in Centeno, M., Kohli, A.& Yashar, D with Mistree, D. (eds.) States in the Developing World. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

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Journal Articles

Bowen, P, Govender, R, Edwards, P. "Correlates of condom use by South African construction workers," *Journal of HIV and Aids Research* 35, 7: 432-444.

Conradie, B., & Nattrass, N. "The robustness of self-report data on predation: A comparison of two Karoo surveys," *African Journal of Agricultural and Resource Economics* 12, 3: 217-229.

Conradie, **B**. "The implications of a weak public extension service for the productivity performance of Karoo agriculture," *South African Journal of Agricultural Extension* 44, 2: 99-109.

Daniels, N., & Chadwick, R. "Doing homebirth like a man? Constructions of masculinity in South African men's narratives of homebirth," *Journal of Gender Studies* 1-15.

Drouilly, M., Nattrass, N. and O'Riain, M. J. "Dietary niche relationships among predators on farmland and a protected area," *Journal of Wildlife Management* doi:10.1002/jwmg.21407

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About the CSSR

The Centre for Social Science (CSSR) is an interdisciplinary research centre at the University of Cape Town dedicated to conducting and building capacity for systematic, policy-relevant social science research in South Africa, the region and across Africa. The CSSR presently consists of the Sustainable Societies Unit (SSU), AIDS and Society Research Unit (ASRU) and Families and Societies Research Unit (FaSRU), as well as a small Directorate. Unit Heads report on their research activities through the CSSR Director to the Dean of Humanities. The CSSR is also assisted by an Advisory Board that meets annually. We also continue to work closely with UCT's new Institute for Democracy, Citizenship and Public Policy in Africa (which grew out of the CSSR) and the DataFirst Resource Unit (which was started as part of CSSR as a digital archive of social science databases).

Methodologically, the CSSR research is empirical and problem-driven. We utilise both quantitative and qualitative strategies of data collection. CSSR projects are usually team-oriented, bringing together multiple local and international researchers, and offering post-graduate students significant opportunities for hands-on training by involving them in all stages of projects. Research findings are presented and discussed at regular weekly seminars and published as CSSR Working Papers.

The CSSR comprises three research units:

The AIDS and Society Research Unit (ASRU) supports innovative research into the social dimensions of AIDS in South Africa. Special emphasis is placed on exploring the interface between qualitative and quantitative research. Focus areas include: AIDS policy in South Africa, AIDS-stigma, sexual relationships in the age of AIDS, the social and economic factors influencing disclosure (of HIV-status to others), the interface between traditional medicine and biomedicine, the international treatment rollout, global health citizenship, and the impact of providing antiretroviral treatment on individuals and households.

The Families and Societies Research Unit (FaSRU) examines households, families and kinship from an inter-disciplinary perspective. The 'family' in South and Southern Africa is an institution undergoing rapid change, with implications for the distribution of income and access to livelihoods, care-giving, child-raising and health, intimacy and well-being, and social and political attitudes and behaviour. The unit promotes research that links economic and social aspects of families and households and employs mixed methods combining qualitative and quantitative research.

The Sustainable Societies Unit's (SSU) mission is to explore the social and institutional dimensions of economic development and the interaction between human society and the natural world. Focus areas include: winners and losers in South African economic growth and the interplay between ecological and economic concerns. The SSU was previously known as the Social Surveys Unit and still works on a number of survey projects, including the Cape Area Panel Study.

For more, visit our website: http://www.cssr.uct.ac.za/

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