

UKZN TOUCH

A UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL ALUMNI MAGAZINE



**STRONG,
POWERFUL
& INSPIRING**



INSPIRING GREATNESS



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KWAZULU-NATAL[™]
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI



STAND UP!
SPEAK OUT AGAINST **GBV!**

UKZN HAS ZERO TOLERANCE FOR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

INSPIRING GREATNESS

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This edition of **UKZNTOUCH** showcases strong, powerful, phenomenal women associated with the University.

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FOREWORD

PROFESSOR NANA POKU WAS APPOINTED UKZN'S VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL EARLIER THIS YEAR. IN THE INTERVIEW BELOW HE GIVES HIS VIEWS ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES PERTINENT TO THE ROAD AHEAD FOR THE UNIVERSITY AND ITS FRATERNITY.

Recently appointed UKZN Vice-Chancellor and Principal Professor Nana Poku sits very comfortably in the University's hot seat, not that he is complacent or underestimates the task ahead – far from it.

Rather, it's because he is no stranger to operating at the helm of large multifaceted organisations and has absolute confidence in his ability to keep the University on an upward trajectory, fully aware that in an institution as big and complex as UKZN the learning never ceases.

"Getting to grips with the structures, statutes and the complex machinery of the management, administration and teaching was a first order priority but so too was meeting with staff and

students," said Poku, appointed Vice-Chancellor and Principal in June this year after operating in an acting capacity for several months.

"I regard leadership as essentially a collaborative endeavour, rather than a matter of top-down directiveness."

A British national who earned all his Higher Education qualifications at universities in the United Kingdom – including his doctorate in International Political Economy, he worked for several years in large global organisations, mainly in the areas of health and development. "I was closely involved with the initial scale-up of the international response to the HIV and AIDS pandemic before returning to academic life. My intellectual interests are wide-ranging, but the richness of the political, economic and socio-cultural aspects of life in southern Africa have always had a strong gravitational pull on me."

Away from work – which is not very often – "my rugby playing days are over but keeping fit remains important while I greatly enjoy cooking, photography and music".

On his immediate work focus areas, Poku says it is important to distinguish between strategic issues and more tactical ones; and between making immediate improvements and securing the University's longer-term future. And the issue areas – teaching and learning, finance, infrastructural improvements and maintenance and student welfare – were not entirely free-standing from each another. "So my priorities could fairly be described as thematic: ensuring that UKZN is stable and secure, that its operations are sustainable, that we build on our considerable strengths, and that we honour our responsibilities as a public university.



Professor Nana Poku
Vice-Chancellor and Principal

“UKZN has a Transformation Agenda and the largest part of my energies in my first months have been devoted to converting grand strategy into actionable initiatives, with clear targets, assigned responsibilities and lines of accountability.

“The Transformation Agenda is not just an umbrella term; it is the co-ordinating mechanism for a comprehensive, institution-wide programme of revitalisation, forward-looking projects and reform. The driver for all of the initiatives is an appreciation that we must seek the fastest, most effective and sustainable means of raising the human, infrastructural, programmatic and financial aspects of UKZN,” he said. “That requires dedicated sub-strategies, placing all of our operations on a clear, up-to-date and coherent footing. The task teams for the Transformation Strategy implementation and the Sustainability Strategy implementation are already in place.”

On some of the controversial matters at UKZN such as decolonisation, the isZulu language policy, residence problems and Fees Must Fall demands, he said such thorny issue areas were not unique to UKZN and each presented challenges which varied more in their qualities than in degree. “Some are recurrent and might require adjustments to standing managerial arrangements; others are historically rooted and require honest dialogue and careful deliberation; while still others are part of the cycles of renewal and adaptation that face us as part of wider national and globalising trends. The particulars of my approach to specific issues are underpinned by my determination to secure the positive engagement of the entire University community for our shared vision – that is, making UKZN the premier African university for research, teaching and learning.”

Poku said UKZN was without doubt the leading research intensive university in South Africa with

“THE EMPOWERMENT OF INDIVIDUALS AND THE VITALITY OF THE UNIVERSITY ARE INSEPARABLE.”

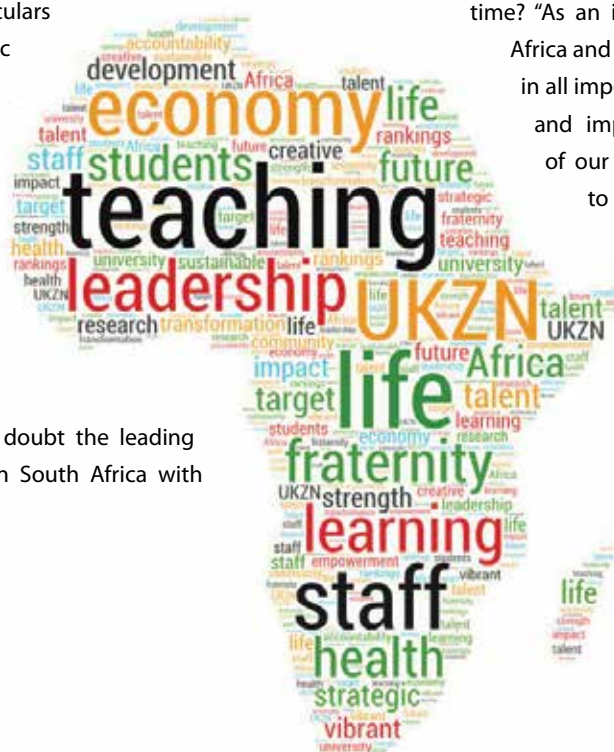
the Institution being in the Top 500 universities in the world according to the 2019 (UK) Times Higher Universities global ranking. “Moreover, and uniquely, we are also the most transformed of the research-intensive universities in South Africa with more than 58% of our new recruits this year coming from quintile 1-3.”

“Our position in the Center for World University Rankings and the Times Higher listings have both improved steadily over the last four years – a trend I intend to continue and accelerate. Of course, I am not satisfied! UKZN has the size, the standing and the talent to dramatically raise not only its aggregate ranking but also its standing as a prominent research-led University.”

Poku’s vision for UKZN is to bring the abundant talent and ambition of all of its staff and students to the fullest expression possible. “The empowerment of individuals and the vitality of the University are inseparable.”

And where would he like to see UKZN in five years time? “As an institution that everyone in South Africa and beyond regards as being ‘on the up’ in all important spheres – the enviable range and impact of our research, the quality of our teaching and learning, the extent to which we are engaged with the private sector and our local and regional communities, as well as being a vibrant, creative hub at the forefront of what a 21st century university needs to be – all on a sustainable basis.” ■

– Gregory Dardagan



CELEBRATING WOMEN POWER AND STRENGTH

THE YEAR 2019 BORE WITNESS TO JUST HOW REAL, ENTRENCHED AND VICIOUS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV), FEMICIDE, AND VIOLENCE IN GENERAL IS IN OUR SOCIETY. AS SOUTH AFRICA, WE'VE STOOD WATCH - IN COMPLETE HORROR - AS WE WITNESSED AND READ REPORTS OF THESE HORRENDOUS CRIMES BY THOSE WHO CLEARLY HAVE NO REGARD FOR PEACE.

While GBV affects both men and women, violence against women and children has been especially horrendous. At some point, I could feel the turmoil of violence that has our nation in its clutches. I literally felt the anger, grief and sorrow of our women as they cried out and expressed hurt and outrage.

While, as a nation, we should speak out against all acts of violence against women and children, and encourage those who have suffered to do so, it is also important to show their strength, power, and value. Yes, their lives have been riddled with injustice, but we should be careful not to pursue justice at the expense of their power.

The cover of this issue of *UKZNTouch* speaks to such greatness. The women featured in this publication are all linked to UKZN and offer a small glimpse into the power and strength we wanted to celebrate and bring to the fore as part of this publication offering. We hope you like the cover and enjoy reading about the phenomenal women featured on it.

Our University is part of a big family. We have a history that stretches back for more than a century and we have many good stories to tell. The University of KwaZulu-Natal came into being in January 2004 with the merger of the former Universities of Durban-Westville and Natal. The roots of tens of thousands of alumni on this family tree can be traced back to the establishment of the Natal University College in Pietermaritzburg in 1910 and the University College for Indians on Salisbury Island in Durban Bay in the 1960s.

Indeed, our Alumni Relations office currently has records for more than 170 000 graduates. Much has changed over the years – and the world continues to change fast – yet the bonds of affinity forged by alumni over many decades endure. One

example is the support provided by UKZN's United Kingdom Trust. For nearly 30 years, this dedicated group of alumni has raised funds and has supported the tertiary education of more than 300 needy students. We urge all our alumni to donate to their *alma mater* as philanthropic giving is vital for the future of Higher Education.

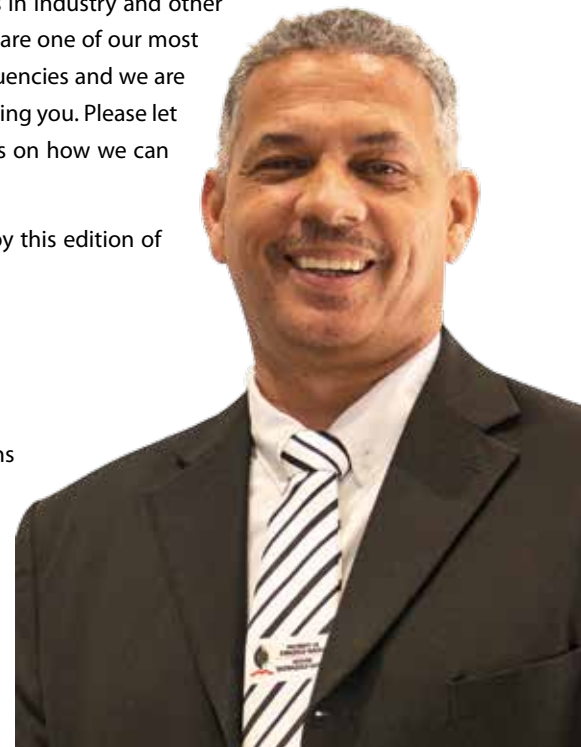
In this issue, we also offer a snapshot of some of the recent achievements of graduates who are making their mark on the local and international stage in diverse arenas.

As the Corporate Relations Division, we are continuously working towards ensuring that the UKZN brand remains intact and protected to ensure the prestige of your qualifications, as well as your hard work and achievements in industry and other fields. Our alumni are one of our most important constituencies and we are committed to serving you. Please let us have your ideas on how we can continue to do so.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *UKZNTouch*.

Happy reading! ■

Ashton Bodrick
Executive Director
Corporate Relations



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UKZN CONVOCATION

CONVOCATION CONGRATULATES UKZN'S VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL, PROFESSOR NANA POKU ON HIS APPOINTMENT AND ASSURES HIM OF OUR SUPPORT. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT, UNDER HIS STEWARDSHIP, THE UNIVERSITY WILL MAKE FURTHER STRIDES AS A RESEARCH-LED INSTITUTION AND CONTINUE TO DO WELL IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY RANKINGS.

Convocation condemns gender-based violence which is perpetuated against both women and men. This is a societal problem that demands that we deal with underlying issues. We also encourage further research on these issues, given the fact that we are a research-led institution.

We extend our condolences to the family of late Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Bavelile Hlongwa, an alumnus and former Deputy President of Convocation. She was working with us on a number of projects, including efforts to revive the Graduate Alive programme which aims to reduce stigmatisation and foster awareness of HIV and AIDS among students. We will pick up her baton and continue with these projects.

We welcome all new graduates to Convocation and encourage you to participate in the various events organised by the Alumni Relations Office. Congratulations to graduates of UKZN and the former University of Natal and University of Durban-Westville who have recently been deployed to various strategic positions following the national government

elections, as well as many other leaders we may not have mentioned.

It is worth noting great achievements including Dr Nobuhle Nkabane, an MP who graduated with her PhD, and the Premier of KwaZulu-Natal Cde Sihle Zikalala, who graduated with his master's degree. This year also saw House musician, Ms Holly Wasserfall, aka, Holly Rey, graduate with an Honours degree in Media and Communication *cum laude!* International student, Dr Surabhi Srivastava from Gorakhpur, India, earned a PhD in Civil Engineering. Congratulations also to other new MPs, notably Fikile Masiko and Mikateko Mahlaule. I'm quietly confident that all our graduates will go on to make their mark in SA and around the world.

We encourage our young leaders to engage in dialogue to address the transformation challenges that confront Higher Education Institutions during this period in our history.

Our interaction with alumni across South Africa, the continent and the world has highlighted their keen interest in their *alma mater*. We encourage all graduates to give back by contributing whatever they can to UKZN. ■

Fanle Sibisi
President of Convocation



MESSAGE FROM ALUMNI RELATIONS

Dear Alumnus,

The Alumni Relations Team interacted with thousands of graduates at events, through personal visits, campus tours, emails, and written and telephonic communication as well as via various social media platforms in 2019.

The Durban Alumni Association AGM held on the Howard College campus; the various talks and tours co-ordinated by the Association; the April and September 2019 Graduation ceremonies; the Cape Town Alumnus Dinner; the Job Skills and Leadership Skills Workshops; the 'Movie Evening' at Musgrave Centre in Durban; Alumnus Lunches in Botswana, Mpumalanga and on the South Coast; and Pretoria and Johannesburg Alumnus events were very successful and rewarding in terms of attendance and feedback from alumni.

The country specific Facebook pages for alumni based in the United Kingdom, the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Lesotho are active. Please let us know if you would like to join these Facebook groups. There has also been considerable interest in the main Facebook page for all alumni – please remember to like us.

Communication via the website, Facebook, Twitter and SMS has increased and is an effective way of informing graduates of UKZN events and issues. The alumni LinkedIn page has been closed and you can now join us on the UKZN LinkedIn page. In order to invite alumni to planned events and to keep everyone updated on University events, we are keen to secure the current contact details of alumni – especially email addresses and mobile telephone numbers. Please also encourage friends or relatives who are graduates and have not received any correspondence from the University in recent months to provide us with their updated contact details. This can be done via a quick email to alumni@ukzn.ac.za or the website.

We look forward to interacting with you and seeing you at some of our events in 2020!

With our very best wishes,

The Alumni Relations Team ■

From left: Finn Christensen, Desiree Govender and Nomcebo Msweli.



STRONG, POWERFUL, PHENOMENAL WOMEN

THIS EDITION OF UKZNTOUCH CELEBRATES THE REMARKABLE LIVES OF WOMEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY. HERE'S A SNAPSHOT OF SOME OF UKZN'S PHENOMENAL WOMEN AND THE WAYS IN WHICH THEY HAVE TOUCHED OUR LIVES.

Anti-apartheid stalwart, lawyer and author, the late **Dr Phyllis Naidoo** was conferred one of the country's highest honours, the Order of Luthuli by President Thabo Mbeki for her contributions to the struggle for democracy.

An alumna of the University of Natal, she received honorary doctorates from the University of Durban-Westville and the Durban University of Technology. Known for her indomitable spirit and commitment to the struggle, Naidoo passed away on 13 February 2013.



Dr Phyllis Naidoo. Photo: Raylene Captain-Hasthibeer



Ms Bavelile Hlongwa. Photo: Independent Media

The University Community was deeply shocked and saddened by the untimely death of Deputy Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, **Ms Bavelile Hlongwa**.

The late Hlongwa was an active alumna of UKZN. She graduated with a Bsc in Chemical Engineering and was studying for a Master's in Public Administration at UKZN. As a student she displayed tremendous leadership skills, having taken an active role in student leadership matters.

During her studies, Hlongwa served in the Student Representative Council (SRC); first as an academic and transformation officer, and then as Central SRC President in 2009. After her graduation, she continued to serve her *alma mater* as Deputy President of the Convocation Executive.



Advocate Shamila Batohi.

Advocate Shamila Batohi is the first woman to be appointed National Director of Public Prosecutions in 20 years.

Batohi completed her Bachelor's degree at the University of Durban-Westville and postgraduate at the University of Natal. She started her career as a junior prosecutor in Chatsworth Magistrates Court in 1986. She became the first KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) regional head of the erstwhile Scorpions in the National Prosecution Authority (NPA) and later served as Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN from 2002 to 2009.

In 1995 she was appointed by former President Nelson Mandela to a multi-disciplinary team to investigate police hit squad activities during apartheid.

Batohi was senior legal advisor at the International Criminal Court at The Hague, Netherlands, a role she filled from 2009 until 2018.

Professor Elizabeth Sneddon, a woman with a passion for teaching speech and drama, and someone who believed that the performing arts could bring people together as no other discipline could, founded and became Head of the Department of Speech and Drama, the first such in Africa. While the early classes would be held in the 'Huts' – built from procured war supplies to accommodate urgent needs as enrolment rocketed after the war – Sneddon would later give her name to a theatre that is today a central part of Durban's thespian activities. She took her work seriously and created a reputation as a mentor among the Black students she taught after hours. Among them were Alfred Nokwe and Mbongeni Ngema, both of whom would go on to make major contributions in their fields. Sneddon – alongside South African playwright, Welcome Msomi, and Professor Pieter Scholtz who succeeded her as Head of Department when she retired – would conceive *uMabatha*, a groundbreaking production written by Msomi in isiZulu which explored the historical similarities between Shakespeare's *MacBeth* and a number of episodes and personalities in the history of the Zulu nation.

As published in *100 years of Higher Education: The University of KwaZulu-Natal*.



Professor Elizabeth Sneddon.



Professor Mapule Frances Ramashala.

Former Vice-Chancellor at the University of Durban Westville, **Professor Mapule Frances Ramashala** was awarded the degrees of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Psychology in 1961 and Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology in 1964, both at the University of the Witwatersrand. She was awarded two degrees in the United States of America: a Doctor of Education degree at the University of Massachusetts in 1973, and a Master of Arts in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University in 1982. She has been Vice-Chair of the Medical Research Council, Chair of the Employment Equity Commission, Chair of the National Research Foundation, a member of the Human Sciences Research Council, a lecturer at the Montgomery County Community College and the Bryn Mawr College Graduate School of Social Work, and a consultant for the State Office of Mental Health for the Commonwealth in Pennsylvania. In 1995, President Nelson Mandela appointed her to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Ramashala passed away on Friday, 15 July 2016.

As published in *100 years of Higher Education: The University of KwaZulu-Natal*.

Dr Mamphela Ramphele has had a celebrated career as an activist, medical doctor, academic, businesswoman and political thinker.

In 1968 she enrolled for a Medical degree at the University of Natal, where she became involved in the South African Students Association (SASO) and was a founder, with Steve Biko, of the Black Consciousness Movement. In 1976 she was detained under the Terrorism Act, and from 1977 to 1983 she was banned to Tzaneen in the Northern Transvaal.

She has a PhD in Social Anthropology, a B Comm degree, a Diploma in Tropical Hygiene and a Diploma in Public Health. In 1996 she was appointed Vice-Chancellor of UCT. In 2000 she became a managing director of the World Bank, based in Washington, DC.

Ramphele has served as chairperson of many boards and is currently a trustee of the Nelson Mandela Foundation. She was founder of the Open Society Foundation for South Africa and the Citizens Movement.

She is the author of several books and publications on socio-economic issues in South Africa, including *A Passion for Freedom*, *Laying Ghosts to Rest*, *Conversations with my sons and Daughters* and new release *Dreams, Betrayal and Hope*.



Dr Mamphela Ramphele.

She has received numerous national and international awards acknowledging her scholarship and leading role in spearheading projects for disadvantaged people in South Africa and elsewhere. ■

<http://mamphela-ramphele.com/>

DOCTOR SOUNDS HER TRUMPET

PROFESSOR SALOME MASWIME WAS NOT ONLY AWARDED A R2.1 MILLION SCHOLARSHIP TO STUDY AT ONE OF THE TOP TEACHING HOSPITALS IN THE UNITED STATES; SHE IS ALSO AN ACCOMPLISHED TRUMPET PLAYER.

"The trumpet is my favourite instrument. It has a powerful sound and commands authority," said Maswime, who completed her MBChB at UKZN in 2005.

Maswime, who grew up in Limpopo and whose father, Professor Phillip Moila, was a Theology professor at UKZN, joined her high school band in Grade 9. She initially played the cymbals but soon switched to brass instruments. She played the French horn for the KwaZulu-Natal Youth Wind Band throughout her studies at UKZN: "It was probably the only reason I survived Med School!" she laughed.

It was here that she met Mr Gundo Maswime, a fellow student and civil engineer, who would become her husband and father of their two sons, four-year-old Farai and seven-year-old Taurai.

After qualifying as a specialist gynaecologist and obstetrician at the University of Witwatersrand and then completing her MMED and PhD degrees, Maswime started playing the trumpet and she can be found at church on most Sundays trying to lift the roof with members of her church worship team.

Music aside, Maswime's professional focus has been on reducing the number of infants who die during childbirth, a passion that germinated during her community service in a labour ward at Greytown hospital.

"I fell in love with the thrill of delivering high risk pregnancies, even though many of them were referred to tertiary hospitals. But I also found myself having sleepless nights when something went wrong. The death of a baby at birth or a pregnant mother was too much for me to handle, and I knew I would have to spend more years in training to gain more expertise."

While working at Chris Hani Baragwanath Academic Hospital last year, her devotion to maternal and foetal medicine was



Professor Salome Maswime with her family: husband Gundo and sons Taurai (7) and Farai (4). Photo: Brighton Ravele

rewarded with a Discovery Foundation MGH Fellowship Award, enabling her to spend a year at Massachusetts General Hospital at Harvard University.

The award aims to develop the next generation of leaders in academic and clinical medicine in South Africa.

Maswime returned home from Boston earlier this year and is now an Associate Professor and Head of Global Surgery at the University of Cape Town.

"The big frustration is the fact that we don't have all the answers. Too many still die during childbirth. I am still looking for answers, and continuing with research on placental causes for stillbirth in HIV positive women."

What advice can she offer Medical students?

"It's important to know that your ambitions are valid, and that you don't have to wait for the right time to pursue your dreams. The best time is now." ■

– Tony Carnie

PAP SMEAR CAMPAIGN PUTS WOMEN FIRST

AN IDEA MOOTED BY UKZN'S OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY DEPARTMENT TO TRY AND BREAK THE WORLD RECORD FOR THE NUMBER OF PAP SMEARS PERFORMED UNDER THE SAME ROOF IN ONE DAY RESULTED IN FURTHER CAMPAIGNS THAT ENABLED THOUSANDS OF WOMEN TO UNDERGO THE TEST.

Head of the Department and alumnus, Professor Motshedisi Sebitloane said the idea was raised by a gynaecology colleague in November 2017.

"He read about a similar event in India where 751 women were screened in eight hours in 2012. In April last year, with the support of the provincial Department of Health, we screened over 2 000 women in one day at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital. Since then, similar events have been held in Pietermaritzburg, Richards Bay and in Ilembe District Municipality where over 3 000 women were screened."

Among the initial group, seven women were diagnosed with cervical cancer and a further 100 had pre-cancer abnormalities.

While the Indian campaign was listed as a Guinness World Record, when Sebitloane registered to append the record she was told that pap smears were now regarded as invasive and the achievement could thus not be made official.

"While we may not find ourselves in the Guinness Book of Records, we know that we have set a new world record and what is more important is what has happened beyond that first campaign. It was a good concept and it has raised awareness, particularly among health workers at the clinics. Pap smears are supposed to be done routinely as per indications, and part of the messaging from the campaign is that the women now know they need to come back regularly for follow ups. Our next campaign – a family planning event – is to promote abstinence and family planning uptake among young women," she said.

The academic who hails from the small North West town of Taung and was appointed to head up the Department in 2017 following a career of study and research spanning nearly three decades, describes the teenage pregnancy rate in the country as a 'crisis'.



Professor Motshedisi Sebitloane in her office at UKZN's Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine. Photo: Colleen Dardagan

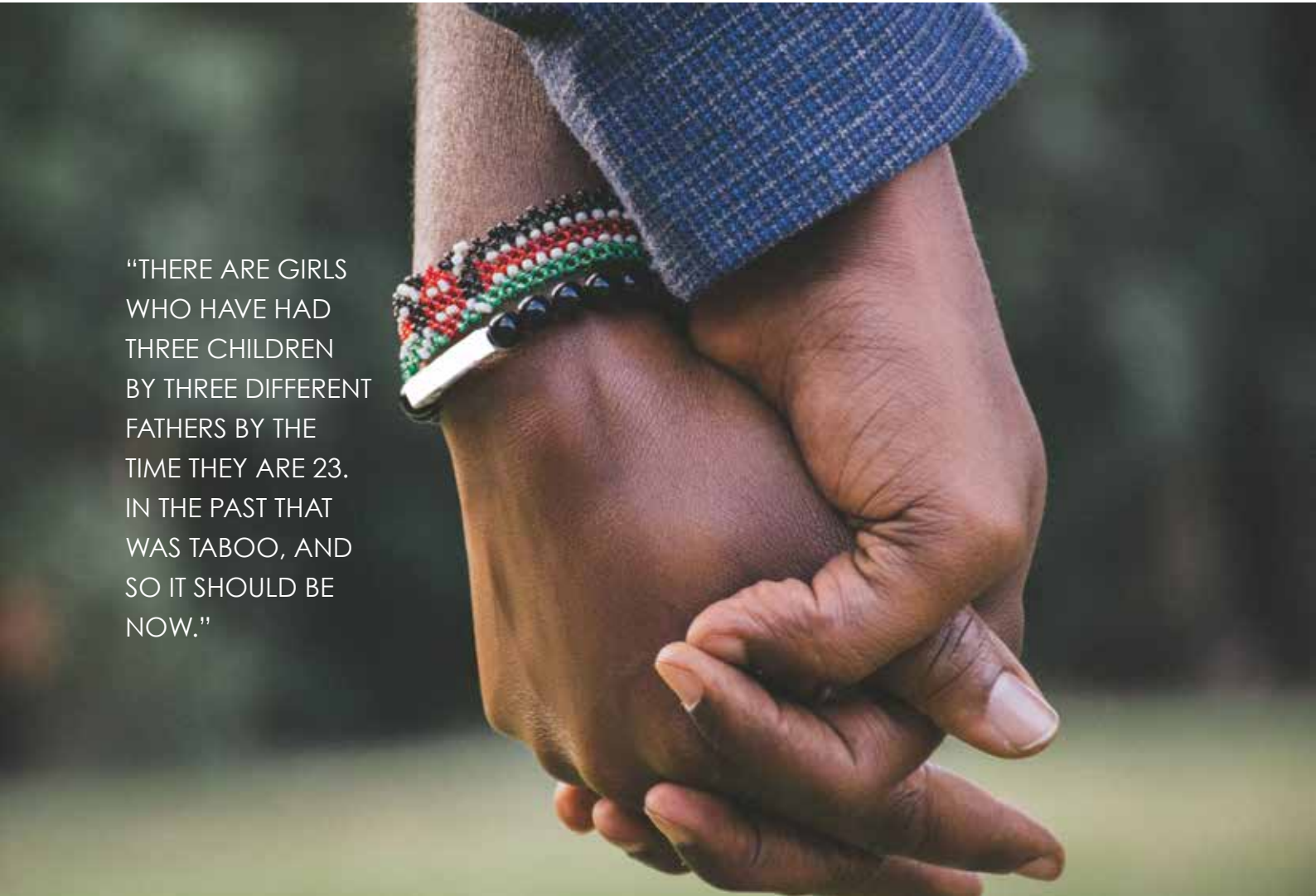
"My message to young women is that they should abstain. And when I say abstain I am thinking about their holistic health, because if they abstain they will avoid sexually transmitted diseases and HIV and AIDS infection, for example. If they abstain, they bring down their chances of being diagnosed with cervical cancer when they are older, as well as the challenges of being a single mother, and these are just some of the risks," she said.

Petite in build, yet brimming with boundless energy, Sebitloane's demeanour becomes serious when she details the consequences of teenage pregnancies, particularly on the fabric of society. "There are girls who have had three children by three different fathers by the time they are 23. In the past that was taboo, and so it should be now. Not only are these women putting their internal health at risk, but also the health – both physical and psychological – of those children," she said.

Using her own life as an example, Sebitloane said her message to young women today was about making responsible choices.

"I studied and got my PhD, but I also had two sons in between. All the choices I have made since I started out in my career have been about putting my family first while at the same time sticking to my goals. I have never considered myself as an academic. I failed my second year and I had to re-write my PhD, but here I am today heading up a department as a professor. It hasn't always been easy, my faith has sustained me, and I have worked hard. I want to encourage other women to break the cycle of seeing themselves as victims, to take care of themselves and to take up the opportunities that are offered to them no matter how difficult they might seem." ■

– Colleen Dardagan



"THERE ARE GIRLS WHO HAVE HAD THREE CHILDREN BY THREE DIFFERENT FATHERS BY THE TIME THEY ARE 23. IN THE PAST THAT WAS TABOO, AND SO IT SHOULD BE NOW."

UKZN PROFESSOR DISCOVERS POTENTIAL GENETIC CAUSE OF HAIR LOSS CONDITION

THE DISCOVERY OF A POTENTIAL GENETIC LINK TO A CONDITION THAT CAUSES PERMANENT HAIR LOSS AMONG AFRICAN WOMEN HAS REINFORCED CALLS TO AVOID AGGRESSIVE AND DAMAGING HAIR TREATMENTS.

The discovery was made by Professor Ncoza Dlova, Dean of UKZN's School of Clinical Medicine, in collaboration with a group of 20 scientists from Israel, the USA, Germany and France and was published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* earlier this year.

The seven-year study, which involved women from the Durban area and North Carolina in the United States, suggests that there may be an underlying genetic cause for a condition known as Central Centrifugal Cicatricial Alopecia (CCCA).

Dlova grew up at Mthulo, a small village near King William's Town in the Eastern Cape. She attended local primary schools before moving to Inanda Girls Seminary in Durban for her matric and was awarded her PhD for her study entitled: Ethnic Skin and Hair Disorders in KwaZulu-Natal in 2014.

"As the first African dermatologist at UKZN, and the second African female dermatologist in South Africa, I decided to specialise in dermatology in response to the lack of qualified African dermatologists who understand the skin, hair and cultural needs of the African patient," she said.

Her previous published studies on hair loss among South African women helped to spur the international research collaboration on potential genetic links to CCCA – which presents clinically as a central area of progressive irreversible hair loss on the crown and expands to the periphery.

"With this discovery we can say there is a possible genetic link, and that hair grooming – which was previously thought to be a cause – is probably an environmental trigger or aggravates CCCA."

While other studies have suggested that between 2.7% and 5.6% of African women carry a gene that predisposes them to early hair loss, Dlova says: "The finding

Professor Ncoza Dlova.



"I THINK WE NEED TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND ACCEPT WHO WE ARE, AND ALSO REALISE THAT ALTHOUGH WE ARE ONE HUMAN RACE, OUR HAIR AND SKIN IS UNIQUE AND NEEDS TO BE HANDLED IN A MANNER THAT TAKES COGNISANCE OF SUCH UNIQUE FEATURES AND NOT BE INFLUENCED BY WHAT WE SEE ON SOCIAL MEDIA, TV, MAGAZINES AND CELEBRITIES."

that 14 of 58 patients (24%) in our study had mutations in the PADI3 (gene) coding sequence suggests that the disease is genetically heterogeneous, which in turn may underlie the varying clinical manifestations of CCCA.”

She noted that the relatively high percentage of women vulnerable to early and permanent hair loss “may indicate the need to be cautious with hair grooming (avoiding traction, weaves, chemical products) in family members who have carriers of the mutations in PADI3 and perhaps family members with affected individuals should go for hair assessment to a hair specialist, as we still do not have markers for the gene mutation.”

She added that a previous study documented CCCA in a girl who was just 11 years old.

“We found that women who were predisposed to CCCA and constantly used some of these hair treatment products presented with severe CCCA, as early as 25 years-old. We therefore advocate for minimal manipulation in those who are affected (carriers). This can be done by making attempts to keep hair natural and to avoid chemicals and traction inducing hairstyles.”



A woman with Central Centrifugal Cicatricial Alopecia (CCCA), one of the most common causes of early and permanent hair loss in African women.

What advice does she offer to women growing up in an era that increasingly subscribes to Western popular culture?

“I think we need to acknowledge and accept who we are, and also realise that although we are one human race, our hair and skin is unique and needs to be handled in a manner that takes cognisance of such unique features and not be influenced by what we see on social media, TV, magazines and celebrities. We need to instil confidence in our children from a young age that the best beauty is natural skin and hair.” ■

– Tony Carnie



NEUROSURGEON KEEPS THE MUSIC PLAYING

A SOUTH AFRICAN MUSICIAN CONTINUES TO PLUCK THE STRINGS OF HIS BASS GUITAR, THANKS TO A SURGICAL PROCEDURE PERFORMED BY UKZN ALUMNUS AND WORLD-RENOWNED NEUROSURGEON DR BASIL ENICKER.

The Umlazi-born doctor made international headlines when he performed a craniotomy on Mr Musa Manzini who was wide awake and playing his guitar during the operation. The surgery was performed to remove a brain tumour from the jazz artist and UKZN Music lecturer.



The medical team performing the awake craniotomy at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital.



Dr Basil Enicker.

Enicker, Head of the Discipline of Neurosurgery at UKZN, who is based at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital, said that it was at UKZN that he fell in love with neurosurgery.

“I was fascinated by the human body from my high school days. My grandmother was a professional nurse at King Edward VIII Hospital, so I was naturally attracted to a career in the medical field.

“I have been interested in the nervous system since my early days in Medical School. I also liked the surgical discipline as a career. The two seemed like a great fit, so I decided to pursue a career as a neurosurgeon.”

He described his student journey at UKZN as one of highs and lows, both personally and academically.

“What is important is that no matter the difficulties or challenges, nothing beats determination, strong will and resilience.”

He added that his great teachers and mentors at the University were instrumental in shaping his career.



“Because of the great experiences I had at UKZN as an undergraduate student, it was the university of choice for my postgraduate studies or training as a neurosurgeon. All these opportunities allowed me to rise through the ranks, culminating in me being the Head of the Discipline of Neurosurgery in the School of Clinical Medicine at UKZN.

“It is my responsibility to train and shape the next generation of neurosurgeons and it’s a humbling and great responsibility to shoulder as a leader,” said Enicker, who added that patients trust neurosurgeons with their lives.

Turning to the procedure performed on Manzini, he commented: “We were pleasantly surprised when we received such keen interest both locally and internationally.”

Awake Craniotomy is an intracranial operation when a patient is awake during the removal of a brain tumour. It is the preferred technique when the tumour involves the eloquent or near eloquent areas of the brain. Eloquent areas perform vital functions and if removed will result in paralysis, and sensory or speech problems.

“What is unique and exciting about the procedure was that it was the first time it was performed on a musician at Inkosi Albert Luthuli Central Hospital. Mr Manzini is a bass guitarist by

profession and as one of the many tools of testing used during the procedure, we asked him to play the guitar while we removed the brain tumour. Because of his profession, it was critical for Mr Manzini to preserve dexterity. The treatment had to be tailor-made to his needs and expectations, which were mainly to have the ability to continue making music. The brain tumour was located in an area of the brain responsible for planning, control and execution of voluntary movements,” he said.

Following the successful surgery, Enicker received the KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Health’s Annual Service Excellence Award in 2019.

Enicker said he would like to increase the research output in the Discipline of Neurosurgery.

His other goals include increased collaboration with local and international partners, training as many neurosurgeons as possible and grooming the next generation of leaders in Neurosurgery.

He would also like to increase the number of neurosurgery units in KwaZulu-Natal and have a positive impact in the lives of as many patients as possible. ■

– Taschica Pillay

CAREER PATH PAVED IN GOLD

UKZN DOCTORAL GRADUATE MARK BRISTOW HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS THE “MAN OF THE HOUR” IN THE GLOBAL GOLD INDUSTRY AND SOUTH AFRICA’S MOST SUCCESSFUL CEO.

Bristow (60) was born and bred in the sleepy village of Estcourt in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands where he went to Drakensview Primary School and Estcourt High School.

A wonderfully simple start to life for the rough and ready, barefoot country boy who grew up one of five sons in a middle class family in which the budget was always tight.

After matriculating, he enrolled for a BSc degree on the Pietermaritzburg campus – the launch pad for his illustrious and somewhat breath-taking career in mining as well as a place he has very fond memories of.

Today Bristow is CEO and President of one of the largest gold mining companies in the world, the Barrick Gold Corporation.

Married to Noeleen with sons, aerospace engineer Grant (30) and US baseball marketing and events manager Craig (29), he has been described as the “man of the hour” in the international gold industry and South Africa’s most successful CEO.

It’s been an all action life for this still proudly KwaZulu-Natal and South African “product”.

With homes in London, the United States, South Africa and Mauritius, Bristow enjoys good wine, big game hunting and (in his younger days) endurance and extreme sports. He has completed 11 Dusi Canoe Marathons and 13 Comrades Marathons and crossed the African continent three times on fund-raising motorbike safaris. These are just some of the highlights of the life and career of a man’s man who talks straight, doesn’t pull his punches and still enjoys a challenge.

So how did it all begin?

“While completing my PhD at the University of Natal as it was known then, I was offered a job as a geologist by Rand Mines. Geology has always been my passion, and still is,” said Bristow. “One thing led to another and in 1995, I established and became CEO of Randgold Resources, an associate company for Randgold and Exploration Ltd’s non-South African assets which listed on the London Stock Exchange in 1997.”



Mr Mark Bristow, President and CEO of Barrick Gold Corporation.

“WE INVEST IN PEOPLE BECAUSE BUSINESS IS ABOUT PEOPLE.”

With Bristow at the helm, Randgold opened four mines – three in Mali and one in the Ivory Coast – and acquired a project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo which it developed into the Kibali mine. Kibali and Loulo-Gounkoto in Mali rank among the world’s top 10 Tier One gold mines.

Bristow grew Randgold Resources into one of the world’s most successful and profitable gold mining companies which consistently increased its production profile and dividends over the years.

“In January this year, in what I rate as probably the highlight of my business career, Randgold Resources merged with what was at the time the largest gold mining company on the globe, the Barrick Gold Corporation, in a US\$18,3bn deal.”

Bristow is CEO and President of the merged company which now holds six of the world's Top 10 Tier One assets.

"Among the biggest challenges are ensuring that the mining industry remains acceptable to the population, and managing the balance between the demands of stakeholders in the short-term and the long-term importance of allocating capital," said Bristow.

"I am a very hands-on person who enjoys my work. I visit our mines all over the world every quarter to keep my finger on the pulse but also to make staff feel a sense of belonging. We invest in people because business is about people.

"Combining the Randgold and Barrick teams over the past year and seeing them deliver according to our agreed plan has been a most rewarding experience. Now we move forward building the merged company into the next decade, making it a more modern business all round," he said.

The Bristows became grandparents to twins Amelia and James about six months ago. "Our sons have always been the centre



In his first 100 days as President and CEO of the enlarged Barrick Gold Corporation, Mark Bristow (foreground) visited all the group's operations to hold a series of talks with employees and stakeholders. Here, he was on the South American leg of the tour.

of the universe for Noeleen and I – now the grandchildren have taken that to a new level!" ■

– Greg Dardagan

"AMONG THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES ARE ENSURING THAT THE MINING INDUSTRY REMAINS ACCEPTABLE TO THE POPULATION, AND MANAGING THE BALANCE BETWEEN THE DEMANDS OF STAKEHOLDERS IN THE SHORT-TERM AND THE LONG-TERM IMPORTANCE OF ALLOCATING CAPITAL."



ALUMNUS AT THE FOREFRONT IN ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE

DR DEBRA ROBERTS HAS TRAVELLED A LONG ROAD SINCE HER EARLY DAYS AS A STUDENT AND RESEARCHER AT UKZN TO JOIN THE LIKES OF POPE FRANCIS AND SIR DAVID ATTENBOROUGH ON THE LIST OF 'THE WORLD'S 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN CLIMATE POLICY'.

Unfortunately, her journey has involved a 'hideous' travel and work schedule in recent years after she became the first South African and first woman from Africa to chair a scientific working group of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

This panel of global science experts advises the 195 member nations of the United Nations on strategies to address the pace, scale and consequences of change to the Earth's climate system wrought by more than a century of intense industrialisation and carbon emissions.

"Travelling is the most stressful and least enjoyable part of my work. Sometimes you wake up in a hotel room and really don't know where you are."

While much of her travel has been to the IPCC secretariat and technical support offices in Switzerland and Germany, her flight itinerary over recent months includes Russia, Ghana, Nepal, Monaco, India, Canada, the USA, Singapore and Chile.

"It can be brutal. There are many days where you work for 24 hours. You don't eat or sleep, especially with the lengthy approval sessions. I think it has aged me 20 years!" she laments.

Utterly exhausted from another punishing round of late-night meetings in Switzerland recently, she sat down to catch some fresh air on a wooden bench next to Lake Geneva – and promptly fell asleep.

But Roberts is not given to despair.

"Despair is not part of my nature. Some walls are higher than others but I find you can eventually get over them if you just



Dr Debra Roberts (Image: Supplied)

keep running at them – or they collapse from the constant pressure."

This year, London-based group Apolitical included Roberts in the inaugural list of 100 "high-profile advocates whose work is indispensable in raising awareness and demanding change" in the climate change arena.

Apart from the leader of the Catholic Church, nature broadcaster David Attenborough and Swedish youth activist Greta Thunberg, the list includes several environment ministers, mayors, scientists, public servants and climate activists.

Back in 1979, when Roberts began studying at the then University of Natal, she planned to spend much of her career in a laboratory, researching the early history of the Earth.

That all began to change after a field trip to Twinstreams farm at Mthunzini, where she met sugar cane farmer Ian Garland.

"Here was a man who wanted to do things, to restore the eroded landscape that had choked up the clean rivers he swam in as a youngster."

Having grown up in the wild lands outside Bulawayo, Roberts had never seen the massive single-crop plantations engulfing large sections of KwaZulu-Natal.

It dawned on her that “this is what I should be doing” – working to restore natural landscapes fractured and fragmented by agriculture and industrial-scale development.

During her postgraduate studies in Urban Biogeography, she was inspired by herpetologist John Poynton and other faculty members who “seemed to take a wider view about the natural sciences”.

This broader approach to science was also a key reason why this alumnus chose UKZN over other universities that appeared to have more rigid and compartmentalised syllabi.

Yet, as much as she was inspired to think, ask questions and “find my own way as a scientist,” she decided to cross the bridge from formal academia to shaping policy changes within her city. She also began to focus closely on emerging concerns about global climate change.

In 1994 she founded eThekweni Municipality’s Environmental Planning and Climate Protection Department, which she headed until 2016, when she was seconded to lead the city’s Sustainable and Resilient City Initiatives Unit.

In 2015, Roberts was appointed Co-Chair of the IPCC Working Group II for the Sixth Assessment Report, an appointment which stretches to 2022. She was also lead author of the urban chapter in the IPCC’s Fifth Assessment report and has been a member of the South African government’s negotiating team on climate change at several United Nations meetings.

Although she remains optimistic that Durban has policies in place to mitigate and adapt to climate change, Roberts says the city – and the world – has reached a turning point.

“Now we have to act at a rapid and unprecedented scale. The science is telling us that the Earth’s biodiversity and climate systems are under pressure. These are the two fundamental systems that allow us to eat, breathe and live our lives. We all need to do substantially more.” ■

- Tony Carnie

The skull of a dead cow during the recent drought in KwaZulu-Natal: a harbinger of climate change across the globe. (Image: Justin Bend)



RESOLVING CONFLICT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD – LIFETIME WORK OF DURBAN PEACEMAKER

DR VASU GOUNDEN'S NOBLE PROFESSION IS TO HELP FIND SOLUTIONS TO POLITICAL CONFLICT IN AFRICA AND OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

The seeds of his philanthropic crusade were sown when Gounden was an LLB student at the former University of Durban-Westville (UDW) – a hotbed for political demonstrations against the apartheid government.

As President of the UDW Student Representative Council (SRC) in 1985 he had many brushes with the police and was arrested by the dreaded Security Branch for his activities.

With democracy in sight, he sought to do something to contribute to peace in South Africa and Africa and established the African Centre for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD) in 1992, with a small office at UDW.

Now 27 years later, ACCORD is a globally respected conflict resolution organisation with offices in South Africa, the Central African Republic, Burundi and Brussels. Apart from South Africa, ACCORD has worked in 34 African countries including Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi, and – although its mandate is Africa – has also been on assignment in countries such as Syria, Palestine, Nicaragua and Sri Lanka.

ACCORD publishes two magazines – *Conflict Trends* (quarterly) and the *African Journal of Conflict Resolution* (biannually) – which has resulted in it currently being ranked 38th among about 6 000 think tanks surveyed globally by the Top 100 Think Tanks survey organised by Pennsylvania University in the United States.

In 2005, ACCORD became the first African non-governmental organisation (NGO) in the history of the United Nations to address the Security Council (UNSC) and it has gone back to address the Council on several occasions.

“I was conscientised from an early age. My father, Swami Gounden, was very active in the trade union movement of the time and was also a member of the Natal Indian Congress,



ACCORD Executive Director Vasu Gounden presenting the keynote address at the 7th Annual Desmond and Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation International Peace Lecture in Cape Town.

the South African Communist Party and the African National Congress (ANC),” said Gounden.

Soon after matriculating from Durban’s Centenary High School, where he was head boy, he went to Lusaka to join the banned ANC. After three months he returned home and got involved in student activism.

He registered for an LLB at UDW and was politically active in his first year, going on to lead thousands of students in demonstrations on the streets of Durban. He was arrested and charged with public violence with his trial continuing for a year, giving him personal experience of criminal law procedure!

Gounden was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship in 1989 and graduated with a Master's degree in Law (LLM) from Georgetown University in Washington DC, specialising in international negotiations, mediation and arbitration.

"While in the US, I served as a Senior Fellow at the National Institute for Dispute Resolution and that is where the idea for ACCORD was born. When I returned to South Africa in 1991, I consulted with a range of political leaders about my intention to establish ACCORD and the centre was created."

Among his most satisfying assignments were working on the Burundi conflict in 2000 with former Presidents Nelson Mandela, Thabo Mbeki and Jacob Zuma, and being involved in conflict resolution in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with former President of Botswana, the late Quett Masire.

The most dangerous assignment was being on a peace mission in a lawless Mogadishu in Somalia in 1997. "We spent five days, in a country without a government, criss-crossing the capital Mogadishu speaking to warlords with gunfire all around."

Accolades which stand out were being chosen by the World Economic Forum as one of its 100 Global Leaders of Tomorrow in 2000, and being awarded an honorary doctorate in Social Sciences by his *alma mater* UKZN in 2016.

Last year, Gounden founded Global Peace to further the work for peace throughout the world. He believes peace is not just the absence of war but also the absence of poverty, unemployment and inequality. One of Global Peace's initiatives is to host 100 intergenerational dialogues in 100 cities around the world during which young people will interact with leaders about the future, and whether it will be free from poverty, unemployment and inequality. The conclusions of these dialogues will result in a Global Peace Charter to be presented to the United Nations next year.

Married for 31 years to Vanessa who he met at UDW, Gounden rates the creation of ACCORD as one of the biggest achievements of his career and

VISION

"ACCORD seeks to encourage and promote the constructive resolution of disputes by the Peoples of Africa and so assist in achieving political stability, economic recovery and peaceful co-existence within just and democratic societies."

ENDORSEMENT

"The principles underpinning ACCORD's operations are the very ideals for which humanity has striven for centuries – the peaceful resolution of conflict, human rights and good governance."

– Nelson Mandela (Durban 1995).

says if there was anything he could change in the world today it would be to turn war and conflict into peace.

He adds that one of the tragedies of South Africa today is that voices of anarchy get more airtime than those of reason – simply because they are louder.

"There are a lot more good people than bad in South Africa and the voices of that silent majority need to be heard loud and clear if we are to realise our dream of a non-racial, non-sexist, inclusive South Africa where we all have an equal opportunity to live our best lives and contribute to a better world." ■

– Greg Dardagan



ACCORD Executive Director Vasu Gounden addressing the United Nations Security Council in New York.

ALUMNUS DEVELOPS DRONE SCANNER

WHILE BUILDING DRONES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, UKZN ALUMNUS MR JASPER PONS CAME UP WITH THE IDEA OF USING DRONES TO SCAN INVENTORY IN WAREHOUSES, AND SO THE CONCEPT OF DRONESCAN TOOK FLIGHT!

An avid canoeist and fisherman, Pons was building and using drones for photography for his canoeing website: www.myriver.co.za when he visited a large warehouse and came up with a novel way of using drones. "I realised that the effort expended to lift an 80kg human up holding a 1kg scanner could be done quicker and safer with a 3kg drone and 300g scanner," he said.

Born in Dooringkop, a small farming village near Stanger in KwaZulu-Natal, Pons holds a BSc Engineering degree



UKZN alumnus, Mr Jasper Pons and the drone scanner equipment he has developed.



specialising in Electronics from UKZN. He has used the skills he acquired at the University to build a South African company that specialises in inventory management systems, and barcode and radio frequency identification (RFID) scanning. "We have developed our own scanning hardware and software that significantly speeds up data collection while reducing costs," said Pons.

As any entrepreneur soon discovers, venturing into the world of business is not without challenges. "At that time scanners and drones that could do the job were not available. We had to engineer everything ourselves, including housings, wiring, power-supply, printed circuit boards, and connectors, as well as write the code to control the scanner, process the data and give meaningful feedback to the operator," said Pons.

"We also had to write our own 'indoor safety guidelines' for indoor drone use because there were none available at that time."

Pons, who has used the drones in many countries ranging from Argentina to Switzerland, offered this advice to UKZN students wanting to become entrepreneurs: "Start early and enjoy the ride!"

He spends his leisure time outdoors and has a viral video of two sailfish fighting over his bait while canoeing! ■

– Raylene Captain-Hasthibeer

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS – AND THE ICE – FOR ASPIRANT SPACE TRAVELLER

HER PROPOSED JOURNEY INTO OUTER SPACE MAY HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY GROUNDED, BUT THEORETICAL PHYSICIST DR ADRIANA MARAIS IS PREPARING FOR ANOTHER OUTWARD-BOUND VENTURE – ON EARTH.

One of 100 aspirant space travellers shortlisted for the stalled Mars One expedition, the UKZN graduate will head a team of scientists and specialists to spend the entire winter of 2021 in Antarctica. They will live in an 'off-world settlement simulation' area in conditions which are extremely human unfriendly, to put it mildly. The aim is to give participants an idea of what it is like to live communally in extreme conditions on- and off-world using the latest developments in sustainable energy and agricultural living to power the colony and provide food and water.

Meanwhile, way across the world in the remote Bocha Village in Texas in the United States, South African-born businessperson and entrepreneur Elon Musk and his team at Space X, are building a spaceship. The craft, which is being built out in the open, has become a huge attraction.

Musk hopes the spaceship, called Starship, will transport people to the moon and Mars one day. So the journey into space which Marais has dreamed of and craved since a very young age may still be in the stars for her.

Several years ago Mars One announced it had plans to privately finance human missions to the red planet. Those chosen would need to commit to a one-way trip with no or very little prospect of a return to earth. Mars One initially hoped to land people on Mars in 2023 which changed to no earlier than 2032.

Mars One is now under administration, a severe setback for the mission. Reacting to the collapse Marais said: "The mission to Mars is bigger than any of us. We'll get there one way or another. Elon Musk's team at Space X is building the transport system to get the first humans to Mars in the next decade. Nothing has changed – nothing in the Mars One announcement causes me to waiver."



Theoretical physicist Dr Adriana Marais. Photo: Kate Shaw

Marais – who holds a doctorate in Quantum Biology from UKZN and is currently reading at the University of Cape Town for a second PhD in economics in resource strained environments – is the founder of #ProudlyHuman which is the driving force behind the Off-World adventure to Antarctica. She and her team hope to demonstrate community living and off-grid capabilities, from life support to communication systems, in the harshest and most isolated environment on earth.

The Off-World Tech Hub will be launched in Cape Town in January next year to research, develop and test the technology for the Antarctica venture.

Says Marais: "We are living in an unprecedented era of development in engineering and science and the expansion of our society beyond this planet is within reach. At #ProudlyHuman, we pioneer new frontiers in research and technology for a sustainable future on earth, above and beyond." ■

– Greg Dardagan

DURBAN DOCTOR SUPPORTS “BIG EASY” DRIVE IN AID OF AUTISM

THE ELS CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR AUTISM IN THE UNITED STATES HAS BENEFITTED FROM THE DEDICATED AND TIRELESS VOLUNTEER WORK OF A DURBAN DOCTOR AND UKZN ALUMNUS WHO, TOGETHER WITH HIS WIFE, CHOSE THE FACILITY'S LEADING THERAPIES TO ASSIST THEIR TWO SONS.

As he did when faced with setbacks caused by apartheid, UKZN alumnus Dr Vikash Salig has not shied away from tough choices and challenges resulting from the news nearly 20 years ago that both his sons featured on the autism spectrum.

Salig now lives in the United States with his wife Vasantha and their two sons Dhivaan (21) and Rhevaal (19) who have both benefitted from the state-of-the-art education offered by South African golfing legend Ernie Els's Center of Excellence for Autism in Florida. The couple has committed to not only giving of their very best for their youngsters, but furthering the interests of the centre through dedicated and tireless volunteer work.

“I have donated a large sum of my own money but together with others raised \$25 million (R382 million) between 2009 and 2016,” said Salig. “Vasantha spends at least two hours each day on volunteering activities while I contribute after hours and at weekends. The centre is now expanding as a result of the team's ongoing fundraising efforts.”

Salig – who has a raft of qualifications, including an MBA in Business Administration – graduated from UKZN with a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree (MBChB) in the early 1990s.

As a South African schools table tennis champion with exceptional matric results, he was offered a ‘substantial’ scholarship in 1983 to study Medicine at the University of the Witwatersrand. The catch, however, was that he would have to represent the University at table tennis in a league which excluded universities for people of colour. “The team was predominantly White and I would have been blacklisted if I had played. I chose to stay at home, accept a place at the then



Dr Vikash Salig.

University of Natal's Medical School and take out a student loan.”

As the history of South Africa's struggle for political freedom attests, what is now the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine was a ‘militant’ hotbed of resistance to the government policies of the day. “I have vivid memories of our participation in the



The Els Center of Excellence. Photo courtesy of the Els Center of Excellence.

uprisings. I believe we all made a significant contribution to our democracy," he said.

Salig, who served as a medical doctor in Durban before taking up senior positions at United States-based pharmaceutical firms, is now a partner in and head of Life Sciences and Healthcare at Boyden – a Miami and New York-based global executive search firm with 65 offices in 40 countries.

"Rhevaal was the reason we decided to leave South Africa. He is severely affected by autism. Aged 19, he is minimally verbal, has good receptive language understanding, but has poor expressive verbal capabilities. He loves going to school, loves his teachers and is learning several social and life skills thanks to the Els centre which is world class," Salig said.

However, Dhivaan has Aspergers Syndrome (also known as "high functioning") and at 14, was the youngest person to graduate from the Palm Beach film school. He is now studying for an arts degree at Palm Beach State College.

Salig says his focus is on improving understanding of what being on the autism spectrum really means and what is required to provide a better chance for children to reach their full potential.

"There is a misnomer that all children on the autism spectrum have 'genius like abilities'. Autism is a spectrum disorder so there are those on the high end as well as low and everything in between. There are many who are so debilitated they live at home and need caregiver support daily."

Salig says he misses the 'buzz' of home but for now the efficiency, safety, opportunity and beauty of the United States together with state-of-the art therapies and leading education philosophies at the Els Center of Excellence, will keep him and Vasantha where they are. ■

– Colleen Dardagan

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT FOR THIS JAZZ ARTIST

UKZN ALUMNUS AND JAZZ MUSICIAN MR SIBUSISO 'MASH' MASHILOANE HAS BECOME AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL JAZZ SCENE.



South African jazz musician Mr Sibusiso 'Mash' Mashiloane. Photo: Simanga Zondo

Having obtained a Diploma in Jazz and Popular Music in 2006, a B-Prac in Music Education and Performance, and his Masters in Jazz Performance *cum laude* in 2014, Mashiloane is now working on a PhD, which examines the feeling of home through a South African jazz lens.

Mashiloane (35) has fond memories of his student days when he was surrounded by senior students and lecturers who appreciated local composers and musicians, as well as students who were focused and hard workers.

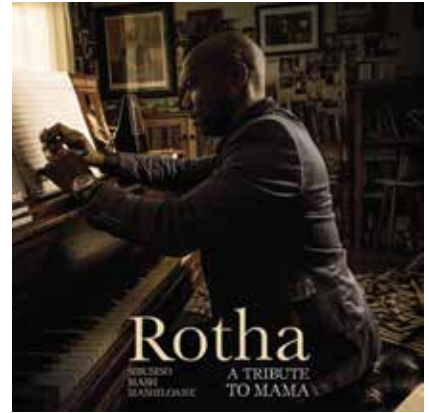
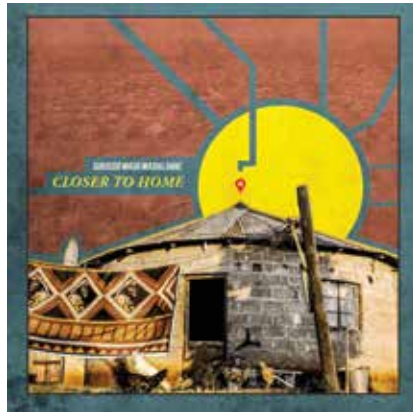
"It was drilled into me in the foundation level that nothing comes easy and that I wouldn't make it if I didn't spend extra time on my studies and especially with my main instrument, the piano. It was a privilege to be the first student in my department after the University merged to participate in an

exchange programme with international students and spend a semester at Rowan University (USA), where I achieved distinctions in all my courses," he said.

Mashiloane said UKZN had produced influential musicians at both national and international levels and he hopes to follow in their footsteps.

He and his band have performed not only on the premier stages of the South African circuit, but also at many major jazz festivals, such as the Cape Town International Jazz Festival. As a pianist he has appeared with many different groups around the world and has also initiated his own projects.

A lecturer at UKZN and the Durban Music School, his focus is to teach and organise live music performances with his students focusing on South African composers.



Mashiloane's third album, *Closer to Home*, was nominated this year for a South African Music Award (SAMA) in the category Best Jazz Album.

"I felt very proud to be recognised locally. *Closer to Home* aims to make South Africans aware of our unique and profound music heritage."

His album, *Amanz' Olwandle* was named the Best Jazz Album in 2017 and he received the Best African Jazz Artist award for *Rotha, Tribute to Mama* in 2018. In 2019, *Closer to Home* earned him the Best Male Jazz award.

Mashiloane, who writes his own music, said that his love for jazz and the gift to perform are what inspired him to enter the music industry.

"I draw inspiration from nature, life events, time and space, music information, the sound of instruments and the colleagues I work with."

His favourite local and international artists include Busi Mhlongo, Bheki Mseleku, Andile Yenana, Themba Mkhize, Omar Sosa and Robert Glasper. He hopes one day to receive a Grammy and a BET award.

"All my focus is currently on completing my doctorate on Musical Construction of Home by 2020. After this, I plan to take my music to the world by doing an international tour. My plan is to release an album every year for at least seven consecutive years. Later this year I will be releasing an album titled *Izayoni the Village*," he said. ■



Photos (left, above and below) by Simanga Zondo



– Taschica Pillay

ISIZULU GAINS A FOOTHOLD IN CHINA

PROUDLY SOUTH AFRICAN, MR MTHULI BUTHELEZI, IS SHARING A BIT OF MZANSI WITH THE PEOPLE OF CHINA BY SPREADING HIS HOME LANGUAGE, ISIZULU.

Buthelezi, who hails from KwaMashu in Durban, is compiling the isiZulu part of a Chinese and isiZulu textbook and dictionary.

Currently based at the Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU) in Beijing, China as an isiZulu lecturer, Buthelezi said that during his time as a student at UKZN the idea of being an academic did not appeal to him.

“As students, we saw academics as dull, uninteresting, and poor – not desirable at all,” he said. “It was only in my third year that I started to seriously consider postgraduate studies. I always thought that this was reserved for the privileged few, but thanks to the University’s transformational policies, I ventured into this realm.

“If it wasn’t for the student loans that UKZN distributes and its policies that prescribe that postgraduate funding should prioritise students from poor backgrounds, I would never have had the chance to pursue postgraduate studies and I would not be a lecturer today.

“After studying for an extended time, and after doing some work in the field, you tend to develop an ideology as a scientist, researcher, academic and human being. I am all about the preservation and the development of isiZulu as my mother tongue.”

Buthelezi’s part-time position at UKZN’s Language Planning and Development Office (ULPDO) during his postgraduate studies inspired his passion to develop isiZulu.

When he heard that the BFSU was looking for an isiZulu lecturer, he jumped at the opportunity. “The BFSU had embarked on a project to develop teaching materials for isiZulu. The isiZulu-Chinese textbook and the isiZulu-Chinese dictionary are a product of the grand project to develop teaching materials for isiZulu.

“I have taken some basic Chinese lessons, but of course, my level of Chinese is not sufficient to draft a textbook and compile a dictionary in Chinese. Whilst I work on the isiZulu part of the textbook and the dictionary, my colleague, Dr Xiujie Ma, whose grasp of isiZulu is fairly satisfactory, works on the Chinese part.”



Mr Mthuli Buthelezi.

The textbook includes sections on grammar, vocabulary and texts in the form of narratives and dialogue. The vocabulary section provides a list of words that shows the lexical categorisation, the noun classes and the definition. The text has been written in relatively ‘simple language’ and the isiZulu corpus, using wordsmith tools, has been drawn on for collocation and the meaning of some words.

Buthelezi said that the development of isiZulu in China is a watershed moment.

“It promotes preservation of the language and also strengthens diplomatic relations. China will soon be the biggest economy in the world, rivalling America. This is therefore an opportune time to develop isiZulu alongside Mandarin. There is a plethora of English-isiZulu dictionaries and textbooks. Now, for the very first time, we are creating isiZulu-Chinese material for teaching and learning,” he said. ■

-Taschica Pillay

ALUMNUS BLAZES THE TRAIL FOR WOMEN MUSICIANS

AWARD-WINNING SOUTH AFRICAN MUSICIAN, MS HOLLY WASSERFALL, BETTER KNOWN AS HOLLY REY, MISSES HER NIGHTS OUT WITH UKZN CLASSMATES AND THEIR TIMES WORKING ON GROUP ASSIGNMENTS TOGETHER.

Rey, who graduated *cum laude* with an Honours degree in Media and Communication earlier this year, said when students discovered she was a UKZN alumna, it created some hype.

"I got a lot of love on social media after my graduation. Students were definitely surprised and happy to find out that I was a fellow student," she said.

Rey added that her time at UKZN was phenomenal. "I enjoyed the student life and the diverse mix of students in my year," she said.

In an interview after her graduation, she commented that it was no easy task studying while touring. "I had to read my research at airports, in cars, planes and at the studio. Time-management was key!"

Rey is known for her hit songs, *Deeper, Joy, You* and *Bang Bang*.

She was the first woman in 20 years to take home the South African Music Awards (SAMA) Record of the Year award for *Deeper*.

"It was not until the following day that someone pointed out that the last woman to win was Brenda Fassie in 1999. I was shocked. It is difficult to understand how, with so many incredible women, with so many incredible songs, not one woman had won since 1999.

"People were not aware that a woman had not won for 20 years so breaking through the barrier has been incredibly well received. It came at the right time. There is a massive shift in the industry and women are taking their place and making their mark. Young artists like Sho Madjozi, Shekhinah, Jimmy and Moonchild are owning their space and dominating the charts," said Rey.

Asked what inspires her music, Rey said it is sometimes the



Ms Holly Rey.

beat or a concept, or something that she has gone through. "My upcoming EP [extended play record] is all about how I found love, discovered that it was the wrong love, struggled to get over it, and struggled to trust and find love again."

Her dream is to see South African women taking the lead in the South African music industry. ■

-Taschica Pillay

SEVEN MARATHONS IN SEVEN DAYS ON SEVEN CONTINENTS!

UKZN PSYCHOLOGY SCHOLAR RUNNING IN SUPPORT OF UNDER RESOURCED-SCHOOL.

It's a huge challenge – bigger than anything she has taken on before – but Ms Nontu Mgabhi is confident her inborn determination to finish whatever she starts will see her complete seven standard marathons in seven consecutive days on seven continents.

Mgabhi has already secured more than R1.3m in sponsorship and by the time she takes her first step in the World Marathon Challenge – which will be on the icy surface of the Antarctic – she hopes to have boosted this to R3.5m.

The money, now accumulating in a trust fund, will go towards

additions and improvements at Khiphinkunzi Primary in Mtubatuba, a school close to the heart of 33-year-old Mgabhi.

The runs are part of the World Marathon Challenge event beginning on 6 February next year and if Mgabhi crosses the finish line in all seven in the required time she will become Africa's first woman to complete the gruelling event.

After the Antarctic leg, the estimated 40 participants will fly by charter aircraft to the starts of the other marathons in Cape Town (Africa), Perth (Australia), Dubai (Asia), Madrid (Europe), Santiago (South America) and Miami (North America).



On the run – Ms Nontu Mgabhi who has a marathon challenge ahead of her.

Mgabhi's training schedule is hectic and includes running between 100km and 120km every week on trail, sand and road routes. Her rest day is Friday which she often uses to go for a swim.

Born in Mseleni near Sodwana Bay in Zululand, she boasts six sisters and a brother, and parents James and Fikile Mgabhi, who she pays tribute to for supporting her in all her endeavours.

After completing her matric at Zenzeleni High School she was awarded her BSocSci degree in Psychology at UKZN, followed by her honours and master's degrees in the Discipline.

Mgabhi, who is the general manager of Human Resources at Richards Bay Coal Terminal on the KwaZulu-Natal north coast, says she plans to start reading part-time for her PhD through UKZN next year.

Sport never played a major role in her early life but in 2013 after a friend convinced her to take part in East Coast Radio's 10km Big Walk, she was hooked!

Ten months later, she was at the start of the Comrades Marathon which she finished in under 11 hours. Since then she has completed more than 50 marathons, five Comrades events with a best time of 8h:53m, three 100 Milers and has summited Mount Kilimanjaro.

She said she first encountered Khiphinkumzi Primary after entering a 100 Miler event. "The school was one of the institutions benefiting financially from the race. Later I was asked to visit the school to encourage youngsters to take part in sport and it was then I saw how short of classroom space and run down it was.

"When I decided to enter the World Marathon Challenge and received sponsorship from my employer and other institutions – including UKZN – I immediately decided to support the school."

Mgabhi said the money would be used to build five classrooms, two offices and to generally upgrade the infrastructure.



Ms Nontu Mgabhi

She is confident of completing the marathon challenge thanks to her training and discipline. "My philosophy in life is being committed and always finishing what I start. That is exactly what I plan to do in the World Marathon Challenge." ■

Organisations or individuals keen to contribute to Mgabhi's sponsorship can phone her on 082 839 6442 or email: nontu.mgabhi@icloud.com

– Greg Dardagan

MAKING A DIFFERENCE THROUGH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

BCOM ACCOUNTING GRADUATE, MR LINDOKUHLE DUMA IS HELPING REHABILITATED SUBSTANCE ABUSERS TO REINTEGRATE INTO SOCIETY THROUGH HIS INNOVATIVE COOKING AND BRAAI STOVES.

Duma, who grew up in Ladysmith in northern KwaZulu-Natal, got his first taste of working in community projects during his student days at UKZN when he served as project manager of Enactus.

Enactus is a global non-profit organisation made up of a community of student, academic and business leaders committed to using the power of entrepreneurial action to transform lives. It mobilises university students to make a difference in their communities while developing their skills to become socially responsible business leaders.

“I have delivered a number of talks at UKZN, have been invited as a guest in their student entrepreneurship programme, and have also facilitated a few programmes for the Graduate School of Business and Leadership,” said Duma.

After completing his studies in 2015, Duma founded Iziko Stoves, makers of innovative cooking and braai stoves that utilise wood, coal or any biomass materials as fuel.

The company’s main purpose is to assist substance abusers

to reintegrate into society after completing a rehabilitation programme. It targets individuals in state-owned drug treatment centres, who are guided over six weeks to manufacture the stoves, and are job ready after completing their course. Participants also receive guidance on starting their own business or registering for further studies.

“I realised early on in life that my passion is to change people’s lives and to create better lives in a sustainable way.”

His passion for social entrepreneurship and human development led to Duma being selected as the 2015/2016 LED Champion in the Regional and Local Economic Development Initiative co-ordinated by UKZN and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

His awards include the SAB Foundation social innovation award, Life Co UnLtd social impact entrepreneurs, the Inkunzi Isematholeni Youth and Business competition by Ithala Bank and the Yunus and Youth Fellowship, 2018. ■

– Taschica Pillay

Mr Lindokuhle Duma, a UKZN BCom Accounting graduate and founder of Iziko Stoves.



Some of the products manufactured by Iziko Stoves.



WOMEN AND TRANSFORMATION IN THE WORKPLACE

By Busisiwe Ramabodu

SOUTH AFRICA HAS COME A LONG WAY TO ADDRESS THE IMBALANCES OF THE PAST. HOWEVER, NOW AND THEN, INCIDENCES OCCUR THAT REMIND US ALL THAT THERE EXIST LATENT RESIDUES OF THE PAST THAT OFTEN CATCH US BY SURPRISE. THE CASE OF ADILA CHOWAN – WHERE SHE WAS REFERRED TO AS “AN EMPLOYMENT EQUITY CANDIDATE” – IS ONE SUCH EXAMPLE.

Such cases remind us of the latent views that still linger on and undermine progress made. Such views also undermines the individuals’ professional credentials and qualifications, which have been acquired through sheer hard work and having nothing to do with one’s gender or race. The findings of the Johannesburg High Court against the accused board member provides South Africa with hope and is exemplary against those who hold such latent views.

The reality is that issues of gender transformation still linger on, and studies have found that in South Africa and globally, women remain underrepresented in critical and leadership positions. The Higher Education sector is not unique in this challenge. Out of 26 universities, only four have females as vice-chancellors. At UKZN, the split between males and females at senior management level is approximately 35% female and 65% male whereas there are more females overall at the University.

Some challenges women experience in the workplace make it harder for women to rise through the ranks or succeed in their roles. Gender stereotyping expects women to be soft, emotional, submissive and nurturing while men are expected to be domineering and powerful. This creates a power imbalance where women who demonstrate leadership qualities such as dominance, assertiveness and self-promotion are perceived more negatively by others, including fellow women, while men are often reaffirmed for the same leadership behaviours.



Busisiwe Ramabodu.

GENDER STEREOTYPING EXPECTS WOMEN TO BE SOFT, EMOTIONAL, SUBMISSIVE AND NURTURING WHILE MEN ARE EXPECTED TO BE DOMINEERING AND POWERFUL.

Other studies have found that family demands can pose a significant obstacle to women's career advancement and leadership as women carry these more than men do. Women have also been said to underestimate their capabilities; ie women wait until they 100% meet the criteria before putting themselves up for a senior role; whilst it is said men put themselves up when they meet only 60% of the criteria, www.forbes.com

It is also important to note that gender transformation goes deeper than just gender. Judy Dlamini, in her book, *Equal but Different* found that women of different races experienced diversity differently i.e. "race was the dominant social identity for Black women, and gender was the dominant issue for White women" and class, generational issues, language and culture were deemed to be sources of prejudice for all women.

Considering where we come from with gender transformation, the laws and regulations that exists to enable it, the slow progress, as well as the contributing factors as outlined above, there are a number of things that need to be reinforced in order to see real progress:

- Respect for women is paramount. Respect is more important than empowerment because disrespect for women is often the source of prejudices they experience. Empowerment can be deemed to be condescending towards women because many of them manage to achieve great work in the midst of the prejudices.
- Stereotypes and unconscious biases need to be brought to awareness, challenged and transformed. Stereotypes and prejudices live within people; therefore challenging them requires introspection from individuals (men and women). We cannot address what we are not aware of.



- Women and men need to tear down past conditioning and socialisation that feed the perceptions and assumptions they hold about women.
- Women need to lift one another up. Someone once said that one's success is determined by how many more women they bring to the table once they are there. Platforms for networking, sharing knowledge and experiences must be created to achieve this.
- More men need to come to the party during conversations on gender issues. It is pleasing to note that a growing number of men are beginning to take matters of gender equality to heart. ■

Mrs Busisiwe Ramabodu is the Director: Human Resources Development at UKZN. She writes this piece in her personal capacity.

This opinion piece appeared in UKZNdabaOnline as part of the UKZN Voices series.



OPINION PIECE

NHI – WHAT DO WE NEED TO WATCH OUT FOR?

Dr Bernhard Gaede

THE DEBATE ON NHI IS GAINING MOMENTUM IN SOUTH AFRICA. DR BERNHARD GAEDE IDENTIFIES WHAT HE BELIEVES ARE 'RED FLAGS' IN THE LATEST BILL.



Much of the discussion on National Health Insurance (NHI) has been relatively dry and focuses on the policy. What is often forgotten is that this is about the real, lived experience of individual people, poor and rich, in how they access health care. And it is about all the people in the whole country which the NHI should put at its centre!

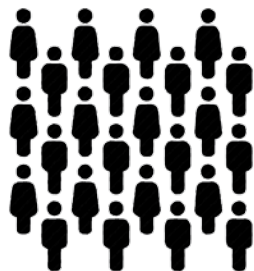
There is no question that health care funding requires reform. International evidence suggests that a coherent health financing model is critical for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) which is a key strategy of the World Health Organization and is articulated strongly in the preamble to the NHI Bill. There is strong evidence, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, that the health of a country significantly improves if UHC is implemented.

The profound inequity of financing between public and private care has been a key feature of the South African health care system, with similar amounts of money spent in these sectors even though the public sector services approximately 80% of the population, while private health care services around 20% (and decreasing). The poor state of the public

sector and the slow pace of improvement has drawn sharp criticism. Yet, repeated diagnostics over the years – including the Presidential Health Summit last year – pointed to profound systemic failures in the way health care is being provided, rather than simply being a funding crisis or failure on the part of individuals.

The private sector is also under significant strain. The inquiry into the health care market by the Competition Commission report released in September 2019, noted that the private sector itself admitted that the current model of health care provision is unsustainable. The sector is bloated, very expensive and focused on high-cost, specialised treatments. As a sector, it does not address the health needs of most of the people in the country and has not taken significant steps to fund health prevention and promotion. The 'trickle down' idea of the free market will never reach the poorest people in our society.

PUBLIC SECTOR SERVICES
± **80%**
OF THE POPULATION



PRIVATE HEALTH CARE SERVICES
± **20%**
(AND DECREASING)

Finally, the levels of corruption in both the private and public sectors are unacceptably high.

So is the NHI Bill the answer?

There have been extensive deliberations on the NHI over the years and responses to the latest Bill need to be viewed in relation to the larger engagements. It is crucial that we explore the details of the model in the proposed NHI and ensure that we find a workable model for South Africa. In the current Bill, there are a number of key areas that I believe are red flags. These issues have been raised before and if we do not carefully consider and adequately address them, the NHI is likely to fail. Some may be resolved in the 'implementation' phase, but we need to consider how the Bill – and the resulting Act – is worded to ensure that its intention is actually fulfilled. I highlight three of these:

Ensuring equity

While the explicit aim of the NHI Bill, as stated in the preamble and repeatedly referred to in later sections, is to work toward UHC and address the inequities of the past (and the present!), the Bill does not explicitly state how this will be achieved. What is presented is a structural model where health care is locally contracted and centrally funded. However, the current health care system reflects Julian Tudor Hart's Inverse Care Law, that states that: "The availability of good medical care tends to vary inversely with the need for it in the population served" – i.e., those most in need will receive the least care.

The move toward equity therefore requires an active focus on 'equality of outcomes' rather than 'equality of inputs' – and this is not reflected adequately in the current Bill.

In this context it may be useful to reflect on the performance of municipalities. Those with the greatest capacity and resources (that were historically bestowed) are able to attract and manage the most resources. Marginal municipalities (often in rural areas) who are struggling most with implementation and managing the local systems fail to reach targets and are perpetually disadvantaged. And so inequity is perpetuated. Studies indicate that the patterns of deprivation resulting from apartheid policies that are concentrated in rural ex-homeland areas have persisted and become entrenched under the democratic government. Rural areas are home to an estimated 40% of the population, but only 12% of doctors and 19% of nurses work there. The distribution of private health care (as a resource for the NHI) is even more skewed towards urban areas. According to the Health Systems Trust's District Health Barometer, this is reflected in the performance of health districts.

These are structural capacity problems that go beyond allocation of funds. In the context of the NHI, does sufficient local capacity exist to provide health care on a contract basis, as envisaged by the Bill? How does the Bill manage redress and ensure that deprived communities receive equitable health care provisioning and achieve acceptable outcomes?



RURAL AREAS
ARE HOME TO
±
40%
OF THE
POPULATION



ONLY
12%
OF DOCTORS
19%
OF NURSES
WORK IN RURAL AREAS



Linking financing with quality of care

The NHI is in essence a financing mechanism. While equity in financing is critical for equitable provision of high quality services, the link between better financing and improved services is not as obvious as it initially seems. In order to impact on the major epidemics of HIV and TB, violence and accidents and chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension, the health care system needs to shift from primarily a curative-orientated system to a more preventative approach that can address the social causes and determinants of illness. This does not mean that curative services should not be available, but we need to make the link between clinical services and community-level prevention and health promotion to break the cycle.

Contracting at sub-district level needs to be flexible and nuanced to address the health needs of the local population. While the Bill mentions that services should be 'orientated toward prevention and health promotion' it is inadequate in articulating the fundamental focus. Local capacity at sub-district level is critical for the improvement and transformation of the health care system. And linked to local capacity is the need for decentralised decision-making to manage care locally.

Oversight and governance

The NHI Bill should be read in the context of the recent Commissions of Enquiry that have laid bare the extent of governance failures in the majority of state-owned entities (SOEs) and funds. Yet, the proposed NHI bill is proposing governance structures that are similar to those that enabled the disastrous state capture to occur – centralising power in the ministry and specifically vesting decisions only in the hands of the Minister of Health.

The proposed Bill is therefore inadequate in light of what we are learning about how governance needs to be managed in South Africa in 2019. We need to learn from the past and move beyond centralising power around the integrity of one minister – at the whim of essentially (party)-politicised governance processes. We need systemic safeguards to

ensure transparent, accountable and ethical functioning at all levels of the system. This goes beyond concerns regarding corruption: imagine having another AIDS-denialist Minister of Health as the person solely responsible for appointing the NHI Board! The minister's power to appoint the NHI Fund board is a profound weakness in the current Bill.

And alternatives exist: Imagine a public, non-partisan process that has significant independence from the minister, to select (and review!) the board members of the NHI Fund?

Critically, for the NHI, such transparency and accountability will not only be needed at national level. Again, learning from the way local government has been implemented, we also need strong oversight and accountability at local level and need to protect local structures from undue political influence as well as corruption. Is there adequate oversight? Is there adequate capacity to link expenditure and contracting to high quality, risk-managed health care provisioning?

Conclusion

There can be no doubt that we need to move toward UHC in order to impact on the multiple pandemics that are ravaging South Africa. However, we need to learn from past failures of implementation and oversight. We are at a pivotal moment in the development of the health care system. The broad design of the system needs to be in place and to be sufficiently robust to allow more appropriate regulations to function and sufficiently flexible to be able to respond adequately to local needs. We must make sure that this does not turn out to be the beginning of large-scale corruption as we have seen with SOEs and the arms deal. ■

Dr Bernhard Gaede is the Head of Department in Family Medicine at UKZN. His interests include rural health care, health advocacy and health professional education.

**Disclaimer: The views expressed in this opinion piece are the author's own.*

UKZN Maintaining its Position Among the Top Universities in the World

WORLD RANKING SYSTEMS PROVIDE A GUIDE TO THE STATUS OF UNIVERSITIES

UKZN CONSISTENTLY MAINTAINS AND IN SOME INSTANCES IMPROVES ITS GLOBAL RANKINGS, SECURING A POSITION AMONG THE TOP THREE PERCENT OF MORE THAN 20 000 UNIVERSITIES WORLDWIDE.

Being in the top 400 or 500 universities globally, in the top four in South Africa and the top five in Africa is an achievement the University is proud of, although its goal is to do better.

Assessing the above standings, UKZN's Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Professor Deresh Ramjugernath says the Institution participates in a variety of university world ranking systems, including the most prestigious ones such as the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), Leiden Ranking, Times Higher Education World Rankings (THE) and the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Ranking.

"We provide the necessary information to some of the ranking bodies while others obtain information from research bibliometric data," said Ramjugernath.

"We fare very well on the majority of the about 18 world rankings, consistently maintaining our position in the top 500 of most of them. There are a few – those that place a high weighting on reputational scores – that we have slipped a little on because of the recent student protests and negative media coverage which was not good for our international image.

"When you look at world rankings based purely on academic and research performance we consistently maintain and in some instances improve our world rankings. In the Leiden Rankings, which are heavily weighted towards academic and research performance, we improved our rating and have moved into the low 400s position," he said.

"To be rated as a Top 500 university is quite an achievement taking into account that there are more than 20 000 universities in the world which participate in the rankings. We obviously

aim to do better but I think that in time as the impact of the various implementation strategies we have instituted at UKZN takes effect, we will start to see that improvement."

Ramjugernath said the one of the indicators that Times Higher Education World Rankings used was alumni profiles to rank universities and UKZN had placed in the world's top 250 in that indicator. "That certainly says something about the quality of graduates we are putting out and their impact in the world."

Professor Deresh Ramjugernath.



He said there had been criticism of the ranking systems but “whether we like it or not” they were here to stay.

“We realise we can’t gear our entire strategy around high world rankings but we must pay attention to them as they assist in establishing partnerships and attracting funding apart from being indicators of the research and academic performance of universities.”

Ramjugernath said good progress was being made in the area of the four Research Flagships established at UKZN late in 2017.

The first call for flagship funding went out late in 2018 and then towards year end, the first three flagship projects got off the ground.

They are: An Afrocentric Precision Approach to Control Health Epidemics (APACHE); Big Data for Science and Society (BDSS), and Optimal Child Growth and Development – Building Thriving Communities through Risk Reduction from Impacts of Nutrition, Environment and Social Constructs (OrCHID).

APACHE, which will leverage funding of more than R332m, links five different objectives and five different proposals involving a large team of local and international experts created to perform high-level science to guide health policies and provide a major health impact in South Africa.

BDSS, with funding of more than R77m, involves Big Data science, techniques and training in the initiative which has a multi-tiered approach aimed at creating a broad set of impacts across a wide range of disciplines and in several UKZN research flagships.

OrCHID, which has nearly R20m in secured funding, seeks to optimise child growth and development through the use of technological advances in risk characterisation and focused interventions on critical health outcomes addressing the challenges posed by the Sustainable Development Goals involving poverty, health and wellbeing, education, gender issues, and cities and communities.

The three projects involve staff from a variety of Schools across all Colleges.

While the three flagships were only launched earlier this year they have all reported good progress, according to Ramjugernath. ■

– Greg Dardagan

Flagship Projects

- An Afrocentric Precision Approach to Control Health Epidemics (APACHE)
- Big Data for Science and Society (BDSS)
- Optimal Child Growth and Development – Building Thriving Communities through Risk Reduction from Impacts of Nutrition, Environment and Social Constructs (OrCHID).



UKZN ALUMNI MAKE IT TO THE TOP 200 YOUNG SOUTH AFRICANS



A NUMBER OF UKZN ALUMNI ARE LISTED IN THE MAIL & GUARDIAN'S PRESTIGIOUS TOP 200 YOUNG SOUTH AFRICANS FOR 2019.

Science and Technology

Dr Charlette Tiloke (29)

Scientific writer, University of KwaZulu-Natal – Nelson Mandela School of Medicine, Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology

Always known for her passionate goal-setting priorities, 29-year-old scientific writer Charlette Tiloke, who works for the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Nelson Mandela School of Medicine in the University of KwaZulu-Natal, is living her dream life.

Her commitment lies in research innovation and cost-effective alternative therapies for people without access to therapy for a better life.

Growing up in the small town of Chatsworth in Durban, she was always able to achieve balance in her life and to this day, despite the demands of a significant academic career, she always makes time for sport.

She completed a BSc in Biomedical Science and an Honours degree in Medical Chemistry at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN). Her masters project, focusing on South Africa's medicinal plants and their synthesised nanoparticles was upgraded to a PhD in Medical Biochemistry, at the same university. Her high academic results and impeccable research acumen won her scholarship support from the National Research Foundation.

In 2017 Tiloke was one of two candidates from Sub-Saharan Africa to be awarded the L'Oréal-Unesco regional fellowship

for women in science, supporting her post-doctoral research.

She believes in cost effective therapies because currently the cost implications of chemo- and radiotherapy, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis therapies for the majority of the South African population is prohibitive. This, in her opinion, makes the development of cheaper alternatives such as plant-derived therapeutics, which have less side effects, more urgent.

Tiloke has published 16 research articles in accredited journals and two chapters in books, during her brief academic career, so far. Over the years, she has been actively involved in the co-supervision of honours, masters and PhD dissertations in the Department of Medical Biochemistry at UKZN and has mentored several other master's research projects.

An ardent netball and volleyball player, who takes all her passions as far as she can, she has represented the KwaZulu-Natal team in provincial, national and international tournaments. ■

– Nomonde Ndwalaza

Twitter: @charlette.tiloke



Science and Technology

Dr Philiswa Nomngongo (34)

Associate Professor, University of Johannesburg

It's important for supervisors to take the time to understand the students they are working with or training.

In reflecting on what led her to embark on a career in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) fields, associate professor Philiswa Nomngongo credits her school teacher who had a BSc qualification. This was the first person with a BSc that she had ever met, and she was intrigued at what it was and what possibilities it came with, particularly because most teachers at the time had Bachelor of Education degrees. She started off life in a small town in the Eastern Cape called Flagstaff, but today, Nomngongo is one of the young Black female leading researchers in the field of science and technology at the University of Johannesburg (UJ) with a specialisation in the fields of analytical and environmental chemistry, nanotechnology and medical geology.

She is a recipient of many awards including the most promising researcher of the year at UJ, L'Oréal-Unesco's women in science award and an award from the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World.

Nomngongo remembers being drawn specifically to the field of analytical chemistry because it gives her free rein to flex her creative muscles as she can explore the chemical and quality composition of anything – from food to the particles used in

children's toys – and break all of it down to its natural parts.

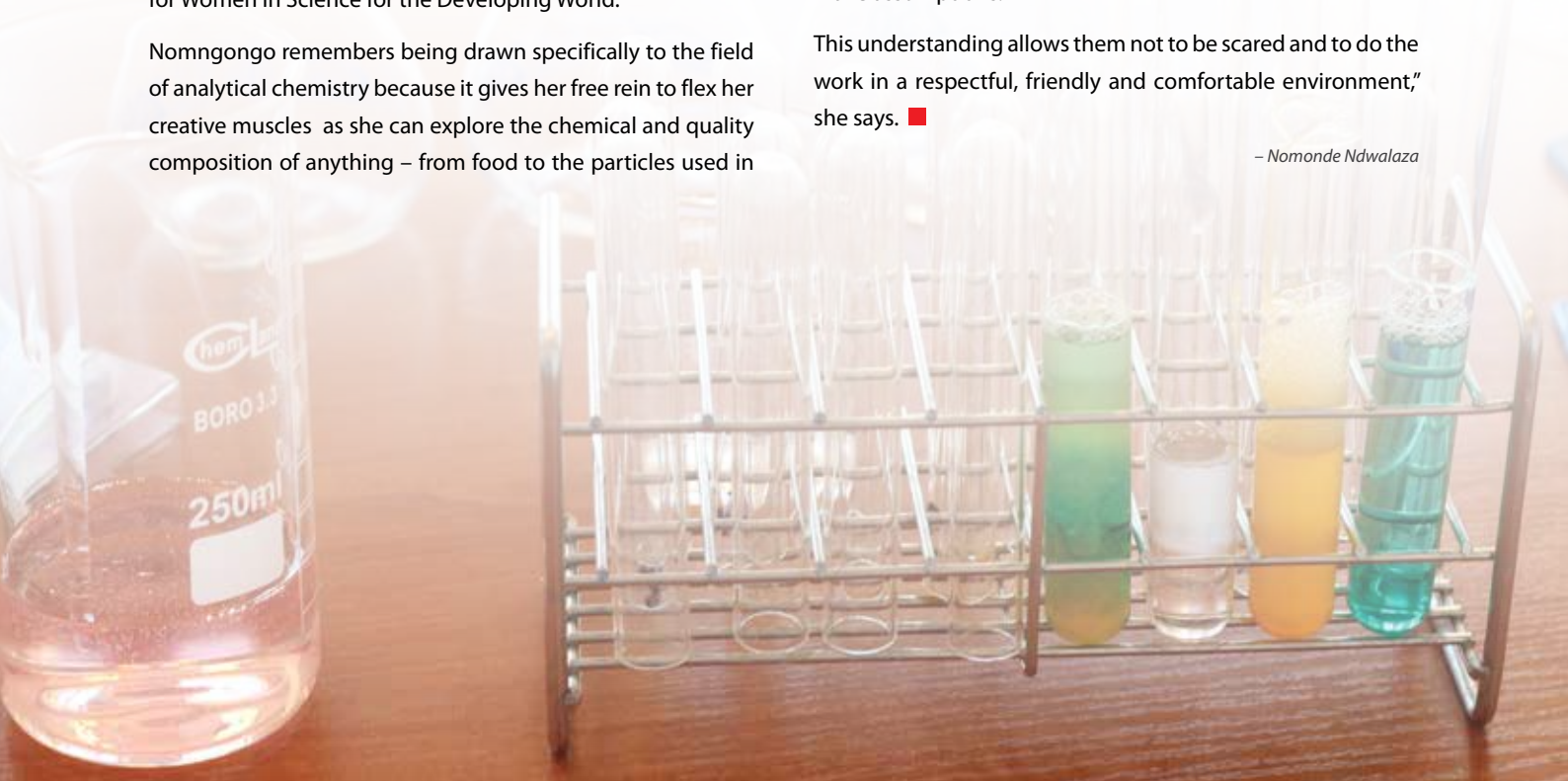
Her work also allows her to be intentional about developing young scientists and empowering young Black females from disadvantaged backgrounds through teaching and learning. This includes community projects for rural formally disadvantaged schools by providing teaching, training and participation in national science expo to promote STEM careers.

Nomngongo understands that for young scientists to flourish, they need an environment that is open and accessible, and is committed to helping them succeed.

She tries to do this for the students she supervises: "It's important for supervisors to take the time to understand the students they are working with or training, so that you do not make assumptions.

This understanding allows them not to be scared and to do the work in a respectful, friendly and comfortable environment," she says. ■

– Nomonde Ndwalaza



Science and Technology

Dr Sphumelele Ndlovu (32)

Founder, Indabuko Institute

Scientific research, which always poses challenges that require solutions, has given me an opportunity to learn new things and in the process, taught me how little we know.

Dr Sphumelele Ndlovu is one of five directors at Indabuko Institute, where he is the acting managing director. His role entails developing research proposals for funding requests in order to support the company's ongoing research and development on energy solutions. His work with the institute came after his selection as one of the 400 young scientists selected across the globe to participate in the 2016 Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting in Germany.

That opportunity brought with it a lot of publicity, which resulted in him being invited to the Union Buildings for a meeting with Silas Zimu, the former energy advisor and Dr Bheki Mfeka, the former economics advisor to the president, which led to the establishment of Indabuko Institute. Ndlovu notes that being able to put together a team of young, vibrant and talented scientists to form the institute, all in a space of less than 18 months, and still being able to gather support from the Department of Trade and Industry through their Technology and Human Resources for Industry Programme "was the biggest highlight of my career".

Ndlovu's deep interest in science and mathematics came out of the dire conditions he found himself in high school. "Early in my matric year, 24 of the school's 28 teachers walked out, leaving me and my peers to teach ourselves. I became

the mathematics and physical science teacher, as I had some experience in using the formulas. This helped me to pass mathematics and physical science, but just short of a matric exemption to enter university," he notes.

The University of KwaZulu-Natal's Science Foundation Programme enabled him to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics and Physics, after which he went on to do his honours and master's. He then applied for and was awarded a Professional Development Programme for PhD studies under the Space Geodesy Programme at Hartebeesthoek Radio Astronomy Observatory, a facility of the National Research Foundation.

"Scientific research, which always poses challenges that require solutions, has given me an opportunity to learn new things and in the process, taught me how little we know," says Ndlovu on what he enjoys most about working in the science field. He was raised by a single mother who sold chickens to provide for him and his brother, an experience he says propelled him to write and publish his memoir, *Aiming for the Stars*, a memoir of a village boy who plucked his science dream from the sky. ■

– Welcome Lishivha

Twitter: @SphumeNdlovu



Science and Technology

Mr Yanga Tekane (31)

Senior Engineer, Sovereignty Systems

I hope one day my talents and skill-set will allow South Africa to be producers of technology competing with countries like America and China not just being consumers of technology.

The 31-year-old senior engineer at Sovereignty Systems always had a very sophisticated instinct for 3D design, and he knows that engineering is a field that can take him in any possible direction.

But he didn't always know this. When Mr Yanga Tekane, who was born in the small Eastern Cape town of Whittlesea, finished grade 12, he knew what he didn't want to do. He knew he definitely didn't want to go into Medicine because his mother was a nurse and he had seen how taxing that was on her.

"A family friend sat me down and highlighted some things I had not taken note of before," he says. He was reminded of how he built a three dimensional wire model of the Apollo Spaceship from a picture he was given as a birthday gift when he was seven years old.

"Everyone was amazed because the picture only showed a third of the spaceship structure which only revealed one landing leg."

As a seven-year-old and with no prompting, he was able to figure out that there were three landing legs to this space ship. Later on, he built 3D wire models of spaceships based on a TV series he loved called 2040. It was obvious to Tekane's family friend that he should become an engineer.

And so he did. He went on to complete a Bachelor's degree in Engineering at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, a master's at the University of Johannesburg and he's currently busy with his PhD there too.



Tekane currently works as a contract and design engineer on a variety of engineering projects. As a contract engineer he gets involved in the initial

stages of the projects such as proposal documentation, rate and deliverable negotiations, client feedback, project scoping and work-scheduling, and sub-contractor sourcing and appointment. His work as a design engineer includes leading detailed feasibility studies and mathematical model design.

Tekane is a specialist in both fields of miniature aerial vehicle design and digital terrain modelling. Professionally he engages problems which require electrical, mechanical and geo-technical problem solving.

"I don't see myself as an electrical engineer," he says. "That restricts my capabilities. Rather, I see myself as an engineer capable of practising in all such fields equally."

Since 2014, Tekane has been building engineering capabilities for rural farmers in his spare time. This allows them to have running water for irrigation, sanitation and drinking. Tekane wants to continue using his skills to help develop South Africa's knowledge economy.

"I hope one day my talents and skill-set will allow South Africa to be producers of technology competing with countries like America and China not just being consumers of technology." ■

– Itumeleng Molefe

LinkedIn: Yanga Tekane, Pr Eng

Science and Technology

Mr Yoshlyn Naidoo (32)

Co-Founder and Chief Innovationist, CRSP dsgn

It's not about technology being in the classroom, it is about how that technology is used because we don't want technology to continue to be an added barrier for African children when they go and study further.

A number of education specialists have said that because South African school children's basic literacy and numeracy skills are so low, it is a pointless exercise to teach 21st-century skills such as computer programming and robotics. However, thirty-two-year old entrepreneur and engineer Mr Yoshlyn Naidoo's response to this line of thinking is that South Africa's education system needs to be changed radically, instead.

"Without trivialising the very real challenges of low literacy and numeracy skills, we need to realise that what we need in Africa as a whole is a complete change of mind-set," he says, referring to himself as an 'innovationist'.

"Africa currently has the youngest population in the world and these young people need to be raised to become our own innovators."

Yet he believes that Africa is still seen by the rest of the world (and to some extent by itself) primarily as a consumer of the world's products.

"It's not about technology being in the classroom, it is about how that technology is used because we don't want technology to continue to be an added barrier for African children when they go and study further. We need to expose them to technology as much as possible."

This realisation led Naidoo to cofound robotics company CRSP dsgn, with Thatho Moagi. Based in Pretoria, the company's mission is to increase access to quality science, technology,

engineering and math resources, while fostering 21st-century learning in South African classrooms.

Their current flagship product, the CRSP ROBO Educational Robotics

Toy Kit, is a range of affordable educational robotics kits developed to enable children in grades 4 to 9, to learn about electric circuits and create robotics inventions, in their existing classrooms.

For Naidoo, this is a passion project. After completing a Mechanical Engineering degree at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, he worked at an aerospace and defence company for five years. He was part of a team that won the greatest young system engineers of the year award from the International Council on Systems Engineering in 2015.

CRSP dsgn won the South African Breweries Foundation's social innovation award in 2016 and was recently a finalist in the Johannesburg edition of the global super league of start-ups competition.

Naidoo and his team completed a pilot of their product with over 1 600 educators and learners in the Ekurhuleni South district, in partnership with the Gauteng Department of Basic Education. The pilot validated the need for a resource such as their robotics kit across the South African educational landscape. ■

– Itumeleng Molefe

LinkedIn: Yoshlyn Naidoo



Education

Mr Mngqobi Banele Njoko (30)

Lecturer, University of Limpopo

I am very passionate about education, specifically for young Black South Africans from rural backgrounds.

Development and planning academic Mngqobi Banele Ntjoko has an impressive resume for someone so young. Just last year, he completed his Bachelor of Community Development Studies and his Honours in the same field; he was offered a scholarship from the German academic exchange service (DAAD) that took him to Friedrich-Alexander University in Nuremberg, Germany; and he was granted the Erasmus Mundus Scholarship enabling him to complete his master's in development management at Ruhr University in the German town of Bochum. But that's not all: he was also named one of the most inspiring graduates at the University of KwaZulu-Natal; appointed the academic development officer for UKZN's School of Built Environment and Development Studies, and published three articles in Department of Higher Education and Training-accredited journals.

"I have always wanted to change the socio-economic status of my family and it pushed me to work hard," says Ntjoko, who grew up in Estcourt, a small town in KwaZulu-Natal.

"As I grew, I drew inspiration from people who have come from challenging backgrounds and yet made successes of

their lives. Today, I am very passionate about education, specifically for young Black South Africans from rural backgrounds."

Njoko wants to change the face of academia in South Africa – the average employee in this sector is a 60-year-old White male. He believes this makes it hard for young Black people to believe that they can occupy the same spaces.

"I have the platform to inspire our students and it has given me the opportunity to show the university what we are capable of," he says. "My immediate plan for the future is to complete my PhD and then to further grow in the field of academia, particularly in development planning and management."

"Only you know what you want in life and what it needs from you," he concludes. "To be a success is an every day decision. You have to make this choice daily. My advice to young people is to remember that their backgrounds do not determine their future." ■

Twitter: @Mngqobi_Banele

– Tamsin Oxford



Education

Rev Mantima Thekiso (29)

Minister of Religion, Methodist Church of Southern Africa

I find it interesting that part of the human quest is to make sense of the role that faith plays in everyday life experiences.

At 29, Rev Mantima Thekiso is one of the youngest ordained ministers in the Methodist Church of Southern Africa. She brings a sound theological understanding and strong academic background to her role, making her arguably one of the country's most gifted ministers. She strives to empower young people through education and insight and is currently enrolled for her PhD in Theology. Thekiso's work challenges complacent dogmas and ideologies, introducing fresh ways of looking at theology and reaching young minds.

"I draw inspiration from real life faith encounters with women and men who seek to make sense of the world through the lens of their faith," she says.

"I find it interesting that part of the human quest is to make sense of the role that faith plays in everyday life experiences."

Thekiso is also inspired by theological education that seeks to challenge previously accepted forms of theological research, mostly male, westernised and elitist, which don't always communicate to the lived experiences of African people.

"My role, I believe, affords me the opportunity to use my convictions of faith and pair these with theological training

in ways that allow me to influence for positive change and the restoration of human dignity in the communities I serve, and to challenge

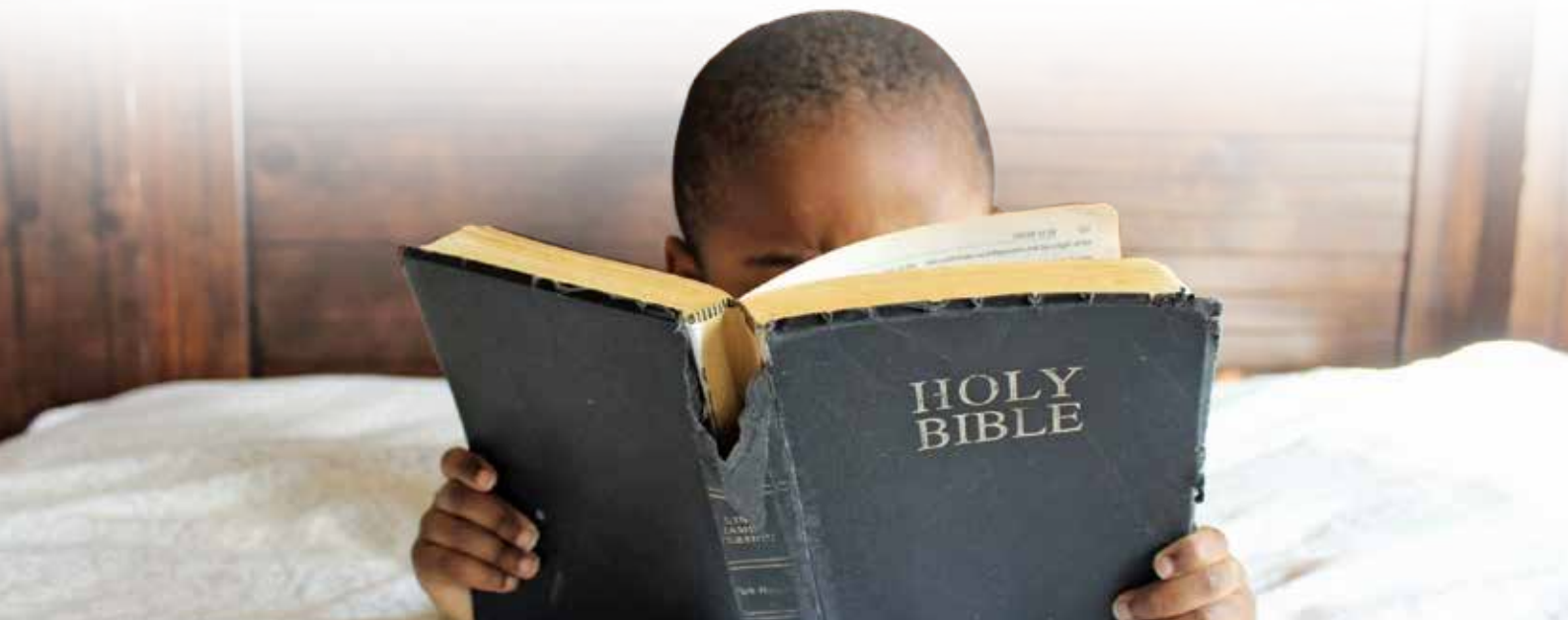
previous biblical readings which have contributed to the adverse treatment of those who are on the margins of society – women, children, the poor and the marginalised," she says.

Thekiso's passion is to work with young people and improve their quality of life in terms of moral regeneration and in encouraging participation. Her hope is to see people's lives positively enhanced through church participation while emphasising the role that religious education has to play.

"It is through this role that I find the space to be an active citizen in moulding our society," she concludes. "I plan to be even more involved in the education and training of those who seek to follow their calling into ministry and who wish to study theology for their personal benefit." ■

– Tamsin Oxford

Twitter: @_ntimi007



Health

Ms Candice Groenewald (32)

Senior research specialist, Human Sciences Research Council

Adolescent drug use and addiction is, sadly, a challenge that impacts so many families in South Africa. Ms Candice Groenewald is a senior research specialist in the Human and Social Development Unit of the Human Sciences Research Council in Durban. With a doctorate in psychology, Groenewald has dedicated her life of research to adolescent drug abuse and dependence. She examines how an individual's substance use significantly compromises the wellbeing of those closest to them.

Her PhD research investigated the subjective experiences of parents of adolescents with substance use problems, many of whom experience a lack of support, diminished hope and silent suffering.

She researches the best approaches to support parents to cope with their own distress caused by their adolescent children's behaviour, and how to provide support to the adolescents themselves.

Groenewald is part of the Affected Family Members' Network, an international network comprising researchers, academics, practitioners and family members who work towards providing support to families of substance users. As the South African representative of the "Five-Step Method", a support intervention for affected family members, she presented her work at the first international Affected Family Members' conference, hosted in the UK in November 2018.

"Adolescent drug use and addiction is, sadly, a challenge that impacts so many families in South Africa," says Groenewald.

"It is underreported and often not well understood in communities. Drug addiction is associated with other maladaptive behaviours, including violence, theft and other

forms of victimisation that families experience at the hands of the drug addict (in my work, the adolescent). When adolescents face these times of risk, parents are generally expected to know what to do. They are also blamed for their child's behaviour and many report experiences of shame and stigmatisation. All these devastating situations occur within a space where support is significantly limited but desperately needed.

"It is because of this need that I do my work. Parents need support to cope effectively with their own distress in order to be able to provide support to their child as well. Many parents suffer in silence and my work is not only to identify best practices to provide support, but also to enhance parents' voices and tell their stories." ■



Twitter: @cjrgronewald

Health

Ms Diantha Pillay (32)

Programme Manager, Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute

Scientist and humanitarian Ms Diantha Pillay (32) has dedicated her research in public health to improving the health and wellbeing of the most marginalised members of society, including sex workers, adolescent girls and young women. Her passions and her personality enable her to continuously seek out ways in which research can inform practice and policy for the betterment of society.

Having studied at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, she holds a BSc, majoring in Biomedical Science, an Honours degree in Medical Science, majoring in Medical Biochemistry with a focus on environmental toxicology, and a Masters in Public Health focusing on epidemiology and biostatistics. She is currently reading towards her PhD in Public Health at the University of Cape Town, looking at the intersections between environmental health and adolescent sexual development.

Pillay has 10 years of experience in research (on topics such as biomedical, clinical, operational and social science research on HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, female and reproductive health and safer conception).

In addition, she is a programme manager in the implementation science portfolio of the Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute, managing the Optimising Prevention Technologies Introduction on Schedule programme which focuses on providing technical support to the government and other stakeholders for the roll-out of new HIV/AIDS prevention methods, with a particular focus on adolescent girls and young women.

The programme provides the Department of Health with technical assistance for the provision of oral pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to populations most in need such as sex workers, adolescent girls and young women.

High on her priorities, Pillay believes in translating research into action, and has led two key pieces of research on the implant contraceptive and oral PrEP, that has had impact on a national level. Furthermore, she led another key research focusing on factors associated with initiation, continuation and discontinuation of oral PrEP in South Africa amongst sex workers

and men who have sex with men.

Through her engagement with the national Department of Health's PrEP technical working group, Pillay commu-

nicated research findings which resulted in changes in national programming. She also presented the research findings during an oral presentation at the 2018 AIDS Conference in Amsterdam, as well as the South African HIV Clinicians Society Conference of that year, which was the second international workshop on HIV and adolescents.

In December 2018, she won the executive director's leadership award from the Wits Reproductive Health and HIV in recognition of her work.

Beyond her formal work commitments, Pillay belongs to a faith-based group that focuses on safeguarding children in religious environments. She works actively with the group to develop policies and educate parents, children and other members of society on how to protect children from harm. ■

– Linda Doke



Health

Dr Tebatso Tebeila (34)

Head of Medical Affairs, Adcock Ingram

Dr Tebatso Tebeila has established herself as an authority on how pharmaceutical companies can ensure that they make responsible, universally beneficial use of the resources at their disposal. She has extensive experience in the areas of medical marketing, compliance, governance, pharma-covigilance, stakeholder engagements and research – including her time spent as a sub-investigator in the areas of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis clinical research at The Aurum Institute, a non-profit organisation in Johannesburg.

Having earned her Medical degree at the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal in 2008, Tebeila began her career as a medical intern at Leratong Hospital in Krugersdorp, spent a year as a community medical officer at South African military health, worked as a medical officer in paediatrics at Tembisa Hospital and an emergency medical officer at Mamelodi Day Hospital.

She now also holds a qualification in management of advanced programmes from Wits Business School and a Masters in Health Economics from the UPF Barcelona School of Management in Spain.

Furthermore, she is a board member of the South African Medical Technology Industry Association, an organisation working to promote and safeguard responsible and ethical technological innovation for the healthcare field.

Her career took her to the role of medical advisor for British multinational pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline, and she is currently head of medical affairs at Adcock Ingram, a position she has held since 2015. She has long been interested in pharmaceutical industry regulatory frameworks and health economics, but in her current role, she has been

particularly well-placed to reach a wide audience of the general public to address the harmful false medical information that's unfortunately all too common.

Tebeila has been a vocal advocate for the improvement of reproductive and sexual education, adamant that misinformation must be actively dispelled, and she is particularly concerned with women's health. In a brand collaboration by Adcock Ingram, Tebeila lent her expertise to an activation called The Vagina Shop, which aimed to empower young women to speak openly about health concerns previously regarded as taboo.

In 2017 she was invited, with key stakeholders to be a panellist at the first South African responsible business forum to debate the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 3: Good health and wellbeing.

"I believe that South Africans deserve the very best in health care," she says, "and I hope to be a key player, directly or indirectly, and in whichever role, in making this a reality in the future. 'The man who removes a mountain begins by carrying away small stones,' is a quote by William Faulkner that always reminds me that our daily efforts, though they may seem insignificant, will always lead us to great victories." ■

– Cayleigh Bright

LinkedIn: Tebatso Tebeila



Business and Entrepreneurship

Dr Cherise Dunn (33)

Co-founder, Africa Makes 3D Printing for Development Initiative

“We encourage African youth to resourcefully solve their own community-specific challenges using human-centric 3D printed solutions.”

Dr Cherise Dunn is one of the pioneers bringing 3D printing, additive manufacturing and design thinking education to everyday South Africans.

Co-founder of the Africa Makes 3D Printing for Development Initiative, Dunn is a serial entrepreneur. While completing her doctoral studies in cancer research at UCT, she founded an education consultancy that provides innovative entrepreneurship programmes for unemployed youth and adults, with a focus on emerging technologies.

Dunn was also instrumental in the establishment of, and was the lead ambassador for the Durban chapter of Future Females, a movement to inspire more female entrepreneurs and better support their success.

After researching social challenges experienced by African youth, she later cofounded the Africa Makes 3D Printing for Development Initiative. The project is a social hybrid enterprise that uses 3D printing for socioeconomic and educational development (#3D4D).

Dunn says the initiative started as a movement to empower disadvantaged youth in Africa by upskilling them in 3D technology for the future of work in the fourth industrial revolution (4IR).

“For us, this means equipping young people and adults with greater social and emotional intelligence and the

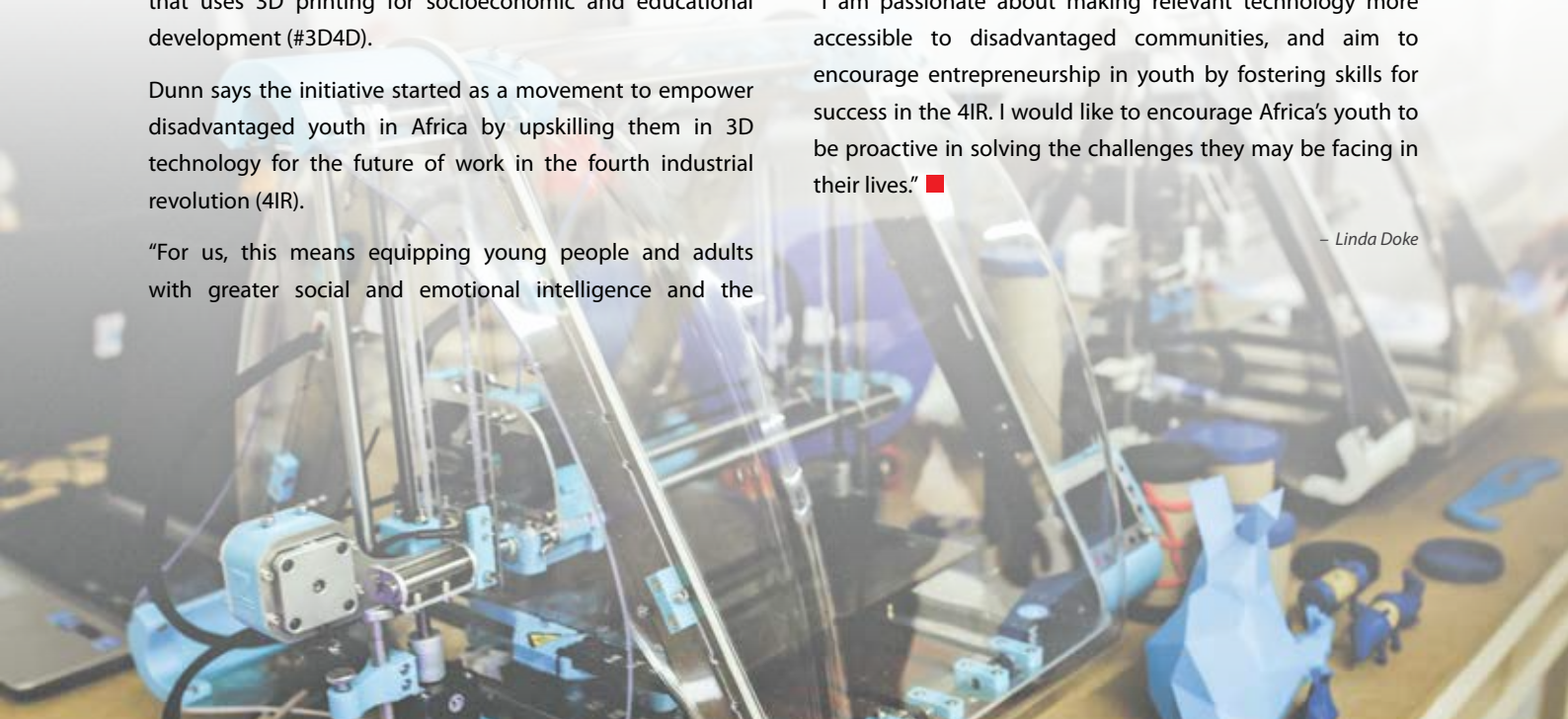
knowledge of the economic potential of exciting emerging 4IR technologies such as 3D printing and additive manufacturing. The

practical implementation skills to maximise the sustainable use of this technology in their communities is then crucial. We encourage African youth to resourcefully solve their own community-specific challenges using human-centric 3D printed solutions,” she says.

Recently Dunn was recognised by the US Department of State as one of the 4IR leaders in the world, and was nominated for the International Visitor Leadership Programme for Women in Entrepreneurship, the premier cultural programme offered by the US. As the only representative from South Africa, and the only techpreneur from the continent, she visited seven states during her extensive visit, engaging with numerous leading public and private organisations.

“I am passionate about making relevant technology more accessible to disadvantaged communities, and aim to encourage entrepreneurship in youth by fostering skills for success in the 4IR. I would like to encourage Africa’s youth to be proactive in solving the challenges they may be facing in their lives.” ■

– Linda Doke



Justice and Law

Ms Eveshnie Reddy (32)

Law Lecturer, University of South Africa

The risks cybercrime pose to individuals, corporations, government and entire countries completely fascinates academic Eveshnie Reddy.

Economically harmful cybercrime and the criminogenic risks of cryptocurrencies are her speciality as a lecturer in the School of Criminal Justice, College of Law at the University of South Africa (Unisa).

Born and educated in KwaZulu-Natal, Reddy was appointed as director of research for the Association of Certified Compliance Professionals in Africa (ACCPA), where she led the annual research projects. A fierce orator on the do's and don'ts of cryptocurrency, she's spoken about its risks at conferences in Kenya, Greece and the United States.

But Reddy is not a one track mind: She's also a member of Unisa's Women in Research project, which focuses on the role of women in criminal justice, and women who are involved with the Lekgotla La Batho project which looks at how customary law can be used in lieu of conventional judiciary processes.

Furthermore, she is currently pursuing doctoral studies in mercantile law with a thesis on the regulation of cryptocurrencies, as she believes technology has a great potential to assist the unbanked if it is supported by a bespoke financial regulatory framework.

She particularly enjoys the interdisciplinary aspect of research as it enables her to think across boundaries to devise innovative yet practical solutions to the issues she investigates.



"My current research areas – cybercrime, internet surveillance technologies and the regulation of crypto assets – requires me to delve into computer science, economics, law and criminology. Every research project is a new learning adventure," she says.

The best way to safeguard against cybercrime, she explains, is to know what you're getting into, yet people still reveal personal information too easily. It has become the norm for millions of people to share personal pictures and information on social media. This is extremely dangerous because hackers can use that information to locate individuals, which means that cybercrime has the potential to precipitate physical crimes such as human trafficking she warns.

Reddy has certainly chosen a field where she will never be able to declare that she knows everything there is to know, because cyber criminals are constantly evolving, giving her career built-in longevity.

"Beware of online investors who promise high returns of crypto assets over a relatively short period of time – these are actually Ponzi schemes and are on the rise in South Africa," she adds. ■

– Lesley Stones

LinkedIn: Eveshnie Reddy

Justice and Law

Ms Lerisha Naidu (34)

Partner, Baker McKenzie

Competition law is at the forefront of national transformation as it is core to the health of the economy.

Lawyer Lerisha Naidu initially wanted to fight for justice on behalf of non-profit organisations, until she was advised to join the corporate world to improve its social conscience.

The advice came from Justice Dikgang Moseneke, who Naidu worked for as a legal researcher when he was the deputy chief justice of the Constitutional Court. He told Naidu that businesses needed a social conscience to drive South Africa's transformation, and Naidu switched her interest to corporate law.

She's now a partner with the global law firm Baker McKenzie, and based in its competition and antitrust practice in Johannesburg. From that platform she works to ensure that companies apply their social consciences and contribute to the country's transformation.

"As a lawyer in a democratic dispensation that is comparatively young, I engage in cases that are pioneering and precedent-setting. This is particularly the case as a competition lawyer, where the layers of jurisprudence are still incrementally forming," she says. Competition law is at the forefront of national transformation as it is core to the health of the economy and to everyday consumers, whose socioeconomic rights are of paramount importance in a deeply unequal society, she says.

Yet, she still gets to help non-profit organisations, working pro bono as a small claims commissioner for organisations including Johannesburg Pride, Corruption Watch and refugee organisations.

Furthermore, Naidu heads her company's diversity and inclusion committee in Johannesburg, and is involved with the firm's corporate social responsibility projects. She was recently invited to participate in Baker McKenzie's global leaders investing for tomorrow programme for high performing women partners.

Naidu was named a next generation lawyer in the Legal 500 Europe, Middle East and Africa Guide 2017, and listed as up and coming in competition law in the Chambers Global Guide for 2019.

She also supports school career guidance projects to help inspire students interested in a career in Law.

She aims to continue building her profile as a world-class competition lawyer, listed on the local and global rankings. "My aim is also to build a team of world-class lawyers that feel empowered to build their own teams and to lead in terms of the true meaning of the word. I plan to contribute by raising my voice on the topic of diversity and inclusion," she says. ■

— Lesley Stones

Twitter: @lee.naidu

Justice and Law

Ms Livashnee Naidoo (34)

*Lecturer in Commercial, Shipping and Insurance Law/ PhD
Candidate, University of Cape Town/ University of Southampton*

Shipping is the invisible industry. It is pivotal to our everyday lives but goes relatively unnoticed.

Thirty-four-year-old Livashnee Naidoo is a lawyer in the shipping industry, with unusual skills, such as the ability to arrest entire ships and interrogate their captains.

This highly specialised area of law supports the maritime trade that is vital to South Africa's economy.

"Shipping is the invisible industry. It is pivotal to our everyday lives but goes relatively unnoticed," she says. "Through my research I contribute to furthering an understanding of the intersection between commercial markets and law, such as emerging technologies in the shipping industry and laws responding to that."

Her interest was sparked at school in Durban during maritime studies; she holds a Law degree from the University of KwaZulu-Natal and a shipping law specialisation from the University of Cape Town (UCT). She's since won several awards from the Institute of Chartered Shipbrokers including one for being the best South African candidate across several areas of maritime studies.

Naidoo initially practiced as an attorney and notary at a leading shipping law firm, then followed her passion for teaching and research by becoming a lecturer in commercial, shipping and insurance law at UCT.

"As a young attorney I enjoyed the 'cut and thrust' of a shipping law practice as there are so many dimensions. I

would board vessels, arrest ships, interview the Master and crew, and get involved when there were cargo claims and salvage operations.

However, I have always been an academic at heart. I love to teach and I thoroughly enjoy the rigour of academic research that contributes to making the wheels of this industry turn a little smoother," she says.

She's currently in the United Kingdom on a Commonwealth scholarship towards her doctorate in maritime law at the University of Southampton, relishing in the opportunity to present her research at various conferences, gaining her a reputation as one of the emerging future leaders in the field internationally.

Naidoo is on course to become the first female and the first non-White professor of shipping law in South Africa, and will soon return to her lecturing position in Cape Town.

She says studying for a PhD has helped her to grow both professionally and personally, and the knowledge and the international network she has developed will allow her to create a community of practitioners in Shipping Law that will put South Africa at the forefront of teaching and research in this area. ■

– Lesley Stones

Twitter: @liv_naidoo



Civil Society

Ms Thuthukile Mbatha (30)

Researcher and Activist, Section27

Having worked in the civil society space and in schools I realised that a number of children in disadvantaged schools are still following the same trajectory as I did and have to rely on their peers for sexual and reproductive health information.

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) as a relatively new HIV/AIDS prevention intervention has the potential to influence the decline of new HIV/AIDS infections if taken properly and effectively promoted amongst young people as an additional tool for HIV/AIDS prevention, says 30-year-old researcher and activist Thuthukile Mbatha.

Her PrEP advocacy project is aimed at ensuring that young women in Higher Education Institutions, are included in the country's PrEP roll-out plans. During her AIDS Vaccine Advocacy Coalition fellowship, where she was advocating for access to PrEP in Higher Education Institutions, she realised that there was no way of separating HIV/AIDS prevention from overall sexual and reproductive health issues because they are all interlinked.

She feels strongly about how women and girls have been subjected to a lot of social ills that have stripped them of these fundamental rights.

In 2017, a global movement called SheDecides was born as a response to United States President Donald Trump's Global Gag Rule, which prevents every country that is a recipient of American donor funding from providing access to abortion services. Last year Mbatha joined the movement as a friend of SheDecides and participated in regional meetings that were aimed at establishing SheDecides Southern Africa.

The movement advocates for the right to access abortion services and supports the right of every woman and girl to decide what they want to do with their bodies, without

question. Through her capacity as a friend of SheDecides, Mbatha was involved in the reviewing of the Southern African Development Community sexual rights and health rights strategy and Scorecard, which are the benchmark which countries in the SADC region use to measure progress in ensuring the realisation of sexual and health rights.

Mbatha's activism involves the use of lobbying on mainstream and social media as well as community mobilisation and research. It also informs the overall organisational strategy on sexual and reproductive health rights which can potentially influence litigation strategies.

"I grew up in a religious home where sex was a taboo subject," she says. "Our teachers were uncomfortable to even speak about menstruation. Having worked in the civil society space and in schools I realised that a number of children in disadvantaged schools are still following the same trajectory as I did and have to rely on their peers for sexual and reproductive health information. We have a lot of progressive policies and access to multiple interventions for a number of sexual and reproductive health matters that our people on the ground are unaware of."

She dreams of an HIV/AIDS-free generation, a world where girls and young women feel safe and free from gender-based violence.

In her spare time, Mbatha loves to travel, cook and dance. ■

– Welcome Lishivha

Twitter: @ThuthukileMbatha



♀ #SheDecides ♀

Film and Media

Mr Khulekani Dumisa (32)

Founder and Journalist, Khulekani on Wheels

I hope to help grow our economy and create opportunities for others.

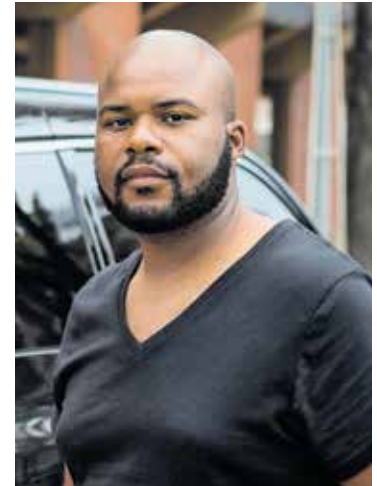
Enterprising 32-year-old Mr Khulekani Dumisa has created a career for himself that many will envy – he gets to drive new cars for a living.

He's broken into the elite world of motoring journalism through the back door, by setting up his own website entitled Khulekani on Wheels. It's become a platform that the car industry can't ignore, backed up by social media coverage on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook with a combined monthly reach of over 300 000 views.

Last year he was asked to join the judging panel for the www.cars.co.za awards, and he's recruited six other motoring enthusiasts for his team and hired a motoring journalism intern.

Technically Dumisa is a lawyer, he studied at the Universities of KwaZulu-Natal and Witwatersrand, specialising in banking and financial markets law; and he may return to the profession one day. Right now though, he's following a different calling: "I am exploring a new career and answering the call of entrepreneurship. I hope to help grow our economy and create opportunities for others," he says.

"If this dream comes true and what we are building succeeds, part of the growth would be to groom a successor. That will allow me to go back to law. To teach possibly. Maybe I'll start another venture. The prospects in this country are exciting."



Not many young people enjoy the same opportunities, he says, which is why he challenged himself to start a business that can generate jobs. He aims to hone Khulekani on Wheels into a leading social media-based motoring platform and to grow as an entrepreneur.

"I wish to create opportunities for writers, journalists, photographers, videographers and other creatives who are passionate about motoring to realise their dreams by creating some of the best work the industry has ever seen," he says.

It's also fulfilling his own dreams, of course, because he's passionate about cars. "I am immensely privileged to experience different cars, almost on a weekly basis, that every car lover dreams about," he says. "As much as people love all sorts of cars, the average person usually has to make a call on one car. I consider it my calling to arm the consumer with pertinent information so they are informed."

He knows that people spend hours conducting online research and wade through masses of information.

"We simplify the information and make it relatable. This empowers the consumer with their decision-making and makes the information readily available to them," he says. ■

– Lesley Stones

Twitter: @khulekaniOW

UKZN Co-Hosts Pan African Conference on Restoring African Dignity Through African Ideas



Delegates at the Pan African Conference on #AfricanDignity. Photo: Albert Hirasen

“Our history did not begin with colonisation. It did not even begin with the history of the infamous slave trade which lasted for over 400 years. Africa’s history has a glorious stance as the cradle of mankind”.

These were the words of former President of Ghana, John Mahama, when he delivered the keynote address at the Pan-African Conference on Restoring and Reviving African Dignity for the Africa we want through Advancing the History of African Ideas.

Mahama reminded delegates of the continent’s varied contributions to the global pool of knowledge. ‘Africa has a history that we all can be proud of based on resisting oppression, of learning centres such as Timbuktu, Carthage, Alexandria, etc, to which others from across the globe, came to acquire knowledge of art, science and technology and all its complexities. The pyramids of Egypt, the Kente cloth of Ghana, the astronomy of the Dogon people of Mali, the paintings in the caves of Great Zimbabwe, the writings of Somalia, the terracotta, iron, bronze, gold, silver intricate artwork found all over Africa are the story of a once flourishing civilisation,’ he said.

– Raylene Captain-Hasthibeer

Humanities Alumnus Features on SA Hit Song *Imbokodo*

UKZN alumnus, former Idols top 16 contestant, East Coast Radio presenter and musician, Ms Minenhle Ntuli features on South Africa’s new hit song *Imbokodo*, the opening track of House DJ Prince Kaybee’s Crossover Music Extended Play (EP).



From left: Hitmaker, Prince Kaybee; UKZN alumnus, Ms Minenhle Ntuli; and videographer, Blvcksteph.

‘The track is highly impactful and deals with an issue that is relevant at this time in South Africa where women need to reach out and achieve their dreams no matter what,’ she said.

– Melissa Mungroo

UKZN Community Says No to GBV

Members of the UKZN Executive Management, staff and students came out in their numbers to support the fight against the continuing scourge of gender-based violence (GBV) and sexual assaults on women and children during one-hour silent protests held on all campuses, and a night vigil on the Westville campus.

In his message to the University community, UKZN Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Nana Poku, urged anyone who experiences or witnesses any form of sexual violence, harassment, gender discrimination or bullying to report this immediately. ‘As a University we need to build a sense of community that will stand up to the pathology of violence that is prevalent on all our campuses. GBV and any other form of violence has no place at this University in particular and no place in society in general!’

– Sithembile Shabangu



UKZN staff and students held one-hour silent protests on all campuses in the fight against gender-based violence.

UKZN Spreads Mandela’s Love at Special School

UKZN’s College of Health Sciences, in partnership with the HIV Pathogenesis Programme (HPP) and the Information and Communication Services Division, spent 67 minutes with learners at the Ekuthuthukeni Special School in Umlazi on Mandela Day.



UKZN representatives spreading love and Ubuntu at Ekuthuthukeni Special School on Mandela Day.

Ekuthuthukeni is a public school for intellectually disabled children aged between six and 18. Conditions affecting the learners include autism, Down’s syndrome, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and a range of learning disabilities.

– MaryAnn Francis

UKZN hosts its 16th Golf Day



UKZN's Golf Day at Zimbali Golf Course. Photo: Itumeleng Masa

UKZN alumni, staff, students, corporate sponsors and friends of the University took to the Zimbali Golf Course on 5 September for a round of golf and to award scholarships to eight deserving students. Over R250 000 was raised this year for students from the 'missing middle'.

Speaking on behalf of the students, bursary recipient Mr Thabiso Jele said he was honoured and that the money would make a difference in his life. Jele also won a laptop sponsored by ICS in a lucky draw.

Sponsors included Standard Bank, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Investec Bank, First National Bank, DALRO, the Fairmont Zimbali, Travel with Flair, Serendipity Tours, LDM, The Dynamic Group, Nashua Communication, Shepstone & Wylie and The ProGroup.

– Raylene Captain-Hasthibeer

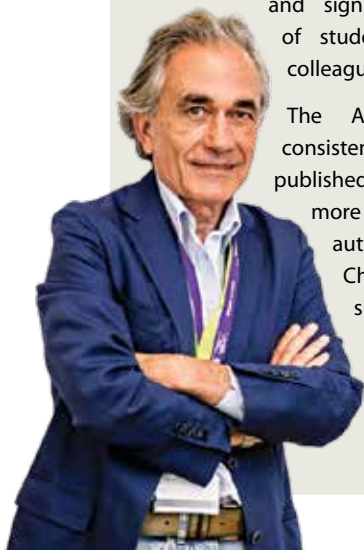
Prestigious American Peptide Society Award for A-Rated Professor

Professor Fernando Albericio is the recipient of the 2019 Murray Goodman Scientific Excellence & Mentorship Award from the American Peptide Society. The award recognises career-long research excellence in the field of peptide science and significant mentorship and training of students, post-doctoral fellows, and colleagues.

The A-rated scientist has featured consistently amongst UKZN's top 30 published researchers and has published more than 900 scientific papers and co-authored four books. He is Editor in Chief of several scientific journals and sits on the editorial board of others.

– Christine Cuénod

Professor Fernando Albericio, proud recipient of the 2019 Murray Goodman Scientific Excellence & Mentorship Award.



UKZN Hosts Campus to Campus Race – a Celebration of a Healthy Lifestyle

University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) staff, students and alumni participated in the UKZN Campus to Campus 10km race and 5km fun run on Sunday, 28 July.

UKZN's Executive Director of Corporate Relations, Mr Ashton Bodrick said the race has now been established as one of the must-do events on the road-running calendar, "This race sets the tone for many more Campus to Campus races to come and enhances the spirit of UKZN's tag line: Inspiring Greatness.

– Sithembile Shabangu



Participants at the Campus to Campus race.

Food Gardens at Mtubatuba School for Mandela Day

UKZN alumnus, Ms Nontuthuko Mgabhi, and Enactus members launched food gardens at Khiphinkunzi Primary School in Mtubatuba for Mandela Day.

Mgabhi appealed to alumni to donate their time or items such as vegetable seedlings, compost, fertilisers and tools to assist in developing the garden at the school. The call was heeded by UKZN alumni and staff who donated money, Friends of Agric also heeded the call, donating seeds and fertilisers.

To donate, please follow the link:

<https://www.backabuddy.co.za/khiphinkunzi-primary>

– Hlengiwe Precious Khwela



Ms Nontuthuko Mgabhi and Enactus students start vegetable gardens with the learners and staff of Khiphinkunzi Primary School. Photo: Andile Ndllovu

SRC Drives Collection of Sanitary Pads



The SRC hands out pads to female students in need. Photo: Andile Ndlovu

The SRC has launched a drive to collect over 10 000 sanitary pads for female students in need on all campuses.

SRC member and founder of this initiative, Mr Minenhle Meyiwa said he was moved to establish the drive after seeing his female friends miss lectures because they lacked sanitary pads. ‘What pushed me to start this movement is the financial challenges female students face in purchasing pads which affects them, not only academically, but also in terms of their self-esteem,’ said Meyiwa.

– Hlengiwe Precious Khwela

UKZN Hosts Dialogue on Gender-Based Violence



Deputy Minister for Higher Education and Training Mr Buti Manamela. Photo: Albert Hirasen

UKZN hosted a dialogue on gender-based violence (GBV) titled Ending the War Against Women in South Africa: Time for Action against Gender-Based Violence at UKZN on the Edgewood campus.

Deputy Minister for Higher Education and Training Mr Buti Manamela said that recent GBV events at universities and across the country are typical examples of what happens when a man believes he is “entitled” to a woman’s body. He added that GBV is a crisis in South Africa and that he is concerned about the growing number of cases reported at Higher Education Institutions.

– Melissa Mungroo

Research Reveals Raffia Palm Wine Benefits for Diabetic Men



Palm Wine.

Professor Shahidul Islam of the University of KwaZulu-Natal’s (UKZN) School of Life Sciences, together with two recently graduated postgraduate students Ms Rebecca Reddy and Dr Ochuko Erukainure of the Federal Institute of Industrial Research Oshodi (FIRO) in Nigeria, have collaborated on research showing that the consumption of raffia palm wine could guard against complications stemming from type 2 diabetes which affect male sexual organs.

– Christine Cuénod

Graduate Launches Maths App

UKZN Computer Science graduate, Mr Lloyd Gordon, launched a mathematical learning app, Open Omnia, to assist high school learners and university students struggling with Mathematics.

The 26-year-old boffin, who lives with his family in Pietermaritzburg, said the app targets learners from Grade 11 to university so that they grasp mathematical formulas better. He developed the app after seeing his peers struggling in class.

– Sithembile Shabangu



Mr Lloyd Gordon (middle, seated) demonstrating to students how his Maths app works.

Imbokodo – Women in Leadership



The inspirational Imbokodo Women in Leadership event at UKZN's Senate Chamber. Photo: Albert Hirasen

Entrepreneur, philanthropist, author and UKZN alumna Dr Judy Dlamini delivered the keynote address at the Imbokodo Women in Leadership event on UKZN's Westville campus.

Dlamini, a medical doctor who also holds a PhD in business leadership, delivered a presentation titled: Living a Purposeful Life, during which she emphasised the importance of education and investing in one's self. 'You are enough, but you can be more and do more by investing in yourself in all spheres of your life,' she said.

Dr Hope Magidimisha, the first Black woman to be awarded a doctorate at UKZN in the Discipline of Town Planning, delivered a dynamic presentation on: How to hold on to your Sanity as a Female Leader.

The occasion formed part of the inspirational and empowering series of lectures and events hosted by the Human Resources Division.

– Raylene Captain-Hasthibeer

Sisulu Delivers Dr Phyllis Naidoo Lecture

International Relations and Cooperation Minister Lindiwe Sisulu delivered the fifth Dr Phyllis Naidoo Memorial Lecture in the Senate Chamber on UKZN's Westville campus.



Minister Lindiwe Sisulu and the late Dr Phyllis Naidoo (archive pic).

Sisulu's address highlighted key international relations issues facing South Africa. Referring to the Freedom Charter and the foreign policy framework developed by President Nelson Mandela, she said human rights were a cornerstone of the country's international relations, while advancing the rights of women in Africa and around the world was another priority.

– Raylene Captain-Hasthibeer

UKZN Launches Books to Advance IsiZulu

The Language Planning and Development Office at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) recently launched two isiZulu publications to assist in the drive to promote the language as a vehicle in knowledge production and as a language used in Teaching and Learning.



Professor Langa Khumalo introducing the two new publications.

The works are: *A Glossary of Law Terms*, and an isiZulu poetry anthology, *Zidla Inkotha*.

Director of the University Language Planning and Development Office Professor Langa Khumalo said he was grateful to the leadership at UKZN for their commitment and support in the publication of the works. 'The Glossary will assist in isiZulu legal discourse and also allow students access to legal knowledge in a language they are familiar with.'

– Sithembile Shabangu

Successful Kickoff for 22nd Time of the Writer

The 22nd Time of the Writer festival, organised by UKZN's Centre for Creative Arts (CCA) within the College of Humanities, had a successful run at the Elizabeth Sneddon Theatre from 13 to 16 March.

Acting Director of the CCA and UKZN Performing Arts lecturer, Ms Liane Loots, said: 'The festival has made a commitment to let South African voices be honoured in 2019 as we move ourselves into the centre of our own ability to write ourselves and to write (alternative) futures for ourselves. This festival claims an activist space that joins with a growing South African (and African) discontent with outmoded and outdated ways of speaking truth to power.'

– Melissa Mungroo



Highlights from the 22nd Time of the Writer Festival. Photo: Val Adamson

PRICELESS GIFT FROM FORMER STUDENTS

BEING SEPARATED FROM THEIR *ALMA MATER* BY A TIME SPAN OF SEVERAL DECADES AND A DISTANCE OF NEARLY 10 000 KILOMETRES HASN'T STOPPED A SMALL BAND OF FORMER STUDENTS FROM SUPPORTING A NEW GENERATION OF SCHOLARS.



Members of the UKZN UK Trust include (back) Erin Bargate and Roger Smith and (front L to R) Penny Holmes, Lorna Nimmo and Tess Marsh.

For almost 30 years, the trustees of UKZN's United Kingdom Trust have been sending priceless gifts across the sea to hundreds of students who might never have had the chance to study without the financial support generated by this dedicated group of alumni.

The Trust is chaired by Roger Smith, a former *Daily News* political reporter who began his philosophy studies at the

Howard College campus in the 1970s. He also did a stint at the news desk at *Business Day* before emigrating to the UK in 1989.

"I would not have been able to afford to study at the then University of Natal had I not been awarded a special loan on generous terms from a charitable trust. I finished paying off the loan after moving to the UK, but I wanted to help others

less fortunate to benefit as I had done, to obtain a university education.”

He joined the small, independent charity in 1992, inspired by Secretary and later Chair, Margaret Thomas – a driving force behind the Trust.

“Sadly, Margaret died in 2006 after a long illness and I took over from her as Chair at that time. We do not have any staff or offices – all the work is done by unpaid volunteers, mainly the trustees themselves.”

The current trustees include Smith; Tess Marsh (nee Van Diggelen), Erin Bargate, Penny Holmes (nee Human) Lorna Nimmo (nee Dent) and Richard Cooper (who though not an alumnus, has been a trustee and supporter since 2004).

Smith says the Trust has a strong ethos of directly engaging the students that it helps, and feeding back information about their hopes and aspirations to donors.

Knowing that help is going to needy students is “immensely rewarding”, he says, but selecting them is a major challenge when the need is so great, but resources are limited.

“We have supported well over 300 students since 1991 so it is difficult to single out individuals. But Valoshnee Gounden, who later graduated with a Bachelor of Education degree, impressed the trustees with her commitment to teaching, while Sinenhlanhla Khumalo gave one of the most memorable and moving accounts of a student struggling to pursue her studies amid grinding poverty.

“She was studying for a Bachelor of Pharmacy degree, with no parents and only her grandmother to support the family.”

The Trust started with the modest ambition of helping one or two students a year but this quickly grew within a few years to about a dozen each year. It peaked at 22 in 2009 but in recent years has been around 12-14 each year.

“There can be no doubt that the period of turbulence at UKZN made our efforts to raise funds for the Trust more difficult as some alumni expressed disappointment and alienation over the stories they heard about incidents of violence and damage to property. But the campaign over student fees also underlined the huge need for financial help for students from



Members of the UKZN UK Trust (L to R): Roger Smith, Richard Cooper, Lorna Nimmo, Tess Marsh and Penny Holmes



Volunteer Kev Harris helps trustees Roger Smith and Erin Bargate to mail out copies of the Trust’s newsletter to alumni in the UK.

low-income families and the role the Trust could play in trying to improve the situation in its own small way.

“The vast majority of our donors are alumni living in the UK. Many have been settled here for a long time but still have fond memories of their university days and are committed to giving something back. We are very grateful to a few who make significant donations which make an enormous difference to the work of the Trust, but we also have been impressed by the number of people who are not particularly wealthy but who give what they can, knowing that they are making a vital difference to the lives of needy students.” ■

For more information, visit
<http://www.ukznuktrust.org>

– Tony Carnie

MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO ENABLE GREATNESS

ONE OF THE REASONS AMERICAN UNIVERSITIES ARE ABLE TO PROVIDE WORLD-CLASS TEACHING, LEARNING AND RESEARCH EXPERIENCES IS THEIR ACCESS TO DONOR FUNDS. ALUMNI GIVING ACCOUNTS FOR A THIRD OF THE DONOR INCOME GENERATED BY TOP US UNIVERSITIES.

Alumni support their *alma mater* to give future generations of students inspiring learning experiences. In South Africa however, less than 1% of all donations received by universities is donated by alumni. At UKZN, the trend is no different. The majority of donations to the Institution are sourced from corporates, foundations and trusts.


In order to continue to inspire greatness and to be a leading institution in Africa, we need modern teaching spaces, state-of-the-art research equipment, safe and adequate student accommodation, meals for all our students and a vibrant arts and sporting programme. State funding is insufficient to cater for all these needs.

Philanthropy is defined as 'the desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed by the generous donation of money to good causes'. Join your fellow alumni to promote the welfare of UKZN and its future generations of students by enabling greatness through your generosity. If you are unable to make a financial donation, you could use your business and social networks to link the UKZN Foundation with philanthropists, high net worth individuals and the corporate social investment (CSI) department in your organisation.

Donations in South Africa do not go unrecognised. The UKZN Foundation will issue you with a tax certificate which you could submit to SARS for a tax rebate (subject to the terms and conditions of the prevailing income tax legislation). ■


Professor Anesh Singh

Executive Director: UKZN Foundation



Food for
THOUGHT

- The UKZN Foundation Trust is managed by an independent board of trustees and exists solely for the benefit of UKZN. It is an independent, non-profit and public-benefit organisation.
- The Foundation offers tax relief benefits to qualifying donors.
- There is no top-slicing of gifts for operational costs. These are covered by a long-standing endowment. Thus, if a donor chooses to fund a student, every cent goes to that student. The same applies to projects.
- Donors can direct their gifts to specific areas, ranging from student bursaries and scholarships to access programmes and research projects across all Colleges.



Donate now!

The UKZN Foundation is the fundraising arm of the University of KwaZulu-Natal. The Foundation is registered as a non-profit organisation (NPO) and public benefit organisation (PBO) and is run by a Board of Trustees. Its sole mandate is to raise funds for the multifarious activities of the University. To find out more about the Foundation and how you could make a difference at UKZN, visit our website at www.foundation.ukzn.ac.za

Alumni Survey Findings



TOP 10 FINDINGS

7 828

NUMBER OF ALUMNI WHO TOOK PART IN THE SURVEY.

89%

PERCENTAGE OF ALUMNI WHO ENJOYED THE GRADUATION CEREMONY

79%

PERCENTAGE OF ALUMNI WHO SAID THEY HAD A GOOD EXPERIENCE STUDYING AT UKZN

CREATING CONNECTIONS

ALUMNI FEEL WE COULD DO MORE BY HELPING ALUMNI CONNECT WITH EACH OTHER. LOOK OUT FOR EXCITING NEW COMMUNICATIONS IN THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.



42%

OF ALUMNI SAID THEY WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER AT UKZN. WE WILL BE REACHING OUT IN THE COMING MONTHS WITH NEW ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT UKZN.



14%

OF ALUMNI HAVE ATTENDED A FACE TO FACE ACTIVITY IN THE LAST 5 YEARS. WE RECOGNISE THIS NEEDS TO IMPROVE AND WILL BE WORKING HARD ON NEW ACTIVITIES TO CREATE CONNECTING WITH YOU.



34%

WOULD CONSIDER LEAVING A BEQUEST TO UKZN, IF THEY KNEW MORE ABOUT IT, WE WILL SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.



80%

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HOW WE USE YOUR DONATIONS.



THE VALUE OF YOUR DEGREE IMPACTS

YOUR PERCEPTION OF UKZN THE MOST.

THAT UKZN RANKS IN THE **TOP 100** OF THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (THE) YOUNG UNIVERSITY RANKINGS!



It was fun even though at times it got hard. There was academic support when I needed it. It was a positive experience overall, and now my career is moving forward in a positive direction. Thank you UKZN.

– anonymous graduate of 2016



THE ALUMNI FEEDBACK SURVEY WAS SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO APPROXIMATELY 81 000 LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI IN FEBRUARY 2019.

INSPIRING GREATNESS



CALL FOR CLASS NOTES 2020

The Alumni Relations Office requests graduates to submit 'Class Notes' for publication in UKZN's alumni publication: UKZNTouch 2020.

'Class Notes' is a collection of short biographies sent to us by alumni from all over the world highlighting their personal and professional achievements. Through these notes alumni keep in touch and find old friends. We are eager to receive information from graduates for 'Class Notes' as well as profiles and articles for possible inclusion in the rest of the publication. You may include a high resolution photo of yourself.

Please submit all contributions (maximum 10 lines) by 30 June 2020 to the Alumni Relations Office,
E-mail: alumni@ukzn.ac.za, Fax: 031 260 2236 or post to: Alumni Relations, University of KwaZulu-Natal, 232 Mazisi-Kunene Avenue, Howard College Campus, Durban, 4041.



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INSPIRING GREATNESS

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

1960s

Tom Lambert – BCom'60, UED-PG'62 has very fond memories of the 1960s – especially the inter-varsity golf tournaments. He captained the 1964 team with Wally Pitt, Peter Crowther, Peter Gutridge, Mick Marriot, brother Dick, Peter Jacobson, Mike Coulter, Billy Rice, Mike Arnott, Ian McIntosh, Vic Matthews and John Lloyd.

Tom authored a book, *Chalk and Cheese* with 300 copies sold in four months. Now retired from teaching at Alexandra Boys High and leading Amanzimtoti High School, he is active in the Anglican Church.

1970s

Chris Hoare – BEcon'71 has written and published a biography of his famous and infamous father, 'Mad Mike' Hoare, who turned 100 on 17 March 2019.

Chris is Mike's eldest son. He attended Michaelhouse school and has spent most of his working life in journalism of different kinds. Working in his spare



time, it took him about 12 years to complete the book, which he describes as something that became his passion.

See page 77 of this issue of *UKZN Touch* for more on the book.

Email: partner@iafrica.com

1980s

David Kolitz – BCom'80, PG Dip (Acc)'82 is an Accounting academic, educationist, author and licenced solution provider for Colour Accounting International. He lives in Exeter, Devon in the UK.

David was formerly an Associate Professor in the Department of Accounting and Assistant Dean in the Faculty of Commerce, Law and Management at the University of the Witwatersrand. He is currently teaching at the University of Exeter.

He is the author of a number of academic text-books, including *A Concepts-based Introduction to Financial*



Accounting and *GAAP: Graded Questions*, both used at many universities across South Africa.

As a licenced solution provider for Colour Accounting International, he provides hands-on training in the fundamental concepts of accounting that is innovative, visual and colour-coded for schools, universities or corporates.

LinkedIn profile:

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/david-kolitz-5b32b83b/>

Email: D.L.Kolitz@exeter.ac.uk

Raeesa Mahomed – BA'89, BA Hon'91 studied at the then University of Natal for a BA degree from 1986 to 1988, with English and French Literature majors. In 1990 she did her BA Honours in Cultural and Media Studies, graduating *cum laude*. In 1989 she joined M-Net as the anchor person for East-Net. Raeesa moved to London in 1992, where she worked in television, and returned to South Africa in 1995. Since then she has worked in radio and television in a variety of positions, mainly presenting on air. She wrote



the screenplay and acted in the feature film, *For Better For Worse*, which was released in cinemas in 2010. She has also written articles for a variety of publications. Raeesa currently produces radio drama at Lotus FM, an SABC radio station. In 2016 she was certified as a Master transformational life coach and is a practicing life coach and motivational speaker.

Email: raeesa@lotusfm.co.za

2000s

Iresh Pillay – BCom(Acc)'02, BCom Acc (Hon)'02 studied on the Howard College campus and graduated with an Honours degree in Accounting in 2002. He completed his articles and qualified as a CA(SA) at the Johannesburg office of Grant Thornton. He worked there until 2007 until he pursued his career goal and ambition of working in New York City.

Over the next few years Iresh gained exposure to the world of financial services including clients in hedge funds, private equity, asset managers, insurance, banking and others.

As much as he enjoyed his time in the industry, Iresh's outgoing personality, coupled with his love for working with people, made recruiting a better fit. He started working at Nevis



Recruiting in December 2012, making partner after two years. During his time at the firm, Iresh placed candidates from associate to CFO level in various industries.

After five years at Nevis, Iresh decided to start his own recruitment firm, adopting a more innovative, creative approach to talent acquisition in the world of accounting and finance. He founded Eclipse Recruiting Solutions that is inspired by the concept of the perfect alignment of the sun, moon and earth, "just as we envisage to perfectly align the candidate with the right job at the right client".

Iresh's tertiary studies were made possible by a University bursary and financial aid.

Email: iresh@ersny.com

Mduduzi Michael Mtshali – BA Hons'04, PG Dip (Rural Resource Mgt)'07, MAgri'14 obtained an Animal Health Diploma at Owen Sithole College of Agriculture after he was expelled from the University of Zululand due to his political activities. However, he later obtained a Bachelor of Administration from the University of Zululand. He graduated with a BA Honours, a postgraduate Diploma and a Masters in Agricultural Extension and Rural Resource from UKZN. Mduduzi worked for the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and received the KwaZulu-Natal Gold Award and the National award for being the Best Frontline Public Service Employee of the Year in 2015. His work has been published by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC) and in the *South*



African Veterinary Association Journal. He went back to the rural area where he was born when he retired in 2016, and revived communal farmers' associations. As a member of the Adaptation Network Organisation, which is engaged in developing and applying the theory and practice of adaptation to climatic variability and change, Mduduzi is involved in bean production as part of efforts to mitigate global warming. His wish is to pursue a PhD in Agriculture. Mduduzi has been

appointed as an Advisor to the Agricultural Produce Agents Council by the Minister of Agriculture.

Email: mmmtshali2002@yahoo.com

Sandile Eric Gabela – BCom'07, PGDip(Mgt)'16, MCom'18 was born in Nkwezela (a rural area in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands) and matriculated with exemption in 1999 from Dumabezwe High School. He has a Master's degree in Management, a postgraduate diploma, a BCom degree and a number of diplomas and certificates.

Sandile is currently employed as Deputy Manager Supply Chain Management at the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature. He is the Founder of Nosindilee Community Development, a non-profit organisation that helps young people from his rural area to access information on



education, health, sport and career guidance. He serves as the Chair of the Edendale Hospital Board and of the Ingonyama Trust Board Internal Audit Committee. He also served as the Chair of Ingwe Local Football Association under SAFA Sisonke.

Sandile co-authored an article on the impact of public procurement reforms in KwaZulu-Natal and is planning on reading for his PhD. What keeps him going is seeing others succeed due to his input or assistance.

Email: sandile@nosindile.co.za

2000s continued

Rishan Singh – BSc Bio Sc'07, BMed Sc(Hon)'09 studied on the Howard College campus between 2004 and 2006 in the School of Environmental and Conservation Sciences. He completed his postgraduate degree at the Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine, and his mini-thesis focused on the action of a second-line anti-tuberculosis drug on multidrug-resistant tuberculosis. He was elected as a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society at UKZN in 2008 and was elected to

the Royal Society of South Africa in 2010. Rishan has worked at UKZN and the Durban University of Technology (DUT), and was also an intern at the National Research Foundation. In 2012, he was accepted for an internship at the Malaria Research Institute, under the South African Medical Research Council. His ORCID ID can be viewed at: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6185-235X>.

Email: rshnsingh@webmail.co.za or rshnsingh1@yahoo.com.

Hlengiwe Madlala – BSc'09, BMed Sc(Hon)'10, M MedSc'12, PhD Health Sc'15 completed a BSc in Biomedical Sciences at UKZN in 2008 and worked as a Medical Technician testing CD4 counts at Lancet Laboratories, where her passion for research was nurtured. Through NRF/DST innovation funding, she obtained her Honours, Masters and PhD in Medical Sciences at UKZN. During the second year of her PhD, Hlengiwe was awarded a European Erasmus Mundus Scholarship to pursue one year (2014) of her PhD in KU Leuven in Belgium.



Upon graduating, she secured a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in the Department of Human Biology in 2015 and was awarded an MBA by MANCOSA in 2017. Hlengiwe was appointed as a Project Coordinator in the Division of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCT and was recently awarded a Master of Public Health. She has now been promoted to the position of Research Officer. Hlengiwe has published nine articles in reputable journals in her field.

Email: hlengiwe.madlala@uct.ac.za

Shivani Poovalingam – BSocSc'10 majored in English and History. She is an experienced copywriter who has worked in the education management and advertising industries.

With more than eight years' experience, she is skilled in advertising, social media, editing, creative



writing, copy editing and writing. Shivani is also a key account manager and quality assurance professional.

Email: shivz25@hotmail.com

Skhulile "SK" Ndlovu – BCom'11 enrolled for a BCom degree at UKZN at the age of 16 and graduated with three majors, Supply Chain Management, Marketing and Human Resource Management. According to him, winning alone is not winning. Skhulile is a full-time entrepreneur and founder of Encore Real Estate, a boutique property company in brokerage (sales), property management, facilities management and property development. He also co-founded Ilitha Agricultural Engineering and Business with



two friends (Zuko and Zukile Xelelo) who are also UKZN alumni. Skhulile has corporate experience with international investment banks HSBC Bank and UBS Investment Bank. He was a member of Enactus at UKZN and was listed among the 100 Brightest Young Minds in 2013. In 2017, he was selected to be part of the World Economic Forum Global Shapers.

Email: sk@encorerealestate.co.za

Jim Matsho – MCom (Leadership Studies)'12 has more than 20 years' corporate experience spanning the petroleum industry, forestry, agriculture and consulting. He holds eight academic qualifications from various tertiary institutions. Jim is the Chairperson of the Khulanathi Forestry (Pty) Ltd Board; a National Skills Authority (NSA) board member and sits on the Boards of Trustees of community organisations uThungulu Community Foundation



(UCF) and Khulanathi Growers Trust. He is Group CEO at Moremogolo Farming (Pty) Ltd and serves on the National Forestry Advisory Council (NFAC). Jim also acts as a consultant for agriculture, forestry, rural development and land reform and serves on the audit and performance committees of local municipalities. He is a former Chairperson of the Black Management Forum in KwaZulu-Natal and is currently registered for his PhD. Email: jim_matsho@yahoo.com

2000s continued

Rasvanth Chunyllall – BA'13, BAHon'14, MA'17 was awarded his Masters in Media and Cultural Studies *cum laude*. His thesis provided valuable insight into the use of social media during the 2014 South African general election. Following his passion for writing, he worked as a copywriter at Educor, South Africa's largest provider of tertiary education, where he assisted people across Africa



to study and achieve their career goals. Rasvanth's adverts have been published in *The Sunday Times*, *Edgars Club Magazine*, the *Financial Mail* and *Equinox*. In 2018, he earned a Copywriting for Online Marketing Certificate from the University of Cape Town and was promoted to senior copywriter. He now writes copy for a leading digital marketing company. Email: rchunyllall@gmail.com

Sunday Adesoji Dare – BEd Hons (Ed. Psych)'13, MEd (Ed. Psych)'16, PhD (Ed)'19 is a Nigerian citizen from Ogbomoso South Local Government in Oyo state.

His advice that one should never give in to challenges that threaten to hamper academic



achievement could be applied to other areas of life. Sunday believes that life generally delivers what is demanded and that perseverance, sacrifice, discipline, hard-work, focus and Godliness will enable one to achieve one's goals.

Email: sdare14@yahoo.com

Matlhomola Innocent Moapola – BEd (ECD)'13 received funding from the Limpopo Department of Education to study for a Bachelor's degree (Foundation phase specialisation) on the Edgewood campus in 2009.

Following his graduation in 2012, Matlhomola was appointed to a teaching post at Ramongwana Primary School in Limpopo, where he still



teaches Grade 3. In 2015, the circuit manager recommended that he be appointed a 'Lead Teacher'. He works with other committed teachers, curriculum advisors, circuit managers, and other administrators to help both teachers and learners have a productive school experience.

Email: tlhokzy@gmail.com

Nontobeko Mthiyane – B BusAdmin'14, PGDip (MktSuppChMgt)'15, PGDip in Finance Banking and Invest Mgt'17, MBA'19 hails from Ulundi in northern KwaZulu-Natal. She attended Masibumbane High School and Thekwini FET College, Springfield campus where she graduated with a Public Relations Management diploma. In 2009 Nontobeko joined UKZN and enrolled for a certificate in Business Administration. She studied



further and obtained a Bachelor of Business Administration, PGDip in Supply Chain, PGDip in Finance, Banking and Investments and Master of Business Administration (MBA) in 2013, 2014, 2016 and 2018, respectively. Nontobeko currently serves as a procurement specialist at the University. Her future plans include working as an academic and as a company director.

Email: Mthiyaneno@ukzn.ac.za

Lindokuhle Shandu – BSocSc'18, BSocScHons'19 was born in Inanda and completed his high school education at Inanda Newtown Comprehensive High School. He is currently enrolled as a Master of Social Science (CFSD) student on the Howard College campus.

His greatest personal achievements thus far are his consistent academic achievements, earning lifetime membership of the Golden Key



International Honour Society in 2016, receiving a couple of bursaries and a scholarship in 2018 and being the recipient of the Richard Turner postgraduate Scholarship for Masters in 2019.

Lindokuhle was selected as one of two Criminalistics tutors at the Pietermaritzburg campus in 2019.

Email: 215009901@stu.ukzn.ac.za

2000s continued

Shaneece Chanderpaul – BSocSc’19 was born in Durban and received her Bachelor of Social Science degree *summa cum laude*. In 2017 she was one of five recipients from the College of Humanities to receive the prestigious Malegapuru William Makgoba scholarship. She was also selected as a member of the Golden Key Honour Society. Shaneece participated in the UKZN Exchange programme in 2017 and spent a semester at Wilfrid Laurier University in Canada. While there,



she volunteered through Nutrition for Learning at Cedarbrae Public School and St Agnes Catholic School where she had the privilege of watching theory in psychology come to life. In 2019 she was one of four students to receive the Dean’s Special Award in the School of Applied Human Science. Shaneece is currently pursuing her Honours degree in Psychology on the Howard College campus.

Email: 216052293@stu.ukzn.ac.za or shaneecec7@gmail.com

Yibrah Hagos Gebresilassie – PhD Mgt Studies’19 is an applied economist and an assistant professor of Economics at the Department of Economics, Adigrat University, Ethiopia. He received his MSc and BA degrees in Economics from Mekelle University, Ethiopia in 2010, and 2008, respectively. He holds a PhD in Management Studies from UKZN. His research interests

focus on health economics, rural development, food security and poverty analysis, impact assessment, and inequality of outcome and of opportunity. He has published several research articles in a variety of peer reviewed and open-access journals.

Email: yibhag@gmail.com

Armstrong Sphamandla Gumbi – BSc Marine Bio’19 is a Marine Biology honours student. He is an ocean steward and Youth for Marine Protected Areas Ambassador. Born and bred in Umlazi



Township, he hopes to make his mark in the world and improve the state of his township.

Email: 214507478@stu.ukzn.ac.za

Jauhara Khan – BOptom’19 comes from Kwa-Dukuza, Stanger. She matriculated at Zakariyya Muslim School in 2014 with 8As. Jauhara travelled to campus by bus for four years with many other students from her area and they forged unforgettable friendships and memories. Like many health science classes, her class was small and the students were so close that they called

themselves an Optomily. Following her studies, she joined the Spec-Savers Graduate Programme, where she was fortunate to interact with fellow young Optometry graduates from the University of the Free State and University of Johannesburg.

Email: jauhara.k08@gmail.com

Gafari Abiodun Lukumon (aka Lukgaf) – MSc’19 (cum laude), PhD Sc’19 expressed an interest in mathematics from a young age when he taught his siblings and assisted them with their Mathematics home work. He believes that mathematics is essential at all levels of education. He loves to



impart mathematical knowledge with a view to improving people’s thinking and enhancing the interest of low achievers in mathematics. His hobbies are teaching, learning and counselling.

Email: lukumongafaria@gmail.com

2000s continued

Luthando Molefe – BEd’19 holds many certificates of achievement from UKZN and other institutions, ranging from academic excellence, to community engagement/outreach and leadership skills/roles. In 2018, Molefe and seven other students were selected to represent UKZN, KwaZulu-Natal and South Africa in Berlin, Germany on a study tour



for Teachers in Training. In 2017/2018, he was ranked as one of UKZN's Top 40 Most Inspiring Students. He continues to be applauded for his active engagement in communities as a means of working for change.

Email: lumolefe4@gmail.com

Aveshin Naidoo – BSc '19 Eng (Electronic) is working as an intern at a renewable energy management company in Cape Town. He hopes to continue travelling the country and possibly internationally. The end game is to gain as much experience

as he can in as many fields as possible to forge a diverse and marketable skills set.

Email: av3shin@gmail.com

Noxolo Ngobese – BSoc Housing’19 is passionate about construction, property development and project management in the field of housing. Her goal is to help those in need by being part of the delivery of housing to the poor. During two internships with multinational businesses, Noxolo acquired valuable insight into developing and implementing projects.

She hopes to secure a place in a graduate programme that will provide commercial exposure and opportunities for progression.

Email: noxolonoxee@gmail.com

Yashna Sukdeo – BPharm’19 received her degree *summa cum laude* and is currently serving her pharmacy internship at Aspen Pharmacare (Africa's largest pharmaceutical company). She received many accolades during her studies, including the Golden Key International Honour Society Award, the College Vice-Chancellor's scholarship



awarded to the top three undergraduates in the Health Sciences, the Dean's Commendation every semester, a Peer Wellness Mentorship and the best Clinical Student award.

Email: 215005698@stu.ukzn.ac.za

Vuyelwa Quinie Qwasha – MBChB’19 was born in Bhungeni Location Lwandlana AA Ntabankulu and moved to Mthatha to complete her secondary education. She returned to Mthatha after completing her studies at UKZN. Vuyelwa received merit awards for Internal Medicine and Dermatology in 2018, and holds a number of other qualifications from various institutions. Her future goals include specialising in internal medicine and



possibly in cardiology or dermatology. She was motivated to become a doctor after the death of her father, Fani Frank Qwasha when she was just seven years old. Obtaining her degree taught her that one must never give up on a dream but must write it down and live to make it a reality.

Email: queveeque@gmail.com

ALUMNI OUT & ABOUT

8 MARCH 2019

Tour of Rosemary Ladlau's North Coast Garden

UKZN alumni were treated to a special morning when fellow graduate Mrs Rosemary Ladlau kindly agreed to give a tour of her renowned garden on the KwaZulu-Natal North Coast.

Ladlau, who studied on the Pietermaritzburg campus in the 1940s, is a flower arranger of international repute and a former chairperson of the World Flower Association, as well as an honorary member of the South African Flower Union.

She lives in her Beverly Estate homestead in Simbithi. Her garden, that she has been tending since 1947, was relatively wild when Ladlau first arrived and she undertook its transformation with focus and determination, creating a breathtaking sub-tropical oasis under a canopy of massive indigenous trees and attracting garden enthusiasts from all over the world.

She showered fellow alumni with her warm hospitality, providing refreshments both before and after the tour. Ladlau explained how she started the garden and how it was constantly evolving and changing. Fellow alumni were most impressed by



Mrs Rosemary Ladlau in her beautiful garden. Photo: Desi Halse

her vast knowledge of the various plants and by the beautiful garden that she has created over many decades.

– Finn Christensen

25 MARCH 2019

Durban Alumni Association holds Successful AGM

The Durban Alumni Association held its Annual General Meeting on the Howard College campus on 25 March. The meeting went smoothly, with a report by the Chair, Mr Robin Ralfe and approval of the Financial Report. The existing Committee members were all re-elected.

Guest speaker Mr Jon Bates presented an interesting overview of the history of the area surrounding Fordoun, an award-winning hotel and spa in Nottingham Road, from the time it was inhabited by the San to the current period. Fordoun was previously a dairy farm. It was encouraging to hear about the excellent relationship established with the local community as well as the many projects co-ordinated and sponsored in the area, such as the KwaZulu-Natal Crane Foundation.

The presentation was followed by a question and answer session and much discussion over snacks and drinks. A lucky-draw competition was held for a night's accommodation at Fordoun.



Ms Sapna Pramjee (left), Ms Naledi May (right) and DAA members. Photos: Nomcebo Msweli



The winner was Ms Sapna Pramjee who accompanied her parents to the talk. Hopefully, she will graduate from UKZN in the future.



– Finn Christensen

11 MAY 2019

Cape Town Alumnus Dinner

The Alumni Relations Office co-ordinated an alumni get-together in Cape Town on 11 May.

Guests were welcomed by Ms Normah Zondo from UKZN's Corporate Relations Division. They enjoyed an excellent three-course dinner and informative talks by Mr Fanle Sibisi, UKZN Convocation President and Professor Nana Poku, then Acting Vice-Chancellor and Principal, at the Twelve Apostles Hotel in Camps Bay.

Sibisi highlighted recent developments at the University and encouraged attendees to offer their support in any way possible, while Poku provided details on UKZN's future plans. Of considerable interest to attendees was Poku's mention of plans for the implementation of the digital classroom where students will be able to study at UKZN via e-learning regardless of space and time.

The event provided an enjoyable opportunity for alumni, donors and friends of UKZN to renew old acquaintances, meet



Cape Town-based alumni and UKZN staff at the alumni get-together.
Photos: Nomcebo Msweli

fellow alumni and be updated on developments at their *alma mater*. They went home with information packs containing a selection of University publications and a corporate gift.

– Finn Christensen

1 JUNE 2019

Strengthening Alumni Relations and Promoting Success

Relationships between UKZN and recent alumni – most of whom graduated between 2013 and April 2019 – were strengthened through a Job Skills Workshop co-ordinated by the Alumni Relations Office.

Facilitated by Dr Sheri Seetal, the one-day workshop attracted graduates from all four Colleges, with many travelling from various parts of KwaZulu-Natal to attend. Feedback received can be summed-up in the following response: "I enjoyed the training and I believe most of us feel this way. If we had been exposed to workshops of this nature more often, we would all have secured those dream jobs by now. Let's hope this wasn't our last interaction, I'm looking forward to more years of fruitful association with my University."

The workshop covered the job search process, job adverts, compiling CVs and covering letters, and interview skills as well as workplace related issues such as work ethics, customer care and office skills.



Workshop participants with Dr Sheri Seetal (standing third right). Photo: Nomcebo Msweli

A follow-up workshop on Leadership Skills was held in October.

The workshops are an annual feature on the Alumni Relations Office's calendar. The Office welcomes suggestions from graduates on other types of workshops they think should be held.

– Finn Christensen

3 JUNE 2019

DAA Talk and Presentation by Daniel Dolpire on South Africa's Crane Species

Mr Daniel Dolpire presented an interesting and informative talk on South Africa's crane species to the UKZN Durban Alumni Association on the Howard College campus in June. The 70 attendees were in awe of the beautiful photographs taken by Dolpire, who talked about the lifestyle of the three crane species – including South Africa's national bird, the Blue Crane. He

spoke of his passion for cranes, his journey across South Africa to photograph these amazing birds and the 168-page book: *The Sentinels: Cranes of South Africa*, a collaboration between Dolpire and David Allan. The presentation was followed by numerous questions over drinks and snacks.

– Finn Christensen

12 JUNE 2019

Alumni Enjoy Film Screening

Fun was had by 120 alumni who attended a special screening of *The Sun is also a Star* at Musgrave Centre in Durban on 12 June.

Attendees represented diverse professions and all four of UKZN's Colleges. Each received an information pack of University materials and participated in a lucky-draw for UKZN mementos. These movie evenings are extremely popular and are an annual feature on the UKZN alumni calendar.

– Finn Christensen



UKZN alumni at the movie evening.
Photos: Andile Ndlovu



29 JUNE 2019

Durban Alumni Association Tour of Bazley Beach Garden



The Shangrila garden and UKZN alumni. Photos: Calvin Govender

The Durban Alumni Association co-ordinated a well-attended visit to the indigenous coastal garden of Charles and Elizabeth Forsdick (a UKZN alumnus) at Bazley on the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast. More than 150 alumni and friends attended the tour of the large, beautiful garden, with layout by well-known landscaper and recipient of an honorary doctorate from UKZN, Dr Elsa Pooley. The garden was a riot of colour, with aloes and other indigenous plants in full winter flower. The tour was most

informative, with Pooley explaining the stages, dedication and work undertaken to create it so close to the beach. Attendees were treated to a wonderful array of refreshments and picnic lunches and were invited to visit the beach after the tour. A number took advantage of the good weather and enjoyed picnics in the garden.

– Finn Christensen

20 JULY 2019

Alumnus Lunch on KZN South Coast

The Alumni Relations Office hosted UKZN graduates living on the KwaZulu-Natal South Coast at a networking and information-sharing lunch at Selborne Golf Estate in Pennington.

Mr Fanle Sibisi, President and Chair of the UKZN Convocation as well as Alumni Relations personnel were on hand to interact with guests.

Sibisi provided a comprehensive overview of the University and highlighted current developments, future/planned initiatives and the importance of giving back to UKZN.

His presentation was very well received by the 58 alumni with suggestions made that the event take place annually.

A lucky draw was held and information packages and UKZN-branded memorabilia were distributed to all guests.

– Finn Christensen



South Coast-based alumni at the UKZN networking and information-sharing lunch. Photos: Nomcebo Msweli

24 AUGUST 2019

Mpumalanga Alumnus Lunch

A group of 50 alumni from across Mpumalanga came together on 24 August for lunch and an information sharing presentation at Magnolia Restaurant in White River. The group thoroughly enjoyed meeting one another, swapping stories of their University experiences and exchanging contact details. UKZN appreciates their commitment as many had to travel for a number of hours to attend the event.

The graduates were welcomed by Ms Normah Zondo (Director of University Relations) who also introduced the guest speaker, President of Convocation Mr Fanle Sibisi. He provided a comprehensive overview on current developments at the University as well as information on student numbers, current ranking and research. Numerous questions followed, many regarding registration and funding for postgraduate studies at the University.

Amid much networking and reminiscing, a lucky-draw was held and information packages and UKZN-branded memorabilia were distributed.

– Finn Christensen



*Mpumalanga-based alumni.
Photos: Nomcebo Msweli*

ALUMNI

WHO PUBLISHED BOOKS RECENTLY

UKZN Alumnus Publishes First Book

Qualified Chartered Accountant and UKZN alumnus, Mr Christopher Smith, has published his first novel titled: *Blood on the Range*.

The book explores Smith's childhood fascination with the Western genre through the story of Nathan Todd, a tough, hard-working cowpuncher whose loyalty, quick temper and sense of fair play often get him into situations that test his mettle and his ability to survive.

'I read a lot of Westerns growing up and really enjoyed the stories of Louis L'Amour,' said Smith. 'He had such a passion for his genre and made you feel like you were living the story which is what I attempted to do with *Blood on the Range*. I want to bring back an interest in Westerns with my story and create a hero who was brave and strong but also with a lot of flaws and needing help to solve his problems,



somebody that readers can relate to rather than an unbeatable action hero,' said Smith.

The book – available on Amazon – took Smith two years to write and another year of editing before it was published. The financial advisor is already busy working on his second novel titled: *Staring into the Shadows*.

'My latest novel is a detective story set in Durban in the mid-2000s about a serial killer on the loose and two detectives who have to track him down. I also have a fantasy novel in the pipeline and a sequel to *Blood on the Range* is also bouncing around in my head.

'The best advice I can give to other writers is don't procrastinate. Set yourself the goal of writing at least 300 words a day,' he said.

- Thandiwe Jumo
Photos: Supplied

New book: 'Mad Mike' Hoare: The Legend by Chris Hoare

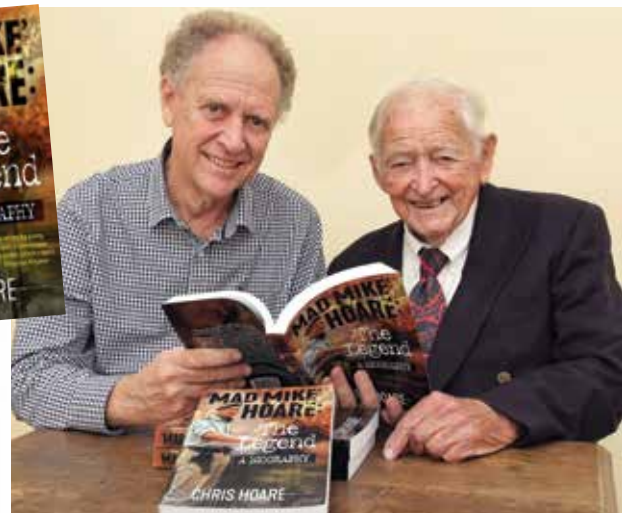
Chris Hoare's biography of his legendary and enigmatic father, 'Mad Mike' Hoare tells the story of someone he describes as "a gentleman adventurer, probably the last of that breed, with a bit of a pirate thrown in." His privileged access to Mike, who turned 100 in March this year, enabled him to separate the man from the myth.

Between 1964-1965, Colonel Mike Hoare led 300 'Wild Geese' across the Congo to crush a communist rebellion, rescue 2 000 nuns and priests, beat Che Guevara and become a legend and household name in the Western world.

Of Irish blood, he was schooled in England and, during World War 2, was the "best bloody soldier in the British Army". He demobbed as major, qualified in London as a chartered accountant and emigrated to Durban.

Going rogue, Mike started living dangerously, embarking on trans-Africa motorbike trips and bluewater sailing, exploring remote areas, and leading safaris in the Kalahari Desert. Here Mike got to know the CIA agent who was to change his life and Nelson Mandela's. He was a technical advisor for the film *The Wild Geese*, which starred Richard Burton as his character.

In 1981 Mike led 50 'Frothblowers' in a bid to depose the socialist



Mike Hoare and Chris Hoare.

government of the Seychelles. Things went wrong and he spent three years in jail for hijacking a Boeing 707.

Published by Partners in Publishing, the 320-page volume with an additional 28 pages of photographs is fully referenced and indexed. It is available in bookshops in Britain and South Africa with a recommended retail price of R395 including VAT.



CONTACTS & SOCIAL MEDIA



International and Lesotho Alumni Facebook Groups

UKZN's Alumni Relations office has created six country specific Facebook groups exclusively for graduates based in the **USA, UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Lesotho.**

The sites will allow graduates to interact with one another, access information on and from their *alma mater* and to receive invitations to events, suggest get-togethers and create a vibrant UKZN graduate network in these countries.

These Facebook groups are private and each group will be administered/monitored by Ms Desiree Govender, UKZN Alumni Relations. We encourage you to interact with one another and our office and to spread the word to other UKZN alumni about these sites. Should you require any further information, please contact the Alumni Relations office on email: alumni@ukzn.ac.za or govenderd@ukzn.ac.za. Ideas/suggestions on how to improve the site are most welcome.

Please go to: <https://www.facebook.com/desiree.govender.9> and send Desiree a friend request. She will accept your invitation and add you to your specific country group.

Alumni Relations Office

Address: 232 Mazisi-Kunene Avenue (King George V Avenue), Howard College campus, Durban, 4041

Phone: +27 (0)31 260 2958/2016/2823

Fax: +27 (0)31 260 2236

Email: alumni@ukzn.ac.za

Web Address: <http://alumniaffairs.ukzn.ac.za>



<https://www.facebook.com/UKZN-Alumni-100665579978579/>



<https://twitter.com/UKZNAumni>



Join us on UKZN LinkedIn!

The Alumni LinkedIn page has been closed. Join UKZN alumni and current students on the UKZN LinkedIn site:

<https://za.linkedin.com/school/university-of-kwazulu-natal/>





CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Identity Number: _____ Student Number: _____

Surname: _____ Maiden Name: _____

First Names: _____

Address (please tick the address to where correspondence should be sent):

Residential / Current Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Province: _____

Postal Address: _____

Post Code: _____ Province: _____

Home Telephone Number: _____ Cell: _____

Email address: _____

Degree(s)/Diploma (s): _____ Year of completion: _____

Campus attended (please tick): Howard College Pietermaritzburg Edgewood
Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine Westville

Residence at University: _____

Employer: _____ Position Held: _____

Work Telephone Number: _____ Email address: _____

Fax Number: _____ Direct Line: _____

Name of Spouse (*if a graduate of this University*): _____

Cell: _____ Email address: _____

Degree(s)/Diploma (s): _____ Year of completion: _____

Please return to: Desiree Govender – Alumni Relations
University of KwaZulu-Natal, Howard College Campus, 232 Mazisi-Kunene Avenue, Durban 4041
Tel: (031) 260 2958, Fax (031) 260 2236 or Email: govenderd@ukzn.ac.za or alumni@ukzn.ac.za

UPDATE YOUR DETAILS ONLINE: <http://alumniaffairs.ukzn.ac.za/updateservices.aspx>

DURBAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SUBSCRIPTION FORM – 2020

DETAILS OF PRINCIPAL MEMBER

Surname: _____ First Name: _____
 Identity Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Please cross (X) the relevant box below:

Membership Type:	University of KwaZulu-Natal GRADUATE Membership	
	AFFILIATED Membership	

Address: _____
 _____ Postal Code: _____
 Telephone: Home: _____ Work: _____
 Fax: _____ Cell: _____
 Email: _____

DETAILS OF ADDITIONAL MEMBER

Surname: _____ First Names: _____
 Identity Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Please cross (X) the relevant box below:

Membership Type:	University of KwaZulu-Natal GRADUATE Membership	
	AFFILIATED Membership	

Address: _____
 _____ Postal Code: _____
 Telephone: Home: _____ Work: _____
 Fax: _____ Cell: _____
 Email: _____

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION	COST PER PERSON	TOTAL COST
Principal Member	R50. 00	
Additional Member	R50. 00	
TOTAL		R

Please complete the above form and return with payment: **(CHEQUES** to be made payable to: **University of KwaZulu-Natal**, Durban Alumni Association) **DIRECT DEPOSITS:** Standard Bank, Account No.: 053080998 , Branch Code: 045426, Reference: Your Name & **8101 30063**

Please Return to: Nomcebo Msweli, Alumni Relations Office,
 University of KwaZulu-Natal, Howard College Campus, Durban, 4041
 Telephone: 031 260 2016, Email: mswelin@ukzn.ac.za



THE DURBAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (DAA) IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS TO JOIN!

WHO CAN JOIN?



The Durban Alumni Association has widened membership of the Association to include alumni as well as anyone who has been connected with the University in any way or simply has an interest in the University or the activities.

ACTIVITIES?

The activities (approx.: 6 per year) arranged cover a wide range of interesting visits and talks and all take place in KwaZulu-Natal. The talks are held on the Howard College campus and the tours/outings are within the region.



COST?



The cost of membership in 2020 is R50.00 per person – which simply covers postage of invitations. If you prefer email invites, membership is free.

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE?

Contact Nomcebo Msweli on: mswelin@ukzn.ac.za or on telephone 031 260 2016.
We look forward to welcoming new members and receiving ideas on interesting events to arrange.



THE ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE BUILDS AND MAINTAINS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY AND ALUMNI AND OFFERS THE FOLLOWING:

1. **An active Durban Alumni Association** – talks and outings are arranged on a regular basis for graduates in KwaZulu-Natal. The subscription form may be downloaded at : http://alumni affairs.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/DAA_Events_2019/DAA_Subscription_Form_2020_copy.sflb.ashx
2. **An Alumni Benefit card** – allowing all UKZN graduates access to any UKZN library at 50% of the normal annual fee. This card can be obtained directly from the Alumni Relations Office (Howard College campus) or through any of the five campus libraries. You may also email the alumni benefit card application form: http://alumni affairs.ukzn.ac.za/Libraries/Membership_Information/ALUMNI_BENEFIT_CARD_APPLICATION_FORM_2014.sflb.ashx and a photo of yourself to our office. Physical Address: Alumni Relations Office, University of KwaZulu-Natal, 232 Mazisi-Kunene Avenue (King George V Avenue), Howard College campus, Durban 4041. Contact: Desiree Govender email: govenderd@ukzn.ac.za alumni@ukzn.ac.za. Phone: +27 (0)31 260 2958.
3. **Regular updates and information on UKZN developments and activities** – via our monthly online/electronic newsletter, email, and the alumni website as well as Facebook and Twitter. An annual alumnus publication (*UKZNTouch*) is also posted to alumni or can be viewed here: <http://alumni affairs.ukzn.ac.za/publications/ukzntouchalumnimagazine2015and16.aspx>. Alumni are most welcome to make contact via Alumni Relations' dedicated email address (alumni@ukzn.ac.za) should they require University-related information.
4. **Invitations to exclusive events both on and off campus** – a number of annual off-campus events are co-ordinated across South Africa and internationally (the UK and the USA). These offer excellent networking opportunities for graduates and the chance to receive updates on their *alma mater*.
5. **The Alumni Relations office has the following UKZN contacts in the UK and USA:**

UK: Bruno van Dyk, Chairperson: Alumnus Association, Europe. Email: bruno.v.dyk@gmail.com

USA: Ambassadors: Mandy Dhillon (Howard College, 2008) and Cheetah Haysom (Pietermaritzburg campus, 1969). Email: usa.ukzn.alumni@gmail.com

6. **A daily updated career portal is available for our graduates.** The Alumni Relations Office provides a career 'Super-Highway' for our alumni that links you to the top companies in South Africa – including consulting and auditing firms, banks, and blue chip corporations. The portal lists available high profile jobs and career opportunities. It:
 - Provides information on a multitude of job opportunities in a single place so that you don't need to consult different sources
 - Names the different companies that are employing so that you know exactly who you are applying to
 - Allows you to apply directly to the employer by linking you directly to their career site

To access the alumni career portal visit:

<http://alumni affairs.ukzn.ac.za/Careers.aspx>

7. **An online update facility is available for easy access.** All graduates are encouraged to stay in touch with the Alumni Relations Office by updating their contact details, especially mobile numbers and email addresses. All information is strictly confidential, and will only be used by UKZN. If you experience any technical problems or are unable to find your name, please contact the Alumni Relations Office at alumni@ukzn.ac.za. Update your details online at: <https://ukznalumni.devman.co.za/devman/online/findme/>
8. **Find-a-Friend facility** – Get in touch with University classmates and friends! Try searching the Find-a-Friend alumni directory: <https://ukznalumni.devman.co.za/FindAFriend/>. If you experience any problems, please contact the Alumni Relations Office – Email: alumni@ukzn.ac.za

UKZN FOUNDATION TRUST LEGAL DETAILS

DATE REGISTERED: 27 MAY 2003 (From NUDF to UKZNF)
AMENDED DATE: 12 JULY 2013 (Amendment to the Deed of Trust)
NPO NUMBER: 030-967-NPO
PBO NUMBER: 9300 12812
TRUST DEED NUMBER: IT 589/03
TAX NUMBER: 0324 483 163

BANKING DETAILS

Account Holder: The University of
KwaZulu-Natal Foundation Trust

Account No.: 242 095 305

Type of Account: Business Current Account

Branch Code: 045426

Account held at: Westville

Swift Code: SBZAZAJJ

(To be quoted for international funds
to be received)



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL™
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

FOUNDATION



INDIVIDUAL - DONATION FORM

DONOR DETAILS

Title: Initials: Surname: Email Address:

Postal Address: Postal Code:

Phone (w): Phone (h): Phone (c):

Referred by:

Are you an alumnus of UDW, UND, UNP, UKZN ? Yes No

DONATION DETAILS

Please select the amount you would like to contribute monthly:

R100 R200 R300 R400 R500 R1 000 R2 000

Other amount (kindly specify)

Monthly Debit Date: 1st 16th 26th

or

Please select the amount you would like to contribute Annually:

R1 200 R2 400 R3 600 R4 800 R6 000 R12 000 R24 000

Other amount (kindly specify)

Annual Debit Month:

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec

I agree to an annual increase of: 5% 10% 15% 20% Other % (kindly specify)

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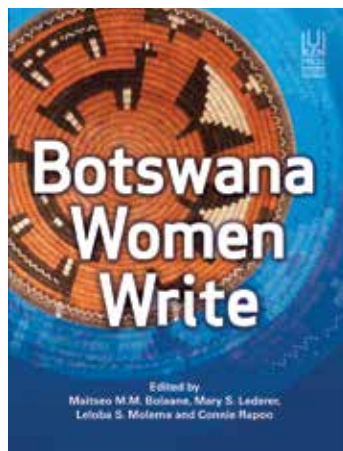
Recent publications from the UKZN Press

Botswana Women Write

Edited by: Maitseo M.M. Bolaane, Mary S. Lederer, Leloba S. Molema and Connie Rapoo

Botswana Women Write is the first anthology to cover a broad spectrum of writing by and about Botswana women. It provides a record of their lives both now and in the past, and of their thoughts about the joyful and difficult issues they face. At the same time, it reflects the richness and challenges of their particular social, political and cultural context. The fictional worlds created in the anthology echo those documented in the non-fiction selections, and they speak to the lived experiences of women in Botswana and around the world: family tensions, sexual conflict, domestic abuse, poverty and single motherhood are explored alongside descriptions of sexual pleasure, intellectual engagement, expressions of joy and assertions of a political presence.

The writers include women with international reputations (such as Bessie Head, Unity Dow, Lauri Kubuitsile and Tjawangwa Dema), women being published for the first time, and women who probably never expected to find their words reproduced in print. This book also covers a wide range of genres, from archival letters, court statements and speeches to



journalism, drama, stories and poems. It reflects the oral traditions that are at the root of Tswana culture as well as experimental and more conventional forms of literary style.

Maitseo M.M. Bolaane is an associate professor of history and director of the San Research Centre at the University of Botswana. She is co-editor of *Under the Same Sun: Parallel Issues and Mutual Challenges for San and Sami Peoples in Research* (2015).

Mary S. Lederer is a Bessie Head scholar and the author of *Novels of Botswana in English, 1930–2006* (2014) and *In Conversation with Bessie Head* (2019).

Leloba S. Molema is a senior lecturer in English and African literature at the University of Botswana.

She specialises in the introduction of literacy in southern Africa and is currently writing her memoir.

Connie Rapoo is an associate professor of visual and performing arts at the University of Botswana. She is co-editor of *New Perspectives in Diasporic Experience* (2014) and created a carnival initiative to promote Botswana's creative industries.

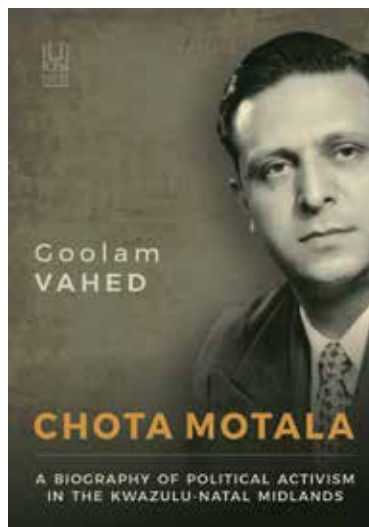
CHOTA MOTALA

A Biography of Political Activism in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands

Goolam Vahed

Chota Motala, medical doctor, family man, and political activist, lived out over eight decades of his life in communities that preceded, and ultimately succeeded, the hegemony of formal apartheid in South Africa. For most of this time, Pietermaritzburg, the capital of KwaZulu-Natal, was home to Motala, who helped to shape the politics of the Midlands and whose legacy is vibrantly woven into the city.

Pietermaritzburg spawned strong alliances between trade unions, political organisations and communities that cut across race, class and religious lines. This book examines



Motala's intellectual project and activism from his childhood years through to his role as an ambassador in the new South Africa, and throws light on poorly documented episodes in Pietermaritzburg's history.

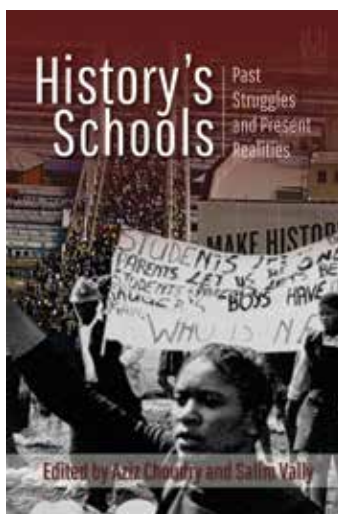
Goolam Vahed is a professor of History at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. His previous works, published with UKZN Press include: *Chatsworth: The Making of a South African Township* (co-edited with Ashwin Desai) 2012 and *Schooling Muslims in Natal Identity, State and the Orient Islamic Educational Institute* (co-written with Thembisa Waetjen) 2015.

HISTORY'S SCHOOLS Past Struggles and Present Realities

Aziz Choudry and Salim Vally

How do educators and activists in today's struggles for change use historical materials from earlier periods of organising for political education? How do they create and engage with independent and often informal archives and debates? How do they ultimately connect this historical knowledge with contemporary struggles? *History's Schools* aims to advance the understanding of relationships between learning, knowledge production, history and social change. This unique collection explores engagement with activist/movement archives; learning and teaching militant histories; lessons from liberatory and anti-imperialist struggles; and learning from student, youth and education struggles.

Six chapters foreground insights from the breadth and diversity of South Africa's rich progressive social movements; while others explore connections between ideas and practices of historical and contemporary struggles in other parts of the world



including Argentina, Iran, Britain, Palestine, and the US.

Besides its great relevance to scholars and students of Education, Sociology, and History, this innovative title will be of particular interest to adult educators, labour educators, archivists, community workers and others concerned with education for social change.

Aziz Choudry is Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair in Social Movement Learning and Knowledge Production in the Department of Integrated Studies in Education, McGill University, Canada. He is a Visiting Professor at the Centre for Education Rights and Transformation, Faculty of Education, University of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Salim Vally is Professor at the Faculty of Education and Director of the Centre for Education Rights and Transformation, University of Johannesburg, South Africa. He is also a Visiting Professor at Nelson Mandela University, South Africa.

OUR WORDS, OUR WORLDS Writing on Black South African Women Poets, 2000–2018

Edited by Makhosazana Xaba

This groundbreaking, multi-genre anthology answers the question: what did the literary landscape look like in South Africa at the start of the twenty-first century? It documents a slice of this landscape by bringing together the writings of over 20 contributors through literary critique, personal essays and interviews. The book tells the story of the seismic shift that transformed national culture through poetry and is the first of its kind to explore the history and impact of poetry by Black women, in their own voices. It straddles disciplines: literary theory, feminism, history of the book and politics – thus decolonising literary culture.

Our Words, Our Worlds covers expansive reflections: from the international diplomacy-transforming poem, 'I Have Come to Take You Home' by Diana Ferrus, to the pioneering publisher Duduzile Zamantungwa Mabaso; from the self-confessed closeted poet Sedica Davids, to the fiery unapologetic feminist Bandile Gumbi; from the world-renowned Malika Ndlovu, to the engineer and award-winning Nosipho Gumede; from the formidable foursome Feela Sistah, to feminist literary scholars V.M. Sisi Maqagi and Barbara Boswell. The collective contributions are a



testimony to the power of creativity and centrality of poetry in a changing society. This book is an assertion of Black women's intellectual prowess and – as Gabebe Baderoon puts it – Black women's visions of 'a world made whole by their presence'.

Makhosazana Xaba is an anthologist, essayist, short-story writer and poet. She has three collections of poetry: *These Hands* (2005 and 2017), *Tongues of their Mothers* (2008) and *The Alkalinity of Bottled Water* (2019). She is the editor of *Like the Untouchable Wind: An Anthology of Poems*. Her debut short story collection, *Running and other Stories* (2013) was a joint winner of the 2014 SALA Nadine Gordimer Short-story Award.

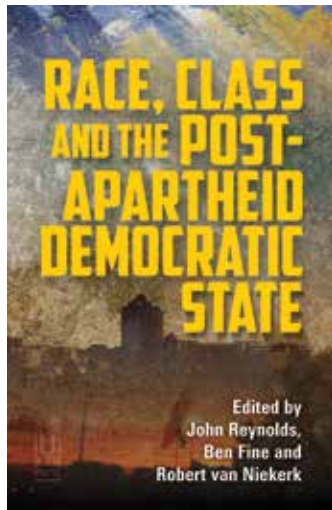
Contributors: Gabebe Baderoon, Barbara Boswell, Sedica Davids, Phillipa Yaa de Villiers, Diana Ferrus,

Vangi Gantsho, Bandile Gumbi, Nosipho Gumede, Myesha Jenkins, Ronelda Sonnet Kamfer, duduzile zamantungwa mabaso, Makgano Mamabolo, Napo Masheane, Lebogang Mashile, V.M. Sisi Maqagi, Mthunzikazi Mbungwana, Natalia Molebatsi, Qhakazambalikayise Thato Mthembu, Tereska Muishond, Malika Ndlovu, Maganthrie Pillay, Toni Stuart, Makhosazana Xaba.

Race, Class and the Post-Apartheid Democratic State

Edited by John Reynolds, Ben Fine and Robert van Niekerk

This book provides an overdue critical re-engagement with the analytical approach exemplified by the work of Harold Wolpe, who was a key theorist within the liberation movement. It probes the following broad questions: how do we understand the trajectory of the post-apartheid period, how did the current situation come about in the transformation, how does the current situation relate to how a post-apartheid society was conceived in anticipation, and what are the implications of what have been failed ambitions for progressives? The contributions to this volume cohere around the following themes: labour and capital in post-apartheid South Africa, the post-apartheid South African economy, the state and transformation of South African society, and social policy in post-apartheid South Africa. The aim is not to provide a common



or coherent theoretical perspective, but rather to probe a core problematic and set of theoretical concerns. The contributing authors explore not only historical and contemporary specifics, but deploy and reflect on theoretical tools that allow us to make sense of those specifics and to engage with the dynamics of race and class, and the form and functioning of the state, including its articulation with an increasingly financialised form of global capitalism.

John Reynolds is the founding head of the Neil Aggett Labour Studies Unit at Rhodes University.

Ben Fine is a professor of Economics at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and a visiting professor at the Institute of Social and Economic Research at Rhodes University.

Robert van Niekerk is a professor in the Wits School of Governance at the University of the Witwatersrand.

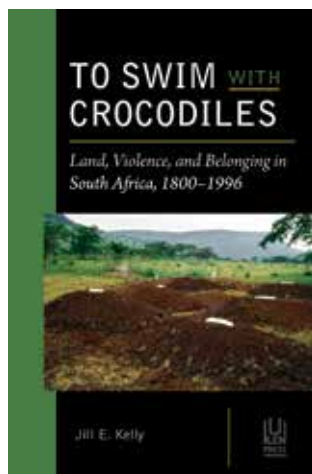
TO SWIM WITH CROCODILES Land, Violence, and Belonging in South Africa, 1800-1996

Jill Kelly

To Swim with Crocodiles: Land, Violence, and Belonging in South Africa, 1800–1996 offers a fresh perspective on the history of rural politics in South Africa, from the rise of the Zulu kingdom to the civil war at the dawn of democracy in KwaZulu-Natal.

The book shows how Africans in the Table Mountain region drew on the cultural inheritance of *ukukhonza* – a practice of affiliation that binds together chiefs and subjects – to seek social and physical security in times of war and upheaval.

Grounded in a rich combination of archival sources and oral interviews, this book examines relations within and between chiefdoms to bring wider concerns of African studies into focus, including land, violence, chieftaincy, ethnic and nationalist politics, and



development. Colonial indirect rule, segregation, and apartheid attempted to fix formerly fluid polities into territorial 'tribes' and ethnic identities, but the Zulu practice of *ukukhonza* maintained its flexibility and endured.

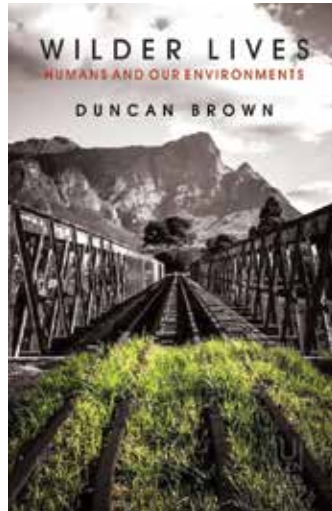
By exploring what Zulu men and women knew about and how they remembered *ukukhonza*, Kelly reveals how Africans envisaged and defined relationships with the land, their chiefs, and their neighbors as White minority rule transformed the countryside and local institutions of governance.

Jill Kelly is an Assistant Professor of African history at Southern Methodist University. She has published articles in the *Journal of Southern African Studies*, *African Historical Review*, and *Gendering Ethnicity in African Women's Lives*.

WILDER LIVES *Humans and our Environments*

Duncan Brown

Wilder Lives uses ideas of 'wildness' and 'rewilding' to rethink human relationships with our environments in challenging but affirming ways. If the Earth is indeed 4.5 billion years old, as scientists currently tell us, recognisably human life has only been around since the last Ice Age, and as a species we have single-handedly destroyed our planet's ecosystems in the short space of a few hundred years, then we urgently need to reconsider and redefine our identities and behaviours. Can 'thinking wild' help? Can it provide different ways of seeing, engaging, being human? Can we think of 'wildness' as something that may exist in gradations, or as quality rather than absolute value, and as something that has important ethical as well as biological dimensions? Can it lead us to a 'world



view locating humans in a satisfactory residence on this historic and storied Earth', as Holmes Rolston (1988) suggests?

Brown's argument in this book is wide-ranging, inquiring, challenging, but finally inspiring, and takes us through such questions as wildness and conservation, wild cities, rewilding language, wildness and food, wild animals, wild margins, and wildness in the ethics of human-animal relations.

Duncan Brown is Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Professor of English at the University of the Western Cape. He has published widely in the field of South African literary and cultural studies, and more recently in the field of environmental studies. He is a fellow of the University of KwaZulu-Natal and a fellow of the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study.

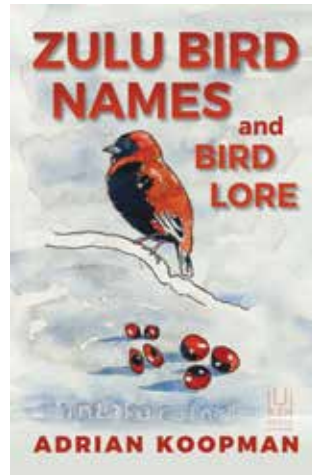
Zulu Bird Names and Bird Lore

Adrian Koopman

In this book, Adrian Koopman describes the complex relationship between birds, the Zulu language and Zulu culture. A number of chapters look at the underlying meaning of bird names, and here we will find that the Zulu name of the Goliath Heron means 'what gives birth to baby crocodiles', the dikkop (*umbangaqhwá*) means 'what causes frost', and the African Hoopoe is a party-goer who wears a colourful blanket.

The book goes further than just Zulu names, exploring the underlying meanings of bird names from other South African languages and languages from Central and East Africa. Here we find birds with names that translate as 'cool-porridge', 'kiss-banana-flower' and 'waiter-at-the-end-of-the furrow'.

A focus on Zulu traditional oral literature details the roles birds have played in Zulu praise poetry (including the praise poems of certain birds themselves) and in proverbs, riddles and children's games. Also considered is traditional bird lore, examining the role played by various species as omens and portents, as indicators of bad luck and evil, as forecasters of rain and storm, and as harbingers of the seasons. Here we see that the Bateleur Eagle (*ingqungqulu*) is linked to war, the



Southern Ground Hornbill (*insingizi*) to thunder and heavy rain, the Red-chested Cuckoo (*uphezukokhono*) to the start of the ploughing season, and the Jacobin Cuckoo (*inkanku*) to the start of summer.

Zulu Bird Names and Bird Lore discusses the Zulu Bird Name Project, a series of Zulu bird name workshops held between 2013 and 2017 with Zulu-speaking bird guides designed to confirm (or otherwise) all previously recorded Zulu names for birds, while at the same time devising new names for those without previously recorded names. The result has been a list of species-specific names for all birds in the Zulu-speaking region. Finally, the book turns to the role such new bird names can play in conservation education and in avi-tourism.

Adrian Koopman is an Emeritus Professor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He is the author of *Zulu Names* (2002) and *Zulu Plant Names* (2015).

Copies of the book can be ordered online at Loot.co.za or Takealot.com and will be available in most bookstores.

Should you have any queries, please contact UKZN Press.

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National Counselling Line 0861 322 322
People Opposed to Woman Abuse (POWA) 083 765 1235
South African Anxiety & Depression Group Helpline
011 262 6396 (8AM – 8PM, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK)
Emergency Contraception Toll Free Call Centre 0800 246 432

