



**FACULTY OF LAW**  
**FUNDRAISING REPORT 2023**



We are immensely proud of our students at UCT Law. In 2023 we had a cohort of 1 318 students registered in the Faculty, from LLBs to PhDs across all years. We graduated 122 LLBs, 160 Postgraduate diplomas and Master's, and 21 PhDs. Our students work hard, they continually surprise us, and they leave us greatly enriched by their participation in the life of the Faculty.

As many of our donors and alumni are aware, the trajectory to success does not always maintain a positive arc. We remain aware that in order to ensure a student community that is vibrant, inclusive and reflective of our society, we have to find financial support for bursaries and scholarships. University fees, residence costs, books, laptops, food, and daily essentials require money. And as hard as most of our students work at other jobs, and finding other forms of funding, there are always gaps that needs to be filled.

To our many alumni, donors, and friends who work with us to help create a positive learning experience for every student at UCT, we say a big "Thank You!". Thank you for recognising that funding support is essential for our Faculty to be able to meet the needs of our diverse student community.

Our academics, tutors, and administrators work untiringly to bring law students the curricula and experiences that will shape the way in which they understand the law, understand themselves as legal practitioners, and use their education in the future. We are very proud of being able to support our students where we can with scholarships, bursaries and other assistance, and we recognise that the relief of a scholarship extends well beyond our individual students. It also impacts families, friends and guardians who are often in precarious circumstances. Supporting one, means success for many.

None of this would happen without the generosity of our alumni, donors and friends.

Thank you.

## EXCELLENCE IN LAW

UCT's Faculty of Law has been dedicated to raising funds to ensure that our students have every advantage and resource necessary to achieve their education goals. The *Excellence in Law* annual fundraising drive, in one form or another, has been a reliable and steady source of support for students for a number of decades. The funds raised ensure that we are able to award scholarships, provide emergency funding, organise mentorship programmes, support healthcare assistance, purchase equipment and much more, for the benefit of all our students.

In 2023 we increased the value of our fund by R6million.

Income type	Donor	Amount
<i>Donations</i>	Individuals	356 238
	Philanthropic Foundations	200 000
	Law@work contribution	1 000 000
<i>Donations (Prizes)</i>	Postgraduate Marine & Environmental Law Scholarships and Prizes	300 000
	PJ Smeets Prize for Postgraduate Studies	36 186
	The John Hare and Graham Bradfield Prizes in Shipping Law	20 000
<i>Investment Returns</i>	Interest Distribution	3 375 630
	Capital profit distribution	95 838
	Interest Revenue - MacFarlane Scholarship Gift	624 000
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6 007 892</b>

## LLB SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2023 the Faculty was able to award 28 scholarships to LLB students, to a total of R1,8million. This total includes the students selected for the Everard and Joan McFarlane Family Leadership Scholarship (endowed by the MacFarlane Family). In addition the Faculty secured a further R720,000 in donor funding to support students with fee debt to ensure their return to campus to continue their LLB studies.

Funding for scholarships remains one of our most important, impactful and far-reaching student support programmes.

Census Categories	Female	Male	Total Category	
African	7	7	14	50%
Coloured	9	4	13	46%
Asian	1		1	4%
<b>Total Students</b>			<b>28</b>	

Note: The above categories are as defined by the South African Census.

## POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

In 2023 the Faculty was able to award 46 scholarships at Master's and PhD level, with a value of R2,7million. These include the Faculty's named scholarships and those awarded from the *Excellence in Law* campaign fundraising efforts.

### Alexander Burman Memorial Scholarship

- ❖ Sheryl Kunaka (PhD)

### Basil & Con Corder Scholarship

- ❖ Sibabalwe Ntsilane (LLM)

### Beric Croome PG Tax Law Scholarship

- ❖ Snethemba Mthembu (LLM)

### Dikgang Moseneke PG Fellowship

- ❖ Johane Berry (LLM)
- ❖ Francois Lion-Cachet (PhD)
- ❖ Mpesoane Ramatlapeng (PhD)
- ❖ Tatenda Gwaambuka (PhD)
- ❖ Zolani Malibeni (LLM)

### Law Faculty Masters and Doctoral Scholarship

- ❖ Amarh Gertrude (PhD)
- ❖ Chebo Tamajong Nfor (PhD)
- ❖ Tanaka Prarutsa (PhD)
- ❖ Monica Tonodzai (PhD)

### FISB

- ❖ Laura Marty (LLM)

### PhD Completion Grant

- ❖ Tariro Masose (PhD)

### Excellence in Law PG Scholarship

- ❖ Olwethuthando Ndlovu (LLM)
- ❖ Daniel Sichinga (PhD)
- ❖ Chebo Tamajong Nfor (PhD)
- ❖ Aisha Adams (PhD)
- ❖ Zoe-Kiara Almano (LLM)
- ❖ Abongile Bangani (LLM)
- ❖ Bulat Karimov (LLM)
- ❖ Smethemba Mthembu (LLM)
- ❖ Sibabalwe Ntsilane (LLM)
- ❖ Tshegofatso Nyalungu (LLM)
- ❖ Zaheer Parker (LLM)
- ❖ Dipuo Titipana (LLM)
- ❖ Wandile Zondo (PjD)
- ❖ Julain Weldman (PhD)

### Sir William Solomon Memorial Scholarship

- ❖ Aisha Adams (Phd)
- ❖ Amarh Gertrude (PhD)  
Sheryl Kunaka (PhD)
- ❖ Francois Lion-Chachet (PhD)
- ❖ Kudakwashe Mapako (LLM)  
Snethemba Mthembu (LLM)
- ❖ Sibabablwe Ntsilane (LLM)
- ❖ Tanaka Mparutsa (PhD)
- ❖ Julian Weldman (PhD)
- ❖ Mapeshoane Ramtalapeng (PhD)



## **SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS**

The Faculty's donor-funded scholarship funding and awards process is managed by Faculty committees which report regularly to the Faculty Board and to the Faculty's Endowment Fund Advisory Board.

For LLB scholarships, a call for applications is sent out in November each year by the Development & Marketing Manager, with an end-November closing date. The Faculty's *Undergraduate (LLB) Scholarship Committee* meets to conduct a rigorous review of the applications to rank them on both academic and financial criteria. The scholarship awards are then managed from the Development & Marketing desk in the Faculty.

For postgraduate scholarships, a similar process is followed with a call in December for the following year. The *Postgraduate Scholarships Committee* meets to review applications and assess these against the stringent criteria for each scholarship. This process of applications and awards is administered by the Faculty Office.

## **STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND**

In addition to the focus on scholarships, Faculty fundraising also supports the *UCT Law Student Emergency Fund*.

This fund enables us to assist students with crisis funding, in the case of basic needs such as food, as well as medical and travel emergencies. Most often students who are assisted are those whose are away from their families and the communities to whom they would have had recourse. Students may make application to the fund at any time and need is assessed and appropriately supported as quickly as possible to minimise student stress.

In 2023 a total of R50 000 was spent assisting students in emergency situations.

## FROM OUR STUDENTS

We receive very many thank you letters from students who have received a scholarship award, from the *Excellence in Law* Fund and from our named scholarships. We selected three such notes to emphasise the very big difference that assistance can make in the life of a student.

I cannot thank you enough for selecting me as a recipient of the Faculty Scholarship for Postgraduate Studies in Marine and Environmental Law. On a personal level, having received the letter that stated I was a recipient reduced me to a puddle of incredibly happy tears. I instantly video-called my mom who was also reduced to a puddle of incredibly happy tears. I know for certain my dad is absolutely beaming down on me from heaven right now and is also breathing a sigh of relief that all the money spent in me persistently pursuing my passion has truly paid off.

Going into my articles next year, the scholarship has given me financial relief paying off all my fees incurred in studying my LLM as I prepare to, rightfully so, start at the very bottom and work my way up in the environmental law field. I can now say with absolute conviction that the nice guys do not always finish last, in fact the nice guys who fervently seek a better environment for humans and the environment itself can end up being rewarded tenfold.

Further words escape me, save to say my sense of gratitude has never felt greater. From the bottom of my heart, thank you. You have my word that I will continue to pursue a world in which humans and the environment harmoniously co-exist and thrive.

**Celine Oats**  
***Postgraduate studies in***  
***Marine and Environmental Law***



It is with great appreciation that I write this letter to update the *Excellence in Law* Scholarship Fund on my progress throughout the year. I was a recipient of the *Excellence in Law* Scholarship. I want to personally thank the ... Fund for helping me make it possible to pursue my goals and dreams of becoming a legal practitioner.

I am a third-year law student at UCT, and I am moving forward into my fourth and final year in 2024. I am involved in the *Students for Law and Social Justice Society* where students provide pro-bono legal services within underprivileged communities. I believe in the power of giving back. I have a duty to give back to my community, especially when others are stepping forward to help me in aiding my studies.

This contribution to my education has allowed me to focus on my studies and work toward my goals. As of my midterm report of my grades for the year of 2023, my GPA has already increased, and I am confident that my final results will be proof of the long hours and hard work I have put in to continue forward on my journey as a legal practitioner.

Once again, thank you for awarding me with the *Excellence in Law* Scholarship and for all the support.

**Salmaan Cassim**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Year Law**



I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for the opportunity to be awarded the 2023 Institute of Marine & Environmental Law scholarship by the University of Cape Town. I am honoured and humbled to have been selected as a recipient. It is with great excitement that I accept this scholarship, as it will undoubtedly play a significant role in shaping my future as a professional.

This generous support will alleviate the financial pressures associated with pursuing my legal education and enable me to focus wholeheartedly on my studies and personal growth. I am deeply grateful to the entire donor and scholarship committee for recognizing my dedication and potential in the field of law. This scholarship not only validates my hard work and commitment, but it also serves as a tremendous source of motivation to continue striving for excellence in my academic and professional career.

I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to each donor and member of the committee for their time, effort, and consideration throughout the selection process. Your belief in my abilities inspires me to push beyond my limits and achieve my full potential as a professional. Rest assured, I am committed to making the most of this opportunity and using the knowledge and skills gained through my legal education to make a positive impact on society. I am eager to contribute meaningfully with my qualifications and uphold the values that the IMEL scholarship represents.

Once again, thank you from the bottom of my heart for this incredible honour. I am truly grateful for your support and belief in my abilities. I look forward to representing this scholarship with utmost dedication and integrity throughout my academic journey and beyond.

**Ross Train**  
***Marine & Environmental Law Scholarship***





## THANK YOU

On behalf of the staff and students of the Faculty of Law we express our most heartfelt appreciation to our generous donors and supporters. Our students can aim for the heights and achieve their best because of your unstinting support. It is a gift that goes beyond funding. When you support a student, you also help a family, a community and a society to succeed.

Thank you.

Gabrielle Ritchie

Development & Marketing Manager

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