

## **Motivation for nominating Dr. Marion Stevens to the University of Cape Town Convocation Executive Committee**

Dr. Marion Stevens is a leading expert in sexual and reproductive justice with over 30 years of interdisciplinary experience in midwifery, medical anthropology, public development management, and political science. She founded the Sexual and Reproductive Justice Coalition in South Africa and served on WHO's Gender Advisory Panel. Her PhD explored post-apartheid shifts in reproductive health policy, emphasizing the enduring effects of colonialism and apartheid.

She is a trusted advisor to numerous agencies working in the field of sexual and reproductive health rights and justice, further illustrating her influence and leadership in both academic and practical domains.

Dr. Stevens's extensive experience and visionary leadership make her exceptionally well-suited to serve on a university convocation committee. She will bring:

- **Interdisciplinary Perspective:** Drawing on her background across multiple disciplines, Dr. Stevens will foster holistic and inclusive discussions that consider social, cultural, and political dimensions, enriching the committee's deliberations and decisions.
- **Commitment to Equity and Justice:** Her dedication to sexual and reproductive justice ensures that the committee's work is guided by principles of fairness, inclusivity, and respect for human rights, creating a more equitable academic environment.
- **Strategic Vision:** Dr. Stevens's experience in policy development and advocacy equips her to help set bold, forward-thinking goals for the convocation, aligning university activities with global trends and local needs in health and social justice.
- **Consensus Building:** Her proven ability to unite diverse stakeholders around shared goals will help the committee navigate complex issues and achieve constructive, collaborative outcomes.
- **Mentorship and Capacity Building:** Through her leadership, Dr. Stevens will nurture emerging leaders and encourage critical engagement, supporting students and faculty in contributing to the university's mission and broader societal change.
- **Ethical Leadership:** Upholding the highest standards of integrity and accountability, she will promote transparent, responsible governance within the convocation.

Dr. Marion Stevens's distinguished career and unwavering commitment to justice position her as an invaluable leader for a university convocation committee. Her expertise promises to inspire transformative change, foster inclusive participation, and uphold the values of equity and academic excellence at the heart of the university community.

**Nominator:** Dr Karen Daniels, DNLKAR002

**Seconder:** Ms Tanya Layne (registered as Goldman), GLDTAN001

# DR MARION STEVENS

STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL ADVISOR

## CONTENT AREAS

- health systems, public policy and leadership
- sexual and reproductive health, rights and justice
- women's health
- key/marginalized populations

## EXPERTISE

- Project management
- Strategic process development
- Monitoring, Learning and evaluation
- Curriculum development & facilitation
- Supervision and mentoring
- Policy analysis
- Knowledge generation
- Resource mobilization
- Governance & ethics
- Conflict resolution and mediation

## PROFILE

Analytical leader with extensive experience in research, facilitation, policy analysis and strategic project management. Working where I leverage my skills in evidence informed research, technical assistance and policy development to contribute to impactful solutions and questions. Committed to collaborating with stakeholders to address complex societal issues and drive positive change



## KEY CAREER HIGHLIGHTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Gender Advisory Panel, World Health Organisation
- Founding Director of the Sexual and Reproductive Justice Coalition
- Technical advisor and policy analyst. National Department of Health, Department of Basic Education and National Population Unit, Department of Social Development
- Coordination and management of multi donor funded project focusing on the monitoring of the continuum of HIV prevention, treatment and care through a sexual and reproductive rights lens.
- Development of core messaging for the Mobile Alliance for Maternal Action (MAMA – South Africa) on HIV and AIDS and maternal health
- Technical Health Advisor, South African Government delegation to the Prepcom for the Fourth World Conference on Women (United Nations, New York)

## EXPERIENCE

## Technical advisor

November 2020 – current

- Senior Specialist Scientist - Essential Services on Gender Based Violence tool kit – review, South African Medical Research Council
- Project Manager, PEARLS study, Department of Gynaecology, UCT
- Facilitation, strategic and technical assistance– Gender DynamiX and Triangle
- Scientific Committee - Sexual and Reproductive Justice Strategy, Department of Social Development, South Africa
- Regional Literature Review on Essential Services addressing Gender Based Violence – UN Women, UNFPA
- Three country study on SRHR implementation (SA, Ghana and Kenya) – RFSU,

Sexual and Reproductive Justice Coalition  
Founding Director, South Africa, July 2015 – October 2020

- Governance, strategic management and resource mobilization
- Policy engagement, networking and advocacy
- Research and technical engagement
- Media and content development

## SAMPLE OF RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

<https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Marion-Stevens-2> ; ORCID iD 0000-0001-5199-6694

## EDUCATION

Stellenbosch University, South Africa

March 2024  
PhD  
Gender and Policy Studies,  
Department of Political Sciences

Sol Plaatje Cannon Collins  
Scholarship 2023

University of the Witwatersrand,  
Johannesburg, South Africa

June 1997

Master's in Public and  
Development Management

Deans Merit List  
Awarded Class Medal