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DAILY NEWS AND MONDAY PAPER

WELCOME FROM THE DEAN

NEW INSTITUTE TO STIMULATE INTELLECTUAL CONVERSATION AT UCT

ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF VIOLENCE AND TRAUMA

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

NEWS

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

HONOURS AND AWARDS

BOOKSHELF

EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HUMANITIES FACULTY

GROUNDBREAKING EXHIBITION AT THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND

ALUMNI NEWS

NEW APPOINTMENTS IN THE FACULTY

Welcome from the Dean

The past year has been an exciting and challenging one for us in the Faculty of Humanities, and in this year's edition of HUMANITIES UPDATE we hope to bring you up-to-date on the latest events, developments, and successes.

It is with great pride that we celebrate a wide range of awards and honours achieved by members of the faculty. Our bookshelf will give you easy access to information about books, presentations, exhibitions and performances by our staff, students and alumni. We are delighted that the Jewish Book Council has announced *Place and Displacement in Jewish History and Memory: Zakor V'makor*, edited by David Cesarani, Tony Kushner and Milton Shain, as joint runner-up in the annual National Jewish Book Award in the category of Anthologies and Collections. The rich and diverse contribution to creative work is exemplified by two works by Hendrik Hofmeyr which received prestigious international premieres - *Partita* for double-bass in Vancouver, and *Lachrymae* for guitar in Amsterdam.



The promotion of interdisciplinary inquiry remains key for the faculty and is actively promoted in research, especially by our research chairs (Professors Carolyn Hamilton, Abdulkader Tayob, Lungisile Ntsebeza and Raj Mesthrie), the Mellon-funded Sawyer seminar on Knowledges, Ways of Knowing and the Post-Colonial University, the Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts, and more recently, the formation of the Institute for the Humanities in Africa (HUMA), located within the Faculties of Humanities and Law under the direction of Professor Deborah Posel. Professor Posel writes about how she plans to take this new initiative forward, and the implications that this will have for the faculty in promoting interdisciplinary inquiry.

The faculty has received substantial support from the Vice Chancellor's Strategic Fund, and includes funding for the Centre for Social Science Research (CSSR) (African Legislatures Project – Professor Bob Mattes); Archive and Curatorship project (Professors Carolyn Hamilton and Pippa Skotnes); for training in quantitative social science research methods (CSSR – Professors Bob Mattes and Mike Morris), seed money for a project on Violent Crime (Dr Catherine Ward), and seed money to found a journal in literacy studies and literacy teaching called *Reading and Writing*.

HUMANITIES UPDATE also brings you news of the academic departments where many of you studied in the past - new programmes and courses, new staff appointments, and new developments such as our state-of-the-art language learning laboratory.

Last year we celebrated 75 years of the School of Dance – this year we celebrate the centenary of the South African College of Music.

In our efforts to keep you abreast of developments in the faculty, and make our content relevant and informative, we have broken with the tradition of the previous format of the newsletter. It is now possible for you to watch videos and listen to podcasts. We hope you find this interesting and useful.

Warm good wishes to you all,

Paula Ensor
Dean of Humanities

NEW INSTITUTE TO STIMULATE INTELLECTUAL CONVERSATION AT UCT

Universities are – and if not, should be – places of convivial intellectual conversation. HUMA (the Institute for the Humanities in Africa) aspires to be a place to talk, in the best sense of the word: bringing together established and younger scholars, students and wider intellectual publics to discuss critical issues, informed by intelligent research and thoughtful reflection. It's an old idea – as old as the institution of the university – but increasingly fragile, in the midst of more technocratic, instrumental versions of the academic project.

Three senior researchers – Natasha Distiller, Shamil Jeppie and Jonny Steinberg – have recently accepted appointments to join me (as director) in building this initiative. And a large part of our jobs will be to invite academic colleagues, students and interested members of the public on board.

The medium of HUMA's work is interdisciplinary, and HUMA is situated in the Faculties of Humanities and Law for this reason. What this means is itself something to talk about: interdisciplinarity is a contested, sometimes elusive, idea – yet also undeniably the site of some of the most innovative and influential thinking in the academy at large. And UCT is home to some of the continent's most original and dynamic scholars, whose work opens up global vistas from the vantage point of their locations at the tip of Africa.

Being located in Africa is likewise a focus of discussion. As the land mass upon which a complex history of conquest, dissidence and migration has been enacted, the continent has created longstanding, uneven relationships of connection and disconnection. Being African means being party to these relationships that shape transnational and national flows of people, ideas and goods, and that make and unmake centres of power and resistance. HUMA's intellectual project aims to embed a discussion of some of the big theoretical, political and ethical issues of our times in the disparate experiences of being African.

These issues take shape under the rubric of two primary research themes. The first, *On Being Human*, poses a series of big, general questions that different societies have struggled with and fought over, with profound consequences for the lives of their citizens. What does it mean to be human? What do we share and why are we so preoccupied with our differences? In these postcolonial times, and in a wider world accustomed to war, what might it mean to be humanist? South Africa is one of the most interesting places in the world in which to pose such questions. With inspired political leadership, we stepped back from the brink of civil war, participated in a peaceful transition to democracy, governed by one of the world's most progressive democratic constitutions. Yet the polity remains fractious; democratic ways are fragile; violence – especially intimate violence – is commonplace.

HUMA's second research theme, *Circuits of Consumption*, deals with our relationship to 'stuff'. There is much in the making of cultures, identities and polities that is invested in the meaning of things and how we consume them. As the metaphor of circuits suggests, patterns of consumption take transnational forms, as goods and the ideas, desires and ambitions associated with them, travel across the globe. But the ways they arrive in particular destinations are shaped by more national and local considerations. How then do we make sense of these journeys of things and their varying impact?

Academics at South African universities are well aware of the problems of recruiting the next generation of scholars, and many efforts are afoot to deal with it. One of HUMA's abiding aspirations is to draw talented students into the excitement and power of good ideas, and to the prospect of a life in their midst.



ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF VIOLENCE AND TRAUMA



Gathered academics who took part in the symposium and debate.

Daily exposure to violence and trauma is common for many South Africans, and the impact of repeated trauma exposure presents a considerable mental health burden for our society. However, trauma researchers and practitioners in South Africa have increasingly found that theories of psychological trauma emerging from economically developed countries, and the trauma intervention models based upon these theories, are of limited use in a context where many communities experience multiple and continuous traumatisation.

Furthermore, the international trauma literature has seldom explored the role of oppression, poverty, and specific community identities in constructing and mediating the meaning of 'traumatic' experiences and of trauma prevention or intervention initiatives. There is therefore a need in South Africa to develop a more contextually relevant theoretical framework for understanding the impact of trauma and for developing appropriate interventions, based on local knowledge rather than on international research findings.

“There is therefore a need in South Africa to develop a more contextually relevant theoretical framework for understanding the impact of trauma and for developing appropriate interventions, based on local knowledge rather than on international research findings”

To begin some conversations about these issues, the Department of Psychology hosted a symposium in May 2009 titled *Continuous Traumatic Stress in South Africa: towards a Collaborative Research Agenda*. The symposium brought together academics from six South African universities, two international universities, and the Medical Research Council, as well as service providers in the state, non-governmental and private sectors across South Africa. There were over 40 participants, including visiting scholars Professor Kaethe Weingarten from Harvard Medical School and Professor Thomas Elbert and Dr Margarete Schauer from the University of Konstanz.

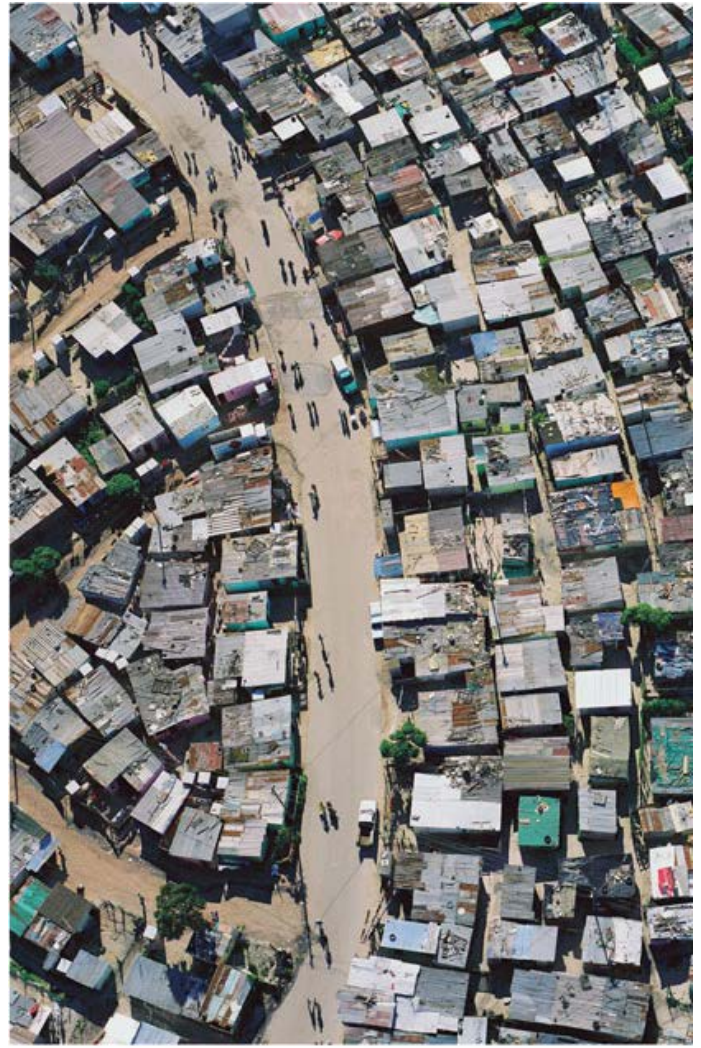
The symposium programme included presentations on key issues, as well as round table and small group discussions. Possible research collaborations between service providers and research institutions were identified, with a view to pooling resources and expertise. It was agreed that a more formal network of researchers and service providers concerned about continuous trauma and violence should be established, and that a follow-up meeting would be held in 2011 to review progress on research collaborations. Finally, it was agreed that an edited book based on the conference proceedings would be prepared.

The symposium provided an opportunity for rich debate and critical engagement regarding the complexities of researching, characterising and addressing conditions of continual threat and danger in South African society, and generated a commitment to collaborative action and resource sharing.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?



View from Kuwait Towers, Ad Damsa', Kuwait City, Kuwait 2009.



Informal Settlements near Kuwait Taxi Rank, Cape Town, South Africa.

Have you ever wondered why some informal settlement names in South Africa are similar to existing names in other parts of the world, and how this resemblance came about? Svea Josephy, senior lecturer of photography at the Michaelis School of Fine Art had asked the same questions, which led to an award-winning submission to the Prix du Ministere de la Culture at Dak'Art 2010 – the ninth biennial of contemporary art in Dakar, Senegal, which was held from 7 May to 7 June 2010.

Josephy submitted two sets of photographs: one of a South African informal settlement, the other of a similarly named place in a distant part of the globe. Josephy comments: "The starting point for these photographs is a concern with the naming practices of places in South Africa. During the apartheid era, new areas were usually given names by bureaucrats, but more recently communities have been responsible for naming their own neighbourhoods."

Josephy highlighted the area in Cape Town known as Kuwait and compared it with the Kuwait of the Middle East. This comparison provided interesting photos of two places with the same name but with very little in common except that both experienced violent conflict.

Above are photos and the descriptions of the two locations.

Kuwait's (Middle East) name is derived from the diminutive of an Arabic word for "fortress built near water". Kuwait was propelled into international press when it was invaded by Iraq in August 1990. The Kuwait Towers were completed in 1979 in Kuwait City. These towers are an important landmark and a national symbol of Kuwait. During the Gulf War (1990-1991) the towers were heavily damaged and there was substantial destruction of the towers' exteriors. They have subsequently been restored.

Kuwait, Cape Town, is an area centred on Kuwait Taxi Rank in Site C, Khayelitsha. Initially an informal settlement, today the area consists of a combination of informal settlements, backyard dwellings and Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) housing. According to M.G. Mbatha (Mr Big) of Saint Kizito's Catholic Church nearby, Kuwait taxi rank was named after the war in Kuwait in the Middle East, in the early 1990s, because of the taxi violence and regular shootings here. According to Mbatha, communities used current affairs and news prominent in the media when naming their areas.

NEWS

MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS



Associate Professor Vivienne Taylor.

Vivienne joins National Planning Commission

Associate Professor Vivienne Taylor, head of the Department of Social Development, has been appointed to the National Planning Commission, which has been tasked to produce a national development plan and vision statement for the country. Professor Anton Eberhard of the Graduate School of Business is also a member of the commission.

New language labs launched

The School of Languages and Linguistics has used a Tandberg tape system to teach languages for years. After careful investigation the faculty invested in the Language Technology Centre, equipped with state-of-the-art software and hardware, which has positioned the department as one of the top language training centres in South Africa. The facilities were officially opened in May 2010 by the Dean of Humanities, Professor Paula Ensor.

The Centre hosts a resource room fitted with a smart board, DSTV, audio/ video devices interconnected with computers, as well as a separate sound-proofed recording studio with state-of-the-art recording equipment and two undergrad labs running a SANAKO 1200 system, an interactive, IP-based language teaching software.

Friedel Mitas wins Olitalia Rialto Bursary Competition

Soprano Friedel Mitas won the inaugural Olitalia/Rialto Bursary Competition. Mitas, a final-year voice student at the South African College of Music, won over eight other hopefuls to clinch the R50 000 first prize. The runners-up were Nonkululeko Mkwinti, a first-year mezzo-soprano studying with Patrick Tikolo, and Makudupanyane Senaoana, a first-year tenor studying with Professor Virginia Davids. The competition was sponsored by Olitalia and Rialto, and was open to undergraduate and postgraduate opera students who are returning to study opera at UCT in 2011. (Sourced from UCT Daily News)



Final-year voice student Friedel Mitas displaying her skill.

Carnegie came calling for Professor Larey

Associate Professor Franklin Larey and two of his students performed at the world-renowned Carnegie Hall in New York in May 2010.

International music winners

February 2010 saw alumni Pumeza Matshikiza and Sarah-Jane Brandon competing and winning the Veronica Dunne International Singing Competition in Dublin against 69 other singers. Pumeza won first place and Sarah won second, as well as winning two Wil Keune prizes - one for the best performance of an aria by Mozart (*dove sono*) and one for the best performances of art songs (*cäcilie, kennst du das land and o quand je dors*) throughout the competition.

Playing for Royalty

Alumni pianist James Baillieu was invited to Buckingham Palace as a guest of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

International premieres for Professor Hofmeyr

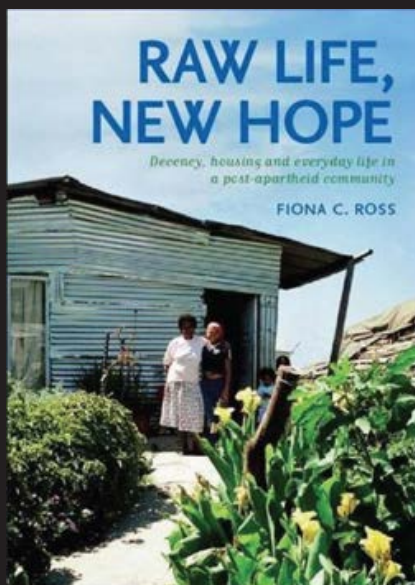
Two works by Professor Hendrick Hofmeyr (South African College of Music) received prestigious international premieres in 2009. His *Partita* for double-bass was performed for the first time by Chinese soloist DaXun Zhang for the Vancouver Recital Society in Canada in February 2010. The Society commissioned the work for Zhang, who is regarded as one of the rising stars in the field.

In September, Hofmeyr's *Lachrymae* for guitar was premiered at the famous Concertgebouw in Amsterdam by guitarist Goran Krivokapic from Montenegro. Krivokapic, for whom the work was commissioned, has won a record 18 international guitar competitions, and records under the Naxos label.

French honours for Dr Everson

BOOK SHELF

Andrew Lamprecht from the Michaelis School of Fine Art published *Wayne Barker: Super Boring*, (SMAC Gallery) 2010. This is a survey of the South African artist Wayne Barker's output over the last two decades. The book was published to coincide with a series of exhibitions that Andrew curated at SMAC in Stellenbosch, the Municipal Gallery in Polokwane and the Standard Bank Gallery in Johannesburg from 2010-2011.



Fiona Ross's book, *Raw Life, New Hope: Decency, housing and everyday life in a post-apartheid community* (UCT Press) was published in 2009. This book is concerned with the residents of a shack settlement in the Cape Flats, who moved to new formal houses. The author looks at how ordinary people attempt to live in accord with their ideals of decency under almost impossible circumstances and to trace the effects of material changes in their lives after 1994 - including democratic transformations and, significantly for the residents, the provision of RDP housing.

The French government awarded Dr Vanessa Everson of the School of Languages and Literatures the *Chevalier des Palmes Académiques* in May 2010. Founded in 1808 by Napoleon Bonaparte, the *Chevalier des Palmes Académiques* is an Order of Knighthood bestowed on those who make major contributions to French education and culture.

Johann van der Schijff honoured with an Artist-in-Residency Award

The Thamdigi Foundation presented Johann van der Schijff with an Artist-in-Residency Award at the Spier Contemporary 2010. This award will see Johann taking up residency at the Beijing Studio Centre in China in 2011.

Representatives of the organisations which provided the residencies made the awards.

Each residency award affords the winning artist an excellent opportunity to work in a new and stimulating environment, while at the same time developing invaluable connections. Out of the 14 prizewinners, seven winners were Michaelis graduates: Christopher Swift, Zen Marie, Hasan Essop, Husain Essop, Jacki McInnes and Mohau Modisakeng.



Dr Vanessa Everson accepting her Order of Knighthood.

Distinguished Teacher Awards

Associate Professor Melissa Steyn, of the Department of Sociology, and Associate Professor Carrol Clarkson, of the Department of English Language and Literature, were the 2009 recipients of this prestigious teaching award.

Creative Works Award

The 2009 UCT Creative Works Award was presented to Associate Professor Fritha Langerman of the Michaelis School for her work *Subtle Thresholds*. The award gives recognition to major creative works (art works, performances, productions, compositions, architectural designs) produced by staff members. Read more [here](#).

Social Anthropology Update

The Race of Nimble Fingers: Child Labour in South Africa by Susan Levine has been accepted for publication in the journal *Childhood*. In 2010, Susan received a three-year NRF grant on the subject of Children and Healing. She also participated in a panel at the American Anthropological Association in New Orleans, titled "Global Circulation of Public Culture: Engaging with the vision of Carol Breckenridge."

Drama awards

Nicola Hanekom's play *Betesda* was awarded the Nagtegaal Teksprys in 2009. Hanekom is an alumnus of the Department of Drama. The play was staged at the Klein Karoo Kunstefees in 2010.

Multilingualism Award for Professor Dowling

The Western Cape Provincial Department of Sports and Culture honoured Adjunct Professor Tessa Dowling from the African languages and literature section with an award for promoting multilingualism.

The awards are to recognise outstanding achievements and contributions in the areas of Arts & Culture, Language, Museums, Heritage, Libraries and Archive Services in the Western Cape. These awards are



Carina van Stander's book *woud van nege en negentig vlerke* (Tafelberg Publishers) 2009 is described by NB Publishers as "focused on mankind and nature, decay and growth, evil and spirituality... seemingly disparate elements that are shown to be inextricably linked to one another. The poems that focus on pregnancy and birth are especially evocative and richly textured." Carina is an alumnus of the faculty.

Ibrahim Saleh's contribution to "In the Foggy Middle East: Just Wars Remain the Name of the Game", in *Power Shifts and Global Governance: Challenges from South and North, Managing Global Governance*, edited by Ashwani Kumar and Dirk Messner, (German Development Institute 397 Anthem Press India) 2010, is described by Google Books as "Analytically and empirically exploring the role of global civil society, discusses the implications of rise of India and China, analyses regional security issues in Latin America and the Middle East and develops proposals for possible summit and UN reforms."

Tafelberg, Cape Town, accepted two Creative Writing Masters students Fourie Botha and Lou-Anne Stone, for *Nuwe Stemme 4*. The *Nuwe Stemme* series is an exciting project where Tafelberg Publishers creates opportunities for publication for young poets who do not have enough poems for their own independent debut.

Human & Rousseau accepted a debut novel by alumnus Martina Klopper.



Professor Dowling enjoying a light moment.

bestowed upon individuals, organisations or groups whose efforts have made a difference to the communities within the Western Cape.

EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS IN THE HUMANITIES FACULTY

Sex, Love and Taboo...

Probably thought it meant something else right? These are the new language courses in the African Languages department. The two new majors, one in Xhosa Communication, and the other in Indigenous African Languages and Literatures were introduced in 2010. The major in Indigenous African Languages and Literatures has course names like *Sex Love and Taboo*, *Yebo Gogo* and *Clicking with the Media* - a clear indication that these courses are relevant, fresh, and well, yes, sexy.

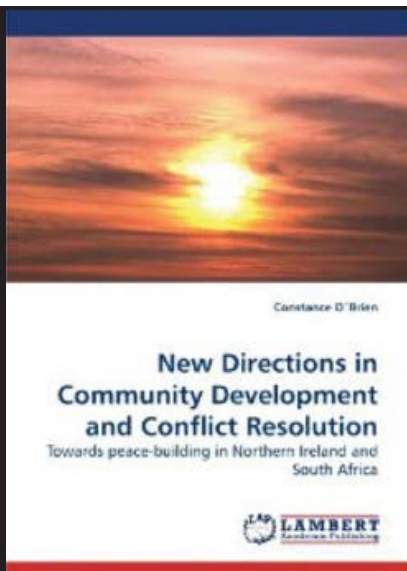
Adjunct Professor Tessa Dowling and Head of Section Dr Abner Nyamende, with Pamela Maseko, are pioneering the two new majors and have already witnessed an increase in student numbers. "I was a little anxious that the course names might confuse some students, but I am happy to say that apart from one student admitting that she felt there was some taboo in doing a course called *Sex, Love and Taboo*, we have had a great intake of new students and some energetic responses to course assignments," comments Tessa. "We are delighted and excited and feel that the students are too."

History Department links up with University of Sydney

Professor Nigel Worden of the Historical Studies Department has launched a new Honours and Masters course entitled *Southern Crossings* which is taught concurrently with Australia's leading history department at the University of Sydney. Students at UCT research the connections and comparisons between early Cape history and the Australian colonies by linking up with their Sydney counterparts through UCT's Vula website and video conferences.

Fulbright Research Award for the Department of Sociology

Associate Professor David Cooper, head of the Department of Sociology, was awarded a Fulbright New Century Scholar (NCS) Research Award. The NCS scholars programme has been running annually for a number of years, and the theme for 2009-10 for this programme is "The University as Innovation Driver and Knowledge Centre." Thirty scholars drawn globally are to meet three times in Washington (May), Berlin (October) and Washington (April 2010) to consider their research in relation to this theme. Professor Cooper's specific project for the NCS programme is "The University in Development: the role of use-inspired research - comparative case studies of community-engaged university research groups." He has been undertaking a



Constance O'Brien's book, *New directions in community development and conflict resolution – towards peace building in Northern Ireland and South Africa*. To read flap text on the book [click here](#).

Wallace Chuma, in the Centre for Film & Media Studies and Dumisani Moyo, Head of Media Studies at Wits edited *Media Policy in a Changing Southern Africa: Critical reflections on media reforms in the global age* (UNISA Press) 2010.

Hendrik Hofmeyr's works have been released on commercial CDs in the USA: the Cantata *Ainsi qu'on oit le cerf bruire* for soprano, flute, cello and piano (on Rapport, Navona Records) and the Concerto for violin, flute and string orchestra with Piet Koornhof, Raffaele Trevisani and the Moscow Chamber Orchestra (on Domus).



Joan Hambidge published a volume of poetry: *Vuurwiel* (Human & Rousseau, Cape Town) 2009. This volume deals with themes of travel, relationships, loss and death.

review of international debates around the issue of engaged scholarship, and during his sabbatical leave in 2010 he will be focusing on cases of engagement in the Western Cape and Gauteng. It is hoped the research can inform current debates about social responsiveness within UCT.

Mandela Mellon Fellows at Harvard

Dr Zimitri Erasmus (Sociology) and Dr Adam Haupt (Film and Media) are the Mandela Mellon Fellows at Harvard University for 2010. Dr. Floretta Boonzaier (Psychology) was the 2009/10 Fellow.

Opening up dialogue through Great Texts / Big Questions

The Great Texts/Big Questions lecture series of the Gordon Institute for Performing and Creative Arts (GIPCA) took off to a great start. The lecture series was set up to encourage the exchange of ideas, opinion and conjecture. These free hour-long lectures are open to the public, UCT staff and students. Some of the featured topics included: William Kentridge, Putting the 'S' into Laughter; Imraan Coovadia on Lolita; RoseLee Goldberg on Performance Art; Daniel Herwitz on Talk Show Democracy; Rajend Mesthrie on Noam Chomsky; and Milton Shain on The Protocols of the Elders of Zion.

To listen to the podcasts [click here](#).

A celebration of Dance

The School of Dance celebrated its 75th year anniversary. [Click here](#) to relive memories of their journey through dance.



Members of the dance department strike a pose.

GROUNDBREAKING EXHIBITION AT THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND

Andrew Lamprecht curated one of the most significant exhibitions of South African sculpture for several decades when *TWENTY: South African Sculpture of the Last Two Decades* opened at Nirox Sculpture Park at the Cradle of Humankind. The exhibition featured works by approximately 50 artists, including UCT lecturers Gavin Younge, Jane Alexander and Johann van der Schijff. *Mail and Guardian* journalist Nemacha Broodie comments: "There's something novel about viewing art outside the confines of a gallery. No walls, just big sky and winter sun."



ALUMNI NEWS

Nicky's magical moment

Alumnus Nicky Schire shared her moment on stage with legendary musician Bobby McFerrin with us. Here is an excerpt from her email on the experience.



"I knew he might ask for people to volunteer to sing and I knew I would never cope with the regret should I not volunteer. So, as soon as Bobby hopped off his chair to grab another mic from the mic stand, I shoved my half-masticated piece of strawberry gum into my pocket and was out of my chair before he even started saying "I have another mic so if anyone wants to come up and sing"...

As luck had it, Bobby deemed me, plus five others, suitable volunteers and, one by one, we got to sing with him. I was about fourth down the line and he asked me what I wanted to sing. "Centrepiece in C," I replied, giving the key in case he had perfect pitch. He offered me the mic which I placed on the stage and proceeded to hoist myself up so that I was sitting next to him, our feet dangling off the edge like schoolchildren. He patted the space in between us and said, "Move closer." I obliged, thinking perhaps I could ask to sit on his lap? That thought dissipated as he instructed me to start. So, heart pounding, in Symphony Hall in front of an almost sold out 3000 person audience I started to sing a walking bass line, using my best Bobby-like instrumental ability. He joined in and I moved onto the lyrics, swapping roles with him for the second verse where he sang the lyrics and I provided the accompaniment. At the end he opened his arms for a bear hug, his smile wide and beaming, and said, "Great job" into my left ear as I melted into his arms. With that, I hopped off the stage and went back to my seat to enjoy the rest of his magic - heart pounding, pulse racing, mind on fire with the ensuing adrenalin rush.

Visit Nicky's MySpace page to view the video and her other music.

www.myspace.com/nickyschire

Humanities alumni and staff make MG top 200

The *Mail & Guardian* newspaper published its list of 200 Young South Africans You Have to Take to Lunch, and we identified some Humanities Alumni who made the list. Let us know if you made the list and we missed your name. The paper describes its list as being "young people who will shape our country in the decades to come, in the sporting arena, in public life and in business."

Kesivan Naidoo, Musician
Hasain & Husain Essop, Artists
Debra Patta, Journalist
Raenette Taljaard, Lecturer Politics

Sitting pretty...

2009 saw Opera alum Pretty Yende winning all the top prizes at the prestigious Hans Gabor Belvedere International Singing Competition in Vienna – the first time anyone has achieved this feat! The competition is deemed to be the biggest competition in the opera world with over 3 000 extremely talented candidates. What next do you ask? Oh, just sharing the stage with tenor Andrea Bocelli at the close of the FIFA World Cup!



Hasain and Husain Essop.



Opera alum Pretty Yende is winning all the top prizes.



Kesivan Naidoo.

Order of Luthuli bestowed upon Dorothy Cleminshaw

Dorothy Cleminshaw, UCT alumnus in the Faculty of Humanities, was recently awarded the Order of Luthuli by President Jacob Zuma at an event held on Freedom Day, 27 April 2010.

The National Orders are the highest honour awarded to individuals who have excelled in shaping the future of South Africa in various respects. Dorothy, or Dot as she is known, was awarded for her contribution to the struggle for an equal, just and democratic society.

LINKS AND EVENTS

To find out more about Alumni Events hosted by UCT's Alumni and Development office, visit their new website. [Click here.](#)

If you want to connect, reconnect and build your professional network, click on the logo.



UCT has a [Facebook page](#) and if you wish to be kept up to date with what is happening in the university, click on the logo.



NEW APPOINTMENTS IN THE FACULTY

INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES IN AFRICA/SOCIOLOGY:

Professor Deborah Posel

Deborah Posel joined UCT to establish the Institute for the Humanities in Africa (HUMA), located in the Faculties of Humanities and Law. She holds an honorary Professorship in Sociology. From 2000-2009 she was the founding director of the Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research (WISER) and held a chair in Sociology at the University of Witwatersrand.

DRAMA:

Ms Sara Matchett

Sara completed her MA (with distinction) in Theatre and Performance at UCT in 2005. Her teaching centres on acting, voice, theatre-making and applied drama/theatre. She is especially interested in interdisciplinary modes of creating. Her area of research is around the role of the performer as contemporary shaman, with specific reference to honouring the feminine in shamanism through performance.

ECONOMICS:

Dr Miquel Pellicer-Gallardo

Miquel Pellicer-Gallardo holds a PhD in Economics from the European University Institute in Florence. He has held postdoctoral positions at the Ente Luigi Einaudi in Rome, at the Humboldt University in Berlin, and at the Autònoma University of Barcelona. His teaching experience includes advanced graduate courses (at the Humboldt University) as well as undergraduate courses (at the Autònoma University of Barcelona). His main research interests are economic inequality and political economy.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE:

Mr Mbongiseni Buthelezi

Mbongiseni Buthelezi is completing his PhD in English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University. He completed his MA at the University of KwaZulu-Natal where he was junior lecturer before taking up a Fulbright scholarship to Columbia. He has recently co-edited *The Princeton Sourcebook in Comparative Literature* with David Damrosch and Natalie Melas.

Mr Hedley Twidle

Hedley grew up in Namaqualand and Johannesburg, went to school in KwaZulu-Natal and has since lived and studied in Cape Town, Oxford, Edinburgh and York. At York, he recently submitted a PhD on Cape literature, looking in particular at how colonial archives and natural history writing have been drawn on by contemporary South African authors.

FILM AND MEDIA STUDIES:

Ms Martha Evans

Martha Evans teaches journalism and media studies courses and has worked as a freelance writer, editor, copywriter, and mass communication strategist. She has an MA in Creative Writing and is completing a PhD thesis on nation building in the media during the Mandela presidency. Her research interests include the representation of history (especially the Truth and Reconciliation Commission) in media and film; the interplay between national, globalising, and economic interests in South African media; and national identity, social cohesion and the media.

Dr Ibrahim Saleh

Ibrahim Saleh is a full-time lecturer in the Centre for Film and Media Studies. He is a Fulbright scholar and senior expert in the Media Sustainability Index (MSI), the Middle East, and North Africa (MENA). Saleh chairs the Journalism Research and Education Section in the International Association for Media and Communication Research (IAMCR).

FINE ART:

SA COLLEGE OF MUSIC:

Ms Amanda Tiffin

Amanda Tiffin was born in Zimbabwe, but has made her home and her name in South Africa, where she studied Jazz Composition and Performance at the University of Cape Town. She received her Master's Degree with distinction, and has gone on to become one of Cape Town's best-loved vocalist-pianists, and a respected musical director/arranger, orchestrator and composer.

Amanda has performed extensively in South Africa and Japan, and has appeared with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in London. She has recorded three CDs, the most recent in Amsterdam with her Asia-based jazz trio – the a.s.k. trio.

POLITICAL STUDIES:

Ms Raenette Taljaard

Ms Raenette Taljaard has an interesting background as both scholar and policy advocate. As a scholar of public policy, she has written widely on policy matters and taught at the Wits Graduate School of Public Policy. She has a Master's degree in this field from the LSE. As a policy advocate, she served for several years as a Member of Parliament for the DA and represented the party on several important committees. Before joining UCT, she was the director of the Helen Suzman Foundation.

PSYCHOLOGY:

Ms Nokwanda Khumalo

Nokwanda Khumalo is a UCT graduate. She obtained her MA in Clinical Psychology from UCT. In 2009, she completed her Community Service as a Clinical Psychologist in Northern KwaZulu Natal. She joins the department as a Junior Research Fellow, and plans to do her PhD, which will explore aspects of sexual trauma in communities in Northern KZN.

Dr Despina Learmonth

Dr Despina Learmonth joins the department as a lecturer, with a speciality in Health Psychology. She has a doctoral degree from City University, London, and worked in a number of different hospitals in the NHS system before returning to South Africa. Among her several research interests is computer-aided Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, which she helped test in clinical trials while working in the NHS.

Mr Wahbie Long

Wahbie Long is a clinical psychologist, with an MA degree from the University of Stellenbosch. He has research interests in transpersonal psychology, war psychology, and racism. His lecturing areas are clinical psychology and psychotherapy. Currently he is working on a PhD proposal that explores conflict in Africa. He joins the department as a lecturer in Psychology.

Dr Progress Njomboro

Dr Njomboro has a PhD degree from Birmingham University, where he also completed a post-doctoral fellowship. The main goal of his research is to map out a neuropsychological phenotype of apathy symptoms in patients with acquired brain damage. He is especially interested in how capacities relate to the cognitive control of behaviour, as well as how capacities involved in social cognition associate with apathy symptoms. He joins the department as a lecturer in Psychology.

RELIGIOUS STUDIES:

Dr Louis Blond

Louis P Blond is a Lecturer in Jewish Religion and Jewish Thought in the Department of Religious Studies. Dr Blond received his PhD from the University of Edinburgh for a thesis entitled 'The Relationship between Nihilism and Metaphysics in the Work of Martin Heidegger'. His research focuses on the crisis of meaning in modern philosophy and philosophy's relationship with religious discourse, particularly Jewish thought.

SOCIOLOGY / FACULTY OFFICE

ADP CO-ORDINATOR:

Professor Colin Richards

Colin Richards was born in Cape Town in 1954, but raised and educated in Johannesburg. Professor Richards began his academic career as lecturer in Fine Arts at the University of the Witwatersrand in 1985 after completing a BA (FA) with distinction at the University of South Africa (Pretoria). He subsequently completed postgraduate studies at the University of London and was awarded his PhD at Wits University in 1995. He was promoted to Professor in the Wits School of Arts in 2002.

HISTORICAL STUDIES:

Dr Leigh Gardner

Leigh Gardner received her first degree from New York University and then further degrees (MPhil and DPhil) in Economic History from the University of Oxford in 2009. Her current research focuses on the fiscal and economic history of the British Empire from its beginnings until decolonisation in the 20th century, with particular reference to how the governance of the Empire was funded.

Associate Professor Kathy Luckett

Associate Professor Kathy Luckett will be responsible for overall co-ordination of the Faculty's extended degree programmes which are aimed at students with the potential to succeed but who do not meet the entrance requirements. She holds a DPhil (Social Science Methods) from the University of Stellenbosch; MA (Linguistics) cum laude, University of Natal; BEd (Language), University of Cape Town; Postgraduate Certificate in Religious Studies, Cambridge University; Postgraduate Certificate in Education, Oxford University; BA (History), University of Cape Town.

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