Faculty Fortnight | 19 August 2025

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Faculty Fortnight
UCT Law Faculty News & Updates
19 August 2025

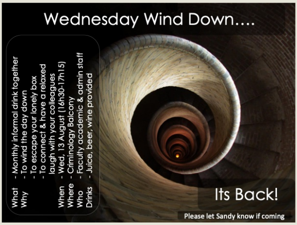
the Law Faculty's internal newsletter to keep you posted on things you might have missed and events, publications and initiatives to look out for.

In this issue
* Faculty News * Staff News * Faculty Calendar *
* Lectures, Seminars, Conferences & Events * Publications *
* Research * In Memoriam* Announcements & Notes *

FACULTY NEWS

STAFF COFFEE

The Faculty's regular (pre-covid!) **Tuesday and Friday staff coffee sessions** have been reinstituted. From 11h00 – 11h30 in the Faculty Common Room, you're invited to join colleagues for coffee and a catch-up. EVERYONE is welcome!


Wednesday Wind Down....
What - Monthly informal drink together
Why - To wind the day down
- To escape your lonely box
- To connect & have a relaxed laugh with your colleagues
When - Wed, 13 August (16h30-17h15)
Where - Criminology Balcony
Who - Faculty academic & admin staff
Drinks - Juice, beer, wine provided
Its Back!
Please let Sandy know if coming

WEDNESDAY WIND DOWN

You're invited to the **Wednesday Wind Down** – a monthly informal drink together, on a Wednesday afternoon from 16h30 – 17h15. The first gathering was held on Weds 13 August, so keep your eyes open for the mid-September invite!

RECRUITING FOR A NEW DEAN

A reminder that the closing date for applications for the Dean of Law position is **24 August 2025**. Please share this opportunity widely.
https://uct.ac.za/sites/default/files/2025-07/law-id1143-dean_0.pdf

STAFF CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to **Professor Johann Hattingh** who was recently elected as President of the *International Fiscal Association South Africa*. The International Fiscal Association - a neutral, independent, non-lobby organisation - is the only non-governmental and non-sectoral international organisation dealing with fiscal matters. Operating as an independent platform where representatives of all professions and interests can meet and discuss international tax issues at the highest level, the IFA's objectives are to study and advance international and comparative law regarding public finance.

Congratulations to **Professor Sandy Paterson** (HoD, Public Law and Director of the Faculty's IMEL) who was voted onto the *IUCN Academy of Environmental Law*'s Governing Board as the African representative for the next three years. The Academy is focused on building environmental law education capacity and promoting the conceptual development of environmental law, and recognises that environmental legal education is a vital contributor to the rule of law and to robust environmental governance essential for sustainable development.

NEW STAFF

In the list issue, we were pleased to welcome **Professor Tsepho Mongalo** and **Associate Professor Regis Simo**, but did not include full profiles. These new colleagues' full profiles are now on the CML website under department staff – visit the links below:
Prof Tong-Mongalo
A/Prof Simo

In addition to welcoming **Catherine Willis-Smith**, who we included in our last Faculty Fortnight, we are pleased to welcome the following teaching staff (on contract) to Public Law:

- **Dr Justice Mavedzenge**
    - 3 weeks of Con Law (PBL2000W)
    - ½ of Litigating South African Bill of Rights (PBL5661S)
- **Adv Mitchell De Beer**
    - ½ of Administrative Justice and Open Governance (PBL5658S)
- **Em Prof Hugh Corder**
    - ½ of Administrative Justice and Open Governance (PBL5658S)
- **Dr Simon Howell**
    - Victims and Victimology (PBL5822S)
- **Dr Amanda Mkhonza**
    - Natural Resources Law (PBL5642S)
- **Dr Sanya Samtani**
    - International Law on disputes and Use of Force (PBL5618S)

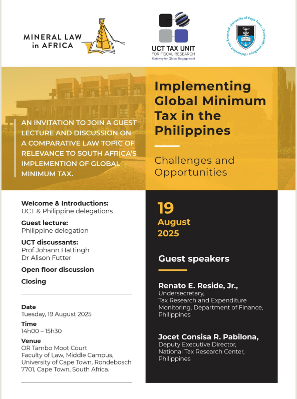
To Commercial Law, we welcome **Ms Nejat Hussein**, who is teaching (on contract) Negotiation and Mediation.

FACULTY CALENDAR

19 August | MLiA hosts guest lecture on *South Africa's implementation of global minimum tax*
20 August | iNtaka seminar on *Legal Tech & AI*
21 August | *Annual Rabinowitz lecture,* with Professor David Bilchitz, Professor of Fundamental Rights and Constitutional Law, University of Johannesburg
22 August | Seminar on the *role of business in realising fundamental rights* - Prof David Bilchitz and Prof Danwood Chirwa
28 August | *Book Launch* - Distinguished Prof Philippe Salazar's new book on Drone Law
9 September | *Faculty Graduation* (14h00) preceded by celebrations at the Faculty
10 & 11 September | *Dispute Resolution* Conference at Kramer
11 September | *Regional Teaching & Learning Conference* at Kramer
17 September | *Guest Lecture* – Norton Rose Fulbright
8 October | ADRU's inaugural *Annual Arbitration Lecture*, with OluFunke Adekoya
16 October | Ben Beinart Memorial Lecture, with Professor Geraint Howells, Executive Dean of the College of Business, Public Policy and Law, University of Galway

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & EVENTS

South Africa's implementation of Global Minimum Tax



MINERAL LAW in AFRICA

UCT TAX UNIT
FOR FISCAL RESEARCH
Gateway for Global Engagement

AN INVITATION TO JOIN A GUEST LECTURE AND DISCUSSION ON A COMPARATIVE LAW TOPIC OF RELEVANCE TO SOUTH AFRICA'S IMPLEMENTION OF GLOBAL MINIMUM TAX.

Implementing Global Minimum Tax in the Philippines

Challenges and Opportunities

Welcome & Introductions:
UCT & Philippine delegations

Guest lecture:
Philippine delegation

UCT discussants:
Prof Johann Hattingh
Dr Alison Futter

Open floor discussion

Closing

Date
Tuesday, 19 August 2025
Time
14h00 – 15h30
Venue
OR Tambo Moot Court
Faculty of Law, Middle Campus,
University of Cape Town, Rondebosch
7701, Cape Town, South Africa.

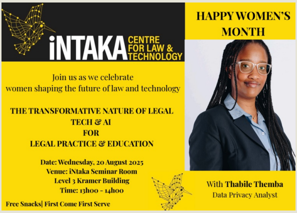
19
August
2025

Guest speakers

Renato E. Reside, Jr.,
Undersecretary,
Tax Research and Expenditure
Monitoring, Department of Finance,
Philippines

Jocet Consisa R. Pabilona,
Deputy Executive Director,
National Tax Research Center,
Philippines

Legal Tech & AI



iNTAKA CENTRE FOR LAW & TECHNOLOGY

HAPPY WOMEN'S MONTH

Join us as we celebrate
women shaping the future of law and technology

THE TRANSFORMATIVE NATURE OF LEGAL TECH & AI
FOR
LEGAL PRACTICE & EDUCATION

Date: Wednesday, 20 August 2025
Venue: iNtaka Seminar Room
Level 3 Kramer Building
Time: 13h00 - 14h00

Free Snacks| First Come First Serve

With **Thabile Themba**
Data Privacy Analyst

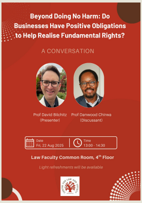
THE ANNUAL RABINOWITZ VISITORSHIP & PUBLIC LECTURE

Professor
David Bilchitz
Annual Rabinowitz Lecture
UCT
Law Faculty

Please join us for this year's **Rabinowitz Lecture**, to be delivered by **Professor David Bilchitz** on the theme outlined above. The lecture takes place at 18h00 on Thursday 21 August, in the Oliver Tambo Moot Court.

The lecture can be joined online HERE.

The Role of Business in Realising Fundamental Rights



Beyond Doing No Harm: Do Businesses Have Positive Obligations to Help Realise Fundamental Rights?

A CONVERSATION

Prof David Bilchitz (Presenter)

Prof Danwood Chirwa (Discussant)

Date: Fri, 22 Aug 2025

Time: 13:00 - 14:30

Law Faculty Common Room, 4th Floor

Light refreshments will be available

The Centre for Law and Society is pleased to invite you to a seminar with **Prof David Bilchitz** (University of Johannesburg/ SAIFAC) titled ***Beyond Doing No Harm: Do Businesses Have Positive Obligations to Help Realise Fundamental Rights?.*** This seminar will engage with the analytical framework presented in Bilchitz's recent book *Fundamental Rights and the Legal Obligations of Business* (Cambridge University Press, 2022). Prof Bilchitz will be in discussion with **Prof Danwood Chirwa.**

Queries: khomotso.moshikaro@uct.ac.za.

Please RSVP (by reply) - Light refreshments will be available.

The field of fundamental rights has often focused on the obligations of the ***state*** *to protect the rights of individuals. Yet, today, corporations have the power significantly to affect individual rights and there is a recognition that they must have some responsibility in relation to those rights. Influential documents such as the United Nations Guiding Principles, however, understand their obligations simply to be negative - about avoiding harm to individual rights. Do corporations also have positive obligations to make active contributions to the realisation of rights? This seminar will engage with analytical framework presented in my recent book Fundamental Rights and the Legal Obligations of Business (Cambridge University Press, 2022). It will present several arguments as to why a conception that restricts corporations only to negative obligations is mistaken. A constructive case for corporations having positive obligations will also be made and a consideration given to how to determine the substantive content of these obligations. To render the ideas concrete, the seminar will utilise a concrete example concerning whether pharmaceutical corporations have obligations to make drugs/vaccines available at an affordable price. This seminar will thus seek to demonstrate both practically and theoretically how to determine the content of the positive obligations corporations have and that this is compatible with their retaining their commercial viability.*

Drone Law in South Africa
BOOK LAUNCH

Distinguised Professor Philippe Salazar's new book on Drone Law (Juta) will be launched at the Faculty on 28 August 2025 in the Faculty Common Room @ 12h00

Queries: sameya.esterhuizen@uct.ac.za

juta
DRONE
REGULATIONS
in South Africa
Philippe-Joseph Salazar

FACULTY SPRING GRADUATION - 9 SEPTEMBER 2025

The Faculty will be celebrating its PhD, LLM, MPhil and LLB graduands on **9 September 2025** during UCT's *Spring Graduation Week*. We will be sharing details shortly of the PhD and research celebration, as as well as the LLM, MPhil and LLB celebration that will be held in the Faculty prior to the formal ceremony on Upper Campus. So **SAVE THE DATE!**

Invitation to Upcoming Negotiation Workshop

Staff and students are cordially invited to attend an upcoming negotiation workshop being hosted at UCT Law on 17 September 2025 in conjunction with the *Institute for Global Negotiation*. The '*Beyond Division: Navigating Conflict in a Polarised World*' event is part of the Institute's global peace building project. A series of interactive workshops will be held at universities in more than seventeen countries focusing on the role of negotiation and mediation in addressing complex global challenges. Participants will also be invited to join a global online event hosted by the *Institute for Global Negotiation* on UN Peace Day.

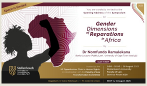
Monique Carels, Lecturer at UCT Law Faculty and **Julie Hassman**, part-time lecturer with the Mineral Law in Africa Research Chair and the Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, will be co-facilitating the UCT workshop. A flyer with additional information and details will be circulated shortly.

PAST CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & EVENTS

Gender Dimensions of Reparations in Africa

Gender Dimensions of Reparations in Africa

On Monday 18 August, **Dr Nomfundo Ramalekana** (Public Law) delivered the keynote address at the HF Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights, in collaboration with the Stellenbosch Faculty of Law Transformation Committee, symposium on "Gender Dimensions of Reparations in Africa".


Space is limited

You are cordially invited to the Opening Address of the Symposium

on

Gender Dimensions of Reparations in Africa

by

Dr Nomfundo Ramalekana

Senior Lecturer (Public Law), University of Cape Town

CLICK TO RSVP

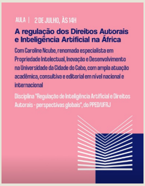
Hosted by the HF Oppenheimer Chair in Human Rights, in collaboration with the Faculty of Law Transformation Committee

Stellenbosch University

UNDER THE HIGH PATRONAGE OF HIS MAJESTY KING MOHAMMED VI
5th
ISA FORUM O
SOCIOLOGY

Prof Waheeda Amien recently presented a paper at the 5th ISA Forum of Sociology. Held for the first time in the MENA region, the Forum took place in Rabat, Morocco, from July 6 to 11, 2025, at Mohammed V University – and hosted almost 5,000 participants from 112 countries. The theme of this Forum was *Knowing Justice in the Anthropocene.*

Prof Amien presented her paper on 11 July, on *South Africa At the Intersection of State Law and Non-State Law: Implications of the New Divorce Amendment Act on the Fundamental Rights of Muslims in South Africa* as part of the session *on Gender Issues and Access to Justice*.



AULA | 2 DE JULHO, ÀS 14H

A regulação dos Direitos Autorais e Inteligência Artificial na África

Com Caroline Ncube, renomada especialista em Propriedade Intelectual, Inovação e Desenvolvimento na Universidade da Cidade do Cabo, com ampla atuação acadêmica, consultiva e editorial em nível nacional e internacional

Disciplina "Regulação de Inteligência Artificial e Direitos Autorais - perspectivas globais", do PPED/UFRJ

Prof Caroline Ncube recently presented (3 July) a virtual guest lecture titled *AI and Copyright Regulation in South Africa and beyond* presented to the Graduate Program in Public Policy, Strategies & Development (PPED) 2025 cohort at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ).

On 4 July **Prof Caroline Ncube** moderated a panel at Stellenbosch University at the *2025 Global Scholars Academy* co-hosted by the Institute for Global Law and Policy at Harvard Law School and the Stellenbosch University Faculty of Law. The panel was titled *Turbulent Times: Navigating Property, Innovation, and Development in a Fragmenting World* and included Jorge Esquirol (Florida International University), Jason Jackson (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Poul F. Kjaer (Copenhagen Business School) and Celestine Musembi (University of Nairobi).

IGLP
Stellenbosch
UNIVERSITY
IYUNIVESITHI
UNIVERSITEIT

Prof Ncube also travelled recently - with two of her postdoctoral fellows (**Dr Musiza** and **Dr Nyehita**) and doctoral student **Nate Gotora** - to Copenhagen to participate in the *ATRIP 43rd Annual Congress* themed *Exploring the Interface Between Intellectual Property and Justice: Theory and Practice in a Dynamic Reality*. There they were joined by two former postdocs who are collaborators of the Chair, **Prof Oriakhogba** and **Dr Kolawole**. These colleagues all spoke at the conference on various panels, constituting a great contribution from the *SARChI Chair in Intellectual Property, Innovation and Development* - and the academic endeavours underway through the Chair. Said **Prof Ncube** of the opportunity: "It was a brilliant trip, and a great time reconnecting with former postdocs".

UNIVERSIDAD
CIENTIFICA
DEL SUR

Professor Sandy Paterson recently participated in the *IUCN Academy of Environmental Law*'s 22nd Annual Colloquium held at the Law School of the Universidad Cientifica De Sur in Lima (Peru) in July. The theme for this year's Colloquium was the *SDGs and Environmental Law: Achievements and Challenges after a Decade of Creation*. Sandy's paper focussed on SDG 15 (Life on Land) and was titled "*Towards a Domestic Legal Framework for OECMs – The South African Experiment*". It explored the potential merits and disadvantages of introducing domestic OECM legislation, introduced a theoretical legal matrix informing the domestic legal assessment of potential OECM measures, and outlined preliminary ideas about the form, scope and content of South Africa's future OECM legal intervention.

Prof Paterson also had occasion to launch UCT Law's hosting of the 23rd Annual Colloquium in Cape Town in December 2026.

Doctoral candidates from the DST/NRF *SARChi Research Chair: Mineral Law in Africa*, **Didintle Molofe** and **Mpho Sehlabo**, accompanied by **Julie Hassman** in the capacity of team coach, recently represented the UCT Law Faculty at the *2025 Global Negotiation Conference* in Zurich, Switzerland. Hosted by the University of Zurich, the conference brought together law, science, engineering, and international diplomacy postgraduate students from various universities around the globe for an intensive week of workshops and expert-led sessions culminating in a multilateral simulation. *Deep sea mining regulation* was the topic of this year's conference, and participants represented states party to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea in the multilateral simulation. Across the week, teams grappled with building multilateral alliances amidst the challenges of balancing conflicting economic, environmental, and geopolitical interests. The UCT team was one of three delegations selected to deliver an opening statement during the final simulation, having successfully built the required coalitional support from other participating teams.

The team is to be commended for their outstanding efforts and diplomacy skills, and for furthering the critical importance of bringing African perspectives to multilateral governance of the global commons.

Members of the Faculty's *Centre for Comparative Law in Africa* participated in the *2025 International Society for Public Law (ICON-S) Annual Conference*, which took place from 28–30 July 2025, at the University of Brasilia, Brazil. The overall theme of the conference was *At the Crossroads of Public Law: Equality, Climate Emergency, and Democracy in the Digital Era.*

The CCLA panel, held on 29 July and titled "*Africa at the Intersection of Public Law: Regionalism, Gender, and Digital Transformation,*" featured representation from around our Faculty, specifically four postdoctoral fellows from the Department of Commercial Law (**Dr Yakubu Nagu**, **Dr Raisa Nyirongo**, **Dr Ghati Nyehita**, and **Dr Victor Amadi**) as well as **Mr Chebo Tamajong-Nfor**. The panel was also joined by two additional colleagues: **Dr Tebogo Lefifi** and **Dr Albert Puja** (University of the Western Cape).

ICON-S 2025 Annual Conference: At the Crossroads
Equality, Climate Emergency, and Democracy in
28, 29 e 30 de julho de 2025 - Universidade de Brasília

Prof Michelle Louw and **Dr Sebastian Krafzik** recently participated in the *19th Global Conference of the International Association for Consumer Law (IACL)*, which took place at the University of Buenos Aires from 23 - 25 July this year. The conference was inspired by the motto, *New Challenges in Consumer Law: Celebrating 40 Years of the United Nations Guidelines for Consumer Protection and the Founding Fathers of the IACL*. The Faculty's Commercial Law Department made a significant impact with two presentations on financial consumer protection. **Prof Michelle Louw**, Head of the Department, Board Member, and former President of the IACL, delivered a keynote address titled, "*A Drive to a Cashless Society: Promoting Financial Inclusion or Financial Exclusion?*", where her insights sparked an engaging Q&A session. Postdoctoral research fellow **Dr Sebastian Krafzik** presented a paper titled, *The G20 Roadmap for Enhancing Cross-Border Payments and Its Impact on Consumer Protection: A Pan-African Perspective*, which also led to meaningful discussions. This conference provided a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas and perspectives on critical issues in consumer protection. We were thrilled to see strong representation from South African academics - seven in total - who truly shone at this forum. The wealth of knowledge shared and the inspiration gained from this engagement will undoubtedly drive further research into consumer protection challenges in South Africa.

1918-2018
1918-2018
ERENCIA GLOBAL
International Association of Consumer Law

FACULTY RESEARCH | ANNOUNCEMENT

2026 UCT's Research Committee (URC) Postdoctoral Fellowships (PDRF)

It is time for the *2026 UCT's Research Committee (URC) Postdoctoral Fellowships* (PDRF) call. The URC PDRFs have been established to enable excellent doctoral graduates to undertake two years of research and academic training as Postdoctoral Research Fellows at the University of Cape Town, starting in 2026.The aim is to provide an enabling and supportive environment for our next generation of transformed and diverse postdoctoral research fellows (PDRFs) to grow and flourish, increasing the capacity of the University to build a larger cohort of early career researchers.

Fellowship selection is highly competitive and based in the first instance on excellence in the context of the applicant's academic standing, research experience, productivity, and output and, secondly, on the relevance and fit of research experience and proposed focus to the host group's research focus and objectives.

The University of Cape Town invites applications for a limited number of URC Postdoctoral Research Fellowships to be taken up at the University Cape Town beginning in 2026. **Closing date: 15 September 2025**

Value and tenure: The value of the Fellowships is fixed at R325 000 per annum for two years.

Queries: Emile Van Wyk at pdocs@uct.ac.za

ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP

Prof Waheeda Amien is once again serving on the bench of the Gauteng High Court – 21 July to 19 September 2025. We wish her well for this next stretch.

Prof Hanri Mostert co-authored an article on **Africa's minerals are being bartered for security: why it's a bad idea,** with Wits Professor of Environmental and Sustainability Law **Tracy Lynn Field**.

A US-brokered peace deal between the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Rwanda binds the two African nations to a worrying arrangement: one where a country signs away its mineral resources to a superpower in return for opaque assurances of security. The peace deal, signed in June 2025, aims to end three decades of conflict between the DRC and Rwanda.

A key part of the agreement binds both nations to developing a regional economic integration framework. This arrangement would expand cooperation between the two states, the US government and American investors on "transparent, formalized end-to-end mineral chains". Despite its immense mineral wealth, the DRC is among the five poorest countries in the world. It has been seeking US investment in its mineral sector. The full article is available on The Conversation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COLLEGIAL COURTESIES

EVENT INFORMATION | If you're holding any kind of event in the Faculty, please take the time to **inform the staff at the Security Desk on Level 4**. They are the front line for visitors at Kramer, but have are often without with the information required to play an informed and welcoming role. It helps enormously to put something onto an A4 sheet, indicating event name, date, time, venue and anticipated number of participants, and give this to security perhaps with prestik or tape so that it is visible for security staff.

Shaping the future
@UCTLaw

Got something to share? Have thoughts on what we should include in Faculty Fortnight?

Please send your news & ideas to gaby.ritchie@uct.ac.za – we'd really like to hear from you.