



UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN  
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD



FACULTY OF LAW  
**LAW**  
ANNUAL  
**2024**

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# UCT LAW VISION 2030



**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.

## We seek to be distinctive by offering:

- teaching and learning that is critical, innovative, participatory, research- and skills-based, and grounded in both theory and practice;
- an intellectual space that connects and enables a diverse community of students, scholars, and alumni to pioneer Africa-informed research and advocacy that understands and solves legal and social problems;
- a people-centred, agile, and effective administration to support a vibrant scholarly community and workplace; and
- a culture of re-imagining and expanding our legal academic impact to foster collaborative, proactive and responsive societal engagement.

## To realise our mission and vision, we need to build and improve the following capabilities and systems:

- the capability to curate, host and provide access to Africa's largest and most diverse legal information collection;
- a system that stimulates and sustains specialised, integrated research clusters and expertise, networks and partnerships;
- a faculty culture that is caring, inclusive, connected and supportive of staff and students, and that values both academic freedom and responsibility through transparency, accountability and equity;
- an engaged network of alumni, donors, funders and other partners that supports a flourishing intellectual community;
- a community of teaching and learning practice that co-creates high-quality innovative, research-informed, skills-based participatory learning and critical thinking;
- a continually improving staff culture that creates a dynamic work environment that is people-centred and able to constantly evolve in line with technological changes and provide streamlined effective administrative systems; and
- infrastructure and financial resources to enable the achievement of the Faculty's core functions.

## To measure achievement of the strategy and its impact, we will, annually:

- consider a pipeline of successfully implemented improvement projects;
- administer a student survey of the Integrative Assessment Moot;
- review alumni participation in faculty events, alumni feedback and external funding; and
- consider the scholarly and community expert interactions of academic staff.



## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

The year 2024 marked an important milestone in the proud history of our Faculty of Law: 165 years since the very first law lecture was delivered in South Africa. In keeping with marking such a milestone, 2024 was a year of celebration, reflection, and achievements, serving as a fitting tribute to UCT Law's legacy as one of the continent's leading centres for legal research, scholarship and teaching.

The 2024 academic calendar was filled with events, innovations, awards and accomplishments that reaffirmed the Faculty's commitment to excellence in research, teaching, internationalisation, and engaged scholarship. This Law Annual includes as many of these achievements as we had space to include.

Among these was the signing of a formal Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Notre Dame Law School in the United States. This agreement lays the foundation for deepening academic collaboration, student and staff exchanges, and joint research initiatives on global legal challenges. Our first partnership initiative with Notre Dame Law School was co-hosting a conference in April on Business & Human Rights.

A particular highlight of the year was the opportunity to host, in July 2024, an international interdisciplinary conference on *Artificial Intelligence and Law*. The event brought together over 120 delegates from across Africa, Europe, North

America, and Asia to explore the intersection of technology, law, ethics, and justice. The conference was an opportunity to position the Faculty at the forefront of emerging legal debates in this sphere, and also ensured in-depth discussion amongst scholars, practitioners, researchers and policymakers about the implications of AI for legal systems, particularly those in Africa.

On the research front, 2024 held personal significance for me as Dean, as I was honoured to receive a B1 research rating from South Africa's National Research Foundation, reflecting sustained contribution to and impact in my field. This recognition, though, only serves to reflect the growing strength of our Faculty of Law academic community. Two of our junior academics received the UCT College of Fellows Young Researcher Award, a testament to the calibre of our emerging scholars and a real indication of the kind of research being undertaken in the Faculty. In addition, two senior colleagues – Professor Caroline Ncube and Professor Michelle Louw – were recognised by leading research bodies for their contributions, respectively, to intellectual property law and commercial law.

The Faculty continued to attract philanthropic and donor support, enabling the establishment of several new scholarships and student prizes. These initiatives are great support for the Faculty's endeavour to expand access to the Faculty's degree programmes, to recognise academic excellence

at LLB and postgraduate levels, and – most importantly – to develop and support the next generation of South African legal minds.

Equally noteworthy were our innovation and outreach initiatives, which serve as testament to the Faculty’s mission to develop and implement practical ways to ensure that law, legislation and legal issues are accessible to and relevant for development in South Africa and beyond. Projects such as the development of the “Pass a Bill” app for our Constitutional Law class, and the “Constitutional Court Judgments Statistics Platform”, demonstrate how technology can enhance understanding of the law at work, as well as improve legal transparency. Our AfricanLII programme further extended its continent-wide impact by advancing digital access to legislation through a range of collaborative partnerships across Africa.

Internationalisation remains at the top of the Faculty’s research, teaching and learning agenda. Through our research partnerships, our various memoranda of understanding with universities and institutions in other parts of the world, and our numerous staff and student exchange agreements, we are able to give real effect to internationalisation – ensuring that we contribute to local excellence and global impact. Throughout the year, the Faculty was pleased to be able to host a wide range of international visitors, conferences, seminars, and public lectures, enriching our academic environment and strengthening our global networks.

In every sphere – research, teaching, innovation, and engagement – 2024 has been a year of exceptional energy and achievement. As we celebrate 165 years of legal education, we do so with great pride in our history and our legal legacy, as well as renewed commitment to our legal future and to shaping a just, inclusive, forward-looking legal environment for South Africa and beyond.



# OUR FACULTY IN FOCUS

## THE ENDURING VALUE OF A 165-YEAR LEGACY

The University of Cape Town's Faculty of Law celebrated 165 years in 2024. It is one of the oldest legal institutions in South Africa and has served over the decades as testament to educational excellence and justice. It has also served as a mirror, reflecting the profound changes that have swept across our country and the continent.

The first law lecture was delivered under the auspices of the South African College on 16 April 1859 in the Masters' Meeting Room in the Old Supreme Court in Adderley Street, Cape Town. In 1916 the Cape Town Act created the Universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch with a specific provision for the South African College to become a University, and the Faculty of Law was thus established.

As an institution that spans so many decades UCT Law has developed deep memory and understanding of the evolution of legal principles, the ways in which justice systems adapt, and the critical necessity for law to serve changing societies. Staff have shepherded generations of legal professionals who have navigated a wide variety of paths in pursuit of justice. Graduates include those who operated within flawed systems while working toward reform, advocates who consistently confronted injustice, individuals who made personal sacrifices to drive legal progress, and innovators who constructed more fair and inclusive frameworks for South African legal principles.

Beyond traditional practice, UCT Law alumni have pioneered transformative approaches to legal thought, practice, research, and community engagement. They have redefined what it means to be a legal professional in today's world, creating innovative models of scholarship and establishing new standards for social responsibility within the legal profession.

The significance and impact of this legacy is held by staff and students, past and present. Faculty staff serve as both drafters and custodians of the law, bridging traditional and contemporary scholarship and preserving institutional legacy while stretching the boundaries of legal thought and jurisprudence and mentoring future law practitioners. Students bring fresh perspectives and different priorities, bringing their own experiential knowledge and stories, their digital nativity and their evolving ideas of justice to the task of challenging established thinking. Our alumni, through their continued engagement, provide the bridge between academic learning and legal practice, while also providing key support to the Faculty's endeavours to maintain excellence in our teaching, learning and research.

Throughout its 165 years, the Faculty has remained steadfast in holding the responsibility that our academics and researchers carry to ensure that we are training legal professionals committed to a just future.

Over the next few pages we highlight some of the significant achievements of the Faculty and our colleagues during the 2024 period.



## ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND THE FUTURE OF LAW

The Faculty has planned to host a major conference every two years, to contribute significantly to scholarship in particular areas of legal specialisation. 2024 was the year the Faculty's first such conference was held. The conference theme was *Artificial Intelligence and Law*, one that increasingly requires in-depth thinking and discussion, as the pace of development speeds up, and as the questions facing the legal profession become increasingly complex.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping the legal landscape, influencing both professional practice and legal education at a global level. But AI has long moved past its status as simply "technological advancement" and is now a driving force that is reshaping society in implicit and explicit ways, and in ways that are both exciting and daunting. AI is reshaping how we relate to and interact with each other at a local and global level – and in this fast-paced, sometimes messy, often hidden, and ever-evolving technology and AI landscape, the intersection of artificial intelligence and law has emerged in stark relief as a critical focal point for global discussions.

It is this significance that spotlighted the need for an academic conference in the global south on AI and Law to examine the wide range of related innovations, impacts and implications. The event underscored the Faculty's commitment to engaging with the opportunities and challenges posed by AI in the legal domain, and to providing space to surface and discuss these issues in a rigorous academic environment.





The conference, themed simply as “AI and Law”, sought to investigate innovations in the interdisciplinary space where AI and law converge, and to examine the implications of these innovations for law, legality and ethics. Moving beyond the rapid advancements in AI, and looking at the legal implications around access to and analysis of vast volumes of data, the use of AI in the prediction of outcomes, and how data is used to inform decision-making processes, this conference recognised both the positive and negative effects on legal paradigms, as well as on basic legal processes, including contract analysis, legal research, due diligence and dispute resolution (amongst many others). By fostering discussions on these subjects, the conference was able to contribute to the insights required to navigate the complex balance between innovation and regulation.

As critical foundations for this conference, interdisciplinarity and international perspectives were key drivers in bringing together legal specialists with experts and insights from fields such as computer science, ethics, psychology, sociology, gender studies and economics, amongst others. The inclusion of international perspectives sought to recognise the diversity of cultural, legal, and ethical contexts within which AI is operational, and sought to contribute to the development of a globally relevant roadmap for navigating this new and ever-evolving AI landscape and its implications for law.

Amongst a fantastic selection of themes and topics, the conference hosted two great keynote speakers, namely Professor Nicolas Petit (European University Institute) and Dr Melissa Omino (Strathmore University), who spoke on African voices in AI, looking at mother-tongue language data, natural language processing and opensource requirements.

Conference presenters addressed the ethical implementation of AI in company law and corporate governance, emphasising transparency and accountability in decision-making processes. Discussions on AI’s impact on intellectual property rights served to highlight the evolving challenges in copyright and patent law amidst technological advancements.

The conference also looked at AI’s role in dispute resolution; the notion of data as labour and proposals to tax profits arising from data; tax avoidance regulation and AI neural networks; AI and autonomous weapons in the African context; and the impact of AI on business. Experts also explored AI’s implications for labour law, analysing its effects on the digitalisation of workplaces and the need to examine bias.

In alignment with UCT Law’s commitment to justice, sessions also critically examined AI’s influence on the philosophy of law and legal theory, redefining notions of legal responsibility and accountability in AI-driven environments. Discussions on AI, gender, and the law probed issues such as bias in assessments of creditworthiness; and the gendered context of deepfake.

By bringing together diverse perspectives across these themes, the conference aimed to inform policy and shape practice, and anticipate the societal impacts of AI advancements. A conference publication is in preparation and further information in this regard will be shared as it becomes available.

For more information about the conference, including the programme, conference streams, and the conference gallery, visit the Faculty website.

 [VISIT THIS LINK FOR MORE](#)

## LANDMARK SUPREME COURT OF APPEAL VICTORY

The concept of a refugee *sur place* is formally recognised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). This legal classification applies to individuals who were not refugees when they departed their country of origin but subsequently became refugees due to changed circumstances or emerging conditions in their home country during their absence.

The Refugee Rights Unit (RRU) achieved a significant legal victory through its successful case heard by the Supreme Court of Appeal concerning *sur place* refugee claims. This landmark decision represents the culmination of five years of dedicated legal advocacy, beginning with proceedings in the Western Cape High Court.

The successful outcome reflects the enormous commitment and legal expertise of Refugee Rights Unit attorney Monique Schoeman, and Advocate David Simonsz, who provided representation throughout the extended legal proceedings. Their sustained efforts exemplify the University's commitment to advancing human rights through rigorous legal advocacy.

This victory extends beyond the immediate parties, establishing important legal precedent for all *sur place* refugees residing in South Africa. The successful outcome underscores the Refugee Rights Unit's contribution to developing coherent and internationally aligned refugee protection frameworks within South African jurisprudence.



## ACTA JURIDICA: NEW GENERAL EDITOR

For over two decades, *Acta Juridica* – the Faculty's long-standing annual journal publication – has been guided by a model in which a General Editor oversees the journal's operations, supported by the Faculty Board in its role as Editorial Board. Each annual issue is further shaped by dedicated issue editors, ensuring scholarly depth and thematic coherence.

At the Faculty Board meeting held on 10 April 2024, the Dean extended sincere gratitude to Associate Professor Graham Bradfield for his distinguished tenure as General Editor. His leadership has been instrumental in maintaining the journal's high academic standards and reputation for excellence.

The Faculty was proud to announce the appointment of Salona Lutchman as the new General Editor – the fourth individual and the first woman academic to hold this position, following in the footsteps of Professor Jan Glaszewski, Associate Professor Alistair Price, and Associate Professor Graham Bradfield. With Salona Lutchman now at the helm, *Acta Juridica* enters a new chapter, poised to uphold its legacy while bringing in fresh perspectives.



## EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATIVE REFORM INITIATIVE

Nurina Ally, Director of the Centre for Law & Society, has made substantial contributions to early childhood development policy reform through her active involvement in the “Real Reform for ECD” campaign. Since 2021, Nurina has engaged with the Department of Basic Education and key stakeholders, contributing to submissions on the draft Children’s Amendment Bill 2024 and influencing proposed regulatory changes. Her published research has informed amendments to health and safety regulations, demonstrating the practical impact of academic work on policy. Through public engagement, including co-authoring opinion pieces, Ally has advanced policy discourse, exemplifying academic leadership in shaping early childhood development legislation and service delivery.



## ADVANCING LEGAL DISCOURSE ON CONSENT LAW

Associate Professor Jameelah Omar served as an expert witness for the Third Applicant in the landmark case *The Embrace Project and Others v Minister of Justice and Correctional Services and Others* (48656/22). Her expertise focused on the legal interpretation of consent, both as a requirement in cases of rape and sexual assault and as a defence to unlawfulness. The case, heard on 22–23 July 2024, highlights A/Prof Omar’s significant contribution to advancing legal understanding and shaping discourse on sexual offences within South Africa’s justice system.



## CONSTITUTIONAL COURT STATISTICS PLATFORM

In a significant step toward enhancing public engagement with South Africa's highest court, the Centre for Law & Society, in partnership with the iNtaka Centre for Law and Technology, launched an innovative online platform designed to monitor and analyse the work of the Constitutional Court.

This interactive resource offers users a dynamic interface for exploring Constitutional Court statistics, with the following key objectives:

- providing insight into emerging issues in the Court's functioning and jurisprudence
- stimulating informed discussion and debate around Constitutional Court trends
- showcasing research tools valuable to legal scholars, practitioners, and court observers.

As a pilot initiative, the platform currently features data spanning the years 2010 to 2019, with plans to expand coverage to include more recent statistics in future updates.

The project was conceptualised and led by Nurina Ally (Public Law) and Dr Leo Boonzaier (Private Law), in collaboration with the Centre for Law & Society and the iNtaka Centre for Law and Technology. Data scientist Neil Du Toit played a pivotal role in the technical development of the platform.

The platform is freely accessible online.



[VISIT THE PLATFORM](#)

## LAUNCH OF THE “PASS A BILL” APP

In a pioneering initiative, Associate Professor Cathleen Powell led the development of an educational tool aimed at enhancing student engagement with the legislative process. The newly launched gaming app, *Pass a Bill*, is currently being utilised by undergraduate Constitutional Law students and has already seen active use in the curriculum.

This innovative platform introduces an interactive learning environment that deepens students' understanding of South Africa's legislative procedures through immersive gameplay. Players are tasked with guiding a bill through the complex stages of parliamentary approval, making strategic decisions at critical junctures based on contextual information.

By simulating the real-world journey of legislation – from initial proposals in the National Assembly, through scrutiny by the National Council of Provinces, to mediation in cases of disagreement – the app offers a hands-on, experiential approach to legal education. *Pass a Bill* reinforces theoretical knowledge while cultivating practical insights into the workings of democratic governance, making it a valuable addition to UCT's commitment to innovative teaching.



## SCRUTINISING ACCOUNTABILITY: FINANCIAL REPORTING PRACTICES OF THE INGONYAMA TRUST

The Faculty's Land and Accountability Resource Unit (LARC) published a report that provides a critical examination of the Ingonyama Trust's financial reporting practices to Parliament. Established in 1994, the Ingonyama Trust is a statutory entity that holds approximately 2.8 million hectares of communal land in KwaZulu-Natal on behalf of the Zulu King and the communities residing on the land. The LARC report is focused on the past nine years, highlighting how shifts in reporting criteria and categorisation have had significant implications for the Trust's beneficiaries. These changes have, in many cases, weakened mechanisms of accountability and transparency, raising concerns about governance and oversight.

While some of these alterations have been questioned by the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, others have proceeded without scrutiny. The report meticulously traces the evolution of financial reporting by the Ingonyama Trust Board (ITB), evaluates the justifications provided for these changes, and documents the challenges faced by oversight bodies in accessing the information required for effective monitoring.

It argues that meaningful oversight can only be achieved by interrogating the rationale behind these reporting shifts and by assessing their cumulative impact. Without such scrutiny, the ability to evaluate the Trust's operations and ensure corrective action remains compromised. The report concludes with a set of robust recommendations aimed at strengthening accountability and safeguarding the interests of the Trust's beneficiaries.



### **PUBLIC INTEREST RESEARCH HUB: BRIDGING LEGAL EDUCATION AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

In 2023 and 2024, the Centre for Law & Society launched the *Public Interest Research Hub* – an initiative designed to connect law students with social justice organisations through targeted, high-impact research collaborations. This programme has enabled 32 law students to contribute to five distinct projects in partnership with three social justice organisations. Student contributions have spanned a wide array of pressing legal and social issues, including:

- legal research on expropriation, municipal by-laws, and the right to early childhood nutrition
- compilation of client impact statements for communities facing eviction
- support for advocacy efforts through contributions to an amicus curiae intervention.

The Hub has contributed significantly to the work of these organisations while at the same time providing students with experiential learning opportunities. Feedback from participants has been overwhelmingly positive.

The Public Interest Research Hub is coordinated by Nurina Ally, with support from Jemima Thomas and Diane Jefthas at the Centre for Law & Society.



### **STRENGTHENING CONSUMER ADVOCACY**

The Faculty of Law formalised a strategic partnership with the Consumer Goods & Services Ombud (CGSO) through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) by Professor Danwood Chirwa. This agreement lays the foundation for future collaboration in advancing consumer rights through community outreach, public education, and awareness initiatives, including lectures and workshops.

To mark the occasion, the CGSO, in partnership with the Faculty, hosted a well-attended workshop for industry suppliers and service providers. The event featured a panel discussion titled *Topical Aspects of the Consumer Protection Act and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)*. Panelists included Professor Tjachie Naude, Monique Carels, and Sapna Mesthrie, with Bongwiwe Zungu serving as chair. The session focused on the relevance of consumer protection in today's marketplace.





## **COMMEMORATING THE NATIVE LAND ACT - NIGHT VIGIL AND PROTEST ACTION**

The Land and Accountability Research Centre (LARC) participated in a significant commemoration hosted by the Nkuzi Development Association, marking 111 years since the passing of the Native Land Act of 1913. The event, held on 18 - 19 June 2024, brought together grassroots organisations, affected communities, and civil society actors to reflect on the enduring impact of land dispossession and to advocate for meaningful reform in South Africa's land and agrarian sectors. Founded in 1997, the Nkuzi Development Association has played a pivotal role in supporting communities in the Makhado area to lodge land claims following the introduction of the Restitution of Land Rights Act No. 22 of 1994.

The 2024 commemoration included a night vigil on 18 June, where a programme of action was discussed. Two researchers from LARC presented updates on recent developments in land legislation, contributing to the broader discussion on accountability and reform. On 19 June, a march through the Polokwane CBD culminated in the delivery of a memorandum of demands to the Premier of Limpopo's office, the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development and Land Reform, and the Land Claims Commission. This memorandum called for the enforcement of the LAMOSAs judgments and urged the government to take action against the abuse of authority by traditional leaders, including the imposition of unlawful levies. This event highlighted the importance of land justice in South Africa and highlighted the role of academic initiatives like the Faculty's LARC unit in supporting informed advocacy and legislative engagement.

## **AFRICANLII ADVANCES DIGITAL ACCESS TO LAW ACROSS AFRICA**

In 2024, AfricanLII made significant progress in its mission to broaden access to legal information and strengthen governance through digitisation. Major collections of government gazettes, legislation, and court judgments from Côte d'Ivoire and Tanzania were digitised, and national institutions in both countries received hands-on training to produce and maintain digital legal texts. By the end of the year, AfricanLII offered free access to over 650,000 legal documents - equivalent to more than 10 million pages - spanning 24 African jurisdictions, regional economic communities, and the African Union. These developments have positioned AfricanLII as a leading pan-African legal research platform.

A cooperation agreement with the East African Court of Justice marked a key milestone, focusing on digitising court records and supporting judicial training. AfricanLII also co-hosted the 2024 *Sustainability of Open Access to Law Conference* in Dar es Salaam, which convened government officials, judges, legal professionals, and civil society. The conference culminated in a widely endorsed Outcome Statement affirming legal information as a public good and calling for official digitisation and publication by state institutions.

These initiatives serve importantly to advance the rule of law and legal certainty and also enhance the visibility of African jurisprudence - while raising the Faculty of Law's profile as a continental leader in digital legal innovation and public interest scholarship.

# OUR FACULTY STAFF IN 2024

The University of Cape Town's Law Faculty is home to legal experts across multiple areas of specialisation in Law. Through this, the Faculty contributes to sharing South African law and policy through scholarship, research, teaching, and community engagement. From contracts and taxation to intellectual property, mining, children's rights, privacy and environmental law, amongst many other specialist areas, we influence legal frameworks both locally and globally. As a result of the range of research, policy and implementation initiatives that our academic staff and researchers are involved in, students at UCT Law are able to gain hands-on experience through a wide range of research projects, guided by expert academic staff who ensure opportunities to explore interdisciplinary paths that stretch legal boundaries and influence policy development.



## STAFFING

Our 2024 staffing profile is reflected below:



## NEW STAFF New Staff Members

The Faculty welcomed several new staff members, and the appointment of several staff to new positions, in 2024:



**Bilqees Anthony**  
Administration,  
Public Law



**Ruegshana Ederies**  
Finance  
Administrator,  
Mineral Law in  
Africa Unit



**Zaida Essop**  
Director,  
UCT Law Clinic



**Itumeleng Likhoele**  
Administration,  
Commercial Law



**Dr Denning Metuge**  
Senior Lecturer,  
Institute for  
Marine and  
Environmental  
Law



**Yusrah Mohamed**  
Reception,  
Refugee Rights  
Unit



**Dr Kea Motlogeloa**  
Lecturer,  
Commercial Law



**Associate Professor Kelley Moul**  
Deputy Dean:  
Postgraduate  
Studies



**Associate Professor Jameelah Omar**  
Deputy Dean:  
Undergraduate  
Studies



**Dr Nicola Palmer**  
Visiting Scholar,  
Centre for  
Criminology



**Patricia Phillips**  
Faculty Manager  
(Acting)



**Dr Lufuno Sadiki**  
Senior Lecturer,  
Centre of  
Criminology



**Alison Tomlinson**  
HR Business  
Partner for Law

## FAREWELL

The Faculty bid farewell to several valued staff members in 2024. We extend our best wishes to them as they embark on their new chapters:



**Associate Professor Graham Bradfield** retired from the Department of Commercial Law where he was renowned for his extensive expertise in Shipping Law.



**Nondwe De Caires** left the Faculty after 2.5 years as Faculty Manager (head of Faculty Academic Administration).



**Professor Anton Fagan**, WP Schreiner Professor of Law at the Faculty and a NRF B-rated researcher, took early retirement.



**Lauren Kohn**, senior lecturer in Public Law, left the Faculty to set up a practical legal training initiative, the Law and Governance Academy of Southern Africa (LAGASA), of which she is currently Director.



**Yellavarne Moodley**, Director of the UCT Law Clinic for the past 10 years and a Faculty member for more than 20 years, left the Faculty to pursue her own legal interests.



**Professor Jacqui Yeats**, Corporate Governance expert in the Faculty's Commercial Law Department, has taken up the post of Extraordinary Professor, Faculty of Law, Stellenbosch University.



## FACULTY OF LAW NRF-RATED SCHOLARS

The National Research Foundation (NRF) rating system serves to benchmark researchers against global standards, promote excellence, and guide funding decisions. Ratings are based on research output and impact and evaluated by international peers. As of recent data, over 2,000 researchers hold NRF ratings across categories such as A (leading international), B (internationally acclaimed), C (established), Y (young promising), and P (prestigious awards). Rated researchers also play a key role in mentoring the next generation of scholars.

Several Faculty members received new or improved ratings from the NRF during this period, recognising their scholarly excellence and research impact.

Name and Title	Rating 2024
Barnard-Naudé, Jaco (Professor): Professor of Jurisprudence & co-director Centre for Rhetoric Studies	B1
Boonzaier, Leo (Dr): Senior Lecturer, Private Law	Y1
Chirwa, Danwood (Professor): Dean, Faculty of Law	B1
Mosaka, Tshepo (Dr): Senior Lecturer, Public Law	Y1
Mostert, Hanri (Professor): SARCHI Chair in Mineral Law	B1
Osman, Fatima (Associate Professor): Private Law	Y1
Titus, Afton (Associate Professor): Commercial Law	Y1



Below is the full list of NRF-rated Faculty researchers.

Title	First Name	Surname	Department	Rating 2024
Associate Professor	Waheeda	Amien	Public Law	C2
Professor	Jaco	Barnard-Naude	Public Law	B1
Emeritus Professor	Tom	Bennett	Public Law	B2
Dr	Leo	Boonzaier	Private Law	Y1
Professor	Danwood	Chirwa	Public Law	B1
Emeritus Professor	Hugh	Corder	Public Law	B2
Dr	Colin	D'Arch	Public Law	C1
Professor	Pierre	De Vos	Public Law	C1
Professor	Francois	Du Toit	Private Law	B1
Professor	Anton	Fagan	Private Law	B3
Emeritus Professor	Jan	Glazewski	Public Law	C1
Professor	Andrew	Hutchison	Commercial Law	C2
Professor	Michelle	Louw	Commercial Law	B2
Dr	Tshepo	Mosaka	Public Law	Y1
Professor	Hanri	Mostert	Private Law	B1
Associate Professor	Melanie	Murcott	Public Law	Y1
Professor	Caroline	Ncube	Commercial Law	B2
Professor	Ada	Ordor	Commercial Law	C2
Associate Professor	Fatima	Osman	Private Law	Y1
Adj. Associate Professor	Alistair	Price	Private Law	P
Distinguished Professor	Philippe-Joseph	Salazar	Private Law	A1
Professor	Helen	Scott	Private Law	B2
Professor	Afton	Titus	Commercial Law	Y1
Emeritus Professor	Dirk	Van Zyl Smit	Public Law	A2
Associate Professor	Hannah	Woolaver	Public Law	Y1

## FACULTY AWARDS

Academic staff across the Faculty won a number of awards during 2024. This is always a great affirmation of the hard work and commitment of our Faculty research community and our students.



**Nurina Ally and  
Dr Leo Boonzaier**  
UCT Law Faculty  
Research Prize  
(shared)



**Dr Leo Boonzaier**  
UCT College of  
Fellows Young  
Researcher Award



**Monica de Souza  
Louw**  
UCT Law Faculty  
Research Prize



**Dr Cecile de Villiers,**  
International Society  
for Labour and  
Social Security Law  
- poster award, XXIV  
World Congress,  
Rome, Italy



**Dr Annette  
Hubschle**  
Illegal Wildlife Trade  
Challenge Fund  
Evidence Grant



**Lauren Kohn**  
Justitia Award for  
Game Changer/  
Pioneer/Young  
Achieve (Justitia  
Awards, Vienna,  
Austria)



**Lauren Kohn**  
UCT Law Faculty  
Research Prize



**Dr Gaopalewe  
Mathiba**  
UCT College of  
Fellows Young  
Researcher Award



**Professor Caroline  
Ncube**  
Distinguished  
Women Researcher  
in Humanities and  
Social Sciences  
Award, Department  
of Science and  
Innovation, South  
Africa



# Regulating the heat health of employees: A case study of South African public schools



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South Africa  
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Key words: occupational health and safety – climate change — heat stress – public schools – educators – labour legislation – collective bargaining

## 1 OVERVIEW

Workplaces must adapt to the impact of climate change and rising global temperature levels. Africa is particularly vulnerable to heat stress due to its high exposure to heat and existing challenges reducing its adaptive capacity. This research highlights that South African public schools are already experiencing high temperatures and that a regulatory response is urgently needed to protect the heat health of educators and learners. I argue that existing mechanisms in labour legislation hold the most expedient solution to this problem.

## 2 LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK

- *Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996: Protects environmental rights.*
- *Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993: Obligation on employer to provide a safe working environment.*
- *Labour Relations Act 66 of 1995: Framework for collective bargaining and the establishment of bargaining councils.*
- *Employment of Educators Act 76 of 1998 and its regulations: Conditions of service of educators.*
- *Regulations Relating to Minimum Uniform Norms and Standards for Public School Infrastructure, 2013: Government to provide basic infrastructure to public schools.*
- *Climate Change Act 22 of 2024 (not yet in operation): Promotes climate change response, ensuring decent work.*

## Department of Basic Education = Employer



## 3 SOUTH AFRICAN PUBLIC SCHOOL CONTEXT

**SOUTH AFRICA'S CLIMATE:**

- Water scarce country
- Diverse climate, both subtropical and temperate
- Wet and cool climate in some provinces and a warm desert climate in others
- 50% of the country considered arid or semi-arid

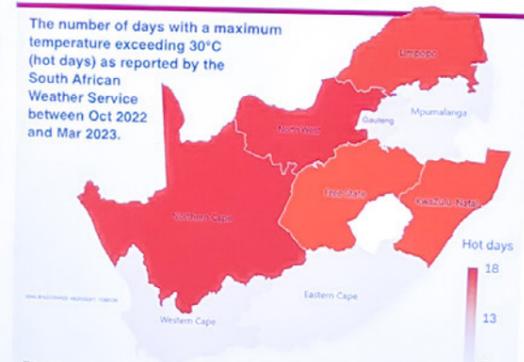
**RIISING TEMPERATURES:**

- 1.14°C increase between 1901 and 2020
- 30.32°C = average summer maximum temperature between 1991 and 2020

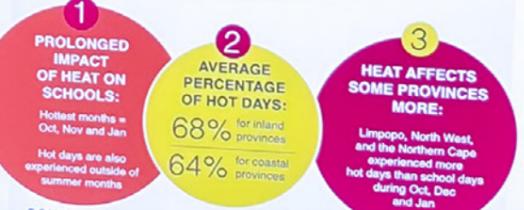
**IMPACT ON LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY:**

- Labour productivity decreases at 24–26°C
- 50% of work capacity is lost when temperatures reach 33–34°C
- Optimum temperature for productive work and concentration: 16°C–24°C

The impact of heat on schools differs across provinces depending on the resources available to schools and the relevant climate in the area. This requires a flexible and context specific regulatory response to heat.



Three main insights emerge by comparing the above statistics with the school calendar, which illustrate the experience of heat by schools.



**SOURCES:**

- "ILO Working on a warmer planet: The impact of heat on labour productivity and decent work" (2019) (2024)
- World Bank "Climate Risk Country Profile South Africa" (2021)
- South African Weather Service "Climate Summary" (2022)
- DBE "School Realities" (2022)
- National Education Union "Hot weather and classroom temperature" (2022)
- Equal Education "School Infrastructure" (2019)
- Wits "South African teacher shortages as revealed through class size and learner-educator ratios" (2022)

## 4 FACTORS THAT EXACERBATE HEAT HEALTH RISKS

**4.1 POOR INFRASTRUCTURE:**

- Vast resource disparity between public schools
- Government slow in providing/maintaining infrastructure
- Many schools without water and/or electricity supply (heightens risk for heat related illnesses)
- Some classrooms constructed from mud, prefabricated materials or shipping containers (poor heat resistance and inadequate ventilation)
- Temperature not regulated in most schools

**4.2 OVERCROWDED CLASSROOMS:**

- Regulations criticised for being insufficient
- High educator-learner ratio
- Eg. 49% of Grade 3 learners in classes greater than 40

## 5 INTERVENTION

Issue unlikely to be addressed through enforcement of education rights and climate legislation (past failure by Department to adhere to infrastructure regulations).

However, existing mechanisms in labour legislation, such as collective bargaining, has not yet been explored and may provide an expedient solution for the following reasons:

- Strong labour rights and labour protection for educators
- Highly unionised sector supports collective bargaining
- Centralised bargaining through a bargaining council in the sector: Education Labour Relations Council
- Potential for a collective agreement to promote the heat health of educators
- May be the catalyst for collective agreements in other sectors
- Foundation for a future formal regulatory response

**A collective agreement will promote the heat health of educators and indirectly protect the health of learners as children (a risk category for heat stress)**

## RECOGNITION FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH – PROFESSOR CAROLINE NCUBE

Professor Caroline Ncube was honoured in 2024 as the Department of Science and Innovation's (DSI) *Distinguished Women Researchers: Humanities and Social Sciences* winner at the prestigious South African Women in Science Awards (SAWiSA). The 2024 SAWiSA ceremony was held under the theme “*Transition towards an innovation economy: The role of women leaders in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).*” This theme underscored the inclusive nature of an innovation-driven economy, encompassing sectors such as the creative and cultural industries, energy and environmental management, water and ocean governance, caregiving, social services, and public administration. It also acknowledged the often-overlooked contributions of informal work.

In her acceptance remarks, Professor Ncube reflected on the significance of the occasion, stating: “*Being among the finalists for the 2024 SAWiSA awards was a significant validation. Witnessing generations of women in science, all dedicated to healing our nation and the world through their work, was incredibly inspiring. It highlights the achievements of women in science and academia and sets a powerful example for those who will follow in our footsteps. Igama lamakhosikazi malibongwe (Praise be to womankind).*”

Professor Ncube's recognition serves as a powerful testament to her impactful scholarship and leadership in the humanities and social sciences.



## PROFESSOR MICHELLE LOUW INAUGURATED INTO ASSAF

Professor Michelle Louw was inaugurated in 2024 as a member of the *Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)*. This prestigious recognition is awarded through a rigorous peer election process and reflects Professor Louw's outstanding scholarly contributions to the field of law.

Her induction placed her among an esteemed group of Faculty members who currently hold ASSAf membership, including SARCHI Chairs Professor Caroline Ncube and Professor Hanri Mostert, as well as Emeritus Professors Evance Kalula and Danie Visser. ASSAf membership is a national honour, conferred upon individuals who have demonstrated excellence in research and a sustained commitment to advancing knowledge in service of society.

Professor Louw joined 43 newly elected members for 2024, bringing the total ASSAf membership to 730. Members of the Academy volunteer their expertise to promote evidence-informed policy and foster scientific advancement across disciplines.

## MAKING HISTORY: COLLEGE OF FELLOWS YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD

The *UCT College of Fellows* recognises distinguished scholarship that is evidenced through a substantial body of original and impactful work. Induction into the College represents one of the highest honours bestowed upon UCT academics, reflecting the university's enduring commitment to excellence, innovation, and scholarly leadership.

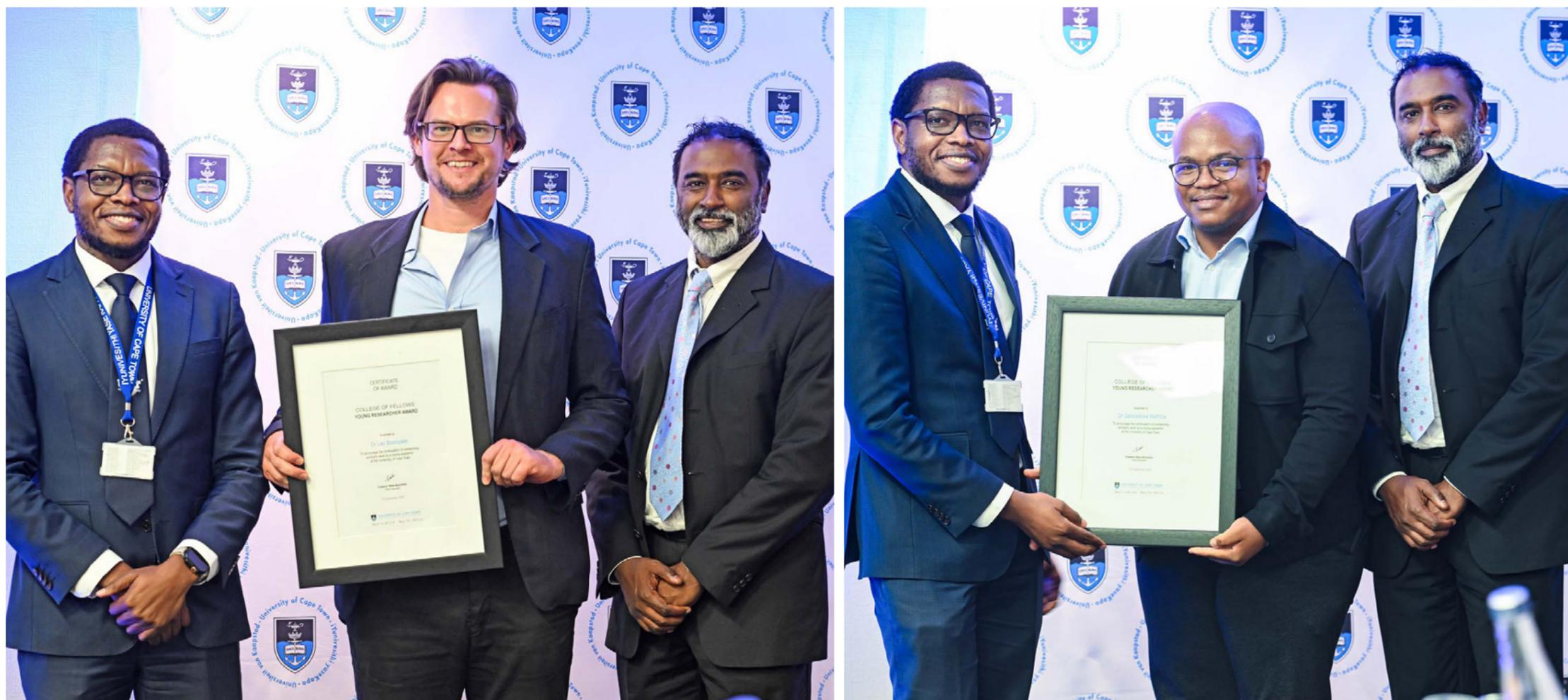
In addition to honouring established scholars, the College annually celebrates emerging academic talent through the Young Researcher Awards, which acknowledge outstanding scholarly contributions

by early-career academics. A maximum of six awards are granted each year, each accompanied by a R30 000 grant for research.

In 2024, the Faculty of Law had exceptional cause for celebration, with two of the three 2024 awards conferred by the University going to Law Faculty members – an achievement that is likely unprecedented. Dr Leo Boonzaier and Dr Gaopalelwe Mathiba, both Senior Lecturers in the Department of Private Law, were honoured with this prestigious recognition.

Dr Boonzaier's research focuses on the law of obligations, private law theory, and the interaction between private law and human rights, with a particular interest in judicial reasoning and the development of the common law. His scholarship, which has earned him the UCT Faculty of Law's Annual Research Prize twice and a Y1 rating from the National Research Foundation, has been cited across all levels of the South African judiciary, including the Constitutional Court.

Dr Mathiba, appointed as a Senior Lecturer in 2022, has produced over 20 peer-reviewed publications and demonstrated a strong commitment to socially responsive scholarship. His work contributes to the development of sector-specific regulations and policy guidelines for various government departments, including the Department of Mineral Resources and Energy and the Department of Public Works. Notably, Dr Mathiba was also one of the youngest recipients of the award, further underscoring the significance of his achievement.



## EMERITUS PROFESSOR KALULA HONOURED IN CHINA

Emeritus Professor Evance Kalula undertook a long-awaited academic visit to China, fulfilling pre-pandemic invitations to deliver guest lectures at leading institutions in Xiangtan and Guangzhou. The visit marked a significant milestone in Professor Kalula's distinguished career, as he was formally conferred the title of *Lifetime Honorary Professor* at Xiangtan University – a recognition originally awarded during the COVID-19 period but accepted in person for the first time during this 2024 visit.

This honour reflects Professor Kalula's longstanding contribution to legal scholarship and international academic collaboration. His engagements in China underscore the Faculty's global footprint and its commitment to fostering meaningful partnerships across borders.

## A DISTINGUISHED VOICE

Distinguished Professor Philippe-Joseph Salazar has achieved significant recognition throughout his academic career, most recently through inclusion as a cited authority in the *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED), the definitive multi-volume reference work on English language usage. The OED has incorporated references to Professor Salazar's seminal work *African Athens* as authoritative evidence for specific definitions of the term "voice." The OED's rigorous editorial standards require that each word entry and meaning be substantiated through citations from recognised authorities and exemplary usage, demonstrating the scholarly weight and influence of academic contributions.

Distinguished Professor Salazar's work has been specifically selected to illustrate and validate the concepts of "public voice" and "abstract voice" within political discourse, highlighting the interdisciplinary impact of his research on rhetoric, political philosophy, and democratic theory.



## UCT RESEARCH LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME - FACULTY PARTICIPATION

Two Faculty colleagues were selected to join the 2024/25 UCT Research Leadership Programme (RLP), namely Associate Professor Jameelah Omar and Associate Professor Melanie Murcott.

The RLP is a strategic initiative designed to support mid-career women academics - UCT's so-called "missing middle" - by providing targeted research development opportunities. Spanning all Faculties, the programme aims to build a strong cohort of women scholars positioned to lead UCT's research agenda in the years ahead. This investment underscores the university's commitment to equipping emerging women researchers with the tools and support needed to become leading academics.

Professors Omar and Murcott continue the Faculty's tradition of representation in the RLP. Previous participants include Professor Waheeda Amien (inaugural cohort, 2022) and Associate Professors Fatima Osman and Afton Titus (2023 cohort).

# OUR STUDENT COMMUNITY

UCT Law is home to more than 1300 students across our LLB, Postgraduate Diploma, Master's and PhD programmes. We welcome hundreds of new students into our programmes in February each year, marking the start of what we always know will be a busy and productive academic year while also offering a wide range of adjunct activities and law-related opportunities to our students.

During 2024, we were home to about 640 LLB students, 20 students undertaking postgraduate diplomas, around 430 students pursuing their Master's degree, and about 150 PhD students.

Orientation is definitely one of our favourite times of the year, with the Kramer Law Building buzzing with the excitement of new LLB's, some straight from matric, all the way through to our incoming PhD cohort – all participating in comprehensive programmes to ensure that our students are well-oriented to what they can expect from UCT and from the Faculty, as well as what UCT and the Faculty expect from them.

Certainly, the highlight of our year is Graduation – where we warmly celebrate the achievement of each graduate's degree, and bid our new alumni a warm "Farewell – and stay in touch!"

2024 was the first year the University of Cape Town moved to its new March and September graduation schedule. At our March and September ceremonies, the following degrees were conferred.



## OUR 2024 PHDS

Each year, the Faculty is particularly proud of our PhD graduates – because of the amount of time and effort put into submitting a doctoral thesis (from students, of course, but also from supervisors!), and also because excellent (often ground-breaking) research is encapsulated in these tomes and should be loudly celebrated. Our 2024 Doctoral graduates are listed below, each with the title of their thesis.

### Dr David Peter Carelse

Exploring the (in)ability of law and legal culture to transform the colonial- apartheid state:  
Re-imagining a transformative jurisprudence

### Dr Robin Cupido

The feasibility of implementing online dispute resolution as a distinct method of dispute resolution on the African continent

### Dr Anneke Eichstadt

“What the f\*ck just happened?”: A study of the post-rape decision-making on safety, response and justice by adolescent girls in South Africa

### Dr Ivan Engoru

A critical analysis of the Ugandan Companies Act, 2012, in the search for an appropriate legal framework for small and closely-held companies in the light of the experiences of South Africa and the United Kingdom

### Dr Wesley Maraire

Enhancing Access to Justice in Zimbabwe:  
An Empirical Exploration of Integrating Socially Appropriate Dispute Resolution to Overcome Barriers within the Formal Justice System

### Dr Yolani Ndamase

Reforming the models of competition law and addressing intersectional discrimination in South Africa

### Dr William Kiema Sammy

‘Open Skies For Africa,’ a principled approach to the implementation of the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM)

### Dr Ntando Sindane

Abezimu/Badimo (ancestors) and copyright law: from the Decolonial Turn to the pluriversal author

### Dr Marlese von Broembsen

New frontiers for labour law: Collective bargaining for workers in global supply chains and informal self-employed workers

## Special Note: Faculty Members awarded degrees in 2024

We extend a special congratulations to Dr Robin Cupido, Senior Lecturer in Private Law, who was awarded her doctorate at the September 2024 graduation ceremony. Her thesis, titled “*The Feasibility of Implementing Online Dispute Resolution as a Distinct Method of Dispute Resolution on the African Continent*,” explores innovative approaches to dispute resolution in the African context. She was supervised by Professor Caroline Ncube and Professor Alan Rycroft.

In addition to Dr Cupido, Thandolwethu Nkopane (research assistant in the Law & Accountability Research Centre), was awarded her Master’s in International Law.



## STUDENT AWARDS

Many of our students are recognised outside the university for their research, for papers produced, articles written and essays submitted. Below are two such examples:

### Accelerated Transformation of the Academic Programme (ATAP)

Three nominees were selected to participate in the *Accelerated Transformation of the Academic Programme* (ATAP). The successful candidates were Anda Njeza (Private Law) and Varsha Patel (Public Law), both doctoral candidates, as well as Dr Thapelo Teele, a postdoctoral fellow.

This strategic initiative aimed to attract and support a pipeline of high-performing Black South African postgraduate students – specifically those pursuing supervised research at the Master’s and Doctoral levels – and postdoctoral fellows committed to academic careers. The programme focused on fostering academic excellence and transformation by enabling participants to transition into early career positions at the University of Cape Town or other higher education institutions.

### Recognition in the Environmental Law Association Student Essay Competition

Each year, the Environmental Law Association (ELA) Essay Competition seeks student essay submissions that are based on high-quality, cutting-edge scholarship on African environmental law and governance issues including, but not limited to, the areas of climate change, mining, natural resources extraction, land use planning, human rights and the environment, and the rights of nature. The essays may be based on environmental law and governance issues arising from assignments, dissertations, or theses that have been submitted/ are to be submitted for assessment in a unit/



topic/subject at a South African higher education institution. At the 2024 ELA Annual and Student Conferences, two of our students earned top honours in the Student Essay Competition: Aleya Dugmore (LLB) and Johané Berry (LLM).

Aleya Dugmore was a final-year LLB student in 2024 at the time of receiving this prize. Aleya has a deep interest in social justice, public interest law, and environmental law, and wrote her winning essay in fulfilment of the requirements for her Environmental Law elective, led by Associate Professor Melanie Murcott and Dr. Denning Metuge. Aleya’s essay, *“Evaluating South Africa’s Climate Change Bill: Strengths, Omissions, and the Path Forward”*, critically examined South Africa’s proposed Climate Change Bill, which was subsequently passed into law.

Johané Berry completed her LLM in Environmental Law (cum laude) from the University of Cape Town. She was also awarded the UCT Law Faculty Postgraduate Prize in Environmental Law for being the top Environmental Law LLM student in the 2023 cohort. Johané has an immense passion for environmental matters, conservation of the planet’s resources and animal rights issues. In 2023, whilst pursuing her LLM, she gained exposure to South African land use planning law, pollution law and natural resources law, which further grew her interest in environmental law and inspired her to conduct further research into how the pollution impacts of factory farming are regulated in South Africa. Johané’s essay, *“The spectre of harm caused by factory farms and its regulation under South African pollution laws”* was submitted for an LLM module convened by Associate Professor Melanie Murcott, Pollution Law.

## STUDENT MOOTING SUCCESS

The Faculty celebrated a great year of student mooting in 2024, improving on the previous year with participation in more competitions with great outcomes.

### Child Law Moot Competition - consecutive victory for UCT Law

UCT Law students secured *first place in the 2024 Child Law Moot Competition* for the second consecutive year, once again demonstrating their excellence in mooting. The Faculty was proudly represented by LLB students Tanya Gwenhure and Amohelang Molefi, with Amohelang also receiving the award for *Best Speaker of the Competition*. The team was expertly coached by Praise Adejimi and Jordan Murray, teaching assistants in the Department of Public Law. UCT's participation in the competition was made possible through the generous support of the Faculty of Law, Werksmans Attorneys, and the Centre for Law & Society.

### Christof Heyns African Human Rights Moot Court Competition (33)

During the first week of the second semester, Haydon Anderson and Nyasha Tinago represented UCT at the 33rd Christof Heyns African Human Rights Moot Court Competition, held at the University of Rwanda in Kigali. Coached by Salona Lutchman and Ibtisaam Ahmed, the team delivered an outstanding performance. UCT was the only South African university to advance to the quarterfinals, placing the team among the top eight out of 65 participating institutions. In addition, Haydon Anderson was ranked as the fifth best speaker in the overall competition - an

exceptional individual achievement. The winning team comprised students from Midlands State University (Zimbabwe) and Ebonyi State University (Nigeria), while the runners-up were teams from the University of Nairobi (Kenya) and Université Thomas Sankara (Burkina Faso).

### East Africa Pre-Moot

For the second consecutive year, four members of the UCT Vis Moot Team participated in the annual East Africa Pre-Moot. Over the course of three days, they engaged in informative workshops and training sessions focused on this year's Vis Moot problem, alongside ample opportunities for networking with other African teams and universities. Following these preparatory sessions, Lizwi Majola, Haydon Anderson, Serena Bayne, and Jay Krok showcased their skills in three preliminary rounds, competing against teams from Strathmore University, the University of Rwanda, and Makerere University. Haydon Anderson distinguished himself as the 5th best speaker in the competition. Congratulations are in order for all the winners, with special mention to the University of Lagos for clinching the overall victory in this year's competition.

### iNtaka CyberLex Moot Competition

The iNtaka Centre for Law & Technology hosted its annual internal CyberLex Moot Competition on Saturday 27 July, showcasing student excellence in the field of cyber law and digital rights. The winners of the competition were:

- First Place & Best Oralist: Alexandra Visser
- Second Place: Boitumelo Kgame and Ben Reid
- Third Place: Yankho Likongwe and Bester Kaunda



### Kate O'Regan Moot Competition

The Kate O'Regan Moot Competition, UCT's flagship moot event first held in 2017 and now a highlight on the Faculty's annual calendar, consistently attracts leading legal practitioners as adjudicators. In August 2024, the Centre for Law & Society (CLS) co-hosted the event with the UCT Student Moot Society and Faculty Moot Committee. Early rounds were judged by UCT alumni and practitioners, while the competition final was presided over by Justice Albie Sachs, Ashraf Mahomed, Justice David Unterhalter, Justice Allie, and Justice Bozalek. The finals took place in a packed Moot Court, with the Rhodes University team (Oyama Mzayidume and Daniel Nyazi) emerging as the winner.

The 2024 competition saw a good increase in the number of participating universities, and the Faculty expects to see this rise in the coming years. This competition, sponsored in 2024 by Bowmans, is now recognised as one of the most prestigious university moot competitions in South Africa.



### World Moot on International Law and Animal Rights

An outstanding achievement in student mooting during this period was our students' participation in the African Regional Round of the *World Moot on International Law and Animal Rights* with the UCT Law team awarded *Overall Winner*, and with Kyla Damonse receiving the honour of *Best Speaker of the Competition*. Final-year Environmental Law student Celeste Viljoen expressed her appreciation to Associate Professor Melanie Murcott, noting that the Environmental Law module had sparked the team's interest in both environmental law and animal rights. She shared that the insights gained from the course were instrumental in navigating complex questions posed by the bench during the competition. Following their regional victory, the team confirmed their eligibility to participate in the global round of the moot – an exciting opportunity that reflects their dedication and excellence.

### Public Interest Law Moot

The Wits Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALS) holds the annual Public Interest Law Moot Court Competition in partnership with the Wits Student Litigation Society, aiming to expand the social justice sector by introducing law students to the prospects of a career in public interest law. Congratulations to the UCT Law team including Farisai Jaka, Tadiwanashe Magadzire, and Frances Lancaster who achieved 1<sup>st</sup> place, and the UCT Law team Hlumani Ndlovu, Luyanda Mtembu, and Ropafadzo Zharare who achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the competition.





## CELEBRATING STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Faculty proudly acknowledges the exceptional contributions of its student leaders during the 2024 academic year. At the Department of Student Affairs' annual Student Leadership Recognition event, the Law Students' Council (LSC) was honoured with the *Outstanding Team Award*, a testament to their dedication, teamwork, and impact on student life within the Faculty.

In addition to the team accolade, two members of the outgoing Council received individual recognition, namely Callum Beukes, outgoing LSC President, and Edith Mugadza, Vice President: Internal, who were each awarded Individual *Outstanding Leadership Awards* for their exemplary service and commitment to student governance.

The Faculty also extended its congratulations to the newly elected Law Students' Council for the 2024/2025 academic year. These student leaders are expected to play a pivotal role in representing their peers, fostering a vibrant academic community, and driving initiatives that enhance the student experience.

Alongside the LSC, the Faculty welcomed the newly appointed Student Society Committee Chairs across its eight active student societies. These include:

- Altum Sonatur, the long-standing Law Student magazine
- Black Lawyers Association Student Chapter - UCT, who provide a space for Black law students to discuss pertinent issues, engage on key socio-legal matters, network, and meet with professional lawyers

- Chamber of Legal Students, who assist high school learners and university students with disciplinary procedures
- Legal Discovery Society, who seek to deepen student understanding of Law and its practical applications
- Responsa Meridiana, a long-standing Law student journal published each year in partnership with Stellenbosch University Law students
- SHAWCO Law, who run a range of education initiatives with high school learners
- Students for Law & Social Justice, who run a range of adjunct legal education initiatives
- UCT Moot Society (see above), who organise moot training, run internal moots, assist with selection for external competitions - and keep the Faculty's mooting success going
- Women in Law society, focused on addressing

gender disparities in the legal profession, and supporting women law professionals and students.

These societies are integral to the Faculty's co-curricular ecosystem, offering platforms for academic enrichment, professional development, and social engagement.

Many of these societies also provide structured opportunities for students to complete their community service hours, reinforcing the Faculty's commitment to social impact, experiential learning, and the development of socially conscious legal professionals. Together, the LSC and student societies continue to cultivate a dynamic and inclusive environment that reflects the Faculty's values of leadership, service, and excellence.

# INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Internationalisation enriches a university environment by fostering global collaboration, cultural exchange, and diverse perspectives in research and teaching. For a Law Faculty, it is particularly valuable: exposure to comparative legal systems, transnational issues, and international best practices equips students and academics to engage with complex global challenges. Partnerships and mobility programmes strengthen scholarship, broaden networks, and enhance the Faculty's reputation as a hub for thought leadership in African and international law. We list below some of the Law Faculty internationalisation highlights during 2024.

## UCT LAW SIGNS MOU WITH NOTRE DAME LAW SCHOOL

The Faculty held a formal signing ceremony for its new Memorandum of Understanding with Notre Dame Law School on 24 April 2024. The Dean of Notre Dame University' Law School, Dean G. Marcus



Cole, noted that this wide-reaching and historic MoU builds on a long tradition of engagement between the two Law Schools. The University of Notre Dame supported the anti-apartheid struggle by hosting key activists, educating South African legal professionals, and fostering academic engagement through programmes like the LLM in International Human Rights Law.

The first partnership initiative under this new MoU was the *Business & Human Rights in Africa* conference co-hosted by UCT Law and Notre Dame Law School from 24-26 April 2024. The conference focused on discussion of papers for a special issue of the *Business and Human Rights Journal*.

## INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION: UCT LAW AND NOTRE DAME LAW SCHOOL EXCHANGE

Dr Gaopalelwe Mathiba is the first UCT Law academic to visit Notre Dame Law School, as part of the staff exchange programme that forms a key component of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two institutions. Dr Mathiba's visit, scheduled for the second semester of 2025, will include delivering lectures in his areas of expertise – Property Law and Mining Law – as well as hosting research seminars. His visit is being planned in collaboration with Professor Bruce Huber of Notre Dame Law School, with further details to be finalised in early 2025. This exchange marks an exciting step in strengthening global academic partnerships and promoting cross-border dialogue in legal education. The Faculty looks forward to Dr Mathiba's representation at Notre Dame Law School and to the continued development of this promising collaboration.



## UNHCR REGIONAL STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

Professor Fatima Khan, the Faculty's Director of Internationalisation and Director of the Refugee Rights Unit, participated in a critical regional consultation convened by UNHCR country operations to develop a comprehensive protection strategy for refugees across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region for the period 2025-2028.

This strategic drafting session brought together diverse stakeholders, including government representatives from across the SADC region; UNHCR officials; representatives from academic institutions; and non-governmental organisations actively engaged in refugee protection and assistance programmes. This multi-stakeholder approach was designed to ensure comprehensive representation of perspectives essential for developing an effective regional protection framework.

The initiative builds on research supported by the European Union's *Horizon 2020* programme, conducted through a collaborative network of 13 universities under the coordination of the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS). The consultation benefited from the participation of several members of the European Parliament, including Madeline Garlick, Chief of the *Protection Policy and Legal Advice Section* of UNHCR, demonstrating the high-level commitment to strengthening regional protection frameworks and international cooperation in refugee protection.



## INTERNATIONAL VISITORS LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME (IVLP)

Mbekezeli Benjamin, a key contributor to the Judges Matter project at the Faculty's Democratic Governance and Rights Unit (DGRU), was nominated by the United States Ambassador to South Africa for the prestigious International Visitors Leadership Programme (IVLP) in 2024. The IVLP is the US Department of State's flagship initiative for leadership and professional development, bringing together emerging and established leaders from around the world.

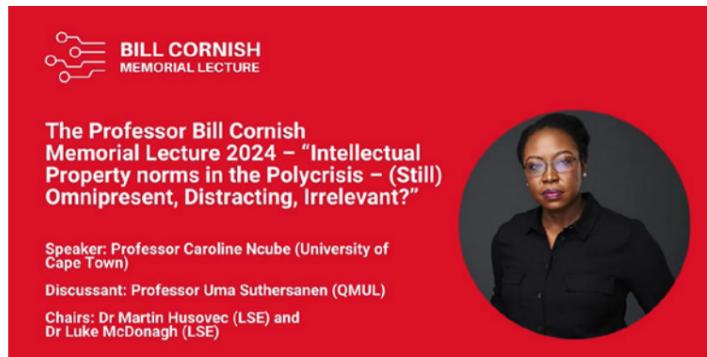
The IVLP is the US State Department's premier professional exchange programme for leaders from around the world to meet and exchange lessons with US officials and organisations on key issues such as strengthening the rule of law, judicial independence, efficient court administration, and legislative reform. Each year, US missions globally identify individuals making significant contributions in strategic sectors. Mbekezeli was selected as the sole South African nominee in the Rule of Law - Judiciary stream for 2024. Mbekezeli travelled to the United States for the IVLP (Rule of Law- Judiciary track) in October 2024 where he held meetings and engaged with judges, court administrators, and other key stakeholders in the judiciary - at the US Department of Justice, at the US Congress (including the Senate Judiciary Committee) and the US Supreme Court. He also held meetings at the Minnesota Supreme Court, the University of Minnesota Law School, the Massachusetts Legislature and at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Mbekezeli shared insights from South Africa's experience and DGRU's research, and gained perspectives to inform and strengthen the Faculty's ongoing efforts (through the DGRU) in promoting judicial accountability and excellence. In addition to offering a platform for mutual learning and exchange, Mbekezeli's selection for the programme highlights the impact of the DGRU's work in judicial governance.

## PROFESSOR BILL CORNISH MEMORIAL LECTURE AT LSE LAW SCHOOL

Professor Caroline Ncube delivered the prestigious Professor Bill Cornish Memorial Lecture at the London School of Economics (LSE) Law School in May 2024. Her lecture, titled *“Intellectual Property Norms in the Polycrisis – (Still) Omnipresent, Distracting, Irrelevant?”*, explored the evolving role of intellectual property in the context of global crises. The lecture series was established by LSE academics Dr Martin Husovec and Dr Luke McDonagh to honour the legacy of the late Professor Bill Cornish, a pioneer in the field of intellectual property law, who passed away in 2022.

Each year, the series features distinguished scholars whose work reflects Professor Cornish’s enduring contributions to the study of authorship, creativity, innovation, and IP ownership. Professor Ncube’s participation highlighted her thought leadership in the field and underscored the global relevance of her scholarship.



**BILL CORNISH**  
MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Professor Bill Cornish Memorial Lecture 2024 – “Intellectual Property norms in the Polycrisis – (Still) Omnipresent, Distracting, Irrelevant?”

Speaker: Professor Caroline Ncube (University of Cape Town)

Discussant: Professor Uma Suthersanen (QMUL)

Chairs: Dr Martin Husovec (LSE) and Dr Luke McDonagh (LSE)



## COMPLETION OF THE COMPARATIVE PROCEDURAL LAW AND JUSTICE PROJECT

Professor Mohamed Paleker reported the successful completion of the [Comparative Procedural Law and Justice Project](#), hosted by the Max Planck Institute in Luxembourg, after almost five years of intensive research and collaboration.



The project documented and analysed civil procedure laws from jurisdictions around the world, with the goal of deepening understanding and identifying both commonalities and divergences across legal systems. Professor Paleker was part of a six-member research team assigned to Segment 6, which focused specifically on the rules of jurisdiction. Beyond traditional areas of civil procedure, the project also explored emerging themes such as online dispute resolution and the use of artificial intelligence in civil justice. The research presented significant challenges due to the intricate relationship between procedural and substantive law, which varies widely across legal systems and often complicates comparative analysis. The culmination of this work will be made available as an open-access online resource, offering scholars and practitioners a valuable tool for further research and engagement with global civil procedure frameworks.

Reflecting on the experience, Professor Paleker noted: *“This project has been immensely rewarding, offering opportunities to travel, engage with fellow proceduralists, and immerse myself in diverse legal traditions. I am especially grateful to our law librarians for their invaluable support in sourcing materials throughout the research process.”*

### **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, THE SDGs, AND THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION**

Professor Caroline Ncube participated in a series of prestigious speaking engagements in the United Kingdom, where she contributed to critical conversations on intellectual property, sustainable development, and education in Africa.

On 18 March, Professor Ncube delivered a talk at King’s College, Cambridge as part of the *Governing Climate Innovation from Africa (GOCIA)* project. Her presentation focused on African perspectives on governing science, technology, and innovation



to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). During the event, she introduced her newly co-edited book, *The Elgar Companion to Intellectual Property and the Sustainable Development Goals*, alongside co-editors Bitá Amani and Matthew Rimmer. On 22 March, she addressed the LSE Law School, speaking on *Negotiations for a WHO Pandemic Treaty: Evaluating the Consequences for Africa*, offering insights into the implications of global health governance for the continent. Professor Ncube’s UK visit concluded with participation in the LSE Africa Summit on 23 March, where she joined a panel discussion titled *The Future of Education in Africa: The Role of African Players in Advancing Education*. Her contributions highlighted the importance of African leadership, thinking and innovation in shaping the continent’s educational landscape.

### **INNOVATIONS IN THE LEGAL REGIME OF DUTIES AND LIABILITY OF MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES**

In November 2024, Dr Mikovhe Maphiri (Director of the Centre for Legal Governance and Understanding (CLGU) and Senior Lecturer in Commercial Law) participated in a seminar hosted by the University Center of Brasília. The event, titled *Innovations in the Legal Regime of Duties and Liability of Multinational Companies*, was convened by Professors Nitish Monebhurrún and Harvey Mpoto Bombaka and brought together legal scholars from across the globe to explore progressive approaches to corporate accountability.

Dr Maphiri contributed to Panel 4, presenting on the topic *South Africa’s Take on Shareholder Activism and MNE Accountability: Moving Beyond ESG*.

Her presentation examined South Africa’s unique governance frameworks – grounded in principles such as Ubuntu and stakeholder inclusivity – as a foundation for reimagining corporate responsibility. She highlighted the transformative potential of shareholder activism in fostering transparency, ethical conduct, and long-term sustainability among multinational enterprises operating in the region. Dr Maphiri expressed her appreciation to the organisers and fellow participants for facilitating a dynamic and collaborative exchange of ideas, and left the seminar inspired by the shared commitment to advancing corporate governance and accountability.

### **CCLA SHOWCASES AFRICAN LEGAL EXPERTISE AT HARVARD**

In the Spring Semester of 2024, Professor Ada Ordor, Director of the Centre for Comparative Law in Africa (CCLA), was appointed the Henry Steiner Visiting Professor in Human Rights at Harvard Law School (HLS). During her tenure, she developed and taught two Africa-focused courses: *Regional Integration and Human Rights in Africa* (RIHRA) and *The Legal Environment for Business in Africa* (LEBA). These offerings enriched the curriculum and broadened options for JD and LLM students, attracting over 30 participants. Students engaged deeply with Africa’s regional human rights jurisprudence and explored sustainability and human rights considerations in African business contexts.

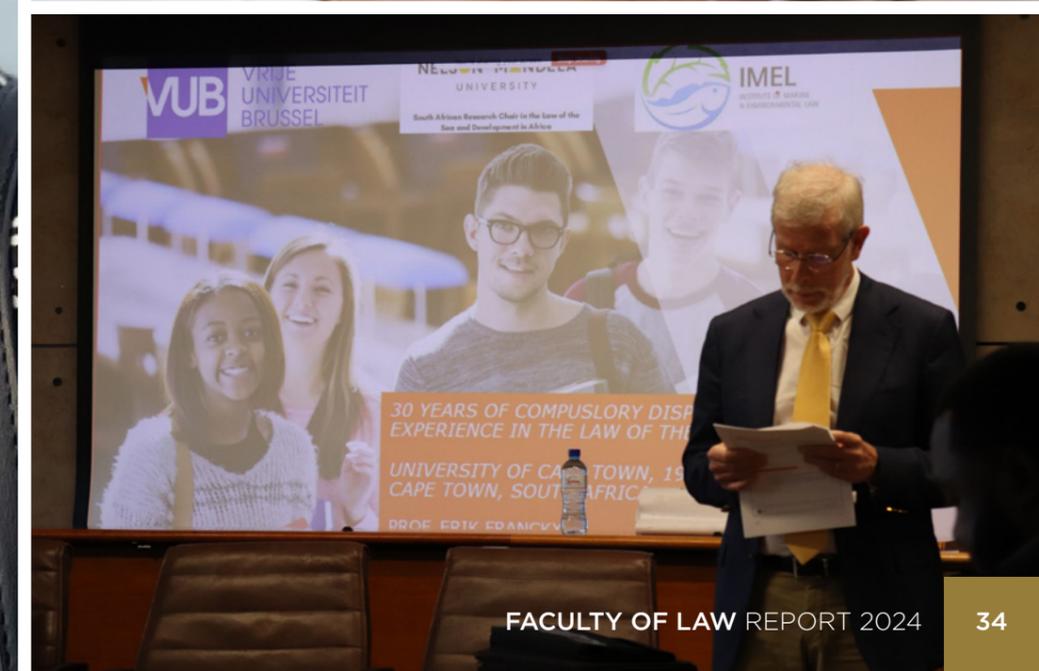
Following this successful engagement, Professor Ordor was invited back to HLS in October 2024. She presented her research at the JD Comparative Law Workshop, participated as a respondent in a panel on Ethiopian law reforms, and showcased digital tools supporting intra-African trade at the inaugural *Africa Alive! 2024* conference hosted by Harvard’s African alumni.

## IMEL PHD STUDENTS AWARDED SUMMER SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Danjelle Midgley and Nadine Nyamangirazi, both first-year PhD candidates in the Institute for Marine & Environmental Law (IMEL) programme, were awarded EU Albatross Scholarships to attend the SDG Summer School on Planetary Health at the University of Geneva in July 2024.

The Summer School, inspired by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, focused on the theme of Planetary Health, exploring the impact of climate change on human well-being. The programme emphasised team-based problem-solving and the agile development of practical prototypes, guided by real-world challenges presented by experts from leading international organisations in Geneva. Danjelle Midgley, supervised by Associate Professor Melanie Murcott, is conducting research on climate change litigation strategies in South Africa. She also works as an attorney at the Centre for Environmental Rights, within the Activist Support and Training programme. Nadine Nyamangirazi, also under the supervision of Associate Professor Murcott, is researching the intersection of international trade and environmental law within the African context.

Their participation in this prestigious programme reflects the strength and relevance of the IMEL doctoral research community, and the Faculty is proud of their contributions to global conversations on climate, health, and justice.





## **STRENGTHENING CONSERVATION THROUGH INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS**

Dr Annette Hubschle, Chief Research Officer of the Global Risk Governance Programme within the Public Law Department, was awarded an Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Fund Evidence Grant for a collaborative research initiative undertaken with Dr Juneseo Hwange of Sungkonghoe University and Dr Jared Margulies of the University of Alabama. The project, titled *Safeguarding Southern Africa's Succulents through Analysing Demand and Supply Networks*, addressed the escalating crisis of succulent poaching in South Africa. In partnership with South African environmental state institutions, the research integrated sociological and criminological methodologies across South Africa and South Korea. Key activities included the deployment of a consumer survey tool and the facilitation of focus groups to characterise illicit supply networks operating between South Africa and South Korea; analyse consumer demand for wild-harvested succulents in South Korea; and evaluate opportunities to promote sustainable alternatives through legal and regulated succulent trade in South Africa.



## VISITORS TO THE FACULTY

Visitors significantly enrich the Faculty's academic life and encourage opportunities for dialogue across disciplines and continents. We extend our sincere thanks to all visiting scholars for their contributions and to our colleagues who facilitated these engagements.

**Dr Rajnaara Akhtar** visited from the University of Warwick for a one-week fellowship in August 2024. A socio-legal scholar, her research focuses on Muslim marriage law, especially non-legally binding religious marriages. She brings comparative insights from the UK, Qatar, and Australia. During her visit, she sought to build research networks with communities and legal professionals, and advance collaborative work on Muslim marriage contracts with Professor Waheeda Amien.

**Dr Lovleen Bhullar**, Assistant Professor at Birmingham Law School, visited in April 2024 to collaborate on research into environmental constitutionalism in Africa, aligning with A/Prof Murcott's work on transformative environmental constitutionalism. Dr Bhullar also participated in a workshop on the SDGs and conducted an interview with A/Prof Murcott as part of their ongoing research collaboration.

**Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart**, former Dean of Law at Oxford and now Provost's Professor in Law at the National University of Singapore delivered the Ben Beinart Memorial Lecture during her one week visit in April 2024. (See page 37)

**Dean G. Marcus Cole and colleagues** from Notre Dame Law School in the USA visited the Faculty in April 2024 to sign a historic MoU between the Law Schools. This agreement marks the beginning of a promising partnership and paves the way for future academic collaboration, student and staff exchanges, and joint research initiatives.

**Dr Carys Craig**, Associate Dean (Research & Institutional Relations) and Director of the Law & Technology Programme (Osgoode Hall Law School, York University), visited the Faculty in March 2024.

**Dr Matteo Fermeiglia**, Assistant Professor of Climate Law and Governance at Amsterdam University's Faculty of Humanities, visited in April 2024 to co-host a collaborative workshop for a book he is developing with Melanie and Prof Birgit Peters (Trier University, Germany) on the SDGs and governance in a time of climate change. A key focus of the project is the value of South-North dialogue in assessing global goals amidst the climate crisis.

**Dr Jelena Gligorijević** visited from the College of Law at the Australian National University (ANU) in Canberra (Senior Lecturer and Deputy Associate Dean (Higher Degree Research) at ANU) during May 2024. Her visit, made possible through funding from the Faculty Research Committee, included co-hosting a conference on privacy law with Dr Khomotso Moshikaro.

**Professor Tarun Khaitan**, Professor (Chair) of Public Law at the LSE Law School and an Honorary Professorial Fellow at Melbourne Law School, took up the 2024 Rabinowitz Visitorship during August 2024. He delivered, amongst a number of other seminars, the annual Rabinowitz Lecture. (See page 38)

**Emily Muyaa**, Adjunct Associate Professor in Commercial Law and a regular lecturer in International Taxation, visited the Faculty during October 2024. She serves as Chief of Capacity Development at UNDESA-FSDO, lectures for IBFD, and is a member of the UN Tax Committee's Transfer Pricing Subcommittee. She also co-founded Transfer Pricing Economists for Development (TPED).



**Dr Beatriz Martinez Romera**, Associate Professor of Environmental and Climate Change Law at the University of Copenhagen and Head of the CLIMA Research Centre, delivered a Private Law seminar in April 2024, titled "Greenhouse Gas Emissions from International Shipping: Getting to Net-Zero." Her research spans international climate negotiations and regulatory developments in global transport sectors.

**Professor Paul Ugor** visited from the University of Waterloo, Canada, bringing a unique interdisciplinary perspective as a Professor of English Language and Literature. His research

explores African literature, popular culture, and climate justice. In April 2024, Ugor delivered a talk at the African Climate Development Initiative titled "African Literature as Evidence of Climate Injustice and Petrotyranny", based on a chapter he is contributing to a forthcoming volume co-edited by A/Prof Murcott, *Adjudicating Climate Change: Exploring Extra-Legal Factors*.

**Professor Reinhard Zimmermann**, Emeritus Director of the Max Planck Institute, visited the Faculty in recognition of his long-standing relationship with the Faculty.

# INAUGURAL & ANNUAL PUBLIC LECTURES

## INAUGURAL LECTURE – PROFESSOR MOHAMED PALEKER: CIVIL JUSTICE REFORM

Professor Mohamed Paleker delivered a compelling inaugural lecture titled “*The ‘One-Shotter’-‘Repeat-Player’ Dichotomy in the South African Civil Justice System: Transformative Steps to Bridge the Gap.*” Long overdue as one of those inaugurals deferred during covid, the Faculty was delighted to host this lecture on 7 May 2024.

In his lecture, Professor Paleker explored the enduring relevance of the distinction between one-shotters (OSs – individuals who engage with the legal system infrequently – and repeat players (RPs – entities with regular access to litigation). He argued that this dichotomy is essential for understanding disparities in legal outcomes, as it highlights the structural advantages enjoyed by repeat litigants. By examining how this imbalance affects access to justice, Professor Paleker made a compelling case for procedural reforms aimed at levelling the playing field. His analysis offered valuable insights into how South African civil procedure might evolve to better serve all litigants, particularly those with limited resources or legal experience.

Professor Mohamed Paleker holds BA, LLB, LLM, and PhD degrees. Before entering academia, he served as a researcher for the Constitutional Assembly and was admitted as an attorney in 1997. Since joining the UCT Faculty of Law in 2000, he has made significant contributions to legal education and reform. Much loved by his students, and a recipient of UCT’s Distinguished Teacher’s Award, Professor Paleker’s teaching portfolio

includes Civil Procedure and the Law of Succession, and his expertise spans the broader field of South African Private Law.

Professor Paleker has served on the Rules Board for Courts of Law, where he introduced key amendments to improve access to justice, and has been appointed to the Small Claims Courts. His scholarly output includes a long list of journal articles and books, and Prof Paleker has participated in numerous international conferences. In 2020, he was invited by the Max Planck Institute to contribute to a global research project on civil procedure (reported on earlier in this annual), a prestigious appointment that reflects his standing in the field.

## BEN BEINART MEMORIAL LECTURE 2024: PROFESSOR MINDY CHEN-WISHART

The 2024 Ben Beinart Memorial Lecture was delivered by Professor Mindy Chen-Wishart in April 2024. Her lecture, titled “*Laws Transplanted, Diffused, and Mutated: the Example of Asian Contract Laws*”, offered a compelling exploration of legal evolution in post-colonial contexts.

Drawing parallels between Asia and Africa – both regions shaped by colonial legal transplants – Professor Chen-Wishart examined how European contract laws, once imposed, have since evolved in response to local contexts. She emphasised that understanding transplanted laws is only the beginning, and that deeper insights require examining the socio-political and cultural forces that influence legal development over time. In an



increasingly globalised world, such comparative legal analysis is essential for fostering mutual understanding and cooperation across borders and between legislative frameworks.

Professor Chen-Wishart is currently Provost's Professor at the National University of Singapore. Until September 2023, she served as Dean of Law, and Professor of the Law of Contract, at the University of Oxford, where she remains an Emeritus and Visiting Professor. Her distinguished career includes visiting appointments at leading law schools across Asia, Europe, and Australasia. She is the author of the widely respected *Contract Law* (7th edition), co-editor of *Chitty on Contracts* (34th edition), and editor of the multi-volume series *Studies in the Contract Laws of Asia*. Her contributions to legal scholarship and education have been recognised globally, including engagements with judicial bodies in England, Hong

Kong, and Taiwan. The Faculty is most grateful to Professor Chen-Wishart for her thought-provoking lecture and for enriching our understanding of comparative contract law.

### **RABINOWITZ VISITORSHIP 2024: PROFESSOR TARUN KHAITAN**

Professor Tarun Khaitan was the Rabinowitz Visitor to the Faculty in 2024. This week-long engagement brought great energy and intellectual depth to our researchers, teachers and students. Professor Khaitan is the Professor (Chair) of Public Law at the LSE Law School and an Honorary Professorial Fellow at Melbourne Law School. Previously, he has been Head of Research at the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights (Oxford), the Professor of Public Law and Legal Theory (Oxford), Vice Dean (Faculty of Law, Oxford), and a Visiting Professor of Law (Chicago, Harvard, and NYU law schools).



Professor Khaitan delivered the Rabinowitz public lecture on 20 August, marking the first in-person Rabinowitz Lecture since Justice Edwin Cameron's address in 2019. The event was attended by a full Moot Court audience, including Susan and Lesley Rabinowitz, daughters of Mr Bennie Rabinowitz. In his thought-provoking lecture, Professor Khaitan introduced the concept of "verity in public life" – a proposed fourth constitutional value that highlights the role of truth and knowledge alongside liberty, equality, and fraternity. His insights, both during the lecture and at related seminars, sparked vibrant discussion and reflection.

In addition to the public lecture, Professor Khaitan participated in the following engagements:

- a staff seminar on *Guarantor Institutions* (Wednesday, 21 August), with Lauren Kohn as discussant
- a student-focused brown bag session, encouraging open dialogue and questions
- an afternoon roundtable hosted by the Centre for Law & Society, titled "*Democratic Turning Points? Reflections on India and South Africa*", in conversation with Professor Hugh Corder.
- Professor Khaitan's visit once again reaffirmed the value of the Rabinowitz Visitorship in fostering global scholarly exchange.



# CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA AND EVENTS

Conferences and seminars are a core part of academic life, providing opportunities to meet with colleagues, find potential research project partners, identify those working in similar specialist areas, present current work, and discuss research thinking and findings in depth. The Faculty is actively involved in hosting conferences and seminars with other researchers locally and internationally.

## CONFERENCES HOSTED BY FACULTY

Below is a selection of conferences and seminars hosted by the Faculty during 2024:

- *Administrative Justice: Breakwater Revisited* • UCT Law, January 2024.
- *Who should the police be in the 21st Century?* • Centre of Criminology, Online. February 2024.
- *Business & Human Rights* • UCT Law, in collaboration with Notre Dame Law School. UCT Law, April 2024.
- *The Right to Privacy in Private Law* • UCT Law, May 2024.
- *Artificial Intelligence & Law* • UCT Law, July 2024. (see article above, page 9)
- *Navigating the SAPS Research Ethics clearance processes* • Centre of Criminology, The Dullah Omar Law Centre at UWC, and Stellenbosch University. UCT Law, May 2024.
- *WIPO-WTO Colloquium for IP Teachers and Intellectual Property Scholars Africa (IPSA) Conference 2024* • UCT Law, August 2024.
- *Insolvency and Business Rescue Law Conference* • Southern African Insolvency Lecturers' Association. UCT Law, August 2024.
- *Africa-China Seminar on Intellectual Property & Legal Cooperation* • Hosted by SARChI Chair in Intellectual Property, Innovation and Development. UCT Law, August 2024.

- *Family Law Conference* • UCT Law, September 2024
- *Africa Law & Society Colloquium* • UCT Law, September 2024.
- *Mediation goes Mainstream: Annual Alternative Dispute Resolution Conference* • UCT Law's Dept of Commercial Law & Social Justice NPO. UCT Law, September 2024.
- *AfCFTA IP Protocol - Brownbag Webinar* • co-hosted by SARChI Chair in Intellectual Property, Innovation and Development with the Nelson Mandela School of Public Governance. Online. October 2024.
- *Statelessness Conference* • hosted by the UCT Law Refugee Rights Unit & United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Bureau. Cape Town. UCT Law, November 2024.

## FACULTY ENGAGEMENT AT THE REGIONAL TEACHING & LEARNING CONFERENCE

The UCT Law Faculty was prominently represented at the 2024 Regional Teaching & Learning Conference, hosted by the Stellenbosch University Law School in September. Professor Tjakkie Naudé (Private Law Department) played a pivotal role on the organising committee, with valuable support from Lindani Mkhwanazi (Commercial Law Department). In addition to their contributions, several Faculty members and our Law Student Committee (LSC) president actively participated in the programme, delivering presentations and engaging in panel discussions.

Lindani Mkhwanazi chaired a thought-provoking panel on *AI and Legal Education*, featuring Professor Jameelah Omar's presentation titled



*AI in the Legal Profession: The Brave New Frontier or the End of the World as We Know It?*. Professor Jacqui Yeats explored *The Role of Natural Intelligence (NI) in Cultivating Classroom Culture*, while Dr Helena Stoop addressed *The Use of Technology to Support the Learning of Academic Skills*. Professor Fatima Osman and Dr Robin Cupido jointly presented on *Academic Support in the LLB: Past, Present and Future*.

## 76TH CONGRESS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FISCAL ASSOCIATION

The 76th Congress of the International Fiscal Association (IFA) was held in Cape Town from 27 to 31 October 2024. This marked a historic milestone as it was the first time an IFA Congress had been hosted on the African continent.

Professor Johann Hattingh (Commercial Law Department) served as the General Reporter for Conference Subject 1 and contributed to one of the expert panels. Associate Professor Afton Titus (Commercial Law Department) delivered a well-received seminar on *Nexus, New Forms of Taxes, and Double Taxation*, which drew considerable interest from delegates.

IFA's annual congresses have long provided a unique platform for bringing together leading tax experts from corporations, governments, academia, and advisory firms. The 2024 Congress continued this tradition, offering an important forum for the discussion and debate of international tax topics of global relevance. The tax programme was highly topical, reflecting the prevailing global landscape and addressing concerns pertinent to both developed and developing countries. With over 2,000 attendees from across the world, the event facilitated engagement on both technical issues and practical challenges faced by stakeholders in the international tax system.

## BOOK LAUNCHES

In 2024, Faculty colleagues hosted several book launches, featuring works authored by UCT Law Faculty members as well as new publications set to enrich the legal knowledge environment.

**Lorizzo, T.** *Community Courts and Postcolonial Legal Pluralism: Criminal Justice in Mozambique*  
 • Hosted by the Centre of Criminology, October 2024.

**Mafora, D.** *Capture in the Court: In Defence of Judges and the Constitution*  
 • Hosted by the Centre for Law & Society, March 2024.

**Ncube, C.** *The Elgar Companion to Intellectual Property and the Sustainable Development Goals*. Webinar launch hosted by SARChI Chair in Intellectual Property, Innovation and Development. April 2024.

**Nkosi, M.** *These Potatoes Look Like Humans*  
 • Hosted by the Land & Accountability Research Centre, August 2024.

**Shaw, M.** *Breaking the Bombers*  
 • Hosted by the Centre of Criminology. April 2024.

## SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND DISCUSSIONS

Workshops and training sessions conducted by University Law Faculty staff provide practitioners and organisations with authoritative legal knowledge and practical expertise. These initiatives strengthen professional standards, promote compliance with evolving legislation, and foster collaboration between academia and industry. Such engagements contribute significantly to informed decision-making and the advancement of legal practice.



Jonathan Ball Publishers and Exclusive Books invite you to the launch of

# SPECTRES OF REPARATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

By Prof Jaco Barnard-Naudé

In discussion with Prof Pierre de Vos, Claude Leon Foundation Chair in Constitutional Governance at the University of Cape Town.

**DATE:** Thursday 22 February 2024  
**TIME:** 18:30 for 19:00  
**VENUE:** Exclusive Books V&A Waterfront  
**RSVP:** events@exclusivebooks.co.za

EXCLUSIVE BOOKS | Routledge Taylor & Francis Group | JonathanBallPublishers

## BOOK LAUNCH

# CLIMATE LITIGATION AND VULNERABILITIES: GLOBAL SOUTH PERSPECTIVES

EDITED BY MARIA ANTONIA TIGRE, MELANIE MURCOTT & SUSAN ANN SAMUEL

Featuring insights from authors and discussants, including:  
 Kanika Jamwal  
 Katherine Lofts  
 Moushita Dutta  
 Valeriana Augusta Broetto  
 Prætkiran Kaur  
 Ayan Garg  
 Nitai Hinduja  
 Muhammed Ladan  
 Nkiruka Madukwe  
 Elisa Beckhauser  
 Viktoria Spaiser  
 Richard Beardsworth  
 Tafadzwa Mushonga

**3 Oct** Thurs, 3 October 2024  
 3pm-5pm GMT  
 In-person, University of Southampton  
 Online, Teams

## FACULTY SEMINARS

The Faculty Seminars aim to promote rigorous academic discourse within the UCT Law Faculty and strengthen ties with colleagues at other law schools. The following formal seminars were held during 2024:

- *Security and Justice Futures* seminar series • UCT Law's Global Risk Governance Programme in partnership with the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research, the National Crime Research Centre, and the Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi. February 2024.
- "A Jurisprudence of Place, Limits, Borders and Boundaries" • Professor Karin van Marle, Professor in the Department of Public Law and Jurisprudence at the University of the Western Cape and holder of the research chair in *Gender, Transformation and World- Making*. April 2024.
- *Administrative Tribunals in Pursuit of Administrative Justices in South Africa* • Emeritus Professor Hugh Corder. April 2024.
- *Gaza and International Law: A Conversation* • A/Professor Cathleen Powell (UCT Law), Dr Kgomotso Moshikaro (UCT Law), Catilin Le Roith (Stellenbosch Law). Hosted by the Centre for Law & Society. May 2024.

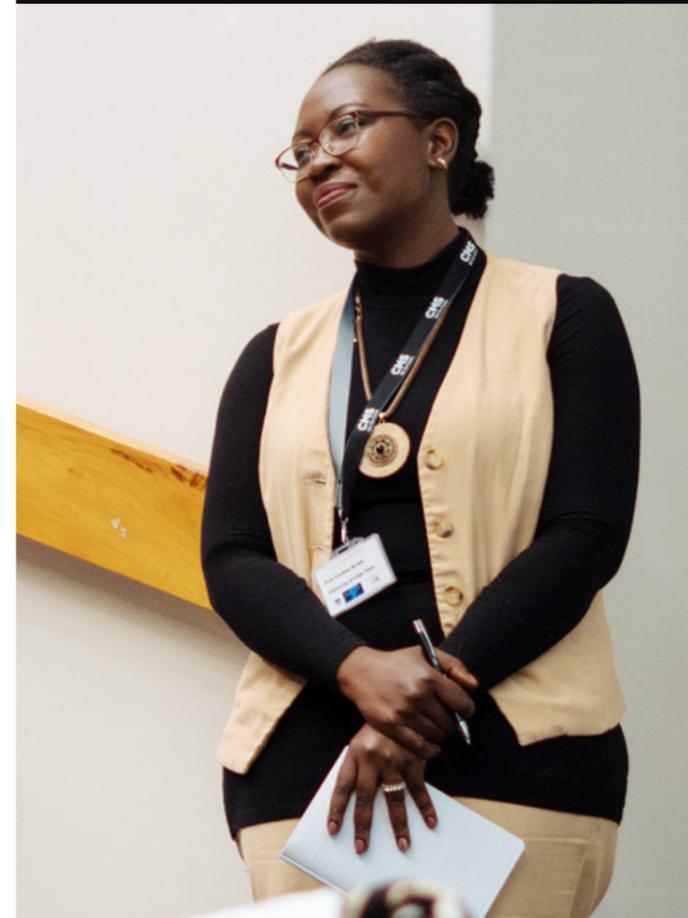
## The iNTAKA Seminars

- *The AI-Copyright Challenge: Exploring the Limits of expression and Exclusivity* • Professor Carys Craig, Osgoode Hall Law School. iNTAKA Seminars. March 2024.
- *Use of Algorithms in Determining a Consumer's Creditworthiness: Do they discriminate against gender?* • Prof Michelle Louw, iNTAKA Seminars. August 2024.
- *Career Pathway to the Bench: Navigating the Legal Profession* • Anthia Raos, Regional Magistrate. iNTAKA Seminars. August 2024.
- *Legal Tech Careers* • Ashlyn Mafuva. iNTAKA Seminars. August 2024.
- *South Africa's National AI Policy Framework &*

*Kenya's National Strategy on AI* • Amanda Zulu & Rebecca Namirimu. iNTAKA Seminars. October 2024.

## WORKSHOPS AND DISCUSSIONS

- *Movements Beyond Borders: What we can learn from South Africa's case at the ICJ?* • Dr J. Mavedzenge (UCT) Dr A. Enyia, S. Ndashe, N. Erakat with T. Harris (moderator). January 2024.
- *Children on the Move: Core Skills for Frontline Social Work Professionals* • Refugee Rights Unit Training held in collaboration with UNICEF, ISS, University of Belgrade and UNHCR. February 2024.
- *Environmental, Social and Corporate Governance (ESG) - Its History, Current Global Trend and Future* • Professor Jung Hongjoo, SungKyunkwan University, South Korea. Department of Commercial Law, UCT. February 2024.
- *OECD Tax Initiative on Pillar II. A public lecture series* • Hosted by UCT Commerce Faculty. Century City Conference Centre. February 2024.
- *Security and Justice Futures Webinar Series* • hosted by the Scottish Centre for Crime and Justice Research in collaboration with UCT Law's Global Risk Governance Programme and Centre of Criminology, the Kenyan National Crime Research Centre and the University of Nairobi. February 2024.
- *Building Environmental Law Capacity within the African Judiciary* - Environmental Law Training Programme • Professor S. Paterson. Judicial Institute for Africa. Nairobi, Kenya. March 2024.
- *Amicus curiae interventions - a workshop* • N. Ally & R. Gore, Centre for Law & Society's Amicus Lab project. April 2024.
- *Works in Progress - a workshop* • with Ahmed, I., Amien, W., Boonzaier, L., Cronin, B., Jeewa, T., Lion-Chachet, F., Kazim, T., Omar, J. & Ally, N. (convenor). Centre for Law & Society. May 2024.
- *Academic publishing for public interest lawyers*



- and researchers • N. Ally, with participants from Ndifuna Ukwazi and Equal Education Law Centre. Centre for Law & Society. May 2024.
- *SAPS Research Ethics Seminar* • Centre of Criminology. May 2024.
  - *Delayed Rape Law Reform: A case Study from Switzerland*. Professor Anna Coninx, University of Lucerne. Centre of Criminology. Cape Town. July 2024.
  - *Guarantor (or the so-called “fourth branch”) Institutions*. • Professor Tarun Khaitan, Professor (Chair) of Public Law at the London School of Economics Law School. August 2024.
  - *Communicating Consent and Criminal Justice Reform* • Dr K. Moshikaro. Centre of Criminology. August 2024.
  - *Non-Legally binding marriages and the state – England, Qatar and Australia* • Dr R. Akhtar, University of Warwick. UCT Law. August 2024.
  - *Protection of Intellectual Property Rights concerning Indigenous & Local Knowledge* • Professor C. Ncube. South African Maritime Institute (SAIMI). August 2024.
  - *Compulsory dispute settlement experience in Law of the Sea* • Professor Erik Franckx, Ghent University. IMEL. August 2024.
  - *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* • A/Professor M. Murcott. Online. August 2024.
  - *Judicial Training for Nigerian Judges* • Dr N. Palmer and Professor D. Bikeshu, Institute of Legal Practice and Development, University of Rwanda. September 2024.
  - *Cannabis Africana: Drugs and Development in Africa* • Seminar co-presented by Dr S. Howell (in-person/UCT), Dr N. Carrier (online/Bristol), Dr G. Klantschnig (online/Bristol), Dr C. Rusenga (online/Bristol), October 2024.
  - *Distributing Mobility: Regressive Asylum Agreements and Racialised Difference* •



- Dr N. Palmer, Visiting Scholar & British Academy Research Fellow, King's College London. October 2024.
- *Community-Centred Security Governance: From Cape Town to Oakland – a story of Peace Committees* • A/Prof Irvin Kinnes (Chair). Centre of Criminology, UCT Law. November 2024.
- *Fintech startups and digital trade in Africa* • CCLA Roundtable presentations with 2024 CCLA Fellows. November 2024.
- *Public interest litigation from a comparative perspective: legitimacy of judicial lawmaking* • Centre for Law & Society, with researchers from Utrecht and Tilburg Universities. December 2024.

## PRESENTATIONS AT CONFERENCES

- Ahmed, I. Beyond the Void: Marriage nullity and legal nuance. *9th General Conference of Juris Diversitas*. Macau, China. October 2024.
- Ally, N. Form & Function of the Right ECD (panel member). *Right to Early Childhood Development Conference*. Cape Town. March 2024.
- Ally, N. The role of apology as a remedy for breach of public authority duties. *Human Rights & Constitutional Accountability Conference*, Stellenbosch University Law Faculty. November 2024.
- Amien, W. Human Rights Implications of Implementing Alternative Dispute Resolution in South African Muslim Family Law, Warwick Law School, October 2024.
- Baase, M. How big is the village? Reassessing the protection of minors and the parent-child relationship. *9th General Conference of Juris Diversitas*. Macau, China. October 2024.
- Carels, M. A discussion on the development of family mediation in South Africa. *From Local to Global: the Impact and Reflection of conflict in our lives*, Nebraska, USA. November 2024.
- Cronin, B. The integrity of Constitutional Institutions: Where are we in 2024? Keynote



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# OUR ALUMNI COMMUNITY

Our Faculty graduates, at all degree levels, are a core part of our Faculty community – and are central to how we conceptualise our success in all our academic endeavours. Our alumni live across the globe contributing across the full range of professions and environments. We remain ever proud of our alums' achievements, and share a few highlights below from amongst our more recent graduates.

## RHODES SCHOLARSHIP – CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

UCT (and UCT Law in particular) continues to demonstrate its strength in cultivating academic excellence and leadership, with a number of our graduating students as recipients of the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship in the Southern African cohort.

Daniel Erasmus (LLB Class of 2023) was awarded a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship for 2024, joining a distinguished global community of over 4,500 Rhodes Scholars. Daniel completed both a BCom and LLB at the University of Cape Town, demonstrating a consistent commitment to intellectual inquiry and social impact. Their academic interests lie in the philosophical and political dimensions of law, particularly as it relates to contemporary South African society. During their time at UCT, Daniel held several leadership roles, most notably serving as Secretary General of the Students' Representative Council (2020/21).

In addition to their leadership contributions, Daniel excelled in advocacy, participating in national and international moot court competitions. Their accomplishments include winning the 2022 Kate O'Regan Inter-varsity Moot Competition. Daniel has also authored research papers on the right to further education and abolitionist constitutionalism, reflecting a deep engagement with transformative legal thought.

Among the recipients during 2024 for the 2025 scholarship is Phemelo Matie, a final-year LLB student in the Faculty of Law (LLB Class of 2024). Phemelo was selected as a Rhodes Scholar following a rigorous and highly competitive process and will join over a hundred scholars from around the world at the University of Oxford in October 2025. As a Rhodes Scholar, she will undertake fully funded postgraduate studies and become part of an esteemed international network dedicated to advancing leadership, service, and innovation.

## RUTH OLAOYENIKAN BEGINS FELLOWSHIP AT THE PERMANENT COURT OF ARBITRATION

The Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) welcomed Ruth Olaoyenikan, a graduate of the University of Cape Town (UCT) Law Faculty, to the Peace Palace in The Hague in September 2024. Ruth is the third recipient of the annual PCA-UCT Fellowship, a programme created through a partnership between UCT and the PCA in 2021. The Fellowship is part of the programme of UCT Law's Arbitration and Dispute Resolution Unit (ADRU), launched in 2023. ADRU is led by Adjunct Professor Lise Bosman – Senior Legal Counsel at the PCA and Executive Director of ICCA – and Dr Faadhil Adams, Senior Lecturer in UCT Law's Commercial Law Department and the PCA's Representative in South Africa, who spent 2024 on sabbatical at the PCA.

This Fellowship offers a one-year placement at the Peace Palace for African nationals who have completed UCT's LLM programme or its course in Commercial Arbitration. It also includes access to UCT's OR Tambo Moot Court for PCA hearings held in Cape Town, and encourages academic and cultural exchange between UCT and the PCA.

Ruth, a Nigerian national, earned her LLM in Dispute Resolution from UCT in 2023. The Fellowship provides



the opportunity to spend a year working as Assistant Legal Counsel at the PCA. She has followed in the footsteps of previous Fellows: Mary Kamwengo from Zambia (2023–2024), now back in the Zambian judiciary, and Adebowale “Debo” Aluko from Nigeria (2022–2023). Ruth joins fellow UCT graduate Courtney Kemp from South Africa, who has also served as a PCA-ICCA Fellow. Other UCT alumni who have held PCA-ICCA Fellowships or internships include Susan Kimani (Kenya), Rhona Rwangyezi (Uganda), and Kathleen Mpofu (Zimbabwe).

### UCT ALUMNUS AWARDED THE GEORGE BIZOS HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

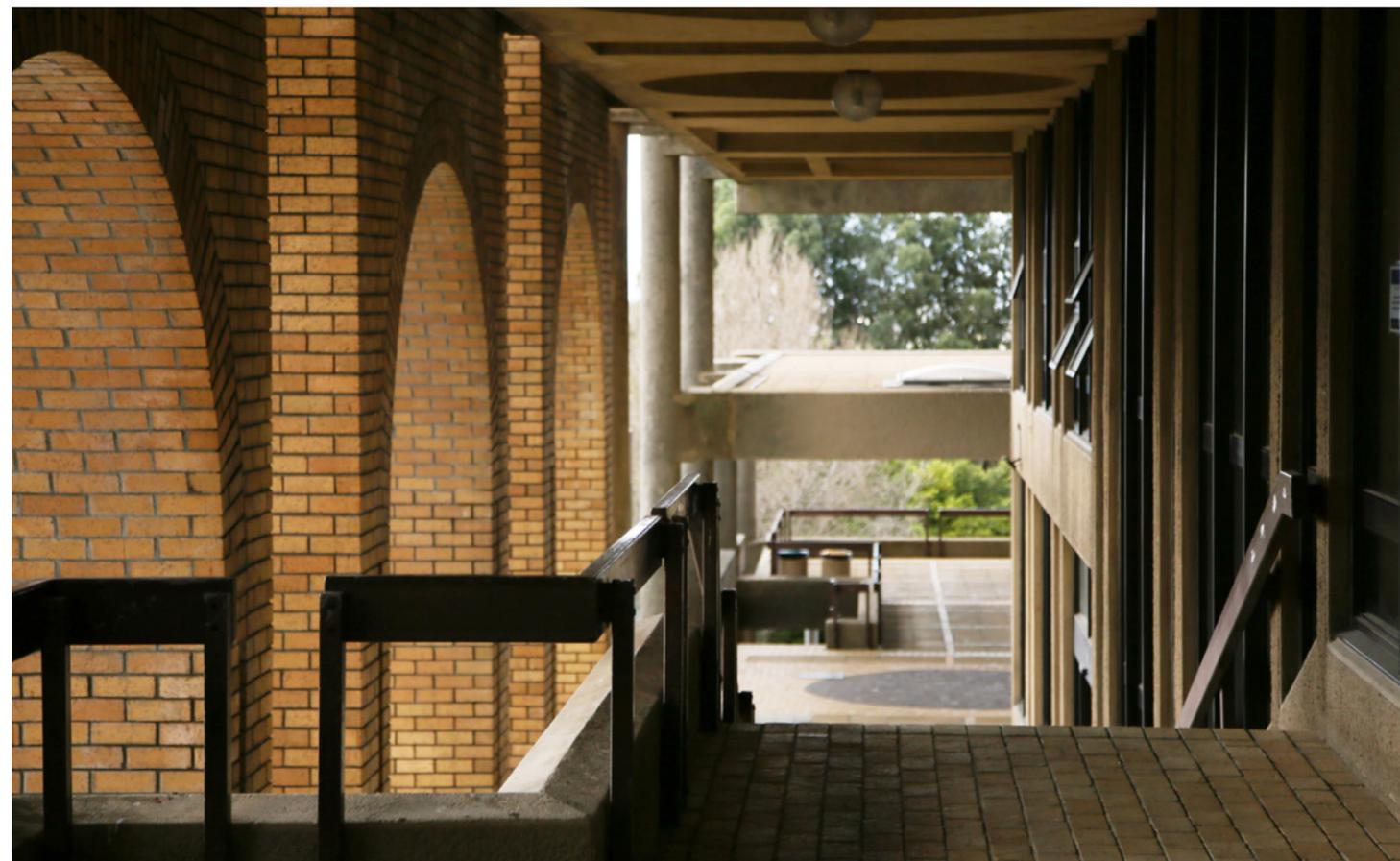
UCT Alumnus Geoff Budlender SC (LLB Class of 1974) was named the fourth recipient of the George Bizos Human Rights Award. Advocate Budlender, a founding member of the LRC and a tireless advocate for social justice, has spent decades using the law as a tool for empowerment and equality.

Established in 2018 by the Legal Resources Centre (LRC), this prestigious award pays tribute to the life and legacy of Advocate George Bizos SC, one of South Africa’s most revered human rights lawyers. From his role in the Rivonia Trial, where he defended Nelson Mandela and other anti-apartheid leaders, to his contributions to the drafting of South Africa’s democratic Constitution, Bizos has embodied the principles of freedom, equality, and justice.

The award named in his honour seeks to celebrate individuals who carry forward his legacy – those who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of human rights and the rule of law in South Africa. Previous awardees are:

- George Bizos SC (2018)
- Justice Dikgang Moseneke (2019)
- Justice Yvonne Mokgoro (2022)

Mr Budlender’s distinguished career in public interest law and constitutional advocacy exemplifies the values that underpin this award. His lifelong



dedication to the pursuit of justice reflects the very spirit of human rights litigation that George Bizos championed throughout his life. This award recognises Budlender, not only for his individual achievements but also for his commitment to the broader legacy of principled legal activism that continues to shape our society.

### IN MEMORIAM

**Henry Gerald Blumberg (LLB Class of 1966)** passed away peacefully, on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at North York General Hospital in Toronto, Canada. Beloved husband of Marcia, and loving father and father-in-law of Jonathan and Pam, Mark and Lisa, Kevin and Alisa, and the late Sean Blumberg, Henry was also the devoted grandfather of Ethan, Matthew, Theo, Kate, Mia, Evie, Julian, Bram, and the late Sasha Bella. The Faculty is honoured to be able to continue in perpetuity the endowed annual *Henry & Marcia Blumberg Prize* for an LLB student who performed academically and also gave time and energy into building the student community.

**Maureen de Beer (LLB Class of 1950)** passed away in London, UK, in 2024 at the age of 95, having lived a strong and healthy life almost until her passing. Maureen was a long-time benefactor to the UCT Trust in the UK, and was part of the early discussions held in London in 2002 with alumni by the then-Faculty Dean, Emeritus Professor Hugh Corder, with regard to setting up the Faculty’s scholarship fund with support from Faculty alumni.

**Barbara Groeblichhoff (LLB Class of 1988)** passed away on Friday 19 April 2024 at age 61. The Friedrich Naumann Foundation, her professional home for decades, praised her for her boundless capacity for compassion, untiring advancement of talented women and her strong sense of justice.

**Ndyabo Henry Makupula**, a PhD student in the Department of Private Law, passed away on 20 January 2024 after a short illness.

# STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Education is one of the most powerful tools for social mobility, and donor-funded scholarships ensure that financial barriers do not stand in the way of promising law students achieving their law qualifications. Many of our students come from historical disadvantage, and access to funding is often the only factor that determines whether they can pursue their legal studies. Thanks to donor support, we can offer a range of scholarships that empower future lawyers, legal scholars and human rights defenders, amongst others, to pursue their dreams.

During the last couple of years we have seen an increase in the establishment of named scholarships and prizes that support our students, recognise excellence and also, importantly, honour donor and alumni legacies. Some of the more recently established named scholarships include the *Postgraduate Scholarship in Marine & Environmental Law*, which exemplifies the ways in which donor generosity fuels excellence and impact. Another example is the *Everard and Joan MacFarlane Family Leadership Scholarship*, now in its fifth year, established by Roger MacFarlane and his family, established to support academically strong LLB students who have demonstrated clear leadership ability and potential. A third example is the newly established *Khoro Makhesha Scholarship*, established by the family of Khoro Makhesha (LLB Class of 2019), alum and Commercial Law teaching assistant, in his memory following his tragic passing in May 2023.

Additional examples include:

- KAS-iNtaka Postgraduate Scholarship in Law & Technology
- JNW Boydell Scholarship, made possible through a generous bequest from Nicholas Boydell (LLB Class of 1967)

- Faculty Prizes in Marine & Environmental Law (LLB and Postgraduate)
- Spoor & Fisher Intellectual Property Law Prize, awarded to final-year students demonstrating excellence in the field.

## THE EVERARD AND JOAN MACFARLANE FAMILY LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

In 2021 the MacFarlane Family Leadership Scholarship was established in the Faculty of Law at UCT. The MacFarlane Family set up the fund in memory of their parents who believed firmly in the value of education; that hard work and application were as important as access to opportunity; and that we all have the capacity to lead and change the world for the better. All three of the MacFarlane siblings, Roger, Stuart and Lynne, are UCT Alumni.

This fund, with an endowment of R15-million, assists students who display both academic excellence and leadership skills to augment those characteristics through a holistic faculty-based programme. In the four years since its inception the MacFarlane Scholarship programme has supported 10 students to completion of their LLB. Every two years a new cohort starts the two-year programme emerging after 24 months with a holistic understanding of the interconnectedness of law with society, culture and global issues. MacFarlane graduates are empowered to contribute meaningfully and effectively to society, navigate the evolving legal landscape and advocate for justice. They are also uniquely positioned to uphold the rule of law with integrity and compassion in pursuit of equitable and sustainable societal solutions.



### The MacFarlane graduates 2021-2024

Nuraan Armino \* Jessica Chuang \* Siphenkosi Hlangu \* Jessica Jaftha \* Ashleigh Maddell \* Peter-Wallace Mathebula \* Sabelo Ndlovu \* Faith Paulsen \* Ashleigh Petersen \* LwaziLwandile Simelane \*

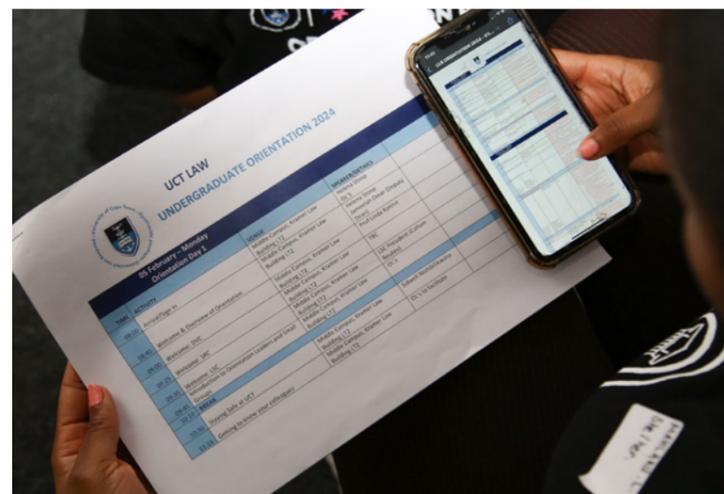
## ALUMNUS ESTABLISHES PRIZES IN HONOUR OF HIS LAW PROFESSORS

In 2010 Chukwuechefu Ukattah completed his LLM in Shipping Law at UCT Law and in 2013 he was awarded his PhD in Shipping Law. In a post marking 10 years since obtaining his PhD Dr Ukattah paid tribute to Emeritus Professor John Hare and Professor Graham Bradfield for the parts that they played in the success of what he terms his “maritime odyssey at UCT”.

I am eternally indebted to Professors Hare and Bradfield and the Faculty for their benevolence and commitment to my academic success while at UCT. I obtained my doctorate without paying a dime as both the Faculty and the university gave me scholarships for my doctoral research, despite the fact that I intended to return home to be in private practice and not follow an academic career.

In tribute to the two professors who had such a positive impact on his study career and who he considers to be maritime law icons, Dr Ukattah established two prizes at UCT. The Hare Prize for Carriage of Goods by Sea will be awarded to the top LLM student enrolled in Carriage of Goods by Sea. The Bradfield Prize for Admiralty Law will be awarded to the top LLM student enrolled in Admiralty Law.

Dr Ukattah is a partner in leading Nigerian law firm Olaniwun Ajayi. His expertise is in shipping law, international trade law, arbitration and litigation. He is an article reviewer for the Maritime Law Journal of the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and a regular presenter at conferences with several articles published in reputable local and international law journals. Dr Ukattah was the recipient of the Sir William Solomon Memorial Scholarship and the Law Endowment Fund Scholarship at UCT. Most recently in 2024 he was recognised as a “Next Generation Partner” in the prestigious Legal 500 EMEA ranking.



## THE PETER JAN SMEETS PRIZE

In 2023 the Maarten Smeets Family (Maarten, Mina and Anahita) established a prize named for their brother Peter Jan Smeets, who studied at UCT in the early 80s. He lost his life in a car accident while living in Cape Town and the prize honours his life and memory.

The prize is awarded the top African LLM student in each of the following courses: Law of International Trade; Law, Regional Integration and Development in Africa, Comparative Law and Business in Africa and Chinese Law and Investments in Africa.

The recipients for 2024:

- Comparative Law and Business in Africa: Mofu Mbulo
- Chinese Law and Investments in Africa: Dumo Moyo
- Law of International Trade: Valentina di Savino
- Law, Regional Integration and Development in Africa: Rogers Andagalu & Wilson Abaho



## UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

Through the Faculty's donor support, we were able in 2024 to support 28 LLB scholarships, including seven MacFarlane Leadership Scholars and 21 Excellence in Law Scholars. Of the 28 LLB scholarships awarded, 18 (64%) were to women students and 10 (36%) to men students; 13 (46%) scholarships went to African students, 14 (50%) to coloured students and 1 (1%) to a Chinese student.<sup>1</sup>

While the Undergraduate Scholarships Committee seeks to ensure a fair allocation of scholarships across the graduate LLB programmes, since the funding focus is on supporting graduate LLB students no longer supported by the National Student Financial Assistance Scheme, as well as students going into their final year so that we may contribute to these students completing.

<sup>1</sup> The terms used are as reflected in the national South African census.



Below are the 2024 LLB scholarship recipients:

Surname	Name	Scholarship
Allie-Ebrahim	Khadeeja	Excellence in Law
Ally	Zahra	Excellence in Law
Busakwe	Sandile	Excellence in Law
Cassim	Salmaan	Excellence in Law
Chuang	Jessica	MacFarlane Leadership Scholarship
Dakile	Katekile	Sir Frank Berman Fellowship
de Faria	Jose Antonio	Excellence in Law
Gardiner	Kaylan	Excellence in Law
Hitler	Quincy	MacFarlane Leadership Scholarship
Kene	Asange	Excellence in Law
Legote	Mona Kamogelo	Excellence in Law
Madell	Ashleigh	MacFarlane Leadership Scholarship
Mazaleni	Lwando	Excellence in Law
McAllister	Ashleigh	MacFarlane Leadership Scholarship
Mingo	Matthew	Excellence in Law
Mkaza	Linda Olwethu	Excellence in Law
Mkhize	Nosipho	Excellence in Law
Molefi	Amohelang	MacFarlane Leadership Scholarship
Monoane	Sandile	MacFarlane Leadership Scholarship
Moropoli	Basetsana	Excellence in Law
Mtembu	Luyanda	Excellence in Law
Naidoo	Kiara	Excellence in Law
Ncoko	Siyasanga	Excellence in Law
Paulsen	Faith	MacFarlane Leadership Scholarship
Petersen	Dylan	Excellence in Law
Sikolisi	Lusakhanya	Excellence in Law
Singlee	Shifaa	Excellence in Law
Williams	Kauthar	Excellence in Law

## POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Faculty's donor-supported scholarship "Excellence in Law" fund also contributed R1 000 000 in postgraduate funding to LLM, MPhil and PhD students (including the Alexander Burman Memorial Scholarship). In addition to this funding, the Faculty holds a number of other named endowments, as listed below, that will support these scholarships in perpetuity.

### ALEXANDER BURMAN MEMORIAL GRANT

Wilke, Jean	PhD
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### BERIC CROOME POSTGRADUATE TAX LAW SCHOLARSHIP

Nene, Pearl	LLM
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### DIKGANG MOSENEKE POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Lion-Cachet, Francois	PhD
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Ramatlapeng, Mapeshoane	PhD
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### EXCELLENCE IN LAW POSTGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

Biyela, Mloni	LLM
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Busco, Victor	PhD
---------------	-----

Deyal, Naadirah	LLM
-----------------	-----

Dhaya, Delan	LLM
--------------	-----

Dollie, Tashreeq	LLM
------------------	-----

Jung, Constantin	PhD
------------------	-----

Maropofela, Alfred	LLM
--------------------	-----

Oppon, Euraeffie	PhD
------------------	-----

Sichinga, Daniel Lefuka	PhD
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Tamajong Nfor, Chebo	PhD
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Weldman, Julian	PhD
-----------------	-----

Xulu, Luyanda Shaun	LLM
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### SIR WILLIAM SOLOMON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Baffour, George	PhD
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Chakapfava, Natsai Lassie	LLM
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Fakude, Simphiwe	LLM
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Kaneunyenye, Simbarashe	PhD
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Manganyelwa, Simangele	LLM
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Molefe, Didintle	LLM
------------------	-----

Mragane, Athenkosi	LLM
--------------------	-----

Msibi, Ntokozo Pamela	LLM
-----------------------	-----

Ngqakoshe, Gcobisa	LLM
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Ngqotheni, Bongani	LLM
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Nhika, Blessing Tendai	LLM
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Nqwemesha, Lihle	LLM
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Ntaka, Zodwa	LLM
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Okonkwo, Ifeanyi	PhD
------------------	-----

Ondieki, Moturi	PhD
-----------------	-----

Phakathi, Elias	LLM
-----------------	-----

Poti, Sisiphosenkosi	LLM
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Runganga, Desire	PhD
------------------	-----

Sandile, Sipelele	LLM
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Tose, Monde Vincent	LLM
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Zondo, Wandile	PhD
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### WILFRED KRAMER LAW GRANTS

Baffour, George	PhD
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Bambatha, Zine	LLM
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Chakapfava, Natsai Lassie	LLM
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Chimanga, Tsungirai	LLM
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Dipa, Silindile	LLM
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El Ouakili, Oualid	LLM
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Fakude, Simphiwe	LLM
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Isak, Hassan	LLM
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Kaneunyenye, Simbarashe	PhD
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Kauluma, Simson	LLM
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Lambo, Oluwaseun	LLM
------------------	-----

Magaseng, Gafela	LLM
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Mahkuntsu, Miranda	LLM
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Makamure, Tawongaishe	LLM
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Manganyelwa, Simangele	LLM
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Mosanteli, Molefe	PhD
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Moyo, Dumoluhle	LLM
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Mragane, Athenkosi	LLM
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Msibi, Ntokozo Pamela	LLM
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Msibi, Pamela Ntokozo	LLM
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Mullins, Geoff	LLM
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Naqvi, Zahra	LLM
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Ndlumbini, Anelisiwe	LLM
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Nene, Pearl	LLM
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Ngqakoshe, Gcobisa	LLM
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Ngqotheni, Bongani Phakamani	LLM
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Ngqwemesha, Lihle	LLM
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Ngubevana, Camagu Luvo	LLM
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Nhika, Blessing Tendai	LLM
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Ntsane, Ofentse Kgotso	LLM
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Pato, Akhona	LLM
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Phakathi, Elias	LLM
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Poti, Sisiphosenkosi	LLM
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Ralejoe, Komane	LLM
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Ramatlapeng, Mapeshoane	PhD
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Saani, Adib	PhD
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Sandile, Sipelele	LLM
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Tose, Monde Vincent	LLM
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Zheng, Huan Zheng	PhD
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## STUDENT PRIZES FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Every year the Faculty of Law recognises hard work, academic excellence, and contribution to the student community, through its donor-supported Prizes and Awards. The Faculty's list of LLB prizes has been relatively stable for a number of years, with prizes supported annually by (amongst others) the Molteno Family, the Gering Family, Dianna Yach, the Ackermann Family, the Henry Blumberg Family, the Lawrence Miller Family, the Phillip Schock Charitable Trust, Sir Frank Berman, the Tom Price Family, and the Cape Town Bar Council – as well as prizes supported by a number of law firms (Bowmans, CDH and Spoor & Fisher, amongst others), Juta and LexisNexis Butterworths.

There has been an encouraging increase recently in establishing postgraduate Law prizes for academic excellence in our Master's-level courses, and we're delighted to have established a number of new postgraduate prizes in Law. These include the Hare and Bradfield Prizes in Shipping Law, supported by

Dr Echefu Ukattah; the PJ Smeets prize supported by Maarten Smeets and his family in honour of their brother PJ Smeets; and the Faculty Postgraduate Prizes in Marine & Environmental Law.

These prizes and awards go a long way to encouraging our students to strive for their academic best, and to put in the extra work towards such recognition. The Faculty is particularly fortunate to have such a great number of individuals, families, firms and philanthropists who are keen to support academic excellence amongst our LLB and postgraduate students in this particular way.

Prizes inspire excellence, reward achievement, and motivate students to strive for their best. They also recognise hard work, build confidence, encourage innovation, and strengthen the Faculty's reputation by celebrating academic and extracurricular success. UCT Law awards several annual prizes that contribute toward a culture that celebrates high standards and inspiring achievement.

## LLB PRIZES AWARDED FOR ACHIEVEMENT IN 2024

### BEN BEINART MEMORIAL PRIZE

Suter, Matthew Ifemedebe,  
Chiamaka, Naledi Nichole

### BLUMBERG PRIZE FOR SERVICE TO STUDENT COMMUNITY

Beukes, Callum

### BOWMANS PRIZE

Wilson, Abigail Grace

### CLIFFE DEKKER HOFMEYR PRIZE BEST PRELIMINARY LEVEL

Ackermann, Jo Alpha

### D B MOLTENO PRIZE

Wilson, Abigail Grace

### DEAN'S AWARDS FOR SERVICE

Beukes, Callum

### DIANNA YACH PRIZE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Allie-Ebrahim, Khadeeja

### EPHRAIM KLUK AWARD

Behari-Leak, Yuri

### FACULTY PRIZE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW LLB

Klopper, Reuben James

### INA ACKERMANN PRIZE

Wilson, Abigail Grace

### JUDGE SCHOCK PRIZE

Wilson, Abigail Grace

### JUTA LAW PRIZE

Wilson, Abigail Grace

### LAWRENCE MILLER MEMORIAL AWARD

Jessica Laubscher

### LEXISNEXIS BUTTERWORTHS PRIZE CIVIL PROCEDURE

Behari-Leak, Yuri

### LEXISNEXIS BUTTERWORTHS PRIZE

Krok, Jaydon Samuel

### MIKE BLACKMAN MEMORIAL PRIZE

Krok, Jaydon Samuel

### SIR FRANKLIN BERMAN PRIZE FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW

Sekokedi, Tshiamo

### SOLLY KESSLER MEMORIAL PRIZE

Krige, Ayanda Rosa

### SPOOR AND FISHER PRIZE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

Essa, Raisa

Lancaster, Frances Ella

### THE GERING PRIZE

Wilson, Abigail Grace

### TW PRICE MEMORIAL PRIZE

Krok, Jaydon Samuel

### WERKSMANS ATTORNEYS PRIZE

Krok, Jaydon Samuel



## POSTGRADUATE PRIZES

**The PJ Smeets Prize in International Trade Law**  
Di Savino, Valentina

**The PJ Smeets Prize in Law, Regional Integration & Development in Africa**  
Andagalu, Rogers

**The PJ Smeets Prize in Comparative Law and Business in Africa**  
Mbulo, Mofu

**The PJ Smeets Prize in Chinese Law and Investments in Africa**  
Moyo, Dumo

**Faculty Postgraduate Prize in Marine & Environmental Law**  
Naicker, Terysha Tiara

**Faculty Postgraduate Prize in Environmental Law**  
Khan, Zarreen Xanthé

**Hare Prize for Carriage of Goods by Sea**  
Kim, Ah-Young





**LLB CLASS AWARDS**

**Administrative Law**  
Wilson, Abigail Grace

**African Customary Law**  
Krok, Jaydon Samuel

**Civil Procedure**  
Behari-Leak, Yuri

**Commercial Transactions Law**  
Wilson, Abigail Grace

**Constitutional Law**  
Rubin, Julia Bulbring

**Corporation Law**  
Krok, Jaydon Samuel

**Criminal Law**  
Mphake, Kgolagano Tshegofatso

**Criminal Procedure**  
Behari-Leak, Yuri

**Foundations of South African Law**  
Grey, Zintle

**International Law**  
Sebokedi, Tshiamo

**Jurisprudence**  
Gill, Rhea

**Labour Law**  
Wilson, Abigail Grace

**Law of Contract**  
Krok, Jaydon Samuel

**Law of Delict**  
Krok, Jaydon Samuel

**Law of Evidence**  
Wilson, Abigail Grace

**Law of Persons and Family**  
Adusei Herbstein,  
Marie Helene

**Law of Property**  
Kyle, Chloë Rose

**Law of Succession**  
Press, Emma Jay

**South African Private Law  
System and Context**  
Suter, Matthew

**Sir John Gilbert Kotze Medal  
Roman Law/South African  
Private Law**  
Krok, Jaydon Samuel

# FUNDRAISING PROGRESS & DONOR IMPACT

During 2024, our fundraising efforts generated R10.5 million into the Faculty’s investment and designated scholarship and prize funds, intended to support LLB and postgraduate scholarships in perpetuity, and prizes for academic excellence. These resources will enable us to continue investing in student scholarships and recognising student excellence, towards ensuring a stronger and more sustainable future for the Faculty.

## LAW FACULTY INVESTMENT FUND AND DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Faculty was able, during 2024, to attract an additional R6,1million into its main investment fund. This funding was derived from donor income, revenue distributions, and a substantial contribution from the Faculty’s Law@work project.

In addition, we were able to establish a number of new scholarships and prizes, thanks to the foresight, commitment and generosity of our Faculty alumni and friends as detailed opposite.

Income	Donor	Amount
PJ Smeets Prize for Postgraduate Studies	Maarten Smeets in recognition of his brother	36 000,00
KAS-iNtaka Scholarship for Postgraduate Law & Technology	Konrad Adenauer Stiftung ( <i>scholarship paid directly to student, but managed by Development &amp; Marketing</i> )	200 000,00
Faculty Postgraduate Scholarship in Marine & Environmental Law	Anonymous Donor	345 000,00
The John Hare and Graham Bradfield Prizes in Shipping Law	Dr Echefu Ukattah	20 000,00
Khoro Makhesha Scholarship	Makhesha Family	70 000,00
Boydell Legacy Scholarship	JNW Boydell	3 721 945,00
Student Crisis Fund	Radiant Law	118 000,00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>R4 510 945,00</b>



The Faculty Donor Impact Report for 2024 can be accessed on the Faculty's website for more information on the impact this funding has had on our Faculty community and particularly on our students.

 [CLICK HERE FOR MORE](#)

In addition to these scholarship and related funds, the Faculty has been able – with donor support – to sustain projects such as our two community law clinics, where law students and qualified attorneys provide pro bono legal services to people from marginalised communities without access to justice. These clinics not only offer critical legal assistance to those who need it most but also provide invaluable training for students, instilling in them the principles of service and social responsibility.

Further, the Faculty attracts significant levels of support for legal research initiatives. This support is fundamental in addressing some of the most pressing social justice challenges of our time. UCT Law leads pioneering work in ensuring accessibility of legal information, judgments and legislation; in constitutional law; and in environmental justice, gender equality, refugee rights, health rights, children's rights and human rights advocacy. Philanthropic contributions enable Faculty members to conduct research that influences judicial decisions, informs policy-making, and strengthens the rule of law – and has positive impact at national, regional, continental, and global levels.

Without such support, we would not be able to pursue the breadth of research, of engaged scholarship initiatives, and of academic excellence for which UCT Law is renowned. The Faculty is deeply appreciative of the funding support we receive from our broad Faculty community and from further afield, and we recognise the hard work of Faculty colleagues that continues to attract philanthropic support for our work.



**Interested in contributing to this extraordinary legacy?**

**DONATE HERE**

**Head to UCT's Giving Platform, indicate "other" for project name, and then specify "Excellence in Law".**



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