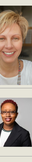

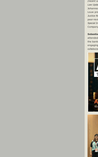

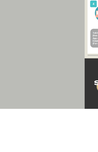

Faculty Fortnight | 30 October 2024 View in web browser

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, Seminars, Conferences & Events * Publications
*

* Announcements & Notes *

FACULTY NEWS

STAFF NEWS

Bowling and Bonding

PASS staff last week held a teambuilding session while competing over a slice of pizza and a few rounds of bowling. Participants declared the event great fun – and an excellent way to decompress before exam season officially kicks off this week.

The group of 27 staff were divided into colour teams – Red, Blue, Yellow, Green, Black and White to compete for Top Bowling Team Award, Team Spirit award, and Bowling Superstar award.

The coveted awards went to:

Top Bowling Team – RED Team, comprising Kyle Fortune, Nolwazi Zondi, Nwabisa Kula, Toni Murphy and Zikhona Ncamani
Team Spirit Award – GREEN Team, comprising Aviwe Vilane, Zaida Essop, Monique Kerspay and Ncumisa Manana
Bowling Superstart (top point scorer) – Faiza Mohamed (who scored way above the competitor in 2

nd place)!

Congratulations to Professor Michelle
Louw who has just been inaugurated as
a member of the Academy of Science of
South Africa. Current ASSAf members in
the Faculty include our two SARChI Chairs,
Professor Caroline Ncube and Professor
Hanri Mostert. Emeritus Professors
Evance Kalula and Danie Visser are also
members of the Academy. New members
are elected each year by the full existing
Academy membership. Membership of the
Academy is a great honour and is in
recognition of scholarly achievement.

Members are the core asset of the
Academy and give of their time and
expertise voluntarily in the service of
society. Prof Louw has been inaugurated
along with 43 other new ASSAf Members,
bringing the total Membership of ASSAf to
730.

Visiting Lecturer

Many of you may know Emily Muyaa,
Adjunct Associate Professor in Commercial
Law, who is a regular visiting lecturer on
International Taxation and is currently
completing lectures in the postgraduate
International Taxation Programme.
Serving as Chief of the Capacity
Development Unit at UNDESA-FSDO
(United Nations), Ms Muyaa has also
lectured for the IBFD, and is a Member of
the UN Tax Committee Subcommittee on
Article 9 (Associated Enterprises):
Transfer Pricing and a founding member of
the Transfer Pricing Economists for
Development (TPED).

Student News

The outgoing Law Students Council recently received the Department of Student Affairs Outstanding Team award at DSA’s annual Student Leadership recognition event. Congratulations, well deserved! (see pic left below).

In addition, outgoing LSC President Callum Beukes and VP Internal Edith Mugadza both received individual Outstanding Leadership Awards. Congratulations to you!

New Law Students Council and Student Society Committees
for 2024/2025

The Faculty congratulates the incoming Law Students Council on their election by the student body – well done! These student representatives are Sanele Tshabalala, Rameez Brenner, Qunicy Hitler, Basetsana Moropoli, Wardah Tregonning, Chloe Rose Kyle, Janelle Don, Pako Motheogane, Cayleen de Bruyn.

Below we also list the new Student Society Committee Chairs for our eight different (very active) Law Faculty student societies. A fundamental part of UCT Law student life, these societies – along with the Law Students Council - undertake a tremendous amount of work in the Faculty, and contribute greatly to raising the profile of and energy levels in the Faculty. Some of these societies also provide important opportunities for students to earn their community service hours.

Altum Sonatur Ozzy Aromin
Black Lawyers Association - Student Chapter
(BLASC)

Ropafadzo Zharare

Chamber of Legal Students Paula Scheder-Bieschin
Responsa Meridiana Lizwi Majola
SHAWCO Law To be confirmed
Students for Law & Social Justice (SLSJ) Andrew Watt
UCT Moot Society Jay Krok
Women in Law Amber Bodrick

LECTURES, SEMINARS, CONFERENCES & EVENTS

AfCFTA, IP
and the Future of African Trade

The Nelson Mandela School's webinar
series on the AfCFTA protocols brings
together African Continental Free Trade
Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat policy experts,
academia from across the continent,
researchers, policymakers and students.

Join us this week as we explore the
Protocol on Intellectual Property Rights
(IPR). Dr Tebogo Lefifi will moderate a
disussion between Prof Chidi Oguamanam
and Dr Fikremarkos Birhanu.

When: Thursday, 31 October 2024
Time: 12:00 - 13:30 (South African time)

Scan QR code to RSVP HERE.

International Fiscal Association

The 76th Congress of the International Fiscal Association is officially open. The 76th IFA Congress is currently taking place in Cape Town from 27 to 31 October 2024. It is the first time an IFA Congress has been held on the African continent. IFA’s annual congresses provide a unique opportunity to bring together leading tax experts from corporations, governments, academia, and advisors, to discuss and debate international tax topics of current major interest and importance. These congresses attract 2 000 or more attendees from all over the world with discussions focussed on both technical issues and practical matters faced by all those involved in making the international tax system work. The tax programme content is topical and reflects the current global situation for both developed and developing countries.

Professor Johann Hattingh is serving as General Reporter for Conference Subject 1, and is participating in one of the panels. A/Professor Afton Titus presented a seminar (pictured above) on Nexus, New forms of Taxes, and Double Taxation.

24-hour Conference on Global Organized Crime

Dr Annette Hubschle is participating in two panels at this week’s 24-hour conference on global organised crime. Annette will be talking on the panel dealing with Organised Crime and the use of the internet, and on the special issue of Conservation Frontiers on transnational maritime environmental crime.

Public Lecture

Email info@casac.org.za for further info.

The Council for the Advancement of the
South African Constitution (CASAC) invites
you to the Kader Asmal Lecture with
former Deputy Chief Justice Dikgang
Moseneke. Titled A Tribute to Kader Asmal:
Justice for Whom? Contested notions of the
International Justice System, Where: UWC
Centre for Humanities Research Iyatsiba
Labs
When: 7 November 2024
Time: 18h00 – 20h00

LSGL Webinar on Competency Based Legal Education

The Law Schools Global League (LSGL) is invites you to its first open-to-the-public webinar on Competency-Based Legal Education, featuring a distinguished panel of global experts, to explore the evolving landscape of legal education and the critical role of competency-based approaches in preparing the next generation of legal professionals.

Date: 14 November 2024
Time: 22:00 (CET) | 15:00 (CST) | 16:00 (Colombia) | 18:00 (Brazil) |
08:00 (Sydney - 15 November)

Speakers:
Prof. Alyson M Carrel (Northwestern Pritzker School of Law)
Dean Eleonora Lozano Rodríguez (Universidad de los Andes)
Prof. Marina Feferbaum (FGV SP)
Prof. Casey-Lee Hirst (UNSW)
Moderated by Prof. Lucas Lixinski (UNSW)

Why Attend? Competency-based legal education is a transformative approach that focuses on equipping students with the practical skills and knowledge they need to excel in the legal field. As the legal profession continues to evolve in response to globalization, technological advancements, and new societal challenges, it is essential for educators and students alike to understand and adopt these forward-looking educational practices.

REGISTER HERE

UCT Arbitration Day

UCT Law’s Arbitration and Dispute Resolution Unit (ADRU), launched last October, held its first official UCT Arbitration Day event on 2 October, from 10h30 – 15h30. Aimed at young students and advanced practitioners, this event is part of the ADRU’s ongoing initiative to promote arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution in South Africa and Africa, as well as to educate and engage a new generation of practitioners and students in this area. In pursuit of this, an experienced and thoughtful group of practitioners was convened to provide participants with insight into developing their careers in arbitration.

Delivering a day of lectures and panels on commercial, investment and public international law arbitration, speakers included:
Lise Bosman (Senior Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration)
Monique Carels (Commercial Law, UCT)
Vlad Movshovich (Webber Wentzel)
Clement Mkiva (Bowmans)
Michelle Porter-Wright (Baker McKenzie)
Taki Madima SC (Cape and Jhb Bar)

JURIS DIVERSITAS

Three of our Private Law colleagues presented papers at the recent 9

th General
Conference of Juris Diversitas, held in Macau, China on 24-25 October 2024. Juris Diversitas was founded in 2007 as an international, interdisciplinary community for the study of legal and normative mixtures and movements. Originally comparatists, Juris Diversitas has opened up a conversation with anthropologists, geographers, historians, philosophers, sociologists, etc. both within the law and beyond. This year’s conference theme was Convivencia: Comparing Legal Scenarios of a Life Together in Harmony.

Papers were presented by:
Ibitisaam AHMED (below left), on Spiritual and material communion between the spouses, family obligations and civil Beyond the Void: Marriage nullity and legal nuance; Mathabo BAASE (below centre), on How big is the village? Reassessing the protection of minors and the parent-child relationship; and
Dr Robin Cupido (below right), on Online Dispute Resolution: An underestimated avenue towards access to justice?

ANNUAL BANKING LAW UPDATE

On 16 October 2024, Prof Michelle Louw co-presented a paper on Developments (recent case law) in letters of credit and independent guarantees at the Annual Banking Law Update organised by the Centre for Banking Law at the University of Johannesburg (held in Sandton and sponsored by ABSA bank). The panel in which Prof Louw presented was chaired by the retired Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal, Justice Nigel Willis. The presentation also appeared as a chapter in the double-blind peer-reviewed book Annual Banking Law Update 2024: Recent Legal Developments of Special Interest to Banks (a subsidy-bearing publication) published by Juta and Company (Pty) Ltd.

Sebastian Krafzik and Sapna Mesthrie from the Commercial Law department also attended the Annual Banking Law Update, where they connected with colleagues from the banking sector, legal practice, the financial regulators and academia. It was an engaging and informative conference and a great opportunity for networking and collaboration on future projects.

Consumer Goods & Services Ombud (CGSO)

On Wednesday 23 October, Professor Danwood Chirwa signed an MOU with the Consumer Goods & Services Ombud (CGSO) for future collaborations on consumer community outreach, education and awareness through public lectures and workshops. On the same day, the CGSO, in partnership with the Faculty, hosted a workshop for industry suppliers and service providers. Tjakie Naude, Monique Carels and Sapna Mesthrie presented on a panel titled Topical aspects of the Consumer Protection Act and ADR. The panel was chaired by Bongiwe Zungu and attracted audience interest and participation.

PUBLICATIONS

DRITTWIRKUNG AND THE PUBLIC/PRIVATE DIVIDE IN THE LAW OF GIFTS: TROUBLESOME DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Professor Francois du Toit recently published an article on the public/private divide in the Law of gifts, in the Journal of International and Comparative Law, Vol 11. This article investigates recent South African jurisprudence on the public/private divide in the law of gifts, based on the dichotomy between public and private gifts. It analyses post-constitutional judgments in which South African High Courts and the Supreme Court of Appeal ostensibly accepted the existence of the divide in South African law. It also examines two recent judgments in which the South African Constitutional Court rejected the divide, albeit with some equivocation. The article questions the prudence of summarily proscribing the divide and, drawing comparatively on corresponding aspects of Dutch law, suggests that the divide safeguards private autonomy and the free and voluntary exercise of the ius disponendi in the law of gifts. It proposes that courts exercise perceptive restraint when resolving policy-based challenges to private gifts. The article attends to the limited circumstances in which judicial intrusion on dispositive intent in the private sphere may be justified.

Children's right to protection from
violence

Sapna Mesthrie has an article publication
in the OUP Journal of Human Rights Practice
titled Interpreting the child’s right to
protection from violence in the South African
context in line with international law
obligations. This article was the product of
research from Sapna’s LLM degree in the
Faculty. The article is open access and can
be accessed online HERE.

A Snapshot of the Constitutional
Courts’ Docket – January to July
2024

Nurina Ally has just published a co-
authored article on the Constitional
Courts' docket, with students Y Behari-
Leak, K Hosking, L Majola and L
Mazaleni.

The article abstract summarises the jist
of the article:
Most commentary on the Constitutional
Court focuses on its published
judgments. Yet the vast majority
ofapplications made to the Court are
disposed of in chambers. Empirical studies
on this aspect of the Court's work has
been limited. Using available online
records, we monitored and tracked trends
in petitions filed between 1 January 2024
and 26 July 2024. We also extracted
some information relating to petitions filed
in 2023. We present an overview of the
number of petitions received by the
Court between January 2023 and July
2024, as well as the rate at which the
Court appears to be processing such
applications.

We then consider the nature of the
petitions filed with the Court during the
first two terms of 2024.

Our analysis includes an overview of the
route that litigants have travelled in reaching
the Court, the area(s) of law the
petitions engage, and for cases which
were dismissed, the reasons for
dismissal. We find that there are large
gaps in the Court's disposition of new
applications, and that the processing time
for most petitions is relatively prolonged.
The data also suggests that the Court is
inundated with generalist appeals, as
opposed to matters raising issues of
special constitutional or public
importance. We conclude by briefly outlining
some recommendations for further
consideration.

Available online HERE.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF WELLNESS
ICAS, the health and wellness service for staff, has been reformulated as LYRA WELLBEING. Please review the information below for the support they offer, information and contact details.

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.