

UCT



NEWS

ALUMNI MAGAZINE
2009

TWIN IMAGES
The Essops bros
– a life in pictures

*Suga and spice
and everything nice*

UCT engineer works on SA's first electric car



MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission is to be an outstanding teaching and research university, educating for life and addressing the challenges facing our society.

Educating for life means that our educational process must provide: a foundation of skills, knowledge and versatility that will last a life-time, despite a changing environment; research-based teaching and learning; critical enquiry in the form of the search for new knowledge and better understanding; and an active developmental role in our cultural, economic, political, scientific and social environment.

Addressing the challenges facing our society means that we must come to terms with our past, be cognisant of the present, and plan for the future.

In this, it is central to our mission that we: recognise our location in Africa and our historical context; claim our place in the international community of scholars; strive to transcend the legacy of apartheid in South Africa and to overcome all forms of gender and other oppressive discrimination; be flexible on access, active in redress, and rigorous on success; promote equal opportunity and the full development of human potential; strive for inter-disciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration and synergy; and value and promote the contribution that all our members make to realising our mission.

To equip people with life-long skills we must and will: promote the love of learning, the skill of solving problems, and the spirit of critical enquiry and research; and take excellence as the bench-mark for all we do.

We are committed to academic freedom, critical scholarship, rational and creative thought, and free enquiry. It is part of our mission to ensure that these ideals live; this necessarily requires a dynamic process of finding the balance between freedom and responsibility, rights and obligations, autonomy and accountability, transparency and efficiency, and permanence and transience; and of doing this through consultation and debate.

This Mission Statement was formulated by a Working Group of the University Transformation Forum and was affirmed and adopted at a University Assembly on April 24, 1996



UCT

NEWS

CONTENTS

Foreword	2
Development And Alumni Department	4
Association Of Black Alumni Ploughs Back	7
Chancellor's Awards Help Students	7
Newsmakers 2009	8
Life Goes On In Zim...	13
We Remember	14
Page Turners	16
Giving The Airwaves Some Suga	18
Robertson Gives New Insights Into Tourette's	20
Alumni Concert In Pictures	22
Lawyering In Our New Constitutional Order	24
Judge Hlophe And Africanising South African Law	28
From SANAE, With Love	31
Can We Beat Xenophobia?	32
Mirror Images	34
A Cut Above The Rest	37
Young Engineer Works On SA's First Electric Car	38
Cardiologist Has His Heart In The Right Place	40
Drumming Up Support	41
The Percy Fitzpatrick Institute Of African Ornithology	42
Alumni Gatherings	43
Where Are They Now?	47
Postcard From Afar: Living In London...Death Or Opportunity?	51

ALUMNI MAGAZINE 2009

PUBLISHED BY
Development and Alumni
Department, with the
Communication and
Marketing Department

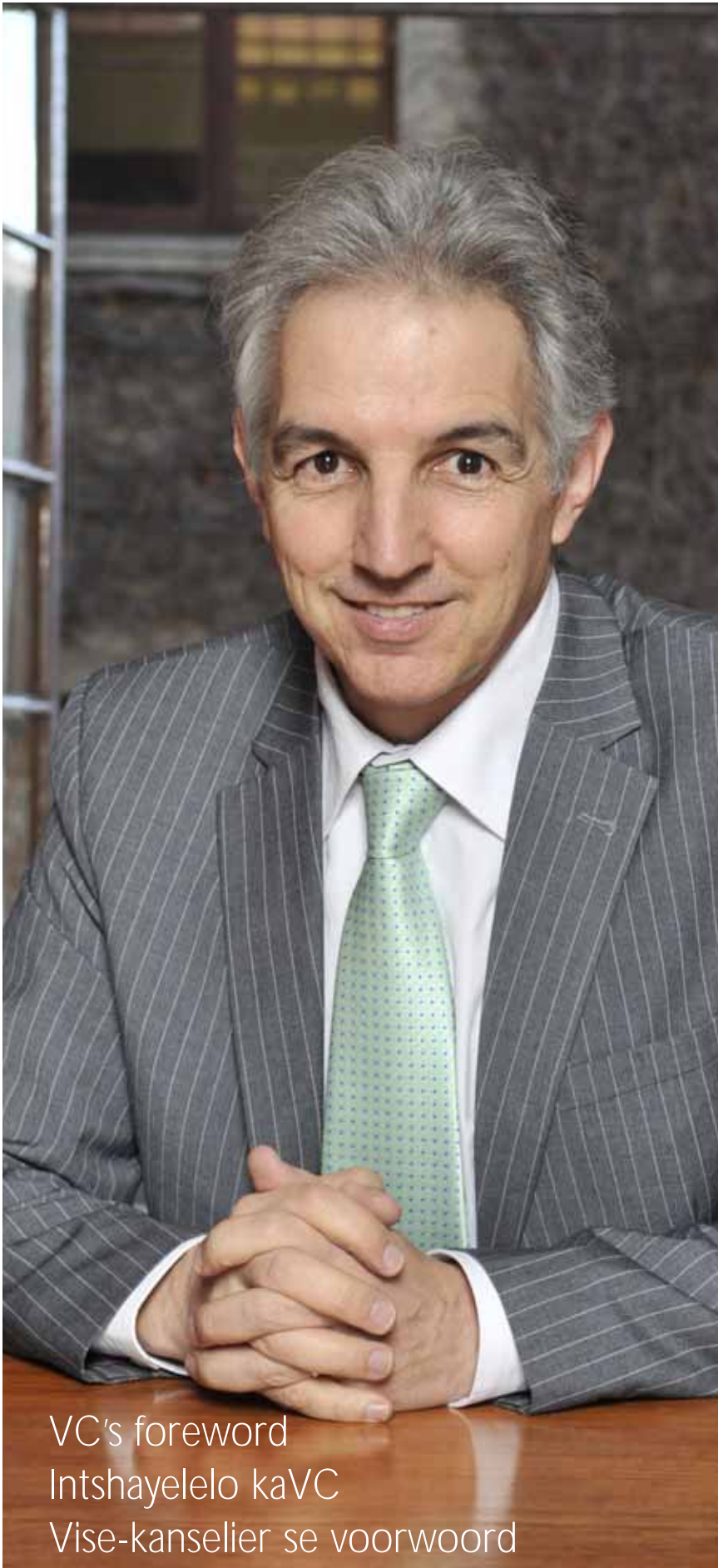
EDITOR
Morgan Morris

CONTRIBUTORS
Myolisi Gophe
Helen Théron
Yvette van Breda
Daniella Pollock
Chris McEvoy
Katherine Traut
Raymond Botha

COVER PICTURE
Husein and Hasan Essop
picture by Katherine Traut

DESIGN AND LAYOUT
Zwelibanzi Damba

CONTACT
alumni@uct.ac.za
(t) +27 021 650 3746
(f) +27 021 650 5588
Development and Alumni
Department, University
of Cape Town, Private Bag
X3, Rondebosch, 7700



VC's foreword
Intshayelelo kaVC
Vise-kanselier se voorwoord

The most striking feature of my meetings with UCT alumni on trips throughout South Africa and around the world over the past year has been the unabated expressions of enthusiasm for and interest in the university's welfare and reputation. This emerges both from individuals who have recently graduated, and from those who haven't set foot on a UCT campus for 20 or 40 years.

Of course, they also have questions and concerns. One sometimes hears references to a 'decline' in academic standards at South African universities. Here my response to alumni is unambiguous: UCT remains as firmly dedicated as ever to the highest scholarly standards across all disciplines. Where appropriate, our programmes are internationally accredited. Our graduates are headhunted by employers all over the world – not always to South Africa's advantage.

No fewer than 32 of our researchers have been A-rated in an international peer-reviewed process by the National Research Foundation, which means they are regarded as international leaders in their field. (Forty percent of all A-rated researchers in South Africa are at UCT.)

But to be a global university, UCT must offer something unique. As I said in my installation lecture, I believe that UCT's niche is to be the intellectual interface between the African continent and the world. It is my hope, in fact, that UCT will become the institution that overseas universities will look to when they wish to learn about our continent or do business here.

That is already beginning to happen – thousands of students from more than one hundred nations register at UCT every year. In that sense, we are a truly international university. And, as you will see in the pages of this magazine, we are also truly international in the impact that our graduates make locally and abroad. The stories also show that these alumni, like those I meet on my travels, take great pride in being associated with UCT. As we congratulate them on their achievements, we celebrate the vibrant and dynamic UCT alumni global community, and express our deep appreciation to it for its ongoing support of our mission.

Dr Max Price
Vice-Chancellor

Eyona nto iphawulekayo kwiintlanganiso zam nabafundi beminyaka edlulileyo base-UCT kwiihambo endizenzileyo kuMzantsi Afrika uphela nasehlabathini liphela kulo mnyaka udlulileyo, ibe yindlela ababonisa ngayo umdla ongathothiyo kwinkqubela yale yunivesithi nakwindlela le yunivesithi ebonakala ngayo eluntwini. Le nto ivela kubafundi abasanda kuthweswa izidanga nakwabo bagqibele kwiminyaka engama-20 okanye engama-40 ukubeka unyawo kula masango.

Ewe, bakwanayo imibuzo kunye nenkxalabo. Ngamanye amaxesha uye uve kuthethwa ngokwehla kwezinga lemfundo kwiiyunivesithi zoMzantsi Afrika. Apho ke impendulo yam ayigungqi kubafundi balapha beminyaka edlulileyo: i-UCT isazinikezele njengakuqala kwimfundo ekowona mgangatho uphezulu kuzo zonke iinkalo zezifundo esinazo. Apho sinakho, iinkqubo zethu zamkeleka kumazwe ngamazwe. Abafundi abanezidanga zethu bazingelwa ngabaqeshi kwihlabathi liphela – nto leyo engasoloko iginyeka kuMzantsi Afrika.

lingcali zethu zophengululo ezifikileyo kuma-32 ziye zafumana ihlelo lika-A koogxa bazo abavela kumazwe ngamazwe kwinkqubo yovavanyo ye-National Research Foundation, nto leyo ethetha ukuthi bathathwa njengeenkokeli zamazwe ngamazwe kwiinkalo zezifundo zabo. (lipesenti ezingamashumi amane zonke zabaphengululi boMzantsi Afrika zise-UCT.)

Kodwa ukuze ibe yiunivesithi yehlabathi liphela, i-UCT kumele inikezele ngento eyodwa. Njengokuba besele nditshilo kwintetho yokubekwa kwam esikhundleni, ndikholelwa ekubeni esona siphwiwo se-UCT kukuba yindawo ehlanganisa izwekazi lase-Afrika kunye nehlabathi liphela ngokwasezincwadini. Ithemba lam ke kukuba i-UCT iyakuba liziko lemfundo apho iiyunivesithi zamazwe aphesheya ziyakujonga khona xa zinqwenela ukufunda ngelizwekazi lethu okanye zinqwenela ukwenza ushishino apha.

Loo nto seyiqalisile ukwenzeka – amawaka-waka abafundi abavela kumazwe angaphezu kwekhulu abhalisa apha e-UCT minyaka le. Kwelo cala, siyunivesithi yamazwe ngamazwe ngokwenene. Yaye njengokuba uzakubona kumaphepha ale ncwadana, sikwayiyunivesithi yamazwe ngamazwe ngokwenene nangefuthe elenziwa ngabafundi bethu apha kweli naphesheya. Amabali akwabonisa ukuba abafundi balapha beminyaka edlulileyo, njengabo bendidibana nabo kwiihambo zam; bayazingca ngokumanywa ne-UCT. Njengokuba sivuyisana nabo ngempumelelo yabo, sikwavuyisana noluntu lwabafundi beminyaka edlulileyo base-UCT kwihlabathi liphela, yaye sisenza umbulelo ongazenzisiyo ngenkxaso yabo engapheliyo kubizo lwethu.

***Ngu-Gq. Max Price
Usekela-Nqununu***

Die treffendste kenmerk van my ontmoetings met UK-alumni tydens my reise in Suid-Afrika en regoor die wêreld die afgelope jaar, was die vrymoedige uitdrukkings van geesdrif vir en belangstelling in die universiteit se welstand en reputasie. Dit geld vir sowel mense wat onlangs afgestudeer het as oudstudente wat 20 of 40 jaar laas op die UK-kampus was.

Natuurlik het hulle ook vroeë en bekommernisse. Daar word soms verwys na 'n „verlaging“ in akademiese standaarde aan Suid-Afrikaanse universiteite. My reaksie hierop aan alumni is ondubbelsinnig: Die Universiteit van Kaapstad bly so onwrikbaar toegewyd soos altyd aan die hoogste skolastiese standaarde in alle dissiplines. En waar toepaslik is ons programme internasionaal geakkrediteer. Werknemers van regoor die aardbol stuur trouens werwingsagente om ons graduandi hier te kom werf – wat nie altyd 'n goeie ding vir Suid-Afrika is nie.

Nie minder nie as 32 van ons navorsers het A-graderings ontvang in 'n internasionale portuurbeoordeelde proses deur die Nasionale Navorsingstigting, wat daarop neerkom dat hulle as internasionale leiers in hul vakgebiede beskou word. (Veertig persent van alle A-gegradeerde navorsers in Suid-Afrika is aan UK verbonde.)

Maar om 'n globale universiteit te kan wees, is dit noodsaaklik dat UK iets unieks moet hê om te bied. Soos ek in my inhuldigingslesing gesê het, glo ek dat UK se nis is om die intellektuele koppelvlak tussen die vasteland van Afrika en die wêreld te wees. Dit is trouens my wens dat UK die instansie sal word waarna oorsese universiteite sal kyk as hulle meer omtrent ons vasteland wil leer, of as hulle hier sake wil doen.

Dit is reeds aan't gebeur – duisende studente van meer as eenhonderd nasies registreer jaarliks aan die Universiteit van Kaapstad. In daardie sin is ons 'n ware internasionale universiteit. En soos u in die bladsye van hierdie tydskrif sal sien, is ons ook werklik internasionaal wat die impak van ons afgestudeerdes plaaslik en oorsee betref. Die artikels toon ook dat hierdie alumni, soos dié wat ek op my reise teëkom, baie trots is daarop om met UK geassosieer te word. Waar ons hulle hier met hul prestasies gelukwens, huldig ons ook die lewenskragtige en dinamiese, globale gemeenskap van UK-alumni en bedank hulle graag van harte vir hul volgehoue ondersteuning van ons missie.

***Dr. Max Price
Vise-kanselier***

Development and Alumni Department

Report by Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo and Dr Jim McNamara



Prof Thandabantu Nhlapo



Dr Jim McNamara

Greetings

The UCT alumni community of today is a large and diverse one. It comprises many families who have sent succeeding generations of students to UCT, and others for whom our young graduates represent the first in their families to benefit from a tertiary education (often with financial support from alumni). To help welcome thousands of new graduates into this community each year, the Development and Alumni Department (DAD) has initiated a student outreach programme to instil an awareness in UCT students that they will one day join a most remarkable group of fellow alumni.

Of the eighty thousand or so alumni for whom we have current contact details, about sixty thousand continue to live in South Africa. The rest are spread across 104 countries in all corners of the globe. The UK ranks second with about 2 700 alumni, with the USA, Zimbabwe and Australia each hosting around 1 500.

Vice-chancellor Dr Max Price has embarked upon an ambitious programme of overseas travel to meet as many alumni as he can. You will see reports elsewhere in this edition of some of his travels to the countries with the larger numbers of alumni. In addition, we are currently working on plans for journeys to Namibia, Botswana, Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania. For those lone alumni in Bulgaria, Honduras, Yemen and Oman – well, we're working on getting him there, too, but it may take a while.

Alumni survey

In 2008, we conducted a comprehensive alumni survey, and were gratified both by the size of the response and the lessons that the replies carried. You told us how highly you regarded UCT's academic reputation, and how important it is that we strive to maintain that. You are proud of your UCT degrees and, on the whole, you feel that the University prepared you well for your careers.

You told us that you are regular readers of this publication, and that you welcome the opportunity to attend University events when you can. You also gave us your views on which UCT causes you deem most worthy of your donations; it was no surprise that supporting our financially needy talented students came out on top, but it was also gratifying to hear that there was widespread appreciation of the need to raise funds to maintain and improve the University's extensive infrastructure.

Your support

We in DAD are fortunate to get the opportunity to say "thank you" quite often these days. Even amid the global economic turmoil that has had such a traumatic impact on so many lives, UCT's alumni and friends have dramatically increased their support for their University in many different ways.

Donations totalling R168 million (a 39% increase over 2007) were received during 2008 from over 1 200 organisations and individuals, including 22 contributions of more than R1m each. Especially pleasing to us is the fact that the number of individual donors increased by 20%. The myriad of other ways

in which alumni contributed to UCT was also heartening, indeed.

UCT, like all leading universities, increasingly looks to its supporters to assist it in pursuing its mission and goals. Whether that support comes in the form of modest annual donations as one's means allow, that 'big gift' that recognises the value of the UCT degree that has enabled a certain level of success in one's life, or a bequest that remembers UCT as a beneficiary in one's will, the support from alumni and friends is more necessary today than it has ever been.

Overseas offices

Working closely with our faculties and our overseas offices, DAD coordinates the alumni communications and fundraising programmes for UCT, and is your personal link to your alma mater. For many years, UCT has been fortunate to enjoy the support of alumni chapters in a number of countries, and of three legally-independent entities which offer tax-beneficial ways of supporting UCT. These are:

The University of Cape Town Foundation (Toronto, Canada) makes it possible for Canadian alumni and friends to support UCT activities through tax-efficient cash donations, gifts of shares and securities, and bequests. Regional director Di Stafford, previously the development manager at the Baxter Theatre Centre at UCT, has been focusing on creating a platform for raising funds from Canadian foundations and corporations, and on putting avenues in place for communication and contact with alumni on a regular basis. The first Foundation newsletter was distributed, and the Foundation's official website at www.uctfoundation.ca has been completed. This is a portal for UCT alumni in Canada to keep abreast of events and news at UCT, as well as to easily update their contact information. Recent events included:

- A November 2008 alumni dinner in Vancouver. The evening was very well attended, and provided useful positive feedback for future events.
- Discounted tickets were secured for the opening night of the South African production *Tshepang*, held in February 2009 in Toronto. The event included a pre-production presentation by Dr Marcia Blumberg on the context of the

play, and a post-show reception where guests could meet the cast and crew. Sixty percent of the ticket price was donated to the Foundation in support of scholarships.

- An alumni breakfast meeting in Toronto in March 2009 where Dr Simone Honikman presented the work of the UCT Perinatal Mental Health Project.
- Alumni were offered discounted tickets to *Ubuntu*, a Baxter Theatre Centre collaboration with Theatrefront in Toronto. The production also played at the Neptune Theatre in Halifax.
- In May 2009 Dr Max Price and Dr Jim McNamara visited Vancouver where they attended a dinner for alumni and friends.

The annual appeal to alumni was posted early in November 2008, and the response from Canadian alumni has been steady. During 2008/09 enough funds were raised from alumni to support three postgraduate bursaries. Dr Ernest Fullagar has supported students in health sciences and opera over the past few years, and during 2008 three bursary awards were made from this gift, and renewed for the 2009 academic year. The Students' Health and Welfare Centres Organisation (SHAWCO) received a donation from the FK Morrow Foundation towards internet access at their four teaching centres. And the Canada South Africa Chamber of Business once again provided bursary support to postgraduate commerce students.

The University of Cape Town is highly regarded in Canada, and collaborations have been continuing with such institutions as the University of Toronto, Rotman School of Management, Osgoode Law School, University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University and York University.

The University Of Cape Town Trust (London, UK): The UCT Trust is a registered UK charity. During 2008, funds exceeding £877 000 were raised by the Trust, with further funds from the UK being donated directly to UCT. Since its inception in 1991, the Trust has raised over £16 million for projects at UCT. Some highlights were:

- The David & Elaine Potter Foundation's programme for master's and doctoral students, to develop graduates who will contribute to the country's development,

UCT TIMELINE 2008

August: 200 candidates from UCT's Department of Accounting did significantly better than their peers from other universities in part one of the qualifying examination (QE1) of the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants. The pass rate for UCT students was 96%, compared to the 53% pass rate nationally.

August: DataFirst, a small, dedicated unit in the Faculty of Commerce, joined a project that allows African countries to leapfrog to world-class standards of data access. In August, DataFirst signed a contract with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to provide technical assistance, support and training in the installation and maintenance of an online survey-data catalogue system for the national statistics offices of Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Mozambique and Nigeria.



August: Mariet Willemsse of UCT's School of Architecture, Planning and Geomatics won one of the new Carl & Emily Fuchs Foundation's Prestige Prizes in architecture. Valued at R50 000, the purse is the highest prize money of any architectural student competition in the country.

August: The Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Cape Town celebrated winning a major international award: a Sawyer Seminar grant of US\$150 000 from the Andrew W Mellon Foundation. The award goes towards the department's *Knowledge Diversity and Power: Science, the Indigenous Movement, and the Post-Colonial University* seminar series.

August: Professor Vivian Bickford-Smith, head of UCT's Department of Historical Studies, was awarded a fully funded, one-year Leverhulme Visiting Professorship in Comparative Metropolitan History at London University.

and nurture a civil society in South Africa.

- The Sigrid Rausing Trust's Scholarship programme aimed at refugees, for undergraduate and postgraduate students, and visiting fellows.
- The Ove Arup Foundation's Fellowship Programme in the African Centre for Cities in the UCT Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment.
- Both the Nuffield Foundation and the Leverhulme Trust continue their Equity Development Fellowship programmes in the Department of Chemistry.
- The Wolfson Foundation's major contribution to the refurbishment of a postgraduate suite of laboratories in the chemistry department.
- CHK Charities launched a three-year grant to fund a curriculum director in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

Notable bursary support also came from DaimlerChrysler Foundation, Pearson plc, Johnson Matthey, Rio Tinto, Richemont Holdings, The Edward & Dorothy Cadbury Trust, Misys Foundation, Stephen Lawrence Trust, The Schroder Family Trust, the Law Society and International Bar Association, The Stevenson Family Trust, and a family of UK-based UCT alumni who have launched a bursary programme for medical students in honour of their father.

The UCT Trust hosted a number of alumni functions during the year at South Africa House and the Houses of Parliament. The Trustees are Sir Aaron Klug OM FRS (Chairman), Sir Franklin Berman KCMG QC, Baroness Chalker of Wallasey, Lord Hoffmann, Professor Jeffrey Jowell QC, Irene Menell, Nicholas Oppenheimer, Dr Stuart Saunders and Jennifer Ward Oppenheimer.

The University of Cape Town Fund, Inc (New York, NY) is a US non-profit organisation incorporated in 1984. During 2008 the Fund raised over \$600 000 in direct cash and pledges, and assisted in a number of other donations originating in the US. Total donations from America to UCT in 2008 exceeded R85 million. UCT graduates Trevor Norwitz (chairperson), David Meachin (treasurer) and Vincent Mai comprise the UCT Fund board of directors, along with Kofi Appenteng.

Major new awards received in 2008 include:

- The Goldman Sachs Charitable Fund for the 10 000 Women Initiative at the UCT Graduate School of Business' Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship;
- The Hope for Depression Research



At a meeting in July 2009, Chancellor Graça Machel presented gold pins to members of the Chancellor's Circle, ie alumni and friends who have made generous contributions to UCT in past years, either as individuals or as part of a family. The pins have duly been named the Chancellor's Circle Pins, and will be awarded regularly. The first recipients, seen here with the Chancellor (fourth from left), included Ken Owen, Catherine Owen, Pam Golding, Angela Frater, John Antoniadis, Ben-Zion Surdut and Josephine Frater.

Foundation for research projects in UCT's Department of Psychology;

- A grant from the Wallace Global Fund to support the Perinatal Mental Health Project.

As in South Africa, the Chancellor's Challenge was the principal theme of the Fund's program for individual giving, and donations from UCT alumni and friends continued their upward trend in 2008, with several donors continuing to support named scholarships for undergraduate students. These include:

- CV Starr Scholarship Programme at UCT;
- Klaus-Jurgen Bathe Scholarship Fund in Engineering;
- Davis Polk Wardwell Scholarship in Law;
- Hamilton Naki-MESAB-United Therapeutics Scholarship;
- John M Graham and the Richard and Winifred Graham Scholarships for medical students.

Other areas supported by individual donors include the Allan Cormack Book Fund, the Faculty of Law 150th Campaign, the Graduate School of Business, the Perinatal Mental Health Project, and the Golda Selzer Memorial Center.

Outgoing vice-chancellor Professor Njabulo S Ndebele visited New York in April 2008 with VC Dr Max Price and Dr Jim McNamara to meet with foundations, alumni and business leaders. The

UCT Fund hosted several other events for alumni and friends over 2008 in Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington DC.

The University and the Fund are enormously grateful for sustained assistance from UCT graduates, friends, foundations and corporations, which enable the organisation, now entering its 25th year, to support and serve the University as it strives to meet new challenges and opportunities.

Who's Who in Alumni at UCT?

Deputy vice-chancellor Professor Thandabantu Nhlapo holds the UCT executive portfolio for university advancement. Dr Jim McNamara (jim.mcnamara@uct.ac.za) serves as the executive director of the Development and Alumni Department, working with colleagues Lungile Jacobs (senior manager; lungile.jacobs@uct.ac.za), Monde Mjebeza (alumni relations officer; monde.mjebeza@uct.ac.za), Jasmine Erasmus (individual giving officer; jasmine.erasmus@uct.ac.za), Alex Platjies (communications officer; alex.platjies@uct.ac.za), and Anita Wildeman (administrative assistant; anita.wildeman@uct.ac.za).

Association of Black Alumni ploughs back

The Association of Black Alumni (ABA) has lived up to its mission and vision by launching a bursary scheme for commerce students at UCT. This has been hailed as a clear demonstration of generosity and means of giving back to historically disadvantaged students.

The bursary has strengthened the organisation's ties with UCT, and cemented the ABA's commitment to improving the quality of black commerce graduates in South Africa, which is improving steadily.

The ABA plans to sustain the bursary by having its recipients plough back into the scheme and so give other students an opportunity of obtaining the bursary. This is a full-cost bursary valued at R110 000 each.

Candidates must be financially needy and display academic merit.

Those who qualify should know that it is compulsory that they embark on postgraduate studies - either a degree or diploma - and should consider remaining at the University for a lectureship position, should one be available. This gives the students an opportunity to invest and plough back their knowledge and skills.

This bursary is for one year and renewable, subject to satisfactory academic performance.

It is available to both men and women in all third-year and further commerce programmes, and is open to South African citizens only. The candidates should be historically disadvantaged and be on UCT's financial aid programme. Those who apply should have at least a 60% grade.

Candidates who are awarded the bursary should make a concerted effort to pay back into the scheme. This, the ABA believes, will instil a sense of discipline, responsibility and the spirit of philanthropy.

Chancellor's Awards help students

In the spirit of the Chancellor's Challenge, Chancellor Graça Machel has established the Chancellor's Awards.

These are merit awards for undergraduate students on financial aid, and each award is worth R25 000. The awards will be divided among the six faculties. A total of 18 awards will be made annually, three per faculty, subject to the availability of funds.

The award will be renewed annually, subject to all courses being passed.

The students who receive the awards will sign a pledge committing them to become donors to UCT once they have graduated. Students who wish to move on to honours level may apply for renewal for one final year.

A student may hold a Chancellor's Award alongside other full-cost funding.



Tony East, honours in fine arts

"Tertiary education is still to a large extent a privilege that is not afforded to everyone, and in these times of economic insecurity, the prospect of paying off a substantial student debt is all the more intimidating. A Chancellor's Award bursary has not only contributed significantly to covering the costs of this year's studies, but it also comes as a reward, beyond that of education in and for itself. I would like to thank the Chancellor, those alumni, staff and donors who have made, not only this award, but all financial assistance possible, and I pledge to contribute in future to making studying easier for financially needy students."

Sibonelo Mdluli, second-year law

"I would first like to extend my gratitude to all those who have made this award a reality for me. The Chancellor's award not only represents a much-needed financial boost for students like myself, but it also serves as a great source of motivation. The very idea that someone is willing to invest in my future is enough for me to wake up every day and make the best of the opportunities that this university continues to offer me."



Jabulani Nzimande, second-year science

"I can not begin to express how fulfilling it is to receive such an award. This represents to me the returns of all the hard work and dedication that we as the recipients have put in and continue to put into our respective fields of study. I thank the donors who have made this award possible, and I strongly feel that the only way to show our gratitude is by continuing to excel in our academics so that, in the near future, we can also give back and continue this chain that the Chancellor's Award and its donors have established."

Miriam Swiegers, third-year physiotherapy

"Being one of the students selected to receive the Chancellor's Award for 2009 is a privilege and an honour and serves as a strong motivating force that will encourage me to continue doing my best in my studies. I would like to take this opportunity to thank each person that contributed towards this award, in the process making it possible for me to have the means to keep on succeeding in my studies. I hope that in the not too distant future I would have the opportunity to return the generosity and enable other students to experience the same privileges that I have."



Newsmakers 2009



June Bam-Hutchison (BA, 1983; HDE [PG] Sec, 1984; BED, 1988; MED, 1993), an author and activist and international community developer, received the prestigious Achievement Through Diversity Award at the GG2 Leadership and Diversity Awards in the UK. That same week in October 2008, UNESCO awarded its Prize for Peace Education to the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, for a project managed by Bam-Hutchison until 2005, *Turning Points in History*. The project oversaw the publication of the first new South African history book for secondary schools since 1994.



Actress and TV- and radio-personality **Natalie Becker** (BSocSc, 1993) won a coveted Golden Horn for best supporting actress at the 2009 South African

Film and Television Awards (SAFTA). She won the SAFTA for her role in the 2008 Shamim Sharif film, *The World Unseen*, a tale of forbidden love in early apartheid South Africa. Becker's also lately featured in the movie adaptation of JM Coetzee's *Disgrace* (playing alongside John Malkovich), *The Deal* with Meg Ryan, and *Scorpion King 2*.

While studying at the Michaelis School of Art, **Aidan Bennetts** (BA [Fine Art], 2004) used to supplement his income by making furniture. Today, he's exhibited at the 2009 Design Indaba, his eco-friendly designs are earning him kudos and he does a DIY segment on the TV magazine show *Top Billing*. Bennetts completes commissions ranging from murals and shop fittings to designing trophies for events like the J&B Met. Most notable among his creations are his corrugated cardboard lounge chairs.

Opera graduate **Sarah-Jane Brandon** (Performer's Diploma in Opera, 2006) won first prize in the Kathleen Ferrier Memorial Scholarship Fund competition for opera singers, which is held annually in London, UK. Brandon walked away with a purse of £10 000. In 2008, she was also the runner-up in the Richard Tauber competition. Brandon lives in London, where she is studying at the Royal College of Music.



Readers of *Fitness* magazine would know contributing dietician **Lila Bruk** (BSc, 2002; BSc Hons, 2004). She's also written for general and health-related publications such as *O Magazine*, *Femina*, *Essentials*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Food &*



Home, Destiny, and many others. She is currently completing a master's degree in nutrition, in the field of body image in pre-adolescent girls,

at the University of Stellenbosch.



Cape Town-based saxophonist, producer and composer **Moreira Chonguica's** (BMus Hons, 2001) latest album, *The Moreira Project Vol 2 – Citizen of the World*, has won two 2009 South African Music Awards (SAMA), for best contemporary jazz album and for best album packaging. This follows on the 2006 release of his debut album, *The Moreira Project Vol 1 – The Journey*, which was nominated for three SAMAs. Chonguica and co-producer Mark Fransman walked away with Best Producer award for that album. His most recent release is a mix of contemporary African fusion jazz, and was recorded by Chonguica's own independent recording label, MoreStar Entertainment. Born in Mozambique, Chonguica has partnered with Jimmy Dlodlu, was the 2002 runner-up in the annual Adcock Ingram Jazz Competition run through UCT, has performed – with his band The Moreira Project – at the Grahamstown Festival, the Cape Town Festival, and other top South African festivals.

In April, **Alide Dasnois** (BA, 1970; BA Hons, 1971) became the first woman editor of the 133-year-old *Cape Times* newspaper. Described as “an outstanding journalist” by Chris Whitfield, editor-in-chief of Independent Newspapers Cape, Dasnois replaced Tyrone August at the helm of one of Cape Town's biggest daily newspapers. Dasnois has previously served as editor of *Business Report*, acting editor of the *Pretoria News* and deputy editor of the *Cape Times*.



Amanda Dilima (BSc in Property Studies, 2008), actress, voice-over artist and presenter, has, at only 22, some hefty projects keeping her busy. She's on etv's *Shooting Stars*, where she played the role of Zinzi, and appeared in the movie *The Bird Can't Fly*, starring alongside SA greats like John Kani. Interestingly, she started off studying theatre and performance at UCT, but after her first year, did a complete about-turn and enrolled for a BSc. She is now reading for an honours.



Seven-time Hansa Powerade Dusi Canoe Marathon winner **Martin Dreyer** (BCom, 1992) put his own ambitions aside at his year's event. Following 10 years of competition, Dreyer has turned his attention to training up-and-coming sportsmen. At the 2009 Dusi, Dreyer's Change a Life Academy contestants bagged two gold medals, with seven of the top 20 canoeists hailing from his school.

2008



August: A group of UCT information-systems students, named Team Smile, so dazzled Microsoft with their system to provide bus-timetable details via SMS that they won a trip to Silicon Valley, the high-tech technology zone in California, US, for a chance to develop their concept.

August: Three UCT researchers, Dr Nosisa Matsiliza, Dr Dionne Shepherd, and Grace Mugumbate, scooped awards at the Department of Science and Technology's Women in Science Awards.

August: The dean of the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment, Prof Francis Petersen, and his executive team led by example when they took public HIV tests at the voluntary counselling and testing drive by the Student Wellness Service.



August: Nobel Peace Prize laureate Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu urged UCT students to be the watchdogs of the country's young democracy, speaking at the human rights forum, *Speak Truth to Power*, a division of the Robert F Kennedy Memorial.

August: Racism, apathy and BEE policies were some of the hot topics at a lively panel discussion, titled *Visions, Voices and Hopes of our Youth - What's missing in our new democracy*. The event was attended by then Minister of Finance Trevor Manuel, Dr Alex Boraine and Dr Mamphela Ramphele.

Mining mogul **Clifford Elphick** (BCom, 1982), who heads up Gem Diamonds, has taken Gem into the cutting and polishing business, aiming for bigger and better margins. Elphick is the former personal assistant to Harry Oppenheimer, and ran Ernest Oppenheimer & Son – the Oppenheimer family business – from 1990 to 2004. The Letseng mine in Lesotho has, under Gem's management, produced three of the world's 20 largest rough diamonds.

Besides being a top-notch producer – he's behind Freshly Ground's recent *Pot Belly* music video – **Ruben Engel** (BA, 2005) is also a part-time model. This 26-year-old theatre and performance grad was recently voted as second runner-up at the Mr South Africa 2009 competition. Of the 15 contestants, Engel was the only contender from Cape Town. During his reign, Engel hopes to address some of the many social issues that face the youth of today.

US-born **Adria Greene** (PGDM, 2006) was selected as a Young Global Leader 2009 by the World Economic Forum. She joins fellow winners such as Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg, Skype CEO Josh Silverman, golfer Tiger Woods, Formula One driver Michael Schumacher, Coldplay lead singer Chris Martin and actresses Zhang Ziyi and Jessica Biel. Greene was selected for her work with her start-up company Lawpoint, an international legal-process outsourcing company based in Cape Town.



After his 2005 participation in the South African version of the business reality TV show, *The Apprentice*, **Ish Hendricks** (BBusSc, 2002) was head-hunted by Alliance Group in 2006. With the success of Alliance

Group's Rapid Auction Programme, the sales platform for residential property, Hendricks has conducted over a thousand auctions in the Cape region, making him one of the leading auctioneers of residential property in South Africa.

Stalwart of the liberation struggle **Willie Hofmeyr** (BA, 1976; MA, 1985; LLB, 1988) attracted a fair bit of attention as the National Prosecuting Authority's Deputy National Director of Public Prosecutions since 2001, given his key role in the NPA's finding evidence of behind-the-scenes manipulation in the decision to prosecute Jacob Zuma. Hofmeyr, who grew up in Mowbray, became involved in the trade union movement while studying at UCT, where he was also a member of NUSAS.

Musical brothers **Christopher** (BA, 1962; BCom, 1965) and **Robert Jeffery** (MMus) recently took to the Artscape Arena stage in the latest La Rosa Spanish Dance Theatre production called *Heart of Sand*. Both are composers who play a variety of instruments, and have strong links with the UCT College of Music. The duo performed the music to *Heart of Sand*, which was composed by Robert, who was also the musical director of the show.

Internationally acclaimed furniture designer **Gregor Jenkin** (BAS, 1999) is raking in the awards. He recently won *VIS!* magazine's 2008 Designer of the Year Award and earned a nomination at the Johnnie Walker Celebrating Strides Awards 2008/9. Jenkin's career was jumpstarted when he – after completing his architecture studies at UCT – moved to the UK and landed a job as a prop maker for designer Ralph Lauren. Today he runs his own exhibition shop in Johannesburg.

One of the seven members on the Monetary Policy Committee – with Reserve Bank Governor Tito Mboweni at the helm – is UCT grad and ex-staffer **Brian Kahn** (MA, 1978). Prior to joining the Reserve Bank in September 1999, Kahn was a professor of economics and the director of the school of economics at UCT. He joined the Bank as deputy head of research and head of the monetary policy research unit.

MBA graduate **Monwabisi Kalawe** (MBA, 1999) has been appointed chief executive officer of Compass Group SA, one of the leading outsourced catering-and-facilities management companies in South Africa. Kalawe has, to date, accrued a wealth of management experience, serving in senior positions at Nestlé, Eskom Western Cape,

Cape Town International Airport, Total Facility Management Company and Denel Munitions.

Jonathan Kaplan (BSocSci, 1989) became the most experienced rugby test referee of all time – the Six Nations clash between Scotland and Ireland in March 2009 marked his 50th international match. In October 2008 he took charge of the Currie Cup final for the fourth time, and in December 2008 he was chosen as one of nine referees on a merit panel who, between them, took the whistle in 75% of the 2009 Super 14 matches.

Actress and singer **Zenobia Kloppers**



(BSocSc, 1994) set stages ablaze with her performance in *Die Kaapse Kabaret* at this year's Woordfees, the annual literature festival

hosted by the University of Stellenbosch. Kloppers is no newbie to the planks. Her professional career started in 1996, and she has since acted and sung her way into theatre must-sees like David Kramer's international hit *Ghoema* and in 2007's *Fiela se Kind*, playing Fiela.

Mining lawyer **Peter Leon** (BA Law, 1976; LLB, 1978) made headlines in an April-issue of *Business Day*

when he opposed The Mineral and Petroleum Resources Act of 2002 and the recently passed Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development



Amendment Bill. Leon, head of the mining and regulatory practice group at Webber Wentzel, has long been a critic of SA's new mining laws. In the article, he said the bills create too much uncertainty and vest too much interest in regulators.

Young drama grads **Kate Liqueurish** (BA, 2006) and **Debra Vieyra** (BA, 2005) had audiences a-cackling with their show *Cooksisters* at the Sandton-based Theatre



on the Square. The production, not to be mistaken for a cooking show, is a side-splitting look into the lives of perfect 50s housewife Marge, played by Liquorish, and her frustrated cooking assistant Sherry, played by Vieyra. The show studies how the two main characters' lives start falling apart.

Neil McCarthy (BA, 1982; Performer's Diploma in Speech and Drama, 1988), the head writer of *Rhythm City*, is keeping local soapie lovers glued to their TV sets with some fascinating storylines exploring controversial and topical local issues. McCarthy has been an actor, writer, director and television presenter over a 30-year career. On top of an already hectic schedule, McCarthy is also working on a movie script while fine-tuning his directing skills.

Kgomotso Mogapi (MBCChB, 2005) has many irons in her career fire. Mogapi, just 28, is an actor, medical doctor, law student, writer, poet and activist. Described by *The Star* as, aptly, somewhat of an overachiever, she works at the Hammanskraal Jubilee District Hospital, is in the third year of her law studies at UNISA, and recently performed in the play *Love Is* (which she also wrote) at the State Theatre in Pretoria. When asked about *Love Is*, Mogapi says that it's the story of perfect love and what happens when it ends. "I want to present a journey of the lives of South African women in a creative art form, starting with a series of plays," she says. The plays will be followed by a journal, which will encourage people to write about their feelings and thoughts on a proposed topic.

Farrell Perling (BSocSc, 1998) is at the helm of The ClareMart Auction Group, as sales director. Perling has been instrumental in the implementing of new and visionary business practices, which has contributed greatly to the all-round success of the ClareMart brand.



Fiona Ramsay (BA, Performer's Diploma in Drama, 1979) is no stranger to South African stages and TV sets. She discovered theatre in high school and went on to do a degree in drama at UCT. While a student, she helped form a new company in 1978, the Troupe Theatre Company, along with fellow graduates like Richard E Grant and Neil McCarthy. In a recent article in *ClassicFeel* magazine, for which she contributes a few columns, Ramsey said it was as part of this company that she had her first chance to perform onstage, in Steven Berkoff's play *Decadence* in 1982. Twenty-seven years later she's a seasoned actor and more. Her most recent endeavour, a voice training company she founded in 2001, called the Speakeasy Vocal Academy, has seen her doing accent coaching for movies like *Hotel Rwanda* and *Catch a Fire*, as well as big musicals like *The Lion King* and *Beauty and the Beast*. All the while she's still to be found on stage and is currently a casting director on the etv series *Scandal*.

Chartered accountant **Quentin Scorgie** (MBA, 2007) has been appointed finance director of clothing retailer Truworths. He was previously the financial director at the Southern Sun Hotels group.



Afro-jazz artist **Selaelo Selota's** (BMus, 1997) critically acclaimed release *Enchanted Gardens* had already, back in February, achieved gold status.

2008

September: A grant from the University Equipment Committee has underpinned the launch of the long-awaited audio-visual editing centre, one that will give UCT music and dance students an entrée to cutting-edge sound manipulation and recording facilities.



September: The UCT and Red Cross Children's Hospital paediatric ICU team, led by Associate Professor Andrew Argent (right), received the Critical Care Society of Southern Africa (CCSSA) president's award.

September: The Graduate School of Business became the first business school in South Africa to launch a blogging platform, allowing leading business and leadership experts at the school to interact with businesspeople online.

September: UCT medical student Saadiq Moolla bagged the bronze medal at the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI), held in the Mubarak City for Education, Egypt.



September: Structural biology PhD students Robert Thuku and Serah Kimani won major awards at the Microscopy Society of Southern Africa meeting in Gaborone, Botswana.

September: Prof Mike Meadows was appointed the new vice-president of the International Geographical Union (IGU) at its 31st congress in Tunis.

September: The Faculty of Humanities launched a scholarship programme that targets disadvantaged learners from schools that are not traditional feeders to UCT.

Selota's 2000 debut album *Painted Faces* went platinum with sales in excess of sixty thousand. This album also earned him two South African Music Awards in 2001 - Best Newcomer, and Best Contemporary Jazz album.

Warrick Sive (BSocSc Hons, 1978; MBChB, 1984) has been appointed as medical director at Liberty Health. Prior to this appointment he was the group medical advisor at Life Healthcare. As medical director Sive will play a strategic role in the development of healthcare supply networks across the continent.

For the fifth year running, former Randfontein resident and businessman **Tweza Skosana** (ADVC, 2004; MBA, 2007) has paid tribute to top Mothlakeng matriculants. Skosana, director of MARSH, a risk-advising and insurance broker company in Sandton, donated R9 000 to top-performing matriculants of three Mothlakeng high schools. The former Randfontein resident puts it down to a passion for education and says this community is close to his heart.

Isabella de Villiers (BMus Hons) is a South African opera singer, actress and television presenter best known for co-hosting – briefly – the SABC3 celebrity gossip magazine show *Flash!*. De Villiers has performed in operas and also sung as a soloist at a number of concerts. She was cast in the film *Disgrace* and has appeared in television commercials from a very young age. An avid scuba diver, she also takes to the ski slopes whenever she can.

Chantel Standfield (BA Theatre & Performance, 2005) is well-known to *7de Laan* fans as baby-napper Cecile Whittaker. She's also had a role in Kyknet's *Geraldina die Tweede*. Currently she plays the underhanded vixen in the SABC drama *Montana*. Come September, she will take the stage at the Darling Voorkamer Fest in a musical tribute to the first ladies of South African music.

Resident director at the Artscape Theatre in Cape Town **Alan Swerdlow** (Diploma in Acting, 1976) is currently the director of the internationally celebrated production of

Beauty and the Beast. Swerdlow has been the director of many a hit show and has been nominated for, and won, several industry-related awards.

Keren Tahor (Performer's Diploma, 1996) took on a lead role in *Hard Love* by Israeli playwright Motti Lerner. The play, directed by Alan Swerdlow, explores the clash between religious faith and romance. Tahor



met Lerner on a 2008 trip to Israel, and the playwright explained that the play was inspired by a recent break-up. The play struck a chord with Tahor, who'd had a similarly fraught relationship while living in Israel before moving to South Africa 15 years ago.

Pretoria-based organist **Wim Viljoen** (MMus, 1979) is no stranger to the music department at the University of Pretoria. He was once a music student there, and has returned after years of performing on local and in international arenas – this time as the head of department.

The 26-year-old **Graeme Watkins** (Performer's Diploma in Theatre, 2007) made it to the top three in this year's *Idols* competition. This local musician was an in-house performer-cum-waitron at the local Cape Town music and dining restaurant Stardust before *Idols* launched him to fame. Watkins, who just missed out on a spot in the final, was the first ever South African *Idols* contestant to perform an Afrikaans song on the show. But he had fans clapping along with his rendition of Kurt Darren's famed song *Loslappie*.

Louis Zurnamer (BMus, 1998) was the musical director for *Beauty and the Beast*, staged in Cape Town this year. Zurnamer was living in London when he received a call from the musical director of the South African production of *Phantom of the Opera*, inviting him onboard as the third keyboard player. He jumped on the next flight home. He is currently touring the world with *Beauty and the Beast*, which should keep him busy well into 2010.



Pretty Yende (Performer's Diploma in Opera, 2006) (centre) wowed the audience and the jury of the 2009 Hans Gabor Belvedere International Singing Competition to win all the top prizes in the event, a first for the competition. Yende took top spots in the opera and operetta categories, and also bagged the Media Jury Prize, the Audience Prize and the Chambre Professionnelle des Directeurs d'Opera Prize. Yende was one of 16 performers who made it to the public finals, held in the Vienna City Hall, Austria. (Of the about 3 000 young performers who auditioned in 50 international cities, only 158 were invited to Vienna for the second round.) With the awards came engagements with some of the world's foremost opera houses. "When my name was called the first time, I was very excited that I had at least won one prize," Yende recalls. "And then it just went on and on and on."

Life goes on in Zim...

Zimbabwean Shumi Chimombe is a 2009 MA grad in creative writing. She is riled by the way the situation in her homeland has been covered in the media. Here she shares some thoughts from a recent visit home.

“Do you have a couple of billion-dollar notes lying around that you can give me?” I asked my cousin during my last trip to Harare in June.

She looked at me archly over her Viceroy and Coke. “Why do you want them? The US dollar is the official currency now.”

“I want to frame them.”

“Then you should have come home last year. People used to them throw them out of their cars in frustration. You’d see hordes of million-, billion- and trillion-dollar notes flying out of taxi windows. The streets were littered with them.”

We had this conversation at a dinner party that my parents hosted for me to celebrate my graduation. My mother cooked a feast in the middle of daily power cuts that lasted anywhere from 6am until 8pm. She began preparing the night before, when the power came back on and she could roast something, and then spent the next day cooking the rest of the food on a two-plate stove that uses gel cooking fuel.

As the sun went down and evening descended, and the time for the guests to arrive drew closer, our nerves began to wear thin. We’d had no power and no running water all day. The borehole couldn’t function without electricity and I was getting tired of carrying buckets of water from the big storage tank outside. The lights in the living room and the kitchen, which are powered by a battery-operated inverter, weren’t going to last the evening, and the thought of having a party in the shadows of candlelight was not appealing. And my mother was getting fed-up. She wanted to fry her special tandoori chicken on a proper stove. There was enough fuel in the generator to last two evenings if we used it sparingly.



My father switched it on and soon the drumming sounds of the generator rose from the veranda, joining in the neighbourhood chorus from the surrounding houses. With the house suddenly awash with light, the stove and the television now on, and water running merrily from the taps with the borehole pumping again, our dinner party went into full swing.

My parents’ dinner party is just one example of the part of the Zimbabwe story that is hardly ever told. That throughout the insane political and economic hardships Zimbabweans somehow persevered and kept going.

They still managed to maintain a normal life of family, relationships and work in-between queuing for food, petrol and Zim dollars. They negotiated the power black-outs – that lasted for days – and the chronic water shortages, to still have family gatherings and celebrations, to go to church, to fall in love, have weddings, children, get divorced – the usual dramas found in any modern society.

I have a framed 500-million-dollar note now hanging in my apartment as a reminder of the real heroes of the Zimbabwean tale – the ordinary people and their determination to create some order from the chaos and to go on living. ★

We remember

After finishing his studies at UCT, **Eric Herr** (BCom/LLB, 1958) joined a leading Jewish firm in Durban, staying with the firm till the mid-1990s. "About 12 years ago I returned to my roots," he writes in a piece published in the *SA Jewish Report* after his death, "I resolved the Holocaust was not to be in vain. The very least I could do is live with pride as a Jew. I now have the peace of mind in being a devout Jew . . . I often tell my clients when they waste their time in futile disputes that, at the end of the day, time is our only property. It must be spent wisely, for it will soon pass."

Cecil Freeman (BSc [Civil Eng], 1938) died in December 2008. Over his UCT studies, Freeman won two class prizes, six class medals, as well as bronze, silver and gold medals. He served in East Africa, the Middle East, North Africa and in various bases in South Africa during WWII. Remembered as an outstanding municipal engineer, Freeman would serve in various capacities in the Cape Town City Engineer's Department, serving as deputy city engineer from 1975 until his retirement in 1983. He was married to another UCT graduate, Freda Weinreich (MBChB, 1944), who died in 2007.

Cecil Helman (MBChB, 1967) died on 15 June 2009 of motor neurone disease. Cecil was a UCT medical graduate who spent most of his working life in the UK as a family doctor, writer, anthropologist, poet, lecturer, academic



and father. He has written a number of books, including an internationally known textbook, *Culture, Health and Illness*, which has been used in over 40 countries since first published in 1984. His most recent book, *Suburban Shaman*, is a memoir of his time in South Africa and the UK, and includes recollections from his student years at UCT.



UK literary agent **Pat Kavanagh** (BA, 1958) died of a brain tumour in October 2008, aged 68. After her studies, Kavanagh worked in radio and advertising, and also acted. On moving to England 1964, she worked as a copywriter, started out as a literary agent with AD Peters in 1966 and appeared briefly (without either a credit or a fee) romping with Richard Burton in the film *Under Milk Wood* in 1972. Kavanagh married the writer Julian Barnes in 1979. Kavanagh would stay with AD Peters until 2007 before striking out on her own with some colleagues, over the years representing the likes of Ruth Rendell, Dirk Bogarde, Robert Harris, Wendy Cope, John Irving and Joanna Trollope.

David Levy (MBChB, 1950) died on 9 September 2008. Levy did his postgraduate work in Bulawayo in then Southern Rhodesia and the UK in the 1950s, before returning to Groote Schuur Hospital for his registrarship. He moved to Port Elizabeth where he went into private practice, and settled in the UK in the 1980s for a career in geriatrics, serving as president of the British Geriatric

Society from 1996 to 1998. He is survived by his wife Shirley and three children, Ruth, Cathy and Philip.

Dr Edward Mathebula (MBChB, 1998) died in March 2009 after he was shot three times in his Honeydew home. Mathebula worked at the Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital and the Charlotte Maxeke Johannesburg Academic Hospital. "We often asked him why he wasn't switching to private hospitals," said Mathebula's sister, Sesane Mokotedi, "but he said he was happier at public hospitals. He said it was the best way to help desperate patients."

Paul Nevay (BAS, 1952) died in February 2009. Nevay practiced as an architect in Port Elizabeth before moving to George where he became a prominent and popular civil leader. Among his works were additions to the George and Knysna hospitals. He is survived by his wife Denyse, seven children and 15 grandchildren.



Well-known birder **Steven Piper** (PhD in applied mathematics, 1994) (above) died on 15 March 2009. A celebrated scholar in the field of ornithology, Piper's work included contributions on the vulture and wagtail species for the seventh edition of the yardstick reference work, *Roberts Birds of Southern Africa*. Piper worked as lecturer, senior lecturer and associate professor at the University of KwaZulu-Natal for 28 years. "Steven's passing is a great loss to

ornithology in South Africa," said friend and PhD supervisor Mark Anderson.

Winifred Raum (BA, 1955) died on 24 March 2009. On finishing her studies, Raum studied and worked at the University of Erlangen in Bavaria, Germany, and married the Reverend Heinrich Bock. She is survived by her husband and their two sons, Frieder and Winfried. As a qualified librarian (she received a Diploma in Higher Librarianship through UNISA), she built up the town library in Elsenfeld near Obernburg upon the Main, where she lived.

Susan Salt died on 11 December 2008, aged 60. Salt worked in the civil engineering industry for much of her career, where her organisation and administrative abilities found a natural niche. She lived in Franschhoek until 2007, when she moved to Johannesburg to be closer to her family.

Max Sandler (MBChB, 1943) died on 3 July 2008. After wrapping up his medical studies at UCT, Sandler headed for London just after the war to pursue postgraduate studies in obstetrics and gynaecology, working from Charing Cross Hospital. He returned to Cape Town in 1954, starting up a private specialist practice that he ran until his retirement in 1985. He was a regular contributor to the *South African Medical Journal*, and served as a consultant at Groote Schuur, Somerset, Woodstock and Peninsula Maternity hospitals.



2008

September: Dr Lindsey Gillson of UCT's Plant Conservation Unit in the Department of Botany received a President's Award, or P-rating, from the National Research Foundation. The award marks Gillson as an up-and-coming young researcher with the potential to become a leader in her field.

September: Two years of planning between UCT and the University of Pavia, Italy, resulted in the establishment of a joint Cardiovascular Genetics Laboratory in the Hatter Institute for Cardiovascular Research.

September: UCT mourns the death of artist, lecturer and writer Emeritus Professor Neville Dubow, who died on Sunday, 24 August, aged 74.

September: UCT Radio arranged a facelift for Colleen's Place of Hope, which is home to 30 orphaned and abandoned children, ranging from eight to 21 years of age.

September: UCT sent the first team from Africa, comprised of staff and students from the Robotics and



Agents Research Laboratory in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, to compete in the RoboCup World Cup, held in Suzhou, China. A full 16 international teams took part.

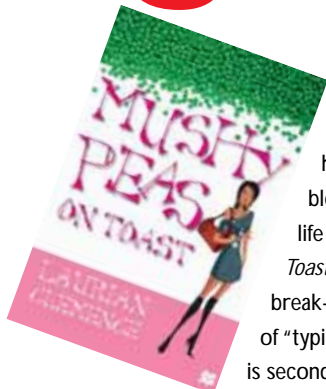
September: UCT shone as staffer Pippin Anderson (in picture) and student Diane Southey, both from the Department of Botany, collected



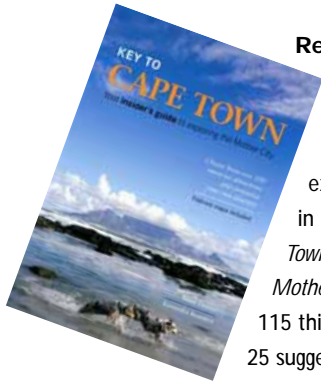
awards at the Interface conference of the Fynbos and Arid-Zone Ecology Fora in Oudtshoorn. Anderson, a PhD researcher, received the prize for the

best paper presentation for her talk, *The Impact of Grazing along an Environmental Gradient in the Kamiesberg*. In turn, Southey was awarded the best student presentation accolade for her address, *Exploring Weather as a Driver of Large Fires*.

Page turners



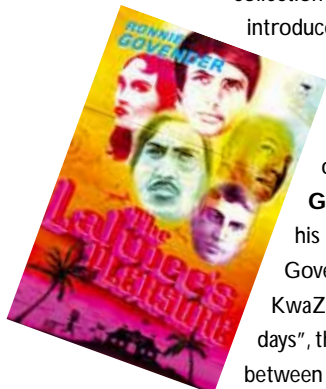
Multi-award-winning blogger **Laurian Clemence** (BA, 2002) has turned her successful *Peas on Toast* blog (observations on “crass, vulgar life s**t”) into a novel, *Mushy Peas on Toast*. The book is a chronicle of hook-ups, break-ups, stuff-ups and cover-ups in the life of “typical Jo’burg girl” Peas. While blogging is second-nature and often light on editing, the book, by contrast, took three years of labour, says Clemence. The title is taken from the meals her kitchen-clumsy dad would serve when mom was away.



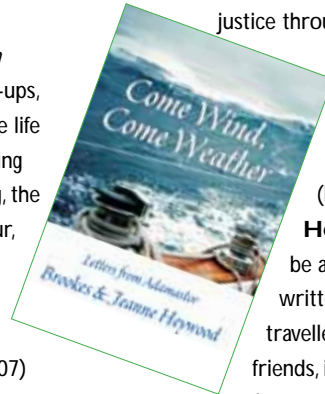
Reino ‘Toast’ Coetzer (MA, 2007) and **Samantha Reinders** (BSocSc, 2004; BSocSc Hons, 2005) have something for every footloose explorer in search of fun things to do in Cape Town in their book, *Key to Cape Town: Your insider’s guide to exploring the Mother City*. The 220 full-colour pages list 115 things to do and places to visit, plus 25 suggested itineraries and a selection of essential maps. The volume points the way to touristy must-stopovers such as Table Mountain, Robben Island, Camps Bay and Cape Point, but also guides visitors and locals alike to the best sunset views, the best sushi and the best Gatsbies.



Cowen on Law: Selected Essays is a collection of previously published and unpublished essays by Denis Cowen on a wide array of law matters. The book is edited by **Samantha Cowen** (BA LLB, 1992). The collection has 10 chapters, each of which is introduced by a leading thinker in the field.

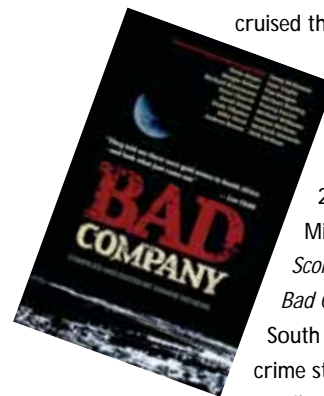


The Lahnee’s Pleasure is the latest book from the bestselling author of *Song of the Atman*, **Ronnie Govender** (BA, 1954), and is based on his hit 1972 play of the same name. Set in Govender’s hometown of Cato Manor in KwaZulu-Natal, “in the good old, bad old days”, the novel is described as a meeting between Fawly Towers and Bollywood. The

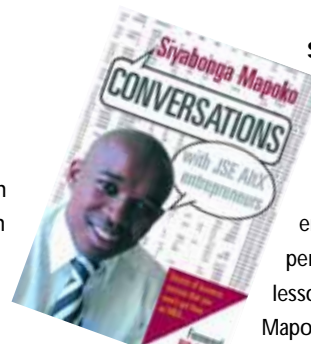


1997 winner of the Commonwealth Writers’ Prize for Africa, Govender received the national Order of Ikhamanga in 2008 for his contribution to democracy, peace and justice through the medium of theatre.

Come Wind, Come Weather: Letters from Adamastor by **Brookes Heywood** (MBChB, 1950) and **Jeanne Heywood** (MA, 1966) is said to be a sailing story with a difference, written for sailors and armchair travellers alike. Based on letters to friends, it is the detailed account of four adventurous years in the lives of a retired academic couple who built their own yacht, hit the Atlantic Ocean and set out for St Helena, the Caribbean Islands and the American East Coast. Along the way they survived Hurricane Grace in the Bermuda Triangle and cruised the Galician coast of Spain, the Straits of Gibraltar and finally Majorca and Menorca.

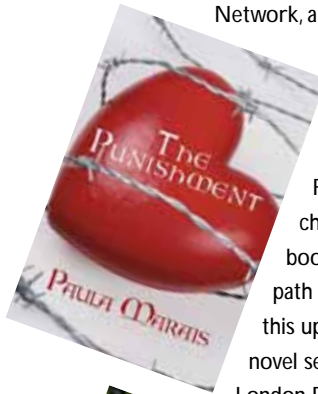


Joanne Hichens (MA, 2003), co-author with Mike Nicol of 2006’s *Out to Score*, has compiled and edited *Bad Company*, described as South Africa’s first anthology of crime stories. *Bad Company*, with contributions from 17 local novelists, is set everywhere “from the bustling streets of Johannesburg to the alleyways of Khayelitsha, from the boardroom to the bedroom”. The book is proof, said one reviewer, that “South Africa is home to some of the most talented crime and thriller writers working today”.

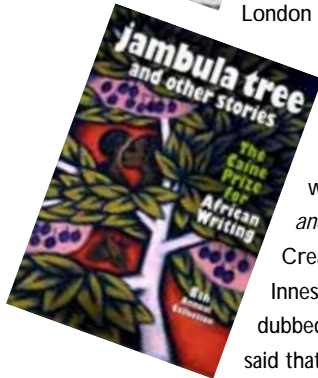


Siyabonga Mapoko (BSc Hons, 2002) is the author of *Conversations with JSE AltX entrepreneurs*. In the volume, South African entrepreneurs trade their personal war stories and lessons learned in the trenches. Mapoko’s interviews with a dozen CEOs of JSE AltX-listed companies

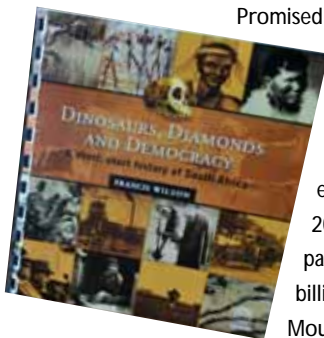
reveal some amazing stories. Previously with Investec Asset Management, Mapoko is the founder of iCaptive Corporate Network, a digital signage company.



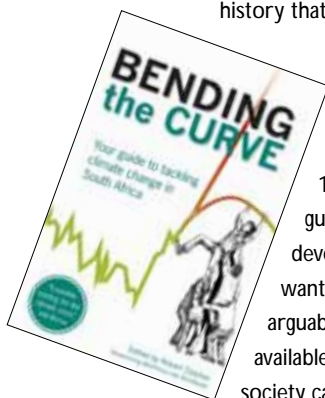
In her debut novel, *The Punishment*, **Paula Marais** (BA, 1995) tells of the star-crossed love between a German officer and a young Frenchwoman in France of 1942. "Faced with the choice between passion and patriotism," reads the book's blurb, "each character must choose their own path - and live with the consequences." Marais followed this up in quick time with *After the Tsunami*, a mystery novel set in Charleston and Thailand, and released at the London Book Fair.



Henrietta Rose-Innes (BSc, 1993; MA, 1999) won the 2008 Caine Prize for African Writing for her post-apocalyptic short story, *Poison*, which appeared in her 2008 collection, *Jambula Tree and Other Short Stories*. It's a coup for UCT's MA in Creative Writing course that two of its graduates, Rose-Innes and Mary Watson (2006), have won the award, dubbed the "African Booker". Chair of judges, Jude Kelly, said that Rose-Innes' story showed "a sharp talent, a rare maturity and a poetic intelligence that is both subtle and deeply effective. It is writing of the highest order".



Promised yourself you'd bone up on South African history but find the sheer size of the tomes on the topic too intimidating? Then pick up a copy of *Dinosaurs, Diamonds and Democracy: A short, short history of South Africa* by **Francis Wilson** (BSc, 1959), UCT emeritus professor of economics. Out in October 2009, *DD&D* is pretty comprehensive for its picture-packed, pocket-sized convenience. It kicks off 3.5 billion years ago (greenstone rocks in the Barberton Mountains preserve the fossilised remains of ancient bacteria and the earliest records of life) and ends with the 2009 elections. Covered in the sparse 18 000 words are the Iron Age, the industrial revolution, apartheid, the advent of democracy, and everything in-between. "I was trying to write a history that is relevant to all South Africans," says Wilson.



Bending the Curve - Your guide to tackling climate change in South Africa, edited by sustainability consultant **Robert Ziplies** (BSc [Mech Eng], 1990) and co-authored by 24 experts, is a practical guide for all South Africans, from parents and policy developers to government and corporate employees, who want to respond to the climate crisis. "*Bending the Curve* arguably constitutes the most comprehensive resource available to South Africans on what different sectors of society can do to tackle this threat," commented information portal Green Flavour.

2008



October: UCT architecture graduate Carin Smuts won the coveted 2008 Global Award for

Sustainable Architecture. As the winner, Smuts was commissioned to build the second project in the Seine-Aval Architecture Manifesto-Collection, a multipurpose centre in the small French town of Follainville-Dennemont.

October: Student Nina Li has won the Best Campus Entrepreneur competition, an initiative of international student organisation AIESEC, run at UCT for the first time.

October: Staff and students from the Faculty of Engineering & the Built Environment (EBE) put their weight behind Do It Day by giving the Bridge at Elukhuselweni Children's Home in Khayelitsha a fresh coat of paint.

October: Two UCT students have excelled at the 2008 UNEP/CMSThesis Award on Migratory Species Conservation. Dr Samantha Petersen took the top spot and Dr Ross Wanless was placed third.

October: Alumnus Hugh Rosen, professor of chemical physiology and immunology and chair of the Committee for Advanced Human Therapeutics at The Scripps Research Institute, has received a US\$88-million grant from the National Institute of Health to screen molecules for new drug development.

October: UCT researchers have joined a major international collaboration to speed up both the identification of unsafe water, and getting word out to authorities and at-risk communities. Dr Ulrike Rivett and her team in the



Department of Civil Engineering are part of a research consortium, led by the University of Bristol, which is building a diagnostic tool, Aquatest, the world's first low-cost, easy-to-use diagnostic tool that gives a clear, reliable indication of water quality.

Giving the airwaves some Suga

By Yvette van Breda

Suga, or DJ Suga as she is known on Cape Town airwaves - or on UCT books as Rochelle Scheepers (BA, 1997), 32 - started out as a radio jockey on the university's own UCT Radio. She's now been with Good Hope FM for a good 11 years, starting out as "the graveyard shift" presenter and working her way to her current show, the Cape Town Shake Down, broadcast from 09h00 - 12h00, Mondays to Fridays. UCT News spoke to Suga about being a woman with will, working with will, and working with Will Smith.

How did you become the first woman in the country to host a weekday Breakfast Show and the first female DJ to have a primetime, weekday slot on commercial music radio in the mother city?

Wow! This was an awesome opportunity. I started at Good Hope while studying for my final law degree exams at UCT in 1997. I remember presenting the 2am to 6am show and then heading off to write exams. Seven months later, I was given the weekday slot from 6pm to 10pm - making me the first female to host a primetime weekday slot in Cape Town. About two years later, I was asked to host the breakfast show. It's something that makes me extremely proud.



Growing up, did you have aspirations to do what you do, or being a radio jock?

I developed my love for music early in life, playing the piano and guitar, but never in my wildest dreams did I think it would eventually be my career. The radio bug bit at UCT because I was told women don't belong on radio. This was all the convincing I needed. I believe women belong on radio and every other medium!

Other than being an on-air presenter, how else do you pay bills?

I act as MC or DJ or both at many corporate functions and glamorous fashion shows. I still play at nightspots around the city, but more selectively these days. I am currently developing a few business ideas as well. I'm also involved with a few television shows and I've just finished filming a 26-episode series titled *What's On Cape Town* for Cape Town TV.

What do you love most about what you do?

My involvement with music on a daily basis! This has always been my passion! And I've had amazing opportunities. My job has given me a chance to travel extensively around the country and the world, taking me to America, Bali, Mauritius, Germany, London and Hong Kong. I've interviewed many of the world's most famous celebrities and crossed paths with the most inspiring people.

Co-hosting or co-MC'ing 46664 and Live Earth concerts with Will Smith and Naomi Campbell and being MC for John Legend and the Black Eyed Peas must be up there with your career highs. Share your proudest moment or other highlights with us?

My proudest moment has to be when I was asked to be involved in three of the 46664 concerts. I was part of the first show in Cape Town in 2003, co-hosted the George one with Will Smith in 2005, and I co-hosted the 46664 Arctic concert in front of Norway's Crown Princess and naturally, Nelson Mandela. It was the most incredible thing when Madiba said a special hello to me in Norway. I was also very proud to be invited to DJ in Hong Kong. For the first time, I was the *international* DJ! That felt very good.



Where to next? Where do you want to be in five years or 10 years?

I believe this is just the beginning, as there are so many opportunities. I've never really made five- or 10-year plans. I live in the moment and I feel very blessed. I hope to be happy whatever I do, be it on air or in station management. I feel I'll eventually go that way.

What do you aim to achieve through your work every day and long term?

I've always strived to break down stereotypes, especially with regards to women operating in a male-dominated environment. That's probably why I taught myself to beat mix and always try to be the very best I can be. Long term, I hope my journey and achievements will inspire other young women to follow their dreams and know that hard work is the only way to go. ★

2008

October: 15 UCT academics were appointed by the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Bridgett Mabandla, to advisory committees of the South African Law Reform Commission.

October: UCT was ranked 179th in the *Times Higher Education* QS World University Rankings 2008, climbing 21 spots from 200th place last year. UCT is the only African university to have been listed in the top 200. It was ranked 257th in 2006.

October: The coveted top student leadership accolade, The Vice-Chancellor's Award, was awarded to the education president of SHAWCO, Jonathan Hodgson.



October: Prof Gavin Younge, of UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Art, and Gauteng-based artist Wilma Cruise were the designers of the Cape Town Slavery Memorial on Church Square (above), which was unveiled on Heritage Day by 2008 World Mayor, Cape Town Mayor Helen Zille.

October: Disability Services at UCT crowned two decades of sterling service to disabled members of the UCT community when they celebrated their 20th anniversary in October.



October: James Grace, head of classical guitar studies at UCT's South African College of Music, launched his third solo album, *Café Latino*.

Robertson gives new insights into Tourette's

By Daniella Pollock

UCT alumnus and distinguished neuropsychiatrist Professor Mary May Robertson, an international expert on Gilles de la Tourette Syndrome (GTS), accredits much of her rich life to Jungian synchronicity.

"Nothing in my life has been mere coincidence," Robertson says. She shares Carl Jung's mantra that every journey in life, every person you meet, the very things that we often take to be chance, are meaningful occurrences that are causally related.

So too, her life - an incredible journey - has been nothing shy of momentous.

In a 2008 interview with Robertson at her London home, she gives me - over several cups of coffee - a glimpse into the road travelled so far.

Having moved to the United Kingdom in 1978, after graduating with a medical degree from UCT in 1971, she found herself working, as a senior house officer and registrar on Royal Free Hospital Rotation, alongside epilepsy specialist Professor Michael Trimble. "As a junior doctor, you had to do honorary extra clinical work, and during this time I saw my first five 'Touretters'," she says. Her MD degree (UCT, 1983) was on *Depression in People with Epilepsy*, but she changed direction - or "allegiances", as she would have it - afterwards.

At the time very little was known about Tourette's, often referred to as psychogenically mediated - of psychological rather than physiological origin - and uncommon, Robertson says. "I did some research and thought that, well, if you want a niche, then this is it."

And so Robertson embarked on the road less travelled, one of a career dedicated to debunking some of the myths and misperceptions around Tourette's. Contrary to common perception, for example, only a fraction of sufferers are given to profanities.

Today, having authored four books, edited two, and with more than 300 medical publications, mainly on GTS, it comes as no surprise that Robertson is one of the most cited and respected authorities on the disorder. (In one

nod, UK organisation Tourettes Action has just launched the annual Professor Mary Robertson Prize, an essay prize for medical students and for medical trainees on any aspect of the Gilles de la Tourette syndrome.)

Now, in these her golden years, Robertson is not only emeritus professor of neuropsychiatry at University College London, but also a visiting professor and honorary consultant at London's St George's Hospital and Medical School, and a visiting professor in Catania, Sicily. She sits on the medical advisory boards of five national Tourette's associations, was appointed to the United Nations to sit on a specialist committee, was a two-time World Health Organisation advisor, is a grant and journal peer reviewer, and a journal editor, to mention but a few of her professional roles.

Out of the white coat, she is also an opera buff (a love that sprang from singing solo soprano with the school choir, and later as part of the Medicos folk group at UCT) and she has an amazing collection of photographs and autographs of opera idols, often collected at the stage door. She has also published over 80 poems and five photographs.

Then there's the anecdote about Christiaan Barnard, her travelling around the world in a square-rigged sailing boat, and her enduring love affair with Italy - but that's for the next time.

All the while, Robertson has been fighting adversity (she was diagnosed with cancer in 2002), remains engaged in personal and collaborative research, still sees patients, and lectures regularly, both nationally and internationally.

Her recent paper on the epidemiology and prevalence of GTS proved that Tourette's occurs in about 1% of the world's youth aged five to 18. She has identified GTS in all cultures studied, with the exception of some "outliers".

Interestingly, GTS was found to be uncommon among African Americans, and has been reported only very rarely in Sub-Saharan Black Africans. Yet there is very little original South African research as to why. Robertson has her theories... but those are for the next paper.

2008

November: UCT alumna Robyn Rorke's documentary, *Shamiela's House*, about a "milk and cookies" mom's fight to save her Mitchell's Plain home, was screened in Parliament as part of the 2008 South African Film Festival.

November: The Van Riebeeck Society, chaired by UCT historian Professor Howard Phillips, launched the selected writings of Isaac Williams Wauchope, its 90th volume.

November: UCT graduate Junaid Moosa won the Southern African Housing Foundation, Chartered Institute of Housing Student Award for 2008. The award was for Moosa's MSc thesis in property studies, which covers topics relevant to private-sector financial institutions and micro-lenders.

November: Students in the Department of Social Anthropology launched an online journal, *Abantu*, to provide a forum to explore relevance. Editor Jess Auerbach (seen, left, in the picture with Micah Faure and Nonjabulo Patience Garton) said it is vital that course content is considered at a deeper level than merely once a week before a tutorial, particularly if the skills would be useful in society.



November: Dr Aubrey Mainza, a senior lecturer in the Department of Chemical Engineering, won the prestigious Young Author Award at the 24th International Minerals Processing Congress held in Beijing, China. Mainza presented his paper, *A Study on Efficiency of Mineral Department in the Three-Product Cyclone*, at the congress.



November: Pulmonologist Dr Richard van Zyl-Smit's oral presentation on new techniques to rapidly diagnose tuberculosis won first prize at the annual South African Medical Research Council Research Day.



Highly prized: In May 2007, Mary Robertson (right) returned to UCT's Faculty of Health Sciences to, among other things, present the very first Professor Mary Robertson Prize for Excellence. The winner was Dr Debbie Rencken of the class of 2006. Rencken went on to collect a full 11 accolades at the faculty's prize-giving.

Her special interest in South Africa and UCT is not accidental either. She is eleventh generation South African, and is the fourth generation to graduate from UCT. Her great Uncle Albert van der Sandt Centlivres was the Chancellor of UCT, and her great – x8 – grandmother was Angela of Bengal, a slave sold to Jan van Riebeeck in 1655. Robertson continues to delve into the history of Angela, and there is talk of undertaking an MPhil on her.

Robertson visits South Africa every year. In 2006, she received a Doctor of Science in Medicine (DSc [Med]) from UCT, the first woman and only the ninth recipient of this degree. In recognition of her DSc and her family's lasting relationship

with UCT and South Africa, Robertson instituted the Professor Mary Robertson Prize for Excellence for the top female MBChB graduate. She also bestowed a full scholarship on Gabaza Mashela, a medical student at UCT. "Gabaza and I are in regular contact; she is doing exceptionally well." She has also endowed a final-year 'progress prize' and the first recipient was Dr Azwe Takalani – they too are in regular contact and she is, apparently, "fabulous".

Robertson's bond with Africa, she says, is unshakable. "There is a saying that once the dust of Africa is in your blood, it never leaves.

"I am an African through and through." ★

Alumni concert



Deputy vice-chancellor Prof Thandabantu Nhlapo welcomes the guests.

On 13 August 2009, UCT hosted its third annual Alumni Concert, a celebration of the talent that has emerged from its South African College of Music (SACM). The concert was initiated three years ago to honour SACM graduates and, at the same time, raise funds for music bursaries. "Giving back is the challenge to UCT alumni," says guitarist Jimmy Dlodlu. "There are opportunities for UCT alumni in their own way to help develop their communities and support UCT projects, as the musicians in this concert are doing." Selaelo Selota, Judith Sephuma, Sibongile Mngoma and Francios du Toit are among the alumni who have performed at previous concerts.



The Magalhães-Schumann Piano Duo, or TwoPianists, made up of graduate Nina Schumann, a professor of music at the University of Stellenbosch, and husband Louis Magalhães, work in unison. The two have presented their repertoire in South Africa, the US, Germany, Portugal, Austria, Switzerland and Japan.



Nina Schumann hits the ivories.



Award-winning soprano Pretty Yende (see page 12) performs with tenor Given Nkosi and Kamal Khan on piano.

in pictures



Yende lets rip.



Prof Thandabantu Nhlapo with Pretty Yende and Given Nkosi.



Mike Campbell directs the ever-popular UCT Big Band.



The silky singing of Melanie Scholtz. Scholtz lectured in jazz vocal studies at UCT from 2004 to 2005. She is in great demand as a jazz singer, but is equally comfortable with other genres, be it pop, R&B, classical or electronica. She was named the best jazz vocalist in the 2002 Old Mutual Jazz Encounters competition. Scholtz's turn at the Alumni Concert came hard on the heels of a tour of Europe.



Jimmy Dlodlu in action. Dlodlu is a regular on the South African music circuit, but also teaches in Angola. His style combines both traditional and modern elements of jazz. He is particularly drawn to the sounds of west and central Africa, as well as Latin America. His original compositions fall within the tradition of what has been loosely termed Afro-Jazz.



Vice-chancellor Dr Max Price does the formal closing of the 2009 UCT Alumni Concert, thanking the evening's performers.



**Lawyering
in our new
Constitutional
Order**

The following essay is based on a talk Justice Kate O'Regan delivered at the launch of the Routledge-Modise Law School in Johannesburg on 10 September 2008.

When the young Frenchman, Alexis de Tocqueville, visited the United States of America in the early 1830s, he was fascinated by the idea of democracy and the role of law and lawyers within it. He went to America dismayed by the weak state of democracy in Europe and in France, in particular, in order to consider how democracy was faring in the United States of America. One of his observations was that lawyers had an important role to play in the development of a democracy. "I should like to get this matter clear," he wrote, "for it may be the lawyers are called on to play the leading part in the political society which is striving to be born". I would dispute De Tocqueville's use of the definite article "the leading role" but I would agree with him that the legal profession is called on to play a part in the establishment of our own fledgling democracy, as I hope I shall persuade you this evening. In order to understand why I say this, and in order to understand the implications of what I mean, I think it might be useful to start by understanding why as lawyers we consider ourselves to constitute a profession and not merely a trade.

Professor Anthony Kronman, the former Dean of the Yale Law School, identifies four characteristics that identify the practice of law as a profession. The first is that "the law is a public calling which entails a duty to serve the good of the community as a whole, and not just one's own good or that of one's clients". He reasons that unlike the butcher, the baker or brewer, it is part of a lawyer's job to be directly concerned with the public good - with the integrity of the legal system and the fairness of its rules and their administration. With these, I would include the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary. We capture this responsibility in our legal system by recognising that lawyers are "officers of the court"; in so doing, we recognise that their responsibility extends beyond their responsibility to their clients, or their partners, to the courts and the administration of justice itself. Kronman makes the important point that

this responsibility means that lawyers "dwell in the tension between private interest and public good" - they may never ignore the public good entirely when pursuing their clients' or their own private interests.

The second characteristic of law as a profession is that law is a craft which comprises many aspects and which requires constant practice and learning. Even a practitioner who has specialised in one field of law needs a range of skills to perform that task well. These skills may include interviewing clients, drafting documents, negotiating on behalf of clients, researching the law and mentoring young colleagues.

Of these skills, the need to be familiar with the law is one of the most challenging. It is not surprising that many modern legal systems impose a duty upon practising lawyers of continuing professional education or development. By 2002, 40 of the 50 states in the United States required that attorneys regularly receive continuing legal education as a condition to maintain their law licences. In the United Kingdom, the Solicitors' Regulation Authority requires full-time solicitors to complete a minimum of 16 hours continuing professional development per annum. The Bar Standards Board has a similar requirement.

It might at first blush seem depressing to those of you who have just finished four or five years' gruelling university study to realise that you are on a treadmill from which you will never escape. But ongoing legal study is essential. Each year, now, six volumes of the *South African law Reports* emerge containing some 3 600 pages of newly reported judgments. And that is not to speak of the burgeoning number of other law reports, both print and online.

To return to the rapidity with which law develops: a brief consideration of the Criminal Law and Procedure section of the South African consolidated statutes made me realise that 75 of the just under 100 statutes still in operation in this sphere of the law have been enacted since I qualified as a lawyer in 1980. That is more than three quarters of the legislation in that area of the law. A daunting proportion it is to me, at

2008

November: A new campus security CCTV control room, costing about R2.5 million and two years in the making, was launched.



November: Professor Pippa Skotnes paid tribute to George Stow and the San people with a book and an

exhibition. Titled *Unconquerable Spirit*, the book reproduces all Stow's paintings, and examples of his maps, drawings, notes and poems.

November: Ralph Hamann of the Environmental Evaluation Unit at UCT has spearheaded the launch of *The Business of Sustainable Development in Africa: Human rights, partnerships, alternative business models*, a book that seeks to enhance the contribution of business to sustainable development in Sub-Saharan Africa.

November: Students Anna Goldman and Stefan Milandri won scholarships to attend and present their work at the Alliance for Global Sustainability's annual meeting in Zurich, Switzerland.

November: Honorary Professor of Law at UCT, Judge Dennis Davis, and UCT law graduate Michelle le Roux launched *Precedent & Possibility: The (Ab) use of Law in South Africa*, a new book on the South African justice system and how it evolved into what it is today.

November: The world's astronomical community lost a great friend and colleague following the untimely death of Professor Tony Fairall on 23 November. In addition to his on-campus pursuits, Fairall



was known far and wide for his hugely popular Star Finder course at the Cape Town Planetarium, countless interviews on radio and other media, and his numerous astronomy books.

any rate. Now you may consider me to be something of a dinosaur but let me warn you that it will happen to you, too!!

The third characteristic identified by Dean Kronman is the capacity for judgment. He describes it as follows: "A good legal education is a process of general maturation in which the seeing, thinking and feeling parts of the soul are reciprocally engaged. It is a bad mistake to think that legal training sharpens the mind alone. The clever lawyer who possesses a huge stockpile of technical information about the law ... but who lacks the ability to distinguish between what is important and what is not and who cannot sympathetically imagine how things look and feel from his adversary's point of view, is not a good lawyer. He is in fact rather a poor lawyer. ... The good lawyer is the lawyer who possesses the full complement of emotional and perceptual and intellectual powers that are need for good judgment, the lawyer's most important and valuable trait." Developing the capacity for sound judgment is something best done through the process of mentoring – a process that the legal profession should nurture as one of the key mechanisms for the transmission of professional skills and values. Good relationships between candidate attorneys and partners or associates are essential.

Essential too, to the development of sound judgment is the recognition that law is a craft that benefits from a spirit of collegiality. I am fortunate to work in a court where that spirit is alive and well, despite recent anonymous statements to the contrary. Collegiality recognises that often more minds are better than one and it is for that reason, no doubt, that appellate courts around the world are invariably constituted by multi-member panels.

One of the drawbacks of much modern legal education is the sense of anxiety that young lawyers have of being wrong or of not knowing something. That anxiety often leads to their being reluctant to consult their colleagues or senior professionals. In my view, we need to develop a culture that makes it safe to admit not knowing something. This can only be done by senior practitioners making young practitioners realise that it would indeed be very

surprising if at the age of 25 they did know everything. As Sir Owen Dixon, former Chief Justice of Australia, remarked on one occasion: "To be a good lawyer is difficult. To master the law is impossible. But I should have thought that the first rule of conduct for counsel, the first and paramount ethical rule, was to do his best to acquire such knowledge of the law that he really knows what he is doing when he stands between his client and the court and advises for or against entering the temple of justice."

"That history should not be forgotten as moving forward we seek to use the law to pursue the social justice that the Preamble of our Constitution seeks."

The fourth characteristic that Kronman identifies is the sense of history that lawyers as members of a profession share. At one level, this sense of history operates through the rules of *stare decisis* which play an important role in ensuring consistency and equality before the law. In another sense, at least in the modern South Africa, this sense of history reminds us of a past which was authoritarian and racist and in which the techniques of law were pursued for evil ends. That history should not be forgotten as moving forward we seek to use the law to pursue the social justice that the Preamble of our Constitution seeks.

These four characteristics then I would suggest are the hallmarks of the profession of law: a commitment to public service beyond the narrow interests of self, firm or client; a recognition that the practice of law is a craft that requires ongoing development; a realisation that to be a good lawyer means more than being simply clever or knowing

the law, it requires the development of emotional and perceptive powers, and balance and wisdom; and finally, that the practice of law requires a familiarity with the history of our calling and our country because both remain intensely relevant to what it means to be a practising lawyer today.

These four characteristics I would suggest also underpin the four ways in which lawyers should and can contribute to the strengthening of our democracy and the achievement of our constitutional goals. The first is self-evident. Lawyers have a public calling; that calling is primarily to recognise that they bear a responsibility for the fostering of our legal system and of the rule of law under our Constitution. At times, this obligation might require them to suggest new law or legislation; at other times, it might require them fairly to criticise judgments which they think are not correct; at yet other times it might require them to protect the rule of law itself. What lawyers may not do is distance themselves from the law and the legal system as if it were merely a means to their private ends.

There is one area of particular importance where I think that law firms can make a great public contribution; and that is in the area of pro bono work particularly to protect constitutional rights. Although we are fortunate in South Africa to have great non-governmental organisations committed to making legal services available to those who cannot afford them like the Legal Resources Centre and the Women's Legal Centre, they do not perform the obligation for public service of the entire profession. Law firms need to identify ways in which they can undertake pro bono work without prejudicing the career prospects of those who undertake it; and with the high degree of professionalism that paying clients would enjoy. This is an ongoing challenge for law firms and it lies at the heart of the public responsibilities of our profession. Pursuing important constitutional litigation on behalf of those marginalised members of our community will make a direct contribution to the strengthening of our constitutional democracy.

The second characteristic: that law is a multi-faceted craft requires an obligation of

continued learning and teaching. That is an obligation that your firm undertakes today in a most valuable endeavour. If lawyering as a craft is to prosper we need to foster it. Nowhere can this be done more effectively than undertaking the responsibility for doing it ourselves in the daily practice of the craft.

The third characteristic is the development of sound judgment. This is a difficult task. But it is one that law firms are well placed to undertake. I would suggest that the mentoring of young lawyers is key to its achievement. I myself was fortunate to be mentored by excellent lawyers as a young lawyer; and it is something that I have sought to be to the young lawyers who work for me as researchers. I will not say that being a good mentor is easy. It is not. Patience (not my strongest suit), kindness and a willingness to recognise that young lawyers often have something valuable to impart to us are the hallmarks of good mentoring relationships.

Finally, the importance of history in our profession: Perhaps the most important obligation here for law firms at present is to realise how South Africa's particular history has erected barriers to participation in the profession which remain significant obstacles in the present. Much needs to be done to ensure that black lawyers and female lawyers can enter the profession and excel. In the context of both, this might require frank consideration of institutional practices and culture which might themselves be obstacles to achievement. It might also require, particularly in the case of those practitioners who bear primary parenting responsibilities, creative ways of ensuring that the demands of the profession are not such as to prevent parents from pursuing professional careers as lawyers. The introduction of reduced billable hours, the recognition that given the enabling technology of our age, work can often be done at home, as well as the possibility of job-sharing are just some of the ways in which the profession can be rendered more welcoming to parents.

These four characteristics of our profession then are the basis of the role that the profession can play in fostering democracy in South Africa. Although some of De

Tocqueville's comments might seem dated or quaint in a modern democracy, his recognition that democracy based on the protection of fundamental rights and the rule of law is a bulwark against the abuse of power remains as valid to day as it was then. I would leave you with one final note. When we enter the profession we take an oath, just as judges do when they are appointed. The oath itself is important to our understanding of the profession. The Constitution contains the text of the judges' oath which requires judges to "be faithful to the Republic of South Africa, [to] uphold and protect the Constitution and the human rights entrenched in it, and [to] administer justice to all persons alike without fear, favour or prejudice, in accordance with the Constitution and the law".

That oath is very important to me. Its importance is both symbolic and substantive. I would suggest that a similar oath might be developed for the profession. A good place to start would be the oath that the famous American realist, Karl Llewellyn, used to encourage his students in their final year:

"In accepting the honour and responsibility of life in the profession of the law, I engage as best I can,

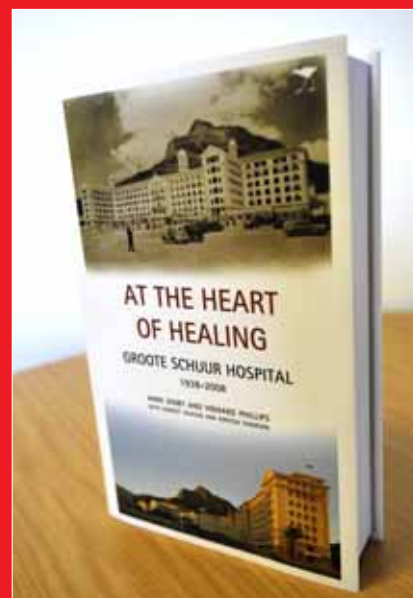
- to work always with care, and with a whole heart and good faith;
- to weigh my conflicting loyalties and guide my work with an eye to the good less of myself than of justice and the people; and
- to be at all times, even at personal sacrifice, a champion of fairness and due process, in court or out, and for all, whether the powerful or envied or my neighbours or the helpless or the hated or the oppressed."

Kate O'Regan was born in Liverpool, England. She obtained her BA from UCT in 1978 and her LLB (cum laude) in 1980, an LLM from the University of Sydney with first class honours in 1981 and a PhD from the University of London (London School of Economics) in 1988. In 1994, aged 37, she was appointed as a judge to the newly formed Constitutional Court. Her term of office on the Court will end in October 2009. ★

2008

December: Final-year MBChB students at UCT raised R12 000 for Thembacare, a charity that looks after HIV-positive and other children in need.

December: The Research Contracts & Intellectual Property Services (RCIPS), UCT's office responsible for technology transfer, made its presence felt in the Innovation Fund Most Innovative Higher Education Institution competition, collecting three awards.



December: There was standing room only at the launch of a book examining the history of Groote Schuur Hospital, titled *At the Heart of Healing: Groote Schuur Hospital 1938 - 2008*.

According to co-author Prof Howard Phillips, the three-years-in-the-making book provides "a rich, probing history of Groote Schuur Hospital, in-the-round and in context".

December: No fewer than seven UCT rugby players featured in the International Rugby Board Sevens World Series in George, including new England cap Mathew Turner.

December: Seven UCT graduates scooped prestigious Rhodes Scholarships, which takes them to Oxford University in the UK to continue their studies in 2009. UCT picked up six of the 10 scholarships awarded to South Africans, with the seventh graduate hailing from Zimbabwe.



Judge
Hlophe and
Africanising
South
African law

Professor Pierre de Vos, a constitutional law expert and newly-appointed Claude Leon Foundation Chair in Constitutional Governance at UCT, reflects on statements by Cape Judge President John Hlophe that South African law should be 'Africanised'. This piece originally appeared in the Cape Argus.

Controversial Cape Judge President John Hlophe created quite a stir in legal circles when he told a symposium in Durban that South African law needed to be "Africanised" to make it more relevant to ordinary South Africans.

It is difficult not to wonder whether resistance to this idea is not based on deeply ingrained but highly problematic assumptions about Africa, its cultural landscape and its institutions. Why else would people get so upset about an idea that seems rather uncontroversial and which has already permeated our law in many ways?

I, for one, think that Judge President Hlophe made an excellent point when he said that "people need law that embodies their own culture and their values" and that we therefore had to "Africanise our law and make it relevant to the masses".

If I understand him correctly, Hlophe is saying that the law obtains its force not (only) through the violence it can visit upon individuals through the application of judicial and state power, but (also) through its legitimacy. When people feel that the law reflects, at least partly, their own aspirations and identity, they are more likely to respect and follow the law.

As the apartheid government discovered to its detriment, in the long run it is impossible to enforce the law through the application of state power alone. No matter how cruel and vicious a state's police force is or how broad its powers, people will not respect the law and will hence not obey it unless the law has some legitimacy in their eyes.

One may, of course, quibble with the terminology used by the honourable Hlophe. Personally I would prefer to talk about the 'South Africanisation' or 'indigenisation' of our law, given the fact that 'Africanisation' is not a term that tells us with sufficient precision what is required. Africa - like Europe - is a large continent with many different legal traditions and systems and

it might not be very helpful to talk of the 'Africanisation' of our law because it could mean many different things to many different people.

My terminology would also avoid the impression that it was possible for our law ever to be fully emancipated from its oppressive colonial roots - as if somewhere there remained such a thing as 'pure' African law that we could return to. The romantic notion that there was still a 'pure' African system of law, uncorrupted by our colonial experience, might be emotionally appealing but does not accord with the harsh realities. Colonialism has forever changed South Africa (and the rest of Africa) and it would be foolish to deny this.

However, the more interesting (and more difficult and complex) question is how our law could be 'indigenised', given the vast and powerful influence of the Roman Dutch common law on our legal system and the constitutional imperative that when interpreting any legislation, and when developing the common law or customary law, every court, tribunal or forum must promote the spirit, purport and objects of the Bill of Rights.

The answer seems to me to lie in the Constitution itself. The Constitution is home-grown and now recognises customary law and common law as equal legal systems of law, subject only to the Constitution itself.

And thankfully the judges on the Constitutional Court (and some judges on our other courts) have been grappling with this very question for several years now and have, in effect, been 'indigenising' (or 'Africanising') our law - often in innovative ways. Whether judges and lawyers have been taking notice of this fact is, of course, another matter.

For example, the Constitutional Court has relied on the Bill of Rights to begin to refashion the Roman Dutch law principles of property law which were used during the apartheid era to legitimate the consequences of manifestly racist laws and policies. The Court identified the need to 'indigenise' property law in order for it to strike a better balance between private property rights on the one hand, and the public duties of property owners on the other.

2009

January: Plant physiologist Prof Jill Farrant, known for her work on the tenacious resurrection plants, became only the second UCT woman - and the first in natural sciences - to receive an A-rating from the National Research Foundation.

January: The UCT-affiliated Centre for Conflict Resolution, founded in 1968, was named sub-Saharan Africa's leading think tank, according to a survey conducted by the University of Pennsylvania's Think Tanks and Civil Societies Programme. It was the first survey of its kind and looked at 5 500 organisations in 170 countries.



January: Prof Evance Kalula, director of the Institute of Development and Labour Law at UCT, was appointed to a commission of inquiry to investigate complaints of non-

observance of freedom of association in Zimbabwe. The three-member commission was constituted by the International Labour Organisation.

January: Terri Grant and Claudia Kalil of

the Professional Communication Unit won a prestigious R40 000 CHED award for their innovative collaborative educational practice, for their work on a computer science course using scenarios based on the ISIS and SupaTsela Projects at UCT, and a commerce course that examined a recent sustainability project at UCT.



February: PhD student Emily Davis won the international Roche Young Researcher Award for her research into novel treatments for cancer. Davis, a postgraduate student in the Department of Human Biology, is investigating how Tbx2, a protein that plays an important role during the embryonic development of many species, causes cells to become cancerous.

“When courts therefore had to decide what redress to provide to litigants who had been defamed, they had to look beyond the mere awarding of money and had, in appropriate cases, to try and fashion remedies which encouraged forgiveness and reconciliation.”

Relying on the work done by the most eminent property law academic in South Africa, the court has pointed out that traditional Roman Dutch property law failed to take account of the inherent tension between individual rights to property, on the one hand, and the social responsibilities of property owners on the other.

Our pre-constitutional common law on property focused exclusively on the rights of property owners – as if such owners were not really part of society and had no duty to society in the utilisation of their property. It was therefore required, said the Court in the *First National Bank case*, “to move away from a static, typically private-law conceptualist view of the Constitution as a guarantee of the status quo to a dynamic, typically public-law view of the Constitution as an instrument for social change and transformation under the auspices of entrenched constitutional values.”

Property rights were guaranteed in the Constitution, but such rights came with duties shared by all of us who live in this society.

Similarly justice Albie Sachs and Yvonne Mokgoro (how they will be missed!) infused the law of defamation with the value of *ubuntu* - both by proposing a remedial shift in the law of defamation from almost exclusive preoccupation with monetary

awards, towards a more flexible and broadly-based approach that involves and encourages apology.

Ubuntu, Sachs wrote in the *Dikoko* judgment, “has an enduring and creative character, representing the element of human solidarity that binds together liberty and equality to create an affirmative and mutually supportive triad of central constitutional values. It feeds pervasively into and enriches the fundamental rights enshrined in the Constitution.”

When courts therefore had to decide what redress to provide to litigants who had been defamed, they had to look beyond the mere awarding of money and had, in appropriate cases, to try and fashion remedies which encouraged forgiveness and reconciliation.

And in the field of criminal law, in the case of *S v M*, Justice Sachs once again relied on the value of *ubuntu*, read with the right of children to parental care, to refashion the way in which courts sentenced convicted criminals. The Constitutional Court said that our South African (or, if you want, African) culture embraces the notion of restorative justice and this should become part of the equation when courts sentenced convicted criminals. Justice Sachs applied these principles to a case where a mother of three children had been convicted of credit card fraud and had shown remorse and an ability to look after her children and found that she should not be sent to jail.

In these cases the Constitutional Court demonstrated that our Constitution contains indigenous values which could be used to ‘indigenise’ our law and to make it more legitimate in the eyes of the population. Although it was of course not possible to discard the Roman Dutch common law in its entirety as its influence was far too important and pervasive, when courts developed and applied the common law the truly South African values such as *ubuntu* could be used to bring the law closer to the people.

I have not had sight of Judge President Hlophe’s full remarks so do not know whether he might have cited these or other similar Constitutional Court judgments to bolster his case. If he did, I would be the first to praise him for his knowledge, sensitivity and insight into the constitutionally guided transformation of our legal system.

If he did not, I hope he (and all other judges serving on our courts) study these and similar cases to see how our law can be ‘indigenised’ within the disciplining framework of our very home-grown Constitution.

Prof Pierre de Vos runs a blog, <http://constitutionallyspeaking.co.za>, which deals with social and political aspects of South African society - mostly from a constitutional perspective. ★

From SANAE, with love

By Helen Theron



Ice cube: Dr Joanna Thirsk braves a cool -25°C at the South African National Antarctic Expedition base in Antarctica. A UCT alumna, Thirsk is the team doctor at the base and the only woman in the group.

A humungous storm with 200km/h winds, the first sighting of the aurora australis and a winter solstice celebration are some of the highlights reported by alumna Dr Joanna Thirsk (MBChB, 2005) from the South African National Antarctic Expedition (SANAE) base in Antarctica.

Thirsk is the team doctor, responsible for the welfare of the 48th winter-over group at the base.

At 26, she has put her life on hold for 14 months.

The only woman on the skeleton team of 10, she is responsible for the mental and physical health of the group in the most inhospitable conditions imaginable.

To prepare for the expedition, Thirsk read up on polar medicine and bolstered her dental, X-ray

and anaesthetics skills. The base is equipped with a fully fledged operating theatre.

It's a weighty responsibility for a young doctor.

"The thing about Antarctica is that you can't evacuate anyone," she says, "unlike Gough and Marion Islands where you can get away with having a paramedic."

But it's a season that comes once.

"This attracts me," she says.

Emergency medicine has always interested her, and she hopes to specialise in the field.

"I have a keen sense of adventure. And the world will be waiting for me when I get back."

At Antarctica, medical conditions like polar T3 syndrome (T3 is a thyroid hormone) are common. It's a mental affliction that hits most winter-over crew. Lethargy, mood swings and forgetfulness are symptoms. A lack of vitamin D (daylight disappears as winter sets in) may be linked to the disorder.

"I must ensure the team is kept busy and socially active," Thirsk reports.

"Lately the weather has been worsening so going out is a bit rarer, although we still have to shovel snow and ice into our snow smelter, which is outside."

Given the conditions, trips outdoors can be both frightening and thrilling.

"I went out with two of our strongest guys attached to a rope. It was very scary. But it sure was an adrenaline rush!"

Thirsk has also had some "interesting experiences" abseiling into crevasses.

Team dynamics are good, but being base-bound means the crew has to be creative when it comes to rest and relaxation.

"Last weekend we had a blow-up pool in our dining hall, as well as a spit braai in the kitchen."

The team recently celebrated the winter solstice with a buffet meal.

"Midwinter on 21 June is traditionally a day of big celebrations at all Antarctic bases, marking the point at which the sun is farthest away from us and thereafter will begin its return."

Nutritional and medical aspects aside, Thirsk must also ensure that the team wears the proper gear to stave off frostbite, and that they use the right equipment to maintain safety.

"Polar medicine is a sub-speciality in its own right. The psychiatric component is big."

Like Antarctica. ★



Can we beat xenophobia?

By Fatima Khan



Fatima Khan is director of the Refugee Rights Project at the UCT Law Clinic.

One year ago we witnessed attacks of such intensity and horror (the army had to be deployed, 62 lives were lost, 100 000 people were displaced and property worth millions of rand looted) on foreigners that it shocked the most complacent among us.

One year later we ask ourselves what we have learnt as human beings and what have we learnt as a nation. In a recent study done by the International Organisation of Migration and the Wits Forced Migration Project, the conclusion was drawn that in most places where the violence against foreigners occurred, it was led by local groups and individuals in an effort to claim or consolidate authority and power needed to further their political and economic interest.

That may be so; but as practitioners serving refugees and asylum seekers at the University of Cape Town Law Clinic, we have

witnessed many shades of xenophobia. We have seen xenophobia manifest itself in various forms from the mere name-calling of *makwerekere* [a derogatory term directed specifically at black foreigners] to the actual physical violence perpetrated and resulting in death.

For the time being the actual physical violence against refugees may be dormant, but the more nuanced forms of harm against refugees are clearly flourishing. The economic exploitation, the social exclusion, the institutionalised practices that hamper their integration into the local communities and stop them from living a meaningful existence in their country of asylum are the forms of xenophobia that have sadly gone unnoticed and even unquestioned.

One year later it may be the right moment for us to reflect: have *we* perhaps played a part, even a minor one, in breeding these xenophobic tendencies among those who resorted to physical violence against the foreigners?

Are we of the ones for whom it has become fashionable to have other Africans working for us; are we speaking glibly of South Africans who are lazy and have no work ethic; are we proudly displaying our Zimbabwean maids or Malawian gardeners who work better than any South African worker ever has?

We must caution ourselves against this attitude for fear that we may be the ones responsible for breeding xenophobia.

The Zimbabwean maid probably has a college education but is prepared to work as a domestic worker out of sheer desperation. Similarly, the construction workers and also the many security guards and farm workers should not be compared to the unskilled South African workers who traditionally work in these areas.

Most importantly, however, is that, when we hire foreigners in these positions, not to flout minimum-wage requirements that South Trade Unions have fought very bravely for. The solution is not to exclude foreigners, but rather to enforce labour rights for all.

We have, unfortunately, come across many cases of foreigners - extremely vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers in particular - working for an entire month only to be told that they are not going to get paid and that they have no recourse to the law because they are undocumented or, simply, because they are foreigners.

It is our experience that often they are paid far below the minimum wage set in terms of South African law, with these

employers apparently safe in their belief that South African labour laws do not apply to foreigners. Not only have they become the new source of cheap labour, they are also subjected to threats of arrest and deportation if they dare to question fairness in the workplace.

Which brings me to the contention that we should give effect to the laws of this country, whether it is the right to fair labour practice or the right to safety and security; then only can we say we are effectively addressing the issue of xenophobia.

Shortly after the xenophobic attacks in May last year, a traders' organisation from Khayelitsha threatened to evict Somalis in the firm belief that this was possible; that they could carry out such acts with impunity. Their actions were clearly acts of intimidation, and the South African police, vested with the authority to attend to such matters, did so after it was pointed out to them by the UCT Law Clinic and others that the actions of the traders amounted to intimidation, a criminal act in terms of South African law. Only when the force of law came down on them did they withdraw their threats, and what could potentially have led to a disastrous eviction, yet again, of refugees from an area, turned out to be a very good example where the law was properly implemented to save the day for those foreigners resident in Khayelitsha.

Police thus have an extremely vital role to play - they are the enforcers of the law and it is our experience that where police have acted appropriately, major violence had been averted; but where they have not, such as in Zwelethemba, Worcester, in March last year, where an entire community had been uprooted and lost everything as a result of police inaction.

It is our argument as lawyers that the Police have a duty to protect everyone in the country and that *everyone* has a right to safety and security, and that includes foreigners. Police had both the power and the authority to intervene, but they did not; and as a result, refugees and asylum seekers who were looted and robbed in Zwelethemba are demanding an

unconditional apology and public admission that the police committed acts of unfair discrimination when they chose not to protect them, an amount in damages, and that the SAP and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees implement police training programmes on sensitivity towards refugees and on refugee rights.

Recently UCT Law Clinic staff accompanied the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) on a fact-finding mission into areas in Cape Town from where



In May 2009, the Refugee Right Project laid a case of unfair discrimination on the grounds of xenophobia against the South African Police Service (SAPS). It was the first case presented as a High Court matter before the new Equality Courts in the Western Cape. At the court were Francois Joubert SC, Fatima Khan, Advocate Rosslyn Nyman, main applicant Mohamed Said (back) and Halima Dahira Bootan.

refugees were violently displaced in May last year. They found that while many have returned, they live in fear, and that others have been unable to return because their homes and property had been appropriated by local residents. It is also apparent that the local communities were reluctant to intervene on behalf of victims.

Amongst the places visited by UNHCR were the schools, and this is perhaps the most heart-warming of experiences, and within that we see hope. The school children who were interviewed were curious to know who refugees are and when it was pointed out to them that some of their classmates are refugees, they were shocked to find the

adults in their communities saw it fit to drive these people from their communities. The children responded by saying that if their classmates are refugees, then they don't hate refugees.

In the immediate aftermath of the attacks there was an outpouring of humanity toward the displaced foreigners last year, with many organisations and individuals providing material and other assistance. I recall, in particular, the invaluable assistance provided by the UCT community, from the Vice-Chancellor's office right down to student volunteers who worked tirelessly beside us to help seek solutions for the many problems that refugees faced at the time.

In my opinion this was an appropriate response; it is the kind of response necessary for the mental health of a society, and individuals should be allowed to assist in whichever way they can.

Far more, however, is expected from the government. In the Western Cape there is evidence of the Premier's Office undertaking an initiative in preparing the local community for the return of the foreign nationals from areas where they were evicted. However, they stopped short of holding accountable those responsible for the violence.

Clearly this is an inadequate response; it is the kind of response that creates a culture of impunity with regard to xenophobic violence, and as long as those responsible are not held accountable, the threat of further attacks on foreigners looms large over us.

It is submitted that the only way to beat xenophobia would be to promote a culture of human rights. Government, ordinary citizens and non-nationals should be made aware of the fact that the South African Constitution is a shining example of respect for human rights. If South Africans are committed to clearing their name as *racist xenophobes*, we must strive to give effect to the country's laws and draw attention to the negative consequences of not respecting the law and rights of all.

Then only will we be able to beat xenophobia. ★

Mirror images

By Yvette van Breda and Morgan Morris

Hasan and Husain Essop are twins. As artists, they decided to have fun with being the near-spitting image of the other and duplicated themselves some more – all over their photographic images. But in truth, it was more than just entertainment, and they also wanted – or perhaps had little choice - to say something meaningful about being Muslim in the 21st century



Fraternal twins Hasan and Husain Essop graduated from UCT's Michaelis School of Fine Art in December 2006 and, just two and a half years later, their cleverly collaborative colour photographs have made their mark on the international art scene.

Not only have their characteristic, colourful creations won the talented twins many accolades, they have also received offers from art collectors, including a visit from and dinner with musician Sir Elton John, who reportedly owns one of the world's largest private photographic collections. (Which now includes a few of their works.)

The brothers, 24, work closely together to create digitally composed photographs, featuring only themselves, as a multiplicity of clones in the throes of a range of contradictory activities and altercations.

Says Hasan: "Our work questions global and local conflict. We explore the

2009



influence of Western popular culture and the distorting effects it has on existing religions and cultures. Internal conflicts are expressed through performance. Most importantly, our work originates from a history that is confined to a specific area, a faith that is universally shared and a critical understanding of the media and modern technology."

This, then, is more than just a copy-and-paste exercise for the twins. Growing up in a close-knit Muslim family and community, they wanted, in their art, to explore the "conflict" between their faith and the big bad world beyond.

Take *Thornton Road*, where their multiple copies are either in prayer, donning combat kit or draped in the distinctive black-and-white scarf, or *keffiyeh*, now so well associated with Palestine. Yet, at the same time, those self-same copies are sipping on that global beverage, Coca-Cola, under a huge Coke banner, a brand seen by some to be synonymous with western materialism or imperialism ("Coca-Colonisation").



This is not just about Islam versus the West, the brothers say, but also about the contradictions with which Muslims live. Check out that conflict, contradictions and brand names in other titles such as *Pit Bull Fight* and *Fast Food*, the latter a comment on the growing trend among young Muslims in Cape Town to opt for a scenic, beachfront setting to break their fast, rather than doing so at home or a community locale, as is traditional.

Their work can be controversial. In *Pit Bull Training* (they don't own any pit bulls themselves), for example, the dogs are taught to have a go at cuddly teddy bears swaddled in the US flag. This, they say, is an ironic comment on the West training the world, through media images, to hate Muslims.

And sometimes their works are interpreted in ways even they don't foresee. *Five Pillars* was a reasonably straightforward exploration of the Five Pillars of Faith of Islam (faith, prayer, fasting, alms-giving and pilgrimage), but then someone pointed out that it would appear that the character in the middle of

February: The full-time MBA programme offered by UCT's Graduate School of Business was ranked the best value for money MBA in the world in the *Financial Times* of London's Global MBA Top 100 Ranking.

February: 6 February saw the opening of Parliament, and vice-chancellor Dr Max Price joined hundreds of Social Justice Coalition (SJC) supporters in a march to condemn corruption and demand that South Africa's leaders be held accountable for their actions.

February: Dr Graeme Meintjes, a Wellcome Trust Fellow at UCT, published a study on the largest case series ever reported of a complex and increasingly common condition, TB IRIS, which affects people taking combined medication for HIV and TB.

February: A collaborative project between UCT and the Western Cape Education Department to improve the quality of teaching and learning of mathematics and science at schools received an R18.5 million boost from the Royal Netherlands Embassy.



February: Prof Jane Bennett's book, *Porcupine*, was short-listed for the Commonwealth Writer's Prize for Best Book and Best First Book 2009.

February: UCT hosted a day of lectures on Charles Darwin as part of the Darwin200 bicentenary celebrations.

February: UCT alumni Valerie Mizrahi and Hendrik Koornhof were named fellows of the prestigious American Academy of Microbiology, joining 72 other top microbiologists from around the world.





PIT BULL FIGHT

the picture is a suicide bomber preparing for a deadly mission.

Being identical twins means they share an identity, a personality and a family. This unique bond impacts distinctly on their work, and allows them to confront and address parallels and differences within a personal and a global context, and open up debate around religious, cultural and social contradictions and similarities, the pair say.

But why use themselves in their works?

"This is our experience," notes Hasan. "We don't want to make an objective statement. We don't want to put words in other people's mouths. This is how we see the clash between East and West, which exists simultaneously in our bodies. It's our struggle."

The Essops made their debut in 2007, their recast colour photographs going on show at The Loaded Lens, an exhibition featuring the work of several photographers at the Goodman Gallery Cape. Their pictures were also selected for and shown at the Spier Contemporary exhibition. Last year, they reached the finals of the ABSA L'Atelier contest, were Art South Africa's tenth Bright Young Thing, and had their work on show at Art Basel, Switzerland, and in a travelling award exhibition.

In April this year, the twins were invited to Cuba to participate in the tenth Havana Biennale, where their work was shown alongside that of the likes of Jane Alexander, Sue Williamson and Dan Halter.

Expecting socialist Cuba to imbue their new creations with a more global context, the brothers set off hoping to do photographic shoots in politically significant locations.

"Instead we spent a lot of time explaining why we, unlike most Cubans, didn't eat pork, and were constantly defending our faith," says Hasan. "We repeatedly explained why we ate halaal meat, which was not available on the island, and why we slaughtered our own food."

Other than their Cuban-inspired works, the Essops plan to use the pictures Husain took on his pilgrimage to Mecca in 2006 in future works. "Our plans for making new work are constantly changing," he says. ★



PIT BULL TRAINING

A cut above the rest

By Yvette van Breda



Successful entrepreneur Gianmarco Lorenzi, 30, has “always been a big dreamer”.

Having the rare ability to turn waste into money at the flick of a switch, the CEO of document-destruction company Cleardata is proof that dreaming big pays off.

Cape Town-born and raised by Italian parents, Lorenzi completed a Business Science degree and Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting (2001) from UCT, and then did his articles with Deloitte.

He discovered the lucrative paper shredding industry in 2005 while working as an auditor in Sydney, Australia, where secure onsite document destruction was required by law.

“I noticed my colleagues were very particular about how they discarded paper,” Lorenzi says. “Every piece of paper was disposed of in a locked container.”

On investigation, he learnt that these containers were collected regularly by an outsourced mobile shredding vehicle that destroyed the documents on the client's

premises. Lorenzi also learnt that, aside from confidentiality protection making sound business sense, in some countries companies are held responsible for protecting information. This legislation deems businesses criminally and civilly liable if sensitive client, staff or private information is illicitly accessed.

On his return to Cape Town in 2006, Lorenzi investigated the fate of the reams of printed confidential information generated by South African companies and found that information, such as clients' health records, banking details and legal details, was leaving offices unprotected and unshredded.

“Companies spend millions on firewalls and access controls to protect information, yet they allow strangers to take their confidential information away for recycling,” says Lorenzi.

Further research revealed that similar Data Protection Legislation was about to be promulgated in SA in 2009. Even more inspired, the astute businessman was determined to launch an efficient document-destruction company, and Cape Town-based Cleardata was born.

In the two short years since, Cleardata has become the only provider of onsite document destruction nationwide, with offices in Johannesburg, Durban, Cape Town and Bloemfontein, and over 400 corporate clients, served by a fleet of mobile shredding vehicles, each capable of destroying two tons of paper per hour.

Cleardata's green credentials are impeccable – it's the first company of its kind in South Africa to attain carbon-neutral status, and one of the few in the country to be truly carbon-neutral.

“I believe in a few years the carbon footprint of service providers will play an even bigger role than empowerment when evaluating supplier credentials.

Reducing their carbon footprint is not that hard if companies thoroughly analyse their energy use and gradually introduce everyday practices to reduce harmful emissions,” Lorenzi says.

It's obvious Lorenzi loves what he does, and pours passion and positive energy into growing Cleardata.

“I have a huge amount of fun running my own business. My belief that future rewards will be great is what inspires me to work harder,” he says.

Intending to expand the existing client base by 40% this year and open offices in the Eastern Cape and the Free State, Lorenzi says that the document destruction industry is worth billions of US dollars globally, but is “so underdeveloped here that it's relatively easy to differentiate yourself and be the best”.

This big dreamer intends to grow his company into the undisputed leader in the document destruction industry in South Africa, and further afield.

“I want the name Cleardata to be synonymous with paper shredding, not just here, but in all of Africa,” he says. ★

Young engineer works on SA's first electric car



Thought a viable electric car was still little more than an eco-tech pipedream? Think again. A young UCT grad has joined a local company that promises to have such a car on the road as early as 2010

With oil prices on the constant up-and-up, having a rechargeable car, one that plugs into any household plug, is not only the environmentally responsible thing to do, but a shrewd economic move too.

Good news then that South Africa's first electric-powered car – dubbed the Joule – will be available towards the end of 2010.

It's the brainchild of Optimal Energy, a privately-owned South African, Cape Town-based company, in association with Jaguar XJ220-designer and UCT alumnus Keith Helfet, who designed the interior and exterior.

UCT grad Kate McWilliams (BSc Eng, 2005; MSc, 2007) is one of the mechanical engineers responsible for prototype design and testing.

This young Port Elizabeth-born engineer started with Optimal Energy just last March, and says she can't believe her luck sometimes. At only 25, this is her first job out of varsity (she graduated in mid-2008) and only the second one she applied for.

"We tend to think that jobs like these are only available overseas. But, the opportunities here, in South Africa and in Cape Town, are endless," she says.

"It's an amazing chance to be part of history in the making."

McWilliams works on the drive system of the Joule, as well as the electronics and the cooling system for the motor. "The car has an electric motor as opposed to a petrol engine," she explains.

When asked what potential buyers can expect from the Joule's performance, she says that "it's a very quiet ride".

Though electric vehicles are usually criticised for being slower, the Joule boasts some zippy acceleration, going from 0 to 50km/h in 4.8 seconds, and 0 to 100km/h in 15 seconds.

What sets this high-tech five-seater MPV apart from the rest, though, is that it's green, too.

According to the Optimal Energy press release, electric cars have the added benefit of zero emissions, and produce 80% less pollution from greenhouse gases in comparison to petrol or diesel.

It's designed to accommodate two recyclable, large-cell lithium-ion battery packs, which employ similar chemistry to that used in mobile phones and laptops.

The car uses a normal 220V home outlet for Joule's onboard charger, and it should take approximately seven hours to recharge the battery for a 300km driving range.

The Joule's clever regenerative braking system also helps conserve energy, making for a longer drive.

"When the car's brakes kick in, it immediately recaptures energy that would normally be spent. When the car is standing still, there is no electric output either," says McWilliams.



This is especially beneficial during peak-time traffic, when stop-start driving is most likely.

For McWilliams, working on the car has been rewarding and came with a steep learning curve.

"No single day is the same," she says. "I get to do a lot of different things, and I really just try to absorb as much as possible." ★



2009



February:

Jonathan Argent, an honours student in economics in 2008, won the 36th Old Mutual and

Nedbank Budget Speech Competition. Argent took the top spot in the postgraduate category for his speech, titled *Tax Incentives for Investment in South Africa*, taking the R150 000 cash prize.

February: UCT is the only African university listed in the 2009 Webometrics Ranking of World Universities, coming in at position number 360 out of the top 500.

February: A spring tide of first-year students has inspired some clever "wikkeling", as Acting DVC Professor Daya Reddy put it, in a few UCT departments that have seen a sharp jump in registrations. This year UCT received 15 000 applications for just over 4 000 places.

February: UCT launched a programme that will see more than 70% of its daily five to eight tons of solid waste recycled. Of this, 93% of the dry waste will be recycled.

February: SHAWCO, aka the Students' Health and Welfare Centres Organisation, launched a new project to provide extra maths and science lessons to some 200 grade 12 learners.



February: UCT opera students Musawenkosi Ngqungwana, Miamli Lalapantsi and Sunnyboy Dladla won the tightly-contested international *Turandot* Competition. The trio's prizes were lead roles in stage performances of Puccini's *Turandot* at the Arena di Verona Festival in Verona, Italy, in July.

Cardiologist has his heart in the right place

By Daniella Pollock



Dr James Russell at work in Sierra Leone; and (below) with that priceless ECHO machine.

At the centre of war-ridden Sierra Leone, one doctor's doing his utmost to heal ailing hearts.

Dr James Russell is the only cardiologist working – on shoestring resources – at Connaught Hospital, the main government hospital in Freetown, the capital city of Sierra Leone. A cardiology fellow in UCT's Department of Medicine over 2006 and 2007, Russell came to UCT with no other objective than to hew his skills and take them straight back to his country. But there were second thoughts.

"After completing my training under the astute supervision of Professor Bongani Mayosi, I returned home to Sierra Leone with mixed feelings," Russell says. "The challenges lying ahead were astronomical to me."

It didn't bode well, either, that all the educational material he'd painstakingly collected over his time at UCT got lost in transit.

Sierra Leone, located on the west coast of Africa, is just now emerging from a gruesome rebel war that raged from 1991 to 2002. Tens of thousands died and more than two million people (over one-third of the population) were

displaced over the 11-year conflict. As a result, there was and continues to be a massive exodus of medics from the country, Russell says.

Though Russell, too, could have chosen to practice medicine somewhere else, home beckoned. But given the rudimentary means at his disposal, the job takes some doing most days.

"Practicing cardiology without the basic equipment is like practicing medicine without any patients, and this can be frustrating at times,"



he says. "My country has the highest infant mortality in the world, and so the focus is often on infectious diseases, with non-communicable diseases falling by the wayside."

When Russell took up duty, Connaught Hospital had no electrocardiogram (ECG) machine, the most commonly-used and cost-effective tool for detecting cardiac abnormalities.

And neither the hospital nor the country owned an echocardiogram machine, either. Another medical staple most anywhere else, the machine, also known as ECHO or an ultrasound, generates a sonogram or image of the heart, identical to the ultrasound images of babies. Patients had to be flown to neighbouring Ghana for the relatively simple ECHO procedure.

Russell knew he had to remedy this. And through persistent lobbying – and a good dollop of begging – to local ministries and international initiatives, Connaught Hospital now boasts both pieces of equipment. And a four-bed intensive-care unit, which Russell was instrumental in setting up.

He is also in the final stages of establishing a National Heart Foundation in the country, and promotes good health through frequent talk shows on a local radio station.

Given the conditions, these are monumental achievements.

Little surprise then that Russell was named the country's Medical Doctor of the Year in 2008.

Despite the daily adversity, he cannot stop saying how blessed he is. And how grateful he is for his time in South Africa.

"If it wasn't for what I learned in South Africa, I wouldn't be able to do what I do for my people," he says. "I am simply doing my bit to help my nation in my unique way." ★



Drumming up support

By Daniella Pollock

The only job Kesivan Naidoo's (Performer's Diploma in Music, 2000; BMus Hons, 2002) ever had is that of musician. A drummer, specifically.

And a good one, at that.

Naidoo won this year's Standard Bank Young Artist Award for Jazz, and was also, together with his band Babu, nominated for a 2009 South African Music Award.

Like most children, Naidoo, too, had a fantastical dream of what he wanted to be when he grew up. With some serious sweat, he made that dream come true, though.

It all started at around age 10, when his aunt's then-boyfriend, East London-based drummer Reece Timothy, introduced him to the magical thump-thumps of a set of drums. He told his family of his ambitions, and soon got his own set of drums. From there, Naidoo was hooked.

It wasn't always easy, though.

"My mom used to ban me from playing during *Bold and the Beautiful*," he laughs. "But my family's always been supportive."

So he kept at it.

"Music, jazz, has always been in my blood. I just did what came naturally. And somewhere along the

way, people started commenting that I had talent." He made his performing debut at the age of 14 at the Hogsback Festival in East London.

"Never mind being the youngest person in the band, I was the youngest person in the crowd, too," he recalls fondly. "At the end of our set I did a solo, and the crowd gave me a standing ovation."

"That day I got my first pay cheque."

It was at that point, also, that a hobby became a career.

After matriculating, Naidoo enrolled for music studies at UCT.

"UCT taught me the foundations and the fundamentals, and showed me how international artists interpret them. UCT has, arguably, one of the best music schools in South Africa. There are very talented jazz musicians there, but they have nowhere to go after."

The problem facing the Cape Town jazz scene – other than the meagre money – is the lack of a permanent intimate venue, Naidoo says.

"Cape Town may be considered the jazz capital, courtesy of festivals, but there's no specific venue dedicated to *real* jazz." To this end, he recently started his own

production company, Silent Revolution Productions, which he co-directs with trumpeter Lee Thompson.

"I want to create a circuit of small venues," Naidoo says. "This will also help teach people how to listen to and really appreciate jazz."

Now an established performer, Naidoo's doing his bit for the industry. He has four projects, or bands, that he does gigs with, and has, during his 19-year career, earned some serious clout by performing with the likes of South African greats Hugh Masekela, Miriam Makeba, Jimmy Dlodlu and Abdullah Ibrahim.

But, he says, the young artist award has rocketed him to the next level. "It has given me a greater platform, and a voice."

With the title comes a committed audience, too.

He performed at the Standard Bank Grahamstown Festival this year, taking the stage solo.

Make no mistake, though, he's no limelight-craving showman.

"I just want to be a leader in my industry and be an artist in what I do. There is no amount of money in the world that can make me stop what I'm doing." ★

The Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology

50th ANNIVERSARY 1960–2010



THE PERCY FITZPATRICK INSTITUTE OF AFRICAN ORNITHOLOGY

Celebrating 50 years of excellence in research, postgraduate studies and public awareness



The Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology at the University of Cape Town was founded in 1960 through the vision and drive of Cecily Niven, daughter of Sir Percy FitzPatrick of Jock of the Bushveld fame, after whom the Institute is named. Cecily passed away in 1992, but her Institute continues to go from strength to strength. It is the only ornithological research institute in the southern hemisphere, and one of only a handful in the world.

Since its formation, the Institute has passed a number of significant milestones:

- 1989** Ornithology identified as the most internationally competitive scientific discipline in South Africa, ranking third equal in the world.
- 1992** Introduced a taught MSc course in Conservation Biology. This course has graduated more than 200 students from all over the world and some 85% of its graduates are now employed in the field of conservation.
- 2004** Awarded the prestigious status of one of only six 'Centres of Excellence in Science and Technology' by the South African Department of Science and Technology and the National Research Foundation.
- 2006** Appointment of the Pola Pasvolovskiy Chair in Conservation Biology, made possible by a generous private endowment left to the Institute.
- 2008** Research in Conservation Science at UCT identified as the most internationally significant of any southern hemisphere university, ranking equal with the fourth-rated university in North America.

The Institute's proud record of research, teaching and the public awareness of science has been built up over 50 years of hard work and strategic planning. Whilst a 50th Anniversary is a time to reflect and celebrate, it is also a time to look to the future and plan how we can raise our achievements to even higher levels. Securing a sustainable future in the face of escalating global change will require innovative approaches to conserving biodiversity.

During the course of 2010, the Institute is planning a number of activities with the dual aims of increasing the public profile of its activities and consolidating its financial security. The latter fundraising activities have some specific objectives linked to teaching and research, key among which is to establish a fund for the provision of bursaries for African students who will further Africa's ability to conserve its biodiversity.

Students are an integral part of any research activity and contribute directly to the country's intellectual capital and problem-solving capacity. The Institute wishes to place itself in a position whereby we will not be forced to turn away first-class students because of a lack of such funding. We hope to do this by establishing a capital fund of at least R5 million, the income from which will fund three or more bursaries annually. This is an ambitious target to achieve in a single year, but with your support it can be done.

If you would like to be part of our 50th Anniversary celebrations and our bursary and research fund-raising drives, please contact the Institute's Director, Prof. Phil Hockey, Percy FitzPatrick Institute, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa 7701. E-mail phil.hockey@uct.ac.za, fax +27 (0)21 650 3295; tel: +27 (0)21 650 3291/0 or visit www.fitzpatrick.uct.ac.za



We have a vision to build on the successes of the past to ensure even greater contributions to science, conservation, education and outreach in the future. We hope that you will be prepared to invest in ensuring that we achieve this vision. Please visit our website for further details of how you can assist, corporately or individually.

The Percy FitzPatrick Institute's proud record of research, teaching and public awareness has been

built over 50 years of hard work and strategic planning. While a 50th anniversary is a time to reflect and celebrate, it is also a time to look to the future and plan for achieving even higher performance levels. Securing a sustainable future in the face of escalating global change will require innovative approaches to conserving biodiversity. During 2010, the Institute is planning a number of activities to increase its public profile and to consolidate its financial security.

Students are an integral part of any research activity and contribute directly to the country's intellectual capital and problem-solving capacity. The Institute wishes to be in a position where we will not be forced to turn away first-class students because of a lack of funding. We hope to do this by establishing a capital fund of at least R5 million, the income from which will fund three or more bursaries annually. This is an ambitious target for a single year, but we believe it can be achieved.

To coincide with our anniversary we will develop a special feature on the Institute's website with the aim of encouraging an ongoing reunion facility for FitzPatrick Institute graduates. This feature will act as a virtual reunion template and a point of access to the whereabouts of Institute alumni, as well as a place to share information about and support for the Institute. We invite all alumni to participate and to make this feature as dynamic and valuable as possible. Watch the space on our website (www.fitzpatrick.uct.ac.za) and we will be prompting you to participate. ★

Alumni gatherings

Local

ALUMNI EVENTS ROUNDUP:

Over 2008 and 2009, UCT alumni gathered at various events in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban and Port Elizabeth as part of Alumni Leadership Forums, networking sessions, roadshows with vice-chancellor Dr Max Price and reunions. These events have

proven to be engaging, interactive and informative as alumni have had the opportunity to listen and speak to key leaders in business and industry. Since 2008, Price and the Development and Alumni Department (DAD) have embarked on a series of information-sharing roadshows in various cities as part of his efforts to engage alumni on his vision of UCT as a global player.

Jerusalem - The Jerusalem South African Alumni Association, which incorporates a score of UCT alumni, including the chairperson of the association, Dr Julie Hadar (nee Levitt), hosted its latest meeting at the Grand Synagogue of the Belz Hassidic dynasty in Jerusalem, on 8 June. Those at the event heard the architect, Yitzhak Blatt, explain how this huge synagogue was designed and constructed. The synagogue

was built as a replacement for the one in the town of Belz in Eastern Galicia, Poland (now the Ukraine), which was completely destroyed in 1939. The Belz Great Synagogue, opened in 2000, took 15 years to build, and constitutes the World Centre of the Belz Hassidic dynasty. It is the largest synagogue in Israel, and the main interior can host more than 6 000 worshippers.

London, November 2008 - UCT hosted three alumni receptions at South Africa House over the course of two days in November 2008. Vice-chancellor Dr Max Price spoke at all three receptions, which included an open function to introduce him as the new incumbent. This was preceded by an event for Graduate School of Business graduates at which outgoing director Professor Frank Horwitz spoke of developments at the GSB and future challenges. The following day, law alumni were invited to join Professor Hugh Corder and Judge Dennis Davis at the launch of the Law 150 Appeal. Around 200 alumni came along to these events.



Janet and Dr William Allen, Dr Ansuya Naidoo, Anresha Naidoo and Melopi Kylika.



Judge Dennis Davis, Jonathan Sacher and Dr Stuart Saunders.



Carl Snitcher, Glenn Jones, James Espey, Chris Wheeler and Arnold Roth.



Carl Lindenberg, Kevin Dillon and Tracey Baker.



Dominic Ward and Rory Gogarty.

The Courtyard Theatre, Stratford-upon-Avon, UK, February 2009

– Some 40 alumni came to the Courtyard Theatre at Stratford-upon-Avon in February 2009 to enjoy best-of-house seats for a stunning Royal Shakespeare Company/Baxter production of *The Tempest*, starring fellow alumni Sir Antony Sher and John Kani. After the performance, alumni had the opportunity to meet the cast and production team, who joined them at a nearby hotel for drinks and snacks. Another 90-odd alumni came along to see the same production in Richmond-upon-Thames in March.



Alumni chat with members of the cast.



Sir Antony Sher (centre) and UCT alumni.



David and Bridget Boxall, Jane Fitzgerald and Colin Stephenson.

Canada 2008 and 2009 – The UCT Foundation Office in Canada organised a number of alumni activities over late 2008 and early 2009. On 7 November 2008, a dinner was held for alumni in Vancouver. The evening was very well attended, and provided positive feedback for future events.

In February, Dr Marcia Blumberg was able to secure discounted tickets to the opening night of the South African production *Tshepang*, held on 18 February 2009 in Toronto.

In March 2009, Dr Simone Honikman presented the work of the Perinatal Mental Health Unit to alumni at a special breakfast event. The event was attended by 14 guests, the majority from the medical fraternity. The meeting included a discussion session after the presentation. Alumni were offered discounted tickets to *Ubuntu*, a Baxter Theatre Centre collaboration with Theatrefront in Toronto. The production also played at the Neptune Theatre in Halifax.

In May 2009 the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, and Dr Jim McNamara visited Vancouver where they attended a dinner for alumni and friends.



Guests at the Vice-Chancellor's Dinner held in Vancouver during May 2009.



*Among those at the opening night of *Tshepang* in Toronto were Marcia Blumberg, cast member Mncedisi Shabangu, Henry Blumberg and David Groll, here at the post-production reception.*



Deanne Hulett, Elaine Fagan, Glenn Loy Son, Jonathan Hellman (Wits alum), Pat Carew, Caitlin Carew, Simone Honikman, Charles Bonham Carter, Jessie van Dyk (Stellenbosch alum) and Farouk Ebrahim were among those at the Perinatal Mental Health Unit presentation.



At the Vice-Chancellor's Dinner in May were Michael Hayden, Barry Rabinowitz and Peter Coxon.

London, May 2009 - Some 75 alumni met in the Reading Room at South Africa House on 11 May to listen to the vice-chancellor, Dr Max Price, who gave an update on UCT and also a short review of the recent South African election. Guest speaker was Richard Fitzwilliams, UCT alumnus and former editor of the *International Who's Who*.



Andrew Bullock, Lisa Davies and Karen Triegaardt.



Carol Altmann, David Meachin, Henk Altmann and Rose and Will Crews.



Zelda and Simon Alexander with Dr Jim McNamara (back).

Engineering - 18 graduates from the Class of 1983 got together for a 25-year reunion on 13 February. Class highlights included building a second engineers float, titled 'Picnic at Hanging Rock', for Rag 1983, probably the only time ever that two engineers floats made it down Adderley Street and back again; arranging their own ball at the Hohornort Hotel (they don't recall how they could afford that luxury item); contributing significantly to the UCT sports teams at the time, including

the engineers' rugby side; and providing the core of the UCT Motor Cycle club at the time, Ikey Riders. "We were a special group," said reunion organiser, Dave Joubert. In the picture are class members Dave Joubert, Mark Churley, Phil Jennings, Henry Herring and Dave Offerman.



The Faculty of Health Sciences hosted its annual suite of reunions at the end of 2008. The graduates who made their way back to the campus hailed from the classes of 1958, 1968, 1983 and 1993.



Class of 1968: Graduates take a tour around their old haunts at the Medical School.



Class of 1993: Drs Neil Swart, Neil Richards, Chantal Simonis, Martin Forlee, Janine vd Walt, Colin Davidson, Sharon Cox, Carol Goedhals, Kerstin Heye and Beth Welsh popped into Prof Christiaan Barnard's replicated office at the Heart Transplant Museum at Grootte Schuur Hospital.



Class of 1958: Classmates at their dinner.



Class of 1983: Alumni at the start of the reunion dinner, before things warmed up.

Faculty of Health Sciences - reunion dates for 2009

- 20-22 November – Class of 1994
- 27-29 November – Class of 1969
- 4-6 December – Class of 1959
- 11-13 December – Class of 1984

2009



March: Eight schools in Cape Town agreed to implement the Green Change Room Audit

Project of Pavs Pillay of the university's Marine Research Institute. The project teaches high school learners how to 'live green'.

March: The Graduate School of Business announced that Walter Baets, Professor in Complexity, Knowledge and Innovation at Euromed Marseille, Ecole de Management, in France, will take over as director on 1 July.

March: Drama lecturer Mwenya Kabwe won the Fleur du Cap award for best actress for her performance in the local production of US playwright Dael Orlandersmith's *Yellowman*. The title refers to a derogatory label hurled at lighter-skinned African-Americans by those with darker skins.



March: Learners recited emotive poems and made stirring speeches highlighting the importance of reading as UCT's Schools Development Unit celebrated the end to its Zenex English First Additional Language Programme's Reading Festival.

March: Deputy Minister of Health Molefe Sefularo was the guest speaker at the inaugural Ivan Toms Memorial Lecture, hosted by the Faculty of Health Sciences. The lecture series is dedicated to Toms, an activist, UCT graduate and, at the time of his death in March 2008, director of health at the City of Cape Town.



March: UCT's School of Dance marked its 75th birthday.

Faculty of Law, 18 October 2008 - Celebrating the 150th anniversary of the teaching of law in South Africa – it all began with Act 12 of 1858, although the first law lecture was only delivered a year later – UCT's Faculty of Law hosted the Law 150 gala dinner, the first in a series of events to celebrate the occasion. The reunion kicked off with a group shot on Jammie Steps (right), after which graduate Lewis Pugh recounted his frosty Arctic swim. The Law 150 celebrations continued throughout the week with meetings and lectures galore.



Baxter Hall, July 2008 - Vice-chancellor Dr Max Price welcomed UCT alumni to Baxter Hall's reunion, held from 25 to 26 July, in celebration of the residence's 50th anniversary.

Smuts Hall, July 2008 - Smuts Hall celebrated its 80th anniversary with a lunch attended by a number of Smutsmen and guest speaker Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu.

Whirlwind tour, US:

San Diego - Alumni met up with friends and colleagues over Sunday brunch and heard from vice-chancellor Dr Max Price about new developments at UCT and the role of the university in South Africa and abroad.



Barry Kassar with Dr Jim McNamara, executive director of development and alumni at UCT.

Los Angeles - LA-area alumni and friends enjoyed a guided tour of the exhibition *Continental Rifts: Contemporary Time-Based Works of Africa* at the Fowler Museum at University of California LA, featuring the works of Cape Town artists Georgia Papageorge and UCT alumna Berni Searle. This was followed by a reception with remarks from vice-chancellor Dr Max Price.



Alumni Wilma Jakobsen and Neil Kritzingler chat with Dr Max Price in the courtyard of the UCLA Fowler Museum.

Berkeley - Bay-area alumni joined University of California Berkeley faculty and staff at an event co-hosted by the UCT Fund and the UCB Centre for Africa Studies at UC Berkeley International House.



Dr Max Price with Dr Jim McNamara, Percy Hintzen and Martha Saavedra of the Centre for African Studies, UC Berkeley.

Palo Alto - UCT alumnus Robert Berman and his wife Lucy hosted an event for Dr Max Price at their home in Palo Alto. This gathering drew a broad cross-section of alumni, from graduates from the 1950s through the past few years, and students from California colleges who studied abroad at UCT.



Dr Max Price in Palo Alto with alumni Shehnaaz Suliman and Vivek Veeraraghavan, with Grant Parker in the background.

New York - At the end of May 2009, Law Dean PJ Schwikkard hosted a reunion for law graduates and friends at the South African Consulate in New York City. The Dean spoke informally about developments in the Faculty and the Law 150 Campaign. She was followed by alumnus Nicholas Haysom, director for Political Affairs in the Office of the United Nations Secretary-General, who spoke about the current challenges facing the UN.



Saras Jagwanth, Justin Goldblatt and Lindiwe Vundla.

Where are they now

CLASS OF 1957

Stewart Patterson (CTA) retired as a senior partner at PWC in 2000. He served as a director on the board of Toyota SA between 2000 and 2003. He served as chairperson of the audit committee of the Department of Justice between 2002 and 2009, and worked for the National Prosecuting Authority during the same period. He is now a member of the audit committee in the Office of the Presidency.

CLASS OF 1958

Graham Fisher (MBChB) lives in Bunbury, Western Australia, and was, before retirement, a rural general surgeon, one of three servicing 150 000 people in an area of 24 000sq/km. He is married to Shirley, and they have three daughters. He enjoys Rotary work, gardening, woodwork and bushwalking. Among his memorable moments he includes being lost in the Daintree rain forest in North Queensland for five days on an "exploratory" walk.



Nic Hofmeyr (MBChB) is a radiologist and farmer from Bethlehem in the Free State. He spent 10 years doing locums in Saudi Arabia, Canada, the UK and Ireland. Married to Pam, they have four children and 11 grandchildren.

Mick Leary (MBChB) is a locum consultant paediatric neurologist at the Bristol Royal Children's Hospital in the UK. He was associate professor at UCT from 1983 to 2000 and was dean of the medical residence from 1969 to 1976. Mick was a Queens Scout and received UCT full blues for athletics in 1957. He has four children. Sadly, Mick's wife passed away in 2006. He counts winning a silver medal in a half marathon as one of his most memorable moments.



David Paton (MBChB) is a retired orthopaedic surgeon from Norwich, England, where he lives with his wife Rosemary. He has one daughter and two granddaughters and enjoys gardening, walking, golf and bridge.

CLASS OF 1959

Bennie Bub (MBChB) has retired after 20 years with

Colorado Anaesthesia Consultants, where he was in private practice. He lives in Englewood, Colorado, with his wife Joan, who is a retired radiologist. They have three children and seven grandchildren and he enjoys music, cycling, travelling and reading.

Tertius Hansmann (MBChB) from Higgovale, Cape Town, has retired from general medicine, having run his own private practice. He and his wife Herta enjoy travelling. They have two children.



Joe Polliack (MBChB) from Bantry Bay was a partner in a group practice in Cape Town's northern suburbs before retirement in April 2008. He is presently involved in a project restoring cemeteries and mass grave sites from World War II in Belarus, to where he traces his roots.

George Soutter (MBChB) is a retired paediatrician from Sydney, Australia, where he worked as a senior staff specialist at the Westmead Children's Hospital. He is an honorary life fellow of the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences and enjoys painting, sculpting and printmaking.

Claudio Todeschini (BSc, Civil Eng) obtained the Diploma of Imperial College in 1961, and went on to complete a PhD in theoretical and applied mechanics at the University of Illinois, US, in 1967. He taught at the University of Maryland for three years and, in 1969, joined the staff of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria. He retired in 1999 but continued to work for the IAEA as a consultant until April 2009. Now in full retirement, he spends about half his time near Vienna, Austria, and the other half near Lucca in Toscana, Italy.

CLASS OF 1961

Nancy Tietz (BSc; BSc Hons, 1962) has, since retiring as director of the East London Museum, offered in-service courses in museology (museum studies). She has received the 2006 Premier's Arts, Culture and Heritage Award in recognition of this work.

CLASS OF 1963

Georges Belfort (BSc, Chem Eng) was the recipient of the 2008 EV Murphee Award in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry for his outstanding research in the field of industrial chemistry. In October 2008, Belfort was also recognised by the American Institute for Chemical

Engineers as one of its 100 "Modern Era" chemical engineers. Belfort is a professor of chemical and biological engineering at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York. He and his wife Marlene (BSc, 1965) are currently the only husband and wife team that are elected members of the prestigious National Academy of Science (Marlene, 1999) and National Academy of Engineering (Georges, 2003).

Edwine Simon (BA, fine arts) is a director of the Ruth Prowse College of Art and Design and a lecturer in the Department of Occupational Therapy in UCT. She also supervises students doing their BTech in graphic design at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

CLASS OF 1967

Nigel Mudge (BSc, Civil Eng) is currently the chairperson of the Chiltern farming group, after having chaired the South African Apple and Pear Association from 2000 to 2006.

CLASS OF 1968

Gillian Lockitch (MBChB) is a paediatrician and former departmental head and professor in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of British Columbia in Canada. She retired in 2006 and is now pursuing a career in writing and entertainment journalism, doing theatre reviews, dining and travel blogs.

Ann Peters (MBChB) is professor and head of department of ophthalmology at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is married to Colin Reardon (MBChB, 1967) and they have three children. Her hobbies include walking, swimming, Pilates, French and art.

Leslie Ramages (MBChB) is an ear, nose and throat specialist from Wynberg in the Western Cape. He is senator of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa, as well as treasurer of the ENT Society.

CLASS OF 1969

Peter Mayer (MBChB) is a general practitioner in private practice from Three Rivers, Vereeniging. He is married with five daughters and eight grandchildren. Among his most memorable moments, Peter lists revisiting his birthplace in Hungary, this after an absence of 34 years.

Selwyn Odes (MBChB) works in the Department of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Soroka Medical Centre and the Faculty of Health Sciences at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheva, Israel, where he is head of the Inflammatory Bowel Diseases Unit. He is married to Sandra Harris (MBChB, 1970) and they have five children.

Jairaj Raga (MBChB) is a clinical paediatrician in private practice from Malabar in Port Elizabeth. Sadly, his wife passed away in 2005. He has one daughter. Jairaj enjoys bowls, occasional golf, reading and travel.

Keith Payne (MBChB) is chief specialist and head of department of anaesthesia as well as senior clinical pharmacologist at Two Military Hospital in Wynberg, Western Cape. He lives in Pinelands with his wife Lyn, has two sons and enjoys gardening.

CLASS OF 1970

Harris Gordon (BCom; MBA, 1975) and his wife Tessa (Frootko) split their time between Boston in the US, and Cape Town. Harris, now retired from the PriceWaterhouseCoopers partnership, is treasurer of the USA Montessori Association and an independent consultant in the adoption of new technology. He is also vice-chair of the New Philharmonic Orchestra.

CLASS OF 1974

Anthony Swift (Secondary Teacher's Diploma) resigned as the principal of Johan Carinus Art Centre in 2006 to work full-time as an artist. He now regularly exhibits at the National Arts Festival in Grahamstown. He received a special award for his contribution to education, partly because he serves as a moderator in the Eastern Cape.

Manfred Teichler (MBChB) is married with four children and has been practising general medicine in Switzerland since 1997.

CLASS OF 1983

Mark Colvin (MBChB) is a self-employed researcher and consultant in the epidemiology of HIV/AIDS and lives on the Bluff in Durban with his wife Karen and their two children, a son and a daughter. He enjoys surfing with his son and friends, as well as diving, spearfishing and catching crayfish in front of his home.

John Craig (BSc, Civil Eng) left Kayad Consulting Engineers in Cape Town in 2009 to join Beca, a consulting firm in Melbourne, Australia. John's wife Tracy obtained her PhD in chemistry at UCT in 2004.

Urbalino Gomes (MBChB) is a family physician from Funchal, Madeira, in Portugal. He is married with two daughters, having moved from Cape Town in 1993. Hobbies include travel, ocean cruises and squash.

Nic Marais (BSc, Civil Eng; PhD [Civil Eng], 1989; MBA, 2004) was associate professor in UCT's Department of Civil Engineering in the early 1990s, and ran his own engineering/management consultancy, Zutphen Consulting, between 2003 and 2007. Since then he's been senior engineer and manager at Paterson Cooke Consulting Engineers.

Guy Parker (Civil Eng) is managing director of John Parker & Son Limited in the UK. The company was started by Guy's great-grandfather in 1874.

Rose Pocock (MBChB) practices family



medicine in Campbell River, British Columbia, Canada. She is married to Peter Friderichs, a classmate at medical school, and has three sons.

Karen Saperson (MBChB) is associate professor and head of the division of geriatric psychiatry in McMaster University's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioural Neurosciences in Canada. She is married to Jeremy Goldberg (MBChB, 1980) and has two daughters.

Clare Thompson (MBChB) works in neonatal medicine at Groote Schuur Hospital and runs a follow-up developmental screening service for high-risk newborns.

Thompson also works at Red Cross Childrens' Hospital with children with disabilities, and is involved in undergraduate medical teaching and curriculum design



at UCT. She is married to Roy and has two sons, one of whom (Nic) is currently studying medicine at UCT.

CLASS OF 1984

Sandy Calder (BA LLB) changed direction after being admitted as an attorney in Johannesburg and completed an MSc.

He followed a career in real estate funds management and is currently the managing director of Calibre Capital Limited in Sydney. He is regularly in touch with Judy Swan (nee Koch) and Fiona Le Roy, both in Australia, and recently caught up with Simon Fish (another UCT law alumnus) who lives in Canada.

Brett Heilbron (MBChB) is from West Vancouver, Canada, and is a cardiologist at St Paul's Hospital. Married to Renee, with four children, Brett enjoys triathlons.

Allen Murray (MBChB) works in a small, three-doctor general practice in Invercargill, New Zealand, having practiced there since 1989. He is married to Anne Murray (BSc [Physio], 1981) and has three children. Murray enjoys fly fishing, hunting and tramping.

Alexander 'Zandy' Rosochacki (MBChB) is in private practice and part-time family medicine at the University of Stellenbosch. Married with four children, Zandy lives in Somerset West. He is also a member of the Cape Town branch of the Mountain Club of South Africa and enjoys cycling when the roads are quiet.

Reuben September (BSc, Elec Eng) was appointed as chief executive officer for Telkom SA Ltd in November 2007. He has worked in various engineering and commercial positions at Telkom since 1977. He is a member of the Professional Institute of Engineers of South Africa (ECSA).

CLASS OF 1986

Loyiso Dotwana (BSc, Civil Eng) is founder and director of Iliso Consulting (Pty) Limited, one of the largest black-owned consulting engineering firms in the country. He is also non-executive director of Afrimat Ltd.

Alan Sher (BSocSc; BSocSc [Hons], 1987) completed a diploma in financial planning and

was awarded a master's in financial planning in 2006. He runs his own financial planning business in Brisbane, Australia.

Auriel Sher nee Abrey (BSc, Logopaedics) is married with three children and works as an audiologist at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia.

CLASS OF 1988

Sandile Zungu (BSc, Mech Eng) is chairperson of Zungu Investments Company (Zico), which is the holding company of his business interests. He is also chair of the JSE-listed Afilease Gold and non-executive director of Uranium One Africa and KwaZulu-Natal Growth Fund. He serves on the Advisory Board at the GSB.

CLASS OF 1989

Sakhi Dumakude (BSc, Elec Eng) is managing director of Usizo Engineering (Pty) Ltd, a black-owned consulting engineering firm established in 1999, specialising in reticulation schemes, substations, building electrical services and plant process equipment.

Steve Schlesinger (BSc) is married to Dr Joanna Schlesinger. He has been working for Jubilee Community Church for the past 11 years.

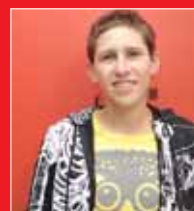
CLASS OF 1991

Deborah Lazarus (BA; LLB, 1994) was based in Los Angeles until 2006 when she moved back to South Africa and established an entertainment law consultancy practice in Cape Town. She consults with and represents stakeholders in the film, television and music industries throughout South Africa, the US and the UK. She was admitted both as an advocate of the Supreme Court of South Africa and as a member of the State Bar of California. Since 2007 she's presented a course on entertainment law in Cape Town and Johannesburg in conjunction with UCT's Faculty of Law and its Law @ Work programme.

CLASS OF 1993

Julia Gerraghty (MBChB) works in private practice as a homeopathic physician, as well as at the Bristol Homeopathic Hospital. She is vice-president of the Faculty of Homeopathy in the UK, and teaches homeopathy to healthcare professionals

2009



April: MSc graduate Dorit Hockman's thesis was awarded the prestigious S2A3 Bronze Medal, the South African Association for the Advancement of Science's top honour for South African master's theses in all science fields.

April: The Institute of Infectious Disease and Molecular Medicine at UCT launched



an African-based website, Vaccines for Africa, to increase awareness and promote the uptake of vaccines in Africa.

April: UCT Libraries joined forces with the Community Health Media Trust to house the archives of video tapes and transcripts documenting the history of HIV/AIDS in South Africa.

April: Vice-Chancellor Dr Max Price presented Richard Dudley, an educationalist whose



involvement with the Teacher's League of South Africa over the apartheid years galled both the authorities and his immediate

supervisors, with an honorary doctorate in education.

April: UCT hosted the third annual lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) Legotla, which included the official launch of Kaleidoscope, a new national LGBTI youth-based network organisation merging groups from universities across the country.

April: The new Mining & Mineral Processing Resource Pack, developed by chemical engineering staff at UCT for grade-11 science teachers, was launched.

in the UK and internationally. She is married to a German GP/acupuncturist, Wolfgang, and her hobbies include Argentinean tango, art and water-colour painting.

Perrin Hansen (MBChB) is a part-time consultant in paediatric neurology at Chris Hani Baragwanath Hospital in Gauteng. She is married to Brett Till and has two little girls, Kezzia and Camryn.

Ann Hofmeyr (MBChB) works in the clinical microbiology laboratory and is an infectious-diseases specialist at Liverpool Hospital and the South Western Area Pathology Service in Sydney, Australia. She enjoys bushwalking, trekking and the arts.

Riaz Ismail (MBChB) is medical superintendent at Two Military Hospital in Wynberg in the Cape. He is married to Riyana and has two sons, Razeen and Raa-id. He enjoys photography and has won many photographic awards.

Anithadevi Moodley (MBChB) is a paediatrician, neonatologist and senior lecturer in paediatrics at the Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. She is married with two children. She counts standing with her father to vote in the first democratic election as one of her most memorable moments.

Neil Richards (MBChB) is a family physician from Melkbosstrand in the Cape. He is married to Ananda and has twin sons, Daniel and Aidan. He enjoys golf and fishing.

Joanna Schlesinger (MBChB) is married to Steve Schlesinger, with whom she has four sons. She lives in Cape Town and specialises in family medicine, holding diplomas in child health and obstetrics. She consults in industry part-time.

Jennifer Williams (BA LLB) did her articles at the UCT Law Clinic before working as the regional legal officer for the National Union of Metalworkers. She started her own practice in 1997 and in 2009 joined the Women's Legal Centre as its director.

CLASS OF 1994

Lance Berman (MBChB) is chief medical officer heading up clinical drug development for CPEX Pharma in Yew York.

Marguerite Harding (MBChB) is a staff neurosurgeon at the Royal Adelaide Hospital in Australia.

Paul le Roux (MBChB) is a reproductive medicine specialist/gynaecologist at the Cape Fertility Clinic in Cape Town. He has been elected vice-president of the South African Society of Reproductive Medicine, is married to Sayuri and has two daughters.

Jo Richards (MBChB) is in private ophthalmology practice and also works at the Royal Perth Hospital in Western Australia. She is married to Chris and has two sons. Her hobbies include cycling, gardening and walking in the Aussie bush with her boys. A keen mountaineer, she has had to put this on hold until her boys are bigger!

CLASS OF 1997

Natashe Calvert (BSocSc) is a qualified Health and Welfare Sector Educational Training Authority assessor, and is working as a senior officer with the Department of Health.

Puseletso Letete (LLM) completed her PhD in Law at the University of Edinburgh in June 2008. She has moved back to Lesotho and now lectures at the university there.

CLASS OF 2000

Rebecca Van Es (BA LLB) was admitted as an attorney in 2007 and then clerked for Chief Justice Pius Langa at the Constitutional Court. She was recently named a Hauser Global Scholar at the New York University School of Law where she will begin her LLM in international legal studies later in 2009.

CLASS OF 2002

David Fick (BA [Hons]; MA, 2005) has been teaching art at high schools in Cape Town and has also written a series of children's theatre musicals.

Zara Quail (MBChB) is the senior editor (freelance) on medical websites for Point of Care information resources.

CLASS OF 2003

Jason Brickhill (LLB) is reading towards a two-year Master of Studies degree in International human rights law at Oxford; his first residential period was in July-August 2008. Jason practices as an attorney in Johannesburg in a public interest law firm.

Andrew Gilder (BA LLB, LLM - marine and environmental law) is based in Johannesburg. He was in Barcelona for the Carbon Expo 2009 - carbon and climate change being the area of practice in which he is involved.

Alistair Price (BBusSc LLB) finished his clerkship at the Constitutional Court in September 2008 and is now reading for a PhD in law at Cambridge, researching the interaction between the South African Bill of Rights and the private common law of delict.

CLASS OF 2006

Linda Mabhena (LLB) has just finished her LLM at Aberdeen University. She was featured in *Destiny*, June 2009. Her areas of interest are international investment contracts within Africa.

CLASS OF 2007

Lauren Rosenberg (BA, film & media production) is a special projects manager at the Centre for Creative Arts that hosts the Durban International Film Festival and other cultural festivals. She is also part of the project team for Talent Campus Durban, which is a training programme for African filmmakers.

Please send updated biographies and pictures to your respective faculty representatives at the following email addresses:

- *Commerce: Carolyn McGibbon at carolyn.mcgibbon@uct.ac.za;*
 - *Engineering & the Built Environment: Mary Hilton at mary.hilton@uct.ac.za;*
 - *Health Sciences: Joan Tuff at joan.tuff@uct.ac.za;*
 - *Humanities: Pauline Alexander at pauline.alexander@uct.ac.za;*
 - *Law: Pauline Alexander at pauline.alexander@uct.ac.za; and*
 - *Science: Katherine Thomson at katherine.thomson@uct.ac.za*
- Should any of these email addresses not work, send your details to alumni@uct.ac.za*

Postcard from afar: Living in London... Death or Opportunity?



It's hard to believe it's been about six years since I first got off that plane.

It was 31st March 2003, but the memory is still so vivid that it feels like yesterday.

I had braids in my hair following an exciting adventure in the Transkei before my epic London adventure. I had never left Africa before. Me, my enormous suitcase (so large I later realised that the security guards gawking at my bag must have thought I was carrying a dead body), my thick Capetonian Saffa accent and my huge smile arrived at Heathrow Terminal 1.

After being x-rayed, poked, prodded and interrogated (I don't think the braids helped), I was let loose to find 'the tube'. In purchasing my ticket I noticed how funny the money was in England. It was fat and chunky. I looked at it, turned it round and round, held it up and bit it. I did realise that this was possibly weird when a nervous worker walked around me like I was a radioactive situation.

When I eventually got to the tube, I was amazed. I had never seen anything like it. Blue, white and red flashed

before me and arrived like a giant Aquafresh snake. The next minute doors were opening, people were bustling out, someone was shouting "Mind the Gap" and I managed to get myself, the dead body, my accent, and ridiculous optimism onto the toothpaste cylinder.

I smiled at everyone around me. They *must* know that this is my first time on this fascinating beast. Everyone looked down at their newspapers or above my head at the tube map. I tried to talk to someone next to me but they didn't seem interested in my arrival in Noddyland. No matter how many people had flatliner faces, *no one* was going to affect my mood. This was brilliant, exciting and it was my first day in London.

After a very exciting journey where I cooed and oohed at the cuuuute little houses, little pink people (the winter was only just dissipating) and little roads/cars, I arrived at Waterloo station, stored my suitcase at luggage control and skipped towards the houses of parliament, London Eye and Big Ben.

Noddyland did not disappoint.

There were little red buses, little red phone booths, someone saying

"Woops a Daisies" and everyone looking like a character out of *Fawlty Towers*. My first day: I laughed, fell over myself, walked backwards, forwards, sideways, fell in love, fell out of love, made an overseas call, got lost, got found, took a gazillion photographs, ate dodgy fast food,





almost got mugged, hugged four strangers, squealed at a black cab, bought an 'I love London' t-shirt, passed out on a park bench, was woken up by a policeman who I then insisted take a photograph with me, wore his hat, ran off with his hat, was chased and gave back his hat, got on the wrong bus, ended up in Edgware, cried, had an ice cream, got on the right bus, found luggage and eventually found my way to my hostel and crashed.

Since that day, so much has happened living in London. I have never gotten over that initial excitement and possibility.

Don't get me wrong, South Africa will always be my home - the place that tugs at my heartstrings. There is something about the smell of the earth in Africa that makes itself at home deep under my skin, and this is not a piece encouraging people to leave the most beautiful country in the world.

But I also think London gets a great deal of flak from us South Africans.

Yes, the weather can suck; yes, the people can be a little 'not best pleased'; yes, they sometimes drink warm beer and say things like 'innit' (which is not a word). But in London's defence, it's something to be



experienced - a real edgy and raw adventure.

Literally *anything* is possible in this place if you are willing to suck the marrow from the bone.

I have been so fortunate in my time here to work in several multinationals, worked with the best of the best globally, started up and ran two companies, worked in over 17 different countries across continental Europe and the US, and made tons of money (lost some along the way, too!).

Earning pounds means I have travelled to so many amazing places, learnt to ride a motorcycle across India and around the Himalayas, windsurfed, kite-surfed, sipped cocktails in the Caribbean, participated in strange religious festivals, salsa-danced in Cuba and even drank yak milk.



Whether I get lost in a whiskey haze through the canals of Islington with a gorgeous man or strut up Fleet Street in a suit or sing at the top of my lungs at a concert in Wembley, I can honestly say that in the past six years, I have truly lived.

What makes some people's experience of London Death and other's Opportunity? I believe that the key to living in Noddyland is great attitude and a sense of humour. But perhaps these qualities are also the key to life and the key to living anywhere...

Opportunities are everywhere if you are willing to see them and I believe that opportunities multiply, if I believe they will and can laugh at life whenever the proverbial stuff hits the fan. Whether you choose to live in South Africa or London or Hong Kong, may your experience of life be rich and rewarding. I would hazard a guess that if it is, you have a great attitude and great sense of humour. Carpe Diem!

Adele Theron is an entrepreneur living and working in London. She graduated from UCT in 1999 with BBusSci Honours in information systems and sub-majors in marketing and statistics. ★





PUBLISHED BY
Development and Alumni Department, with the Communication and
Marketing Department