

2015

UKZN TOUCH

A UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL ALUMNI MAGAZINE

GROWING OUR OWN



INNOVATION & EXCELLENCE



UNIVERSITY OF
KWAZULU-NATAL™
INYUVESI
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

INSPIRING GREATNESS

UKZNTOUCH • 2015

A UNIVERSITY OF KWAZULU-NATAL ALUMNI MAGAZINE

This edition of *UKZNTOUCH* is about a 'new chapter' in the University's history.

Building on the strong foundation of the past decade, the focus is on how UKZN is 'growing its own' through innovation and excellence.

The beadwork in the cover graphic was produced by the Woza Moya Crafters – an income generation project of the Hillcrest AIDS Foundation.

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FOREWORD

DR ALBERT VAN JAARSVELD
UKZN VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRINCIPAL



It is a pleasure for me to welcome all readers to this year's edition of *UKZNTOUCH*, one of the University's prized publications, which highlights developments at UKZN and helps keep us in touch with our alumni and other stakeholders.

Alumni have an indispensable role to play in the ongoing success of the University, and since my appointment in February, I have held a number of meetings with alumni groupings both locally and abroad in order to introduce them to my vision for the University. My message to all of them has been the same: we intend to achieve the best we can in terms of our national and international profile, but in order for the University to achieve its full potential, alumni need to play a role.

Firstly, they need to provide financial support. The UKZN Foundation facilitates donations to the University which go directly to the causes or projects chosen by the donor. There is no top-slicing of UKZN Foundation funds. Over the next few years, we are looking at the possibility of growing the financial capacity and security of the Institution through the growth of an Endowment Fund through the Foundation and the contribution of alumni to this endowment will be critical.

Secondly, alumni are encouraged to read widely and be properly informed about what is going on in the University. The reality is that many views are aired about the Institution, not all of which are true. Alumni need to take responsibility for being well-informed and help us send out the correct messages about the University. Constructive criticism of course is welcome, but I believe it is important for alumni to speak to the Institution as it stands rather than as it was in the past.

In addition to forging closer ties with alumni, among my leadership priorities is the creation of more intimate engagement between the University and its stakeholders – including students, communities and the corporate sector. I believe the Institution needs to be reflecting more directly the values and ambitions of stakeholders and work hand-in-hand with them to ensure that the University offers an education platform that speaks to both the needs of students and potential employers. I would also like to see a closer and mutually beneficial working relationship between University research and the corporate and industrial sectors.

UKZN has a number of existing strengths on which I intend to build over the course of the next few years. These include its embedded geographical position, its progress in transformation, and its relevance to local communities. Another is its reputation as a research-led University. As Vice-Chancellor, I intend to continue along the dual track of transformation and excellence laid by my predecessor Professor Malegapuru Makgoba. The foundation has been set for broad participation in research – over 85% of UKZN

academics are research active – and while the process driving that may have been perceived as contentious, it is now clearly bearing fruit and must continue to be nurtured.

Another strength of UKZN is the way it has forged international partnerships – such as K-RITH and CAPRISA – around local pockets of expertise. This is an excellent model for producing world-class research. We need to grow these kinds of partnerships and build the critical mass of people working in key areas.

I believe it is important for South Africa as well as the province of KwaZulu-Natal and its cities that UKZN is a success. After all, with over 3,000 staff, the University is one of the largest employers in the province. We have identified a string of initiatives aimed at responding to the economic needs of KZN and its cities. Among these is putting the Graduate School of Business and Leadership “back on the map” – a process in which we intend to involve international partners in order to make use of opportunities presented by the rapid growth of business activity on the African continent. Further development of the Maritime Studies Unit is on the cards, as well as strategic focus areas such as food security and astrophysics.

Importantly, I believe the Humanities and Social Sciences should be regarded as a “key strength” of the Institution. They bring balance to the University and without them, we are merely a technological institute. However, these resources also need to be managed strategically in order to have the impact they deserve.

I also regard the area of sport – and the business of sport in particular – as very important. This is a fast-growing industry both globally and in our province, and the University should be part of that growth. Sport offers an opportunity for the University to carve new careers for a future economy and we must avoid the danger of preparing students for the old economy.

At an institutional level, a key priority for me is to create a university known for its excellent service. This includes service to students and research partners, but also the way the Institution engages with itself. The merger process has been successfully concluded and institutional alignment has been achieved. Now it is time to bring back some lost collegiality and help forge an institution that is happy with itself and can focus on its core job.

I look forward to working with both internal and external stakeholders to achieve this.

Dr Albert van Jaarsveld
Vice-Chancellor and Principal



EDITORIAL

LESIBA SESHOKA

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CORPORATE RELATIONS DIVISION**

It was John F Kennedy who said progress was impossible without change. While it is true that change is a necessary and persistent feature of our world, *how* that change takes place still involves some negotiation and management. Under these circumstances, good leadership is critical.

This year, the University of KwaZulu-Natal community was pleased to welcome a new Vice-Chancellor in the person of Dr Albert van Jaarsveld, an experienced leader and respected academic. We believe his contribution to this edition of *UKZNTOUCH* will give our readers a sense of the kind of leader he is, and what his priorities will be over the next few years.

Over the last 10 years, UKZN has been at the forefront of change – and progress – in South Africa, forging a new institution and effectively re-shaping the Higher Education landscape. Under the leadership of Professor Malegapuru Makgoba the fledgling UKZN put down strong roots and, through an unwavering

commitment to excellence, has established an identity as a top research-led university. In an acknowledgement of his contribution, this edition carries an interview with him in which he reflects on his experience at UKZN and shares some of his thoughts about the higher education sector more broadly.

Regular readers may notice another change in the form of the design of this publication. We have instituted a new layout style with an emphasis on accessibility as well as visual appeal. Both in terms of layout and content, we have conceived of this edition with the intention of informing, inspiring and stimulating our readers.

Starting with people, a personal, in-depth interview with outgoing Council Chair Dr Phumla Mnganga provides fascinating insight into the life choices, leadership style and PhD journey of this dynamic woman.

Dr Mnganga's story and those of our two profiled alumni – Dr Bridget Gasa and Mr Siphile Buthelezi – reveal the substantial benefits to be found at the intersection of personal passion, education and hard work. These successes serve to endorse the principles of human capacity development encapsulated in the various initiatives underway at UKZN (also featured in this edition) aimed at enhancing academic and leadership capacity.

Leadership and other changes notwithstanding, an emphasis on excellence at UKZN continues, and in this edition, we have showcased just some of the projects underway that capture the innovation, quality, and social commitment of the Institution.

In the field of research, our featured projects have two common elements which satisfy many of the criteria for excellence at UKZN. Firstly, they are breaking new ground in the world of academic research, and, secondly, all of them have the potential to make a unique and meaningful contribution to society. Their impact is not confined to South Africa. Much of the work being carried out in our Centres of Excellence is set to have global impact. For example, through InQubate, UKZN and its partners have patented a unique process aimed at recovering valuable rare earth metals from used light bulbs. As our article illustrates, not only does this process have commercial value, but it solves a persistent international problem around sustainable waste disposal and assists in the development of the global green energy sector.

Other exciting technological innovations include a skin patch which offers a more user-friendly approach to treating diabetes, a sophisticated, new-generation prosthetic hand which will make life a lot easier for amputees, and possible commercial spinoffs from UKZN's Solar Car project.

In the arena of indigenous knowledge research and its promotion, we highlight UKZN's leading role and active contribution to international debates. We also provide updates on the innovative approaches being used in the ongoing struggle against the spread of HIV – at both the Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies, and the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA), the latter recently being named a Department of Science and Technology-National Research Foundation (DST-NRF) Centre of Excellence in HIV Prevention.

We report on an exciting and productive partnership between UKZN and the eThekweni Municipality under the auspices of the Municipal Institute of Learning initiative (MILE), a collaboration which has also had the effect of forging collegial relations between the city's higher educational institutions.

We reflect the progress of the Maritime Studies Unit in building ties with industry in a bid to strengthen the University's

“Leadership and other changes notwithstanding, an emphasis on excellence at UKZN continues, and in this edition, we have showcased just some of the projects underway that capture the innovation, quality, and social commitment of the Institution.”

contribution to regional economic growth. Changing approaches to leadership are discussed in an article on mindfulness, a concept with ancient roots which is now being more widely applied, particularly in the corporate sector, by those who perceive its benefits for health, wellbeing and effective leadership.

Importantly, our publication profiles UKZN's recent success on the sports field across a range of different sporting codes and discusses the strategic value of sport in the context of the University's mission and vision. UKZN's leading role in indigenous language development also comes under the spotlight, with a particular focus on two projects which tap directly into the amazing capacity of language to build unity and social cohesion.

As usual, we have provided a collection of University news items which reflect the range and depth of the Institution's activities, but will also keep you informed of important developments.

In an indication of UKZN's increasingly effective and innovative social media presence, we are pleased to note the University was awarded the Marketing Advancement and Communications in Education (MACE) 2014 Social Media Excellence Award for its Facebook graduation campaign.

While we at Corporate Relations recognise the enormous value of interacting with our alumni and other stakeholders via social media, and will continue to do so, we also believe that a well-conceived, quality publication such as *UKZNTOUCH* remains an important component of our communication strategy, a strategy aimed at keeping in touch with all our stakeholders and providing them with intelligent insight into the impressive work being conducted at UKZN. We hope you enjoy it.

Lesiba Seshoka

Executive Director

Corporate Relations Division

HIGHLIGHTS

2014 – 2015



2014

① STRINI MOODLEY LECTURE COINCIDES WITH AFRICA MONTH

Professor Salim Vally delivered the 8th Strini Moodley Memorial Lecture at UKZN. Vally's lecture, themed "The Battle for Truth: Youth, Neo-liberalism and Education in South Africa", coincided with Africa Month.

▲ From left: Professor Salim Vally, Dr James Marsh, Mrs Ntsiki Biko, Ms Asha Moodley and Dr Lubna Nadvi.

② UKZN CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

UKZN celebrated its 10-year anniversary in style on 29 October with a commemorative dinner held at the MH Joosub Hall, Westville campus.

The event highlighted the University's decade of achievements and role in the Higher Education landscape, and reflected on the solid foundations that have been laid for the University's next chapter.

③ DR AHMED KATHRADA VISITS UKZN

Dr Ahmed Kathrada, who was a close personal friend of Nelson Mandela and also played a leading role in the naming of the University's Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine, spoke at a function hosted by the Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) and UKZN's College of Health Sciences.

Kathrada recalled his life in prison and Mandela's words that political prisoners were not criminals and should fight a political case. "Madiba always said to us: 'Do not apologise, don't ask for mercy and always proclaim your political beliefs'. He also told us to never run when called by the prison guards but to always walk tall with dignity."



**④ CHIEF ALBERT LUTHULI
MEMORIAL LECTURE
HONOURS 'A GREAT
STATESMAN'**

National Minister of Arts and Culture Mr Nathi Mthethwa delivered the 2014 Chief Albert Luthuli Memorial Lecture at UKZN. It was the 10th year the University has hosted the lecture.

Paying tribute to the life and legacy of 'a great statesman', Mthethwa said Luthuli fought for full political, economic and social opportunities for the oppressed people of South Africa regardless of colour, creed, nationality or race.

2015

⑤ INSTALLATION

Dr Albert van Jaarsveld was sworn in as UKZN's new Vice-Chancellor and Principal at an official installation ceremony held at the Westville campus on 7 March 2015.

**⑥ GEORGE BIZOS
DELIVERS PUBLIC
LECTURE**

Advocate George Bizos delivered a public lecture at UKZN on the topic "Not in the Name of our Constitution" about the aims and values of our constitutional democracy.

**⑦ PUBLIC PROTECTOR
LAUDS TODAY'S HEROINES**

Delivering a Women's Month lecture at UKZN, Public Protector Thuli Madonsela said while tribute should be paid to the women of 1956 (those who staged the defiant march on the Union Buildings), we should not forget today's heroes.



2015

8 18TH TIME OF THE WRITER AT ELIZABETH SNEDDON THEATRE

The 18th Time of the Writer Festival (16–21 March), organised by UKZN's Centre for Creative Arts (CCA) within the College of Humanities featured 20 writers from South Africa and across the African continent who gathered for a thought-provoking week of literary dialogue, exchange of ideas and interesting discussion.

The theme for this year's festival, *Writing for our Lives*, called attention to the urgent, ongoing struggle of all writers in speaking truth and bearing witness to the times through their words.

▲ *Time of the Writer participants seen with CCA staff members Mr Steve Jones (extreme left) and Ms Tiny Mungwe (extreme right).*

9 UKZN ENACTUS CROWNED 2015 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!

The UKZN ENACTUS team was crowned National Champions, setting the stage for the team to represent South Africa at the ENACTUS World Cup Competition. Enactus brings together students, academics and business leaders who are committed to harnessing entrepreneurial action to transform lives and shape a more sustainable world.

10 ALBIE SACHS DELIVERS PUBLIC LECTURE

Struggle hero Albie Sachs, speaking at the 13th annual Victoria and Griffiths Mxenge Memorial Lecture, expressed his dismay about the violent xenophobic attacks that took place earlier this year by reminding South Africans that many Africans lost their lives because they opened their hearts to South Africans during the liberation struggle.



11 SOCIAL WORK STUDENTS SAY 'NO' TO WOMEN AND CHILD ABUSE

Armed with placards, the Social Work Students' Association at UKZN organised a march from the King Dinuzulu statue in Berea Road to the Durban City Hall in solidarity against women and child abuse.

The students displayed their dismay at the high abuse rates as reflected in a recent KwaZulu-Natal report on the issue, and sought to increase public awareness.

12 UKZN IMPI CROWNED 2015 FNB VARSITY SHIELD CHAMPIONS!

UKZN Impi conquered Wits University 29-24 at the FNB Varsity Shield final, clinching their first FNB Varsity Shield.

13 GRADUATION 2015

UKZN conferred an impressive 9,637 degrees at its 18 graduation ceremonies held on its Westville and Pietermaritzburg campuses in April.

A notable 5,915 (61.38%) of the graduates were women while 260 graduated *cum laude* and 85 *summa cum laude*. A total of 264 doctoral degrees were conferred and approximately 82 graduates with disabilities were capped at the ceremonies.

14 UKZN CELEBRATES CRICKET CLUB'S STELLAR PERFORMANCE

UKZN hosted a banquet in honour of the Cricket Club's exceptional performance in the Castle Challenge League. The Cricket Club are the Castle Challenge League 50-over champions as well as the Castle Challenge League 20/20 champions. They remained unbeaten throughout the 2014/15 season in both formats.

15 UKZN HOSTS FIRST INTERNATIONAL IKS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS CONFERENCE

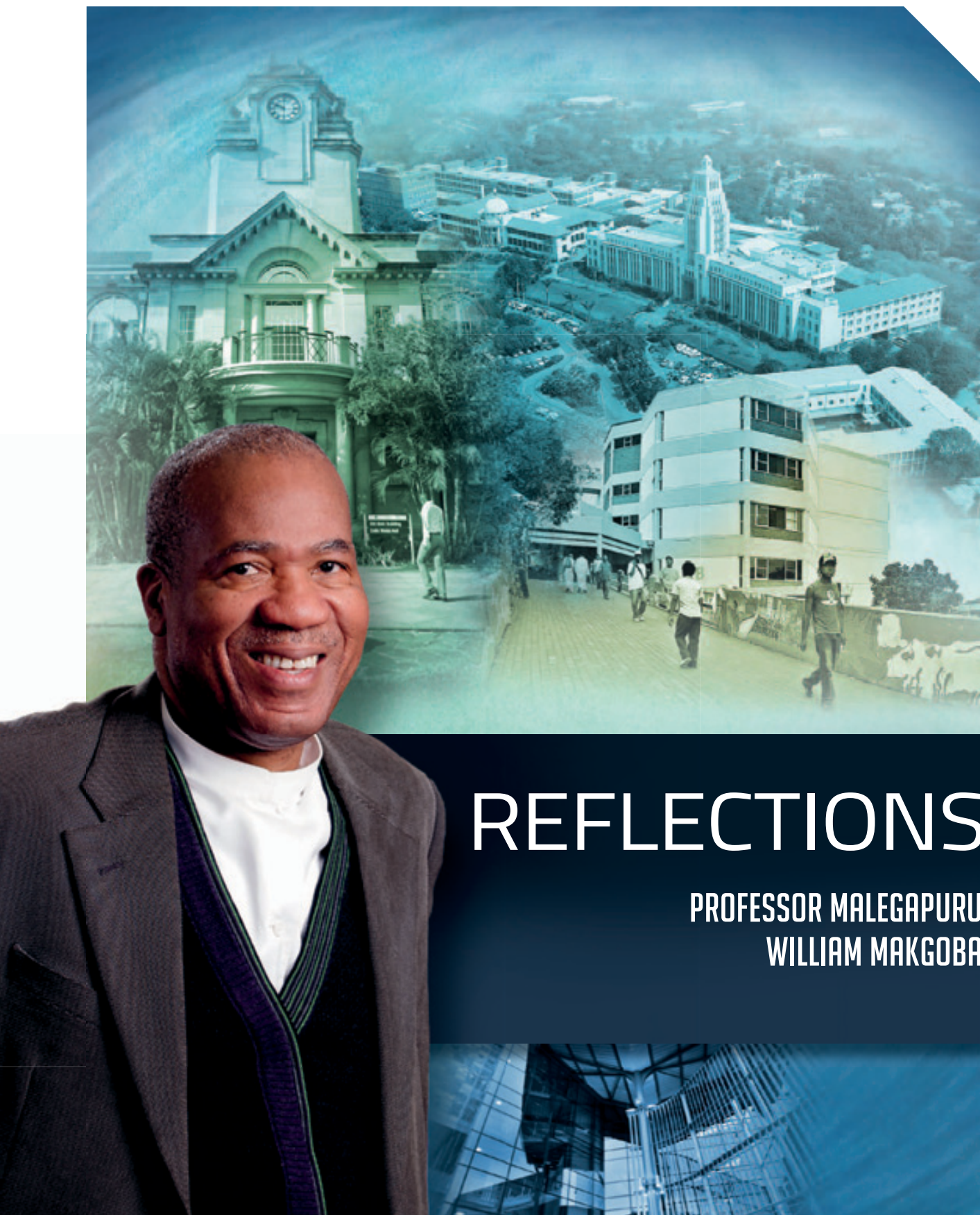
UKZN's DST-NRF Centre in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIKS) hosted the first International Conference on IKS and Environmental Ethics which examined implications for peace-building and sustainable development.

16 REFLECTIONS ON 60 YEARS OF THE FREEDOM CHARTER

The underlying message of the Freedom Charter reflects a nation at peace with itself and the world, Comrade Swaminathan Gounden told staff, students and members of the public at the inaugural Dr Phyllis Naidoo Memorial Lecture.

Titled "Reflections on 60 Years of the Freedom Charter", the lecture honoured the late Dr Phyllis Naidoo and her contribution to the struggle for South African freedom.

Gounden, who is among a handful of surviving Freedom Charter veterans, spoke about the charter and the Congress of the People Conference, held on 26 June 1955 in Kliptown, Soweto, at which the charter was adopted.



REFLECTIONS

PROFESSOR MALEGAPURU
WILLIAM MAKGOBA

“To create an institution at the top of the ladder in South Africa in an era of extremely tough global competition is what I strived for from the start, and it fits my personality as an individual.”

To forge a research-intensive university that would be the best in South Africa was a publicly declared goal of Professor Malegapuru Makgoba at the time he became Vice-Chancellor of the University of Natal, then poised to merge with the University of Durban-Westville.

Given the higher educational landscape at the time, he faced some skepticism: for some, the new institution's dual aspirations of social transformation and scholarship seemed to be in conflict with each other; for others, it was simply too audacious an ambition to be realistic.

But two years before the end of his second term of office, the University of KwaZulu-Natal was able to announce its position at the top of the Department of Higher Education and Training's list of research-led publicly-funded universities. This is a position the institution maintained for a second consecutive year and is hoping to maintain for even longer.

“This is the achievement of which I am most proud,” Makgoba told *UKZNTOUCH* from his parents' home in rural Sekhukhune, from where the call of roosters filters down the line, and where he is also now building his own house – “the Nkandla of Limpopo”, he quips. “But without the fire pool, chicken run and amphitheatre.”

“To create an institution at the top of the ladder in South Africa in an era of extremely tough global competition is what I strived for from the start, and it fits my personality as an individual.” Such a personality, he explained, is characterised by a drive to give his best and be judged on what he could deliver. “From my days as a schoolboy, I have always wanted to be at the top, to achieve excellence, and this attitude followed me everywhere, from Natal Medical School to Oxford and the National Institutes of Health (NIH); I've been competing all my life,” he said.

Makgoba said his international experience impressed upon him the importance of research in academia. “I was taught to aspire to originality, not imitation; to develop ideas so they add value to knowledge. And this approach is the foundation for teaching in a university,” he said.

When he took over as Vice-Chancellor of the then University of Natal, he perceived that both Natal and its prospective merger partner, UDW, were dogged by an inferiority complex and were content to play “second fiddle” to other South African universities in terms of scholarship, while at the same time staff, certainly of

the old Natal University, actively sought jobs at institutions such as UCT which were seen as more prestigious.

But from the start Makgoba was “fixed” on his goal of a globally competitive university and he understood that a number of positive, related spinoffs would emerge from attaining such a goal. “I refused to negotiate on this goal and I also knew that, on that particular score, I was never going to be challenged by any self-respecting academic.”

Thus Makgoba and his team set about implementing a string of related strategies in order to improve research output and productivity at the University. These included an emphasis on academic qualifications (all academics were required to hold a PhD), greater productivity among individual academics (all academics were expected to start producing research papers and supervise larger numbers of postgraduates), and a PhD programme to nurture a future generation of qualified African academics. “Really, the question was not whether we could do it, but whether people were ready for it. There was some resistance at the outset – it seems to be a uniquely South African phenomenon that you should hold an academic position without the requisite qualifications – but most came round to the idea, even if reluctantly,” he said.

At the same time as he was pushing for new levels of scholarship, Makgoba was determined to transform the University demographics, to create staff profiles that were more representative of the race, gender and age profiles of South Africa. “Across all Divisions and Colleges and at all levels, including the Deanery, heads of Schools and Directors, the University is now well-represented by women, Africans, Indians and Whites – we've managed to capture the mix very well and enrich the Institution through diversity.” Makgoba said he is also proud of the fact that UKZN has become an institution of young people – 72% of academics are now under the age of 50.

Concerned to give substance to the recognition bestowed on indigenous languages by the Constitution, Makgoba oversaw the development of the University's language policy and plan, a process which culminated in the historic introduction in 2014 of a compulsory isiZulu language module for all undergraduates. “IsiZulu is the most widely spoken language in South Africa, let alone KZN,” he said. “Not only was the move aimed at providing the country's young professionals with vital communication skills, but the university is at the forefront of developing isiZulu as a language of science and technology,” he said.

Team work

All achievements were led and driven by teams with a common purpose: to develop an institution of academic excellence. "They were not the product of individual effort," he said. "I was able to create and identify a team of people – it was never an accident that I worked with the people I did – but the fact is I do not publish or do research. All I could do was inspire others to do so. That inspiration multiplies if you have disciples to take the message through," he said.

He said the leadership at UKZN – particularly at the level of executive and deans – distinguished themselves by showing consistent courage in translating the shared vision of the University into reality.

Unique among South African universities, he said, was the devolution of institutional power through the College structure. "As Vice-Chancellor, I was always conscious of the need to devolve my powers to others in order for them to be able to express their own leadership strengths," he said. "In this way one gives space for more diverse creativity in the Institution."

Also critical was the support of the Council – the University's highest governing body. "One of the pleasures of working at UKZN was derived from the quality of leadership at Council. We faced criticism as an institution, but we stuck to our strategy and we had the support of all Chairs of Council and the Executive, all of whom understood that we were living in a new country with new values and different emphases."

Does he have any regrets about any aspects of his Vice-Chancellorship? Not really. "There were obviously limitations in time, capacity and resources which affected what I could realistically achieve, and I adopted a focused approach aimed at research because I knew it would translate into a number of positive spinoffs for the institution.

"But if I were to be analytical, I think I could have spent more time promoting the development of sports. At this point, it's easy to identify this gap but at the time there were a number of issues competing for my attention."

Recipe for success

According to Makgoba, UKZN's establishment and development was underpinned at a fundamental level by good governance. "Governance structures set the tone and environment under which universities operate and a robust, transparent governance structure is an absolute necessity. All our Council Chairs have driven this approach," he said.

Another bonus was the fact that the new university was able to leverage large amounts of money from international

foundations for the development of world-class research facilities such as the Africa Centre, CAPRISA and K-RITH.

"During this period, the government also actively supported the merger and gave us resources," said Makgoba. For example, the R90 million Biological and Conservation Sciences building was the product of a DHET grant, while the UNITE School of Engineering's "green" building was the outcome of a R20 million grant from the Department of Science and Technology.

Makgoba said he is happy that UKZN managed to have a consultative process that took place on all five campuses and avoided the kind of anguish and upheaval over symbols and transformation experienced earlier this year at universities around the country. "We are fortunate at UKZN to have embraced change early on," he said. "What you see at universities around the country reflects the nature of our society's development ... You can't have Africans pretending to be anything other than African. They are what they are and they will bring their social values into the university."

Makgoba ascribed the generally poor state of transformation in South African institutions to poor leadership. "South African academics love vice-chancellors who 'do nothing, say nothing and are nobody'," he said. "They love vice-chancellors who lack clarity of vision, are ambiguous, wishy-washy in their manner of speaking and have no courage. Such VCs are loved because this allows for privilege, poor performance, the status quo, mediocrity and pervasive corruption to thrive within the system."

"Clarity of vision, integrity and courage are needed to transform and overhaul this archaic, race-riddled and under-performing system," he said.

Without giving away too many details, Makgoba said he will be working in future in an important job at a "national level". In the meantime, he is writing a chapter in the *Oxford Textbook of Medicine* on research in resource-constrained countries. He will also serve as a health expert on the Defence Force Service Commission over the next five years and as a trustee for the Nelson Mandela Leadership and Research Policy Unit. He will also continue to chair the oversight committee for transformation in public universities.

"For the moment, though, I'm enjoying being in the countryside and spending time with my parents. My siblings have been popping in and out and my first month after retirement has been peaceful. I'm very grateful for the opportunity I had to serve and lead the University, and for what the University did for me." ■

* This article first appeared in 'Sunday Independent' on 28 June 2015.

EBUKA EMUVA IMICABANGO

KASOLWAZI MALEGAPURU WILLIAM MAKGOBA

“Ukwakha isikhungo esithathwa njengesihamba phambili eNingizimu Afrika lapho kunokuncintisana okunamandla emhlabeni wonke yikho engangizibophezele ukukwenza kusuka ekuqaleni, kuphinde kuhambisane nohlobo lomuntu enginguye.”

Ukwakha inyuvesi egxile ocwaningweni ezoba ngehamba phambili eNingizimu Afrika kwaba inhlosongqangi kaSolwazi Malegapuru Makgoba ngesikhathi eba iSekelashansela leNyuvesi yaseNatali, neyahlanganiswa neNyuvesi yaseDurban-Westville.

Ngenxa yesimo semfundo ephakeme sangaleso sikhathi, wabhekana nokungatshazwa: kwabanye, lezi yizinhloso ezintsha ezimbili zesikhungo, nokuguqulwe kwezenhlalo yomphakathi nezokufunda zazibonakala zinokungqubuzana; ngokwabanye, kwakuyisifiso esingelula ukuthi singafezeke.

Kodwa eminyakeni emibili ngaphambi kokuphela kokuphatha ihlandla lesibili ehhovisi, iNyuvesi YaKwaZulu-Natali yathatha indawo yayo phezulu ohlwini loMnyango wezeMfundo Ephakeme nokuQeqesha lwamagama amaNyuvesi axhaswe uhulumeni anamandla ekucwaningeni. Lendawo ekuyo iNyuvesi isikwazile ukuhlala kuyo iminyaka emibili futhi inethemba lokuthi izoqhubeka nalokhu isikhathi eside.

“Yile mpumelelo engiziqhenya ngayo kakhulu,” uMakgoba etshela i-*UKZN TOUCH* esemzini wabazali bakhe emakhaya eSekhukhune, lapho kugcwele khona amaqhude, nalapho akha khona umuzi wakhe – “iNkandla yaseLimpopo”, encokola. “Kodwa ngaphandle kwechibi, indawo yezinkukhu, nendawo yemidlalo yeshashalazi.”

“Ukwakha isikhungo esithathwa njengesihamba phambili eNingizimu Afrika ngesikhathi kunokuncintisana okunamandla emhlabeni wonke yikho engangizibophezele ukukwenza kusuka ekuqaleni, kuphinde kuhambisane nohlobo lomuntu enginguye.” Ukuba ngumuntu

onjalo, echaza, kubonakala ngokuzimisela ukwenza konke okusemandleni akho nokuhlulelwa kulokho okwazi ukukwenza. Uthe, “Ngisawumfana ofunda isikole, ngangihlezi ngifuna ukuba phezulu, ukuzuza okuhle, lendlela yokucabanga yangilandela yonke indawo, kusuka eSikoleni sezoKwelapha eNatali kuya e-Oxford nase National Institutes of Health (NIH); bengincintisana impilo yami yonke”.

UMakgoba uthe ulwazi lwakhe aluzuze ezizweni lwagugquzela ukuthi abone ukubaluleka kokucwaninga emfundweni ephakeme. “Ngafundiswa ukuthi ngiphokophele ukwehluka, hhayi ukulingisa okwabanye; ukuthuthukisa imicabango ezonezezela ulwazi. Uthe, lesi yisona sisekelo sokufundisa eNyuvesi.

Ngesikhathi ethatha ebayiSekelashansela eNyuvesi yaseNatali, wabona ukuthi iNatali kanye neNyuvesi yaseDurban-Westville (UDW), ayezibukela phansi futhi ekwamukela ukuba ngemuva kwamanye amaNyuvesi aseNingizimu Afrika kwezokufunda, nalapho abasebenzi, ababesebenzela iNyuvesi yaseNatali, bahamba bafuna imisebenzi ezikhungweni ezifana neNyuvesi yaseKapa (UCT) ezazibonwa njengezihamba phambili.

Kodwa kusuka ekuqaleni uMakgoba “wayegxilile” enhlosweni yakhe yeNyuvesi encintisana umhlaba wonke futhi wayekuqonda ukuthi okuhle, kungavela ngokufezekisa inhloso efana nalena. “Nganqaba ukungena ezingxoxweni ngalenhloso ngangazi futhi, kulelophuzu, ukuthi akekho okwezemfundo ozihloniphayo owayezongiphikisa.”

UMakgoba nethimba lakhe bahlanganisa amasu amaningi ukuze kuthuthukiswe umkhqizo nomphumela wocwaningo

eNyuvesi. Lokhu kwakuthinta ukugcizelelwa kodaba lweziqu (zonke izifundiswa kwakudingeka ukuthi zibe neziqu zePHD), ukukhiqiza okuthe xaxa phakathi kwezifundiswa (zonke izifundiswa kwakudingeka ziqale zikhqize amaphepha ocwaningo baluleke isibalo esikhulu sabenza izifundo zabaneziqu), nohlelo lwePHD lokukhiqiza izifundiswa zangomuso ezingama-Afrika. Uthe, “Empeleni, umbuzo kwakungasikho ukuthi singakwazi ukukwenza, kodwa ukuthi abantu bakulungele yini. Kwabakhona ukudonsa izinyawo- kubukeka kuyinto yaseNingizimu Afrika kuphela ukubamba isikhundla kwezemfundo kodwa umuntu engenazo iziqu ezifanele- kodwa abanye bavumelana nalelicebo, nakuba babemanqika.”

Kuso lesi sikhathi esebenzela ukuletha amazinga amasha kwezokufunda, uMakgoba wayephokophele ukuletha inguquko ekwakheni komphakathi waseNyuvesi, ukwenza igama labasebenzi bebala, ubulili, iminyaka kanye nesithombe esihambelana neNingizimu Afrika. “Kuzo zonke izigaba kanye namakolishi kanjalo nawo wonke amazinga, ngisho nezikhundla zamadini, izinhloko zezikole nabaqondisi, iNyuvesi imelwe ngabesifazane abangamaAfrika, amaNdiya kanye nabaMhlophe – sikwazile ukuhlanganisa abantu ngendlela efanela nokunothisa isikhungo ngobungxube.” uMakgoba uthe uyaziqhenya ngokuthi i-UKZN isiyisikhungo sabantu abasha ngamaphesenti angama-72% abayizifundiswa bangaphansi kweminyaka engama-50.

Ekuzibophezeleni ekugcineni inhlonipho ebekwe umthethosisekelo kwizilimi zomdabu, uMakgoba uqhakambisa ukuthuthukiswa kwenqubomgomo nohlelo lolimi lweNyuvesi, uhlelo luholele

ekufundisweni kwesiZulu kwabangakabi neziqubasemazingeni aphantsi. Uthe, "IsiZulu ulimi olukhulunywa ngabaningi eNingizimu Afrika, angiphathi - ke eKZN." Uphinde wathi, "Hhayi ngoba loluhlelo lwaluhloswe ekunikezeni abantu abasha bakuleli amakhono okuxhumana, kodwa iNyuvesi ihamba phambili ekuthuthukiseni isiZulu njengolimi lwesayensi nobuchwepheshe."

Ukusebenza Ngokubambisana

Yonke impumelelo ibiholwa ngamaqembu anenhloso eyodwa: ukuthuthukisa isikhungo esinohlonzo kwezemfundo. Uthe, "Bekungesiyona imiphumela yokusebenza komuntu ngayedwana." Ubuye wathi, "Ngikwazile ukwakha ngiqoke ithimba labantu - akubanga yiphutha ukuthi ngisebenze nabantu engisebenze nabo - kodwa iqiniso ukuthi angishicileli futhi angenzi ucwaningo. Konke ebengingakwenza ukugqugqezela abanye ukuthi benze njalo. Lokho kugqugqezela kuyanda uma unabantu abazodlulisa umyalezo".

Uthe ubuholi e-UKZN - kakhulu ebuholini nakumadini - avelele kukhombise ukuzithemba ekudluliseni umbono weNyuvesi ukuthi ugcine ufezekile.

Uthe okungajwayelekile okutholakala emaNyuvesi ase Ningizimu Afrika, ukwabelana kwamandla esikhungo aye ngqo kwisakhiwo sekolishi. "Njengo sekelashansela, bengihlezi ngazi ngesidingo sokunikezela ngamandla engathweswa wona okuphatha ngiwaphe abanye ukuze nabo bakwazi ukuthuthukisa futhi baveze amakhono abo obuholi." Uqhube wathi, "Ukwenza ngalendlela kwakha futhi kuveza izindlela eziningi ezehlukahlukene zobuhlakani bokuphatha esikhungweni.

Okunye okumqoka bekuwukwesekwa umkhandlu, isigungu esiphezulu sokubusa eNyuvesi. "Okungithokozisile ngokusebenzela e-UKZN kube yizinga eliphezulu lobuholi emkhandlwini. Besibhekene nokugxekwa okukhulu njengesikhungo, kepha sangaguquka eswini lethu saphinda sathola ukusekelwa okukhulu kubo bonke osihlalo bomkhandlu kanye nesigungu esiphezulu, bonke bebekuqonda ukuthi siphila ezweni elisha elinezimiso kanye nezinto okugcizelelwa kuzo eziningi".

Kungabe uyazisola ngokuba uSekelashansela we Nyuvesi? Cha, "Njengokulindlele, bekukhona ukungeneli kwesikhathi, amandla kanye nezinsizakusebenza okube yimbangela yokuthi ngingakwazi ukufeza izifiso ebengifuna ukuzufeza, ngakho ke ngithathe indlela ebhekene ngqo nocwaningo ngoba ngangazi ukuthi leyondlela izokhiqiza imiphumela emihle kulesi sikhungo.

"Kodwa uma sekuthiwa ngibukisisa kahle, ngicabanga ukuthi bengizochitha isikhathi esiningi ngigqugqezela ukuthuthukiswa kwezemidlalo. Njengamanje nje, kulula ukubona lesisikhala, kodwa kulesiya sikhathi zaziningi izinto ezazidinga ukuba ngizinake".

Ikhambi lempumelelo

Ngokuka Makgoba, uthi ukwakhiwa kanye nokuthuthukiswa kwe-UKZN bekusekelwa ubuholi obuqotho. "Izinhlaka zokubusa yizona ebezikhomba indlela yokusebenza kanti nendawo yokusebenza okuphinde kubaluleke uma konke kuhambisana nomfutho, nokucaciseka kwendlela ekusetshenzwa ngayo ikona okuba semqoka kakhulu. Wonke amalungu omkhandlu wethu abesebenzisa lendlela."

Okunye okungaphezulu ukuthi leNyuvesi entsha ikwazile ukuzisa izizumbulu zemali ezivela kwizinhlangano zasemhlabeni jikelele ukuze kukwazi ukuthuthukiswa izikhungo ezisezingeni lomhlaba zocwaningo okubalwa kuzo i-Africa Centre, CAPRISA ne- K-RITH.

"Ngalesi sikhathi, uhulumeni waxhasa ngokubonakalayo ukuhlanganiswa kwezikhungo futhi wasinika izinsizakusebenza," kusho uMakgoba. Isibonelo, izigidi ezingama 90 we bhilidi lezeSayensi YezokuPhilayo nokuLondolozwa KweMvelo yasungulwa ngemali yokuxhaswa ye DHET, isikole sobunjiniyela ibhilidi lakhona le "mvelo" i-UNITE, liwumphumela woxhaso lwezigidi ezingama 20 oluvela kuMnyango weSayensi noBuchwepheshe.

uMakgoba uthi uzizwa ejabulile ngokuthi i-UKZN ikwazile ukugwema ukuthikamezeka nokungenami okumayelana nezimpawu nezinguquko obekubonakala kakhulu kwamanye amaNyuvesi ezweni jikelele. "Uqhubeke wathi, "Sinenhlanhla kakhulu thina lapha e-UKZN ngokwamukela ush-

intsho ngenkathi luqala" uphinde waqhuba wathi, "Okubonakala kwamanye amaNyuvesi ezweni lonke jikelelelele kusho lukhulu ngendlela imiphakathi esiphila kuwo ethuthuka ngayo ... angeke size sikwazi ukuzenza okunye ngaphandle kokuba ama-Afrika. Bayilokho abayikho futhi bazoletsha ubunjalo bemiphakathi yabo eNyuvesi."

UMakgoba uqhube wachaza mayelana ngendlela yezinguquko engagculisi ezikhungweni zemfundo eNingizimu Afrika eholela ekubeni nobuholi obungekho ezingeni. Uchaze wathi, "Izifundiswa zaseNingizimu Afrika zithanda oSekelashansela abangenzi lutho, abangasho lutho futhi abangayilutho". "Bathanda oSekelashansela abangenawo umbono ocacile, abangenamongo, abangazithembi ngisho bekhuluma. OSekelashansela abanje ibona abathandwa kakhulu ngoba lokhu kuveza ilungelo kanye nokwenza umsebenzi ongekho ezingeni eliphezulu, indlela ekwenzeka izinto, ukungazimiseli emsebenzini kanye nokusabalala kwenkohlakalo endleleni ekusetshenzwa ngawo kulezizikhungo.

UMakgoba uthi "Ukucaca kombono, ukuthembeka kanye nesibindi yikhona okudingekayo ukuze kube khona izinguquko kulendlela engagculisi ekusetshenzwa ngayo".

Ngale kokwanda ngamazwi, uMakgoba uthi uzobe enza umsebenzi obalulekile ezingeni likazwelonke. Okwamanje kodwa usabhalisa isahluko se *Oxford Textbook of Medicine* mayelana nocwaningo emazweni antula izinsiza kusebenza. Uzobuyise asebenze njengongoti wezempilo khomishana yamasosha kuleminyaka emihlanu ezayo aphinde futhi abe yilunga kwi-Nelson Mandela Research Policy Unit. Uzophinda futhi abe ngusihlalo wekhomishana ebhekelela izinguquko kumanyuvesi emiphakathi.

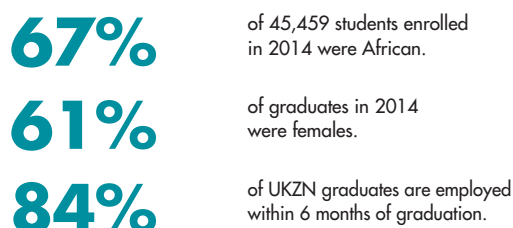
"Njengamanje kodwa, ngithokozela ukuba ngasemakhaya ngichitha isikhathi nabazali bami. Izihlobo ziyaphuma ziyangena futhi ngingasho ukuthi inyanga yami yokuqala ngithathe umhlalaphansi inokuthula okuyisimanga. Ngilithokozele kakhulu ithuba ebenginikwe lona lokuhola iNyuvesi, kanye nakhokonke engezelwe kona yiNyuvesi. ■



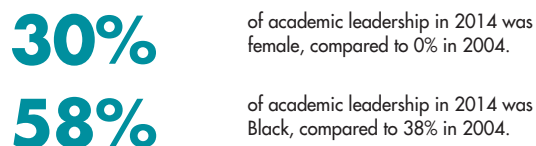
THERE'S NOTHING AVERAGE ABOUT OUR TRANSFORMATION AVERAGES

Since our merger in 2004, UKZN has been at the forefront of transformation of South African universities. We recognise that we have a responsibility to lead by example, and will continue to show that diversity is not a weakness but strength, as we inspire greatness.

STUDENT PROFILE



ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP



RESEARCH PROFILE



GLOBAL RANKINGS 2014

UKZN is ranked within the top 2.4 – 3% of the World's Universities by the Academic Ranking of World Universities, the QS World University Rankings, and The Times Higher Education Ranking.

Academic Ranking of World Universities ranked UKZN 3rd in Africa and 3rd in South Africa.

The Times Higher Education Ranking placed UKZN "within the top 400 for the first time".

No 1
IN SOUTH AFRICA IN
TERMS OF
DHET RESEARCH
OUTPUT

3%
RANKED
IN THE TOP
OF THE WORLD'S
UNIVERSITIES

RESEARCH-ACTIVE STAFF INCREASE

82%

EMPLOYMENT WITHIN 6 MONTHS

84%

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION AND ACADEMIC STAFF PROFILE COMPARED TO NATIONAL UNIVERSITY SYSTEM (INCLUDING UKZN) 2013

50% of UKZN's permanent academic staff hold a PhD as a minimum qualification.

47% of academic staff were female compared to the sector average of 45%.

UKZN's ratio of doctoral graduates to permanent academic staff is 0.15 compared to the national average of 0.11.

UKZN's ratio of research publications to permanent academic staff is 1.18 compared to the national average of 0.79.

The percentage of professors with doctorates in the national system in 2013 was 92%, UKZN was 94%.

The percentage of associate professors with doctorates in the national system in 2013 was 81%, UKZN was 85%.

The percentage of senior lecturers with doctorates in the national system in 2013 was 50%, UKZN was 76%.

The percentage of lecturers with doctorates in the national system in 2013 was 16%, UKZN was 34%.

The percentage of junior lecturers with doctorates in the national system in 2013 was 1%, UKZN was 11%.

The percentage of White academic staff in the national university system in 2013 was 52%, UKZN is 32%.

While others claim that you cannot increase equity and quality at the same time, the figures prove that it can be done if you are determined enough. The key to this is the effective management of the tension between the two, which we have demonstrated to great effect through impressive improvements year on year. It is no coincidence that some of our indicators are seven years ahead of the national university system transformation indicators, implemented with aplomb even in the midst of a complex merger. So if we can achieve this, just imagine how we can inspire tomorrow's generations.

GROWING

OUR OWN TIMBER

Last year, Higher Education and Training Minister Blade Nzimande was quoted as saying that the average age of South African academics is 55, which means that most academics are not far off retirement.

Who will take their place?

A number of national initiatives are in place, including the Staffing of South African Universities Framework (SSAUF) introduced this year to support the recruitment and development of 150 young academics into the Department's New Generation of Academics Programme (nGAP). UKZN has been allocated grants for six such academics who will undertake their PhDs in critical fields of study, including Plant Pathology, Physical Chemistry, Occupational Therapy, Nursing, Architecture and isiZulu studies. They are expected to be in lecturing positions by January 2016.

At UKZN, the need to "grow our own timber" has been recognised as a critical component of the University's strategic commitment to becoming an "institution of choice" for students and employees. This means creating an inclusive, non-discriminatory, cohesive environment for both study and work.

It is also a critical part of the University's transformation agenda.



“Over the next five years, the Leadership Development Programme will train 216 leaders, identified through a talent management process, starting with 37 leaders in 2015.”

“Not only is it important to have young academics in the system, but in the interests of equity, it is important that these academics reflect the racial and gender profiles of our communities,” said Michael Cloete, Manager of Human Resources Development at UKZN.

The formalisation of this approach saw the introduction in 2014 of the **UKZN Graduate Development Programme (GDP)** which aims to achieve equal representation of staff across all academic ranks. Over the next four years, the programme will recruit up to 80 aspirant academics. These candidates will be supported in the completion of their PhDs and become lecturers by 2024.

To support the GDP, UKZN this year introduced the **Talent Excellence and Equity Acceleration Scholarship** in terms of which it recruited 14 promising young students keen to pursue academic studies in scarce or critical academic areas. The remaining 66 scholarships are to be awarded between 2016 and 2019.

Mindful of the need to address historical imbalances in the profile of its staff, the University also introduced the **Accelerated Academic Development Programme** which aims to produce 300 African academics, known as Developmental Lecturers. Already, 112 African Master's graduates have been appointed into scarce or critical disciplines across the Institution.

In a bid to provide university leaders with the skills required to manage people, inspire innovation, and improve productivity and quality of academic outputs, UKZN has developed the **Leadership Development Programme**. Over the next five years, this programme will train 216 leaders, identified through a talent management process, starting with 37 leaders in 2015.

And recognising its responsibilities towards the inclusion of disabled people, in May 2015, UKZN introduced a disabled learnership programme. Already, four disabled learners are enrolled in a one-year programme with the Information Communication Services Division. Sponsored by the Education, Training and Development Practices (ETDP) Seta, they will gain valuable skills in and experience of the end user computing environment. ■

HUMANITIES LAUNCHES PHD COHORTS IN ZIMBABWE, SWAZILAND AND MAURITIUS

UKZN's College of Humanities recently launched PhD cohort programmes in Zimbabwe and Swaziland as part of efforts to ensure an increase in PhD graduates and to create mutual academic partnerships between UKZN, Great Zimbabwe University (GZU), and Swaziland.

Four academics from UKZN facilitated the PhD cohort sessions in Harare and Masvingo at which PhD candidates presented their proposed research topics. The UKZN academics included Dean and Head of UKZN's School of Education Professor Gregory Kamwendo, Professor Vitallis Chikoko, Professor Pholoho Morojele and Dr Federrico Settler.

The Zimbabwean minister responsible for the Presidential Scholarship Programme, Mr Christopher Mushohwe, addressed the cohort, urging students to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the PhD programme. He thanked UKZN for bringing it to Zimbabwe. In Masvingo, Provincial Affairs Minister, Mr Kudakwashe Bhasikiti, who is preparing to pursue a PhD in Religion, Philosophy and Classics, was among the candidates.

A PhD/MEd cohort programme was also launched at Ngwane College in Swaziland where PhD candidates presented their proposed topics and received feedback on their anticipated research. The launches of the PhD cohorts were reported in the local media in both Swaziland and Zimbabwe.

Kamwendo said the support for the PhD cohort at both government and institutional levels was positive. “More applications are coming in since the launch of the cohorts, with some academics in Zimbabwe and Swaziland offering to be affiliated to UKZN so they can be part of the cohort supervisory team. We are also processing the affiliation through honorary appointments,” he said.

A Memorandum of Agreement exists between UKZN's College of Humanities and GZU. The College also has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mauritius Institute of Education. Ms Aruna Ankiah Gangadeen, who graduated from UKZN with a PhD in Education in 2014, is the first PhD graduate among a group of more than 30 who are part of a programme emanating from a 2011 Memorandum of Understanding between the Mauritius Institute of Education and the UKZN School of Education. ■

MESSAGE

FROM THE CONVOCATION PRESIDENT
FANLE SIBISI



As the University of KwaZulu-Natal enters its second decade under new leadership, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the vital contribution of Convocation and our alumni to the ongoing success of the Institution.

Members of Convocation have a real opportunity to influence the future direction of their *alma mater*. The University is a publicly-funded institution and, as such, is an important participant in, and driver of, the national development and transformation agenda. Through the available channels, alumni are able to debate issues that affect the Institution and make a meaningful contribution to its development. Importantly, they are able to keep abreast of developments in their *alma mater* and be informed ambassadors of their university.

Convocation is represented on Council and Senate – the University's highest governing bodies – as well as their subcommittees, and those committees dealing with staff appointments. We also have representation on the Institutional Forum, which offers a platform from which to influence the transformation of the University. This is obviously an important responsibility as well as a great opportunity.

Such an opportunity was realised recently in the appointment of Dr Albert van Jaarsveld as Vice-Chancellor and Principal. Over the past year or so, Convocation representatives have been speaking at a range of alumni gatherings, both at home and abroad, in a bid to prepare alumni for the departure of Professor Malegapuru Makgoba and arrival of Dr van Jaarsveld. More recently, we have travelled with Dr van Jaarsveld in a bid to introduce him to alumni and welcome him into the UKZN fold.

“Over the past year or so, Convocation representatives have been speaking at a range of alumni gatherings, both at home and abroad, in a bid to prepare alumni for the departure of Professor Malegapuru Makgoba and arrival of Dr van Jaarsveld. More recently, we have travelled with Dr van Jaarsveld in a bid to introduce him to alumni and welcome him into the UKZN fold.”

As Convocation we believe Dr van Jaarsveld is a capable leader who is committed to advancing the transformation agenda at UKZN. Under his watch, we anticipate an ongoing emphasis in the Institution on implementing employment equity policy to deal with imbalances of the past. Although it cannot be denied that race is a factor in South Africa, we believe that transformation is not only about skin colour; rather, it is a state of mind and a commitment to social justice. We are confident that

Dr van Jaarsveld has a clear understanding of the challenges facing the Higher Education sector and will continue to advance the Institution along the path of excellence.

Funding of students is an ongoing challenge at UKZN, resulting in negative coverage of student protests and mass action at the start of the academic year. As Convocation, we believe that the best way to address this issue in the long-term is the provision of more funds for students in need. To this end, I encourage alumni to recognise their responsibility to give back to their University and to acknowledge the value of their education in their lives. The contribution does not have to be huge. For example, if each of our 148,000 graduates donated just R100 a year, it would constitute a meaningful sum. The UKZN Foundation offers a range of options for those interested in offering support. These range from bursaries and scholarships to specific academic projects and access programmes.

Please do get involved. As a starting point, I would encourage all alumni to attend the Convocation Annual General Meeting. It is here that you can start to make an impact and take a measure of responsibility for the future of an educational institution that occupies a vital position in the fabric of society and contributes directly to the economic and social development of our country.

In closing, it remains only for me to acknowledge the contribution of former Vice-Chancellor Professor Makgoba to the success of UKZN, and for his consistent engagement with stakeholders and Convocation over the past 10 years and more. I would also like to pay tribute to the successive Council Chairs – Dr Vincent Maphai, Mr Mac Mia, and Dr Phumla Mnganga – for their tireless commitment and courageous leadership. I also acknowledge the good work and inspired guidance of University Chancellors Dr Frene Ginwala and Dr Zweli Mkhize. All these individuals have played a role in forging a University of which we can be proud ambassadors.

Thank you.

Fanle Sibisi

Convocation President

ALUMNI



Determination to escape poverty pushed Siphile Buthelezi to be driven and innovative in his approach to getting an education.

TRUE GRIT

Siphile Buthelezi remembers being poor as a child. Growing up in a one-roomed shack in Clermont with his family, dinner was often the bread his mother had saved from the lunch provided at her part-time cleaning job.

"She didn't eat; instead she brought it home for us," he recalled. "My mom said 'go to school so you can get out of this.'"

His mother, Thandiwe, was forced to leave school in Standard 6 (Grade 8) and believed strongly in education. When Buthelezi was in high school, she would wake him at 2 am to study. "She was helping me," he said, "but I was also motivated. I knew that was the only way out of poverty."

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Ukuzimisela ukulwa nobuphofu kwagquguzela uSiphile Buthelezi ukuthi abe nentshisekelo futhi aqhamuke nezindlela ezazizomsiza ekutholeni imfundo.

Buthelezi is driven. "I have the personality. I never touched alcohol or cigarettes. I was very focused and never got into trouble."

After matric in 2001 there was no money for studies, so he went to work in construction with his father, Ntozonye, to save for university. A breakthrough came when Thandiwe's employer, a matron at Westville Hospital, gave him R3,000 towards his fees. He chose to study law because at school he'd "always had leadership roles," and opted to live in residence so that he could focus on his studies.

"On my first day at UKZN, my mother gave me R20 and said, 'God will provide.'" Despite having no money for books or anything else, Buthelezi managed to win an award for outstanding achievement. He qualified for a government loan, part of which he used to obtain a driver's licence and Public Driver's Permit.

He secured a job driving taxis and acquired the nickname "Sfundiswa" from the other drivers, because he would study while waiting for his vehicle to fill-up.

After graduating in 2006 with eight distinctions he was snapped up to do his articles with top Johannesburg law firm Bowman Gilfillan Inc. In 2010 he was chosen to join a programme in New York, where he was placed with a law firm in Manhattan called Davis Polk & Wardwell, and spent time working at Morgan Stanley investment bank.

"I loved it," he said about New York. "It's one city that pushes you to be the best you can be. I realised that anything is possible. But I also realised that my country needs people like me."

“UButhelezi wazitholela umsebenzi wokushayela amatekisi lapho aqanjwa khona igama lesidlaliso elithi ‘Sfundiswa’ abanye abashayeli ngoba wayefunda ngenkathi esalinde imoto yakhe ukuthi ilayishe.”

Buthelezi came back with lots of ideas, one of which was to try to get other professionals involved in activities related to politics and government, similar to the US. “Fortunately I got involved with people of the same mind,” he said. In 2013 they started an organisation, the Progressive Professionals Forum (PPF), where professionals can contribute towards the running of the state, infrastructure and government. The organisation now has about 5,000 members.

“Professionals are underutilised in South Africa. They don’t get involved, they don’t care,” he said. “But if the country goes down, professionals will lose a lot.”

“Buthelezi secured a job driving taxis and acquired the nickname ‘Sfundiswa’ from the other drivers, because he would study while waiting for his vehicle to fill-up.”

Last year he resigned from Bowman Gilfillan – the firm he returned to after New York – and started a law firm with a few others called Buthelezi Vilakazi Inc. One of the reasons was because he wanted freedom to “be involved in other things. I sit on five different Gauteng provincial government department audit committees,” he said.

“When a government department gets a clean audit it’s because of the audit committee. It’s another way of giving back.” ■

Q&A

WITH UKZN ALUMNUS

DR BRIDGETTE GASA



Dr Bridgette Gasa finished school in rural KZN at the tender age of 16, determined to pursue her love of all things architectural. Working in both the private and public sectors, she has managed the implementation of large infrastructure projects valued at billions of rands. Not yet 40, she now runs her own successful built environment consultancy and construction company.

You named your company after your mother and have instituted scholarships in your father’s name. Clearly your parents have had an enormous impact in your life.

Yes, they remain my absolute heroes. I am the third daughter of Dr Enoch Gasa and the Honorable Faith Xolile Gasa, MPL and I was born in Ngwelezane Hospital near Empangeni when both my parents were lecturers at the University of Zululand. Sadly they are both late, but they raised me and my four siblings to be citizens in right standing and left us with a wonderful legacy: a deep appreciation for the value of education.

Speaking of education, you have a string of qualifications behind your name: a Bachelor of Building Arts in Architecture (University of Port Elizabeth), a Postgraduate Diploma in Project Management (Newport University), a Master’s Degree in Project Management (UKZN), and now a PhD in Construction Management (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University) – among others. Did you always aspire to tertiary education and were you always a good student?

Coming from a home in which education is primary, you can’t imagine doing anything else but pursuing academic instruction. At Mlokothwa High School in Nongoma where I matriculated in 1993, I was a good student, but I had no excuse because my mother at the time was a school inspector. However, if my parents were still alive I think they would argue I didn’t apply myself as much as I could have. I was always among the top five in any class, but they were less impressed by rankings than the percentages I achieved in each subject.

What made you leave KZN and enrol for a Bachelor of Building Arts (Architecture) degree in the Eastern Cape?

I have always had an independent streak, and at the age of 16, which is when I matriculated, I decided I wanted to study outside my province. I chose the University of Port Elizabeth because of its excellent Architecture programme. I didn't have a bursary, so my mother paid my fees.

Why a Project Management Master's at UKZN?

The choice was made for me by the late Minister, the Honorable Stella Sigcau, while I was employed by Public Works, and I remain eternally grateful for it. She identified 10 promising young leaders and funded our postgraduate studies. UKZN was the only institution at the time that offered a credible programme in Project Management.

“As soon as your work begins to speak for itself, nobody can make you feel like a second-class citizen by virtue of your gender or race.”

Did the qualification help your career?

Yes, it has opened many doors for me. I have been able to manage the projects of blue-chip clients like Sun International more proficiently than most other companies could have.

You established your own firm – The Elilox Group – in 2008. What was behind such a bold step?

I never saw myself as someone who would one day have her own company; I was always better at supporting other people's visions and was quite risk-averse. It was an act of God which saw me tender my resignation in September 2008 and start The Elilox Group. 'Elilox' is my mother's name spelt backwards. It was time for me to give back to society, without any institutional limitations. And I have never looked back since.

That's a real tribute to your mother who was obviously a strong role model for you. Even in this modern era, your field of study and work is male-dominated. Have you ever felt at a disadvantage?

No. In fact, I've had several male bosses who not only saw potential in me, but went to great lengths to nurture that potential. As soon as your work begins to speak for itself, nobody can make you feel like a second-class citizen by virtue of your gender or race. But having said that, the industry remains male-dominated, despite some shifts. In order to help address this, my

“Uma umsebenzi wakho usuqala ukuzikhulumela wona, akekho ongakwenza uzizwe sengathi ungaphansi kwakhe ngenxa yobulili noma yebala lakho.”

company has set up scholarships – the Dr Enoch Gasa Scholarship – which are aimed at young women seeking to study in the built environment. We are also in the process of building libraries in rural areas, including KZN.

Not all the “firsts” attached to your name are associated with being a woman, though. For example, as well as being the first female African president of the Chartered Institute of Building, you were also the first African in that position. You were also the youngest member of the President's National Planning Commission. These are all impressive achievements, but which are you personally most proud of?

Attaining my PhD in Construction Management, particularly as it was the most gruelling thing I have ever done. At the time of graduating, I was the first South African woman to hold that qualification. Also, of all the awards I have received, I am most proud of the Leading Woman Scientist in Industry award I received from the Department of Science and Technology in 2008. That meant a lot to me, particularly because I was nominated by peers in industry. This spoke volumes to me about the impact one has made in this very technical domain.

I suspect your leadership style has had something to do with your success. How would you define it?

Participative. I believe in empowering one's team and then letting them get on with it. I spend more time with my team at the early phase of any assignment – sometimes to their irritation – but I am driven by getting it right, the first time.

Are you saying you are a perfectionist?

To some extent, but what really motivates me is development and the need to make a difference in people's lives. I am lucky in that I get to do this through the delivery of social infrastructure – sometimes in the most rural parts of our country. That is extremely fulfilling to me, because I know this is where development is most needed.

If you were to offer any young person a piece of advice based on your most important life's lesson, what would you say?

Respect everyone you come across, irrespective of their standing in society. You never know where they may be in future, what they can offer the world, and how you may need them. ■

POWER COUPLE PIONEERS IN AIDS RESEARCH

“It’s simply about hard work and perseverance,” say South Africa’s AIDS power couple, Professors Salim ‘Slim’ and Quarraisha Abdool Karim.

No strangers to success and failure, the duo’s pioneering research in the field of AIDS achieved several recent ground-breaking results after numerous failed attempts over more than a decade. “As scientists we understood in principle that failing helps clear the way to eventual success – but actually accepting that in practice remains one of the hardest lessons we learnt,” said Slim in describing the path to their success. Their innovations and achievements have brought international recognition and numerous impressive accolades to UKZN.

“Harnessing the creative insights of science to the experiences of the community which science must serve has been key to our research,” says Quarraisha, whose latest accolades include an A-rating from the National Research Foundation, the first academic of colour at the University of KwaZulu-Natal to receive this high honour. This follows the prestigious international TWAS-Lenovo Science Prize she was awarded by The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and preceded her most recent accolade of being named a ‘Living Legend’ by the eThekweni Metro, which is establishing a museum archive comprising a record of all her contributions.

Slim recently received the African Union’s Kwame Nkrumah Continental Scientific Award and Columbia University has announced that he will be taking up an additional appointment to the newly endowed “CAPRISA Chair in Global Health” in their Mailman School of Public Health.

While their work has impacted the farthest reaches of our world, saving lives and preventing HIV infections across every continent, both have firmly embedded roots in UKZN, Durban and South Africa. Quarraisha obtained her BSc degree from the former University of Durban-Westville and Slim his MBChB and MMed degrees from the former University of Natal, where both were student activists during South Africa’s apartheid period. In 2000, both graduated with PhDs from the former University of Natal, having been mentored by Professor Jerry Coovadia. Slim and Quarraisha also have masters degrees from Columbia



University’s Mailman School of Public Health, where they are both also Professors in Clinical Epidemiology.

They continue to work tirelessly on HIV prevention and treatment at the UKZN research institute, CAPRISA – Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa. Their major focus is currently on developing new technologies for women to protect themselves from HIV. “We found the epicentre of the HIV/AIDS epidemic on our doorstep,” Quarraisha says. “Seeing the virus ravaging communities made us passionate about working with people to find real-life solutions.”

“Harnessing the creative insights of science to the experiences of the community which science must serve has been key to our research,” says Quarraisha.

They consider themselves fortunate to have had the opportunity to collaborate with many of UKZN’s and South Africa’s most highly regarded scientists and institutes. “Each person who we have collaborated with has helped educate us to do better in our research,” says Slim. “The deeply committed research team at CAPRISA, whose never-say-die approach is remarkable, has made it possible for us to collectively move the boundaries of knowledge on HIV forward.” ■



A LIFE WELL-INTEGRATED

In her role as UKZN Council Chair, Dr Phumla Mnganga successfully straddled the worlds of academia and business. When she obtained her PhD through Wits University last year, she chose a topic that allowed her to merge her passion for community service with her talent for business. She spoke to *UKZNTOUCH* about how the strands in her life have come together.

A brief exchange with then Vice-Chancellor Professor Malegapuru Makgoba inspired businesswoman and former UKZN Council Chairwoman Phumla Mnganga to embark on a major personal challenge: obtaining her PhD.

Mnganga ended her four-year stint as Chair of the UKZN Council in June this year. During her term, she successfully completed a research doctorate through Wits University on the subject of social entrepreneurship.

"In passing, the former vice-chancellor mentioned that I would make an excellent PhD candidate because I was disciplined and organised. That gave me cause to pause. I had considered doing a doctorate, but was waiting for both a reason and a topic," she said.

On reflection she realised she had an opportunity through a PhD to weave together her life-long commitment to community development, and her substantial business expertise. "Throughout my involvement in the corporate sector, I had been actively involved in the church and other community-based activities. Why not pursue a research project that would bring these worlds together?"

She also wanted to play an advocacy role and make a contribution to social development. So she settled on social entrepreneurship, an under-researched concept, particularly in Africa, but growing in importance throughout the world.

While she enjoyed the unstinting support of her husband Tutu, her family, and all her UKZN colleagues, the process did not come without challenges: Mnganga's mother passed away. Rather than shelve her studies completely, she took a short break after which she resolved to finish her doctorate as a tribute to her mother's legacy.

"For me the PhD is much more than a qualification. It is about who I am, my family, and my role going forward. It brought together all the different voices and threads in my life and provided a platform for a future project," she said.

Mnganga's knack for integrating the different components of her life is a persistent feature. While the mother of two has made a name for herself as a successful businesswoman – sitting on a number of corporate boards and establishing her own women's investment company – a job in business was not always on the cards. "My mother was a clinical psychologist. I wanted to follow her lead and continue my postgraduate studies towards educational psychology," she said.

But as soon as she stepped into Deloitte & Touche South Africa, where she worked in the management consulting division for three years, she recognised it as an environment in which she could thrive. And she did. "I loved my time at Deloitte and it was reflected in my revenue generation," she told *UKZNTOUCH*.

Working as part of a team, her job was to diagnose and solve management and organisational problems in mainly corporate entities, an experience she said has inspired and honed her solutions-oriented approach to life.

At that point, Mnganga held a BA and a B.Ed (Psych) from the former University of Natal. Although she had done some teaching and had worked for an NGO in the education sector, her knowledge of business was virtually zero. But that was no obstacle. "Once you are there, it is about your performance. I simply immersed myself in that environment, and loved it."

But good mentoring also helped and Mnganga credits her former boss, then company director Bridget van Kralingen, with helping to facilitate her seamless transition into the corporate world.

"Beyond my mother, Bridget was my most important female role model. She showed care, but she was also very tough. She taught me that if you are a woman in power you can make a choice to help other women."

Mnganga resolved to study part-time for a Master of Business Leadership through the University of South Africa. Once again,

she found no disadvantage in her humanities-based education. "At university I was taught to think critically, so that was all I needed," she said.

While at Deloitte, she conceived her second child and although happy in her work, felt she needed a job that demanded less travelling. "I was nine months' pregnant when I was interviewed by four men for a senior management position at Tongaat Hulett. In the middle of the interview, one simply asked: 'When can you join us?'"

So close to giving birth was she that the company's medical aid application form had to be sent into the labour ward for her to sign. A second daughter was born and in Tongaat Hulett she found a happy professional home for nearly 10 years.

The move back to academia started while Mnganga was in her late 20s when she was invited to join the Council of the University of Durban-Westville (UDW). She was nominated by longstanding university friend Adam Habib who was then a UDW staff member. Almost 20 years later, there would be a happy synchronicity in the fact that Habib, now Wits Vice-Chancellor, was required to take the role of Acting Chancellor on the day of Mnganga's PhD graduation ceremony, and ended up capping her.

Back then, Mnganga's appointment to the Council opened the door to one of the most rewarding chapters in her life. Stepping back onto university soil for her first meeting felt like a kind of homecoming. "I had a sense of *deja-vu*," she recalled.

Most of Mnganga's early childhood was spent living on the grounds of educational institutions: first, at Fort Hare University where her father, a Methodist church leader and later a bishop, taught theology on the East Campus; and later, at the Federal Theological Seminary of Southern Africa (FEDSEM) when her father was subsequently posted to Pietermaritzburg. There, Mnganga attended Epworth High School as one of its first Black pupils and met the two friends she would later partner with to establish Lehumo Women's Investment Company.

From her parents Mnganga learnt two core values: education and community service. "They were incredible role models. They read to us daily when we were small and made an active decision to educate us in private schools. Both emphasised service to others."

At Fort Hare, Mnganga and her two siblings had free rein of the campus, often sitting in on lectures, and imbibing the robust debate that characterised the university at the time. In that environment, Mnganga learned to form strong opinions and became *au fait* with protest action.

Both lessons were to prove useful at UDW. "Being on the UDW Council was tough, but so was Fort Hare," she said.

Mnganga served on UDW's highest governing body during the terms of two successive vice-chancellors – Professors Mapule

Ramashala and Saths Cooper. "The job of vice-chancellor is complex and lonely. I learned respect for the toughness of the position and compassion for those who occupied it," she said.

When the Council was dissolved at the end of 2004 in the lead-up to the merger with Natal, Mnganga recognised an opportunity for a well-deserved break, but in 2006 was persuaded to return to the permanent Council of the new institution – a decision she said was motivated by service, and which she described as "the best I have ever made".

"Serving on the UKZN Council, particularly as Deputy Chair and then as Chair, I felt all the threads in my life start to come together – a synchronicity at work. My Fort Hare days, my upbringing and the lessons in leadership I took from my father who always emphasised character, ethics and service above status ... I started to reap the benefits of all these influences."

Although Mnganga has served and continues to serve on a number of high profile corporate boards such as Gold Circle, the Telkom Group and Spar, and chairs NGO the Siyazisasa Trust, the UKZN experience stands out.

"Higher education offered me an opportunity to make a real contribution to South Africa. Education is a great equaliser. Whether you are from Hilton or uMbumbulu, education gives you an equal chance."

She took her convictions around equality into Council, encouraging all members, no matter whether they were high court judges or first-year students, to call her by her first name. "In terms of our new cooperative governance model they were equal," she said.

She saw her primary role as building unity and cohesion. "For the new institution to succeed, we had to rise above our differences and wear one hat, no matter what the challenges were. The important thing for me was that all stakeholders should act in the best interests of the University."

Mnganga was also concerned that the merger should succeed. Having worked at Tongaat Hulett, where the consequences of a merger that had taken place decades before her time were still evident, she had some understanding of what it could do to the human psyche. "I could understand both parties, and the alienation. For me, the 'glue' for the new institution had to be the governance structure," she said.

Mnganga's consistent concern for the "human element" did not go unnoticed. While listing the lessons he took from successive Council Chairs at his farewell function in 2014, Makgoba announced that Mnganga had taught him "how to be a human being".

"That was touching," she said. "My experience at UKZN has been a phenomenal one that I will always cherish. I know I've made some contribution, but the University has also made me a better person and a better leader," she said. ■



EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

UKZN is among South Africa's top research-led universities. The University continues to feature well in international rankings and for a second year running, has been ranked by the Department of Higher Education and Training as the top university in South Africa in terms of research output. The year 2014 saw UKZN academics produce a total of 1627.21 publication units, which represents an impressive 14.25 % increase on the previous year.

In terms of international rankings, the University fared particularly well during 2014. The University has been ranked in the top 2.1% among the world's leading academic institutions by the Centre for World University Rankings.

The Academic Ranking of World Universities places UKZN in the top three universities in Africa and it is now ranked 45th in a total of 700 universities according to the Times Higher Education's first ranking of the BRICS and emerging economies universities. UKZN was ranked at 417 in the US News and World Report Best Global Universities.

At UKZN, there is an impressive range and depth of research being conducted across all disciplines. The University also has a carefully selected set of research focus areas which both support its vision to be a centre of African scholarship, and are aligned to the imperatives of the Millennium Development Goals.

Thus our research aims to address both scientific and societal agendas – aims that are facilitated by a multi-disciplinary approach and collaborations with some of the best academic institutions in the world.

The University has a number of Centres of Excellence in critical fields such as HIV prevention, indigenous knowledge systems, food security, human development, water research and electrical engineering – all of which are pushing knowledge boundaries and making an impact on global research agendas.

Emphasis is also increasingly being placed on the entrepreneurial potential of the university's research output and we have developed strong ties with commercial and industrial partners to achieve this. ■



MARITIME STUDIES

CHARTS NEW COURSE AS KEY INDUSTRY PLAYER

Since its establishment in 2012, the Unit of Maritime Law and Maritime Studies under the College of Law and Management Studies has enabled UKZN to distinguish itself as a key player in the maritime sector.

Maritime Studies is one of seven niche research areas at UKZN and the vision of the Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Dr Albert van Jaarsveld, is to see UKZN strengthening ties with the sector with a view to contributing towards economic development in the region.

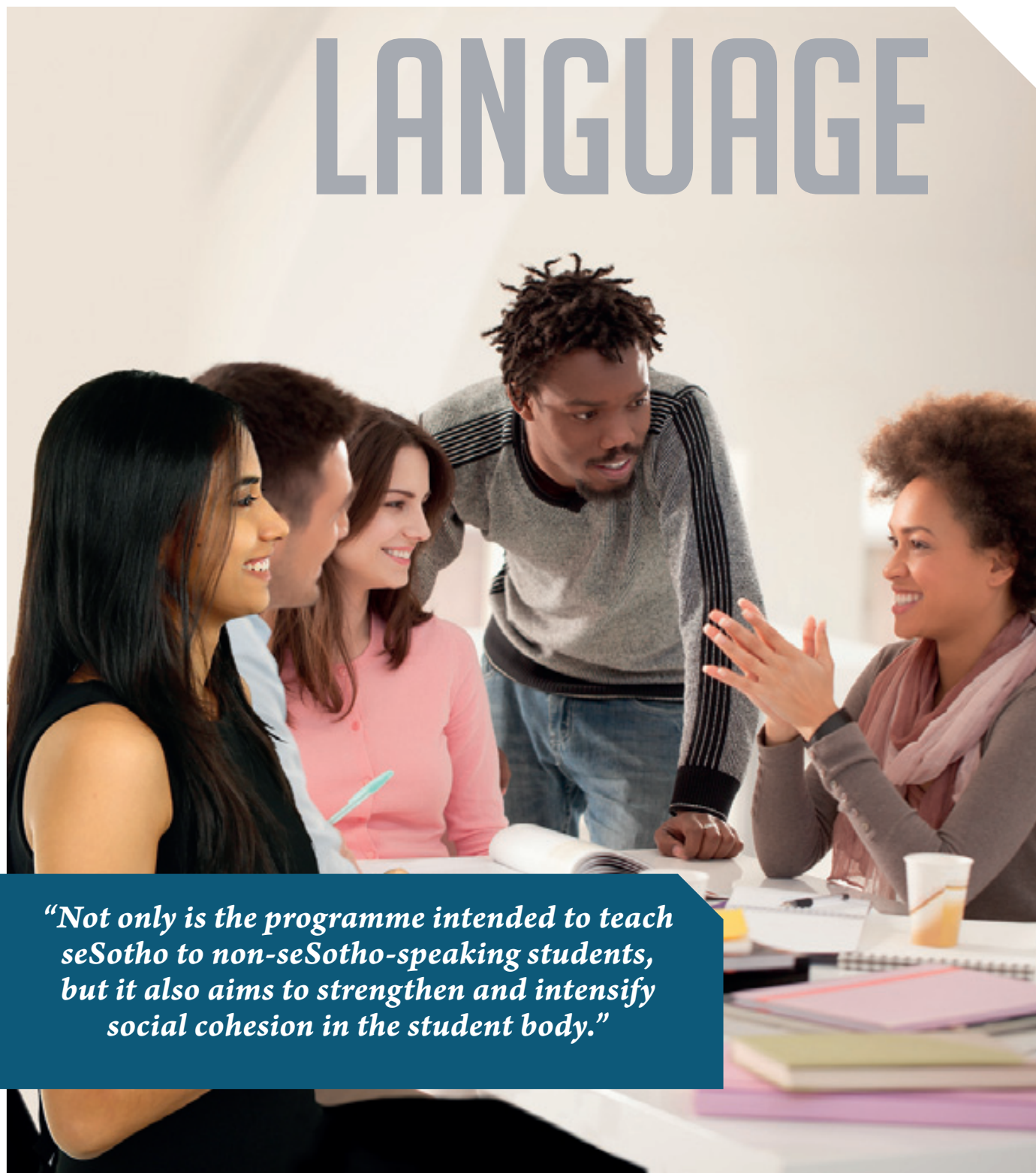
The interdisciplinary, postgraduate Unit is ideally situated on the doorstep of the largest port-related maritime community of any city in the southern hemisphere. It is able to draw on the rich teaching and research expertise located in the various Schools and Disciplines in the College of Law and Management Studies. These include maritime law, environmental law, international trade law and international economics, maritime economics, transport economics, taxation and maritime management – all of which are complemented by practical industry expertise.

Under the leadership of maritime studies expert Professor Trevor Jones, the research output in the Unit has shown a steady increase. In 2013 seven postgraduate students graduated with a Master of Maritime Law and two with a Master of Commerce in Maritime Studies. In 2014 Iranian student Dr Farhad Razkhaneh was awarded a PhD in transport economics for a thesis on the provision of efficient transport services in the Iranian maritime and land transport interface, which was supervised by Jones. Also in 2014, three students were awarded an LLM in Maritime Law and six received an MCom in Maritime Studies.

At a maritime industry dinner hosted by the Vice-Chancellor in June 2015, Dean and Head of the UKZN School of Law Professor Managay Reddi reassured captains of industry of the School's commitment to undertaking research projects that will make a meaningful contribution to the maritime sector. ■



THE UNIFYING POWER OF LANGUAGE



“Not only is the programme intended to teach seSotho to non-seSotho-speaking students, but it also aims to strengthen and intensify social cohesion in the student body.”

The University of KwaZulu-Natal has received widespread recognition for its decision to introduce a compulsory isiZulu language module at undergraduate level as part of its wider plan to promote the use of isiZulu, alongside English, as a language of learning, communication, teaching and administration. But the University's commitment to languages goes much further and includes a conversational Sesotho programme as well as an initiative to put sign language on an equal footing with all 11 official languages.

Bua le nna ("Speak with me") aims to promote the use of seSotho – the third most widely spoken language in South Africa – among university students without the pressure of tests or exams. Not only is the programme intended to teach seSotho to non-seSotho-speaking students, but it also aims to strengthen and intensify social cohesion in the student body.

According to Director of the UKZN Language Planning and Development Office (ULPDO), Dr Langa Khumalo, the programme has proved to be very popular among students, with attendance at the fortnightly informal learning sessions growing steadily since the initiative was first rolled out in two residences – Ansell May Hall and John Bews – in April 2014.

"We are very proud of the project which is spreading across units," he said. "By focusing on informal, everyday language between male and female students, the programme is able to infuse social cohesion across both cultural and gender divides ... The students simply love it," he said.

Khumalo, who holds a PhD in Linguistics from the University of Oslo and was one of the editors of *Isichazamazwi SesiNdebele*, the first monolingual general Ndebele dictionary, said the sharing of seSotho songs and dances during these sessions also has the effect of imparting some knowledge of the cultural practices and values attached to the language.

Another important benefit, he said, is that because a portion of seSotho-speaking students are international students (from Lesotho), the programme helps to facilitate their inclusion as foreign students into the university community.

Bua le nna is co-ordinated with assistance from mother tongue-speaking student "champions" who work with team leaders in the ULPDO and receive a tutor's remuneration for their contributions.

Khumalo said the project has been so successful that plans are underway to have the language champions teach all nine ULPDO office staff so as to ensure they are conversant in seSotho as well. "It's a case of putting our money where our mouth is," he said.

Another area in which the ULPDO is making headway is in the promotion of sign language. Although not an official South

African language, the Constitution supports its development and calls have repeatedly been made for sign language to join the list of 11 official languages. In 2012, the promulgation of the Use of Official Languages Act placed greater pressure on public entities to develop policies which facilitate communication in sign language and promote parity of esteem in respect of the language.

According to Khumalo, while the number of deaf students at UKZN may be relatively small, the University is committed to embracing them, providing facilities and raising awareness of their challenges among the broader community. "We want to give life to both the letter and spirit of the law when it comes to giving parity to South African languages. Ours is a relatively small community at UKZN, but this is not a numbers game," he told *UKZNTOUCH*. "Your student days are said to be among the best in your life. Are we giving the best to our disabled students?" he asked.

Khumalo said the ULPDO works closely with the University's Disability Office to take sign language advocacy into the University community and into schools where UKZN is promoted as a place where students with disabilities such as deafness are not only welcome, but actively supported. ■



▲ Dr Langa Khumalo, Director of the UKZN Language Planning and Development Office (ULPDO).

THE MINDFUL

LEADER



Many business schools are incorporating practices that develop the mind into their leadership curricula.

A business school may seem like an unlikely place to find a room full of students meditating, or attempting wobbly yoga poses. Yet, in recent years that's exactly what's been happening in many universities, as they join a global trend to try to enhance individual and organisational performance through development of the mind.

Based on research showing that mindfulness meditation can yield benefits ranging from reduced stress to improved creativity, memory, work performance, emotion regulation, cognitive control and general happiness, the practice has been embraced by a growing number of disciplines.

In the workplace, institutions like Google, the World Bank and, locally, Discovery have endorsed it as a tool for improving performance, and in line with this and promoting the practice as an essential tool in times of change, top universities such as Harvard Business School and NYU Stern have also incorporated it into their curricula.

A secular activity that has its roots in Buddhist meditation practice, mindfulness can be described as the deliberate, non-judgmental focus of one's attention on the emotions, thoughts and sensations occurring in the present moment.

Mindfulness training involves doing this for a recommended minimum of 10 or 20 minutes a day, by sitting and observing your breathing, gently drawing the mind back to the breath when it wanders. Doing this regularly improves your ability to focus and develops a calm state that you can take into everyday activities like walking, cooking and engaging with co-workers.

According to *The Australian*, the neurological basis of this is that "we can learn techniques to consciously switch off the sympathetic nervous system – the excitatory system that drives us – and switch on the parasympathetic system, which soothes us, fills us with feel-good hormones and keeps us sharp, focused, energetic and happy".

Investment Executive Mrs Nompumelelo (Mpumi) Maesela has just completed a Master's in Positive Leadership and Strategy that was a life-changing experience. The course, offered at IE Business School in Madrid, is similar to an MBA but has an emphasis on developing the individual that draws on the latest research in mindfulness, yoga, and positive psychology – a relatively new area of study that focuses on behaviour that makes us happy.

"Mindfulness takes you through the process of understanding yourself, your thoughts and your actions," said Maesela, who graduated from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) with a Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting in 2003.

"In the workplace, institutions like Google, the World Bank and, locally, Discovery have endorsed it as a tool for improving performance, and in line with this and promoting the practice as an essential tool in times of change, top universities such as Harvard Business School and NYU Stern have also incorporated it into their curricula."

"We are re-engineering the way we think. I used to be impatient. Now I ask questions rather than tell people they're wrong. Even if it's difficult, I find a way to be more constructive. I'm a much better leader now."

Yoga is also included because it develops awareness of the body by focusing on breathing, which helps with the experience of "being in the moment".

"We need to breathe but we aren't aware of how we do it," said Maesela, adding that focusing attention on breathing leads one to becoming more aware of what the body and mind are feeling and doing. "When you're tired or anxious it shows in your poses. Yoga balances thoughts and emotions."

According to Professor Kriben Pillay, Dean of Teaching and Learning in the College of Law and Management Studies at UKZN, business schools including UKZN have been teaching mindfulness as part of their curricula for the last decade or so. "Our education system needs to recognise that we're not educating the entire person if we leave out this approach," he said.

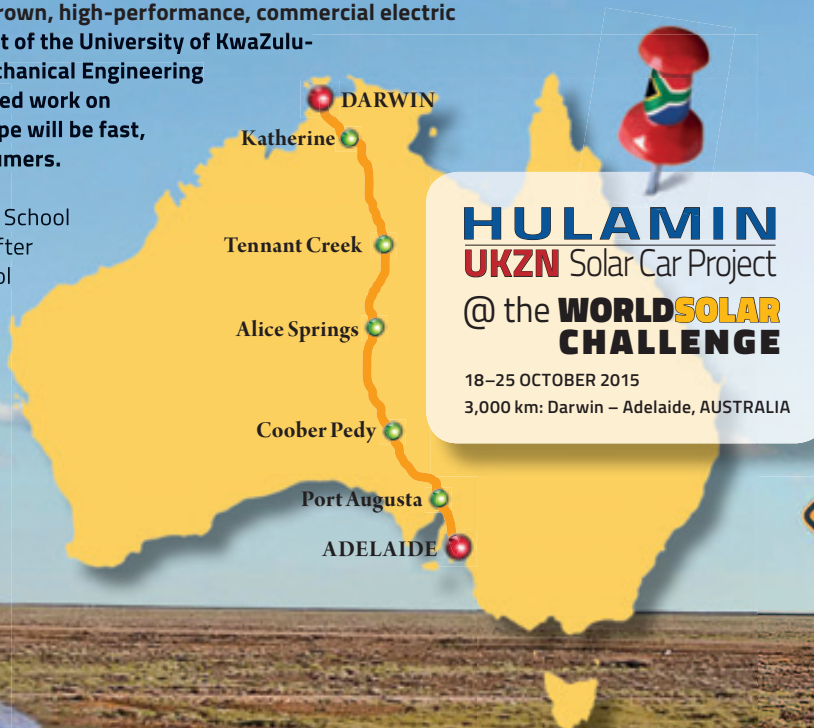
He added that UKZN is one of South Africa's tertiary institutions that is a leading centre of research on Theory U, a system of learning developed by Otto Scharmer that proposes that social, institutional and personal change comes about through awareness, or being mindful. ■

RIDING HIGH

One of the ripple effects of the UKZN Solar Car Project is a piece of research that could produce the country's own high-performance, commercial electric car.

Could South Africa's first home-grown, high-performance, commercial electric car be born in Durban? Flowing out of the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Solar Car Project, two Mechanical Engineering postgraduate students have started work on developing an electric car they hope will be fast, affordable and appealing to consumers.

The Solar Car Project, based in the School of Engineering, is still riding high after last year's success in the Sasol Solar Challenge, and the team is feverishly working on an improved vehicle that will be competing in October's Bridgestone World Solar Challenge in Australia.



Last year's team built a car that came third in the eight-day, international Sasol Solar Challenge race from Pretoria to Cape Town. It was the first South African car past the post. Hulamin, which sponsored the car to the tune of R600,000, was impressed enough to pledge a further R1 million to send the team and their new car to Australia. It will be the first time an African team has entered this international event, and although significantly under-resourced compared to their competitors, they're confident they'll do well.

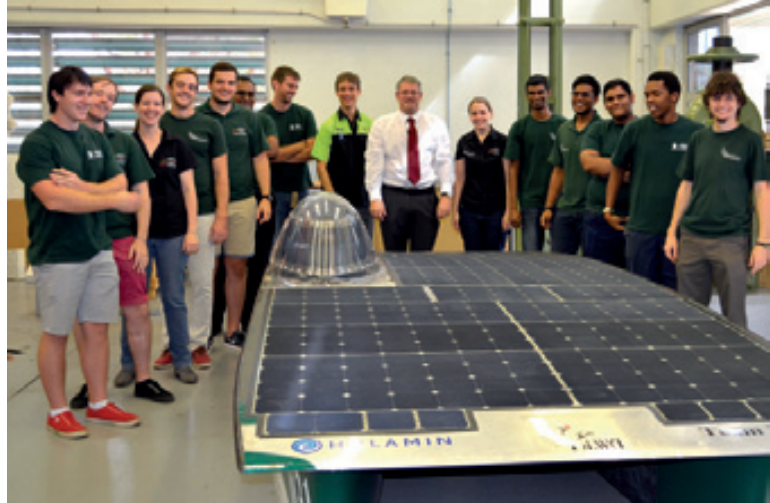
"We're the underdog team," said one of the team leaders, Ms Kirsty Veale, who lectures in the Department of Mechanical Engineering. "Our budget is R1.5 million compared to the world champs' considerably larger amount. But if we can get the money we need, we're hoping to come seventh out of 40 teams."

While the team's racing success is impressive, Dr Clinton Bemont, fellow team leader and Lecturer in the Department, believes the real value of the project is in the skills learned in technologies that are becoming more relevant every day. "One thing this project does is train students," he said, explaining that the solar car is "firstly an electric vehicle and secondly a solar energy collecting device".

"We create a passion in this field. They love it. Five of the six students involved in the project last year have stayed on for further studies. Among previous students a disproportionate percentage has gone into the automotive or associated industries."

Two of the students, Mr Matthew Woods and Mr Nicholas Witteveen, have started working on a project for their Master's degrees that entails developing a lightweight electric vehicle that can transport a passenger. Instead of carrying solar panels, it will be charged from the grid or from energy stored in panels at the owner's home.

This is because solar technology is still too undeveloped to allow for a commercial car powered by the sun. "The biggest challenge of the solar panels we use is that they're only 20% efficient," said Woods. "The challenge is to design an efficient vehicle when you only have a small amount of energy to use."



▲ Dr van Jaarsveld, UKZN's Vice-Chancellor (centre), Team Managers Dr Clinton Bemont (centre left) and Ms Kirsty Veale (centre right), with the Solar Car Project team from UKZN's School of Engineering.

Weight is an issue because the heavier the car, the more energy it consumes. "We are hoping to develop a light-weight vehicle using techniques and materials that we use for the solar car," said Witteveen.

The car, which must be built by the end of 2016, will have a monocoque chassis – in other words, combined in one unit with the body – manufactured from carbon fibre and aramid fibre composites.

"They need to develop a high-performance vehicle," said Veale. "Electric vehicles don't sell; they're slow, boring and expensive. The team is focusing on producing a vehicle that will attract interest."

"Once we've created interest in the project, we're hoping it will attract money to develop a commercial vehicle, a city runaround," said Woods.

For solar car team member Mr Saien Rugdeo, the best aspect of working on these projects is that they're relevant. "We're running out of fossil fuels and we need a re-evaluation of how we view transport. Here we're learning to develop skills that can make a contribution. That's what any engineer wants to do." ■

CALL FOR AUSTRALIAN-BASED ALUMNI TO GET BEHIND OUR TEAM!

The World Solar Challenge is a very expensive event to compete in, given the state-of-art materials used in the design of the solar car and the logistical demands.

To all alumni living in Australia: we appeal to you to support our team. Support can be anything from monetary contributions, to loaning your vehicle for use by the support team, or cheering for the team along the route. Every encouragement will make a difference to the team.

For further enquires please email Team Managers: **Kirsty Veale** (veale@ukzn.ac.za) or **Clint Bemont** (bemontc@ukzn.ac.za)



<http://caes.ukzn.ac.za>



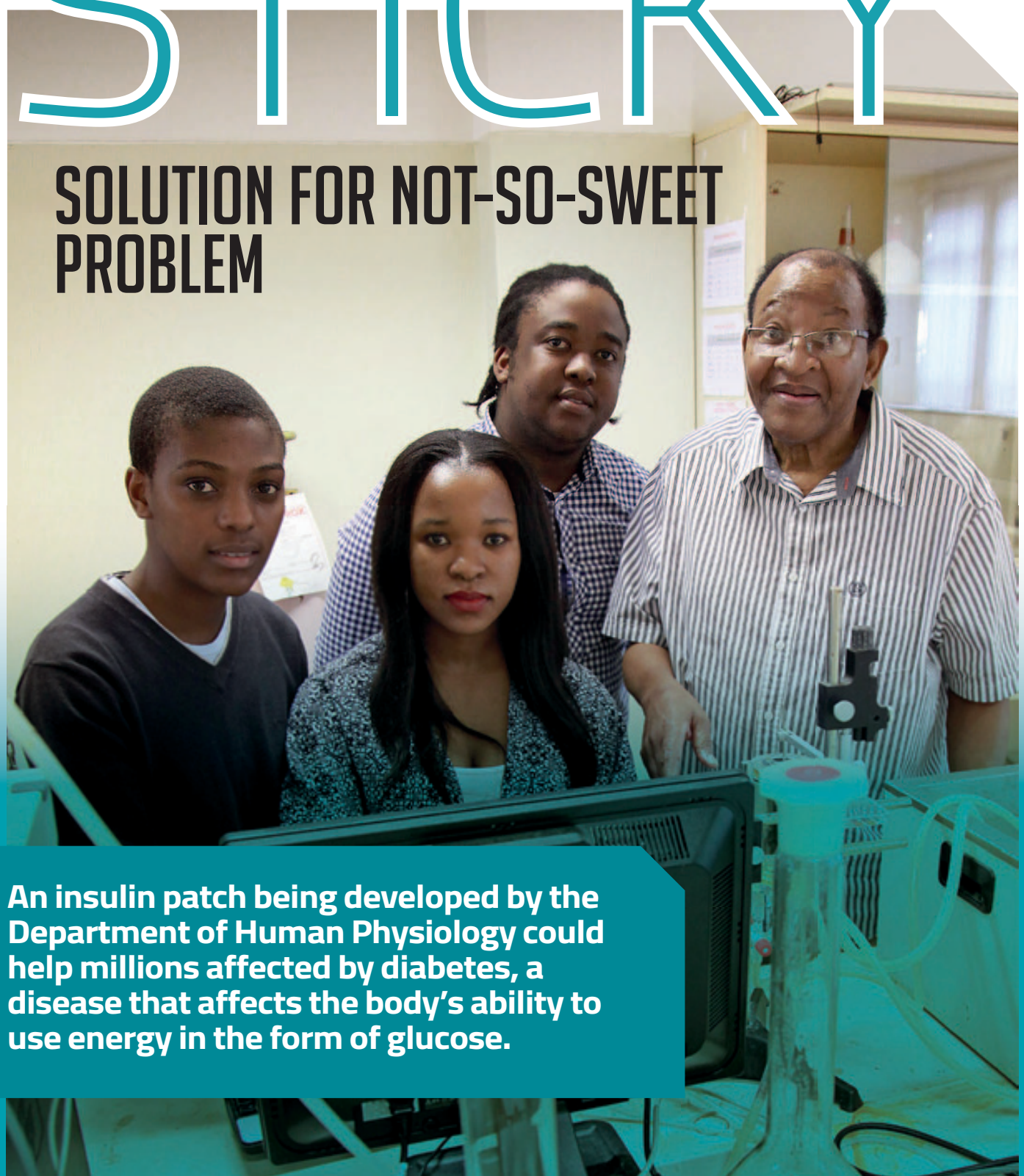
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STICKY

SOLUTION FOR NOT-SO-SWEET PROBLEM



An insulin patch being developed by the Department of Human Physiology could help millions affected by diabetes, a disease that affects the body's ability to use energy in the form of glucose.

WHAT IS DIABETES?

ABOUT DIABETES

Diabetes is a chronic disease that occurs when the pancreas is no longer able to make insulin or when the body cannot make good use of it. Insulin is a hormone made by the pancreas that helps glucose from the breakdown of food become available to cells. Not being able to produce insulin or use it effectively leads to raised glucose levels in the blood that can be harmful to the body.

(Source: International Diabetes Federation).

The University of KwaZulu-Natal has lodged a provisional patent for a pectin insulin gel skin patch that could free millions of diabetics from daily injections.

Research on the patch is being done in UKZN's Department of Human Physiology, with Professor Cephas Musabayane leading the team. His research interests fall broadly under the management of diabetes using medicinal plants.

In 2010, together with Mr Mark Tufts, he first reported the discovery of a new method to administer insulin into the bloodstream via a skin patch. Last year he and his team announced that they had developed insulin-containing dermal patches – tested on streptozotocin (STZ)-induced diabetic rats – capable of sustaining controlled release of insulin into the bloodstream, with accompanying alleviation of diabetic symptoms in target tissues, most importantly, muscle and liver.

Progress in developing a skin patch for administering insulin is particularly significant, given that all other methods involve piercing the skin. Because insulin is a large protein molecule it is not suitable for being administered orally, because it would be destroyed by the gastrointestinal tract.

"Injections can be so uncomfortable that patients don't take their medication," said PhD candidate Ms Philile Sibiya, who is part of the team working on the patch. "We're trying to minimise patient discomfort. Also, with injections patients use higher concentrations of the drug. The patch uses a lower concentration and there's controlled, sustained release. The patch is more like the physiological release of insulin."

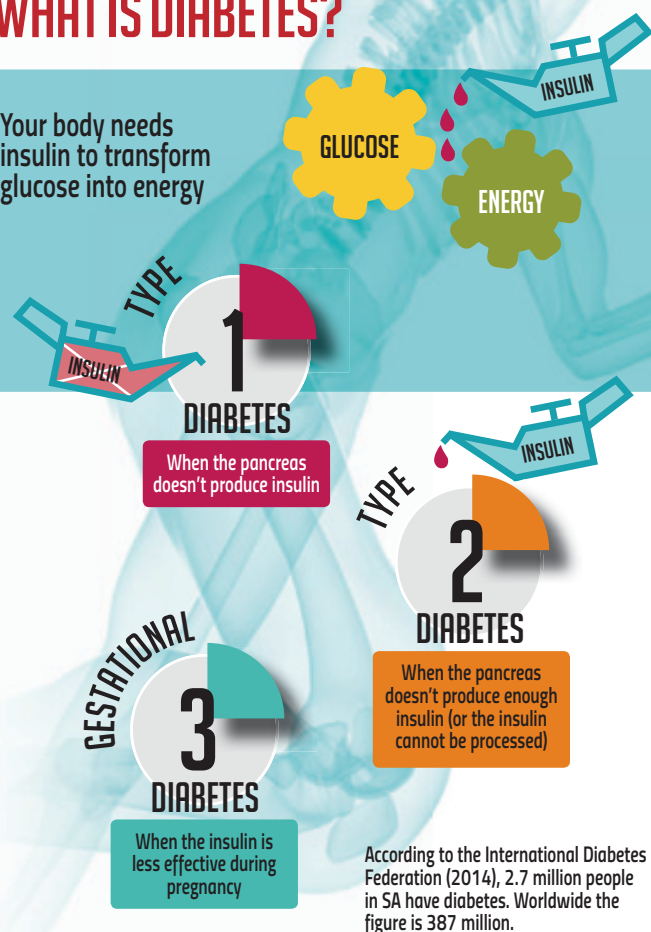
"When you take a drug it goes into the gut and has to pass through the liver," explained Musabayane. "For effective doses you must give a high concentration, but there can be side-effects." These include hyperinsulinaemia, insulin resistance, glucose intolerance, weight gain and cardiovascular complications.

◀ The team working on the pectin insulin gel skin patch are (from left): Dr Silindile Hadebe, Philile Sibiya, Dr Andile Khathi and Professor Cephas Musabayane.

In Memoriam

Professor Cephas Musabayane passed away peacefully on 12 June 2015 in Durban. He will be sorely missed by all his UKZN colleagues.

Your body needs insulin to transform glucose into energy



The skin is well suited to delivering insulin to the body. "There are not many transporters for insulin in the gastrointestinal tract," said team member Dr Silindile Hadebe. "But there are transporters in the skin that can transport insulin to organs straight away."

One of the challenges in developing such a patch is that the insulin molecule is not easily absorbed by the skin because of its size. Hadebe said this obstacle was overcome by using enhancers in the patch to help the insulin pass through the skin, but these have a tendency to damage it. Their solution was to add anti-oxidants such as Vitamin E and eucalyptus oil for protection.

Dr Andile Khathi said they are researching other plant substances that could be added for a multi-targeted effect. For example, work he's done on the effect of substances derived from the *Syzygium aromaticum* (clove) plant showed that they lowered blood glucose.

While the patch has the potential to make a significant improvement to the lives of diabetics, Musabayane cautioned that it would be a while before it's available. "Drug development takes a long time. We're working out how to optimise the dose in animals, but we still have a long way to go. The laws are very strict about what must be achieved before we can go to clinical trial." ■

JOINING HANDS



A prosthetic hand makes a huge psychological difference to an amputee, but they're unaffordable for most South Africans. A team from the Department of Mechanical Engineering aims to change that with their Touch Hand II.

Eleven days before Mr John Harris's wedding, he was electrocuted and lost both hands.

When he got married four months later he wore prosthetic hands made especially for the ceremony. "It was important then," he told *UKZNTOUCH*. "I wanted to fit it. You can't get married wearing hooks," he said, referring to the entry-level prosthesis he wears 18 years later, which consists of a harness across his back connected to crude L-shaped plastic "arms" which end in pincer-like hooks.

Harris, who works as a marketing and sales consultant for a logistics company, has been helping a team from UKZN's Department of Mechanical Engineering, led by Professor Riaan Stopforth, which is refining an electric prosthetic hand they've developed. The hand has already received several accolades and a company, Touch Prosthetics, has been formed through UKZN's intellectual property and technology transfer office InQubate, to produce it commercially at an affordable price.

Harris was brought on board for his insights into how to make the hand more functional for amputees, and said he found it easy to operate. However, he believes what's really important in a prosthesis is the psychological aspect.

"With hooks, the biggest thing is getting over the psychological block, the self consciousness. I went through depression and contemplated suicide. The advantage of the electric hand for a person with a new amputation is that it gives them an opportunity to be reintegrated into society more easily."

The Touch Hand is about more than just looking good, however, and incorporates cutting-edge technology that should enhance the lives of most amputees. The hand came about after Mr Drew van der Riet, who graduated with a BEng in Mechatronics from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, registered to do a Master's degree under Stopforth in the Department of Mechanical Engineering.

Van der Riet had done his final-year project for his undergraduate degree in the medical technology field, and "really enjoyed the human application of it", while Stopforth was conducting research in medical robotic applications at the time.

Van der Riet undertook to produce a prosthetic hand with the functionality of a R300,000 hand for considerably less. "I produced a fully robotic hand for about R10,000," he said. "The cost of parts wasn't huge."

◀ Above: UKZN's prosthetic hand team: MSc graduate Drew van der Riet, current MSc student Greg Jones, double amputee Mr John Harris and Professor Riaan Stopforth.
Below: View of the internal mechanism of the prosthetic hand.

ACCOLADES FOR TOUCH HAND

- Winner of the Step-Up Innovation Competition in November 2013.
- Represented South Africa in Swiss Entrepreneurial Exchange programme in June 2014.
- Came third in the GAP Medical innovation competition in November 2014. The prize was put towards the development of Touch Hand II.

While doing his research he realised that the cost of prosthetic hands was out of reach of ordinary people. "Very few people in South Africa are using them. Hooks are all that they can afford," he said. Then, in 2014 he attended a workshop in Switzerland for entrepreneurs and was encouraged to explore the business end of his design. "That's driven us forward and has been a great learning experience."

What makes the Touch Hand affordable is that 3D printing is used to produce the mechanical components, reducing machining costs considerably, while its modular design makes it customisable.

"The amputee can choose what he or she wants. The hand is adaptable to everyone's situation and pocket. Once they have one they can upgrade it because it's modular," said Van der Riet.

Master's student Mr Greg Jones, who joined the team in July last year, has been refining the design of the Touch Hand II, and he said it should be ready sometime this year. According to the Touch Hand blog, Jones is focusing on modularising the hand "to be more easily upgraded, as well as streamlining and compacting the electric design to give the hand a more polished and user-friendly look".

The Touch Hand II is controlled by electromyography, which involves electrodes attached to the skin of the arm affected by the amputation. These electrodes measure voltage created when muscles flex under them. Eventually, the hand will support a sensory feedback system.

"Our biggest challenge is financing," said Van der Riet. "We received a grant from the Technology and Innovation Agency but it took a year to come. South African investors are risk averse."

He said the team plans to do crowdfunding through Thundafund, a local platform, to sell the Touch Hand II for R30,000. "People can sponsor a hand for an amputee. We'll then work with people who receive a hand to improve the design." ■

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE



UKZN'S LIGHTBULB MOMENT

A SOLUTION TO A GLOBAL PROBLEM



Through InQubate, UKZN and its partners have patented a “first-in-the-world” process aimed at recovering valuable rare earth metals from used light bulbs – a unique system which exploits both the commercial value of waste and contributes to the development of the global green energy sector.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) use up to 80% less energy than conventional incandescent bulbs and can last up to 15 times longer. Recognising the energy-savings potential of this technology, national power utility Eskom distributed over 43 million CFLs in South Africa between 2004 and 2010 in a campaign aimed at encouraging citizens to switch to CFLs.

The benefits of the campaign are clear, but there is a downside: CFL bulbs contain mercury and phosphorescent, rare earth metals such as yttrium and europium oxides, which cannot be disposed of in ordinary landfills. While the technology currently exists for the recovery of glass, plastic, and some metal component from the CFLs, toxic mercury must be converted

to a non-toxic form before it can be disposed of. There is also a lost opportunity in terms of the high-value rare earth metals which in a conventional recycling process would be discarded. These rare earth metals have become extremely valuable on the world market as a result of their restricted trade by China, which currently dominates production.

But that's all about to change. Together with partners at the Institute of Chemical Process Fundamentals, one of six institutes making up the Section of Chemical Sciences of the Czech Academy of Sciences, UKZN chemical engineers Professor Deresh Ramjugernath, Professor Milan Carsky, and PhD student Mark Williams-Wynn have come up with a novel process to recover yttrium and europium from CFLs. The patent for the invention has been provisionally filed and



UKZN has a diverse range of academic and research units which are centres of disciplinary excellence. All of them aspire to produce world-class, socially-relevant research. We profile a selection of them.

the University is in negotiations with a number of companies interested in buying back the recovered rare earth metals.

"The sale of the rare earth metals, which are valued in a number of industries around the globe, including the high-tech and green energy sectors, makes the recycling of CFL bulbs a viable business opportunity," Ramjugernath told *UKZNTOUCH*.

A semi-commercial pilot plant for the chemical extraction of the metals has opened on the Howard College campus and was launched, together with the South African Chemical Technology Incubator (Chemin) Centre, by Minister of Trade and Industry Dr Rob Davies in May last year. The CFL project has the backing of Eskom and the provincial Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, both of which have a direct interest in the responsible disposal of CFLs, particularly in light of legislation due to be passed next year regulating their disposal. Negotiations are also underway with a partner company that will be responsible for the mechanical aspects of the process: crushing the glass.

"There's a full beneficiation chain in place," said Ramjugernath, "which will result in almost zero waste."

Not only will the new technology address the immediate problem of CFL disposal, but according to Ramjugernath, it holds the potential to address the problem of electronic waste more broadly.

"This is just a start. We anticipate that the technology can be used, for example, to extract precious metals such as neodymium, a component in the alloys used to make powerful magnets found in computer hard disks and most electronic goods."

Other metals include platinum and gold, all of which, as long as they remain in obsolete equipment, are currently entering landfills – with deleterious effects on the environment – or being stockpiled.

"This kind of recycling offers lots of opportunities for job creation and economic growth of the Green Economy," said Ramjugernath. ■

INQUBATE

WHAT IS INQUBATE?

The CFL pilot is one of a dozen or so "spin-offs" developed through InQubate, UKZN's intellectual property and technology transfer office.

Among the aims of the office are the identification of technologies arising out of University research that have commercial application, and the protection of intellectual property and patenting.

Pro Vice-Chancellor for Innovation, Commercialisation and Entrepreneurship Professor Deresh Ramjugernath told *UKZNTOUCH* that the research at UKZN holds "enormous potential" for technology transfer and commercialisation. "I spend a lot of time communicating with researchers, helping them to understand what commercialisation of research entails, and how it can be undertaken in a university environment. I also help to build internal and external networks which have the potential to link academics with business and industrial partners when the time is right."

Ramjugernath described research commercialisation as an international trend reflecting both stringent global economic conditions and the call for universities to contribute more directly to social and economic development. "Universities today simply cannot sustain themselves on subsidies and fees alone. They need alternative forms of income, which their research has the potential to provide. Secondly, universities are increasingly being expected to tackle socio-economic challenges, which means greater pressure on institutions to realise the practical or entrepreneurial applications of their research," he said. ■

THE GLOBAL IMPACT OF LOCAL WISDOM

In April, the University's DST-NRF Centre for Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIKS) facilitated a unique and pioneering event: the first International Indigenous Knowledge and Environmental Ethics Conference. Attended by over 120 delegates from across the globe, the conference was an opportunity for African countries to grapple with an issue long overlooked by the international academic and policy-making community: Africa's conceptualisation of the environmental crisis and the role of indigenous knowledge systems in addressing broader issues of peace-building and sustainability.

Existing discourses tend to universalise environmental ethics and values without taking into consideration their cultural imperatives, according to Professor Hassan Kaya, Director of the Department of Science and Technology-National Research Foundation (DST-NRF) Centre in Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIKS) at UKZN. A central aim of the conference was to generate a "consensus of strategies" to be used in deliberations on environmental ethics taking place in forums within the United Nations and African Union.

According to Kaya, IKS are bodies of knowledge produced and used in communities, which have evolved over time and arise out of culturally and environmentally specific contexts. "Our responsibility at UKZN is to promote these systems which people in their local communities still use and depend upon for their survival. These were not taken seriously by successive colonial and apartheid governments," he told *UKZNTOUCH*.

For Kaya, the CIKS represents a critical contribution to Africa-led globalisation. "We can't enter this arena with borrowed knowledge," he said. "We have knowledge produced by our own people in their local communities about issues such as health, food security, conflict, governance ... so the question then becomes how to manage the interface between these community-based knowledge systems and modern knowledge systems in order to improve lives."

In hosting the conference, UKZN continued in its lead role of promoting IKS in South Africa and beyond. UKZN was the first in South Africa – and the continent – to adopt an institutional IKS policy which has been endorsed by the University Council. UKZN also serves as the virtual hub of the multi-institutional DST-NRF CIKS and the DST Indigenous Knowledge Systems Documentation Centre which aims to protect indigenous knowledge resources.



In 2012 the University launched the African Indigenous Knowledge Systems signature project aimed at integrating indigenous knowledge into the teaching, research and outreach activities of the Institution.

Since its establishment the CIKS has facilitated and supported postgraduate study and research at PhD, master's and, more recently, at honours levels in areas such as traditional medicine, indigenous food security, biological and cultural diversity, as well as indigenous approaches to environmental conservation and conflict resolution.

Following the April conference, UKZN was chosen to host a colloquium as part of the International Scholar Laureate Programme. Attended by 42 students from around the world the colloquium provided a forum for discussion on African indigenous approaches to conflict transformation and peace-building. Later on this year, UKZN, in collaboration with the University of Dar es Salaam, University of Rwanda and the Africa Programme of the UN University of Peace in Ethiopia and the University of Bayreuth in Germany will organise the first International Conference on Postgraduate Students' Research on Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Southern and Eastern Africa to be held on the Westville campus.

Also on the cards is the launch of the Cabinet-approved National Regulatory Framework for the Accreditation and Certification of Indigenous Knowledge-holders and Practitioners. Kaya, who was part of the working group which drafted the framework, said it will provide a system for recognition, standardisation and professionalisation of IKS skills, experience, learning and practices. A school for traditional healers, run by well-known Umlazi traditional medicine practitioner Mr M P Cele, will serve as a pilot for the accreditation process and provide an opportunity to assess the potential for further human capacity building in traditional medicine.

Another exciting project involves a partnership with the eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality aimed at promoting the "triple heritage" of the area. "eThekweni has a unique character in the sense of being inhabited by descendants from three global regions: Africa, Asia and Europe. There is an opportunity here to develop a culture based on this combined heritage," said Kaya.

Describing triple heritage as "a new philosophy of life across races and cultural diversities", Kaya said racial and cultural diversity is seen as an opportunity to promote human understanding.

"The idea is built on the foundations of African Philosophy and values of Ubuntu which emphasise the symbiotic relationship between all human beings, regardless of race, gender and ethnic affiliation, and other forms of life – including the natural environment," he said.

According to Kaya, a number of programmes are already in place to facilitate the initiative.

As IKS continues to be the subject of research and teaching at UKZN, Kaya said the international interest in indigenous knowledge systems is also growing – as evidenced by his recent participation in an international workshop at the Institute of African Studies in Bayreuth, where Kaya presented a paper on perceptions towards knowledge systems among African IKS holders and practitioners in KwaZulu-Natal.

At a regional level there is an emphasis, through partnerships with institutions in a range of African countries, on building channels through which IKS can inform the work of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). Kaya co-ordinates the IKS Node of the NEPAD Southern African Network of Biological Sciences (SANBio), a shared research, development and innovation platform involving 12 countries.

"Reception of IKS, both at home and abroad, has been excellent," he said. ■



PROFILE: PROFESSOR HASSAN OMARI KAYA

Prior to his appointment as Director of the DST-NRF CIKS, Professor Kaya was the initiator and co-ordinator of the IKS Centre and IKS Teaching Programme at the North-West University. He was also co-ordinator of the NEPAD Agency IKS Regional Node for Southern Africa, and the Patron of the African Young Scientists Initiative on Climate Change and IKS which organised the first International Student Conference on IKS and Climate Change and the COP17 Round Table Discussions in Durban in 2011. He was the national team leader of the DST initiative on the development of a statutory body and framework for the accreditation and certification of IK holders and practitioners.

Professor Kaya has a PhD in Sociology of Development from the Free University, Berlin, and a Postdoctorate Certificate in International Agricultural Development from the Technical University, Berlin. He was the first research fellow at the Sultan Hassan Bolkiah Institute of Education, University of Brunei Darussalam, Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam (South-East Asia) from 1995-1996. ■

AFRICA CENTRE FOR HEALTH AND POPULATION STUDIES



Can the testing and treatment of whole populations curb transmission of HIV? The results of a large-scale four-year trial at the Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies in Hlabisa are set to tell us.

For a while now, scientists have understood that reducing viral loads in individuals on antiretroviral (ARV) treatment reduces the risk of transmission of HIV to sexual partners. As a result, treatment is now widely understood as an important component in HIV prevention – with direct implications for public health policy.

But while the positive impact of treatment for individuals is clear, the benefits for whole populations is yet to be established – up until now.

Results from a four-year trial being conducted by a team of researchers at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies in northern KwaZulu-Natal are expected in mid-2016.

Funded by the Wellcome Trust for its core population-based research, the Africa Centre conducts policy-relevant health and population research and enhances African research capacity.

Known as TasP (The HIV Treatment as Prevention trial), the trial is one of four taking place in Zambia, Botswana and Kenya, but will be the first to produce results. According to the Centre's Director, Professor Deenan Pillay, HIV transmission rates in Hlabisa where the study is based remain "unacceptably high" despite advances in treatment and other measures. "It is increasingly clear that we need a range of interventions

to reduce infections. All of these are likely to involve some combination of antiretroviral therapy and other prevention measures," Pillay told *UKZNTOUCH*.

He said in spite of recent changes to the national HIV treatment guidelines, which support earlier treatment (the CD4 cell count for those eligible for treatment has been raised from 350 to 500) – as well as proposed changes to the World Health Organisation guidelines which will recommend treatment for all HIV-positive people regardless of CD4 count – there was still a need for scientifically-based research aimed at establishing the efficacy of HIV treatments at population level.

"The main driver of the WHO change is research which shows immediate treatment is beneficial for the individual. But to establish whether this approach is effective in reducing transmission at population levels, we need trials," he said.

The TasP is a randomised, single-site trial implemented in 22 clusters in the Hlabisa sub-district. It has recruited 25,000 individuals over 16 years of age through a process of home-based HIV-testing, a novel and more "intrusive" approach, which turns the traditional model – whereby patients voluntarily visit clinics – on its head. After testing, all newly-infected HIV positive individuals, regardless of CD4 count, are referred to dedicated trial clinics located in each cluster.

Funding for the trial comes from French HIV funding agency ANRS and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, both of which have a longstanding interest in population-based HIV prevention research in high-prevalence areas. Previous TasP work was also funded by the German development agency, GIZ.



Although likely to confirm the correlation between early treatment and reduced transmission rates, researchers also expect the specific modalities of the trial to produce a range of meaningful findings.

"Going into people's households to conduct testing is not equivalent to waiting at government clinics for people to present themselves for testing, and this necessarily presents a different set of results," said Pillay.

"Already we are finding that men test less frequently than women because they are less often at home – so while it is intrusive, there are limits to simply turning up at the home. We have also noted that while home-based testing is generally well accepted, a significant number of people fail to report promptly to referral clinics for treatment, and some not at all."

Describing these as "real-life" challenges, Pillay said the research agenda of the Africa Centre and other research entities is rapidly moving towards "how" rather than "what".

"Drugs are a very important part of treatment, but do not provide the whole answer. How treatment programmes are implemented, how they are accepted and the conditions for best uptake ... all these are important factors," he said.

To illustrate the point, Pillay said it was striking that in the same year (2015), results from two trials had been released showing the effectiveness of the drug Truvada in reducing HIV transmission among high risk HIV-negative individual gay men but when provided to South African women in the form of a vaginal gel (Tenofovir), the drug showed no significant effect in trials owing to high rates of non-compliance.

"It's very much a case of context and acceptance in the population," he said.

Pillay, who took over as Director of the Africa Centre in 2013, said the Centre is currently developing a new strategy that emphasises a multi-disciplinary approach to tackling HIV infection. Part of this approach will involve undertaking health services research.

"What is it about clinics, for example, that people find unattractive?" he asked. "Understanding the socio-economic predictors of people who are tested yet fail to attend clinics is important for identifying new treatment and prevention strategies. We are strengthening this aspect of our work," he said.

As the trial draws to a close, Pillay is already looking ahead to the next phase. "We intend to continue developing partnerships with local government clinics in order to understand whether decongestion of those facilities may improve prevention. We are also exploring the option of mobile testing in order to draw more men into our research," he said.

There will also be greater emphasis on methods of care and reducing the time lag between diagnosis and a patient's engagement with care. "We are investigating a range of options for improved patient care, including the provision of treatment at home in the event of clinics being too far away for patients to access," he said. ■



CAPRISA

CENTRE FOR THE AIDS PROGRAMME OF RESEARCH IN SOUTH AFRICA

The Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA) was recently designated a National Research Foundation (NRF) Centre of Excellence for HIV Prevention by the Department of Science and Technology. UKZNTOUCH caught up with CAPRISA Director Professor Salim Abdool Karim to discuss the significance of the designation and other exciting developments at the Centre.

The Centre of Excellence designation is an impressive endorsement of CAPRISA and its work. What in your mind defines "excellence" at CAPRISA?

From its inception in 2002, CAPRISA has striven for excellence by conducting locally responsive and globally relevant world-class research on the treatment and prevention of HIV and AIDS and TB. CAPRISA has a proven track record of conducting rigorous, high impact studies which have influenced the microbicide and vaccine fields, global prevention policy as well as international TB-HIV treatment policy.

In CAPRISA we strive for excellence through the novelty of our research findings, the quality of the journals we publish in, the citation rates of our publications and, most importantly, through the impact of our findings on health policies and practices aimed at improving global health.

The CAPRISA Scientific Advisory Board, which includes some of the world's most eminent HIV scientists, plays a key role in guiding CAPRISA's research and helps ensure that CAPRISA maintains standards of excellence in its research.

One of the strengths of CAPRISA is its extensive collaborations with local, national and international researchers. CAPRISA was originally created as a partnership between five institutions: UKZN, the University of Cape Town, the University of Western Cape, the National Institute for Communicable Diseases, and Columbia University in New York. Researchers from all these institutions actively contribute to the Centre's research programme. In addition, CAPRISA has collaborations with over 20 other eminent scientists around the world. These strong partnerships enable CAPRISA to focus its research on the best science.

The new Centre of Excellence will focus on HIV prevention in young women. What is the rationale behind choosing this population group?

Young women in South Africa have among the highest rates of HIV infection in the world. Stopping, or even substantially slowing, new HIV infections in young women in Africa is the single highest priority to achieve the goals set out by UNAIDS in its fast-track strategy to end the HIV epidemic as a public health threat by 2030. However, despite significant advances



◀ **From left:** CAPRISA Director Professor Salim Abdool Karim, Nobel Laureate Professor Françoise Barré-Sinoussi and Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim. Science and Technology Minister Naledi Pandor announces CAPRISA has been designated a DST-NRF Centre of Excellence in HIV prevention.

in HIV prevention and treatment globally, prevention options specifically for women remain limited.

The Centre of Excellence in HIV Prevention therefore aims to identify the risk factors responsible for the high HIV incidence rates among young women and to develop new technologies and strategies to reduce the spread of HIV in this group. The research agenda of this CoE was devised to advance microbicide, antiretroviral pre-exposure prophylaxis and HIV vaccine development for HIV prevention.

We understand that CAPRISA is currently testing a new injectable drug that may prevent HIV infection in women for up to 12 weeks. That sounds very promising.

Yes. A major advance that CAPRISA is now studying is a new formulation of potent antiretroviral drugs in slow release long-acting (LA) injectables. One such product is an integrase inhibitor known as cabotegravir LA that is administered once every 12 weeks. We are conducting research (the CAPRISA 014 trial) as part of the development of cabotegravir LA that will lead to establishing whether we can protect young women from HIV infection through four injections a year. This study is the next step to a more readily usable product and is based on our initial finding in 2010 that antiretrovirals can prevent HIV infection.

What are the benefits of an injectable antiretroviral agent and what form will the study take?

A major advantage of the slow release LA formulation is that it could potentially address some of the adherence challenges experienced with previous trials of antiretroviral pills and gels, which required daily or coitally-related dosing. The CAPRISA 014 trial is a phase II, two-arm, double-blind, randomised controlled trial and will enrol 632 women at two CAPRISA clinics in KwaZulu-Natal. Women will be randomised to receive daily oral cabotegravir or daily oral placebo for approximately

30 days, to assess safety and tolerability prior to exposure to the LA injectable formulation. Women who successfully complete the pill phase of the study will go on to receive intramuscular injections of cabotegravir LA or placebo every 12 weeks for up to 96 weeks.

The CoE designation comes with a grant of R50 million over five years, part of which will be used to nurture a new generation of independent scientists. A fellowship programme is also on the cards. What is the importance of independent young scientists for the future of medical research in South Africa and the world?

CAPRISA has placed high priority on capacity development and has a well-developed training programme with the overall aim of strengthening scientific capacity in AIDS/TB research and, more broadly, to contribute to developing the next generation of local South African scientific leadership. Developing the next generation of scientists is important to ensure that we have new researchers who will be able to address the new health challenges and threats of the future.

I see a bright future for HIV research in South Africa, especially when I visit medical schools and see the talent amongst young scientists. However, we have to find innovative means of keeping these youngsters in South Africa and not losing them to the hallways of US universities. Given the large burden of disease and high numbers of patients on antiretroviral therapy, future research in South Africa will need to continue to focus on both treatment and prevention. Studies on the implementation and scale-up of treatment are needed to inform the scale-up process. At the same time, more HIV prevention research, including on microbicides and HIV vaccines, is urgently needed.

It's been a good year for CAPRISA. In addition to being named a CoE, CAPRISA also announced the appointment to its Scientific Advisory Board of Nobel Laureate Professor Françoise Barré-Sinoussi – the scientist involved in the discovery of HIV in 1983. What do you believe her involvement will bring to the fight against HIV in South Africa and the continent?

Great discoveries in science require fearless leaders who persevere against the odds. We are very fortunate to have Professor Barré-Sinoussi, who is such a leader, to advise CAPRISA on its future research plans. Her input into CAPRISA's research agenda will go a long way towards enhancing the scientific excellence of our AIDS research and enable South African science to make even bigger contributions to global HIV solutions. ■

UKZN-CITY PARTNERSHIP GOES THE EXTRA MILE



A partnership between the eThekweni Municipality and Durban's universities has produced a range of benefits – and is marked by a real spirit of Ubuntu.

Most successful cities around the world have working relationships with academic institutions. And Durban is no exception. At a networking event in mid-July, academic partners of the Municipal Institute of Learning – better known as MILE – recommitted themselves to another three-year collaboration aimed at improving service delivery, growing skills capacity within the Municipality, and positioning Durban as a learning city.

The first ever local government-driven, practitioner-based institute of learning, MILE facilitated the establishment in 2011 of a unique academic partnership between the municipality and three of Durban's leading academic institutions: the Durban University of Technology (DUT), Mangosuthu University of Technology (MUT) and UKZN. At its re-launch in July, the successful partnership embraced new members in the form of the University of South Africa (Unisa), the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and the University of Zululand (Unizulu).

According to MILE Programme Manager for Academic Partnerships Collin Pillay (also a UKZN alumnus), the partnership agreement had already reaped numerous mutual benefits linked to areas of collaboration. "Most successful cities locally and abroad have mutually beneficial relationships with academic institutions and it is pleasing to note that eThekweni Municipality is part of this emerging trend," he said.

UKZN is represented in the partnership by the University Dean of Research Professor Urmilla Bob and Pro Vice-Chancellor for Innovation, Commercialisation and Entrepreneurship Professor Deresh Ramjugernath. According to Bob, many of the objectives of MILE dovetail with those of UKZN: "There is commitment to creating spaces for joint learning and research. MILE has created the space for conferences, symposia and workshops where we can share expertise and experience, and talk about issues relevant to the municipality and its service provision imperatives," she said.

In an era in which institutional accountability is increasingly valued, the partnership with the Municipality has played a role in boosting UKZN's capacity for community outreach and locally-relevant research projects by providing greater access to local communities. According to Ramjugernath, moving

▲ *Partnering institutions signed a Memorandum of Understanding at Moses Mabhida Stadium. Dr Albert van Jaarsveld is pictured third from left.*

away from the ivory tower perception of the institution was a strong motivation behind the partnership.

"Universities should be addressing the socio-economic challenges of the region, not just producing research and graduates. The MILE partnership speaks to the need to make our work relevant to our citizens." Ramjugernath said another benefit has been greater exposure for the University's research and development capacity, thereby better positioning the University to apply for relevant tenders.

According to Bob, one of the partnership's major achievements is the annual symposium which facilitates a stimulating exchange of ideas on issues relevant to the Municipality. A free, but professionally-run event, which includes a number of panel-oriented discussions, the symposium offers both students and staff the opportunity to present papers and make a contribution to service delivery debates – without the burden of a hefty conference fee, said Bob.

While the partnership is largely achieving what it set out to, one of its less anticipated but highly valued spinoffs has been the forging of collegial relationships between UKZN and sister institutions DUT and MUT.

"Universities are traditionally very competitive and there is an assumption that in order to improve performance, you need to compete. But that's not true," said Bob. "Despite differences in size and ranking, within the partnership we consider ourselves to be equal and are able to collaborate and share experiences successfully on a non-combative basis."

Bob, who has recently been appointed to the eThekweni Planning Commission, said she considers it an honour to have the opportunity to shape the future of the city in which she was born. "I'm a Durbanite first and an academic later ... That's why the spirit of cooperation which characterises the MILE partnership resonates with me. All participants recognise the value of sharing their knowledge and expertise in the interests of the city. We all want Durban to be a livable city for everyone, and each of us wants to share our skills to make that happen ... There's a real spirit of Ubuntu." ■

UKZN SPORT TAKES A STRATEGIC TURN

Vice-Chancellor, Dr Albert van Jaarsveld has indicated his intention to nurture University sport as a “strategic asset,” a move set to capitalise on the growing list of achievements of the University’s sportsmen and women in a wide range of sporting codes attained in the recent and past times.

At a recent function to celebrate UKZN rugby’s achievements, van Jaarsveld emphasised the University’s commitment to all institutional sports. “We want to make sure that in a few years’ time all our sporting codes are up there, competing with the best across the country,” he said.

Executive Director of Student Services, Dr Sibusiso Chalufu, told *UKZNTOUCH* he was encouraged by the commitment to the strategic development of sport at UKZN, particularly following all the accolades that the University has received in respect of excellence in scholarship.

“Sport is one of the fastest growing industries in the world today. Not only does it offer individual benefits for participants such as nurturing health, self-esteem and values such as team-work and fair play, but it plays an important role in social cohesion and nation-building. The University is to be applauded for its renewed commitment to sport,” he said.

Chalufu said the University is strengthening a number of sporting codes such as canoeing, karate, athletics, hockey and soccer.

Former UKZN student Quincy Ngcobo, who now plays for Durban-based professional football club Golden Arrows, said he would support moves to grow soccer at UKZN.

Ngcobo (25), who graduated with his Social Science degree in June this year after being awarded a full University sports scholarship in his final semester, said it was encouraging to see that UKZN was starting to invest more resources in soccer.

“Soccer at UKZN has attracted some great players, but has not been as well supported as some other codes. But that is starting to change,” he said. “I’m grateful for the scholarship and for the opportunity to play professionally.”

According to Mr Mark Bashe, UKZN’s Manager for Student Health and Sport, UKZN soccer teams are doing well in the KZN University Sport South Africa (USSA) Provincial League, with the Edgewood campus team being likely to qualify for the National USSA Tournament in December 2015 to be held at the University of the Free State.

This year has seen cricket, rugby and volleyball teams reaching the top of their respective games.

UKZN’s Cricket Club was named Castle Challenge League 50-over Champions and the Castle Challenge League 20/20 Champions at the 2014/2015 KwaZulu-Natal Cricket Union Awards in Durban. The 1st XI team remained unbeaten throughout the season in both formats. Several other



Vice-Chancellor Dr van Jaarsveld enters into the spirit of the game with players from UKZN Impi.



accolades were forthcoming, with the UKZN 3rd XI being named Division 2 joint-champions.

Mr Fabian Lazarus, Head Coach of UKZN's 1st XI, won the Club Coach of the Season award, while Mr Richard Wissing, a member of the 1st XI, won the Castle Challenge League Batsman of the Season award and Mr Senuran Muthusamy, also a member of the 1st XI, took the Provincial Player of the Season award.

On the rugby front the UKZN Impi, coached by Mr Rudi Strudwick and captained by Lwazi Ngcungama, clinched their first ever Varsity Shield trophy in April when they beat Wits University 29-24 in the FNB Varsity Shield final, a game that was enthusiastically supported by students, staff, alumni and friends of UKZN.

UKZN Rugby Club executive committee member and former scrumhalf Mr Mark Schulze said the University rugby players were making their mark in the sport at regional and national levels, with a number of players such as Chris de Beer, Marne

Coetzee, Johan "Mees" Erasmus, Inno Radebe, Johan du Toit and Marius Louw featuring for the Sharks XV in the Vodacom Cup.

At a national level, Radebe was selected for the Varsity Dream Team made up of players from all 13 Varsity Cup and Varsity Shield universities chosen by South African Rugby Union national selectors. UKZN's Ruan Kramer and Mzamo Majola were chosen for the Junior Springboks squad which competed in the IRB U20 World Cup in Italy in June.

Two players from Howard College campus – Brandin Austin and Mark Barnard – were included in the SA Deaf Rugby squad for the series against Wales this year and PMB student Shayne Makombe played for the Zimbabwe Sevens team in the recent Hong Kong Sevens.

UKZN's winning streak also extended to the University's volleyball team with the men's team winning the University Sport South Africa National Institutional Volleyball Championships held at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in late June/early July. According to team captain, Mr Devin O'Regan, it was the first time UKZN had won that particular tournament. The team also bagged two other awards: Best Attacker of the Tournament, which went to O'Regan, and Best Setter of the Tournament which went to Mr Ardel Shaikally. ■

OTHER SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS:

HOCKEY

Nine UKZN students represented KZN at the SA U21 Hockey IPT with Tiffany Jones being selected for the SA Women's Team and Siya Nolutshungu, Tevin Kok and Peabo Lembethe being selected for the SA U21 Men's Team. Neil Jackson and Damian Kimfley were both selected for the SA Men's Hockey Team.

CANOEING

Four UKZN students have been participating in the South African canoe teams in various international events and championships. These include:

- Louis Hatting (SA U23 and Senior Sprint Kayak Team) who participated in the Senior Sprint World Cup in Portugal and Germany, and will be going to Italy to compete at the World Canoe Sprint Championships.
- Kerry Segal (SA U23 Sprint Kayak Team) who participated in the World U23 Championships held in Portugal in July.
- Donovan Wewege (SA Canoe Slalom Team) who participated in four World Cups in Switzerland, Poland, France and Spain and will also participate in the World Championships in London in September.
- Stuart Hogg (SA Canoe Sprint Team), who was selected to participate at the World Canoe Sprint Championships in Italy.

KARATE

Two UKZN students, Siqiniseko Mkhize and Philile Mchunu, were selected to participate in the Africa Karate Championships for the South African team held in July.

ATHLETICS

1. Shanice Marncé won gold at the KZN Athletics Championships in the 100m and came second in the 200m. She was also selected to represent the

KZN province in the National Athletics Championships where she was a finalist in the 100m and 200m.

2. Dane'le George finished second place in the 200m and 400m in the KZN Junior Championships, she also represented the KZN Province at the National Athletics Championships.
3. Lwandile Malawu, a top athlete in the KZN Disability Team, achieved second place in the National Disability Championships and fourth in the 100m and 400m. He is ranked sixth in Africa and in the world in his particular category.

MESSAGE FROM THE ALUMNI TEAM



Dear Alumnus

The Alumni Relations Team has so far had an exciting and busy 2015, having interacted with many graduates at a range of events including: Student Chapter meetings; the Durban Alumni Association AGM and gatherings; the April 2015 graduation ceremonies; the Convocation AGM; the Cape Town alumnus dinner; the film screening/movie evening held at the Pavillion in Westville; lunches in Pietermaritzburg; on the South Coast: KwaZulu-Natal as well as in Gauteng; functions in Perth and Sydney (Australia); a similar event in Auckland (New Zealand); a UK event and a Golden Reunion in Durban. Considerable interaction with alumni has also taken place via email, written and telephonic communication as well as one-on-one visits.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome the new cohort of graduates from the April 2015 graduations. Details of these graduates are now on our Alumni Database and each one will receive information on the University, the online newsletter and invitations to events.

▲ *The Alumni Relations Team, from left: Ms Nomcebo Msweli, Mr Finn Christensen and Ms Desiree Govender.*

Communication via the website, Facebook, Twitter and SMS has increased and is an effective way of informing graduates of UKZN events and issues. In order to invite alumni to the planned events and to keep everyone updated on University events, we are eager to secure the current contact details of alumni – especially email addresses and mobile phone numbers. Also, please encourage any 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 the website.

*With our very best wishes
The Alumni Relations Team*



UKZN WELCOMES DR ALBERT VAN JAARSVELD

Dr Albert van Jaarsveld, the new Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, assumed duty on 2 February 2015. He was until then Chief Executive Officer of the National Research Foundation. His career in research, teaching and leadership includes academic and management positions at the University of Pretoria, where he was Director for the Centre for Environmental Studies and Professor of Zoology and Entomology, and the University of Stellenbosch, where he was Dean of Science and Professor of Zoology. He was also Adjunct Professor in the Environmental Studies Programme at Dartmouth College, USA and Vice-President and Managing Director of Research and Innovation Support and Advancement (RISA), the grant-making programme of the NRF.

PROFESSOR JOHN MUBANGIZI APPOINTED CHAIR OF HEQC

The Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Head of the College of Law and Management Studies, Professor John C Mubangizi, has been appointed Chair of the Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC) by the Council on Higher Education (CHE). This is a voluntary function that he will perform over and above his UKZN responsibility as Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

As Chair of the HEQC, Mubangizi will lead the committee in its role of upholding the quality assurance and accountability requirements of Higher Education provision, and advising the CHE on matters relating to quality.

Mubangizi is an NRF-rated researcher and a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf). He also serves as advisor and member of the ASSAf Council.



CHIEF ALBERT LUTHULI MEMORIAL LECTURE



Africa regardless of colour, creed, nationality or race.

"Chief Luthuli was a profound thinker, a scholar, a man of powerful logic with a keen sense of justice; a man of lofty principles, a bold and courageous fighter and a statesman. He was a true African nationalist and an unflinching patriot."

He commended Luthuli for being the first African on the continent to receive the Nobel Peace Prize in 1960 and encouraged South Africans to "show the world a new pattern of democracy" as Luthuli once predicted.

National Minister of Arts and Culture Mr Nathi Mthethwa delivered the 2014 Chief Albert Luthuli Memorial Lecture at UKZN's Westville campus. It was the 10th year the University has hosted the memorial lecture.

Paying tribute to the life and legacy of "a great statesman", Mthethwa said Luthuli fought for full political, economic and social opportunities for oppressed people of South

Broadcast live on SABC on DSTV's Channel 404, a recurring theme throughout the lecture was the mystery surrounding Luthuli's death in 1967. A joint initiative of UKZN, the Luthuli Museum and the Department of Arts and Culture, the Lecture at the Graduate School of Business and Leadership was attended by members of the Groutville community, academics, students, media and the public.

AIDS RESEARCHER AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS AFRICAN UNION SCIENCE PRIZE

World-renowned South African AIDS Researcher and Director of CAPRISA (Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa) at UKZN, Professor Salim Abdool Karim was awarded the most prestigious prize for science in Africa, the \$100 000 (R1.1 million) Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Award. The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, presented the award at the African Union General Assembly in Addis Ababa on 31 January. President Jacob Zuma rose from his seat to congratulate Abdool Karim at the AU ceremony. The award was for Abdool Karim's research on HIV prevention and treatment in Africa. In conferring the award, the African Union Commission acknowledged Abdool Karim "for great scientific achievement and contribution through science to the socio-economic development of Africa".

In addition to directing CAPRISA, Abdool Karim is Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research) at UKZN and Professor of Epidemiology



His Excellency President Jacob Zuma congratulates Professor Salim Abdool Karim, for receiving the African Union's annual Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Award in the field of Earth and Life Sciences.

at Columbia University. He is the Chair of the UNAIDS Scientific Expert Panel and is Scientific Advisor to the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS).

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION **LAUNCHES PROPERTY DEVELOPMENT DEGREE PROGRAMME** AT UKZN



Minister of Higher Education and Training Blade Nzimande with students at the launch of the Property Development Programme.

The Minister of Higher Education, Dr Blade Nzimande, officially launched the Bachelor of Science in Property Development, a three-year programme that will help meet a growing demand for more graduates in the built environment disciplines. The programme was made possible through a partnership between the Construction Education and Training Authority (CETA) and UKZN.

UKZN'S RURAL HEALTH HEAD **AWARDED MULTI-MILLION-RAND FELLOWSHIP**

Head of UKZN's Department of Rural Health, Dr Mosa Moshabela, has been awarded a research training fellowship in Public Health and Tropical Medicine from the United Kingdom's Wellcome Trust worth more than R8.5 million.



Moshabela's grant will support his doctoral study titled: "The Impact of Medical Pluralism on the Cascade of Care for People Living with HIV and AIDS in Rural South Africa".

Dr Mosa Moshabela.

EMERITUS PAEDIATRICS PROFESSOR **RECEIVES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**



UKZN's Emeritus Professor of Paediatrics, Miriam Adhikari, received an annual service excellence award from KwaZulu-Natal Health MEC, Dr Sibongiseni Dhlomo, in recognition of her overall contribution to health care in the field of Paediatrics.

AWARDS DINNER HONOURS LEADING UKZN RESEARCHERS

Leading UKZN researchers were honoured at the annual Research Awards Gala Dinner in Durban.

Those recognised included 2012 and 2013 book prize winners, the top 30 researchers, the top published researcher, the highest grant awardees, the 2014 NRF A-rated researchers, and University Fellows. The recipients of the National Research Foundation (NRF) Lifetime Achievement, the World Academy of Science (TWAS) Lenovo Science Prize, South African Young Academy of Science nomination and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) Women in Science Awards were also recognised.

Chief Director: Science Missions at the Department of Science and Technology, Professor Yonah Seleti, delivered the keynote address titled: "The Value of Indigenous Knowledge Systems in Higher Education in the 21st Century".



Professor Urmilla Bob (L), Dean of University Research and Programme Director, and Professor Jonathan Blackledge, UKZN's Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research.

ASSAf INAUGURATES NEW MEMBERS AND RECOGNISES TOP SA SCIENTIST



Professor Rob Slotow (centre) with UKZN scientists Dr Nesri Padayatchi, Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim, Professor Dhayendre Moodley and Professor Sabiha Essack.

Three College of Health Sciences academics have been made members of the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf). New members are inaugurated into the Academy in recognition of being among South Africa's top scholars. The Academy also presented Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim with a Gold Medal for outstanding achievement in scientific thinking to the benefit of society.

UKZN ACADEMICS RECEIVE NRF RATING

The National Research Foundation (NRF) ratings are awarded to researchers who have been identified as leaders in their fields of expertise in recognition of their constant high quality research outputs, taking into consideration the evaluation made by local and international peers.

Five UKZN academics have recently been recognised by the NRF as leaders in their respective fields: Professor Betty Mubangizi – College of Law and Management Studies, Professor Nelishia Pillay – School of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science (SMSCS), and three academics from Law and Management Studies: Professor Robert Williams, Dr Irene Govender and Dr Marisa Casale.



Professor Betty Mubangizi



Professor Nelishia Pillay



Professor Robert Williams



Dr Irene Govender



Dr Marisa Casale



Graduates celebrating at the Westville campus graduation ceremony.

2015 GRADUATION CEREMONIES

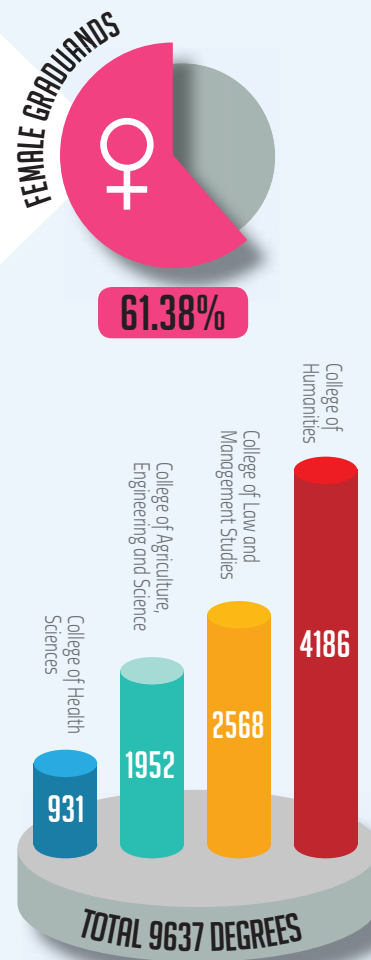
During the 2015 graduation ceremonies in April, UKZN conferred an impressive 9 637 degrees at its 18 graduation ceremonies held on its Westville and Pietermaritzburg campuses.

A notable 5 915 (61.38%) of the graduands are women while 260 graduated *cum laude* and 85, *summa cum laude*. About 4 186 degrees were conferred in the College of Humanities, 1952 degrees in the College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science, 931 in the College of Health Sciences and 2 568 in the College of Law and Management Studies. Approximately 82 graduands with disabilities were also capped at the ceremonies.

Of the total of 264 doctoral degrees conferred, UKZN's College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science (CAES) made a significant contribution to South Africa's much-needed brain pool of highly-qualified science, technology and engineering specialists, awarding an impressive 106 PhDs.



Red is the Colour of Success – The College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science graduated a total of 106 PhDs at its 2015 graduation ceremonies.



HONORARY DEGREES 2015

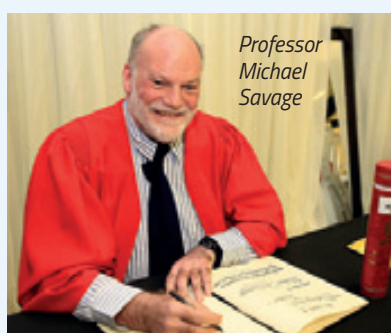
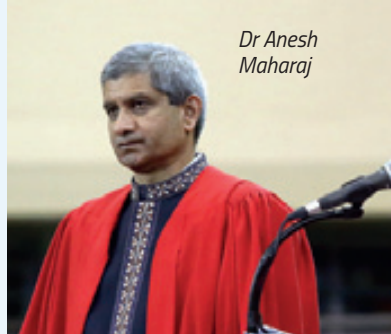
- **PROFESSOR ALAN ADEREM** (*Doctor of Science*)
Internationally recognised immunologist and cell biologist.
- **DR FRANÇOISE BARRÉ-SINOUSSE** (*Doctor of Science*)
French virologist, Dr Françoise Barré-Sinoussi, was a co-recipient in 2008 of the Nobel Prize in Physiology for her discovery in 1983 of the retrovirus that would later come to be known as the Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV.
- **MRS FÉE HALSTED-BERNING** (*Doctor of Literature*)
Fée Halsted-Berning's contribution in nurturing talent in rural KwaZulu-Natal through Ardmore Ceramic Art has been hailed throughout the international arts world as a triumph of creativity and empowerment over poverty, disease and lack of formal education.
- **MR PHILIP NCHIPE TABANE** (*Doctor of Music*)
Philip Tabane has been described as a pure musical genius and is recognised nationally and internationally for his unique musical style. He spawned a whole genre of music known as Malombo - the rhythm and sound of the ancestral spirits that emanates from the elevated realm of spiritual creative harmony.



Dr Alan Aderem



Mr Philip Tabane

Mrs Fée
Halsted-
Berning (R)Dr Françoise
Barré-SinoussiProfessor
Michael
SavageDr Anesh
Maharaj

DISTINGUISHED TEACHERS' AWARDS

PROFESSOR MICHAEL SAVAGE

Professor Michael Savage of the Discipline of Agrometeorology has been awarded a Distinguished Teacher's Award in recognition of his excellence in teaching and learning. A stalwart of the School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Science and a dedicated teacher who is passionate about seeing progress in the science of the discipline as well as in his students' knowledge, Savage describes his teaching approach as an empathetic one. Savage also made history as the first recipient of UKZN's Doctor of Science in Agriculture degree in 2010 – the only previous DScAgric degree in the University's history was awarded in 1998 at the former University of Natal.

DR ANESH MAHARAJ

Dr Aneshkumar Maharaj of UKZN's School of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science (SMSCS) has been awarded the prestigious Distinguished Teachers' Award in recognition of his contributions to teaching and learning at UKZN. Maharaj's meticulous practice of planning has permitted him to reach each student at their level and help them to reach their full potential. He has identified technology as a useful tool to accelerate his students' progress. Maharaj has also played an instrumental role in the in-service training of Mathematics teachers at high school level through programmes aimed at up-skilling them.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS



Professor Philippe Denis was honoured at a UKZN graduation ceremony when he was made a Fellow of the University.



"Summa cum laude" graduates Mr Joshua Chipangila, Mr Yusuf Vawda, Ms Justine Lindsay and Mr Benjamin Meadows.



UKZN Lecturer, Family Medicine specialist and KZN South African Medical Association chair, Dr Mergan Naidoo graduated with a PhD.



Dr Bhekabantu Ntshangase (centre) celebrating his achievement with his supervisor Dr Ian Nzimakwe and wife Zintwezinhle.



Dr Farai Kwenda celebrating with his family. His PhD makes a contribution towards new knowledge in the field of Corporate Finance.



Dr Justen Manasa (R) is congratulated by Africa Centre's Professor Tulio de Oliveira. Dr Manasa's ground-breaking PhD study helps rural doctors monitor HIV drug resistance.



Dr Mlungisi Vilakazi graduated with a PhD in Theology at the age of 71 years.



Justice Albie Sachs with Professors Managay Reddi (L) and Cheryl Potgieter.



Arriving as a refugee from the DRC in 2003, Dr Teke Apalata successfully obtained his PhD despite the challenges.

UKZN STUDENTS MAKE MARS ONE SHORTLIST



*Ms Adriana Marais and
Mr Divashen Govender*



Named after the Roman god of war, Mars is often referred to as the 'Red Planet'.

The last time man set foot on another planet was during the Apollo 17 moon landing in 1972. Now, thanks to the Mars One project, people could be walking on Mars in 2024 for the first time... and two UKZN students may be among them!

Ms Adriana Marais, a PhD graduate from UKZN's Centre for Quantum Technology, and Mr Divashen Govender, a BSc student studying Applied Mathematics and Physics, have both made it into the Mars One final 100 as a result of personal online interviews. During their interviews, Marais and Govender displayed the required pioneer qualities, such as team spirit, an understanding of the risks they may face and motivation to be a part of the mission.

The Mars One initiative, run as a not-for-profit organisation in

The Netherlands, has released its list of the final 100 candidates in the running for the one-way trip to Mars, a list whittled down from the initial 202,586 applicants from around the world.

Only seven of the 50 men and 50 women selected are from Africa with five being from South Africa.

Only seven of the 50 men and 50 women selected are from Africa with five being from South Africa. The third round of the selection process assesses candidates' performance as team players to determine if they are selected for further rounds.

Both Marais and Govender are optimistic about the prospect of leaving

Earth permanently, since the Mars One project can use existing technology to send the astronauts to Mars and keep them supplied with all they need to live, but does not currently have the technology required to lift them off from Mars and return to Earth.

Both candidates have won over the support of their family and friends, who are excited at the prospect of either one or both of them being remembered as the first humans to set foot on Mars.

If not selected, both candidates could reapply, as the plan is to send crews out every two years after 2024 until a fully-fledged human settlement is established. When asked what her response to the risks of the journey would be, Marais replied with a quote from Nelson Mandela, saying that "it always seems impossible until it's done".

CATALYST FOR CHANGE

“The role of philanthropy is to get things started,” according to Bill Gates.

Established in 1932 by Scottish ecologist and Professor of Botany John Bews with the intention of reaching out and forging relationships with the broader community, the UKZN Foundation has a proud history of “getting things started” – by attracting donations to advance the strategic goals of the University and, in the process, serving as a catalyst for change.

When used in the form of scholarships or bursaries, donations have been shown to have a life-altering impact on individuals. However, when used to support innovative educational projects, donations also have the capacity to make a national contribution, in this case, to scarce skills development. Such projects include the long-running Engineering and Science Foundation programmes, set up with Anglo American seed funding, which have facilitated the academic entry of disadvantaged students into science degrees for nearly two decades.

“Rather than encouraging handouts, we believe in donations as long-term investments from which there is a return in the form of a social impact,” UKZN Foundation Executive Director Mrs Jane Meyerowitz told *UKZNTOUCH*.

This approach has informed other powerful projects such as the Northern Cape Educator Development programme which upgrades the skills and knowledge of disadvantaged Maths and Science Grade 12 teachers. This year’s UKZN graduation ceremonies saw the capping of 15 teachers from the programme who now hold BSc degrees with majors in Mathematics and Physics.

“In the context of the national shortage of adequately trained Maths and Science teachers, the programme offers a lifeline to those learners who leave school without the marks in Maths and Science required for them to pursue these subjects at university level,” said Meyerowitz.

Key to the success of such projects is strong partnerships. In the case of the educator programme, UKZN partners emerged in the form of Billiton BHP and the Northern Cape Education Department.

According to UKZN Foundation Operations Manager Dr Rudi Kimmie, fostering good relationships is a cornerstone of the Foundation’s work. “We put relationships first, not donations,” he said. “Our emphasis is on sharing our knowledge of the University as a value-adding entity which has a direct impact on broader social development. This impact may take the form of community-based projects, funding for research projects, or simply by producing exceptional students whose achievements add value to society.

“We have many inspiring stories about student achievement – where individual destinies have been radically altered by the support provided through the Foundation,” said Kimmie. “Furthermore, in South Africa, a good education for one often means an entire family moves out of poverty. We are able to tell donors that if you fund a student, you benefit a community,” he said.



What you need to know:

- 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.
- UKZN 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.

**Ingeyethu –
Ingeyakho.**

**UKZN is ours.
UKZN is yours.**

While this is a powerful message, the reality is that philanthropic giving is affected by a range of factors, including economic trends. “The thought that South Africa may be heading for a recession means that generally donors are more conservative,” said Meyerowitz. “And, generally speaking, donor agencies are now more discerning.”

This means that the Foundation has become “smarter” in the way it packages its “offerings” to potential new donors, providing them with a range of investment options, including project-based funding, said Meyerowitz.

Existing relationships with donors are carefully nurtured with an emphasis on effective stewardship, a concept that captures the Foundation’s commitment to frequent reporting on the use of gifts, keeping donors informed about University developments, and generally encouraging a sense of involvement in the life and activities of the institution. A naming rights policy also guides the way in which the University acknowledges financial contributions.

As more students seek to enter the South African tertiary education sector – most of whom are from disadvantaged backgrounds – the work of the Foundation becomes more critical.

A last-minute campaign initiated by students at the start of this year raised R50,000, largely from staff member donations, to pay the registration fees of a number of returning students who had passed all their modules but were unable to access government funds to continue their studies. The campaign, known as “I-Care”, was run jointly by the Foundation and Student Services, and plans are now underway to consolidate it as an annual fundraising campaign driven by students.

Meyerowitz described it as a “good barometer” of support for fundraising initiatives aimed at student funding support. “The fact that we raised R50,000 in a campaign that was conceptualised in such a short space of time was astonishing.”

Building on these results, Meyerowitz said plans are underway to launch an annual appeal aimed specifically at alumni. Known as “Ingeyethu-Ingeyakho, UKZN is ours-UKZN is yours”, the campaign aims to raise awareness among graduates and put the University in a better position to assist with fees at the start of the academic year. It is built around the inspiring stories of three alumni who have benefited in various ways from the generosity of donors.

According to Meyerowitz, the appeal will be aimed at all alumni from both UKZN’s predecessors (the Universities of Natal and Durban-Westville) as well as the current institution, and will have a particular emphasis on inclusivity. “Our message is that, regardless of which institution they were part of, alumni should consider making a contribution,” said Meyerowitz. “We have many returning students who have proved that they can achieve academically despite the odds. Theirs is an urgent and critical need. We simply need more money to support them.” ■

- Donors include individuals, corporates, small businesses, international donor agencies, and alumni.
- Donations range in value from R100 to R10 million. All are gratefully received and celebrated.

► How to get involved:

By supporting the Foundation, donors can help in the philanthropic drive to “get even more things started” and maintain the momentum of existing projects. For more information on the Foundation and its work, please call +27 (0)31 260 2017 or visit its website at www.ukznfoundation.org and make a difference.



Out & About



STUDENTS' CHAPTER ACTIVITY

Final-year Law students from Pietermaritzburg (left) and Howard College, Durban (right) campuses listen to presentations from the Legal Aid Board.

The Alumni Relations Office and the College of Law and Management Studies jointly coordinated three events for final-year students. Presentations by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA) and the Legal Aid Board informed students about their future career options. Convocation representatives encouraged students to work hard and to support their *alma mater* after graduation.



DRAMA/ASOKA THEATRE ALUMNUS REUNION

More than 50 people attended the Asoka Theatre Reunion held at the COMSA Lounge on the Westville campus. Slide shows were presented commemorating the Drama Department's history and deceased staff and students (http://youtu.be/eAycwP_Gq4A). Guests were entertained by performances from Satchu Annamalai, the Dingalings and an interactive Indian dance class conducted by Professor Suria Govender. Some outrageous Not-the-Asoka Awards were given out with everyone accepting the roasting in good spirit.

Among the reunion's guests were Professor Devi Bughwan, Professor Dennis Schaffer, Dr Betty Govinden (representing her late husband, Professor Herby Govinden) and jazz pianist Melvin Peters.

CAPE TOWN UKZN ALUMNUS DINNER

The annual event took the form of a dinner at The Taj Hotel in Cape Town. The event provided an opportunity for alumni, donors and friends of UKZN to renew old acquaintances and be updated on developments at their *alma mater*. Guests were pleased to meet the recently appointed Vice-Chancellor – Dr Albert van Jaarsveld – who spoke on developments at the institution and his vision for the future. Mr Fanle Sibisi (President of Convocation) endorsed the appointment of the Vice-Chancellor and pledged the support of Convocation.

UKZN Foundation Director Mrs Jane Meyerowitz rounded up the discussion with an outline of the work of UKZN's Foundation and the need for alumni to consider giving back to their *alma mater*.



All attendees went home with information packs containing a selection of University publications and a corporate gift. A few winners of the lucky draw received gifts donated by Alumni Relations.

CONVOCATION **AGM**

Dr Albert van Jaarsveld, UKZN's Vice-Chancellor and Principal, delivered the keynote address at the 2015 Convocation Annual General Meeting on the Westville campus.

Van Jaarsveld said he planned to drive excellence and transformation jointly, and listed the University's flagship achievements including the establishment of K-RITH, and CAPRISA. He highlighted the University's rankings and noted the exceptional performance by Development Studies, a disciplinary area ranked in the Top 100 worldwide.

"I want this university to be not just a great institution in Africa, but a great African institution," said Van Jaarsveld.

He acknowledged former Vice-Chancellor Professor Malegapuru Makgoba and his team's efforts in establishing the University as one of the most transformed in the country. Dr van Jaarsveld encouraged alumni to be brand ambassadors.

Mr Fanle Sibisi, President of Convocation, welcomed Dr van Jaarsveld to the University and acknowledged the work done by Professor Makgoba. Treasurer Ms Thembeke Dlungwane presented the 2014 Financial Statement. Ms Dlungwane and



The 2015 Convocation AGM provided alumni and friends of the University an opportunity to network and renew old acquaintances.

Ms Bavelile Hlongwa, Programme Director and Deputy President of Convocation, encouraged alumni to play a fundraising role at the University.

The evening was rounded off with a buffet dinner, musical entertainment and networking among alumni and friends of UKZN.



GAUTENG UKZN ALUMNUS LUNCH EVENT

The event at the Casalinga Ristorante Italiano in Muldersdrift provided the ideal platform for alumni, donors and friends of UKZN to be updated on developments at their *alma mater*.

Guests were extremely pleased to meet the Vice-Chancellor – Dr Albert van Jaarsveld – who in his address spoke on current developments and his vision for the future of the institution.

President of Convocation Mr Fanle Sibisi, and UKZN Foundation Director Mrs Jane Meyerowitz, highlighted the importance of alumni giving back to the institution.

UK ALUMNUS DONOR EVENT

The annual function of UKZN's Alumnus Association in Europe was held at the Bankside Gallery overlooking the River Thames. Mr Lesiba Seshoka (Executive Director of Corporate Relations at UKZN) updated guests on the current developments at their *alma mater*, including information on the new Vice-Chancellor. Seshoka also informed guests that Ms Caroline Harben would be handing over the chairing of the Alumnus Association in Europe to Mr Bruno van Dyk (fellow alumnus, former UKZN staff member and currently Director – Development and Alumni Relations: Durham University). Seshoka thanked Harben for her wonderful work over the last decade.

Mrs Jane Meyerowitz, Executive Director of the UKZN Foundation, also addressed the group and updated them on the work of the Foundation.

South African canapés were served after the talks and a lucky draw was held with UKZN Foundation gifts being presented to winners. Folders with the latest UKZN information and UKZN mementos were distributed at the event's conclusion.



Class Notes

Keeping in touch!

1950s

JOHN BURROWS BA'53, BA(Hon)'54, MA'60

After gaining his Masters in Economics in 1960, John moved with his wife Anne and children to then S. Rhodesian to work for the government on African agriculture. In 1964 they moved to Zambia and in 1969 John joined the World Bank in Washington DC. His career there covered macroeconomic and agricultural analysis. He retired as Principal Economist in 1990, and lives outside Washington with his wife. Email: burrowsjohn@yahoo.com

BEVAN JENNINGS BSc(Land Surveying)'54, (BSc(Math)'52 – Rhodes)

Bevan married after graduating and practised as a land surveyor for seven years in then Rhodesia. Anglo-American employed Bevan in Operations Research (OR) where he used the first IBM mainframe computer to be installed in South Africa. Seven years later Bevan moved to Murray and Roberts to head up their new computer division. After 16 years Bevan moved to Olivetti South Africa to head up their large accounts division, selling computers and ATMs to South African banks. From there Bevan progressed to GM of Saswath, linking all South African ATMs, and finally worked as MD of the Universal Exchange Corporation. He has enjoyed life as a pioneer in the computer industry and has been married for 60 years. Email: bevanjen@mweb.co.za

FRANK THEMBA MDLALOSE MBChB'58 (BSc'52 & V.E.D'53 – Rhodes)

Frank was in private practice 1960-1978. From 1978-1994 Frank worked as a Minister in the KwaZulu-Natal Government and was appointed the provincial Premier 1994-1997. From 1998-2002 he was RSA ambassador to Egypt. On his retirement Frank took up farming as a hobby. In 2014 the Dr FT Mdlalose Foundation was launched as a non-profit organisation. Email: ftmdla@nokiamail.com

1960s

MIKE BELL BSc'65, BSc(Hon)'66, MSc'68

After completing his Masters on the geology of Barberton Mountain Land, Mike went to England where he joined the British Antarctic Survey and worked for seven years as a field geologist in the Antarctic and South Georgia. He completed a PhD at Birmingham University. He taught geology, first for two years at University of Port Elizabeth and then for 30 years at University of Gloucestershire, England. Mike has published over fifty scientific papers and maps. Mike has three children. Email: mikeandgillbell@btinternet.com

KOBUS (JP) GERBER BCom'67

Kobus has worked at the Durban City Council, the Natal Development Board (IT Manager) and the Business Connexion in Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth (Manager/Regional Director). Since retiring in 2012 he has been involved in various community projects in Port Elizabeth. These include being the convenor of "Project Nelson Mandela Bay" which is a private non-profit initiative. He has done 124 road running marathons/ultra marathons to date, including 15 Comrades and 21 Two Oceans ultra marathons. Email: kobus.gerber@live.co.za

MIKE MILLER BScSc'69

Mike now lives in England and is an Executive Director of The South African Chamber of Commerce UK (www.southafricanchamber.co.uk) and Chairman of the Maidenhead Chamber of Commerce. As Managing Director of SAJE International Ltd he founded the South African Shop in the UK. In addition Mike is an active member of the UKZN Alumni Association in the UK, is Chairman of the Young Enterprise Area Board in East Berkshire, and lectures in Business and Economics alongside his other activities. Email: mike.miller@sapro.co.uk

1970s

ADRIAN FURNHAM BA'73, BA(Hon)'74, MA'75, DLit'97

After leaving UKZN Adrian graduated from the London School of Economics where he obtained a distinction in MSc Econ and from Oxford University where he completed a doctorate in 1981. He has subsequently earned a D.Sc (London) and D.Litt (Natal) degree. Previously a lecturer in Psychology at Pembroke College, Oxford, he has been Professor of Psychology at University College London since 1992. He has lectured widely abroad and held scholarships and visiting professorships at, amongst others, the University of New South Wales, the University of the West Indies, the University of Hong Kong and the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He has also been a Visiting Professor of Management at Henley Management College. He was made Adjunct Professor of Management at the Norwegian School of Management (2009). He has written over 1100 scientific papers and 80 books. He has had a weekly newspaper column in three major British newspapers (*Financial Times*, *Daily Telegraph*, *Sunday Times*) and owns a niche consulting company. Email: a.furnham@ucl.ac.uk

BERNARD WOLFSDORF BA'76, LLB'78

Bernard is past President of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and is Managing Partner of Wolfsdorf Rosenthal LLP immigration law firm, with offices in Los Angeles and New York City. For the past six years Bernard has been voted "Immigration Lawyer of the Year" by Who's Who Legal, the official research partner of the American Bar Associations – Int'l Law Section. Email: bernard@wolfsdorf.com

DIANNE KOHLER BARNARD BA'77

After graduating, Dianne went on to do a degree in journalism, and joined the SABC newsroom. After political pressure she went to live in the UK, running a news agency for seven years, before returning to Durban

and rejoining the SABC under the new dispensation. Head-hunted by the Democratic Alliance and going through an electoral college and selection panel, Dianne was placed second on the KwaZulu-Natal list after the leader. She was initially the Shadow Minister of Health, and was later moved to Police. Dianne's constituency is Durban South. Email: dk55@ananzi.co.za

1980s

RUBBY DHUNPATH UDE'81, BEd'94, MEd (cum laude)'98, PhD'03

Rubby is currently the Director of Teaching and Learning at UKZN, providing leadership in various teaching and learning support initiatives aimed at promoting the scholarship of teaching and learning and institutional research. Resigning as deputy principal he joined the University of Durban-Westville as a teacher educator. He was then appointed as Head of the Centre for Language and Literacies Studies at the HSRC Council and a Research Fellow at the University of Illinois, USA. He was the recipient of NRF scholarships; the SANPAD scholarship; The Spencer Scholarship and fellowships to the University of Ohio and Stanford University. A former Rockefeller Scholar, Rubby has researched and published on education policy, language policy, organisational ethnographies and doctoral education. His recent publications include a series of articles on doctoral education, and an edited book: Dhunpath, R & Vithal, R (2012) *Alternative Access to Higher Education: Underprepared Students or Underprepared Institutions?* He is a former managing editor of the journal, *Perspectives in Education* and currently a guest editor of the *Alternation Journal*. Email: dhunpath@ukzn.ac.za

BONGANI MAYOSI BMedSc'87, MBChB'90

Inspired by his trips with his father – a doctor visiting patients in the Eastern Cape, Bongani pursued a medical degree at UKZN. In 1990, he and his wife Nonhlanhla, a dermatologist, moved to Port Elizabeth to complete their housemanships before

moving to Cape Town. Working at Groote Schuur Hospital and with the University of Cape Town (UCT), Bongani developed an interest in cardiology. After working as a registrar in the mid-1990s, he went to the UK for a fellowship at the University of Oxford, where, under eminent cardiologist Hugh Watkins, he studied the genetics behind cardiovascular risk factors. Bongani returned to South Africa in 2001, where he assumed research, teaching, and clinical responsibilities at UCT and Groote Schuur Hospital. In 2006 Bongani became at the age of 38 Professor and Head of the Department of Medicine at Groote Schuur Hospital and the University of Cape Town—the first Black person to achieve this position. Along with other leaders in African and international health, Bongani is supporting a drive to create 1000 PhD students across Africa. Email: bongani.mayosi@uct.ac.za

KAYSAREE MOODLEY (NÉE GOURIGANESH) BSc'88

Kaysaree worked in industry and studied part-time through UNISA to complete a BCom(Hon) in Business Economics in 1994. After completing a full-time MBA at WITS Business School in 2000, Kaysaree started her investment company. She co-directed the anti-crime Million March 2008, together with Desmond Dube, a prominent TV personality. This was successfully supported by 10 000 South Africans. She continues her work while mentoring business, social entrepreneurs and youth in education and development in South Africa and in Atlanta, USA. She is also an education catalyst and Director of the ECL Hub for eclfoundation.org. She is currently based in Atlanta, USA and married to a KwaZulu-Natal Medical School alumnus, Dr Dhesan Gopaul Moodley. Email: kaysareemoodley97@gmail.com

1990s

ANDREW COOPER BScEng/Elect'93

Andrew is currently living with his wife Kim in British Columbia, Canada. He is the Energy Specialist at New Gold Inc's New Afton Mine. In 2014,

New Afton became the first mine in North America to be certified to the ISO 50001:2011 Energy Management System, with Andrew spearheading this effort. In addition to implementing several energy performance improvement projects, he is a keynote speaker on energy management. He continues to enjoy running and hopes to return to South Africa to run "the big one" again someday. Email: Andrew.Cooper@newgold.com

MAMOKHELE "MAMI" MADUNA BEd'94

She is currently a deputy director responsible for providing strategic leadership for Sustainable Food Production in Schools, a sub-programme of the National School Nutrition Programme (NSNP). Mamokhele is exploring with institutions the possibility of nutrition education and food production being introduced into teacher training programmes so teachers have some knowledge of the food security agenda. Email: Maduna.M@dbe.gov.za

2000s

MARKUS DETTERBECK DPhil'02

Markus trained as a music teacher at the Academy in Würzburg, Germany, and studied the conducting of choirs and orchestras with Professor Jörg Straube. In 1999 he was awarded a grant by the German board for International Academic Exchanges to read for a PhD at UKZN. During this time he worked at a number of schools and lectured for UKZN's Music Department. Since 2014 he has been self-employed teaching choirs, conductors and music teachers. He has published numerous articles and books, arranges and composes choral music, and tutors at national and international workshops. Email: markusdetterbeck@web.de

ED NELSON BSc'03

After his undergraduate degree, Ed moved to UCT for postgraduate studies. In 2010 Ed was awarded his PhD in astrophysics. Thereafter he worked as a postdoctoral research fellow at The International Centre for

Radio Astronomy Research (Perth, Australia). Ed returned to South Africa in 2013 and is currently a SKA postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Astronomy at UCT. His work is focused on developing new methods of using the forthcoming data from the Square Kilometre Array to test theories of galaxy formation and evolution. Email: drelson.e.c@gmail.com

JANET VAN EEDEN MA'06

Janet has written fourteen feature screenplays and six stage plays to date, as well as numerous short films. The National Arts Council has funded her plays at the Grahamstown Arts Festival. She was supervising producer on two M-Net EDiT award-winning films, Smile (2006) and Commando (2007), while lecturing at UKZN. A full-length feature film she co-wrote, White Lion, premiered at the Durban International Film Festival in 2009 and was released internationally in 2010 and her stage play A Matter of Time won the Olive Schreiner Award in 2008. In 2011 she won the Vodacom Journalist of the Year Award as a columnist for *The Sunday Independent*. She wrote and produced the short of A Shot at the Big Time which premiered at the Durban International Film Festival in 2013 and later was nominated for three eThekweni Awards. In 2014 the short was selected for the Cannes Short Film Corner, and was also nominated for three Mzanzi Independent Short Film Festival Awards. Since 2013, Janet has been Production Course Administrator and Scriptwriting Lecturer at AFDA Durban, one of the top twenty film schools in the world. Email: janetveh@gmail.com

NICOLIN GOVENDER BSc(Computational Physics)'09, BSc(Hon)Physics'10

After graduating *cum laude* from UKZN, Nicolin moved to the University of Johannesburg. As a member of the ATLAS Collaboration at CERN in Geneva, Switzerland he operates his research projects associated with computing in a High Energy Physics environment, which spans computing for data acquisition as well as for analysis. He has also worked on the

modeling of nuclear reactors, and obtained his MSc with distinction for a project involving collaboration between the University of Johannesburg and the South African Nuclear Energy Corporation (Necsa). He has a PhD in Computational Mechanics in collaboration with the University of Pretoria and the Advanced Mathematical Modelling department at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in South Africa. He has also done PhDs at the University of Utah in the USA and has been an invited guest at various institutions in Europe and the USA. Email: nicolin.govender@cern.ch

RESPECT MONDLI MIYA MNurs(Comm.Health)'11

Respect is a lecturer and level coordinator at the Durban University of Technology Nursing Science Department. He obtained a Doctor of Literature and Philosophy at UNISA. He remains the youngest nursing academic in the country. In his thesis, entitled *A Model to Facilitate Gender-Inclusiveness in the Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) Programme in KwaZulu-Natal*, he developed a theoretical model to facilitate gender-inclusiveness in PMTCT as a way of facilitating more holistic care to HIV-infected mothers. This model is the first of its kind and makes a unique contribution in the management of HIV/AIDS during pregnancy. Email: mondymia@yahoo.com

RASVANTH CHUNYLALL BA'13, BA (Hon)'14

After graduating *summa cum laude* in 2014, Rasvanth began his Master's Degree in Media and Cultural Studies. He works as a research assistant on two separate research projects: The KZN Literary Tourism project which promotes local writers and spaces and the Safer Learning Environments project which is exploring the extent of gender-based violence at UKZN. Last year he was Top 3 Merit Award Winner of the UKZN Essay Writing Competition. E-mail: rchunylall@gmail.com

CONTACTS & SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS



FACEBOOK AND TWITTER

Please join us on these popular Social Networking sites. If you are not already a member, sign up now and connect with the University of KwaZulu-Natal Alumni Relations Office, where you can make contact with fellow alumni and keep up to date with all the latest news, forthcoming events and information on your *alma mater*.

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Durban-South-Africa/UKZN-Alumni/100665579978579>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/UKZNAumni>

FIND-A-FRIEND



Get in touch with old University classmates and friends! If you wish to contact a former university friend, try searching the Find-a-Friend alumni directory: <http://un.kidzafrica.co.za/FindAFriend>

If you experience any problems, please contact the Alumni office - Email: alumni@ukzn.ac.za

ALUMNI CAREER PORTAL

The Alumni Relations Office is delighted to provide a career "Super-Highway" for our alumni, between yourselves and the top companies in South Africa. This portal will provide current high profile jobs and career opportunities for you to consider, and apply directly to:
<http://alumni affairs.ukzn.ac.za/Careers.aspx>



CONTACT



ALUMNI RELATIONS OFFICE:

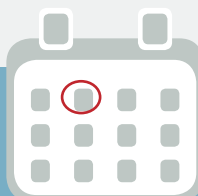
Address: 232 Mazisi-Kunene Avenue, Howard College campus, Durban, 4041

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

Fax: +27 (0)31 260-2236

Email: alumni@ukzn.ac.za

Web Address: <http://alumni affairs.ukzn.ac.za>



SAVE THE DATE

Alumni Events 2015

AUGUST

10 August: Perth: Australia Alumnus Cocktail event

12 August: Sydney: Australia Alumnus Cocktail event

14 August: Auckland: New Zealand Alumnus Cocktail event

29 August: South Coast: KwaZulu-Natal UKZN Lunch Event

SEPTEMBER

9 September: UK Alumnus/Donor event

OCTOBER

3 October: Pietermaritzburg Alumnus Lunch Event

DECEMBER

4 December: Durban Alumni Association End-of-Year Lunch

Alumni Event 2016

ANSELL MAY HALL REUNION: 1970 – 1980

Weekend of 13th and 14th May, 2016: All past residents of Ansell May Hall during the 1970 – 1980 era are invited to renew old friendships. If you are not already on our mailing list please send your details to conspect@mweb.co.za or call Tom White on 084 597 5004.

Any photographs, anecdotes, information etc. for inclusion in a commemorative magazine will be greatly appreciated.

ALUMNI BENEFITS

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 form may be downloaded at: <http://alumni affairs.ukzn.ac.za/Alumniassoc/DAASUBFORM2015.aspx>
2. **An Alumnus Benefit card** – allowing all UKZN graduates access to any UKZN library at 50% the normal annual fee. This card can be obtained directly from the Alumni Relations office (Howard College campus) or through any one of the five campus libraries. We require 2 identity photos. Contact: Desiree Govender on Email: govenderd@ukzn.ac.za or Telephone: +27(0)31 260 2958.
3. **Regular updates and information on UKZN developments and activities** – via our monthly online/electronic newsletter, email, the alumni website as well as Facebook and Twitter. An annual alumnus publication (*UKZNTOUCH*) is also posted to alumni. Alumni are most welcome to make contact via the Alumni Relations' dedicated email address (alumni@ukzn.ac.za) should they require University-related information.
4. **Invitations to exclusive events held both on and off campus.** A number of annual off-campus events are co-ordinated across South Africa and internationally (UK, Australia, New Zealand and the USA). These events offer excellent networking opportunities for graduates and the chance to receive updates on their *alma mater*.
5. **The Alumni Relations office has UKZN contacts in four countries which have high concentrations of UKZN alumni.** Please see list below of the names and contact details.
UK: Bruno van Dyk, Chairperson: Alumnus Association, Europe. Email: bruno.v.dyk@gmail.com
New Zealand: Tracy Gers. Email: tracy.gers@familyriva.net.nz and Cecilia Davison. Email: dcdavison@xtra.co.nz
Australia: Ruth Thornton. Email: ruth.thornton20@gmail.com
USA: Richard Paverd. Email: Richard@paverd.com
6. **A daily updated career portal is available for our graduates.** The Alumni Relations Office provides a career 'Super-Highway' for our alumni, between yourselves and the top companies in South Africa – including consulting and auditing firms, banks, and blue chip corporations. This portal will provide current high profile jobs and career opportunities for you to consider, and apply directly to.

The alumni career portal serves to:

- Give you visibility to a multitude of job opportunities in the market in a single place so that you don't need to consult different sources;
- Name the different companies that are employing so that you know exactly who you are applying to;
- Allow you to apply directly to the employer by linking you directly into their career site.

To access the alumni career portal visit: <http://alumni affairs.ukzn.ac.za/Careers.aspx>

7. **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. Any 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 <http://devman.ukzn.ac.za/alumni/web/findme/>
8. **Find-a-Friend facility** – this alumni directory, accessed via our website, enables graduates to make contact with fellow graduates with whom they have lost contact. If you experience any problems, please contact the Alumni office – Email: alumni@ukzn.ac.za
9. **Absa Affinity gold credit card for graduates.** This UKZN credit card gives you the advantages of an Absa Gold Credit Card while still showing your allegiance to the University of KwaZulu-Natal. With your Gold Affinity credit card you receive Absa Rewards, you'll earn Cash Rewards, and it also offers you access to Bidvest Airport Lounges at preferential rates. To support your University, Absa will pay a percentage of the total turnover on your UKZN Credit Card back to the University, at no extra cost to you.

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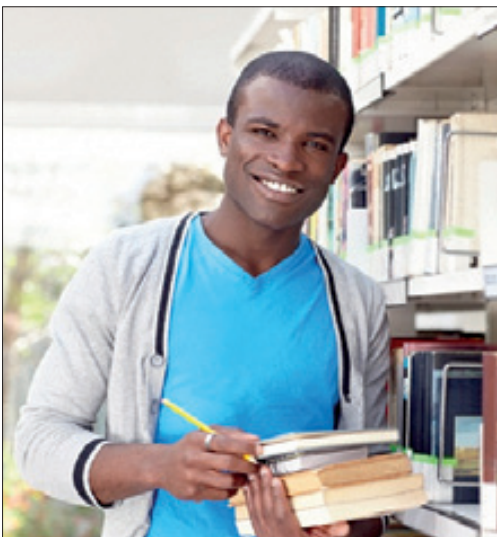
To support your University, Absa will pay a % of the total turnover on your UKZN Credit Card back to the University, at no cost to you. Add Absa Rewards and you'll earn Cash Rewards, too. Your Gold Affinity credit card also offers you access to Bidvest Airport Lounges at preferential rates.



Visit <http://alumniaffairs.ukzn.ac.za/UKZNalumnocard/absacreditcard.aspx> for terms and conditions.



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THE ALUMNI BENEFIT CARD

FOR USE AT ANY UKZN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The alumni of the University of KwaZulu-Natal pay only half the subscription fees at the library on production of an Alumni Benefit Card. This card can be obtained directly from the Alumni Relations office on Howard College or through any one of the five campus libraries. We require 2 identity photos.

Physical address:

Alumni Relations Department, 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

Phone: +27 (0)31 260 2958

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Identity Number: _____

Student Number: _____

Surname: _____ Maiden Name: _____

Forenames: _____

Postal Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____ Province: _____

Home Telephone: _____ Mobile: _____

Email Address: _____

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

Campus attended (Please tick): ☐ Edgewood ☐ Howard College ☐ Medical School ☐ Pietermaritzburg ☐ Westville

Residence at University: _____

Employer: _____ Position Held: _____

Work Telephone: _____ Email Address: _____

Fax Number: _____ Direct Line: _____

Name of Spouse (If a Graduate of this university)

Mobile: _____ Email Address: _____

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

Campus attended (Please tick): ☐ Edgewood ☐ Howard College ☐ Medical School ☐ Pietermaritzburg ☐ Westville

PLEASE RETURN TO: Desiree Govender
Alumni Relations
University Of KwaZulu-Natal, Howard College campus,
232 Mazisi-Kunene Avenue, Durban 4041

Tel: +27 (0)31 260 2958

Fax +27 (0)31 260 2236

Email: govenderd@ukzn.ac.za or alumni@ukzn.ac.za

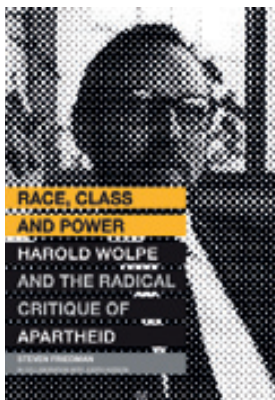
UPDATE YOUR DETAILS ONLINE: <http://alumniaffairs.ukzn.ac.za>



ON THE

Bookshelf

UKZN Press is an internationally recognised publisher of quality scholarly works in the humanities, social sciences and current affairs. In 2009 it was awarded the Publishers Association of South Africa / South African Booksellers Association award for Small Academic Publisher of the year. The quality of its books ensures that UKZN Press continues to attract highly rated academics [U1] as authors and that it remains a sought-after partner for foreign publishing houses keen to collaborate with South African publishers. Each manuscript undergoes rigorous peer review and editing processes to ensure books of the highest quality. Apart from its scholarly works UKZN Press publishes a limited number of literary fiction titles, at most two a year. These undergo the same rigorous selection and editing process as the non-fiction works.



RACE, CLASS AND POWER

HAROLD WOLPE AND THE RADICAL CRITIQUE OF APARTHEID

Steven Friedman 978 1 86914 286 5

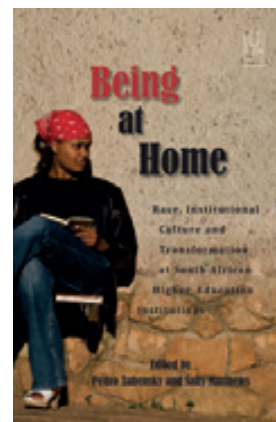
Over four decades ago, radical scholars began to suggest a new way of looking at South African society, one that blamed the economic power of those who owned property for the racial bondage of the Black majority. Harold Wolpe was arguably the most influential theorist of this generation. His writing played a major role in a revolution in thought and his celebrated escape from prison in the 1960s made him a symbol of alternative action. *Race, Class and Power* clearly and insightfully examines Wolpe's work in the political, intellectual and social contexts in which it was developed. Drawing on interviews, the book also maps his influence on ideas and the culture that emerged in anti-apartheid circles in the 1970s. Wolpe's writing is a prism through which South African society can be viewed; this book is an intellectual biography both of Wolpe and of South Africa's left.

BEING AT HOME

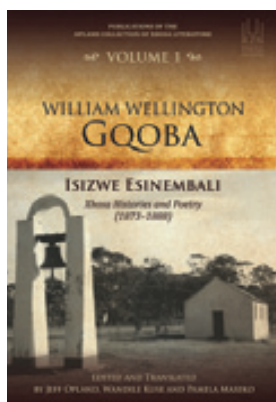
RACE, INSTITUTIONAL CULTURE AND TRANSFORMATION AT SOUTH AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Pedro Tabensky & Sally Matthews (EDS) 978 1 86914 290 2

Being at Home stimulates careful conversation about some of the most pressing issues facing higher education institutions in South Africa today – race, transformation and institutional culture. While there are many reasons to be despondent about the current state of affairs in the South African tertiary sector, this collection is intended as an invitation for the reader to see these problems as opportunities for rethinking the very idea of what it is to be a university in contemporary South Africa. It is also, more generally, an invitation for us to think about what it is that the intellectual project should ultimately be about, and to question certain prevalent trends that affect – or, perhaps, infect – the current global academic system. This book will be of interest to all those who are concerned about the state of the contemporary university, both in South Africa and beyond.



UKZN Press, published the first two volumes in the Opland Collection of Xhosa Literature Series, which presents English translations of significant works in isiXhosa, for the most part previously unrecognised or unavailable as published books. The volumes also include the original works.



WILLIAM WELLINGTON GQOBA

ISIZWE ESINEMBALI

XHOSA HISTORIES AND POETRY (1873–1888)

Jeff Opland, Wandile Kuse & Pamela Maseko (EDS & TR.) 978 1 86914 282 7

PUBLICATIONS OF THE OPLAND COLLECTION OF XHOSA LITERATURE
VOLUME 1

William Wellington Gqoba (1840–88) was prominent among the African intellectuals emerging in the Eastern Cape region of South Africa towards the end of the nineteenth century. By trade he was a wagonmaker, licensed preacher of the Free Church of Scotland, teacher, historian, poet, folklorist and editor. For much of his brief life he served on mission stations as a catechist, and ended his career as editor of the Lovedale newspaper *Isigidimi sama-Xosa*, to which he contrived to contribute subversive poetry outspokenly critical of Western education, the European administration of Black people and the discrimination suffered by colonised Blacks. Gqoba fashioned the figure of the Xhosa man of letters. Unrivalled in his time in the generic range of his writing, he was the author of letters, anecdotes, expositions of proverbs, histories and poetry, including two poems in the form of debates that stood for over fifty years as the longest poems in the Xhosa language.

This book assembles and translates into English all of William Wellington Gqoba's clearly identifiable writings. They offer an insider's perspective on an African nation in transition, adapting uncomfortably to Western mores and morality, seeking to affirm its identity by drawing on its past, standing on the brink of mobilisation to resist white control and to construct its social, political and religious independence of European colonialism.

D.L.P. YALI-MANISI

IIMBALI ZAMANYANGE

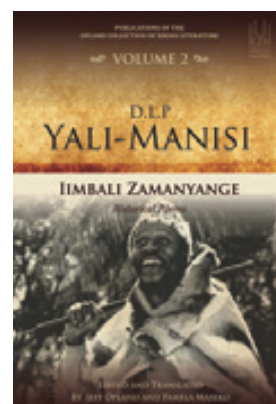
HISTORICAL POEMS

Jeff Opland & Pamela Maseko (EDS & TR.) 978 1 86914 283 4

PUBLICATIONS OF THE OPLAND COLLECTION OF XHOSA LITERATURE
VOLUME 2

David Livingstone Phakamile Yali-Manisi (1926–99) was a Thembu imbongi, the most powerful exponent of the art of praise poetry in the Xhosa language, in the second half of the twentieth century. His literary career, however, was blighted by circumstances beyond his control, and he died in total obscurity. Manisi was obliged to seek his audiences throughout the lifetime of South Africa's reviled policy of apartheid, and the poet's reputation, initially full of promise, waned as a consequence. He was a lifelong supporter of Nelson Mandela and the author of the earliest poem in praise of Mandela (1954), but he was never able to fulfil his ambition of performing a poem in honour of Mandela in a liberated South Africa.

Manisi exhibited a marked penchant for extending the panegyric mode of the imbongi into explicit narrative; he also displayed an astonishing capacity to compose poetry in the act of performance. This volume presents eight of his narrative poems in isiXhosa and in English translation. His poetry, both written and performed, plumbed the past to inspire resistance to present injustices.





One of UKZN Press' highlights this year is the release of the translations of Gcina Mhlophe's story collections. Previously published in English by UKZN Press, the titles were *STORIES OF AFRICA* and *OUR STORY MAGIC*. These two collections have been translated into: isiZulu; isiXhosa; Sepedi; Xitsonga; and Tshivenda.



CONVERSATIONS OF MOTHERHOOD SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN'S WRITING ACROSS TRADITIONS

Ksenia Robbe 978 1 86914 288 9

The subject of motherhood is interwoven with themes of survival, power and identity. It is also at the heart of any consideration of women's writing. *Conversations of Motherhood* sensitively charts common themes, intersecting experiences and related topics within the cultural specificities of South African society. The author comparatively explores seminal novels by South African authors written in English and Afrikaans from the 1970s to 2010 through the prism of motherhood.

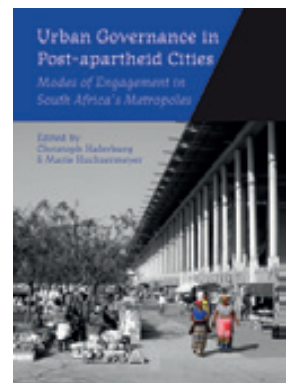
Drawing on the work of theorist Mikhail Bakhtin, this book develops a transcultural approach to the study of literature and literary culture in postcolonial multilingual societies. This method offers striking rewards when comparatively pairing Zoë Wicomb with Pamphila Hlapa, Sindiwe Magona with Marlene van Niekerk, Ellen Kuzwayo with Antjie Krog and Elsa Joubert with Wilma Stockenström.

URBAN GOVERNANCE IN POST-APARTHEID CITIES MODES OF ENGAGEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA'S METROPOLES

Christoph Haferburg & Marie Huchzermeyer (EDS) 978 1 86914 259 9

Urban governance as a term captures the complex interaction between stakeholders or groupings that influence urban development. In South Africa, this complexity emerged with the transition from apartheid over two decades ago. Today, governance influences priorities in a wide range of urban domains, from public transport to policing; from engagements at the neighbourhood level to city-wide strategies. In different configurations, urban governance shapes innercity districts and gated estates on the urban periphery.

The contributors to this volume cover urban governance in contemporary South Africa across three spheres – the state, the community and the private sector, through a variety of lenses. Spatial concerns are central to many of the analyses and case studies, in which the authors highlight different modes that influence the steering of South Africa's largest cities. This book illuminates post-apartheid tensions and urban dynamics in a way that will be of value to scholars, practitioners, decision-makers, politicians and activists alike.





DURBAN INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Africa's premier film event, the Durban International Film Festival, which is hosted by UKZN's Centre for Creative Arts within the College of Humanities, presented its 36th edition from 16 to 26 July, 2015, in Durban, South Africa.

Arguably the continent's biggest film event, which attracts both film-lovers and industry representatives from across Africa and beyond, DIFF is a 10-day celebration of world-class cinema which screens new feature, documentary and short films from around the globe with a special focus on African film.

The festival is a hub for the African film industry and is an unmissable date for both industry representatives and lovers of film.

Here's a selection of films shown at DIFF 2015.



BREATHE - UMPHEFUMLO

Breathe - Umphefumlo, Mark Dornford May's contemporary adaptation of Puccini's *La Boheme*, which moves the star-crossed lovers' story from its usual Parisian setting to modern South Africa. The epic tragedy contained in *La Boheme* – *Abanxaxhi* is enhanced by the ordinariness of its story. In the contemporary setting of Cape Town in an impoverished township, and on a varsity campus, the narrative deals with the brutal realities of students struggling for food, shelter and medication. At the center are star-crossed lovers "Lungelo" (Mhlekezi Mosiea), and "Mimi" (Busisiwe Ngejane). Mimi's death from Tuberculosis, which is unnoticed at first even by her closest friends, strikes a terrifying chord in our modern world. The film is a unique partnership with the Desmond Tutu TB Centre.

TOKYO TRIBE

Near-future Tokyo has split into rival tribes that struggle for control against a backdrop of violence, sex and corruption. Tensions between two of the tribes escalate when Mera, leader of the Bukuro Wu-Ronz tribe, kills rival Tera from the Musashino Saru tribe, and then sets his sights on eliminating Tera's successor over a personal vendetta. When the High Priest's daughter goes missing, ruthless crime lord Buppa enters the fray, and Tokyo becomes a battlefield as an all-out turf war erupts between the tribes.

One of the defining features of *Tokyo Tribe* is its soundtrack, a flood of sound that flows through the entire movie. As depicted in Inoue's manga, the street culture of hip hop is a form of self-expression, so Sono made the bold decision to use rap to deliver much of the dialogue. It elevates the film's inventive and intense approach to a whole new level, and the result is what can only be described as a "battle rap musical." The aggressive assault of its beats and rhymes wreaks havoc as a massive ensemble cast shocks, excites, and incites an unparalleled sonic war!





IMBABAZI: THE PARDON

Karemera and Manzi are best friends, their close bond established by a shared local history. But Karemera is a Tutsi, Manzi is a Hutu and a brutal civil war – inflamed by the ethnic rhetoric of hate – will turn a machete-wielding Manzi on his former friend, while shocking the world and scarring a generation forever. Authentically portrayed by writer-director Joel Karekezi – himself a genocide survivor – *Imbabazi: The Pardon* charts the progress of Rwanda from genocide to reconciliation and asks the difficult but necessary question of how it is possible to cope with the aftermath of such extensive personal and national trauma.

DO I SOUND GAY?

Journalist David Thorpe embarks on a hilarious and touching journey, confronting his anxiety about “sounding gay” while comprehensively exploring the linguistic, cultural and historical origins of the stereotype of the gay voice. Enlisting acting coaches, linguists, friends, family, total strangers, and celebrities, he quickly learns that many people, both gay and straight, often wish for a different voice. He gains frank and funny perspectives from public figures such as comedian Margaret Cho, actor George Takei, sex-advice columnist Dan Savage, fashion guru Tim Gunn, and writer David Sedaris. Drawing upon movie and television clips, the film traces a cultural history of the gay voice ranging from closeted icons to a notable string of cartoon villains, which places Thorpe’s self-consciousness in a broader context and illuminates the complexity at play in this seemingly personal issue.



2015 FESTIVALS



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