



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 \*
- \* Publications \* Announcements & Notes \*

**FACULTY VISION | MARCH REMINDER**

A key area of work in achieving our Faculty Vision is ...

**building a system that stimulates and sustains specialised, integrated research clusters and expertise, networks and partnerships.**

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

**FACULTY NEWS**

**PASS Staff Forum - your new representatives**

The PASS Staff Forum election process to identify a Chair, Deputy Chair and Servicing Officer has been concluded. The two contenders for Chair were Toni Murphy and Patricia Phillips. Patricia, though, stepped down from the nomination before voting was concluded.

Your Law Faculty PASS Forum reps therefore are:

- CHAIR: Toni Murphy**
- DEPUTY CHAIR: Sameya Esterhuizen**
- Gaby Ritchie** will service the PASS Forum.

For all PASS Staff - **this is YOUR forum**, so if you have ideas on how processes can be improved, thoughts on ensuring that the Faculty is a great place to work, or concerns about things you think are problems, you can email the Chair or Deputy Chair.

**Staff Farewell**

The Faculty bids farewell to Faculty Manager **Nondwe de Caires**, after 2.5 years as the head of the Faculty's academic administration.

Nondwe came to Law from UCT's Commerce Faculty, having started as a Programme Manager at the Graduate School of Business, also serving a stint as Acting Faculty Manager in the Commerce Faculty for 7 months before joining Law.

Nondwe leaves UCT to join CPUT as a Faculty Manager. We wish Nondwe all the best in this next journey!



**LECTURES, CONFERENCES & SEMINARS**

**AI & Law Conference**  
3 - 5 July 2024



Registration for this conference closes end April 2024. Don't miss the window! Register [HERE](#) and use the code **UCTStaffStudent**. Click on the **green box saying Tickets**, and a **screen** will appear with the different ticket options. Please enter the registration code at the top of the screen before you select your ticket. Any problems? Please e-mail [Caroline.Ncube](mailto:Caroline.Ncube).

**Wednesday Seminars**

These will pick up again in Term 2.

**Keynote Lecture**

**Professor Michael W. Yarbrough**

*"I Now Declare You...": Marital Status as Legal Technology in South Africa Past and Present*

**Prof Waheeda Amien** will act as discussant.

**4 April 2024**  
**13h00 - 14h00 SAST**  
**Online**

Please register [HERE](#) for this online lecture

This lecture is jointly organised by the *Commission on Legal Pluralism* and the *Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance and Society (Leiden University)*.

**EVENTS**

**Faculty Calendar - SAVE THE DATES**

- 19 March** | Reception for Prof Zimmermann – 16h30 in the Faculty Common Room
- 26 March** | Graduation celebration event – Plus Langa Quad – 11h30 – 13h00
- 16 April** | UCT Law celebrates 165 years since the delivery of the very first law lecture on 16 April 1859
- 25 – 26 April** | Business & Human Rights Conference
- 30 April** | The annual Ben Beinat Memorial Lecture with Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart
- 7 May** | Prof Mohamed Palekar's Inaugural Lecture

**Impeaching Judges: Constitutional Milestone or Admission of Failure?**

The removal from office of Judges John Hlophe and Nikola Motaba can be seen as an example of constitutional provisions and processes working as intended, albeit at snail's pace. At the same time, the lapses in integrity that led to the impeachments inevitably reflect badly on the judiciary as an institution and may undermine the public's confidence in the courts. You're invited to join a panel of experts, in person or online, to discuss the ramifications of this seminal moment in South Africa's constitutional development. The panel discussion will be facilitated by **Adv Mike Pothier**, programme manager at CPLO and features the following panelists:

- Professor Hugh Corder** and **Mbekezeli Benjamin** from the Faculty; **Judith February**, Freedom Under Law, and **Karyn Maughan**, Legal Journalist

**Date:** Thursday, 4 April 2024  
**Time:** 17:30 for 18:00



In person: 6 Spin Street, Cape Town

Light snacks and drinks will be served  
Please RSVP at [events@cplo.org.za](mailto:events@cplo.org.za)

To attend online, please register on Zoom

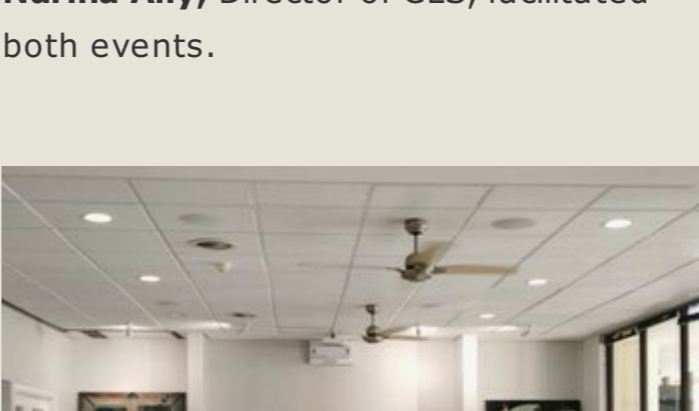
**Visiting Scholar: Prof Anthony Diala**

On 13 and 14 March 2024, CLS hosted **Professor Anthony Diala** as a visiting scholar in the Faculty. On Wednesday, Prof Diala was a discussant at the launch of **Dan Mafofo's** recently published book, *Capture in the Court: In Defence of Judges and the Constitution*. The event was attended by students, members of the Faculty and interested members of the public.

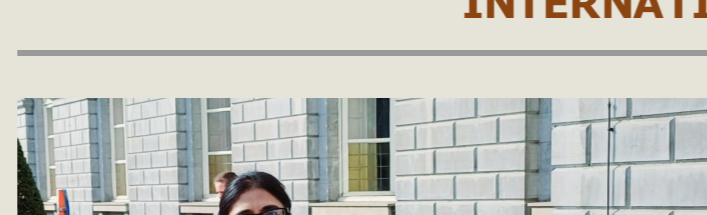


The following day, Prof Diala presented a seminar on the problems in academic publishing. Participants debated peer review systems, perverse research incentives, & the 'numbers game' in academic publishing.

**Nurina Ally**, Director of CLS, facilitated both events.



**INTERNATIONALISATION**



**Prof Fatima Khan** recently presented four years of research at the Palais des Academies Brussels on issues such as Externalisation; temporary Protection as a complementary pathway for protection; and Vulnerability & Rights of refugees.

This research had received funding from the European Unions Horizon 2020 and was conducted in collaboration with 13 universities under the leadership of the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS).

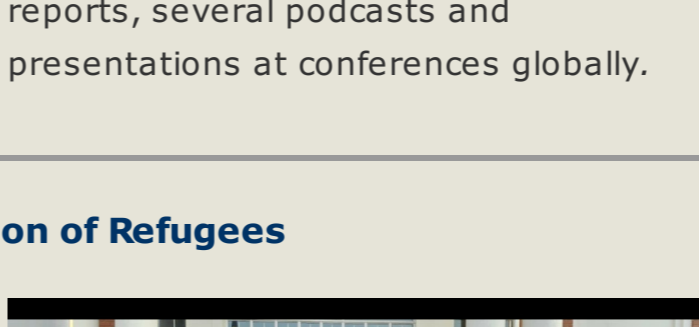
Several members of the EU parliament as well as the **Madeline Garlick** (Chief of the Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section of UNHCR) attended the conference.

Prof Khan's presentation was well received and was considered valuable in light of the EU adoption of the same policy for Ukrainians.

This four year research project has resulted in a range of publications, including three book chapters, a policy brief, a country report, two research reports, several podcasts and presentations at conferences globally.

**UNHCR - Protection of Refugees**

On 28 and 29 February, **Prof Fatima Khan** was invited by the UNHCR country operations in the region to assist in the drafting of a strategy document outlining a plan for the protection of refugees in the region for the next four years (2025 - 2028). Present at this drafting meeting were govt representatives from the SADC region, UNHCR, and various stakeholders



including academics and NGOs focused on providing direct assistance to refugees.

**Khan** commends UNHCR for including academia in developing the strategy document.

Says Khan: *"It is important that UNHCR comprehensively identify those in need of protection instead of relying on government data."*

**FACULTY RESEARCH**

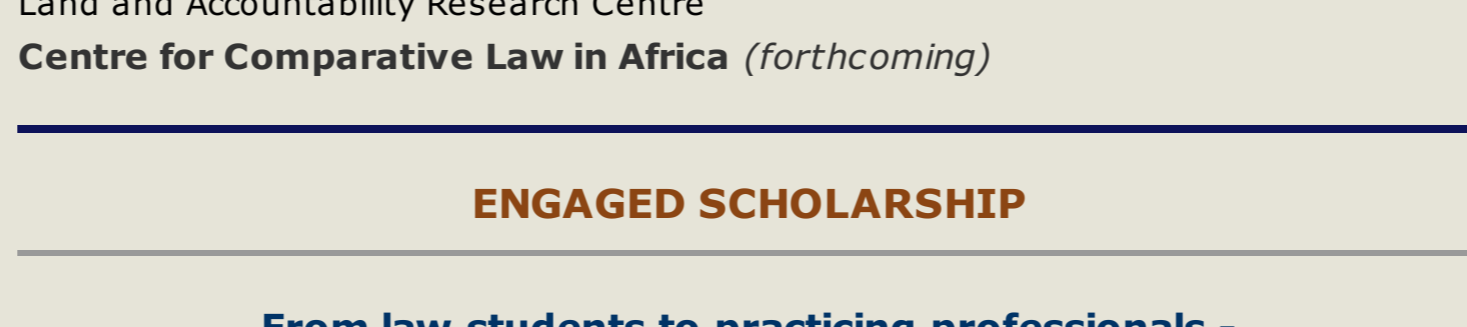
**ANNUAL RESEARCH UNIT REPORTING - 2023**

A number of the Faculty's research units have published their 2023 reports, detailing research, seminars, and other activities undertaken during 2023. Access copies below:

- Centre for Law & Society
- Land and Accountability Research Centre
- Centre for Comparative Law in Africa** (forthcoming)

**ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP**

**From law students to practicing professionals - working at the Refugee Rights Unit**

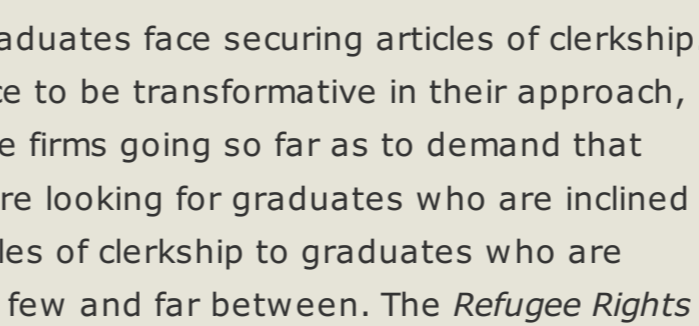


Research conducted by the Law Society of South Africa and Lexus Nexus some six years ago demonstrated the difficulty law graduates face securing articles of clerkship. Law firms have demonstrated their reluctance to be transformative in their approach, often demanding a driver's licence, with some firms going so far as to demand that CAs own a vehicle. Further, most Law firms are looking for graduates who are inclined to commercial law, while places offering articles of clerkship to graduates who are more oriented toward human rights Law are few and far between. The *Refugee Rights Clinic* at UCT has been able fill this gap and has offered clerkship to over 50 Law graduates since 2011. The *Refugee Rights Clinic* (Kramer, Level 3) hires between three and five candidate attorneys every year. This year the RRU introduces Candice Modie (above centre), Olebile Mosimanekgosi (above right) and Elle Viljoen (above far-right) as their new Candidate attorneys. There will be some overlap with the Clinic's current CAs Britney Pillay (above left) and Thandizo Chigona (above far left). The Clinic is very proud to have these positions funded by the *Claude Leon Foundation* as well as the *UNHCR*.

The Clinic is also very proud of their past CAs successes, who have variously gone on to the Bar been employed by organisations such as UNHCR and UNHRC, and found placements as senior researchers at the South African Human rights commission.

**Joint Parliamentary Committee - Submissions**

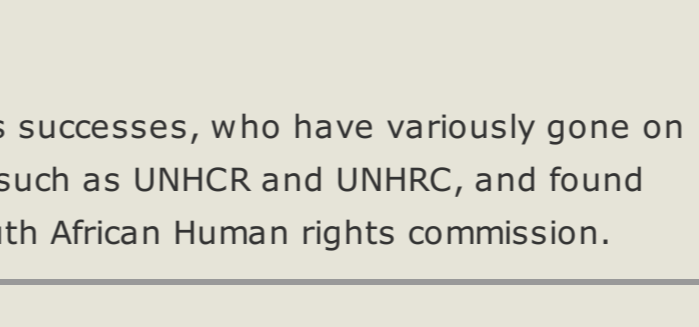
**Ben Cronin**, lecturer in Commercial Law, recently made submissions to the *Joint Parliamentary Committee on Appropriations* regarding the Gold and Foreign Exchange Contingency Reserve Account Defrayal Amendment Bill.



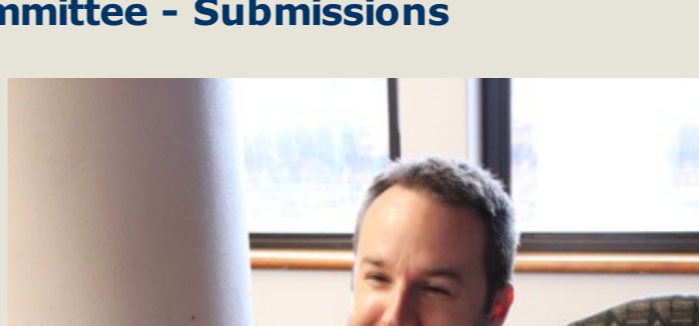
The Joint Committee had a number of technical questions and has resolved to seek further advice.

**The Right to Early Childhood Development**

**Nurina Ally**, Senior Lecturer in Public Law, participated this week in an *Equal Education Law Centre* event on the Right to Early Childhood Development, participating in a panel on the *Farm & Function of the Right to ECD*.



**Lauren Kohn**, Senior Lecturer in Public Law, attended the recent *Daily Maverick's The Gathering 2024*, with its important focus on tackling corruption. Lauren is pictured here with Anton du Plessis, deputy national director of the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), who participated in a panel on corruption chaired by **Judge Dennis Davis**.



**ANNOUNCEMENT & NOTES**

**LLB CLASS PHOTOS**

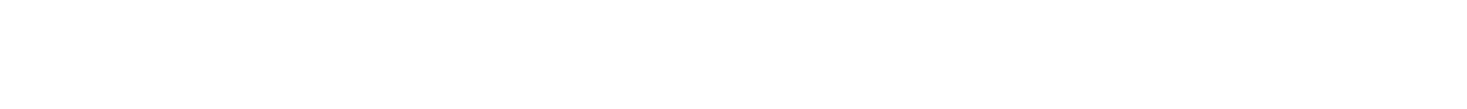
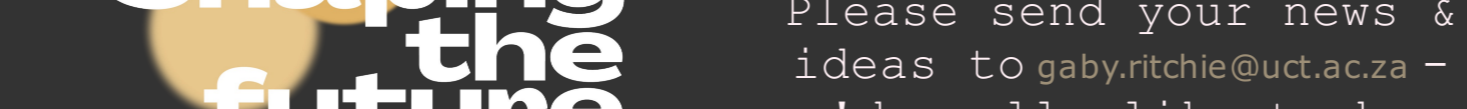
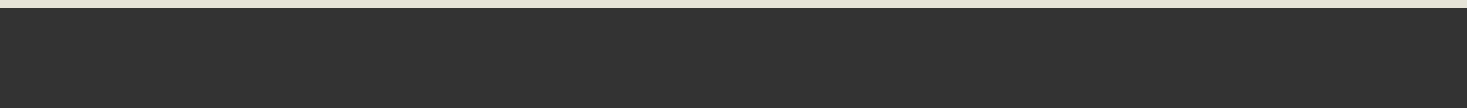
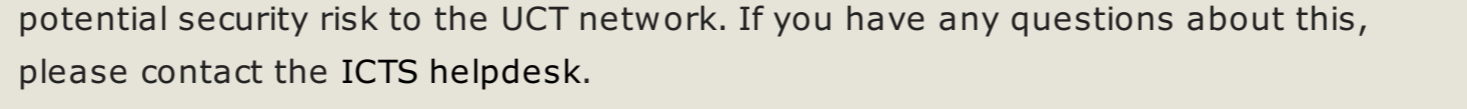
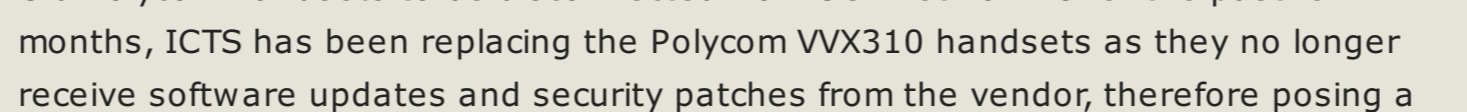
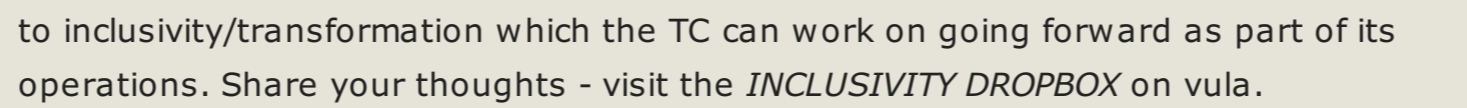
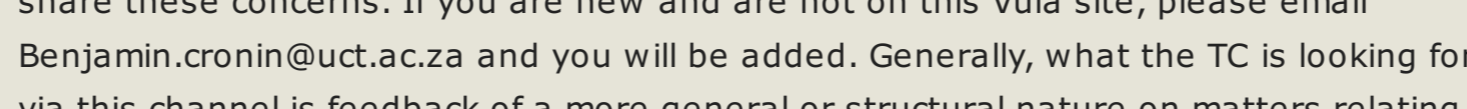
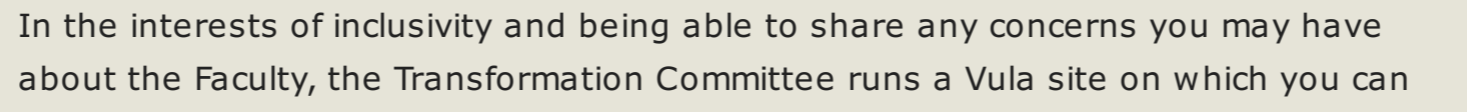
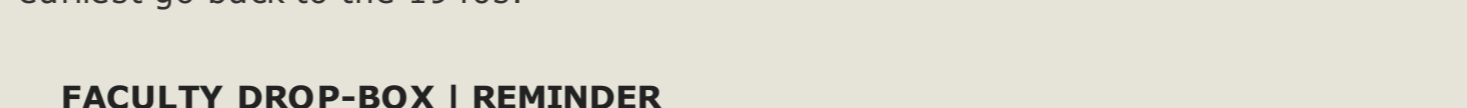
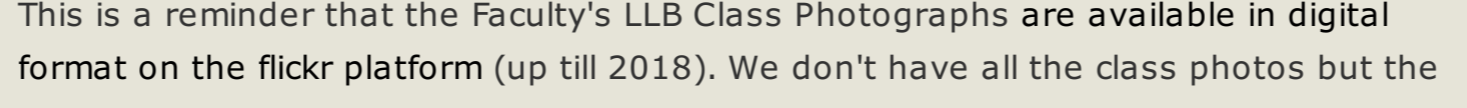
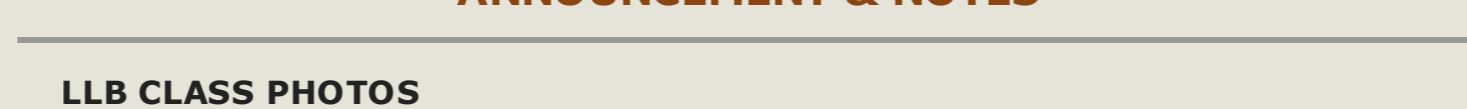
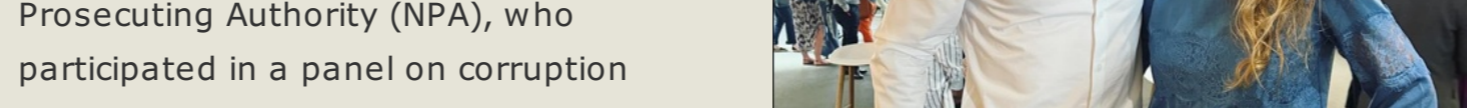
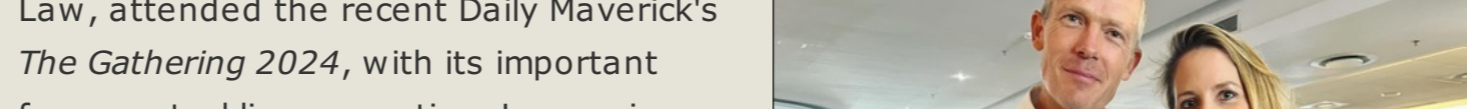
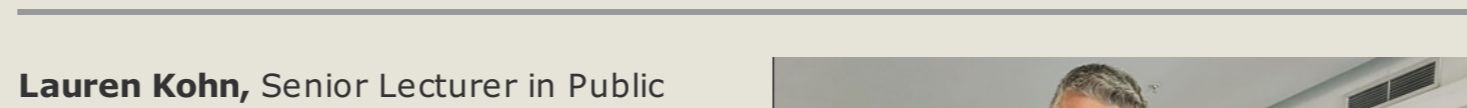
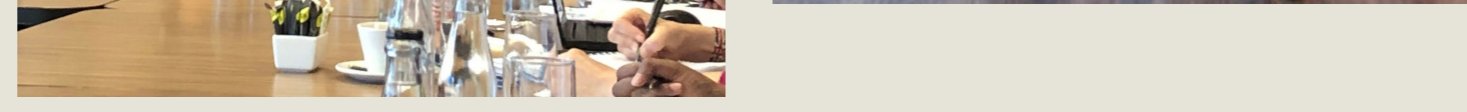
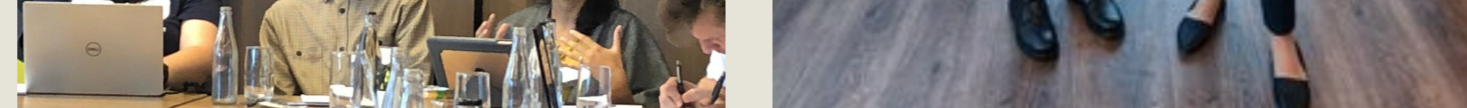
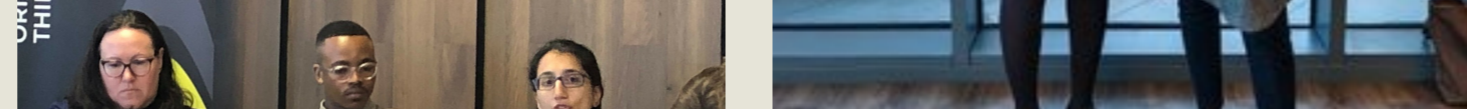
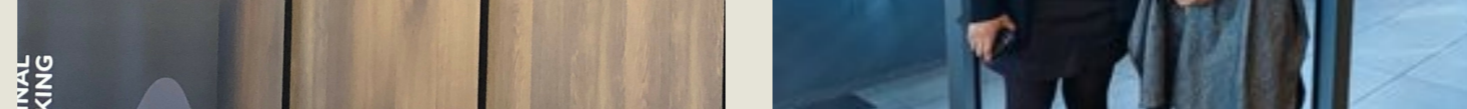
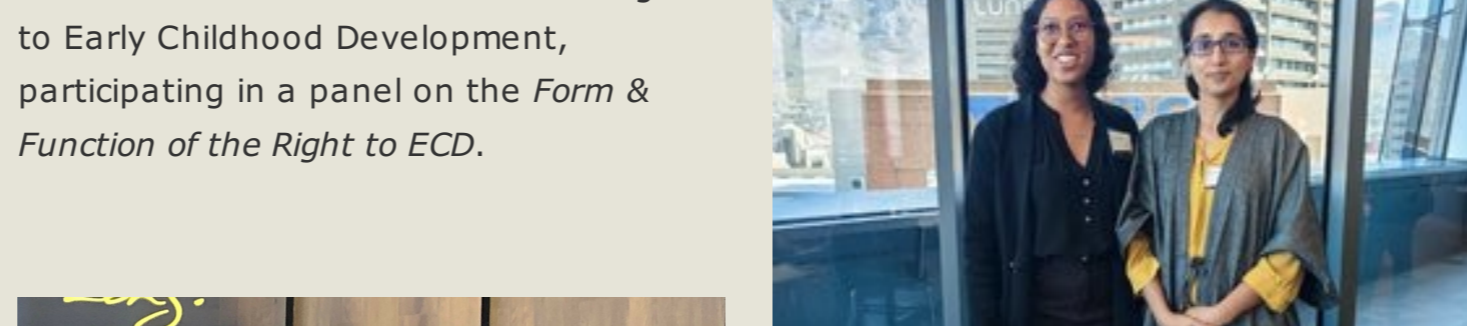
This is a reminder that the Faculty's LLB Class Photographs are available in digital format on the flickr platform (up till 2018). We don't have all the class photos but the earliest go back to the 1940s.

**FACULTY DROP-BOX | REMINDER**

In the interests of inclusivity and being able to share any concerns you may have about the Faculty, the Transformation Committee runs a Vula site on which you can share these concerns. If you are new and are not on this Vula site, please email [Benjamin.cronin@uct.ac.za](mailto:Benjamin.cronin@uct.ac.za) and you will be added. Generally, what the TC is looking for via this channel is feedback of a more general or structural nature on matters relating to inclusivity/transformation which the TC can work on going forward as part of its operations. Share your thoughts - visit the *INCLUSIVITY DROPBOX* on vula.

**OLD POLYCOM HANDSETS**

Old Polycom handsets to be disconnected from UCT network. Over the past few months, ICTS has been replacing the Polycom VX310 handsets as they no longer receive software updates and security patches from the vendor; therefore posing a potential security risk to the UCT network. If you have any questions about this, please contact the ICTS helpdesk.



Got something to share? Have thoughts on what we should include in Faculty Fortnight? Please send your news & ideas to [gabyritchie@uct.ac.za](mailto:gabyritchie@uct.ac.za) - we'd really like to hear from you.

