



Law Faculty Update

MARCH 2007

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From the Dean's Desk

2006 ENDED on an absolute high with a gala Law dinner that saw 200 alumni, staff and distinguished guests celebrating the lives of five giants of the legal community; the pictures on the centerfold will, I hope, give you a taste of how it was.

On the day following the dinner 110 LLBs graduated, the biggest group since 1997; the ceremony was greatly enhanced by the voices of the Sithembelwe Matiso choir, the school at which many of the students had taught Matric subjects every Saturday morning.

These are all hard acts to follow I know, but as I have said on numerous occasions in my tenure as Dean, this Faculty never fails to amaze. A new development in 2007 is the introduction of an Academic Development Programme for 12 students to do the 4 year LLB over 5 years.

Such programmes have been done very successfully by Engineering & by the Health Sciences and I am confident that this is another step towards meaningful transformation of the legal profession. 2007 also sees our first cohort of black African South Africans to benefit from scholarships provided by four local law firms and by alumni both in South Africa and overseas.

Two new senior academic appointees are Clifford Shearing, Chair in Justice and Security in Africa, and Julian Kinderlerer, Chair in Intellectual Property



law; later in the year we will also welcome Constitutional lawyer, Drucilla Cornell, thus adding three leading intellectuals to the Faculty. The new group of teaching and research assistants is again very much a homegrown and talented one, as are several of the new lecturers: you can read all about them in news of alumni on the back page.

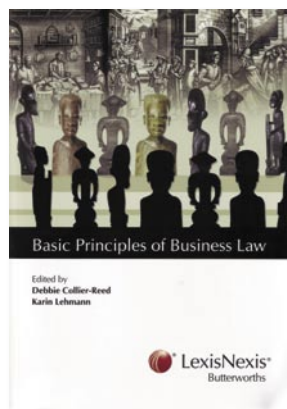
February brought a Reunion with a difference - the Class of 1952 orchestrated an Academy as part of their first reunion. Topics such as *From Cape Town to California* by Rina Gordon Rosenberg and *The Law of Persons as it once was - O tempora, O mores* by Jack Aaron were augmented by guest appearances from Jules Browde, Irene Menell & Leonard Gerling. We hope to see many of you here for Reunion Weekend in October - I will be there, both as Dean and as part of the Class of 1977's 30th!

Best wishes,
Hugh Corder

Basic Principles of Business Law

'STUDENTS FROM disciplines other than law present unique challenges and opportunities for law teachers. The purpose of this book,' says Debbie Collier (1993), 'is to bridge the gap between lawyers who teach the law, and those from other disciplines required, sometimes somewhat reluctantly, to study the law.'

The other co-editor, Karin Lehmann, and nine of the eleven authors are from the Department of Commercial Law. 'We appreciate the tremendous effort of all the contributing authors but would like to single out Dr Jaco Barnard and Andrew Hutchison for their editing and research efforts and Graham Bradfield and Professor Christie for their insight,' said Collier.



Honourand Dinner



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Hugh Corder with Vanessa, Oliver and Albie Sachs; Dennis in dialogue mode; Reinhard Zimmermann in festive mood; Irene Menell, President of Convocation medalist; the Hepples and the Dean; Mike Larkin and MM Corbett enjoying the interventions.



Visitors to the Faculty

Read Hope Phillips scholarship



PJ Hope (1989) (right) pictured with Deputy Dean Evance Kalula and the Read Hope Phillips scholarship winner in 2006: Jeanette Safi.

Opening of 2007 academic year



Deputy Minister of Health, Nozizwe Madlala-Routledge, chats to students.

Grad 2006



Author, alumnus and advocate, Andrew Brown (left), was the guest speaker at Grad 2006.

Nigerian parliamentarians visit UCT



Staff of the National Assembly of Nigeria attended a workshop at the UCT Law Faculty entitled 'Comparing experiences across Africa'.

Indonesian visitors



The Dean speaks to a delegation of the Indonesian parliament.

USA magistrate judges in South Africa



Professor Francois du Bois (left) chats with some USA magistrate judges after his talk on the TRC.

Law clinic extends helping hand to refugees



These Somali women and their children are just some of the 3 682 new clients seen by the UCT Refugee Law Clinic in 2006. The three professional staff who work in this area really do a stirring job.



The class of 1952 returns



55 years on, (from left to right)
Back: Herb McKenzie, Cyril Prisman, Jack Aaron, Paul Finnemore and Les Rose-Innes.
Front: Ivor Schneider, Mike Francis, Rina Rosenberg (nee Gordon) and Alan Karabus.

ALUMNI LETTER

Thank you Leslie!



Leslie Alexander hard at work photocopying text.

JUST SOMETHING small to say thank you for all the hard work you put in for us over the last four years. Thank you for going the extra mile to ensure we would get through our law degree. I look back today, my graduation day, and cannot believe I have done it. I thank you for your support, great sense of humour, and your genuine willingness to help out when I was in a bit of a pickle! Leslie, you are a very honourable man and an asset to the Law Faculty.

Much respect,
Mike Wilter (2006)



Alumni News

From student to staff and onwards

Emma Witbool (1991) is back from her PhD studies at UCL and is teaching on the LLM programme with the Institute of Marine and Environmental Law for the next two months.

Cathy Powell (1993), a senior lecturer in Public Law, has been accepted to the SJD programme at the University of Toronto, and been awarded a Fellowship for three years.

Adele Erasmus (1995) is at the Cape Bar, teaching International Criminal Law part-time and **Waheeda Amien** is lecturing in commercial law and finishing the PhD she started in Belgium in 2003.

Helen Scott (1998) is a senior lecturer having just done her D.Phil at Oxford (on unjustified enrichment).

Julian Jonker (2001) has just completed an LLM by thesis with distinction, and is lecturer in charge of the new Academic Development Programme.

Andrew Hutchison (2003) is working on his LLM and lecturing in commercial law.

Shaun Fergus, Kerry Kopke, Andrea M'Paradzi & Stephen Wagener 2005/6 are training and research assistants; two will do their LLM here, two will go to foreign fields.

Other updates

1973

Ghita Lipshitz now lives in Australia and although admitted as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW in 1993, has not practiced law since her days at the Cape Bar

1977

Kato van Niekerk has been appointed a judge of the High Court of Namibia

1993

Judith February is now writing a fortnightly column for the Cape Times

1994

David Becker, a specialist sports and entertainment lawyer in London, has just had his *The Essential Legal Guide to Events* published by Collyer Bristow

John Namiseb is the Chief of Law Reform in the Ministry of Justice, Namibia

2002

Nina Briskorn (LLM) is currently an inhouse lawyer for the Otto Group, Hamburg

Dates to diarise

March 29th: Professor Hudson Janisch will deliver the fourth Ben Beinart Memorial lecture on the subject of 'The Internet: Beyond the Reach of Law?' at 17h30 at the Centre for the Book, 62 Queen Victoria St, Cape Town.

May 3rd: Breakfast seminar with Professor Corder in New York; contact uctfund@comcast.net.

May 5th: Law function in Toronto; contact henry@blumbers.ca.

October 19&20: Reunion weekend for those of you who graduated in 1957, 1967, 1977 and 1982; contact pauline.alexander@uct.ac.za.

Please keep the updates coming - fax Pauline on 021 650 5662.