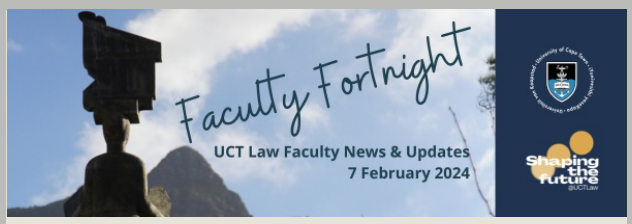


the Law Faculty's internal newsletter to keep you posted on things you might have missed and events, publications and initiatives to look out for.

In this issue

* Faculty News * Lectures, Conferences & Seminars * Events * Publications * Engaged Scholarship * In Memoriam * * Announcements & Notes *

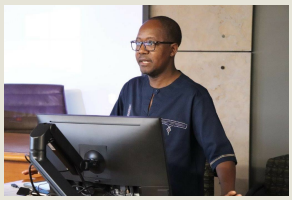
FACULTY VISION | FEBRUARY FOCUS

A key area of work in achieving our Faculty Vision is
building a community of teaching and learning practice that co-creates high-quality innovative, research-informed, skills-based participatory learning and critical thinking.

The Faculty's Vision 2030 statement is available on our website as a pdf for easy download.

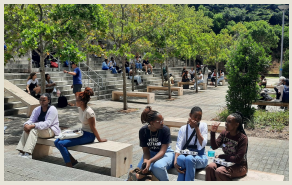
FACULTY NEWS

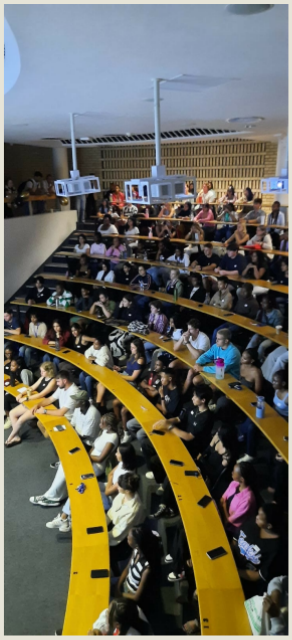
The 2024 Faculty year has really kicked off. Last week the School for Advanced Legal Studies hosted our new cohort of research students for a four-day induction, led by **Ben Cronin** and welcomed by Law Dean, **Prof Danwood Chirwa**. The week focused on navigating all aspects of being a research student in the Law Faculty and at UCT. The week culminated in a social event on Thursday 1 February, to which colleagues were invited to meet and share lunch with these new researchers.



This week is even busier, with our new LLB students being welcomed with four days of Orientation into the Faculty, including registration. **Dr Helena Stoop** led Orientation (for the last time after five years - Helena will be handing the baton to A/Prof Melanie Murcott), with support from a crew of Orientation Leaders and the Law Students Council. LT2 was packed on Day One like we haven't seen since at least pre-covid times!

In addition, the School for Advanced Legal Studies welcomed its new coursework cohort on Monday 5 February - with at least 150 new postgrads in LT1. With this orientation led by **A/Prof Melanie Murcott**, SALS hosted a lunch in the Pius Langa Quad so that staff could meet these new students.





PG DIP IN JUDICIAL STUDIES 2024

The Faculty's Post Graduate Diploma in Judicial Studies is in its second year, with a new 2024 cohort which started classes in the week of 22 January. This cohort includes judges from - among other countries - Namibia, Zambia and Tanzania. **Prof Pierre de Vos** lectured on the first two days of the block week, and **Judge Dingake** (who is also an honorary Prof) lectured on the Weds and Thurs.

Images: the new 2024 cohort

NEW STAFF AT KRAMER

We're delighted to welcome **Alison Tomlinson**, the new HR Business Partner for Law. Alison, who will also while be supporting CHED's HR processes, comes to Law with a wealth of UCT HR experience from her past 12 years in the Health Sciences Faculty. Alison will be in Kramer two days each week, based in office 6.09.

Supporting Alison with HR matters are:
Ms Sabrina Kalu (HR Administrator)
Ms Nyameka (Meki) Mpapama (Staff Recruitment Advisor for most of the higher level T2 and permanent recruitment processes)
Ms Hlubi Ntsizi (Staff Recruitment Administrator).

NEW PASS FORUM

Nominations have been made for the roles of Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary/ Servicing Officer for the new PASS Forum. Nominations will need to go to a vote, and we hope to confirm in the next week who the holders of these roles will be.

LECTURES, CONFERENCES & SEMINARS

Administrative Justice Conference: Breakwater Revisited

The 2024 *Adminstrative Justice Association of South Africa* conference was held at the Faculty from Friday 26 Jan to Sunday 28 Jan. Attended by about 70 delegates, the conference opened with a keynote address from **Sir Jeffrey Jowell KC**. Sir Jeffrey - sharing many personal memories - spoke about the history of administrative justice in South Africa, and the influence that South Africa's approach in this regard has had on numerous other countries.

Images (top): Em Prof Hugh Corder, Sir Jeffrey Jowell KC and Prof Danwood Chirwa *(middle):* Justice Albie Sachs & Sir Jeffrey Jowell KC

(below): conference participants with Justice Steven Majiedt (Constitutional Court), speaker at the conference dinner held in the Pius Langa Quad on Saturday 27 January.

Bhe v Khayelitsha Magistrate: Twenty Years of Promises, Progress and Pitfalls

The Centre for Legal Integration in Africa in the Department of Private Law at the University of the Western Cape and the Department of Private Law at the University of Cape Town are pleased to invite abstracts for papers on the impact of the Constitutional Court decision in *Bhe and Others v Khayelitsha Magistrate and Others* [15 October 2004]. This judgment invalidated the customary rule of male primogeniture. As the most critical judicial intrusion in African customary law since the end of apartheid, it has inspired law reforms and numerous publications. But 20 years later, it is time to examine its impact on the interaction of laws in South Africa.

What is the pattern of the law reforms it has inspired? What should law reformers have done differently? Importantly, how have traditional communities embraced these reforms? The Bhe Conference seeks to explore the above questions in a legal pluralist framework. Contributions may adopt comparative or interdisciplinary perspectives, explore legal philosophies or legal history, and/or present findings from the field.

You are invited to submit an abstract of 150-250 words to clia@uwc.ac.za, copying adiala@uwc.ac.za and fatima.osman@uct.ac.za. The deadline is 29 February 2024. Abstracts should summarise a proposed paper in line with the conference theme. Decisions shall be communicated to authors by 18 March 2024, and draft papers will be due on 5 August 2024. Selected papers will be published as a special edition in a DHET accredited journal. Please contact the colleagues named above for more detail.

Date of conference: 20 – 21 August 2024

EVENTS

Children on the Move: Core Skills for Frontline Social Work Professionals

This week **Prof Fatima Khan**, Director of the Refugee Rights Unit, is hosting a 45-delegate training for social workers, themed *Children on the Move: Core Skills for Frontline Social Work Professionals*. This training is held in collaboration with UNICEF, ISS, University of Belgrade and UNHCR.

PUBLICATIONS

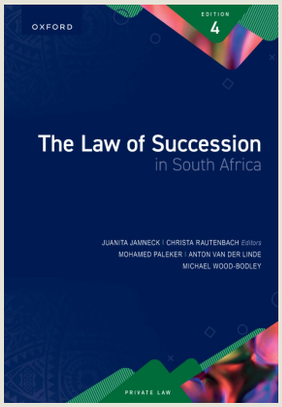
South African Marriage Ruling

Prof Waheeda Amien has recently published an article titled 'South African marriage ruling is a win for divorcees and surviving spouses: it guides the sharing of their assets' in the *The Conversation*. Related to this piece, Waheeda was interviewed on Cape Talk about the Constitutional Court judgment on EB v ER regarding the unconstitutionality of section 7(3) of the Divorce Act.

Lessons in resilience from the illegal wildlife trade during COVID-19 lockdowns

Dr Annette Hubschle recently co-authored the article *Lessons in resilience from the illegal wildlife trade during COVID-19 lockdowns*. The COVID-19 pandemic was an unexpected event with far-reaching long-term economic, political, and social consequences, entailing disruptive changes with potentially existence- and livelihood threatening consequences. Lessons in resilience from illegal economies such as the illegal wildlife trade could help society better cope with harms and risk from global environmental change. We critically review the Frictions and Flows framework and the case of the illegal wildlife trade—a globally distributed form of nature crime—in South Africa, Tanzania, and Zambia—countries with different responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Law of Succession in South Africa

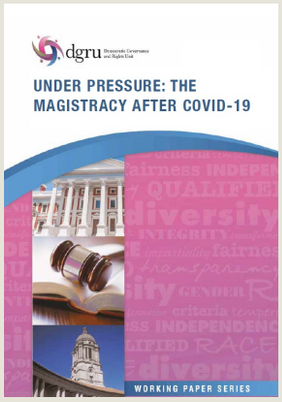


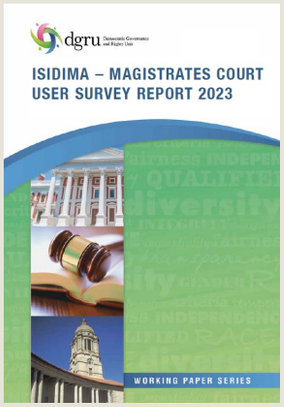
Oxford University Press has just published The Law of Succession in South Africa 4th Edition, for which **Prof Mohamed Paleker** is one of the contributing authors.

The publication synopsis describes this completely updated edition, noting that it "*provides a clear and thorough introduction to the principles of the law of succession, including principles of the customary law of succession. This fourth edition is revised and updated to address developments and issues within the recent period, and offers an expanded discussion of customary law principles. Law of Succession in South Africa 4e is designed to enable effective learning and to develop independent, critical and reflective engagement with the subject matter*".

MAGISTRATES MATTER

The DGRU's **Magistrates Matter** project last week launched two new reports, namely: *Under Pressure: The Magistracy after COVID-19 Survey Report, 2023* and *Isidima: Magistrates Court User Survey Report, 2023.*





ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

International Human Rights

Dr Justice Mavedzenge participated in an online panel discussion on 29 January on the topic *Movements Beyond Borders: What we can learn from South Africa's case at the ICJ*, focusing on the skewed nautre of the international human rights system when it comes to justice for historical wrongs suffered by Africans. Justice joined the panel, along with Dr Amara Enyia, Sibongile Ndashe and Noura Erakat. The panel was moderated by Thenjiwe Harris.

AFRICANLII

Mariya Badeva, Director of AfricanLII, recently received an Appreciation Award for exemplary service for her support for ULII (Uganda's LII). Mariya had attended JIFA (Judicial Institute for Africa) matters in Uganda, and met with the Chief Justice of Uganda, the Hon Justice Alfonse Owiny-Dollo. Mariya also attended the African Network of Judicial Trainers meeting and AGM in Tanzania, where she presented a session on the power of judicial analytics, using examples and data from TanzLII.

LAW @ WORK

Would you be keen to PRESENT a law short course for Law@work?

Law@work is a self-funded unit for which the main objective is to present short courses at a fee to generate profit for the Faculty. All profit generated from these short courses is fed back into the Law Faculty via the Dean's Discretionary Fund and the Law Endowment fund. So, it is all for a good cause!

Course format: to be presented online via ZOOM or MS TEAMS
Payment: presenters would be paid an hourly fee for actual lecture time

Please email don.coue@uct.ac.za should you be interested in presenting a law short course or if you have anyone in mind who may be keen to present.

Have a look at the courses currently on offer to get an idea of what is already available and what you could present.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr Ndyebo Henry Makupula

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of **Mr Ndyebo Henry Makupula** (68), our PhD student in the Department of Private Law, on Saturday, 20 January 2024 following a short illness.

Mr Makupula enrolled for his PhD at the University of Cape Town (UCT) in 2023. He was a retired senior official in the South African Navy. He has been described as an extraordinary individual who was very humble and hard working. At the time of his passing, he was completing his PhD proposal on the concept of lawfare in the constitutional provisions of South Africa that relate to amnesty for politically motivated offences. Mr Makupula was a passionate opponent of any form of legislative provision that amounts to impunity for apartheid as a crime against humanity. In his proposal, he scrutinised an overwhelming amount of international law that militates against amnesty for apartheid. He was strongly critical of the amnesty provisions that facilitated South Africa's transition to democracy in the mid-90s. Mr Makupula was cremated on Wednesday, 31 January in Braamfontein, Johannesburg. He is survived by his partner Ms Kelebohile Lekoape and three children, Ayanda Majola, Khanyanjalo Socikwa and Kamvalethu Socikwa.

ANNOUNCEMENT & NOTES

FACULTY GOVERNANCE

Gabrielle Ritchie will continue as the Servicing Officer for the Faculty's Nominations Committee. Any concerns about your committee load or availability should be sent to the Committee via the servicing officer.

Shaping the future @UCTLaw

Got something to share? Have thoughts on what we should include in Faculty Fortnight?

Please send your news & ideas to gaby.ritchie@uct.ac.za – we'd really like to hear from you.