

Stuur asseblief enige nuuswaardige Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe nuusbrokkies of artikels (met of sonder foto's) aan Lynne Rippenaar (lynnr@sun.ac.za). Ons poog om die nuusbrief aan die einde van elke kwartaal uit te bring. Julle is ook welkom om die nuusbrief aan belangstellendes te stuur.

Please send any newsworthy Arts and Social Sciences news bits or articles (with or without photos) to Lynne Rippenaar (lynnr@sun.ac.za). We aim to send out a newsletter at the end of every term. You are welcome to distribute the newsletter to any interested parties.

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PANGeA partners meet at SU to plan for future initiatives

Representatives from the six African universities that make up the Partnership for Africa's Next Generation of Academics (PANGeA) came together at Devon Valley Hotel in Stellenbosch from 20-22 November to discuss plans for future initiatives between the participating institutions. The representatives were guests of the Graduate School of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

This is the first time that the six institutions have come together again in Stellenbosch following the signing of a multilateral memorandum of agreement (MMoU) which was co-signed by Stellenbosch University (SU), the University of Botswana, Makerere University in Uganda, the University of Malawi, the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and the University of Nairobi in Kenya on African University Day on 12 November 2010.

The aim of the PANGeA agreement is to stem the brain drain from Africa and to reverse the decline of scholarship on the continent by developing the next generation of African academics and professionals. PANGeA will strengthen the development of higher education in Africa by creating opportunities for collaborative research and exchange among peer institutions, methodological development, full-time doctoral study and, in the longer term, the creation of joint doctoral degree programmes.

PANGeA, the African Doctoral Academy and the Graduate School are part of a three-pronged academic initiative in the Faculty and also forms part of SU's HOPE Project. Via the HOPE Project, the institution will use its strengths – research, learning and teaching, and community interaction – to focus on some of South Africa and the rest of Africa's most pressing challenges.

The Graduate School coordinates research themes focused on Africa's development, administers the doctoral programmes and full-time doctoral scholarships, recruits and enrolls doctoral students from the African continent, appoints supervisors and examiners, and monitors and evaluates operations to assure quality. Linked to the Graduate School, the Faculty has also established the ADA as a support structure to promote advanced scholarship and research training.



Photo: Representatives from the PANGeA partner universities and other interested parties came together at Devon Valley in November. In front from the left are: Prof Njeru, Prof Kotzé, Prof Kirumira, Prof Mapunda, and Prof Wasamba. At the back from the left are: Prof Bility, Prof Groenewald, Prof Chirwa, Mr Majelantle, Prof Ofori and Prof Mwikisa. Dr Pauw appears in the inserted photo. (Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

Dr Peter Mwikisa, Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, and Mr Rolang Majelantle, Deputy Dean: Faculty of Humanities at Botswana; Prof Bertram Mapunda, Principal: College of Arts and Social Sciences at Dar es Salaam; Prof Edward Kirumira, Deputy Principal: College of Humanities and Social Sciences at Makerere; Prof Ephraim Chirwa, Professor: Faculty of Social Sciences at Malawi; Prof Enos Njeru, College of Humanities and Social Sciences,

and Prof Peter Wasamba, Associate Dean: Faculty of Arts at Nairobi; Prof Kwadwo Ofori, Dean: Graduate School at the University of Ghana, and Prof Khalipha Bility, Deputy Chief of Party: Liberia Teaching Training Programme (LLTP) from USAID/LLTP, participated in the visit. Prof Johann Groenewald, Coordinator: Flagship Project in the Faculty, as well as the Dean of the Faculty, Prof Hennie Kotzé, and Dr Christoff Pauw, Manager: International Academic Networks in the International Office, represented SU.

“PANGeA meets once per year and together with that we decided to hold a workshop which would focus on stock-taking and forward planning for future endeavours. We wish to strengthen the partnership in order to approach funders not as single entities, but rather as partners, so that where possible, funding can also be strengthened at our partner institutions,” said Groenewald prior to the visit.

The group spent the three-day visit refining their partnership values; reporting back on what was happening at member institutions; setting a programme of action for the next few years; discussing funding opportunities, requests and applications; and focusing on the selection process of PhD candidates for the Graduate School as well as supervision training and capacity building and the possibility of joint projects and degrees.

Following day one of the visit, Mapunda said that there were two things that he hoped would be addressed during their discussions. “Firstly, we need to address the issue of the sustainability of the PhD programme offered by the Graduate School and in particular the generation of more funding for this programme. It is therefore important to think of it more seriously over the next two days and to look at how we are going to find alternative funding for the programme as a team.”

“Secondly, I would in particular like to focus more on the issue of supervision. This is something we need to discuss in order to come to a concrete solution as to how we are going to manage the process of co-supervision between partnering universities,” said Mapunda.

Kirumira said that Makerere’s decision to participate in the PANGeA network and to encourage students from Makerere to apply for PhD scholarships was driven at the outset by a need to “reinvigorate the pace of the development of the humanities and social sciences in Africa, not only in terms of academic development, but in universities’ contribution to the national development” of the continent as well.

“Increasingly universities are being expected to be relevant to the national development needs of countries and I believe that the humanities and social sciences are better placed to operationalise the demands for universities to be responsive to and responsible towards communities and national development goals. So the challenge therefore is to have a critical mass of humanities and social sciences entities that can promote that objective. The second aspect, which sometimes tend to be more emphasised in this network, is the promotion of a new generation of African academics and the realisation that there is an ageing professoriat within our faculties and units and the need to have frameworks within which we can train and nurture young scholars,” he explained.

“My aim, therefore, is to push the envelope beyond training and to look at creating a nurturing framework which will for example provide opportunities for networking and for promotion for young PhD graduates. I think it has been very nice that this time around we are moving beyond PhD training and starting to address issues of collaboration and looking at how we can create opportunities for student and staff mobility within and among the partner institutions,” he added.

Mapunda, along with Kirumira, feel that the PhD programme is making a significant impact on the training and development of doctoral scholars from their universities enrolled at SU.

“I do believe this programme is working,” said Mapunda. “We currently have two students enrolled at SU – one in the English Department and another in Geography – who are continuing with their research in Uganda. They have told me that their stay here have been very fruitful and that they have had the chance to learn some new things regarding research methodology. They are also very confident that they can complete their research in the allocated time, which is good, as we have a general problem [within higher education] with students who overstay their welcome in PhD programmes. Their ability to finish their PhD in time, clearly shows that the programme is working.”

Added Kirumira: “The feedback from students thus far, has reflected that they are grateful for the opportunity to have full-time doctoral training and retooling. Traditionally a lot of the students have come from backgrounds where they work in isolation, so they appreciate the fact that they now have this block of time to focus solely on their research with full-time supervision and access to a range of facilities and resources. In terms of building the capacity of the individual, this programme has been successful and what we need to see now is further exposure aimed at the development of students, whether within the partner institutions or even overseas.”

Kirumira hopes that in the long term, PANGeA’s connection to the Graduate School will go beyond the training and development of PhD scholars to build capacity at African universities, but that these scholars will eventually make an

impact on national debates within African countries centred around “policies for the higher education sector” and have an “impact on financing for the sector” as well national development goals.

Currently 53 doctoral students from 13 African countries are enrolled at SU through the PhD programme. Of these 53 students, 77% are citizens from other African countries. The rest are South African. Seventy-four percent of these students are male.

A further 20 doctoral candidates will join the School next year including for the first time students from Ghana. More emphasis was placed on equitable gender distribution during the selection process for 2012. Next year’s cohort will therefore be 60 % male and 40% female.

The students’ research focus on eight themes: *Democratisation, poverty and conflict in Africa; Land, environment and society in Africa; Transitions and translations: Africa in local and global imaginaries; Arts in developing communities; Science, technology and society; Consolidated geographical information technology; Language, culture and communication; and Public mental health*. Students currently receive academic supervision from experts in 14 of the Faculty’s 18 departments as well as from the Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology (CREST).

Prof Kotzé said that “this meeting was important for the future development of the PANGeA network, and that the members and the PhD students will provide concrete contributions to the economic and social development of Africa via the various initiatives it plans”.

“I’m certain that we will maintain the momentum achieved over the past two to three years. All indications are that our partners are now fully on board and that PANGeA established itself as an important brand on the continent. This recognition obviously is very important in our fundraising for PhD bursaries and research network building,” he said.

Profs Hattingh en Visser groet na ses jaar as visedekane van die Fakulteit

Profs Johan Hattingh en Prof Marianna Visser, onderskeidelik Visedekaan: Sosiale Wetenskappe en Visedekaan: Tale, tree aan die einde van 2011 uit hul posisies na ses jaar aan die stuur. Hattingh, wat verbonde is aan die Departement Filosofie, en Visser van die Departement Afrika Tale, het vir twee termyne gedien.

Volgende jaar sal profs Sulina Green as Visedekaan: Sosiale Wetenskappe, Winfried Lüdemann as Visedekaan: Kunste, en Christine Anthonissen as Visedekaan: Tale, oorneem.

Hattingh en Visser is in 2006 aangestel nadat die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe besluit het om die lettere en sosiale wetenskappe-omgewing in groepe te verdeel in plaas van die voorgestelde verdeling in skole.

“Die Fakulteit se reaksie op die voorstel vir skole was om ‘n alternatiewe voorstel te gee,” verduidelik Visser. “Omdat ons departementele strukture so belangrik is vir ons akademiese en navorsingswerkzaamhede, het die alternatiewe voorstel om die departemente te groepeer in vakgroepe, met ‘n visedekaan aan die stuur, baie beter gewerk.”

Hattingh en Visser sowel as prof Sandra Klopper is aangestel as die eerste visedekane van hierdie Fakulteit na die Dekaan, prof Hennie Kotzé, in oorleg met die res van die Fakulteit, die kandidate aangewys het. Klopper is as die Visedekaan: Kunste aangestel, maar het in 2008 bedank nadat sy die pos as Dekaan van Geesteswetenskappe aan die Universiteit van Pretoria aanvaar het.

Omtrent 20% van ‘n akademikus se werkskapasiteit word aan verantwoordelikhede vir hierdie pos toegestaan. Dit is ook belangrik dat visedekane ‘n vertroudheid met die breë vakgebied het.

In die huidige reglement, is die proses nou taamlik uitgebrei en moet kandidate nou genomineer word en aanstelbaar deur die Fakulteit sowel as die Aanstellingskomitee (Senaat) gevind word. Green, Lüdemann en Anthonissen is volgens so ‘n proses verkies.

Volgens Hattingh het hy ingestem om as visedekaan te dien omdat hy oortuig was daarvan dat hy op die vlak van die Fakulteitsbestuur kon help om ‘n verskil te maak in die lewe en welsyn van departemente in die Sosiale Wetenskappe, en in die Fakulteit in die algemeen.

“Wat vir my op daardie tyd, en nog steeds gepla het van die universiteitswese in die algemeen, was die tendens om van kennis al hoe meer ‘n kommoditeit te maak – iets soos ‘n verbruikersprodukt wat jy van die rak kan afhaal, koop en huis toe neem. Dit is deel van ‘n groter samelewingstendens om alles in instrumentalistiese terme te sien, en die wetenskap volledig in diens van so ‘n verbruikersamelewing te stel,” vertel hy.

“Miskien was ek idealisties toe ek begin het as visedekaan, maar dit is hierdie tendens van die kommodifisering van kennis wat ek gehoop het om te kan help teenstaan en terugrol, en om die Fakulteit in sy onderrig en navorsing en

dienlewering te bevorder as 'n plek van gesamentlike ondersoek om dinge in die samelewing te help verbeter," sê hy.

Maar wat het die visedekane veral geniet en wat was die uitdagings van hierdie veeleisende poste?

"Ek het alles geniet van die rol, ook omdat daar nie 'n rigiede taakbeskrywing was nie en omdat die werksaamhede oop is, in die sin dat jy betrokke kan raak by dinge wat jy interessant vind en waarvan jy hou," sê Visser.

Hattingh sê hy het dit geniet om die "werkwyse en kultuur van ander departemente in die Fakulteit te leer ken".

"Wat vir my veral opwindend was, was om betrokke te raak by die strategiese inisiatiewe van die Fakulteit – die verkennende gesprekke, die maak van planne, die opstel van voorstelle, en dan om te sien hoe dinge in plek begin val.

"Ek dink hier in die besonder aan die Nagraadse Skool en die PANGeA netwerk waarvoor die Dekaan, prof Hennie Kotzé, die krediet moet kry vir sy strategiese visie en deursettingsvermoë om dit alles in plek te kry. Maar in hierdie konteks was dit besonder inspirerend om deel te wees van die onderhandelings en die besoeke oor die hele Afrika, en om dan, soos nou in die laaste twee jaar, te kan sien dat die beurse wat ons kan aanbied vir voltydse doktorsale studie, 'n reuse-verskil aan die maak is in die akademiese ontwikkeling van ons beurshouers, en die tuisdepartemente van die universiteite waarvandaan hulle kom," sê hy.

Vir Hattingh was die grootste uitdaging om die eise, veral wat tydsbesteding betref, van die pos te balanseer met 'n vol lading van onderrig, navorsing en dienslewering. "Party dae en selfs weke was my program so vol dat ek nie geweet het of ek kom en of ek gaan nie, maar op 'n manier het ek darem, met die hulp van my kollegas in die Fakulteit, en in die Departement Filosofie in die besonder, deur hierdie tye gekom."

"Die uitdagings van die pos is sekerlik ook om soort van 'n fasiliteringsrol te speel in die verskeie departemente in die vakgroep, om inligting en moontlike skakelpunte en sinergieë te ontgin tussen die departemente in die vakgroep en dan ook oor die vakgroepe heen," voeg Visser by.



Foto's: Prof Johan Hattingh (links) en prof Marianna Visser (regs) tree uit hul posisies as visedekane aan die einde van 2011. (Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

Beide Hattingh en Visser voel dat hulle baie geleer het uit hierdie ondervinding wat insluit administratiewe en akademiese funksies soos gedelegeer deur die Dekaan.

"Ek het baie geleer uit die proses en is oneindig verryk deur beter vertrouwd te raak met die werk van die departemente in die groep, deur insette te lewer in personele se werksaamhede, en as 'n klankbord te dien vir die voorsitters. In hierdie pos is dit ook baie belangrik om groter skakeling en groter sinergieë in die hand te werk. Die geheel is dus groter as net die dele," verduidelik Visser.

Om daardie rede, sê sy, is dit ook partykeer nodig om 'n indiepte vertrouwdheid te kry van die werksaamhede en navorsing van personele oor groeperings heen en sodoende 'n beeld te vorm van die Fakulteit se aanbod in terme van sy akademiese aanbieding.

“Dit is veral belangrik vir die bemerking van die Fakulteit en al sy 18 departemente en vir die strategiese doelwitte van hierdie omgewing.”

Hattingh sê hy het weer geleer “om te luister en goed te luister na die planne en behoeftes van kollegas en departemente, om die energie en kreatiwiteit wat hulle uitstraal op te vang, en dit dan te artikuleer in die standpunte wat ons in ons vele bestuurs- of komiteevergaderings moes formuleer”.

“Dan moet ek byvoeg dat ek hopelik ook geleer het hoe om na studente te luister.”

Dit is ook belangrik om geduld te hê, sê hy, want nie alles wat jy aanpak werk altyd uit nie en party goed kan lank neem om te implementeer. “Dit het ook vir my baie duidelik geword dat ‘n akademiese departement nie net die saamgooi van ‘n klompie individue is met hulle spesialis-kennisgebiede nie. ‘n Departement is iets soos ‘n samelewingsinstelling wat oor ‘n baie lang tyd tot stand kom, wat ‘n eie kultuur en ‘n werkswyse opbou, en as dit goed werk, dra dit soveel by tot die kennisveld en die samelewing, dat ‘n mens nie goedsmoeds moet gaan staan en torring daaraan nie.”

Volgens Kotzé het die twee visedekane ‘n ongelooflike bydrae tot die ontwikkeling en uitbou van die Fakulteit oor die laaste ses jaar gemaak. “Profs Hattingh en Visser is kenners in hul vakgebied en het nie net ‘n beduidende bydrae gelewer deur middel van die insigte wat hulle gedeel het omtrent hul vakgebiede in hul kapasiteit as visedekane van die verskillende vakgroepe nie, maar ook gehelp om die Fakulteit oor die algemeen te verbeter,” sê Kotzé. “Dit het hulle gedoen deur nie net hul vakkennis aan te wend nie, maar ook emosionele intelligensie in hul werk in te bring.”

Hoe wel is dit met welwees?

Baie van ons het teen dié tyd seker darem al van welwees op kampus gehoor, maar baie kollegas weet nog nie lekker hoe om die kloutjie by die oor te bring nie. Juis om hierdie rede het me Maureen Kennedy, Hoof: Personeel Welwees, van die Afdeling Menslike Hulpbronne op 24 Oktober ‘n aanbieding aan nie-akademiese personeel in die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe gedoen. Die opkoms was teleurstellend, maar die groepie kollegas wat dit bygewoon het het beslis gebaat daarby. Kennedy het met die hulp van ‘n Powerpoint-aanbieding ‘n oorsig gegee van faktore wat personeel se welwees beïnvloed en ook die Welweeskantoor se aktiwiteite toegelig. Een geleentheid wat uitstaan is vanjaar se kampuswye pretstap wat goeie deelname gelok het. Die aanbieding is afgesluit met ‘n geleentheid vir vrae en ‘n ope uitnodiging om van Kennedy en die Welweeskantoor se dienste gebruik te maak. Op die foto wys mnr Basil van Wyk, Administratiewe Beampte, en Kennedy die Welweesbrojoure ten tye van ‘n aanbieding by die Lettere-gebou.



Drama- en musiekdepartemente neem deel aan Gemeenskapsinteraksie Simposium se gala geleentheid

Personelede van die Drama- en Musiekdepartemente het op 31 Augustus aan 'n gala geleentheid van die Afdeling Gemeenskapinteraksie deelgeneem en op so 'n manier 'n bydrae gelewer tot die afdeling se Gemeenskapsinteraksie Simposium wat op 1 September plaasgevind het.

Die tema van die simposium was *KnowledgeInteractionHOPE: Critical reflections on the impact of community-university partnerships on lives and livelihoods*. Die doel van die simposium was, onder andere, om te reflekteer op die verhoudings en prosesse binne die gemeenskapsinteraksie vlagskipprojekte van die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US), om te reflekteer op die impak van hierdie projekte op die lewens en lewenskwaliteit van mense wat deur die projekte geraak word en om 'n bydrae te lewer tot die Gemeenskapsinteraksiekenniseveld.

Tydens die gala geleentheid is gemeenskapsinteraksie kunsprogramme wat deur die Drama- en Musiekdepartemente sowel as die Afrika Sentrum vir MIV/Vigs Bestuur aan die US aangebied word, ten toon gestel. Die departemente het elkeen 'n dramaproduksie of twee en 'n paar musiekstukke opgevoer.

Mnr Johan Esterhuizen en Abduraghman Adams by Drama is onderskeidelik betrokke by die Buya Teaterfees en die Kairos-toneelgroep wat in Heidelberg baseer is. Deur middel van Buya word meer as 25 hoër- en laerskole sowel as jeugdramagroepes opgelei om dramaproduksies op die been te bring. Die produksies word na die opleidingstydperk op die planke gebring by die HB Thomteater op die US-kampus.



Foto's: Die Drama- en Musiekdepartemente het 'n paar musiekstukke en toneeluitreksels tydens die simposium opgevoer.

Esterhuizen en Adams het twee dramagroepes uit hul geledere by die program vir die gala geleentheid betrek.

Die jeugdramagroep, Kuyasa, wat ook vroeër vanjaar aan die Buya Teaterfees deelgeneem het, het 'n uittreksel uit een van hulle drama aanbiedinge uitgevoer. Kuyasa was die wengroep by vanjaar se fees en is in Kayamandi in Stellenbosch geleë.

"Abduraghman is baie betrokke by die Kairos-toneelgroep in Heidelberg en drie van hulle lede het 'n spesiale opdragstuk geskryf vir die aand. Hulle het 'n paar dae voor die tyd gearriveer en onder Abduraghman se vlink regie die stuk op die planke gebring," vertel Esterhuizen.

"Albei drama aanbiedings is goed deur die uitgelese gehoor ontvang en daar was veral vir die Kairos-spelers, wat van so ver en met so baie moeite te werk gegaan het, groot waardering," sê hy.

By Musiek het me Felicia Lesch, Koördineerder van die Sertifikaatprogram in Musiek, en me Pamela Kierman, wat die praktiese sy van die program aanbied, 'n bydrae gelewer met die hulp van 'n gemeenskapsvennoot, jazz klavierspeler en musiekvervaardiger Ramon Alexander. Vertonings is ook deur ingeskrewe Sertifikaatprogramstudente sowel as 'n jazz groep aangebied.

Mnr Jerome Slammat, die Senior Direkteur van die Afdeling, het sy dank in 'n brief aan die twee departemente sowel as die gemeenskapsvennote uitgespreek. Hy het die personeel by die departement veral bedank vir die manier waarop hulle hul taak uitgevoer het en die rol wat hulle gespeel het om die simposium 'n sukses te maak.

"Hulle het hul plig met energie en styl aangepak," skryf Slammat.

"Ek het veral positiewe terugvoering ontvang oor die optrede van die Kairos-dramagroep van Heidelberg," voeg hy by.

African Doctoral Academy receives \$1 million from Carnegie Corporation

The African Doctoral Academy (ADA) recently received a generous grant of \$1 million from the Carnegie Corporation which will enable the Academy to offer support tuition and reduced fees to doctoral students wishing to attend their courses.

A portion of the \$1 million grant has also been set aside for 15 bursaries for PhD candidates from the universities of Makerere and Ghana enrolling in the Graduate School in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. Thus far, eight full-time bursaries over a period of three years have been allocated to PhD candidates from Makerere University in Uganda and the University of Ghana, Legon in Accra for 2012.

The ADA trains approximately 200 doctoral students in research methods annually through its Winter and Summer Schools, and between 100 and 120 doctoral supervisors benefit from structured workshops in doctoral supervision.

One of the major challenges in Africa today, says the Director of the ADA, Prof Johann Mouton, is the lack of a vibrant doctoral training and research capacity and culture.

“The devastating impact of international policies on higher education in Africa and the continuing consequences of high-level academic and scientific brain drain have led to the growing de-institutionalisation of research at many African universities. One of the specific results of these trends has been the erosion of the capacity of many universities to offer doctoral programmes and hence doctoral graduates,” explains Prof Mouton.

“Even in South Africa it is now generally recognised that too few doctoral graduates are produced annually to serve the demands of government, industry and the broader society. In addition, anecdotal evidence suggests that the quality of doctoral graduates and studies in many countries are not high and that more investment is required in research methodology and theory courses to improve this. All of these factors mitigate against regenerating the academic and scientific workforce in these countries.”

For this reason, one of the ADA’s strategic objectives is to support the development of the African scholar through its course offerings and thereby strengthen the flow of quality students into research programmes.

The ADA has therefore set itself six strategic objectives:

- to provide current and prospective doctoral students in all fields of science with high quality research training and support,
- to assist prospective doctoral students with the necessary intellectual and academic tools to become successful scholars in their respective fields,
- to optimise information and communications technology (ICT) and electronic information resources in scholarship and research,
- to strengthen the pool of doctoral students with selected African university partners,
- to better equip academics for managing and supervising postgraduate students, and
- to house a comprehensive research programme on “the African doctorate”.

“The PANGeA (Partnership for Africa’s Next Generation of Academics) network, which include Stellenbosch University, the University of Botswana, Makerere University in Uganda, the University of Malawi, the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and the University of Nairobi in Kenya, in particular will help with the ADA’s objectives to better equip academics to manage and supervise postgraduate students, develop research capacity and offer joint degrees,” says Mouton.

The ADA, PANGeA and the Graduate School are part of a three-pronged academic initiative in the Faculty and also form part of SU’s HOPE Project. Via the HOPE Project, the institution will use its strengths – research, learning and teaching, and community interaction – to focus on some of South Africa and Africa’s most pressing challenges.

In order to reach its objectives, the ADA has provided annual Winter and Summer Schools in research methods over the last two years and has put the basic structures in place for the future provision of supervision workshops. Other long-term objectives include providing a wide range of workshops and courses on specific research methods; hosting annual seminars on doctoral scholarship including topics such as research integrity and scientific publishing; providing a certified and accredited course on doctoral supervision; starting a new publication series on the African Doctorate; printing course materials in relevant subject areas such as research methodology; producing video recordings and CD-ROMS of seminars, Winter and Summer Schools for dissemination and distribution amongst African networks; establishing an ADA Virtual Knowledge portal and website; and setting up a directory of doctoral programmes and scholarship in Africa.

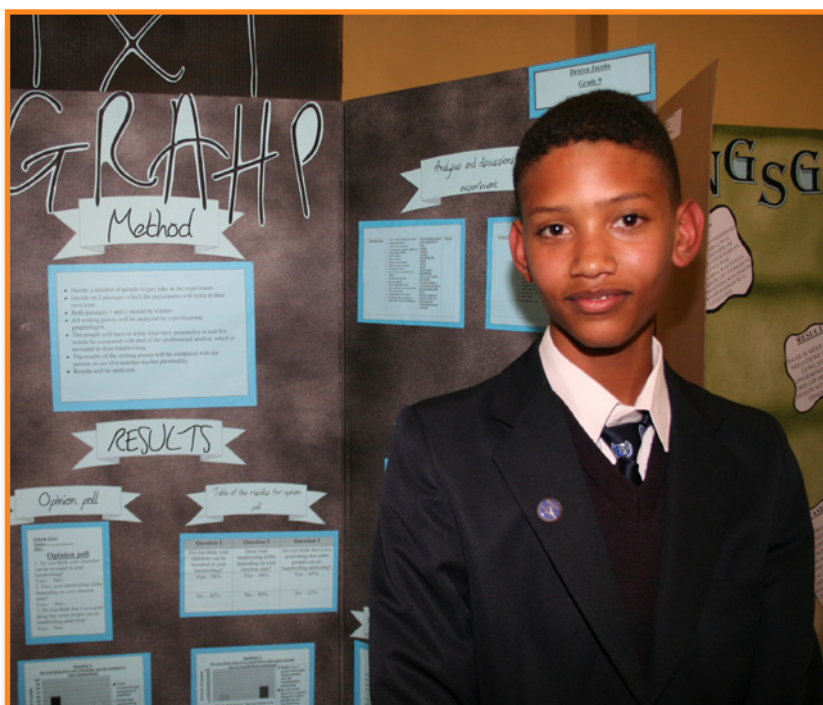
All these ADA interventions, says Mouton, support the goals of the Carnegie Corporation which focuses on broadening the base of expertise of doctoral scholars, creating a place for the African scholar and supporting the investments Carnegie has made in Africa to strengthen higher education on the continent.

“The long-term implications of strengthening doctoral studies and scholarship in Africa include the reversal of the scientific brain drain by providing well-structured and well-resourced doctoral and postdoctoral research opportunities in Africa,” says Mouton.

“Talented researchers will now be provided with the requisite infrastructure needed to excel in the academic discipline of their choice and will no longer have to leave African shores to pursue individual excellence. By expanding Africa’s cohort of leading, well-trained and qualified academics and professors, this project can help higher education contribute to gains in GDP, governance, poverty alleviation and national health indices.”

The ADA also received a grant from the Ford Foundation in 2010 to the value of \$510 000 and one from the Volkswagen Foundation for €60 000 which are being used to support the various projects and activities of the ADA.

Fakulteit borg twee pryse vir leerders tydens die Eskom Expo vir Jong Wetenskaplikes



Die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe het twee pryse geborg vir die beste senior en junior inskrywings in die afdeling vir sosiale wetenskappe en geestesgesondheid by die afgelope Stellenbosch-streeksbyeenkoms van die Eskom Expo vir Jong Wetenskaplikes op 25 en 26 Augustus. In die junior afdeling het Desren Jacobs (foto) van Atlantis Senior Sekondêr die prysgeld ontvang, met Hoërskool Bellville se André Rich en Marcel Neethling wat in die senior afdeling geseëvier het. Die Expo is gereël deur die US se Instituut vir Wiskunde en Wetenskap Onderwys (IWWOUS) in die Fakulteit Opvoedkunde, in samewerking met die Fakulteit Natuurwetenskappe, en het ten doel om wetenskaplike navorsingsbeginsels in skole te bevorder. Bykans 350 leerders van 35 skole in die Boland, Overberg, Noordelike Voorstede, Weskus en Suid-Kaap het deelgeneem.

(Storie en foto: Engela Duvenage)

Arts Faculty’s Student Arts Festival is a big success!

“The Student Arts Festival was a great success and attendance was quite good. The productions we put on show were also of the highest quality and the decision to include popular and well-known performers like South African poet, singer and writer, Koos Kombuis, as well as the local Afrikaans band *Foto na Dans*, meant that we attracted huge crowds. Koos’ show in particular was absolutely amazing and a perfect way to end off the festival.”

These are the words of Roxanne Eastes, the Chairperson 2011/2012 of the BA Student Committee (BASC) in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. BASC is responsible for organising the festival each year. This year was only the second time the festival was held.

The festival was also filmed and aired by *MK Kampus*, a programme on the DStv channel MK. “The filming of the shows, the band performances and other aspects of the festival gave the students tremendous exposure. I am therefore really proud and grateful to the committee for all the hard work they put into the planning of the festival,” says Eastes.



The student band, *The Jury*, performs during the Student Arts Festival.



Students from the Drama Department in the production *Memre*
(Photos: Dylan Louw)

The festival ran from 26 September to 1 October and also included performances by up-and-coming student bands like *Dogtown*, *Like Knives* and *The Jury*, and some of the best sêr performances Stellenbosch University (SU) has to offer. Performances were held every evening in the Klein Libertas and Aan-de-Braak theatres.

The Students Arts Festival, which is the brainchild of the previous BASC Chairperson Abdul Kader-Hendricks, was established in 2010 and gives fellow students at SU as well as the public an opportunity to experience the range of creative works and art pieces produced by students from the Music, Visual Arts and Drama departments. It also provides up-and-coming artists with a platform on which to showcase their talents.

This year, the student participants were also able to meet well-known artists like Kombuis and *Foto na Dans* in order to learn from and interact with established South African artists.

The festival was organised by an organising sub-committee of BASC which this year was headed by Eastes and consisted of Kader-Hendricks, Roshan Chakane, Marin Cundall, Chante Espach, Sonja Swanepoel, Thuthuka Sibisi and Clive Fihla.

“Whether it is classwork, a student production, a music concert, or just friends experimenting on some sort of project, the audience got an opportunity to see some of the amazing skills students in the Arts Faculty have obtained and the work they have produced during their studies. The festival as a whole was jam-packed and completely blew the audience away,” says Kader-Hendricks, who was the chairperson of BASC 2010/2011.

Lecture series focused on Africa in the arts, humanities and social sciences gets off to a good start

The final public lecture for 2011 of the Graduate School’s inaugural *Locations and Locutions (L&L) Lecture Series* was held on 13 September, marking the end to a three-part public lecture series, aimed at facilitating critical engagement and debate on Africa in the arts, humanities and social sciences.

The overarching theme for this year’s series was *Which Africa? Whose Africa?* and the public lectures presented in June, July and September this year focused on discussions around *Thinking Africa from the Cape*, *Atlantic Locations* and *Indian Ocean Africa*.

The lecture series was a huge success with more than 620 scholars, postgraduate students, alumni and members of the public in total attending the events.

Panellists who participated in the lectures included South African-based experts such as Prof Achille Mbembe, originally from Cameroon and a former lecturer in the Sociology and Social Anthropology Department at Stellenbosch University (SU); Prof Harry Garuba, originally from Nigeria and currently working at the Centre for African Studies at the University of Cape Town; Prof Ato Quayson, originally from Ghana and currently the Director of the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies at the University of Toronto in Canada; and South African academics, Dr Suren Pillay from the Centre for Humanities Research at the University of the Western Cape (UWC), Dr Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie, Professor in History at UWC, and Prof Isabel Hofmeyr, Professor of African Literature and Acting Director of the Centre for Indian Studies in Africa at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Internationally-based experts included scholars like Prof Ian Baucom, Professor in English and the Director of the John Hope Franklin Humanities Institute at Duke University in the USA, and South African-born poet and novelist Dr Yvette Christiansë, an Associate Professor of English and Africana Studies at Barnard College, New York.

This year the organising committee for the lecture series consisted of the founding convenors, Prof Meg Samuelson and Dr Grace Musila, both from the English Department, and Prof Sarah Nuttall, a professor in the English Department, and Prof Mbembe.



Photo: Prof Achille Mbembe, formerly from SU, and Prof Harry Garuba from UCT in discussion at the inaugural lecture, *Thinking Africa from the Cape*.



Photo: Audience members listening to the discussion by Profs Mbembe and Garuba and Dr Suren Pillay from UWC.

Ms Cindy Steenekamp, the manager of the Graduate School, and Ms Lynne Rippenaar, the marketing officer of the Faculty, was responsible for the planning and marketing of each public lecture while Ogilvy Cape Town, through an agreement with the Communication and Liaison division at SU, assisted with media exposure.

The Faculty also partnered with *Mail & Guardian* through their *Critical Thinking Forum* in order to generate a debate around this year's theme within the public sphere.

Funding for the series was made possible thanks to a generous contribution by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Prof Hennie Kotzé, and additional funds from the English Department, the Transitions & Translations research theme and Samuelson's research fund.

“Through this lecture series we aimed to facilitate critical engagement and debate on Africa in the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. By launching such a series, the Faculty and its Graduate School were able to showcase cutting edge research that presents Africa ‘theorising itself’ and stimulate intellectual conversations and exchanges that are at the heart of our doctoral programme,” says Kotzé.

The public lectures for 2012 will, as was the case this year, be preceded and followed by seminars offered by the series convenors and visiting speakers for students enrolled in the PhD programme of the Graduate School.

“The three lectures this year succeeded particularly in opening up debates on the continent, and particularly about what we mean and who we refer to when we engage “Africa”. Laying the intellectual platform for this lecture series, they honed in particularly on the question of “how our locations shape and inform our locutions”, explains Samuelson.

“The first panel – *Thinking Africa from the Cape* – was formative in this regard and determined much of the scope and angle of the subsequent panels. One of the particular intellectual angles taken and honed in the series was the conceptualisation of the Cape as a fulcrum between Atlantic and Indian Ocean worlds. This conceptualisation was then extended to thinking about the continent as a whole, and considering the implication of location between these two flanking oceans. At the same time, much attention was paid to thinking about how the Cape engages the continent and how as an intellectual location it shapes and informs the ways in which we theorise, imagine and inhabit Africa.”



Photo left: Prof Ian Baucom (middle) from the Franklin Humanities Institute at Duke University in the USA and Prof Ato Quayson (right) of the Centre for Diaspora and Transnational Studies from the University of Toronto in Canada engaged in a discussion on *Atlantic Locations* chaired by Prof Sarah Nuttall (left) from the English Department at SU at the second public lecture on 19 July.

Photo right: Dr Yvette Christiansë, Dr Uma Dhupelia-Mesthrie and Prof Isabel Hofmeyr participated in the final lecture of the *L&L Lecture Series* on 13 September. With them is Prof Meg Samuelson (second from the left), the panel chair. (Photos: Anton Jordaan, SSFD, and David Harrison)

In addition, says Musila, the series managed to convene an important platform for critical intellectual engagement with Africa by African scholars, academics, and students.

“In a way, it is an important arm of the Graduate School’s initiative in so far as it encouraged engagement with Africa as a site of knowledge production; with interesting insights into various questions relating to the continent’s sense of itself and its complexity. Another angle to the series came from the pre- and post-event seminars which provided an important opportunity for doctoral students to participate in conversations with the visiting scholars and widen their knowledge base beyond the immediate confines of their research projects,” says Musila.

The organising committee for 2012 will consist of Prof Sandra Swart from the History Department and Nuttall, along with staff members from the other departments in the Faculty.

The overarching theme for next year will be centred around land, environment, and material and social resources. However, an announcement regarding the final theme will be made early in 2012.

The first public lecture in next year will kick off with a discussion of the representation of Africa in film, in the context of the historical release of *Viva Riva!*, the first film produced in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 25 years.

According to Prof Johann Groenewald, Coordinator: Flagship Project in the Faculty, the lecture series provides an avenue to analyse and interrogate concepts that help us to understand the continent and its role in the rest of the world.

“As one of the cross-cutting initiatives in Stellenbosch University’s HOPE Project, the Graduate School and African

Doctoral Academy was launched in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences to reinvigorate African scholarship in aid of human development. Its aim is to grow and sustain world-class doctoral study programmes and to coordinate relevant research in the humanities and social sciences in Africa. The lecture series is one of the ways to examine critically the concepts involved in understanding Africa and its role in the world," says Groenewald.

"From a regional perspective, the organising committee feels that the series was successful in bringing together the core Western Cape institutions – the University of Cape Town, the University of the Western Cape and SU – in intellectual conversations. An important lesson to carry on from here is the possibility of exciting regional partnerships that could open up spaces for vibrant intellectual engagement in the Western Cape region," says Musila.

Details regarding next year's lecture series will be posted on the L&L website at www.sun.ac.za/lectureseries.

* The Graduate School, the African Doctoral Academy (ADA) and the Partnership for Africa's Next Generation of Academics (PANGeA) are part of a three-pronged academic initiative in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences called the Graduate School and African Doctoral Academy initiative. It forms part of Stellenbosch University's (SU) HOPE Project. For more details visit www.sun.ac.za/graduateschool.co.za; www.sun.ac.za/ada, www.pangeaonline.org; or www.thehopeproject.co.za.

DEPARTEMENT AFRIKAANS EN NEDERLANDS

Anker se *Skrapnel* verskyn by Protea Boekhuis



Dr Willem Anker (foto), lektor in skryfkunde en letterkunde in die Departement Afrikaans en Nederlands, se bekroonde drama, *Skrapnel*, het einde September by Protea Boekhuis verskyn.

Skrapnel word beskryf as "'n boeiende drama oor twee jong Suid-Afrikaners in Londen: 'n meisie wat bejaardes oppas en 'n man wat as sekuriteitswag by 'n winkelsentrum werk". Die twee ontmoet mekaar in 'n jeugherberg en knoop kort daarna 'n verhouding aan, maar dan sterf die man in 'n selfmoordbomaanval in die Londse metro op 7 Julie 2005.

"Die stuk open oomblikke ná die ontploffing en die verhaal word as flitsende tonele in die jong man se sterwensomblikke vertel. Dwarsdeur die stuk word 'n jong Moslem-selfmoordbomdraer se fundamentele geloofsoortuiging weergegee. Dit kontrasteer skerp met die twee Suid-Afrikaners se losgeslaanheid en hulle onsekerheid omtrent identiteit, geloof en kultuur," vertel Anker.

Skrapnel was die ontvanger van die 2009 Anglo Gold Ashanti / Aardklop Smeltkroesprys (teks), die 2009 Beeld Plus Aartvarkprys (regie en ontwerp) en die 2010 ATKV Woordveertjie-toekenning vir dramatekste.

Van Niekerk se *Die Sneuslaper* wen UJ-prys

Prof Marlene van Niekerk (foto) se *Die Sneuslaper* het op 13 Oktober die Universiteit van Johannesburg (UJ)-prys vir skeppende skryfwerk in Afrikaans ontvang. Van Niekerk het met hierdie prys ook R60 000 prysgeld ingepalm vir die boek.

Volgens die keurpaneel is *Die Sneuslaper* "'n aangrypende verhaalbundel wat op eerlike, kritiese wyse rekenskap probeer gee van wat dit verg om in die 21ste eeu 'n stukkie outentisiteit as mens en as kunstenaar te win".

"Wat veral uitstaan in die verweefde tekste wat dié bundel opmaak, is die toegespitsheid op en integriteit van die besinning oor skrywer- en kunstenaarskap, nie net in die spesifieke sosiaal-politieke leefwêreld van Suid-Afrika en Nederland nie, maar ook in 'n radikaal onseker geworde Westerse konteks; 'n oorweldigend komplekse wêreld waarin die medium en die konvensies van besinning daaroor – taal, betekening en representasie – self onder verdenking is. En dit alles geskied met 'n bewonderenswaardige inspanning van presies daardie onseker, onbetroubare, gekontamineerde instrumentarium," skryf die paneel.



Klassikus neem deel aan 'n konferensie oor Pitagorisme

Prof Johan Thom van die Departement Antieke Studie het onlangs deelgeneem aan die *VIIIth International Archai Seminar On Pythagoreanism* wat vanaf 22 tot 26 Augustus in Brasilia, die hoofstad van Brasilië, gehou is.

Die konferensie is georganiseer deur prof Gabriele Cornelli, UNESCO hoogleraar in Antieke Filosofie aan die Universiteit van Brasilia. Deelname was beperk tot uitgenooide sprekers en het slegs geleerdes ingesluit wat oor die afgelope paar dekades 'n fundamentele bydrae gemaak het tot die bestudering van die antieke Pitagorisme.

Altesaam 22 geleerdes uit Spanje, Frankryk, Switserland, Italië, Griekeland, Rusland, die VSA, Kanada, Mexiko, Brasilië en Suid-Afrika het aan die konferensie deelgeneem. Die doyen van Pitagorisme-navorsing, prof Walter Burkert, het per videokonferensie uit Switserland deelgeneem.

"Referate moes 'n aantal maande vóór die konferensie reeds ingestuur word en is vooraf aan alle deelnemers gestuur ter voorbereiding. Gedurende die konferensie het sprekers dus slegs 'n kort inleiding oor hulle onderwerp gegee, wat genoeg tyd gelaat het vir 'n uitvoerige en indringende bespreking van elke referaat. Hierdie referate sal in die loop van volgende jaar as 'n bundel gepubliseer word wat belooft om vir geruime tyd 'n standaardverwysingwerk oor die Pitagorisme te wees," sê prof Thom.

Prof Thom het in sy referaat *The akousmata and early Pythagoreanism* aangedui wat ons uit die Pitagorese spreukeversameling, bekend as die akoesmata, kan aflei oor die wese van die vroeë Pitagorisme en watter implikasies dit het vir die wetenskaplikheid al dan nie van die vroeë volgelingen van Pitagoras.



Foto: Prof Thom (neënde van regs in die swart hemp) het onlangs aan 'n konferensie in Brasilië oor Pitagorisme deelgeneem.

Harris becomes the first recipient of the best paper prize at SASNES conference

Mr Brian Harris (photo) from the Ancient Studies Department became the first recipient of the prize for the best paper delivered by a young researcher at a South African Society for Near Eastern Studies (SASNES) congress recently.

The paper entitled *Mul.Apin and Early Babylonian Astronomy* was presented at the conference that recently took place at the University of the Western Cape.

The paper is based on an MA thesis that was completed under the guidance of Prof Sakkie Cornelius from the Department.



Antiekies vier Loslitdag met prettige kostuums

Personeelede in die Departement Antieke Studie het hul steun vir die Stellenbosch Werksentrum vir Volwasse Persone met Gestremdhede getoon deur Loslitdag op 2 September te vier en volgens vanjaar se tema aan te trek. Die tema vir 2011 was *Ruk en Rol* en die slagspreuk vir vanjaar was *Kan jy ruk-en-rol vir persone met gestremdhede?* Klaarblyklik kan die Antiekies wel ruk en rol soos (van links) mnr Donovan Jordaan, me Brigitte Cyster, prof Sakkie Cornelius, dr Annemaré Kotzé en me Nadine Brand hier vir ons wys!



Jaarlikse Charles Fensham-gedenklesing by Antieke Studie gehou



Die jaarlikse Charles Fensham-gedenklesing van die Departement Antieke Studie het op 30 Augustus in die Jannaschsaal in die Konservatorium plaasgevind. Hierdie jaar was die 21ste bestaansjaar van die geleentheid en die lesing is deur 'n buitengewone professor in die Departement Antieke Studie, prof Angelika Berlejung van Leipzig, gehou. Die titel van haar voordrag was *Assyria and/in the Old Testament*. Die geleentheid is deur talle kollegas, belangstellendes en 'n aantal buitelandse besoekers bygewoon.

Op die foto (van links) verskyn profs Johann Cook, Sakkie Cornelius, Angelika Berlejung, en Paul Kruger, en me Yvonne Fensham.

Prof Johann Cook organises conference on the Septuagint

The annual conference of the Association for the Study of the Septuagint in South Africa (LXXSA) took place recently at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS).

The conference was organised by Prof Johann Cook of the Ancient Studies Department, who is also the President of the Association.

"The Septuagint is the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible and includes some *de novo* compositions in Greek. Septuagint research is a specialised international research area that focuses on the understanding of this version. Two issues are important: Firstly, the text of each individual translation/composition needs to be determined (text-criticism) and, secondly, these texts must be interpreted (hermeneutics)," says Cook.

The theme of the conference was *Text-critical and Hermeneutical Studies in the Septuagint*.



Photo: Here are all the delegates who participated in the annual conference of the Association for the Study of the Septuagint in South Africa. Cook is fourth from the right. (Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

About 16 contributors from overseas, namely from Germany, the Netherlands, Ireland, Canada and the USA participated in the event with various South African colleagues also attending. Each contributor addressed a specific field of research.

The National Research Foundation provided the funding for the event, which was opened by Prof Arnold van Zyl, the Vice-Rector: Research at Stellenbosch University.

Some of the papers presented during the three-day conference included *The value of the Septuagint for textual criticism of the Hebrew Bible as illustrated by the Oxford Hebrew Bible edition of 1 Kings*; *Is Judith a suitable model for feminist-minded women? An analysis of Judith according to Jungian categories of the male and female individuation cycles*; and Cook's own paper on *The Relationship between the Septuagint Versions of Proverbs and Job*.

The proceedings of the event will be published next year.

DEPARTEMENT ENGELS

De Kock's *Bad Sex* tells the ignored, raw story of men

"I didn't choose this topic, it chose me." This is how Prof Leon de Kock, writer, translator, scholar and professor in the English Department describes his newly-released novel, *Bad Sex*.

The novel tells the story of Sammy Baptista, who, growing up in the 60's and 70's in the tough streets of Mayfair, Johannesburg, has no choice but to use his fists to get him through childhood. But he soon learns, as the cover-blurb states, that fists cannot defend you against everything. When, as the adult subject of the novel, Sammy scores a plum job and catches the fancy of his sexy boss, he thinks he's landed with his backside in the butter. A steamy love affair ensues, but Sabina, like others before her, has Sammy by the short hairs. In vigorous conversations with his shrink, Sammy cuts away layers of 'bad sex': between fathers and mothers; men and women; and men and men.

Over the last 14 years, since the dawn of democracy in South Africa, many local writers have focused on stories about our apartheid past, the trials of that transition to democracy and the realities of living in a post-apartheid society. De Kock's novel, however, takes a different angle on South African life, as it presents what University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) scholar Michael Titlestad describes as the "first unapologetic account of South African masculinity".

"I just found myself possessed of this male voice one day early in 2008, as I commenced my new job as Head of the School of Literature and Language Studies at Wits University," says De Kock.

"It was a male voice which belonged, partly, to one of my rough Portuguese Jo'burg cousins, mixed with a strong dose of Wits education and a personal 'self-improvement' ethic – but still essentially a rough diamond – further mixed with some of my own life experiences (mostly childhood) and then also juiced up with fictional depictions of certain extreme situations adult people get themselves into when they endure what we call 'sudden romances' or 'sexual affairs'," he says as he talks about his inspiration for the novel.

"It struck me that very few people write in a sustained and concentrated way about sex in SA literature, and yet almost everyone, in one form or another, is involved in some form of sexual politics, whether it's in their marriages, their relationships or their sexual orientation vis-à-vis the various social ideologies in whose treacherous waters they must perform swim in their daily lives. So, if *Bad Sex* is forging a path, then that path is one upon which various masculinities, in their distinct and diverse shapes, can walk unapologetically, even strut, to some extent, although of course these masculinities – as depicted in the novel – are in crisis," he adds.

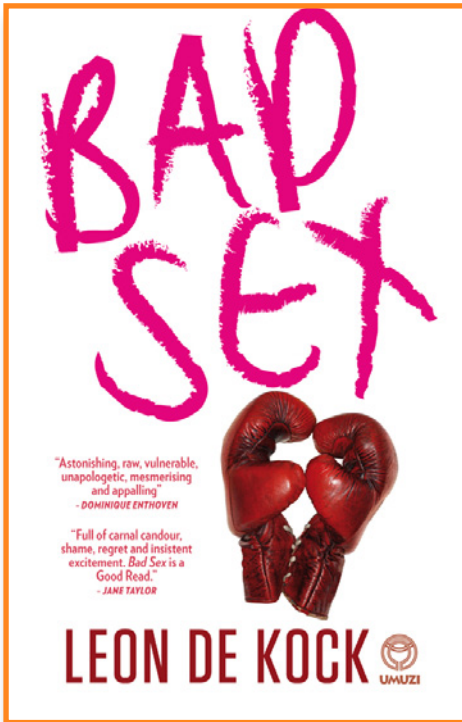


Photo left: The cover of De Kock's new book, *Bad Sex*.

Photo right: Prof Leon de Kock was recently honoured by the English Academy of Southern Africa with the 2010 Thomas Pringle award for the best literary article published in a South African journal. Here he is with the President of the English Academy of Southern Africa, Prof Stanley Ridge, after receiving his award.

It took De Kock about three years to complete the novel. He describes the writing process as "an incredibly hard thing to do, harder than any writing project I've ever done before".

"It's not the work itself or hard work that's the problem – I like hard work, and I like working hard – the problem is facing the nausea of rewriting again and again and again, and then revising again and again and again, and then editing, again and again and again, and then proofreading, again and again and again...At a certain point you just want to throw up and let the whole thing disappear."

"But that's exactly when you must not give up. This is what distinguishes writers from almost-writers, it's this *aanhou* and *vashou* and clinging on for dear life to your morale... Because if it's good it's good. And you have to keep your nerve. It's very, very hard. The risks are unspeakably high."

De Kock is not new to writing. He is the author of three volumes of poetry – *Bloodsong* (1997), *gone to the edges* (2006) and *Bodyhood* (2010) – and several works of literary translation, including *Triomf* (1999), *Intimately Absent* (2010) and *In Stede van die Liefde / In Love's Place* (forthcoming). For his translation of *Triomf*, he won the SA Translators' Institute Award for Outstanding Translation in 2000. For *Intimately Absent* (an English rendition of Cas Vos's volume of poems, *Intieme Afwesige*), he won the 2011 South African Literary Award for Literary Translation.

In 2010, De Kock received the Thomas Pringle award for the Best Literary Article published in a South African journal. The article was entitled *Cracking the Code: Translation as Transgression in Triomf* and was published in the *Journal of Literary Studies* (25:3, 2009). This was the second time he had been awarded this prestigious prize – in 1995 he won the Thomas Pringle award for poems which appeared in his debut volume, *Bloodsong*.

In 1996 De Kock published a monograph, *Civilising Barbarians*. He is the compiler and editor of several collections of South African writing and criticism, including *South Africa in the Global Imaginary* (2004). His scholarly articles cover areas as diverse as literary translation, postcoloniality, literary historiography, South African literature, mind-body ecology, and whiteness studies, among others.

David Kramer enchants audience during his visit to talk about biography penned by English scholars

Popular South African artist, David Kramer, well-known throughout the country for his signature red “vellies” (leather shoes) and his central role in the Volkswagen ads of the 1980s and 1990s, visited the English Department on 3 November. Kramer was here to join his biographers in a discussion of key aspects of his creative development over the last 40 years.

The singer, songwriter and playwright talked about the “first book on [his] life”, which was penned by Dr Dawid de Villiers and Dr Tilla Slabbert from the English Department and is titled *David Kramer: A Biography*.

The book, originally written in English, was published in both English and Afrikaans (*David Kramer: 'n Biografie*) by Tafelberg this year. It was translated to Afrikaans by Francois Smith. Articles about the books have already been published in *Die Burger*, *Beeld* and *Volksblad* newspapers.

“We both appreciate Kramer’s music and aimed to register the significance of his work and his contribution to the South African cultural framework. Our initial idea of writing something that would provide an overview of his oeuvre gradually shifted towards a more traditional biography, although the most apt description might be an ‘oeuvre biography’ with a focus on the growth and formation of a body of work read in terms of the life of its producer,” said the writers.



Photo: Dr Dawid de Villiers (left) and Dr Tilla Slabbert (right) with South African artist David Kramer (middle). The two scholars recently penned a book on Kramer’s life.

The book chronicles Kramer’s life from his childhood growing up in Worcester to his travels to the United Kingdom “where he studied textile design” right up to his return to South Africa and the release of his first album *Bakgat!* in 1981. This album, which was banned by the SABC, “paved the way for his phenomenal success with albums such as *The Story of Blokkies Joubert*, *Delicious Monster* and *Hanepootpad*”.

Kramer was welcomed to the Department by Prof Leon de Kock, who described Kramer as an “icon who has had a profound effect on South African culture over the last 30 years”.

“He transformed the face of what we thought of as folk and pop music in South Africa. In so doing, he created a musical style which is completely unique and for which he has become a valuable cultural property. He represents

what South Africa can become when we are at our best, and he is probably the most well-loved man in the country apart from Archbishop Desmond Tutu,” said De Kock.

By means of a slideshow containing various photographs showcasing his life story, Kramer enchanted audience members in a jam-packed Molteno Room in the Department by launching into a few popular songs such as *Annette van der Wa*, *Tjoepstil* and *Hak Hom Blokkies*. The latter song gained him popularity across South Africa and in particular amongst rugby supporters.

“It was a huge surprise to suddenly become so popular and in particular to be so popular amongst the people I had been satirising!” said Kramer.

It was the success he enjoyed with this song, which also inspired him to concentrate on his music career on a full-time basis.

Growing up, says Kramer, his musical inspiration came from artists such as Buddy Holly, Bob Dylan en Jeremy Taylor. “Taylor introduced me to the idea of satire, in particular political satire and the power of that,” said Kramer.

Kramer, who wrote poetry as a teenager and young adult, said he compiled some “rather horrible songs” in his younger days and that this could be attributed to his “attempts to be like the overseas bands.”

“At that point, I had not really thought of bringing what I was writing in my poetry into my music,” he added.



Photo: David Kramer during his talk at the English Department. On the far right is Prof Leon de Kock.

In 1971, he left for England to study textile design as an exchange student at Leeds University. It is here, exposed to big musical acts like Elton John, Rod Stewart, Paul McCartney and David Bowie, that he slowly started turning his attention to folk music.

With his return to South Africa, he performed at various clubs and on campuses across the country. His style of dress had also changed dramatically. “I worked in textiles and with fashion and fabrics and I understood that fashion was about making a statement, that it said something about yourself. While in Leeds, I was trying to look like everyone else with the long hair, the skinny tops and flare pants.”

In SA, Kramer adopted a more uniquely South African style, sporting his red “vellies”, well-known in the townships as Comrades and worn by petrol attendants at the time, oversized khaki pants, and Argyle socks, worn by many black persons from Diagonal Street. His waist coast was reminiscent of the attire worn by employees of the former South African railway services.

“I wanted each part of my clothes to reflect what was uniquely South African at that time,” explained Kramer.

Sudden fame in the 1980s meant, however, that the man who was known as “almal se pel” (everyone’s friend) was slowly finding himself consumed by this very public persona. He was also accused of “messaging with the taal” (Afrikaans language) when mixing English and Afrikaans words in his songs. “I was mixing the languages and

attempting to achieve in the songs the sounds of the street, to capture the way people spoke. I think it is important to use your own voice and to not pretend to be someone else. So I listened and observed what was happening in the streets.”

Kramer was also turning into the darling of English South Africans who revelled in the fact that he was proving to be a thorn in some Afrikaners’ sides. This compelled Kramer to write *Tjoepestil*, a song that voiced his dissatisfaction with the hypocrisy of white English-speaking South Africans during apartheid.

However, many white Afrikaners also saw him as an Afrikaans singer with a loveable personality, yet, said Kramer, knew nothing about his opposing political beliefs.

“As a storyteller, an entrepreneur and, as Hennie Aucamp describes him, a ‘cultural philosopher’, he is one of the preeminent white artists to take up the struggle to wrest Afrikaans from the stranglehold of apartheid-era language and cultural policing by connecting it to its folk roots,” said De Villiers and Slabbert.

It was during this time that he released the album *Baboondogs* (1986). “A strong interest in folk music led me to investigate the roots of Afrikaans songs and that led me to the FAK (Federasie van Afrikaans) *bundel* (volume). I realised then that the songs that I knew were not “white songs”, but songs created on farms by the descendants of slaves who were labourers on those farms. It gave me a real sense of purpose regarding what I could do with my song writing.”

Kramer also “found a new creative outlet” by collaborating with the late Taliep Petersen. The partnership led to the “runaway hit *District Six – The Musical*” followed by other international shows such as *Kat and the Kings*, which was the first South African musical to play in both the West End and Broadway theatres.

“His cross-cultural interests and socio-political critique of the apartheid and post-apartheid landscape always emphasise and celebrate the local and much of his work deals in an empathetic manner with the plight of those who suffer the consequences of social ills, be it the consequences of relocation, poverty, exploitation or feelings of loneliness and entrapment. He has made an invaluable contribution in recording and archiving what remains of what he terms ‘roots music’ with work such as the *Karoo Kitaar Blues* project,” said the writers.



Photo: David Kramer launches into one of his songs during the talk. (All photos by Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

While many biographies on famous icons are marketed based on the attraction of what we do not know about these personalities private lives, the writers said that with Kramer, who you see is who you get.

“The interesting thing about Kramer’s public persona is that it does actually present much of what he is about – at least in terms of what he puts into it. Consequently there is little that could be of public interest that is not actually communicated. However, the stereotyping that seems to be an inevitable result of sustained media exposure and the music industry’s promotional machinery means that aspects that are visible at first may increasingly be overlooked,” said De Villiers and Slabbert.

“Much of the time our job was not so much to uncover unknown facts as to free the persona – itself constantly open to change – from the sediment of assumptions that has solidified around it. Lesser-known facts of Kramer’s life might be the years of hard work and preparation that preceded his success in the early 80s; his restless experimentation with and interest in other art forms; and his struggle with depression in the late 80s and early 90s.”

While both Slabbert and De Villiers lecture in the English Department, their areas of focus are very different.

Slabbert’s postdoctoral research, which was completed last year, focused on the work of David Kramer. She has written two articles on Kramer focusing on storytelling, animals and nature as metaphors, and cultural hybridity and identity in

Kramer's work. Her other areas of interest include life writing, eco-criticism and myth.

De Villiers, who is also an avid musician and performs with his own band, focuses on American literature and the 19th century, but has published research on South African music and film as well. His current interest is literature with a sea theme. In 2010, he published an article on Kramer's musical theatre piece, *Die Ballade van Koos Sas*, in the *Journal of Literary Studies*.

Both De Villiers and Slabbert have enjoyed this tremendous journey to capture the life of an entertainer who has had a profound effect on the lives of many South Africans.

"It was one of the most satisfying experiences of my life and the project stimulated my interest in life writing immensely. The main aim of this project for me was to create an awareness of Kramer's important role as a South African cultural commentator, covering a period of more than three decades," said Slabbert.

Added De Villiers: "The combination of personal interest in the subject matter, effective and enjoyable collaboration, the focus on recent history, and the Kramers' combination of commitment and non-interference, made this a great experience. I hope the book allows for a serious reconsideration of Kramer's place in the cultural history of South Africa and that it will facilitate further research on that contribution. A lot remains to be said, especially on his musicals."

The books were officially launched in Johannesburg on 8 November and in Cape Town on 22 and 30 November at the Exclusive Books store at the Waterfront and at The Book Lounge in Roeland Street respectively. The books are available at most leading bookstores for R195.

(Photos: Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

DEPARTEMENT GESKIEDENIS

History colloquium investigates the history of black resistance

"The eighties saw an explosion of black resistance and the scholars we invited to the colloquium were those who made a substantial and enduring contribution to historical writing at the time. Now, 20 years on, we invited them to Stellenbosch to reflect on how they would rewrite or tweak this history, knowing what they know now, and whether they would in fact need to reconceptualise it again."

These were the words of Prof Albert Grundlingh, Chair of the History Department, following a one-day colloquium, *Cast in concrete? Revisiting pre-1994 histories of resistance in South Africa – some perspectives*, held on 6 October at the Journalism Department building at Stellenbosch University (SU).

"Although we were, and are, somewhat ambivalent about centennial culture – it has a tendency of dramatising and distorting the past with a beady eye on the present and the future – we realise, too, that historians have some responsibility to join the heritage market place on such occasions. But in our view, it is equally important to do so on our own terms and to eschew temptations of a celebratory nature luring historians into five minutes of fame (or shame) where one can parade one's wares, and allow one's little fishes to talk like whales," explains Grundlingh.

Eight speakers from institutions in South Africa and abroad participated in the colloquium, which was opened by Prof Arnold van Zyl, Vice-Rector: Research, and Grundlingh. The speakers included Prof Tom Lodge from Limerick University; Dr Hilary Sapire from Birkbeck College at London University; Dr Brian Willan, an independent researcher from London; Prof David Killingray, formerly from Goldsmith College at London University and currently Extraordinary Professor at the History Department at SU; Dr Thula Simpson from the University of Pretoria; Prof Raymond Suttner, formerly of Unisa and currently Extraordinary Professor at Rhodes University; Prof Stephen Ellis from Vrije University in the Netherlands; Prof Andrew Nash from the University of Cape Town; and Prof Neil Parsons, formerly of the University of Botswana.

According to Grundlingh, some of the other questions that the speakers at the colloquium were interested in were: Whether it was time to re-evaluate the points of departure of the ANC after seventeen years in power given the fact that the historiography of the 1980s was produced at a time when the ANC was a resistance movement; whether certain aspects with the benefit of hindsight privileged over others; and whether historiographical trends since the 1980s spawned a new set of questions.

"We were also interested in whether political notions of non-racialism and economic redistribution, which featured quite strongly in the 1980s and fed into the general writing of the time have disappeared completely from the current intellectual agenda, and if it has, does it say something about the way in which historical writing was conceived in the 1980s," he adds.

Some of the topics at the colloquium therefore included *Reflections on Black Politics in South Africa since 1945*; *Histories of Township Resistance in the 1980s*; *Minding the gaps of South Africa's recent history*; and *The History of Umkhonto we Sizwe, c 1960-2060*.

Prof Suttner, who was locked up in solitary confinement for 18 months during the 1980s, presented a paper focused on *Writing liberation history: revisiting the questions*.



Photo: The speakers who participated in the colloquium included (at the back from the left) Dr Thula Simpson, Prof Neil Parsons, Prof David Killingray, Prof Stephen Ellis, Prof Raymond Suttner, Prof Andrew Nash and Prof Tom Lodge. At the front are Dr Brian Willan, Dr Hilary Sapire and Prof Albert Grundlingh. (Hennie Rudmann, SSFD)

The colloquium, says Grundlingh, is important for two reasons: It provides an opportunity to rethink our understanding of struggle history in SA and for the Department at SU to make its own contribution to the discourse on resistance history.

“When one looks at the way that township history was written in the 1980s, there was a historical insistence on looking for early expressions of historical resistance to tie up with a period when SA was in a resistance mode. So historians looked for earlier forms of resistance that indicated that black people were not passive, that they all resisted oppression. While such a phase in historical writing was undoubtedly warranted, at times it had the effect of reducing township history to resistance only, either subordinating or completely ignoring other forms of social and cultural expression which happened to fall outside the dominant interpretative frame of the time,” he says.

Funding for the colloquium was made available by Prof Van Zyl's office and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Prof Hennie Kotzé, with additional funding contributed by the History Department.

Akademikus en nagraadse studente ontvang toekennings by die Vroue in Wetenskap-toekenningsgeleentheid

Twee vroue in die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe is tydens vanjaar se Vroue in Wetenskap-toekenningsgeleentheid in Johannesburg deur die Minister van Wetenskap en Tegnologie, me Naledi Pandor, vereer.

Prof Sandra Swart, 'n dosent in die Departement Geskiedenis, het tweede geëindig in die kategorie vir Uitstaande Jong Vroue in die Wetenskap (Sosiale Wetenskappe), terwyl me Anneke Perold, 'n meestersgraadstudent in die Departement Algemene Taalwetenskap, 'n Departement van Wetenskap en Tegnologie (DWT)-beurs ontvang het waarmee sy aanstaande jaar haar doktorsale studies wil begin.

Prof Albert Grundlingh, Voorsitter van die Departement Geskiedenis, en dr Frenette Southwood, 'n dosent in die Departement Algemene Taalwetenskap, is albei baie trots op Swart en Perold se prestasie.

“Prof Swart is 'n besonder toegewyde en produktiewe jong historikus. Sy het uitnemend gevaar in 'n strawwe mededingende konteks”, sê Grundlingh.

“Me Perold se navorsing is nie net akademies uitmuntend nie maar het ook die potensiaal om taalonderrigprogramme te verbeter. Die Departement is trots op die gedissiplineerde wyse waarop sy taalwetenskaplike navorsing en taalpraktyk met mekaar versoen, sowel as die eer wat haar onlangs te beurt geval het,” sê Southwood.

Benewens Swart en Perold, het me Daniek Joubert, ‘n student in Toegepaste Wiskunde, ‘n TATA Afrika Beurs vir Vroue in Wetenskap, Ingenieurswese en Tegnologie ontvang.

Die Vroue in Wetenskaptoekennings is daarop gemik om vroue wetenskaplikes en navorsers te profileer wat as rolmodelle vir jonger wetenskaplikes en navorsers kan dien en om jonger vroue wat nog aan die begin van hul loopbaan as navorsers en wetenskaplikes staan, aan te moedig en te beloon.

Toekennings is in vier kategorieë toegeken – Uitnemende Vroue, Uitnemende Jong Vroue, Beurse (3 x meesterstudente en 3 x doktorsale studente) asook die TATA Afrika Beurs vir Vroue in Wetenskap, Ingenieurswese en Tegnologie.

“Ek glo dat hierdie drie uitblinkers van die US as rolmodelle sal dien vir vrouens se deelname aan navorsing en nagraadse studie in die toekoms, en dat hulle sal voortgaan om ‘n reuse bydrae te maak tot die akademie. Die besondere erkenning op nasionale vlak deur die Minister van Wetenskap en Tegnologie van ons vroulike akademië en nagraadse studente se uitstekende werk, moedig ons as universiteit net weer aan om alles in ons vermoë te doen om ons vroulike navorsers te ondersteun, en die geleentheid te bied om optimaal te presteer,” sê dr Therina Theron, Senior Direkteur: Navorsing aan die US.

Die 26 finaliste in die drie kategorieë is uit 152 landswye nominasies gekies.

- Sonika Lamprecht en LETTER-redaksie



Foto: Hier van links by die toekenningsgeleentheid is prof Sandra Swart, dr Therina Theron, Senior Direkteur: Navorsing, en mee Anneke Perold en Daniek Joubert.

DEPARTEMENT INLIGTINGWETENSKAP

Prof Johann Kinghorn groet na 41 jaar by die US

Prof Johann Kinghorn (foto) van die Departement Inligtingwetenskap groet die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe na 41 jaar – waarvan 38 jaar as dosent en meer as 20 jaar aaneenlopend as departementele voorsitter – aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US).

Nadat Kinghorn vyf jaar aan die Universiteit Pretoria gestudeer en ook vir ‘n tyd gedoseer het, het hy in 1971 na die US gekom. In 1974/75 en in 1989/90 het hy ook in Tuebingen, Duitsland, gewoon danksy die toekenning van

eers die *Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst* (DAAD)-beurs en later die Alexander von Humboldt-stipendium.

Kinghorn is welbekend in binne- en buitelandse akademiese kringe vir die werk wat hy oor die laaste 15 jaar gedoen het op die ontluikende gebied van Kennisbestuur en wat in 2001 gelei het tot die skep van die Department Inligtingwetenskap – Sentrum vir Kennisdinamika en Besluitneming. Hierdie Departement is tot stand gebring met die opdrag om die vakgebied ook dwarsliggend vir die US te ontwikkel. Vandag bedien die departement vyf Fakulteite.

“Dit is met groot dankbaarheid dat ek terugdink aan die vertrouwe wat destyds in my gestel is om ‘n departement te ontwikkel wat ‘n akademiese stem kon gee aan die nuwe soort kennis wat met die opkoms van informasie tegnologie en die kennis-ekonomie vir die toekoms wesensbelangrik is. Dit was ook ‘n geweldige taak om die regte personeel te vind of op te lei. Die akademie van kennisbestuur, informatika, of watter naam jy ook al daaraan wil gee, is baie jonk. Ons was gelukkig om in die afgelope jare ‘n groepie dinamiese jong kollegas te kon aanstel,” vertel Kinghorn.

Daarbenewens, sê Kinghorn, is hy die meeste trots op die ontwikkeling van die Meesterprogram in Informasie en Kennisbestuur (MIKM) wat nou studente trek van oor die hele Suidelike Afrika, tot sover as Kenia.

“Van die ongeveer 200 studente wat lopend in die program betrokke is, is meer as 80% swart. Daar is ook ‘n gelyke verdeling tussen mans en vrouens. Die studente is almal voltyds werksaam, en dit het gelei daartoe dat ‘n besondere logistiek ontwikkel moes word om ‘n didaktiese benadering wat op persoonlike kontak berus, te versoen met die geografiese verspreiding van die studente,” verduidelik Kinghorn.

Die MIKM-program het reeds meer as 100 voltooide Magistergrade gelewer. Kinghorn self kan nie presies onthou hoeveel mense onder sy leiding hulle M-grade verwerf het nie, maar dit is naby aan 50, sê hy. Hy het ook tot dusver vyf doktorsale kandidate afgelewer.

Kinghorn het oor ‘n tydperk van 36 jaar ‘n netwerk van akademiese en sake kontakte opgebou wat regoor die wêreld strek. Sy belangstelling in globale dinamika word gereflekteer in sy deelname as konvenor van die *Associate Academic Fellows* vir die *World Economic Forum for Africa* tussen 1998 en 2006. Hy is ‘n lid van

die *International Symposium on the Management of Industrial and Corporate Knowledge* (ISMICK), die *Association for Information Systems* (AIS) en die *Association for Computing Machines* (ACM).

Kinghorn gee onderrig in die meta-vlak teorie van kennis, organisatoriese kennisstelsels en *sensemaking*-teorie, en teorie van die kennis-ekonomie.

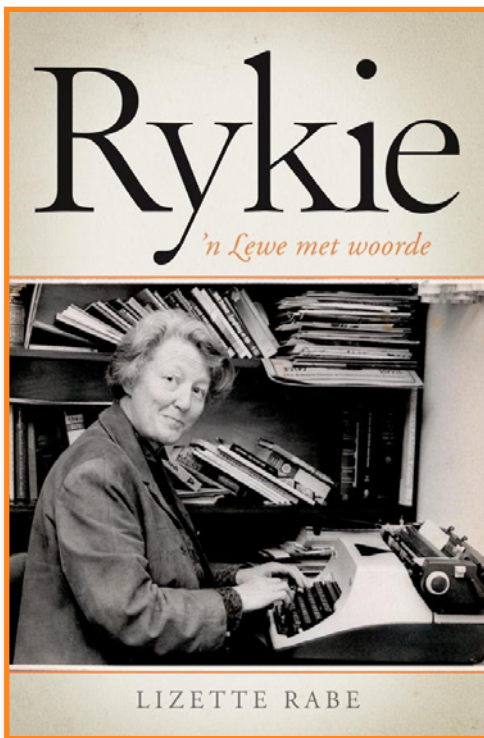
Tydens sy indrukwekkende akademiese loopbaan het hy reeds 10 boeke as outeur en/of skrywer gepubliseer (waarvan 2 in die Africana-versameling van die JS Gericke-biblioteek aan die US opgeneem is), 29 artikels of hoofstukke tot boeke bygedra, was hoofredakteur van 32 uitgawes van die geakkrediteerde, internasionale vaktydskrif, *Scriptura*, en het 18 publikasies versorg tussen 1991 en 1997 as redakteur van die reeks, *Stellenbosch Economic Project*. Laasgenoemde projek is deur die *Friedrich Ebert Foundation* befonds. Hierdie projek het ‘n bydrae gemaak tot die filosofiese fondasies van die ekonomiese beleide van die demokratiese regering van Suid-Afrika vanaf 1994.

Prof Hennie Kotzé, Dekaan van die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe, sê dat Kinghorn ‘n beduidende bydrae gemaak het tot die ontwikkeling en samestelling van ‘n nuwe spesialis area verken, maar ook gefokus is op die belang van interdissiplinêre skakeling tussen fakulteite. “Hy is ‘n ware leier, wat ‘n passie vir sy werk het, maar ook groot empatie vir sy kollegas toon. Hy het met ongelooflike vasberadenheid ‘n Departement van Bybel Studies omvorm tot ‘n voorpunt Departement Inligtingwetenskap,” sê Kotzé.



(Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

Lizette Rabe skryf boek oor Rykie van Reenen



Prof Lizette Rabe, hoof van die Departement Joernalistiek, het onlangs 'n boek oor die legendariese joernalis Rykie van Reenen (1923–2003) die lig laat sien. Die boek, getiteld *Rykie, 'n lewe met woorde*, is deur Tafelberg gepubliseer.

“Hermann Giliomee beskou haar as die grootste Afrikaanse joernalis van die twintigste eeu,” vertel Rabe. “Oor haar twee legendariese tydgenote, Piet Cillié en Schalk Pienaar, het boeke in 2002 verskyn – maar niks oor die grootste nie. Dit móés net gedoen word. Buiten dit, was sy 'n persoonlike inspirasie, my Poolster, al het ek haar nooit geken nie. Niemand kon soos sy skryf nie, ook nie met die gelaagdheid van insig nie. Dus was my inspirasie oor hoe sy met die woord omgegaan het, maar ook hoe analities en skerp haar denke was,” vertel Rabe oor wat haar aangespoor het om die projek te begin.

Van Reenen het 'n groot rol gespeel in die professionalisering van vroue-joernaliste. Sy het ook 'n eredoktorsgraad van haar alma mater, die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US), ontvang.

Rabe sê dat Van Reenen ook 'n groot bydrae op vele terreine benewens joernalistiek gemaak het. “Sy het veral 'n baie benoude Afrikaanse samelewing 'n Suid-Afrika laat sien wat hulle nie geweet het bestaan nie, soos Johannes Grosskopf in die commendatio vir haar eredoktorsgraad aan die US gesê het: ‘In 'n tyd toe die meeste vroue óf onderwysers óf

verpleegsters geword het, het Van Reenen vir haar 'n loopbaan in die joernalistiek oopgeskryf. Sy het Suid-Afrika se eerste vroulike oorlogskorrespondent geword toe sy die Jom Kippoer-oorlog in Israel gaan dek het’.”

In die 1960s het sy naam gemaak as rubriekskrywer van *Van alle kante* in *Die Burger* en in die 1970s vir *Op die randakker* in *Rapport*. Die rubrieke was sulke lekker leesstof dat dit tot die volgende trappe van vergelyking aanleiding gegee het: “Ryk, ryker, Rykie”.

Van Reenen se fyn waarnemings vermoë, wydbelesenheid en kreatiewe taalgebruik het haar in 'n klas van haar eie geplaas. Sy het geskryf oor kerksake, die politiek van die dag – dikwels stroomop – en het onderhoude met talle prominente Suid-Afrikaners gevoer, van Hendrik Verwoerd tot Steve Biko.

“Sy het haar eie ding gedoen. Sy het haar nie gesteur aan die beperkende paradigmas rondom haar nie, sy het haar laat lei deur beginsels van wat reg en verkeerd is, nie deur partypolitieke ideologie nie. Soos Ton Vosloo, Voorsitter van Naspers, dit stel: “Die verkrampes in die Akademie, die Kerk, die politiek, oral is stormgeloop, hulle het gebrul van frustrasie en pyn. Die waardige oudvoorsitter van die Akademie, prof Detlev Weiss en sy ewe ambisieuse vrou, Hymne (suster van die verligte ds Beyers Naudé), is pront verdoop tot die Weiss Squad. So kon die Afrikaanse volk hulle Sondag ná Sondag verkneukel aan 'n nuwe onthullende tipe joernalistiek wat alle maskers afgeruk en die broers laat koes en die hasepad laat vat het.”

Rabe se boek bevat detail oor Van Reenen se tyd as Matie vroeg in die 1940s. In 1999 is *Media24* se sekonderingspos in die Departement Joernalistiek na Van Reenen genoem. So leef haar naam voort onder nuwe generasies joernaliste.

“Ek hoop dat die boek veral jong joernaliste sal inspireer, in alle opsigte, maar veral oor waaroor dit in die joernalistiek gaan, naamlik om die waarheid te soek, en getrou te bly aan niks anders as die waarheid nie. “

Rabe self het die eerste vrou geword wat as Redakteur van 'n Afrikaanse publikasie by Naspers aangestel is toe sy in 1994 die leisels by *Sarie* oorgeneem het. In 2001 is sy akademie toe – as die eerste vrou aan die hoof van die US se Departement Joernalistiek.

“Ek dink dis irrelevant dat ek 'n vrou is – dis in die eerste plek 'n werk, en ek moet voldoen aan die vereistes wat gestel word vir die spesifieke poste. Ek is dankbaar dat ek in 'n tyd lewe dat vroue nie net die geleenthede het om dieselfde opleiding te kon kry as mans nie, maar ook om te wys hulle kan dieselfde soorte werk doen – nie noodwendig op dieselfde manier nie. Soos Rykie in haar oproep aan vroulike joernaliste gesê het: “Komaan, sustertjies, nou julle beurt! Die uitdaging vir vroue in die joernalistiek is nie om elke soort koerantwerk net so goed

soos mans te doen nie. Sy moet nou, met daardie ekstra chromosoom, ook 'n ekstra dimensie aan joernalistiek gee sodat ons profesie verbreed kan word."

Die boek is by die meeste toonaangewende boekwinkels beskikbaar en verkoop teen R250 (hardeband).

* Hierdie artikel is oorspronklik op 7 September 2011 in die *Kampusnuus* gepubliseer. Addisionele verslaggewing is deur die LETTER-redaksie gedoen.

Konstellasie van Rykie-sterre kom bymekaar by Departement Joernalistiek

Die 2011 honneursgroep van die Departement Joernalistiek het hul formele klasse afgesluit met 'n Rykie-seminaar waartydens Rykie van Reenen-genote van oor die jare hulle toegespreek het. Die Rykie-genote is ervare en bewese joernaliste van Media24 wat vir 'n vaste termyn na die Departement gesekondeer word en wat die jongste praktyke en eise van die beroep aan die studente in die praktiese honneurskursus oordra.



(Foto: Nielen Bottomley)

By die vorige Departementshoof, prof George Claassen (agter tweede van links), die huidige Departementshoof, prof Lizette Rabe (middel voor) en die Dekaan van die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe, prof Hennie Kotzé (tweede van regs voor), is van links agter Willemien Brümmer, aangewese Rykie-genoot 2012 en artikelskrywer by *BY*; Gawie Botma, Rykie 2005 en 'n dosent in die Departement; dr Johan Retief, Rykie 2000-2001 en Adjunk-ombudsman van Suid-Afrika; Tobie Wiese, Rykie 2002-2004 en voormalige Adjunk-redakteur van *Insig*; en Gert Coetzee, Rykie 2008 en Assistent-redakteur van *Volksblad*.

Voor van links staan Jo-Ann Floris, Rykie 2010 en Redakteur van *Die Burger Oos*; Hannelie Booysen, Rykie 2011 en Senior Joernalis by *Huisgenoot*; en prof Herman Wasserman, Rykie 2002 en Adjunkdepartementshoof van Rhodes Universiteit se Skool vir Joernalistiek en Mediastudie.

Rykie-genote wat weens werkverpligtinge nie die seminaar kon bywoon nie, was Bun Booyens, Rykie 1998-1999 en Redakteur van *Die Burger*; Dirk Jordaan, Rykie 2006 en Assistent-redakteur van *Beeld*; Jacolette Kloppers, Rykie 2007 en Subredakteur van *NuusNou*; en Anastasia de Vries, Rykie 2009 en Adjunk-redakteur van *Rapport*.

“Goue-oues”-tee vir oudpersoneel by Joernalistiek gehou

Die Departement Joernalistiek het onlangs 'n “Goue Oues”-tee vir oudpersoneel gehou. In die foto links is van links Dr Billy Trengove, mnr Danie Williams, prof Johannes Grosskopf (voorsitter vanaf 1984-1993), mev Leona Amoraal en prof George Claassen (voorsitter vanaf 1994 tot 2000). In die foto regs is twee oudhoofde van die Departement Joernalistiek by die huidige personeel: proff Grosskopf en Claassen by Simphiwe Sesanti, Lizette Rabe (links) en Gawie Botma (regs).



Antjie Krog besoek Departement Joernalistiek

Die digter en skrywer Antjie Krog het op 19 Augustus studente en personeel aan die Departement Joernalistiek toegesprek. Sy het oor respek in 'n demokratiese bestel gepraat. Hier verskyn sy saam met party van die dosente en studente wat die geleentheid bygewoon het.



(Foto: Nielen Bottomley)

Rudolf de Beer verkies tot die raad van die IFCM

Dr Rudolf de Beer (foto), dosent in koördinerig en hoof van musiekopvoeding aan die Departement Musiek, is in Augustus in Suid-Amerika verkies tot die raad van die Internasionale Federasie vir Koormusiek (IFCM).

De Beer was in Puerto Madryn, Argentinië, om die negende Wêreldsimposium oor Koormusiek by te woon wat driejaarliks deur die IFCM aangebied word.

“Die feit dat die IFCM die oorhoofse organisasie vir alle ander nasionale en selfs internasionale koororganisasies is, maak hierdie verkiesing belangrik ten opsigte van ’n internasionale profiel vir beide die individu wat daaraan behoort, asook die instansie (in hierdie geval Stellenbosch Universiteit),” sê ’n opgewonde De Beer.

“Ons werk byvoorbeeld ernstig aan die vestiging van ’n navorsingspublikasie op die gebied van koorleiding, en aangesien Stellenbosch die enigste universiteit is wat koördinerig as hoofvak in die land aanbied, kan hierdie inisiatief baie beteken vir die posisionering van die Universiteit.”

Saam met sy verkiesing tot die raad is hy ook aangestel as Afrika-streekskoördineerder van die Wêreldkoredag, en dien hy ook op die kommissie vir kommunikasie en reklame. Die raadslede word deur die IFCM-lede verkies om die vereniging se take namens die lede te hanteer.

“Almal help met bemerking en lidmaatskap in hul streke, lande en/of kontinente, en ’n paar van ons wat aan universiteite verbonde is gaan aspekte soos akademiese publikasies, moontlike interuniversitêre ooreenkomste en sterker formele akademiese opleiding wêreldwyd hanteer,” sê De Beer.

Volgens die IFCM se webblad is die organisasie in 1982 op die been gebring met die doel om kommunikasie en die uitruil van idees en hulpbronne tussen koormusici van regoor die wêreld te bewerkstelling. Benewens streeks- en internasionale konferensies, bied die IFCM ook meesterklasse vir dirigente aan, en het noue bande met onder meer ’n koormusiekdatabasis, *Musica International*, en die Amerikaanse webblad *ChoralNet*.

De Beer is sedert 2006 aan die Departement Musiek verbonde, en is ook artistieke direkteur van die akademiese koor *Schola Cantorum*.

Hierbenewens is hy ook tans die dirigent aan die Mecer Stadskoor Tygerberg, en het voorheen ook die Drakensberg Seunskoor, die Potchefstroomse Kamerkoor en die Noordwes Kinderkoor gelei.

Nadat De Beer sy studies in Potchefstroom voltooi het, het hy sy meestergraad aan die Universiteit van Oslo, Noorweë, behaal, en sy DMus as deel van ’n samewerkingstudie tussen die Nelson Mandela Metropolitaanse Universiteit in Port Elizabeth en die Noorweegse Staatsakademie vir Musiek in Oslo.

Hy tree gereeld as gasdirigent en beoordelaar op, en was juis in Oktober in Riga, Letland, gasdirigent vir twee kore, waarna hy in November as beoordelaar vir ’n internasionale koorkompetisie in Maleisië opgetree het en ook ’n koorwerkwinkel aangebied het.

* Hierdie artikel is oorspronklik op 7 September 2011 in die *Kampusnuus* gepubliseer. Addisionele verslaggewing is ook deur die *LETTER-redaksie* gedoen.



Sangdosent wen gesogte ATKV-kompetisie



Die sopraan Vanessa Tait-Jones (foto), 'n deelydse sangdosent in die Departement Musiek aan die US, het R25 000 gekry as algehele wenner van ATKV-Muziqanto, 'n nuwe landwye klassiekiesangkompetisie.

Sy het BMus, HonsBMus en MMus alles met lof aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) behaal en is sedert 1998 steeds 'n sangstudent van Magdalena Oosthuizen aan die Departement Musiek. 'n Matie-tweedejaarstudent, Leah Gunter, nog 'n sangstudent van Oosthuizen, was ook onder die agt finaliste wat tot die laaste aand van die kompetisie deurgedring het.

Suid-Afrikaanse sangers tussen die ouderdomme 15 en 32 jaar kon aan Muziqanto deelneem. Ná uitdunrondes in Mei het 18 sangers in 'n strawwe kompetisie verlede maand in Port Elizabeth in die halfeind- en eindrondes oor twee aande meegeding.

Muziqanto is ingestel naas ATKV Muziq, 'n instrumentale klassiekemusiekkompetisie.

Tait-Jones gee ook deelyds sang by die Hugo Lambrechts Musieksentrum in Parow, en bied by die Tygerberg Hospitaal (saam met 'n oor-, neus- en keelspesialis, dr Rory Attwood, asook 'n spraakterapeut) deelyds sangstemrehabilitasie aan vir sangers met stemprobleme – werk wat voortspruit uit haar honneurs en meestersnavorsing.

Sy tree gereeld in oratoriums en ander uitvoerings op en was onder meer vroeër vanjaar die sopraansolis in aanbiedings van Schoenberg se Pierrot Lunaire in Stellenbosch en Kaapstad.

Op 10 September was sy die gaskunstenaar in die Muziq-kompetisie se eindronde in Bloemfontein.

** Hierdie artikel is oorspronklik op 7 September 2011 in die Kampusnuus gepubliseer.*

DEPARTEMENT POLITIEKE WETENSKAP

Elnari Potgieter ontvang Mandela Rhodes-beurs en Rektorstoekening

Elnari Potgieter (22), 'n honneursstudent in die Departement Politieke Wetenskap, het sommer baie om oor te glimlag. Sy het in Oktober die goeie nuus ontvang dat sy een van 23 studente in Afrika is om 'n Mandela Rhodes-beurs vir 2012 te ontvang.

Elnari is een van drie studente aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US) aan wie hierdie eer bewys is. Die ander twee studente is Matthew de la Hey en Mario Mark Ruiters.

En as dit nie genoeg is om oor opgewonde te raak nie, het sy ook op 12 Oktober vanjaar die Rektorstoekening vir Uitnemende Dienslewering van die US ontvang.

Elnari is een van agt studente in die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe wat toekennings by hierdie geleentheid ontvang het. Die ander studente wat in die afdeling Rektorstoekening vir Uitnemende Akademiese Prestasie uitgeblink het, is Abri de Swardt, Meg Moodie, Sonja Wessels, Dylan Tabisher, Andrea Palk en Marizanne Knoesen, terwyl Barry Ross die US-medalje vir Top-magisterstudent in die Fakulteit ontvang het. Daarbenewens het Lisa Rothkegel 'n Rektorstoekening vir Uitnemende Leierskap ontvang.

Elnari sal in 2012 vir 'n meestersgraad in Internasionale Studies aan die US registreer. Sy werk tans as 'n tutor in die Departement Politieke Wetenskap terwyl sy haar honneursstudies voltooi.

“Toe Elnari my laat weet het dat sy 'n Mandela Rhodes-beurs aangebied is, was dit vir my wonderlike nuus, maar dit het nie heeltemal as 'n verrassing gekom nie. Hierdie prestasie kom kort op die hakke van die Rektorstoekening vir Uitnemende Dienslewering wat sy sopas verwerf het. Albei prestasies is welverdiend en 'n beloning vir uitsonderlike akademiese en akademiese ondersteuningswerk (wat haar werk as departementele tutor insluit) tesame met 'n medemenslikheid wat prakties uitgeleef word. Baie geluk, Elnari, ons is trots op jou!” sê prof Anthony Leysens, Voorsitter van die Departement.

Benewens die prestasie om vir die Mandela Rhodes-beurs gekeur te word, sal die finansiële ondersteuning wat die

beurs bied die pad verder vir Elnari vergemaklik. Deur die jare heen is haar studies nog altyd deur beurse befonds en moes sy deelyds werk om kop bo water te hou.

“Dit het nog nie by my ingesink nie. My realiteit het dramaties verander, want ek moes hard werk om myself te onderhou, so dit is sowaar goeie nuus, want volgende jaar gaan dit veel rustiger wees wat deelydse werk betref,” sê sy.

Elnari is deur die jare op verskeie wyses by verskillende universiteitstrukture betrokke. Sy was byvoorbeeld ’n huiskomiteelid van Irene-dameskoshuis, waar sy ook as mentor gedien het, het as joernalis by *Die Matie*-koerant gewerk, en is ’n lid van die organisasie *STOP Human Trafficking*. Dié organisasie fokus onder andere op die bewusmaking van mensehandel onder laer- en hoërskoolleerders en verskaf ook behuising aan diegene wat verhandel is. Elnari is ook aktief by kerklike aktiwiteite betrokke, soos mentorskap by die Moederkerk Stellenbosch se eerstejaarskampe en uitreike na Mosambiek, Transkei en Msinga, asook verskeie gemeenskapsdiensgerigte verenigings.

Haar liefde vir politieke wetenskap, sê sy, is aangewakker toe sy in 2008 vir ’n BA in Waarde- en Beleidstudie aan die US geregistreer het.

“Aanvanklik sou ek medies swot, maar net voor ek universiteit toe sou gaan, het ek besluit ek gaan ’n BA in Waarde- en Beleidstudie swot. Die rede hiervoor was omdat hierdie graad ’n mens insig gee oor verskeie aspekte van die hele samelewing en ek ’n persoon is wat in die wye prentjie belangstel,” vertel sy.

“Aan die einde van my derde jaar moes ek kies tussen ekonomie en politiek en dit is toe dat ek besef het dat ek meer van ’n belangstelling in die mense agter die syfers as die syfers agter die mense het.”

Elnari het ook haar droom oorseë gevolg. Vanjaar is sy gekies om aan ’n somerskool oor *Politics and the law of the EU* in Gratz, Oostenryk, deel te neem. “Dit is hier dat ek besef het dat ek eendag in Afrika wil werk en om daardie rede het ek gekies om ook eerder my meestersgraad in Suid-Afrika te voltooi.”

Om as een van die Mandela Rhodes-beurshouers gekeur te word, moes Elnari ’n paar onderhoude aflê, opstelle skryf en met studente oor Afrika heen meeding. Kandidate moet ook kan bewys dat hulle in alles wat hulle aanpak die vier waardes van die Mandela Rhodes-stigting onderskryf. Hierdie waardes is leierskap, versoening, die bevordering van opvoeding as ’n manier om die ontwikkeling van mense te bevorder, en entrepreneurskap.

“Die mense wat die waardes van die Mandela Rhodes-stigting onderskryf, is ongelooflike individue, en ek was lanklaas so trots om deel van ’n groep te wees. Die hele idee met hierdie beurs is om jouself en jou talente aan te wend tot die bemagtiging van jou medemens, so die soort mense wat vir hierdie beurs aansoek doen, is mense wat daardie doel nastreef. Dit is vir my ongelooflik om met sulke mense te kan werk. Dit is ’n droom, ’n droom wat waar geword het, maar ja, dit moet nog insink.”

Sy is veral dankbaar aan almal wat haar oor die jare ondersteun het. “Vriende en familie of selfs vyande help jou vorm. My grootste bron van krag was God en dit is my rede om te hoop en te gee,” sê Elnari.

In die toekoms wil sy graag vir ’n nieregeringsorganisasie of ’n interregeringsorganisasie werk.

“Om vir die Verenigde Nasies te werk, sal die toppunt vir my wees. Ek stel veral belang in die soort omgewing waar ek praktiese veldwerk kan aanpak. Wie weet, miskien as ek eendag ouer is, sal ek selfs navorsing in die akademie nastreef. Die diplomatieke diens is ook ’n moontlikheid,” sê ’n opgewonde Elnari.



Foto: Elnari Potgieter het onlangs die Mandela Rhodes-beurs sowel as die Rektorstoekenning vir Uitnemende Dienslewering ontvang. Hier is sy saam met die Rektor, Prof Russel Botman, by die Rektorstoekeningseremonie. (Hennie Rudmann, SSFD)

As die twee prestasies wat sy reeds ontvang het nog nie genoeg is om enige mens in die sewende hemel te laat wees nie, het Elnari ook onlangs gehoor dat sy derde geëindig het in die nasionale *Dink Na*-opstelkompetisie vir 2011. *Dink Na* is 'n projek van die Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuurverenigings (FAK) en die Vereniging van Regslui vir Afrikaans (VRA), in samewerking met *Beeld*. Haar onderwerp het gefokus op kreatiewe oplossings vir owerheidsmislukkings in Suid-Afrika.

Nicola de Jager receives staff scholarship to teach at German university

Dr Nicola de Jager from the Political Science Department has just returned from a two-month teaching and research exchange opportunity in Germany after receiving a staff scholarship through the Erasmus Mundus Action 2 (EMA2) SAPIENT scholarship programme. She is one of five academics from Stellenbosch University (SU) who will be teaching in Europe in 2011 and 2012 thanks to three EMA2 programmes – ema2sa, SAPIENT and EUROSA.

“We are actually part of the first batch of lecturers and students who are participating in the Erasmus Mundus scholarship programme,” said an enthusiastic De Jager who was based at the University of Duisburg-Essen in Duisburg, Germany from 1 October to the end of November this year, upon her departure.

Thanks to the EMA2 scholarship programme, students and staff from SU now have the opportunity to study, conduct research, receive training and teach at a variety of highly-rated European universities. SU, along with 12 other South African higher education institutions form part of the EMA2 scholarship programme.

Similar EMA2 programmes for 2012/2013 were launched recently with a call for nominations going out in November.



Photo: Dr Nicola de Jager in her office before her departure for Germany. (Hennie Rudmann, SSFD)

De Jager taught a course on Comparative Southern African Politics and Democratisation as part of the Masters in International Studies and Development programme at the Institute of Political Sciences.

One of the requirements for the exchange was that each academic applicant secured a university that was willing to accommodate a teaching and research exchange participant. De Jager approached Prof Christof Hartmann, Professor for International Politics and Development Policy and Managing Director of the Institute for Political Science, at the University of Duisburg-Essen.

“Prof Hartmann has done quite a bit of work in Africa and in particular on the dominant party system. So my interest in his department at the University of Duisburg-Essen was two-fold: It was a shared research interest in the dominant party system, and it was a good fit in terms of my Southern African politics teaching experience and their Masters programme, which included African politics as a focus area,” she explains.

“These kinds of exchanges provide us with opportunities for exposure to other academic programmes to see how we compare with other countries in the world. Through teaching at the University of Duisburg-Essen, I was able to see what they are doing in their curricula and compare that to what we are doing, look at how they work and operate, and the kind of work they tackle. In addition, the exchanges mean we can also share with them some of our experiences and expertise. Networking is very important, in particular the building of international networks and increasing our network base and our exposure beyond our country’s borders,” she says.

While De Jager’s research focus areas are concentrated around South African and Southern African politics, dominant party systems, democracy and liberation movements, her time in Germany, she says, has helped her expand her research view.

“Over the years, my contacts have been Southern African and developing world countries, but this exchange has provided me with an opportunity to build up international networks and get international exposure.”

Before joining SU, de Jager taught in the Political Sciences Department at the University of Pretoria. She has written chapters, some co-authored, which were published in the books *Political Parties and Democracy; Transitional Care Work – Perspectives from Japan, Asia and Africa*; and *A Comparative Assessment: Challenges to Democracy by One-Party Dominance*. She is currently co-editing a book, together with Prof Pierre du Toit, on dominant party

systems in Southern Africa with lessons learned from the developing world. She utilised her extra time in Germany to focus on the book and, whilst there presented a seminar on the South African chapter. Some of her articles have appeared in the academic journals *Politikon* and *Acta Academica*. In addition, she has participated in a number of national and international conferences.

Contingency from SU make a significant contribution to book focused on the DRC peace process

Three academics from Stellenbosch University (SU), an alumnus and a postgraduate student have made a huge contribution to the book, *A Vanquished Peace: Prospects for the Successful Reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of Congo*, which was published by Adonis & Abbey Publishers in London in December 2010.

“The book deals with a post-peace accord assessment of the developments in the DRC since the conclusion of the formal peace process in the country in 2002/2003. The whole objective of the publication was to review the developments since the conclusion of the peace process and to gauge whether genuine peace has been realised in the DRC or not. It is really an appraisal of what has been achieved up to this point and a study of whether the country has moved to a sustainable peace or not,” explains Mr Gerrie Swart of the Political Science Department and also the editor of the book.

Ms Derica Lambrechts from the Political Science Department wrote a chapter along with postgraduate MA student, Mr Marc Boshoff, and SU political science alumnus and senior risk analyst at red24, Ms Catherine Weldon. Their chapter focused on *Political Insecurity and the Extraction Industry in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Moving towards an Industry Specific Political-security Risk Analysis Model* while Swart, who also penned a chapter, looked at the volatile Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo and how peace has fared there.

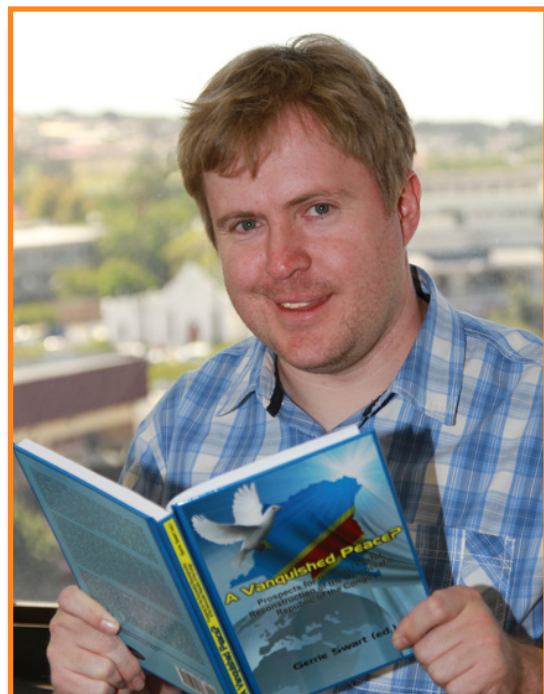


Photo: Mr Gerrie Swart with the book he edited.
(Hennie Rudmann, SSFD)

Other contributors included Prof Theo Neethling, who was previously employed at the Military Academy in Saldanha at SU and is currently Departmental Head of the Political Science Department at the University of the Free State; a chapter by the late Mr Henri Boshoff of the Institute for Security Studies; as well as chapters by Mr Vasu Gounden, Mr Karanja Mbugua and Mr Sadiki Koko of the African Centre for Constructive Resolution of Disputes; and Mr Franco Henwood, an independent commentator on human rights based in London.

Boshoff, who died in a car accident in April this year, says Swart, worked extensively on analyses and research related to the peace process in the DRC. “Henri’s loss is a considerable blow for the academic world and he will be sorely missed for the contribution he made to academic studies on the DRC.”

According to Swart, *A Vanquished Peace* fills a void which many publications have not done since the dawn of peace in the DRC.

“Many of the publications that have been published and looks at the situation in the DRC and the Great Lakes region broadly continue to focus on the period leading up to 1996 and then the subsequent conflict from 1998 up until the conclusion of the peace process in 2002/2003, but very little has really gone into the analysis of the period after that, looking at developments since then,” explains Swart.

“I think it is a major oversight, because it is important to see if we have really seen a major change in the country since then and look at whether the peace process succeeded in its objectives or not. We need to ask: Was the peace process successful in restoring stability or not, was it successful in dealing with all the issues in the conflict or was it defeated in the process, hence the title, *A Vanquished Peace*.”

In addition, very little is known about the civil war in the DRC, mainly because of the lack of media coverage of a war that killed over 5 million people. In addition, the DRC war was overshadowed by another human rights atrocity, the Rwandan civil war.

“It is therefore important to focus on the DRC and in particular on the post-accord peace process. Right now, the stakes are very high due to the fact that the country has just had its second democratic elections in November and



Photo: Swart, at the back, second from the right, during the conference he attended in Lusaka. (Photo supplied)

because there is still not genuine peace in the Eastern Congo, where most of the initial conflict emerged from in terms of north and south Kivu.”

Swart recently also presented a paper based on the chapter he published in *A Vanquished Peace* at The Southern African Oasis of Peace Project conference which was held in Lusaka from 23-25 September. The conference theme was *Mediation and Peacemaking in Africa* and brought together academics from Zambia, Tanzania, Botswana, Japan and South Africa. It was sponsored by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science under the AA Science Platform Programme with major sponsorship for the conference coming from Osaka University in Japan.

The Project consists of a research network which includes the University of Zambia, Zambian Open University, the University of the Free State, Mozambique-Tanzania Centre for Foreign Relations, Osaka University and the Osaka School of International Public Policy in Japan.

“The ultimate aim of the Project is to establish a Centre for Collaboration on Peace and Security (CCPS) in Zambia. However, one of the first tangible outcomes of the conference will be the publication of a free online journal which will be published shortly and known as *The Journal of Southern African Peace and Security Studies*,” explains Swart who was invited to the conference to discuss his research findings on the successes and failures of the mediation process in the DRC, with a specific focus on the eastern Congo region.

“While the Eastern Congo is moving into a period of no war, there is also no peace either. We see this often with more and more African conflicts becoming frozen and where there isn’t a genuine peace emerging. I studied the Eastern Congo as a manifestation of this phenomena of no war, but no peace either.”

The Project network, says Swart, is also investigating the possibility for academics in the network to travel within Southern Africa to present seminars and research at other institutions in the region. He hopes to ultimately invite some of these academics to share their expertise with staff and students at SU.

A Vanquished Peace: Prospects for the Successful Reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of Congo is available at most leading bookstores at the retail price of US\$ 69.00 (Hardcover).

DEPARTEMENT SELKUNDE

Tomlinson co-edits two-volume book on children and mental health

Prof Mark Tomlinson from the Psychology Department recently co-edited a two-volume book, *International Perspectives on Children and Mental Health*, which was published by Praeger Press in the USA.

Volume one looks at child development and the contexts within which this development takes place while volume two focuses on prevention and treatment. The books were co-edited along with psychiatrists Hiram E. Fitzgerald (USA), Kaija Puura (Finland) and Campbell Paul (Australia).

“All modern societies now recognise that mental and behavioural health issues account for significant losses in human resources and have significant negative impacts on economic development,” explains Tomlinson.

“The impact of endemic poverty on early neurobiological and social-emotional development is felt in countries accounting for the production of the vast majority of infants. Youth aggression and violence, lack of social control, use and abuse of licit and illicit drugs, and failure to complete minimum educational standards to become productive members of society, are worldwide issues. As the world becomes increasingly smaller via the vast expanse of access to information technologies, innovations in positive youth development programmes, effective preventive-intervention initiatives, and collaborative educational networks will bring shared solutions to prominence.”

The volumes, says Tomlinson, reflect on these issues and demonstrate the universality of the human experience, and the variations on the theme linked to cultural influences.

Some of the topics in the books deal with, amongst others, *Postnatal depression and its effects on child development; Mentalization and the roots of borderline personality disorders in infancy; Developing child and adolescent mental*

health services in low- and middle-income countries; and Implications of attachment theory and an attachment-based early intervention for the development of violence in South Africa.

According to Tomlinson the “audience for the volumes is researchers and academics, but importantly also the educated public, individuals who are not only responsible for public policy decisions, but individuals from the diverse disciplines and institutions who are responsible for generating and applying knowledge about the mental health status of ethno-racial children and their families”.

“The volumes are designed to affirm principles underlying the developmental context of mental health and the importance of prevention,” says Tomlinson.

But what does the mental health of children tell us about the mental health of a country and its citizens?

“Individual development is best understood within the context of family and community systems,” explains Tomlinson.

“Just as we now reject the ‘nature-nurture question’ because we know that nature and nurture are reciprocally determining aspects of the same organising system, we affirm that understanding the developmental process requires systemic, ecological models to guide our work. Individuals are embedded in families, families are embedded in neighbourhoods, neighbourhoods are embedded in communities, and communities are embedded within societies. These volumes capture the interconnectedness implicit in systemic frameworks within each volume and across volumes in the effort to provide a public view of the crisis confronting many societies undergoing rapid social transformation.”

The two volume set is currently not available in South Africa, but is available from Amazon (UK) for £110.



Photo: Prof Mark Tomlinson recently co-edited a two-volume book which was published by Praeger Press in the USA. (Hennie Rudmann, SSFD)

Prof Naidoo contributes to research project to transform Swellendam community

So often research just ends up on shelf in a library. However, a recent survey done in the Western Cape town of Swellendam proved that research can be turned into action to develop communities and that research can be a collaborative engagement with communities.

The Railton Community Assessment Project (CAP) has produced results and processes that were used to create an action-plan for community development, which will be implemented in the next year. Railton is a historically coloured community in Swellendam, and the action-plan is a direct result of a Stellenbosch University (SU) research project.

“With this project we connected research with action, rather than letting the findings end up on a shelf. It aims to build the strengths and resources of the community, which includes the structures, people, the natural environment, education and the inhabitants’ talents,” said Prof Tony Naidoo of the Psychology Department at the launch of the action plan in Swellendam at the end of July.

Naidoo and Prof Sandy Lazarus, a community psychologist who works for the Medical Research Council, led the research team which strategically included tertiary level students living in Railton and masters students in psychology from SU. Naidoo and Lazarus have been collaborating on several community projects.

Prof Russel Botman, SU Rector, said at the event that this is proof of how the University’s HOPE Project uses research to make a real difference in poor communities. Through HOPE initiatives like the Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert (FVZS) Institute for Student Leadership Development, SU will support development in Railton.

The Railton CAP began in 2009 as a joint undertaking by the Railton Foundation in the Netherlands (an organisation dedicated to the development of Railton) and SU to ascertain the needs and resources in the community and make recommendations for future development. The research was completed in November 2010.

The team used a community-based participatory process in which workshops, questionnaires and interviews were used in a mixed method approach. In total 297 people from Railton shared their views about the community’s needs and assets.

These needs included, amongst others, food security, youth development, cultural activities and job opportunities.

Among their assets were infrastructure, health services, the natural environment and human talent. The respondents were asked about priority areas for community action, and they listed education, skills and youth development, housing and food security as some of their priorities.

These findings then shaped the researchers' recommendations.

Lazarus explained: "The recommendations link directly to the research. It is necessary for schools in Railton to work together. The talent of the youth should be nurtured, and, with the help of government structures, the infrastructure of the neighbourhood must be supported."

Ms Ilze Olivier, who steers the Railton Community Action Plan (RAICAP) along with Mr Herman Smit, said there are nine areas on which they will focus in the first 12 months. These are vocational training and skills development, sport, youth development, entertainment and relaxation, job creation and economic growth, social development, agriculture, safety and security, and tourism.

Some of the outcomes will be the establishment of a sports and youth forum, the development of an annual district entertainment calendar, a soup kitchen, and building a place of safety.

The organisations that will help with the implementation of the projects, include Journey Trails (youth development through exposing young people to the natural environment), SCORE South Africa (sport as means of youth development), Friends of Railton (a support organisation consisting of professionals who grew up in Railton), as well as the FVZS Institute.

Naidoo and Lazarus said: "This is an excellent example of a Community-Based Participatory Research project which has fully activated the principle of 'action-research', which emphasises the need for research to inform and facilitate action in the community."

According to Naidoo, the research team will continue working on this project in future.

"Both Prof Lazarus and I will continue consulting on the project regarding processes and action. Ms Lorenza Williams, who was one of the Stellenbosch University masters students involved in the research, will be linking her doctoral research to one of the youth interventions in Railton and I will supervise her study."

The following research reports and a practical community handbook – *Die Uitvoering van 'n Gemeenskapsassessering – 'n Praktiese Gemeenskapshandleiding* (2011); *Railton Community Assessment: Research Report* (2011); and *Conducting a Community Assessment: A Practical Community Handbook* (2011) – are available from SunScholar at <http://scholar.sun.ac.za/>.

- Wayne Muller

*This story was first published in the *Kampusnuus* on 7 September 2011 with additional reporting by the *LETTER* editorial team.



Photo left: Youth participants in the Railton Community Assessment workshop with facilitators, Ms Fiona Filander and Mr Grant Demas, in the foreground.



Photo right: The Railton CAP team are (from left, back row) Mr Grant Demas, Mr Reagan Kamfar, Prof Sandy Lazarus, Prof Tony Naidoo, Mr Searle Korasie and Mr Basil May, Chair of the Railton Foundation. In the front row are Mr Jamie-Lee Martin, Ms Deidre Sauls, Ms Annuske Klaasen, Ms Fiona Filander and Ms Lorenza Williams.

Bekker’s *Capital Cities in Africa* “explores the complicated processes of nation-state building”

A book, which “explores the complicated processes of nation-state building”, and which was co-edited by a sociology professor in the Sociology and Social Anthropology Department was published by the HSRC Press and Codesria Press in September.

Capital Cities in Africa: Power and Powerlessness was co-edited by Prof Simon Bekker from SU, and Prof Göran Therborn, former Professor of Sociology at the University of Cambridge, and focuses in particular on sub-Saharan Africa.

Capital Cities in Africa has been described by fellow scholars such as Prof Catherine Coquery-Vidrovitch from Paris Diderot University in France as “essential reading for those seeking a better understanding of postcolonial capital cities in Africa, their inherited social structures, their historical trajectories and the political roles they play”.

According to the publishers, the book “focuses on capital cities in nine sub-Saharan African countries, and traces how the power vested in them has evolved through different colonial backgrounds, radically different kinds of regimes after independence, waves of popular protest, explosive population growth and in most cases stunted economic development.”

“Starting at the point of national political emancipation, each case study explores the complicated processes of nation-state building through its manifestation in the “urban geology” of the city – its architecture, iconography, layout and political use of urban space,” write the publishers.

Bekker, whose interest in collective identities, ethnicity and migration has led him to focus on urban studies in South Africa and sub-Saharan Africa, has also written extensively on religious and urban identities in South Africa, and on xenophobia. His interest in the topic of capital cities in Africa was sparked, he says, following discussions with Therborn, a well-known scholar in international sociology circles.

“Therborn has been directing a global project on capital cities based on the idea that capital cities represent both the nation and the centre of state formation symbolically as well as in terms of power. When I met with him in Sweden, he suggested that we focus on sub-Saharan Africa within this global project.”



Photo: Prof Goran Therborn (left) and Prof Simon Bekker (right) with a Congolese colleague in Kinshasa.

Therborn is completing a number of similar capital city projects in Eurasia, the Far East, and the Americas.

Eight of the 10 authors who contributed chapters on capital cities (such as Conakry, Nairobi, Lomé and Lagos amongst others) were invited to submit their research following their attendance of a conference hosted by the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) in Dakar, Senegal, in 2008. Funding was obtained from the University of Cambridge, South Africa's National Research Foundation, and France's *Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique* (CNRS).

"We asked the authors to focus on the post-colonial capital city in sub-Saharan Africa – for most countries a period of about 50 years. The authors have tried, by focusing on the city's architecture, its public monuments and statues, and the names of its streets and public places, to reveal changes in the nature of nation building and state formation after independence," explains Bekker.

One of these examples, he says, is the statue of Queen Nzinga, one of the struggle heroes in Luanda, Angola, which was erected after the country's independence and replaced classical Portuguese hero statues.

"Such changes illustrate the power that capital cities wield over their populaces. However, there is a huge difference between 'power over' and 'power to'," explains Bekker, "as capital cities clearly have power over their population, but a lot of them do not have power to deliver housing or health services or to fight issues like crime. Because they are capital cities, they tend to receive a disproportionate stream of urbanising individuals and these cities typically struggle to cope with the consequent informalisation of urban lives."

Capital Cities in Africa is also an important work in terms of what we are able to glean from other cities in Africa, who may be struggling with similar challenges to those facing South Africa.

"There is a view, particularly in South Africa, that Africa is divided into discrete parts: North Africa on the Mediterranean rim, the Francophone and the Anglophone countries, and the South which is often viewed as 'better'. We try in the book to reveal a more complicated picture of Africa."

Bekker and Prof Gabriel Tati of the Statistics Department at the University of the Western Cape recently presented a talk on the production of the book as a project and networking exercise in Africa at an African University Day event at Stellenbosch University on 14 November. Tati contributed a chapter on Brazzaville.

"One of the main points I made at the event was that not only are the two publishers African, but also that seven of the eleven contributors to the book are also African. It's an African project from an African network of academics, and not a case of the North telling us about the South."

The book can be ordered via HSRC Press at www.hsrcpress.ac.za for R250, 00 and will be available in bookstores soon.

Prof Walker attends Canadian conference on Women's Economic Empowerment



Photo: Delegates at the plenary on *Investing in practical ways to support women entrepreneurs and create more and better jobs for women* were from the left Mr Darren Schemmer from CIDA; Ms Lalita Krishnaswamy, a Trustee with the Self-employed Women's Association (SEWA) in India; Ms Josephine Okot, the Founder of Victoria Seeds Ltd in Uganda; Ms Jessica Rodriguez, the Founder of Art Atlas Indigenous Designs in Peru; and Ms Mahbooba Waizi, the President of the Afghan Women's Business Council in Afghanistan.

Prof Cherryl Walker of the Sociology and Social Anthropology Department recently returned from an international conference on Women's Economic Empowerment in Ottawa hosted by the Canadian government and the United Nations (UN) Women from 3 – 5 October.

UN Women was established by the UN General Assembly in July 2010 to "lead, support, and coordinate the work on gender equality and the empowerment of women at global, regional and country levels". It merges four agencies which previously worked on these issues separately within the UN system.

Walker was invited to participate in the three-day conference by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The goal of the conference, says Walker, was "to identify tangible actions to support women's economic empowerment and strengthen their economic security and rights" and from that to produce recommendations that could guide CIDA and UN Women in their current and future programming.

"Having attended a related event in Copenhagen in 2009, I was keen to see how the issues were being framed at this high level of policy debate in the current conjuncture, to link up with colleagues,

and to contribute what I could from my understanding of issues in southern Africa, particularly in relation to land and rural development,” says Walker.

The conference was opened by Dr Michelle Bachelet, Executive Director of UN Women and the first woman president of Chile from 2006 – 2010, along with the Canadian Minister of International Cooperation, Ms Beverley Oda.

A total of 80 delegates from 31 countries, among them 10 African delegates from Ethiopia, Kenya, Mali, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda, participated in the conference.

According to Walker the delegates included prominent women politicians, successful entrepreneurs from developing countries, and some academics with a number of sectors, including international policy and development agencies, grassroots women’s organisations and social movements represented.

Walker says while there was a general recognition by many of the participants of “the gains that have been made at the level of policy, both internationally and at the country level in many cases”, implementation has still remained a serious challenge.

“Women continue to face discrimination in many areas of social and economic life, and to carry the primary burden of care in the absence of adequate state services and basic infrastructure. The global financial crisis is exacerbating these problems.”

Prof Naila Kabeer from the School of African and Asian Studies (SOAS) at London University gave a keynote address on the topic, *Framing the issues*. Major topics addressed in plenaries and round tables included the social supports required for women’s economic empowerment; women’s access to and rights over economic assets; challenges related to global migration patterns and the provision of decent work; practical interventions to increase women’s access to credit, markets, information and communications technologies (ICTs), education and training; and the role and relevance of social and economic research in informing and deepening policy interventions and debates.

Walker served as discussant in a lively session on the latter topic, entitled *Building an evidence-base: increasing research and knowledge to support women’s economic empowerment*.

“While there was general agreement at the conference on the importance of applied research in support of policy development, what is also needed is deep, theoretically informed research on the nature and meaning of ‘development’ and ‘empowerment’, as well as context-specific analyses of women’s position not only as autonomous economic agents but as members of households, families and communities,” she says.

“I also raised issues around power relations in the setting of research agendas internationally, and the challenges for researchers in the so-called developing world of dealing with changing fashions in donor-funded projects, for instance, issues such as HIV/AIDS and gender falling off the page as concerns around climate change gain momentum.”

Walker also used the visit to Canada to meet with colleagues working on land issues in this country and southern Africa at the University of Toronto, at Trent University in Peterborough outside Toronto, and at Carleton University in Ottawa. At Trent she presented two seminars, one on work-in-progress on institutional dynamics around land claims and land reform in South Africa, while at Carleton’s Institute of African Studies she presented a seminar offering a broad reflective overview of land restitution in South Africa to date.

For more information on the conference, visit the News and Events pages of the UN Women website at <http://www.unwomen.org/>.



Photo: The round table on research included Prof Cheryl Walker who acted as the discussant, Mr Paul Samson, a Director General from CIDA who served as chair, and Dr Caren Grown, Senior Gender Advisor for USAID who was the rapporteur.

Zapiro shows SU his pen can still zap



Photo: Cartoonist Jonathan Shapiro, better known as Zapiro, delivering his lecture *Careful - this pen is loaded* in the JS Gericke Library. (Desmond Thompson)

In a lecture held on the Stellenbosch University (SU) campus, well-known cartoonist Zapiro showed why his drawing pencil still gives sharp commentary – and why his controversial art has landed him in hot water many times.

Zapiro, or rather Jonathan Shapiro, is known for his political comment in cartoons published in several South African newspapers, amongst others the *Sowetan* and *Mail & Guardian*.

On 18 October, the artist was the speaker at a lecture series presented by the Sociology and Social Anthropology Department, held in the auditorium of the JS Gericke Library. His topic was *Careful – this pen is loaded*.

Zapiro was invited by Prof Steven Robins from the Department. “The reason for inviting Zapiro is that he is an astute analyst of contemporary South African political, social and cultural life. He is also an extremely influential public intellectual who generates enormous debate and contributes towards our democratic public sphere,” says Robins.

Zapiro started his career in 1987 as cartoonist for the now defunct progressive newspaper *South*, whereafter the *Sowetan*, *Cape Argus*, *Mail & Guardian* and *Sunday Times* started publishing his cartoons. Since 2005 his work can also be seen in the *Cape Times*, *The Star*, *The Mercury* and *Pretoria News*.

Under the old and new regime, Zapiro has always been controversial and his cartoons have landed him in trouble many times. During the

lecture, Zapiro said he had just heard that the defamation case President Jacob Zuma brought against him will be heard in court in August 2012.

In his lecture, Zapiro talked about his career and showed his most famous and infamous work – from a 1987 cartoon on the UDF with coded messages and policemen portrayed as pigs, to his now signature portrayal of Zuma with a shower head.

“Cartoonists can get away with codes, hidden messages and symbols,” he said, adding that his editors at different publications have over the years often refused to publish his cartoons.

“But there are also those cartoons that I fought for and which were published. It is amazing how many risqué, rude and offensive cartoons have been published in mainstream South African newspapers that were not published in established democracies like America.”

In this regard, he referred to his cartoon criticising the former American army general and politician Colin Powell, as well as his commentary on the debacle around the portrayal of the Muslim prophet Muhammad by Danish cartoonists in 2006.

“There are indeed double standards when it comes to satire, especially when it concerns religion and politics.”

Zapiro’s latest book of cartoons was published shortly after his visit. Among these cartoons are one titled *The last sushi* (referring to Leonardo Da Vinci’s *The last supper*), showing “corrupt” politicians enjoying sushi around the table with the ghost of Brett Kebble lurking behind them.

- Wayne Muller

Konferensie ondersoek die begrip ‘kultuur’

Die *Futures of Culture*-konferensie wat van 3-6 September op die Universiteit Stellenbosch (US)-kampus gehou is, was ‘n groot sukses – die grootste konferensie van antropoloë nog in die land.

Die geleentheid is deur Antropologie Suider-Afrika (ASnA) in samewerking met die Departement Sosiologie en Sosiale Antropologie aan die US georganiseer.

Die byeenkoms was ook ‘n viering van die 10-jarige bestaan van ASnA, wat ‘n voortsetting is van twee verenigings

wat voorheen op grond van politieke en kulturele standpunte verdeel was, naamlik die Suid-Afrikaanse Vereniging vir Kulturele Antropoloë (SAVKA) en die Vereniging vir Antropologie in Suider-Afrika (VASA). SAVKA het historiese skakels met die US deur die ontwikkeling van volkekunde aan die instelling sedert 1926.

Volgens prof Kees van der Waal, een van die organiseerders van die konferensie wat verbonde is aan die Departement Sosiologie en Sosiale Antropologie, het die weergawe van antropologie wat aan Afrikaanse universiteite onderrig is, algemeen bekend as 'volkekunde', gedurende apartheid 'n rassistiese staatsbestel ondersteun deur die onderrig van essensialistiese, biologiese en evolusionistiese nosies van kultuur.

"In die Suid-Afrikaanse vryheidstryd-diskoers is aanvaar dat rasse en kulturele klassifikasies sosiaal en polities gevorm is. Nou, in Suider-Afrika asook elders in die wêreld, word 'kultuur' dikwels weer eens gebruik as 'n alibi vir vrouehaat, xenofobie en rassisme. Voorbeelde hiervan kan gesien word in die toenemende regsgeesinde sentimente teen immigrante en 'vreemdelinge' in Europa," sê hy.

"Dit is ook besonder van pas om hierdie soort konferensie by die Universiteit Stellenbosch aan te bied, veral gesien in die lig van die Universiteit se geskiedenis, waar volkekunde 'n apartheidsepistemologie ondersteun het, waar slawe in die wingerde gewerk het, en waar gemeenskappe gewelddadig verskuif is om hierdie pragtige kampus tot stand te bring. Terwyl ons die verlede in gedagte hou, wil ons ook ontluikende Afrikaansmedium-kulturele uitdrukkings vier – van skerpskerkersery tot hip-hop tot koöperatiewe wynboerdery – as 'n gevallestudie van die mate waartoe die woord 'kultuur' vir ons bruikbaar is en steeds nie bruikbaar is nie," verduidelik Van der Waal en mede-organiseerder, prof Steven Robins, wat ook aan die Departement verbonde is.

Nagenoeg 170 referate is in die daaglikse vyf parallelle sessies by die konferensie gelewer met 'n groot deel daarvan bygedra deur nagraadse studente van oor die Suider-Afrikaanse streek heen. Die referate het op breë temas gefokus soos die *Staat van Welsyn en Neoliberalisme*; die *Verlede en Toekoms van Kultuur in Gesondheid, Siekte en Welwees*; die *Ondersoek van Sosiale Lewe, Identiteite en Verskille deur Biografiese en Outobiografiese Metodes*; en *Ontluikende Afrikaanse Kulture en Etnisiteite na Apartheid*.



Foto: Hier is die hoofsprekers en organiseerders van die konferensie. Om die voorste tafel van links is prof Rehana Vally (Pretoria Universiteit en President van AsnA); prof Steven Robins (US); prof Charles Piot (Duke); me Menán van Heerden, me Eleanor Swartz en me Handri Walters (US); prof Jean-Pierre Warnier (Sorbonne); me Kathleen McDougall en me Elizabeth Hector (US). Agter van links is prof Kees van der Waal, me Tazneem Wentzel, dr Thomas Blaser en me Tinashe Pfigu (US); mnr Gregory Louw, 'n gemeenskaplid van Hangberg in Houtbaai; en Mnr Dylan Valley, 'n filmmaker van *Afrikaaps*. (Anton Jordaan, SSFD)

Hoofsprekers het die volgende persone ingesluit: prof Charles Piot wat Afrika- & Afro-Amerikaanse Studies en Vrouestudies aan Duke Universiteit onderrig en wie se navorsingsveld kontemporêre kultuur en politiek, asook die geskiedenis van slawerny en kolonialisme in Franssprekende Wes-Afrika insluit; Prof Jean-Pierre Warnier van die Paris-Descartes, Sorbonne Universiteit, wat 'n bekende spesialis is op die gebied van materiële kultuur, simboliek en politieke stelsels van Wes-Afrika; asook die bekende en internasionaal erkende Afrika-geleerde prof Achille Mbembe, voorheen van die Departement Sosiologie en Sosiale Antropologie aan die US, wie se intellektuele agtergrond sosiologie, antropologie, geskiedenis, filosofie, politieke wetenskap en literêre studies insluit.

'n Interessante geleentheid op die program was die openingsoptrede deur die Kaapse hip-hop-groep *Afrikaaps*. Die groep het onlangs 'n uiters suksesvolle opvoering op die planke gebring waarvoor hulle verskeie toekennings verwerf het. Dié opvoering is 'n kritiese kommentaar op die Afrikaanse taaldebate, in besonder vanuit 'n 'bruin'-

oogpunt, en die opvoering beklemtoon die behoefte aan 'n kreoolse siening van taal en kultuur.

"Hulle kulturele opvoering is 'n kritiese inbesitneming van Afrikaans teen 'n nuwe demokratiese agtergrond waar Afrikaans anders werk, maar nog steeds die oorblyfsels van gestandaardiseerde Afrikaans, wat 'n soort kulturele oorheersing tydens apartheid was, behou. Dit is 'n musikale en multimedia-opvoering wat die kreoolse geskiedenis van Afrikaans vier en sodoende die oorheersing deur die standaardweergawe van Afrikaans die stryd aansê. Afrikaans is plaaslik en internasionaal hoog aangeskrewe en teen die geskiedkundige agtergrond van Stellenbosch, was hulle uitvoering baie belangrik," sê Van der Waal.

Die optrede van *Afrikaans* op die openingsaand het bygedra tot die skep van 'n atmosfeer wat kulturele optredes en akademiese refleksie ingesluit het. Die amptelike opening is deur prof Johan Hattingh, Visedekaan: Sosiale Wetenskappe van die Fakulteit Lettere en Sosiale Wetenskappe, gedoen. Hy het die uitdagings vir sosiaal-wetenskaplike werk in die nasionale en internasionale konteks baie duidelik geskets.

"Hierdie konferensie het ook antropoloë, akademici en studente bymekaar gebring om 'n ruimte te skep waar hulle kan begin soek na nuwe maniere om prosesse op die subkontinent te verstaan en teorieë te ontwikkel. Die konferensie het as grondslag die stryd met betrekking tot die begrip 'kultuur' gehad wat 'n sentrale konsep in sosiale antropologie is, maar wat ook die kern uitmaak van die denkraamwerk oor die samelewing onder die bevolking, byvoorbeeld die reduksionistiese wyse waarop kulturele verskille aan taal, 'ras' en nasie gekoppel word," sê Van der Waal.

"Gedurende die apartheidstydperk was sosiale antropoloë krities oor die wyse waarop die staat die begrip 'kultuur' gebruik het as deel van verdeel-en-heers-strategieë tydens die ontstaan van die tuislandstelsel van Bantoestans. Ná apartheid moes antropoloë egter kwessies aangaande kultuur in 'n demokrasie heroorweeg. Hierdie konferensie het kontemporêre debatte oor 'n wye spektrum kwessies krities hanteer, in die besonder die wyse waarop kultuur herafgebaken, in besit geneem en beveg word," voeg Robins by.

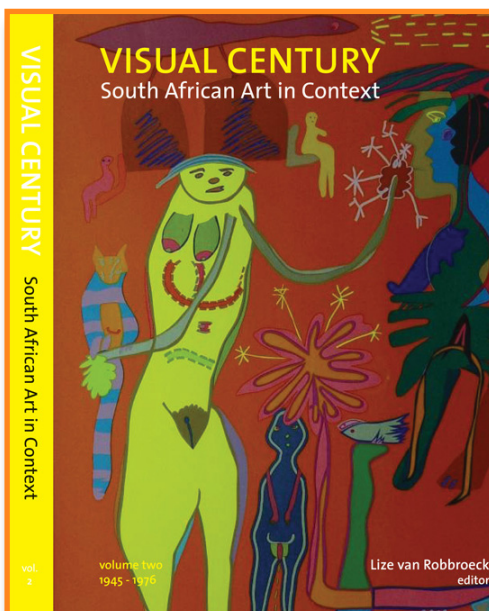
Tydens die konferensie het die studentegroep *Cityscapes* – nagraadse studente in Sosiale Antropologie wat navorsing doen oor antropologiese insigte in en benaderings tot nuwe kulturele ontwikkelings in die stad – met Tazneem Wentzel en Eleanor Swartz as leiers, besluit om met studente van die Universiteit van die Weskaap saam te werk. Die doel hiermee is om konvergerende kulturele navorsingsprojekte oor die stad met kollegas en studente in die streek te versterk en resultate te bespreek.

Me Kathleen McDougall van die Department is ook tydens 'n ASnA vergadering gedurende die konferensie tot die Raad van die vereniging verkies.

Van der Waal, Robins, Swartz, Wentzel en McDougall was saam met Thomas Blaser, Tinashe Pfigu en Handri Walters verantwoordelik vir die beplanning en organisasie van die konferensie.

DEPARTEMENT VISUELE KUNSTE

Van Robbroeck contributes to four-volume book reappraising a century of South African visual art



Prof Lize van Robbroeck from the Visual Arts Department recently edited volume two of a four-volume book which "reappraises 100 years of South African visual art from a post-apartheid perspective". *Visual Century: South African Art in Context: 1907 – 2007* was published by Wits University Press in October this year, with Van Robbroeck editing a volume covering the period 1945 to 1976.

"To produce a 'new' history is, perforce, to interrogate prior historical accounts. It is impossible to look at the art of South Africa as a historical phenomenon without also addressing the forces — ideological, institutional, socio-political and discursive — that both interpreted and influenced the production of art in this country," explains Van Robbroeck.

"This means that *Visual Century*, the project, was tasked not only with rewriting South Africa's history of art, but also addressing the institutional and discursive mechanisms that produced a very selective, elitist and racially-skewed canon of South African art during the 20th century," she adds.

The four-volume boxed set was officially launched on 10 November at the University of Witwatersrand (Wits) Professional Development Hub in Johannesburg and on 12 November in Cape Town by the Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture Dr Joseph Phaahla. The volumes were also launched in Washington and New York.

According to the publishers, this is the “first wide-ranging survey of South Africa’s contemporary art to incorporate multiple writers and perspectives”.

“By contextualising the art within broader historical currents, *Visual Century* makes a major contribution towards the construction of an inclusive national archive, as well as to the development of an inclusive international art history. Wide-ranging and in-depth essays by over 30 contributors, including many of South Africa’s leading art historians, cultural commentators and artists, make it an indispensable resource for curators, historians, students and artists. Lavish full colour illustrations, often of rare or seldom-seen artworks, make this collection a treasure for all art lovers with an interest in South African art,” write the publishers.

The other three volumes cover the periods 1907-1948, 1973-1992 and 1990-2007 and were edited respectively by Jillian Carman from the University of Witwatersrand and the University of Johannesburg, Mario Pissarra of Africa South Art Initiative (ASAI) and artist Thembinkosi Goniwe, Pissarra, and Mandisi Majavu. Pissarra was also the Editor-in-Chief of the entire set while South African artist, Gavin Jantjes, served as Project Initiator and Director.

The volume edited by Van Robbroeck “addresses the fertile cultural ambivalences of this period” by exploring amongst others “the relationship between Afrikaner nationalism and the emergence of an ‘official’ South African art, which would come to be challenged by the steady increase in the number of modern black artists and new informal art centres”.

“The impact of white patronage, the responses of migrant workers to rapid change, and artists’ responses to the repressive political climate of apartheid, as well as to emerging black nationalism, are all canvassed. The allure and impact of European and American art, along with modernist discourses, for South African artists both at home and in exile, not least the struggles of black and white artists to define an African identity, are also explored,” write the publishers about this volume.

According to Van Robbroeck, books about South African art appeared for the first time in the 1930s, but tended to exclude black artists altogether or only included one or two.

“The exclusion of black artists from South Africa’s emerging canon of national art indicates the extent to which the national body imagined by the term ‘South Africa’ was a white one – and increasingly, from the 1920s onwards, a white Afrikaner entity,” she explains.

Van Robbroeck’s volume covered the period from the mid-1940s to the mid-1970s, which “corresponded with the establishment and gradual consolidation of Afrikaner Nationalist power”. In order to explore this extensive period, the contributors chose eight themes to focus on in the volume.

“Also of importance, in this decision to go thematic rather than, say, strictly chronological, was our aim to draw on existing expertise for this volume, but also to identify areas that have been largely overlooked in the past, and to solicit new scholarship from sometimes previously unpublished authors. It is hoped that this medley of experienced and established authors and new, fresh voices would launch a rebirth of interest in South Africa’s rich cultural legacy,” she says.

While she enjoyed working on this volume, she admits that she found it challenging — in the process of defining themes — to “give due recognition to the degree to which racial politics determined the national canon of the time”, without duplicating the binaries of a separate “dominant white suburban mainstream” and a “marginal, under-resourced township”.

Van Robbroeck also contributed a chapter to the volume which she edited. Her chapter interrogated the “discursive reception of black artists’ work in the white-owned media and in art historical publications and government-sponsored journals”.

“This deconstruction of the art and anthropological discourses that framed modern ‘black’ art as a curiosity and anomaly, was deemed essential to this volume, primarily because it serves to unpack problems inherent to the overwhelming majority of extant texts on black artists works still referenced by scholars today. In addition, it reveals the virulently Eurocentric academic and intellectual climate of the period, by emphasising the influence that conservative anthropological theories and essentialist Art Historical beliefs exerted on South African art criticism,” she says.

Another colleague, Kathryn Smith, wrote a chapter on *The Experimental Turn in Visual Arts* for volume four.

All the volumes produced, says Van Robbroeck, are important because they went beyond merely “highlighting omissions of the South African art world of the apartheid era”.

“Visual Century is not only about casting presences from the absences of dominant art history, but also aims to account for previous canons – to acknowledge them, but in such a way that the contingencies surrounding their production is exposed and accounted for.”

Seed funding for the manuscript, which led to this four-volume set, was provided by the former Minister of Arts and Culture, Dr Pallo Jordan.

The set can be ordered through Blue Weaver at 021 701 4477 for R1 500.

Dichotomies of Place in Objects exhibition draws a lot of interest in SA

A travelling jewellery exhibition, *Dichotomies of Place in Objects: Contemporary South African Studio Jewellery from the Stellenbosch Area*, was on display at the Sasol Arts Museum from 14 September to 29 October after returning from the USA. The exhibition was opened by Prof Lize van Robbroeck of the Visual Arts Department in Stellenbosch in September.

The exhibition was previously shown at the Velvet Da Vinci Gallery in San Francisco from 1 July to 31 July 2010; the Ohio Craft Museum in Columbus, Ohio, from 12 September to 31 October 2010; and at The Ornamental Metals Museum in Memphis from 23 January to 1 April 2011.

It featured over a 180 pieces of work by twenty South African artists. All the artists selected, which include current as well as former students and lecturers of the Jewellery Design division in the Visual Arts Department, are affiliated with Stellenbosch University (SU), the only university in South Africa teaching conceptual approaches to jewellery making.

“The exhibition was a major success in the USA and our catalogue was completely sold out,” says Carine Terreblanche, who is the coordinator of the Jewellery Design Division and the curator of the exhibition along with Lauren Kalman, a 2008 visiting American artist/conceptual jeweller.

“The South African exhibition was both well attended and well received. It was a good opportunity to present contemporary SA jewellery to a local audience.”

“We chose provocative, experimental and formally engaging works to showcase. These works reflect a broad range of highly conceptual practices, from tongue-in-cheek kitsch to more poetic material investigations of form,” say the curators.

The *Dichotomies of Place in Objects* exhibition was launched by Terreblanche and Kalman in 2010 after the success of the *Inventions* exhibition at the Gold of Africa Museum in May 2008 generated an opportunity for a traveling exhibition in the USA in 2010 and the beginning of 2011.

Funding for the exhibition was provided by the museums in the USA, Anglo Platinum, SU and the National Research Foundation’s THRIP programme. The Society of North American Goldsmiths (SNAG) provided the funding for the printing of a high-quality, full-colour glossy catalogue which was designed by Kalman and showcased work in the exhibition produced by the Jewellery Design Division. Articles discussing the jewellery were written by Van Robbroeck and Kalman. Terreblanche wrote an article on the unique history of the division for the catalogue.

An electronic catalogue was also launched at the opening of the Stellenbosch exhibition.



Photos: Here are some of the jewellery works on display at the *Dichotomies of Place in Objects: Contemporary South African Studio Jewellery from the Stellenbosch Area* exhibition at the Sasol Arts Museum. From the left are two pieces created by Eric Loubser and a piece by Kirsten Gerber.