

Lauren-Jayne van Niekerk

Curriculum Vitae

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

PERSONAL DETAILS						
Surname	van Niekerk					
First names	Lauren-Jayne	ID Number	8604190062084			
Citizenship	South African	Title	Mrs	Female	X	Male
Place of birth	Cape Town, South Africa	Date of birth	19/04/1986			
Population Group	White					
Department	Department of Social Development	Position	Lecturer			
Direct Telephone	084 715 9039	Direct Telefax	021 – 650 5356			
E-mail	lauren.vanniekerk@uct.ac.za					
Date of appointment	01 November 2017	Permanent full-time	X	Temporary full-time		

QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING				
Degree	Field of study	Higher Education Institution	Year	Distinctions
PhD	Social Development <i>A Study of Father's Involvement in their Children's Early Learning and Development: Perceptions of South African Fathers and Mothers of Young Children</i>	UCT	2016 - Present	
MSocSc	Social Planning and Administration	UCT	2013	Distinction
BSocSc (Hons)	Social Policy and Management	UCT	2009	Distinction
BSocSc	Social Work	UCT	2008	

WORK EXPERIENCE TO DATE

Centre for Early Childhood Development: Programme Manager (September 2009 – October 2017)

I worked at the Centre for Early Childhood Development as a Programme Manager and Fundraiser.

From September 2009 to November 2011, I was responsible for the planning, coordination, implementation, budgeting as well as monitoring and evaluation of various early childhood development programmes that are implemented across South Africa.

I was also involved with fundraising for the organisation which includes; pursuing funding from donors (corporates, foundations, trusts, government etc.), prospect research, cultivation of prospect donor relationships, writing and assisting with writing of funding proposals, meeting with donors, stewardship - keeping in constant contact with the donor and keeping them informed, as well as report writing for donors.

Furthermore, I completed managing a large-scale research project funded by the European Union and The Presidency aimed at increasing access and improving the quality of early childhood development (ECD) in South Africa by reviewing and analysing effective ECD programme options that successfully meet the needs of young South African children. The results of this research have provided the South African government, ECD non-profit providers and community groups with best practice guidelines for a range of ECD programme options in order to increase access to and improve the quality of ECD provision in South Africa. This research report has been published and provides ECD service providers with a set of implementation guidelines on how to implement good quality ECD programmes within urban and rural contexts within South Africa.

University of Cape Town: Lecturer - Department of Social Development (November 2017 – Present)

I was appointed at the University of Cape Town as a Lecturer in the Department of Social Development in November 2017. My responsibilities are listed in the tables below:

RESEARCH OUTPUT

PUBLICATIONS IN PRINT

Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles:

van Niekerk, L., Atmore, E & Ashley-Cooper, M. 2012. Challenges facing the early childhood development sector in South Africa. *South African Journal of Childhood Education*, 2(1): 121 – 140.

Peer-Reviewed Book Chapters:

van Niekerk, L-J. & Atmore, E. 2020. 'Promoting Healthy Human Relationships for Children in Post-Apartheid South Africa', in Noyoo, N. (ed.) *Promoting Healthy Human Relationships in Post-Apartheid South Africa*. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

Ashley-Cooper, M., **van Niekerk, L.**, & Atmore, E. 2019. 'Early Childhood Development In South Africa: Inequality And Opportunity', in Spaul, N. & Jansen, J.D. (eds.) *South African Schooling: The Enigma of Inequality*. Switzerland: Springer International Publishing.

Non-Refereed Publications or Popular Articles

Atmore, E., Ashley-Cooper, M., & **van Niekerk, L.** 2021. Thought Leaders on Early Childhood Development in South Africa: A Collection of Thought-Provoking Essays. Cape Town: Centre for Early Childhood Development.

van Niekerk, L., Ashley-Cooper, M., & Atmore, E. 2017. *Effective early childhood development programme options meeting the needs of young South African children*. Cape Town: Centre for Early Childhood Development.

Ashley-Cooper, M., & **van Niekerk, L.** 2013. *Exploring Challenges in Early Education and Celebrating the Women that Overcome These*. The Thinker: For Thought Leaders. September 2013 Edition, Volume 55.

van Niekerk, L., Atmore, E & Ashley-Cooper, M. 2012. Early childhood education: the difference between policy and reality. *2012 Transformation Audit*. The Youth Dividend: Unlocking the potential of young South Africans. Edited by Hofmeyr, J. South Africa: Institute for Justice and Reconciliation.

van Niekerk, L., & Ashley-Cooper, M. 13 March 2017. *Starting them young*. The Mercury.

van Niekerk, L., & Ashley-Cooper, M. 10 April 2017. *Firm ECD is solution to education crisis*. The Star.

Ashley-Cooper, M., & **van Niekerk, L.** 2014. 24 March 2014. *A joint effort is needed to put an end to deprivation*. Cape Argus.

van Niekerk, L., & Atmore, E. 28 November 2011. *Small Steps in Caring for the Young*. Cape Argus.

van Niekerk, L., & Atmore, E. 19 November 2010. *It is clear we have failed our children*. Cape Argus, The Star, NGO Pulse.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

UWC Early Childhood Literacy Development Conference. A study on the Impact of training fathers in an early literacy intervention on child cognitive development and risk factors for violence. Cape Town. October 2021.

South Africa at the Association of Educational Development in Africa (AEDA) Conference. Effective Early Childhood Development Programme Options Meeting the Needs of Young South African Children. Cape Town. April 2018.

Programme to Support Pro-poor Policy Development Phase II CfP2 Research Dissemination Conference. Effective Early Childhood Development Programme Options Meeting the Needs of Young South African Children. Pretoria. March 2017.

Centre for Early Childhood Development: Launch of Research Book. Effective Early Childhood Development Programme Options Meeting the Needs of Young South African Children. Cape Town. May 2017.

Centre for Early Childhood Development Fundraising Conference. The role of corporate social investment in supporting early childhood development in South Africa. Cape Town. April 2013.

Additional Research:

Research Assistant for the National Review of the Implementation of the White Paper for Social Welfare (1997) (April – December 2014)

TEACHING

POST-GRADUATE SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE COMPLETED DEGREES			
Name of student	Degree	Title of dissertation	Date Completed
Ross, J.	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Exploring Early Childhood Development Practitioners' Perceptions of the Implementation of Norms and Standards in Educare Centres in Blouberg	2019

Kew. A.	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	An exploratory study on the impacts of organisational culture on job stress in a South African context, using the cultural-work-health model	2020
Myburgh, M.	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Exploring NPOs employee turnover rate and employee retention strategies in South Africa.	2020
Mukoni, B.	MSocSc in Social Development (Minor Dissertation)	An exploratory study on the factors influencing the parenting style choices of parents/caregivers enrolled in a parenting programme in Delft.	2022
Sidimba, Luzuko	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	An investigation into the impact of COVID 19 on Non-profit Organisations in Cape Town	2022
Schuller, Raymond	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	An exploratory study into the experiences of founders of Non Profit Organisations in the Western Cape with specific reference to Fundraising	2022
Social Policy and Management Honours Research Project - 13 students (Co-supervised)			2019
Clinical Honours (Substance Abuse) - 14 students			2015 (prior to appointment)

POST-GRADUATE STUDENT SUPERVISION – IN PROGRESS			
Name of student	Degree	Title of dissertation	Year of Registration
Alvarez Almada, Adriana Belen	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Factors that enable pregnant learners and mother learners to complete school and ensure their academic success	2021
Barries, Venecia Maree	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	An exploratory study of Western Cape Non-Profit Organisations' Sustainability in Harsh Financial Times	2019

Lebepe, Dimakatso	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	A study of the impact of COVID-19 crisis on organisational performance in Cape Town	2021
Mncube, Thembekele Yvonne	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Exploring the roles of NPO leaders and their leadership teams in maintaining organisational performance during the Covid-19 pandemic	2021
Pearce, Claire Allison	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Exploring the challenges and forms of social support for South Africa's Early Childhood Development sector in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic	2021
Thesen, Leila	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	An Exploratory Study on the Monitoring and Evaluation Systems of Non-Profit Organisations in the Western Cape	2021
Masautha, Maureen	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	The Effects Of Covid-19 On The Financial Sustainability And Functioning Of Ngos: A Case Of Greater Gaborone.	Under review
Manji, Zahra	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	An exploratory study of fundraising practices of early childhood development non-profit organisations in the Western Cape	2017
Matee, L.	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Societal Views on Systemic Enablement of Youth Access and Abuse of Alcohol in Zwelihle	2019
Karani, M.	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Investigating female students' attitudes towards menstrual hygiene management as it relates to the Sanitary Dignity Framework	2018
Kamong, L.	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Influential factors that lead to the adoption or rejection of mobile payments among beneficiaries of Old Age Pensions in Lesotho	2020
Kolokoto, K.	MSocSc in Social Policy and Management (Minor Dissertation)	Measuring people management in a healthcare facility: perspectives of line managers and employees	2020
13 students (Co-supervised)	Social Policy and Management Honours Research Project	The salaries and conditions of service of early childhood development (ECD) workers in rural areas in the Western Cape.	2020

FOURTH YEAR STUDENT SUPERVISION - Social Research Practice Project (SWK4016S)

Year	Number of Students
2019	Five (5)
2018	Four (4)
2017 (prior to appointment)	Ten (10)
2016 (prior to appointment)	Six (6)
2014 (prior to appointment)	Five (5)

SUPERVISION OF SOCIAL POLICY AND MANAGEMENT MASTERS INTERNSHIPS		
Student Name	Name of Organisation	Year Completed
Kew, A.	Centre for Early Childhood Development	2018
Shale, T.	Breadline Africa	2018
Ross, J.	Jewish Community Services	2018
Najjaar, S.	Teachers Plus Foundation	2018
Karani, M.	The Children's Resource Centre	2018
Mutangadura, V.	The Office for Inclusivity & Change	2018
McIntyre, C.	Echo-Nova	2019
Kampong, L.	Centre for Early Childhood Development	2019
Kgotlaetsile, K.	Gold Youth Development Agency	2019
Masautha, M.	Centre for Early Childhood Development	2020
Vakala, N.	No-Name Initiative DIALOGUE INSTITUTE	2022
Alvarez, A.	Alma Cívica	2021
Pearce, C.	Centre for Early Childhood Development	2021
Thesen, L.	Saartjie Baartman	2021
Hamadrizipi, R.	St Annes Homes	2021
Mncube, T.	Chaeli Campaign	2021
Kolokoto, K.	Life Recovery Centre – Randfontein	2021

POST-GRADUATE TEACHING		
Course	Level	Years Taught
Organisation Theory (SWK4011F)	Honours	2018; 2019; 2020
Programme Planning and Management (SWK4012S)	Honours	2018; 2019; 2020
Strategic Leadership (SWK5007F)	Master's	2021
Comparative Social Policy in Africa	Master's	2021

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING		
Basic Professional Interaction (SWK1004S)	First Year	2020, 2021
Social Work Research (SWK4015F)	Fourth Year	2016 and 2017 (prior to appointment); 2018; 2019 (maternity leave); 2020 (teaching relief), 2021
Social Policy and Management (SWK4032S)	Fourth Year	2015 (prior to appointment); 2019
Psychosocial Functioning and Empowerment (SWK4031S)	Fourth Year	2017 (prior to appointment)
Social Research (SWK4000F)	Honours	2015; 2016 (prior to appointment)

In addition to courses presented, seminars, tutorials, supervision and field practice moderation sessions during the year.

POST-GRADUATE COURSES CONVENED		
Course	Level	Years Convened
Organisation Theory (SWK4011F)	Honours	2018; 2019; 2020
Programme Planning and Management (SWK4012S)	Honours	2018; 2019; 2020

UNDERGRADUATE COURSES CONVENED

Course	Level	Years Convened
Social Work Research (SWK4015F)	Fourth Year	2016 prior to appointment; 2018; 2020; 2021
Social Work Research Project Paper (SWK4016S)	Fourth Year	2016 prior to appointment; 2018; 2019; 2020; 2021
Social Policy and Management (SWK4032S)	Fourth Year	2019
Psychosocial Functioning and Empowerment (SWK4031S)	Fourth Year	2017 prior to appointment
Basic Professional Interaction	First Year	2020 – co-convened; 2021

LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES AND EXPERIENCE

Stream Co-ordinator for Social Policy & Management Post-Graduate Programme (2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022)

Department of Social Development Research Ethics Committee (2019; 2020; 2021; 2022)

ASASWEI Conference 2019 - Local Organising Committee (2019)

PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE (INCLUDING SOCIAL RESPONSIVENESS)

MEMBERSHIP OF BOARDS OF ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANISATIONS

Organisation	Role	Year
Won Life	Board Member	2018 - Present
UCT Humanities Faculty Board	Member	2017 - Present

REVIEWER FOR BOOKS OR JOURNALS

Journal of Early Years Education (November 2020 – Present)

