Faculty Fortnight | 5 September 2024

the Law Faculty's internal newsletter to keep you posted on things you might have missed and



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FACULTY NEWS

New Staff



A new Director for the UCT Law Clinic!

A very warm welcome to **Zaida Essop**, new Director of the UCT Law Clinic. Zaida started on Monday 2 September, and we will include a more detailed bio once Zaid has had a chance to settle in.

A very warm welcome also to **Ruegshana Ederies**, who started this week as MLiA's new Assistant Research & Finance Administrator.

Ruegshana comes to MLiA with broad experience with the processes necessary for administration around a SARChI Chair. Coming from CEBER, in the Faculty of Engineering & Built Environment, Ruegshana had worked with Prof Sue Harrison's team since 2017.



Congratulations to all our new Faculty Graduates

The Faculty celebrated 145 graduates this September graduation season, including nine PhDs, three research Master's, 80 LLM and MPhils, 50 LLBs and two PG Diplomas. We extend a special congratulations to **Dr Robin Cupido**, Senior Lecturer in Private Law, who was awarded her doctoral degree.

Graduation Day provides a real highlight in the academic year, when staff and graduates alike get to celebrate these milestone achievements. The Faculty held a recognition event for our research grads in the Common Room at 10h30 on Tuesday 3rd, followed by a celebration of our LLBs, PG Dips and Master's graduates before

everybody headed up the hill to the Sarah Baartman Hall for the formal conferral of degrees.



in the Pius Langa Quad

The Rabinowitz Visitorship with Professor Tarun Khaitan

The Faculty benefited enormously from **Professor Tarun Khaitan**'s recent visit during the week-long 2024 Rabinowitz Visitorship. Bringing boundless energy to the *Rabinowitz week*, Professor Khaitan delivered the main public lecture on Tuesday 20 August - which was the first in-person Rabinowitz lecture we have been able to hold since Justice Edwin Cameron delivered the 2019 Rabinowitz Lecture. To an audience that included Mr Bennie Rabinowitz's daughters Susan and Lesley, Prof Khaitan delivered a fascinating lecture introducing the "constitutional" concept of *verity* in public life, as a fourth value that emphasises the importance of truth and knowledge (along with liberty, equality, & fraternity or solidarity). The lecture left the Faculty, and a full Moot Court, with great sparks for discussion and for thinking about these issues going forward.

Professor Khaitan then also delivered a staff seminar on *Guarantor Institutions* on Weds 21 August, with discussant Lauren Kohn; a brown bag lunchtime event with students who were invited to bring their questions and discussion points to the session; and an afternoon roundtable with Centre for Law & Society, talking about "*Democratic turning points? Reflections on India and South Africa*", with Professor Hugh Corder. The Faculty is deeply appreciative of Prof Khaitan's time and energy, and for his commitment to sharing his knowledge, insights and expertise with staff and students.



FACULTY CALENDAR - current & forthcoming events

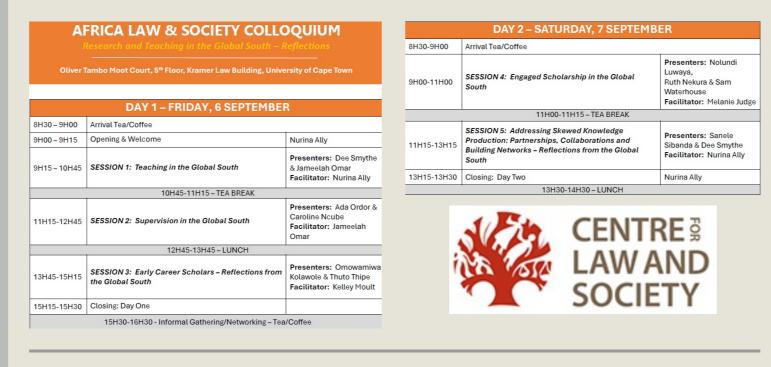
- Mediation goes Mainstream | 5 6 September
- Family Law Conference | 5 6 September
- Africa Law & Society Colloquium | 6 7 September
 Regional Teaching & Learning Conference | 12 September @ Stellenbosch
- **IMEL Seminar** on *Compulsory dispute settlement experience in Law of the Sea* |

19 September

LECTURES, SEMINARS & CONFERENCES

Research and Teaching in the Global South – Reflections The Faculty's Centre for Law and Society (CLS) will be hosting the Africa Law and Society Colloquium - *Research and Teaching in the Global South – Reflections*, on Friday 6 - Saturday 7 September. This event aims to reflect on ten years of CLS's Africa Law and Society programme, including recognition of **Professor Dee Smythe**'s contributions to the programme. The Colloquium is an in-person event and will be held in the Oliver Tambo Moot Court. The two-day programme (see below) comprises multiple panel presentations and facilitated conversations on the following themes: *Teaching and Supervision in the Global South; Early Career Scholars – reflections from the Global South; Engaged Scholarship in the Global South;* and *Addressing Skewed Knowledge Production: Partnerships, Collaborations and Building Networks*.

If you would like to attend, please contact jemima.thomas@uct.ac.za.



The Judges Matter Prize 2024

DGRU is excited to invite you to the **Judges Matter Prize in Excellent Writing on the Judiciary** ("*The Judges Matter Prize*") prizegiving event, hosted in collaboration with *Judges Matter*.

Date: Tuesday, 17 September 2024 Time: 12:30

Location: Staff Common Room

The Judges Matter Prize is designed to promote critical thinking about issues related to the judiciary, specifically targeting the emerging legal minds within our academic community. This annual award celebrates outstanding essays that focus on judicial accountability and the regulation of judicial conduct. Winning essays are selected with a focus on originality, innovative perspectives, and exceptional writing skills.

You are all most welcome to attend – please RSVP to jenna.maujean@uct.ac.za



Compulsory Dispute Settlement in Law of the Sea

IMEL invites all to join their seminar with Professor Erik Franckx (*Ghent University*) to discuss Compulsory Dispute Settlement in Law of the Sea.

Of interest to all involved in studying and researching International Law and Marine Law, this seminar navigates the complexities and evolution of dispute settlement mechanisms in international law in general and, particularly, the mechanism established by the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Questions on the enforcement of international law norms are still very much subject to debate with regard to the effectiveness and equitable nature of established mechanisms. This seminar seeks to shed more light on the evolution and implementation of compulsory dispute settlement mechanisms established by the 1982 UN Convention.

PUBLICATIONS

Dr Gaopalelwe Mathiba recently published a paper title *Compulsory acquisition of property for urban densification in South Africa: an answer to the chronic housing backlog?*



This article was published in the International Journal of Urban Sustainable Development Volume 16, 2024 - Issue 1

NELSON MANDELA

UNIVERSITY

IMEL

JOIN THE SEMINAR WITH PROFESSOR ERIK FRANCKX

30 Years of Compulsory Dispute

Settlement Experience in the

Law of the Sea: An Evaluation

Law (2017-2022)

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RSVP to

bilgees.anthony@uct.ac.za

rofessor at the Vrije Uni

Port Elizabeth, South Africa

siting Professor at Ghent University onorary Professor at the Nelson M

Professeur émérite at the Université libre de Bruxelles Former President of the Belgian Society for Internation

THURSDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER 2024

14:30-16:00

O.R Tambo Moot Court Room, 5th Floor, Kramer Law School, Middle Campus, UCT

bilgees.anthony@uct.ac.za

The paper's abstract notes the following: "The cities are rapidly sprawling in South Africa, despite the city authorities' attempts at containing the sprawl. This has signalled the need for strong urban densification policy which – if properly designed and implemented – promises to yield several benefits such as smart, inclusive, equitable and sustainable cities. Densification policy can also facilitate access to adequate housing which remains a challenge in South Africa where millions of people are inadequately housed, if not homeless. Using a qualitative investigation and literature review to analyse the relevant policies and case law, this article investigates whether a legally sound

argument can be developed for compulsory acquisition of property to be deployed as a mechanism to facilitate enhanced access to housing for the poor and marginalised. Put differently, the article asks whether compulsory acquisition could be an ideal method of facilitating densification to ramp up housing provision across the country. The findings suggest that urban densification policy is a necessary intervention in that regard. Compulsory acquisition of property is advanced as an optimal method to achieve this endeavour.

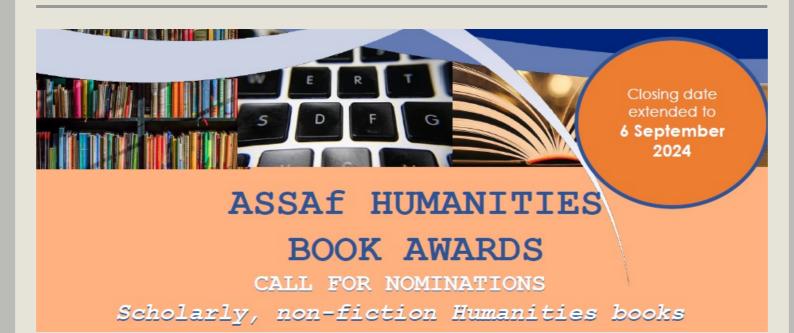
Dr Faadhil Adams has recently coauthored a paper with Marcin Czepelak, Secretary-General of the Permanent Court of Arbitration, in the *Polish Review of International and European Law*. The paper is titled The Contribution of the Permanent Court of Arbitration to the Development of International Law : Claims Commissions, Mixed Arbitrations & Conciliation.

The paper abstract notes: "The Permanent Court of Arbitration celebrates



its 125th anniversary this year. The occasion marks an opportunity to reflect on the contributions of the Court to international law in general, and to less well-known institutions of international dispute resolution in particular. The article explores the contributions of the PCA to these institutions and remarks on the significance of PCA jurisprudence to their development. The article highlights the adaptive nature of the PCA to the ever-changing dispute resolution needs of the international community and posits that the PCA is well

placed to continue its contribution to their further development in the future."



The ASSAf Humanities Book Prize Award draws attention to the importance and contribution of scholarly books to knowledge production and intellectual endeavours in South Africa. ASSAf promotes inclusiveness and provides equal access to opportunities and resources. The Prize is awarded bi-annually for outstanding books in humanities, social science, and performing arts.

The Panel seeks your assistance in nominating and identifying writers of a scholarly, well-written work of non-fiction, published up to three years prior to its nomination (ie. 2021, 2022 and 2023). The book should be noteworthy in its contribution to developing a new understanding and insight into a topic in the Humanities.

Nominations are invited for the following categories:

• Established Scholar1

• Emerging Scholar2

Eligibility

All books should have an ISBN number of **2021–2023** as a publication date. In the case of single-authored books, the author need not necessarily be South African but must be employed by, or affiliated to, an institution of higher learning and/or research institution in South Africa. Where books are co-authored, at least one author must be employed by or affiliated to a South African institution of higher learning and/or research. A book may be nominated in more than one year – provided the second nomination, like the first, occurs no more than three years after the book was first published. While co-authored books are acceptable, edited collections (made up of essays by various authors) are not eligible for this award. Books written in any of the officially recognised South African languages are eligible for this award.

Nominating

A nominator should be an individual who is from the nominee's own institution and/or someone who has specialist knowledge of the discipline or field within which the nominee works. A nomination should comprise:

A completed nomination form (*please check your email of 27 August, sent by the Dean, for this form*).

A motivation (maximum 500 words) for the book, together with a brief justification of why the nominee is best regarded as either an emerging or established scholar. Copies of published reviews of the book (or where these are absent, peer review reports from the publisher) should be included as appendices or fully referenced. Hard copies will be requested for the final rounds of the process.

DEADLINE: The closing date for nominations is 6 September 2024. (Closing date extended from 23 August 2024). Winners will be notified in writing in early 2025.

RESEARCH ROUND-UP



The Law Schools Global League (LSGL), of which the Faculty is a core member, are very pleased to announce two excellent opportunities for the LSGL research community:

1. **LSGL Research Award:** This award honors the best research paper authored by scholars from two or more member institutions of LSGL. The prize includes a monetary award of 3.000 EUR, to be equally split between the authors. The deadline for submissions for the first edition is **31 March 2025** (more info here).

2. **LSGL Research Projects:** This initiative seeks to foster team research among LSGL schools, through the funding of 2- or 3-year projects developed by researchers from at least three different institutions. A yearly maximum of 10,000 EUR is available for each project. The deadline for applications is **31 October 2024** (more info here).

To support your efforts in finding potential research collaborators, we encourage you to use the LSGL Database of Researchers, which is designed to help you connect with researchers who share your interests and to foster cross-institutional collaborations. You can access the database through this link (password: LSGL2012). If you haven't yet registered in the database and are interested in doing so, please fill out this <u>form</u>.

For more information on how to participate in these initiatives, including nomination and proposal submission guidelines, please visit the Law Schools Global League <u>website</u> or contact the Presidency at <u>presidency@lawschoolsgloballeague.com</u>

INTERNATIONALISATION

Academic Exchange with Notre Dame Law School - APPLY NOW



In terms of the MoU concluded by the Faculty with **Notre Dame Law School** on 24 April 2024, Notre Dame will host one Faculty academic from UCT Law each year (and vice versa). Faculty academics are eligible to apply for this annual exchange opportunity. The terms are as follows:

- While on exchange at Notre Dame Law School, the Faculty member will have the opportunity to teach an intensive course, host a seminar, offer a series of guest lectures, present a workshop, work on developing collaborative programs and initiatives, and/or engage in joint research with a host school faculty member
- host school faculty member.
 Dates are set on a case-by-case
- A motivation for the exchange

from Faculty academics. Submissions

This is a call for expressions of interest

- A proposal on a course, seminar, guest lectures, workshop and/or collaborative initiatives/ research
- The name of the Notre Dame Law School Faculty member with whom you propose the collaboration
- Proposed timing and duration of the visit
- A brief CV
 Letter of recommendation from the Faculty.

Applications are subject to adequate leave arrangements and coordination with the Head of Department to ensure that departmental and teaching responsibilities are adequately managed during the absence.

Applications – and requests for additional information and clarification - should be submitted to **Prof Fatima Khan**



- basis but must align with teaching schedules at Notre Dame Law School.
- For this exchange, Notre Dame Law School will cover the costs of housing, airfare, and a research or teaching stipend for the visiting academic and will provide working space and (as far as possible) access to campus facilities.

NOTRE DAME LAW SCHOOL

Elective Teaching in Brazil

FGV Direito SP (or *Escola de Direito de São Paulo da Fundação Getulio Vargas*, a Brazilian private law higher education institution) is looking forward to receiving proposals from academics from UCT Law interested in teaching elective courses in the following areas, as part of the **FGV DIREITO SP Global Law Program – Visiting Professor**:

- Business, corporate and tax law
- Climate Change: Regulation and Governance of Energy Transition
- Criminal law and cross-border crimes
 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Law Enforcement and the world of work
- Technology and Business Law

The teaching period will be the **Academic Year of 2025** (from February to May or from August to November). A proposal is required for a 15-hour course taught in English during one week (Monday to Friday from 5pm to 8pm). The proposals received will be analysed by **FGV Direito SP Board** and selected for a final approval according to their academic targets. The course proposal should be sent to cri.direitosp@fgv by **30 September 2024.**

Prof Chirwa indicated, in his email of 29 August, that the Faculty would support your application. Please check that email for the attached host university policies.

"It will be an honor for FGV DIREITO SP to welcome you in our School"

ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

A/Prof Melanie Murcott recently
presented an online seminar for the
Municipal Law Forum recently (*Thursday*,
29 August 2024 at 17:00), on the
following topic: "Public participation in
environmental matters: the Wild Coast
struggle and the recent decision of the SCA
in Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy
and Others v Sustaining the Wild Coast NPC
and Others [2024] ZASCA 84".

In addition, the Environmental Law Association, chaired by **A/Prof Melanie Murcott**, is holding its annual conference from 5 – 7 September in Johannesburg.



ANNOUNCEMENT & NOTES

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 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.



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.