

FACULTY OF LAW

GET INVOLVED IN THE FACULTY



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD



Graduates of UCT Law, both LLB and postgraduate alums, continue to contribute greatly to the law profession globally, and in many other spheres of endeavour.

As a #ProudUCTLawAlum you possess a wealth of knowledge and experience that could greatly benefit our students and the Faculty more broadly. We are always looking for ways that our Law Alums can remain connected to and get involved in the UCT Faculty of Law.

Our alums and friends contribute greatly to the success of the Faculty by volunteering time and talents within our Faculty. We offer our alumni a variety of opportunities to stay connected with our vibrant community of students, law teachers, researchers and law graduates, and to contribute to the growth and success of the next generation of legal professionals.

Have a look at the many options – and choose one that best suits the time, energy and expertise that you have to offer. Contact gaby.ritchie@uct.ac.za if you would like to find out more about any of the options below.



GUEST LECTURING

01

Share your expertise by delivering a guest lecture on a topic related to your field of specialisation, linked to one of our LLB or postgraduate courses. Be in touch with us and together we can identify what this might be.



REQUIREMENTS

- In-depth knowledge of the subject matter.
- Availability to deliver engaging lectures.
- Willingness to interact with students and answer questions.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Professional recognition: contributes to building your reputation as an expert in your field, and enhances your professional visibility.
- Continued learning: involvement in guest lectures provides the opportunity to engage with new ideas and perspectives through interaction with students and Faculty academics.

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Enriched curriculum: diverse perspectives and real-world experiences from alumni enrich the learning experience for students.
- Expanded networks: Alumni connections bring opportunities for collaboration and potential research partnerships.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- Practical insights: students have the opportunity to gain real-world insights directly from industry professionals, bridging the gap between theory and practice, and seeing how their classroom learning has application in the “real” world.
- Inspiration: students have the opportunity to be exposed to alumni success stories which motivates students and broadens their career aspirations.

SKILLS WORKSHOPS 02

Lead practical skills workshops to equip students with essential legal skills – such as legal writing/ surviving as a CA/ interpersonal engagement in the legal profession, and more.



REQUIREMENTS

- Proficiency in the chosen skill set (eg. writing, analysis, comprehension, interpersonal engagement, establishing client trust).
- Ability to guide hands-on activities.
- Commitment to enhancing students' practical skills.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Skills refinement: Sharpen your own skills and stay current by preparing and delivering practical workshops focused on skills development.
- Networking: Interact with motivated students, building relationships that may lead to future collaborations.

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Enhanced skills development: Alumni-led workshops provide students with hands-on skills development, supporting alignment with industry expectations of graduate attributes.
- Enhanced reputation: This would significantly enhance the Faculty's ability to produce graduates with appropriate practical skills required in legal practice.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- Practical proficiency: skills-sharing and development supports acquisition of relevant skills from experienced professionals, increasing graduate employability.
- Industry insights: Skills training of this nature provides students with the opportunity to learn about the latest trends and challenges from practitioners actively engaged in the field.

MOOT COMPETITION COACHING AND JUDGING

Supporting the Faculty's Moot activities through the moot assignments and the UCT Moot Society, by providing coaching to student teams, and serving as judges in the various competitions.

REQUIREMENTS

- Proficiency in constructing and preparing heads of argument.
- Ability to guide practical skills-sharing in the development and presentation of legal argument and court presence.
- Commitment to enhancing students' practical skills.
- Interest in the process of adjudicating student competitions.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Reward: the sure knowledge that your coaching will serve to improve the standard of mooting in the Faculty, and the success of our students in internal, regional, national and international competitions.
- Engagement: the opportunity to engage with students and academics related to moot topics, student skills development and the process of moot adjudications.



BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Enhanced skills development: Alumni-led moot coaching provides students with exposure to practitioners with skill and experience in the court environment.
- Reputation-building: The UCT Law mooting endeavour is completely re-energised and we have seen growing success amongst our student teams in a range of competitions.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- Rapid improvement: skills development and coaching supports the enhancement of knowledge amongst our students from experienced professionals (increasing graduate employability, and the possibility of positive exposure through mooting).



04

STUDENT JOB-SHADOWING

Offer first-year students the chance to shadow you at your firm for a day or week.

REQUIREMENTS

- Consent to host students at your workplace.
- Willingness to showcase the daily workings of the legal profession.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Networking opportunities: Expand your professional network by engaging with potential future talents.
- Skill evaluation: Assess students' abilities and potential suitability for your industry, and potentially for your firm, in a way that is less formal and less pressured than the formality of recruitment, or traditional "vac work".

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Real-world exposure: Through engagement with legal professionals, our students gain firsthand insights into the generalities and specificities of the professional world, as a great (but often inaccessible) adjunct to their academic experience.
- Career path exploration: Engaging with alumni from different specialisations in the field of Law exposes students to different career paths within the broad profession, aiding their career decisions and development.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- Practical experience: Students have the opportunity to observe daily work routines and challenges, offering a glimpse into the realities of their chosen profession.
- Mentorship: Students have the opportunity to establish relationships with experienced professionals, potentially leading to future guidance and learning opportunities.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Organise events that facilitate networking between students and professionals in your network.



REQUIREMENTS

- Strong professional network.
- Willingness to connect students with appropriate contacts.
- Willingness to host networking events.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Connection building: Build relationships with potential future colleagues and employees.
- Recruitment opportunities: Identify talented students for potential job openings.

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Industry connections: This supports the strengthening of ties with alumni who are established in various sectors of the legal profession.
- Alumni engagement: Provides ongoing opportunities for alumni to remain connected and contribute to the Faculty.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- Industry exposure: Engage with professionals from diverse legal fields, expanding their knowledge and potential career paths.
- Mentorship and guidance: Receive advice and insights from alumni who have successfully navigated the legal industry.

CAREER ADVICE AND MENTORING

Provide guidance and mentorship to students as they navigate their potential legal careers.



REQUIREMENTS

- Dedication to offering guidance and support over a defined period.
- Availability for regular interactions with mentees (up to 6 hours each year).

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Legacy and impact: Make a significant impact on students' lives by guiding their career choices and trajectories, and advising them on options.
- Personal satisfaction: Experience the fulfillment of helping to shape the next generation of legal professionals.

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Positive outcomes: Alumni mentoring leads to better-prepared graduates who are more equipped for professional success.
- Stronger alumni network: Engaged alumni who mentor students are more likely to stay connected and support the Faculty.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- Guidance: Students can access personalised career advice, helping them make informed decisions about their future.
- Confidence boost: Interacting with experienced professionals boosts students' confidence and self-assurance in their abilities.



ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERSHIP

Serve on an advisory board within the Faculty, dependant on available opportunities.

REQUIREMENTS

- Expertise in the field of legal research or governance.
- Commitment to the best interests of the Faculty.
- Participation in board meetings and discussions.
- Availability for up to four meetings each year.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Influence and leadership: Play a significant role in shaping the direction of research and academic programmes.
- Networking and collaboration: Connect with fellow board members and Faculty staff, fostering potential collaborations.

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Expert insights: Alumni expertise informs the development of research agendas and enhances the quality of academic programmes.
- Strategic guidance: Advisory board input aids in forging greater understanding between Faculty and the legal profession.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- Quality education: Students benefit from up-to-date, industry-informed programmes that include advisory board input, and students belong to a Faculty engaged in on-the-edge research which feeds into the teaching programme.
- Mentorship opportunities: Exposure to advisory board members opens doors to mentorship and potential career opportunities.



FACULTY COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT 08

Contribute as an advisor on the Faculty Research Committee or Development & Alumni Committee.

REQUIREMENTS

- Commitment to the best possible future for the Faculty.
- Understanding of committee goals and objectives.
- Active participation in committee activities.
- Availability for up to four meetings each year.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Leadership experience: Participate in decision-making processes that shape the Faculty's strategic direction.
- Networking and visibility: Connect with other committee members and staff, expanding professional connections.

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Diverse input: Alumni committee members bring fresh perspectives and ideas to Faculty-related matters.
- Institutional growth: Alumni contributions enhance the Faculty's innovation and strategic development.
- Enhanced learning environment: Committees contribute to creating an environment that supports student growth and success.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES

Teach a short course for **Law@work**, our professional development unit, which offers short courses on a range of legal topics for those in the legal profession and related fields.

REQUIREMENTS

- In-depth understanding of a specialised area of law, or related area and its relevance to professional practice.
- Interest in teaching other professionals and in sharing knowledge.
- Willingness to prepare and deliver in-person or online sessions.
- Available time to deliver a course or courses.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Share knowledge and contribute to building the legal profession and related fields.
- Build networks and get to know what others in the field are busy with.

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Access to in-practice professional knowledge and experience.
- Broadening the scope of what Law@work is able to offer, which is only possible through in-sourcing experts.
- Broadening the Faculty's network of expert alums who are able to contribute their knowledge and professional experience.

DONATIONS, SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORT & SPONSORSHIP

Support the Faculty's growth by donating funds, contributing to LLB and postgraduate scholarships, and encouraging individuals and corporates in their network to support excellence in legal education.

DONATE

REQUIREMENTS

- Willingness to make a financial contribution in line with interests and capacity.
- Desire to make a positive impact on students' lives, and support excellence in the Faculty.

BENEFITS TO ALUMNI

- Personal fulfilment: Make a lasting impact by contributing to students' education and future careers.
- Recognition and appreciation: Alumni donors are acknowledged and celebrated for their support.

BENEFITS TO THE FACULTY

- Financial support: Donations and scholarships boost the Faculty's resources for research, programmes, and infrastructure.
- Student accessibility: Scholarships enable talented students to access quality education, regardless of financial constraints.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS

- Financial relief: Scholarships alleviate financial burdens, allowing students to focus on their studies.
- Merit recognition: Scholarship recipients are recognised for their achievements and potential, motivating their academic pursuits.





OUR FACULTY VISION



Our vision is to lead in building legal knowledge and capabilities to realise a sustainably just and equal society.

Our mission is to attract intellectually curious students and research partners interested in Africa-informed knowledge and a unique, diverse and socially engaged scholarly community shaping the future.



CONTACTS

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