Faculty Fortnight
UCT Law Faculty News & Updates
4 November 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.

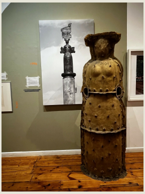
In this issue
* Faculty News * Student News *
* Faculty Calendar * Lectures, Seminars, Conferences & Events *
* Publications * Research * Internationalisation * In Memoriam *
*Professional Development * Announcements & Notes *

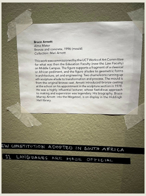
FACULTY NEWS

THE ALMA MATER STATUE

The Alma Mater statue, the tall sculpture in front of the Kramer Law Building created by artist Bruce Arnott, has recently been highlighted as part of the *Michaelis 100-year Exhibition*. Alma Mater, completed in 1996, is of a figure atop a supporting column. Referred to as a *caryatid* and often associated with classical Greek figurines, this is not exclusively a western figure, since it is known from China, ancient Persia, West Africa and the Congo, particularly in the art of the Luba people. This caryatid symbolically combines the twin roles of authority and responsibility. The phrase, Alma Mater (Latin: 'nurturing mother'), is often used to denote a school or university, and in this sculpture we see the emblems of learning being generously offered by the stylistically evolved caryatid figure. The chameleons represent historical process and transformation.

Below is the original bronze cast used for this sculpture, with its explanatory text, as part of the exhbition. Thanks to Prof Lise Bosman for sharing the images from her recent visit to the exhibition.





Bruce Arnott
Alma Mater
Bronze and concrete, 1996 (mould)
Collection: *Mari Arnott*

This work was commissioned by the UCT Works of Art Committee for what was then the Education Faculty (now the Law Faculty) on Middle Campus. The figure supports a fragment of a classical or African pediment, and the figure alludes to geometric forms in architecture, art and engineering. Two chameleons running up eth sculpture allude to transformation and process. The mould is from the original bronze cast. Arnott introduced bronze casting at the school on his appointment in the sculpture section in 1978. He was a highly influential lecturer, whose fastidious approach to making and supervision was legendary. His biography, Bruce Murray Arnott: Into the Megatext, is on display in the Hiddingh Hall library.

EW CONSTITUTION ADOPTED IN SOUTH AFRICA
11 LANGUAGES ARE MADE OFFICIAL

STUDENT NEWS

NEW LAW STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Recruitment, campaigning and elections have happened, and the new 2025 - 2026 Law Students Council has been constituted. The new Council portfolios are as follows:
President - Chloë Rose Kyle
Vice President External - Ryan Harding
Vice President Internal - Skahle Nkosi
Secretary General - Felicity Clemmow
Academic Officer - Rachael Muller
Media & Communications - Kealeboga Precious Moncho
Treasurer - Chephirah Lillian Kisten
Transformation Officer - Luhlanganiso Majebe
Student Life - Ghanaan Wicomb

FACULTY CALENDAR

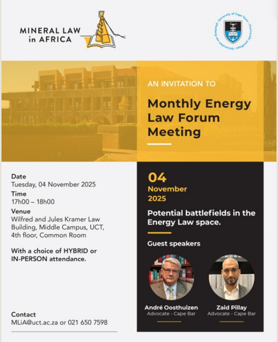
4 November | MLIA's monthly *Energy Law Forum meeting*
6 November | *Intersection between Law and Identity* – Honorary Prof Patrick Hanafin Criminology Conference in the Faculty
12 November | *Race, Racism and International Law* with Professor Justin Deystone (U of Colorado)
11 – 13 December | *UCT Criminology Conference*

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES, SEMINARS & EVENTS

MLiA's monthly Energy Law Forum Meeting

Colleagues are invited to join this monthly Energy Law Forum Meeting, taking place on Zoom.

Meeting ID: 811 8433 3116
Passcode: 594409



MINERAL LAW in AFRICA

AN INVITATION TO

Monthly Energy Law Forum Meeting

Date
Tuesday, 04 November 2025
Time
17h00 – 18h00
Venue
Wilfred and Jules Kramer Law Building, Middle Campus, UCT, 4th floor, Common Room

With a choice of HYBRID or IN-PERSON attendance.

Contact
MLiA@uct.ac.za or 021 650 7598

04 November 2025

Potential battlefields in the Energy Law space.

Guest speakers

André Oosthuizen
Advocate - Cape Bar

Zaid Pillay
Advocate - Cape Bar

Postcolonial Law Between Speech and Violence: Inoperativity in Samuel Beckett's Molloy

Professor Patrick Hanafin
Birkbeck Law School
University of London

Date: Thursday, 6 November 2025
Time: 11:00-11:45
Venue: Staff Common Room
Format: Hybrid (please refer to the calendar link in an earlier email shared by Ms Sameya Esterhuizen)

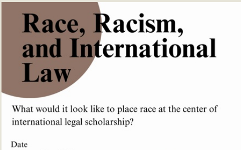
Abstract

Samuel Beckett's Molloy is a resolutely postcolonial novel. In the first half of the novel Beckett evokes the arid landscape of postcolonial Ireland. Molloy himself is a typical postcolonial Irish subject, constantly at odds with the law. His only defence is his inability to follow the law. In Beckett's Molloy the eponymous character is incapable of forming a response to the forces of law who ask him to provide an account of himself and, in so doing, to define himself. His co-character Moran is more amenable to doing what the law wants of him. It appears that Moran is Molloy in an earlier period of his life, an ordered bourgeois who then becomes the vagrant Molloy ending up in a ditch. The law wants to make of Molloy an "avowing subject". However, Molloy does not co-operate or cannot co-operate. He was always saying less than what was expected, always saying something other than what would allow the machine to function properly. He is inoperative in Agamben, Nancy and Blanchot's term. He is pure excess and workless and opposes this to the ordering biopolitical demand to name and form him. Like most of Beckett's characters Molloy is errant. He escapes the letter of the law. This destituent nature of Molloy and the later Moran points to a refusal to do the work allocated to them. This leads to a situation in which Beckett's characters are living in the unconscious and the underside of the law and in the process resisting postcolonial Irish law.

Race, Racism and International Law

On Weds 12 November, the Centre for Criminology and the Department of Public Law will be hosting **Prof Justin Deystone** (University of Colorado) discussing his recent edited collection *'Race, Racism, and International Law'*.

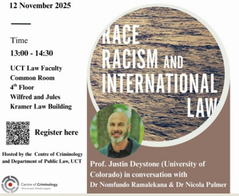
Please register here and join us from 13:00-14:30 in the Faculty Common Room, 4th Floor Wilfred and Jules Kramer Law Building.



Race, Racism, and International Law

What would it look like to place race at the center of international legal scholarship?

Date



12 November 2025

Time
13:00 - 14:30

UCT Law Faculty
Common Room
4th Floor
Wilfred and Jules
Kramer Law Building

Register here

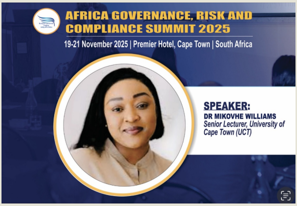
Hosted by the Centre of Criminology and Department of Public Law, UCT

RACE RACISM AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

Prof. Justin Deystone (University of Colorado) in conversation with
Dr Nomfundo Ramalekana & Dr Nicola Palmer

Centre of Criminology
Africa focused. Globally engaged

Africa Governance, Risk & Compliance Summit



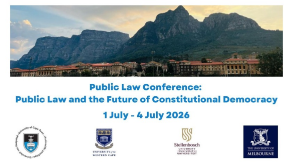
AFRICA GOVERNANCE, RISK AND COMPLIANCE SUMMIT 2025

19-21 November 2025 | Premier Hotel, Cape Town | South Africa

SPEAKER:
DR MIKOVHE WILLIAMS
Senior Lecturer, University of Cape Town (UCT)

Dr Mikovhe Wiliams, Director of the Faculty's *Corporate Governance and Law Unit*, will be chairing a panel at the upcoming *Africa Governance, Risk & Compliance Summit*, which will take place from 19–21 November 2025 in Cape Town.

The panel, titled "*Built for What's Next: How GRC Leaders Are Shaping Structures, Capabilities and Confidence to Keep Up with Agility*," will feature senior executives from Botswana and South Africa. The discussion will explore how governance, risk, and compliance frameworks can evolve to support agility and resilience in African institutions.



Public Law Conference:
Public Law and the Future of Constitutional Democracy
1 July - 4 July 2026

Public Law and the Future of Constitutional Democracy

The 2026 Public Law Conference will be held at the Faculty of Law in July 2026, on the theme 'Public Law and the Future of Constitutional Democracy'.

The Conference will take place at a time of fundamental challenges confronting constitutional democracy in many common-law jurisdictions, indeed globally. The theme is especially apposite to the 30th anniversary of South Africa's democratic Constitution of 1996, given the nation's history of government founded on systemic racism, exploitation, and injustice. Concern about the vitality of constitutional democratic values and the rule of law lies at the heart of the Conference call. As with previous conferences in the Public Law series, the chosen theme seeks to solicit a variety of responses from public lawyers across a range of legal systems in the common-law world.

The **Call for Papers is open until 14 November 2025**. **Further details on the conference, and the call for papers, can be found on the conference page**.

PAST LECTURES, CONFERENCES, SEMINARS AND EVENTS

THE INAUGURAL UCT ARBITRATION DAY

Prof Lise Bosman shares her take on the UCT Arbitration Day, which included the Inaugural Annual Arbitration Lecture: *A full house, expert insights, and forward-looking conversations on the evolving landscape of arbitration across Africa.*

Second UCT Arbitration Day

Recently, the Faculty's Arbitration and Dispute Resolution Unit, hosted the 2nd *UCT Arbitration Day* at the Faculty – a substantive gathering with speakers from Johannesburg, Cape Town, Geneva, Nairobi, Mauritius and Lagos. Discussions explored pressing issues in international arbitration, career-building in the field, and the evolving role of African practitioners — all in front of an overflowing OR Tambo Moot Court, filled with LLM students, academics, visiting practitioners, and Vis Moot participants.

Highlights of the day included:

Two specialist lectures to open the day:
– CDH's **Jackwell Feris** on risk mitigation under the AfCFTA
– PCA Legal Counsel **Balla Galma** on PCA-administered State-State arbitration

The *Our Careers in International Arbitration* panel brought together Jackwell, Balla, Vlad Movshovich, Clement Mkiva, Zelda Hunter, Prof Wyne Kenneth, and Judge Kate Savage for a frank, personal discussion on building resilient careers in the field.

The day culminated in the **Inaugural UCT 2025 Arbitration Lecture** delivered by Funke Adekoya SAN, titled: "*Representation and Reality: The Role of African Practitioners in Shaping the Future of Arbitration*." Funke's thought-provoking lecture was a compelling call to rethink representation and equity in global arbitration. **This lecture has now been published as a volume of the ADRU Collected Papers, and can be accessed on the ADRU's page.**

International Fiscal Association Annual Congress

Professor Johann Hattingh recently attended the *Annual Congress of the International Fiscal Association* in Lisbon. At the Congress, Prof Hattingh spoke about a South African tax case as part of a panel focused on recent developments in international tax.

In addition, Prof Hattingh co-authored two publications that were launched at the Congress (see below under PUBLICATIONS).

Duties and Liability of Multinationals

Dr Mikovhe Williams recently participated as a panelist at an international conference titled "*Innovations in the Regime of Duties and Liability of Multinational Companies from an International and Comparative Perspective*," hosted by the Centro Universitário de Brasília (CEUB), Brazil.

Dr Williams' presentation focused on the South African perspective on the evolving regime of duties and liabilities of multinational enterprises, particularly in the context of corporate accountability and sustainability.

The event brought together experts from across Latin America, Europe, and Africa, and the contributions from this conference will form part of an edited volume to be published in 2025.

Towards Robust ESG and Corporate Governance Regulatory Frameworks

From 29 to 31 October, the Department of Commercial Law hosted the *International Conference on Corporate & Financial Markets Law (CFML)*, organised by North-West University for the fifth time. This event provided a platform to exchange ideas around the conference theme "*Towards Robust ESG and Corporate Governance Regulatory Frameworks to Curb Maladministration, Unethical Conduct, and Financial Crime in Financial Institutions, Organisations, Companies, and Financial Markets*."

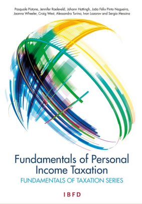
Prof Michelle Louw, CML HoD, delivered the keynote speech titled "*Beyond Compliance: The Role of Banks in Advancing Financial Literacy as a Core ESG Imperative in South Africa*." **Prof Tshepo Tong-Mongalo** discussed "*The Complexity of IFRS for SMMEs and Its Impact on Compliance Requirements*." **Associate Prof Brighton Mupangavanhu** presented a session on "*Corporate Economic Activities and Their Impact on Society: An African Legal Analysis through the Lens of Business and Human Rights*."

Among the early-career academics, *Dr Kea Motlogeloa* presented on "*Supervisory Technology in South African Financial Institutions: Charting a Path Forward in an Unregulated AI Landscape*." **Dr Elfas Torerai**, a postdoctoral research fellow, spoke about "*The Catalytic Role of Consumer Education in Driving Uganda's Fintech Boom: Lessons for South Africa,*" and **Dr Sebastian Krafzik**, a postdoctoral researcher, presented his paper on "*Financial Inclusion as an ESG Imperative: International Standards and Regulatory Frameworks for Combating Inequality and Financial Crime*."

PUBLICATIONS

Professor Johann Hattingh has recenlty co-authored two tax books for IBFD. These publications, launched at the recent IBFD *Annual Congress of the International Fiscal Association* in Lisbon.

Titled respectively *Fundamentals of Personal Income Taxation (Fundamentals of Taxation Series Volume 2)* and *Fundamentals of Corporate Income Taxation* (Fundamentals of Taxation Series Volume 3)



Pasquale Pistone, Jennifer Roeleveld, Johann Hattingh, João Félix Pinto Nogueira, Joanna Wheeler, Craig West, Alessandro Turina, Ivan Lazarov and Sergio Messina

Fundamentals of Personal Income Taxation
FUNDAMENTALS OF TAXATION SERIES
IBFD

Pasquale Pistone, Jennifer Roeleveld, Johann Hattingh, João Félix Pinto Nogueira, Joanna Wheeler, Craig West, Alessandro Turina, Ivan Lazarov, Sergio Messina and Sam van der Vlugt

Fundamentals of Corporate Income Taxation
FUNDAMENTALS OF TAXATION SERIES
IBFD

This comprehensive primer delves into the legal intricacies of personal income taxation, offering a globally relevant perspective on a subject central to modern tax law and policy. With the same rigorous methodology as its predecessor, Fundamentals of Taxation: An Introduction to Tax Policy, Tax Law and Tax Administration, this book unpacks the complexities of personal income tax without anchoring itself to the specifics of any single tax system. Designed for a diverse audience – including university students, legal professionals and curious learners – it provides a thorough and systematic analysis of the core issues and challenges surrounding personal income taxation. From understanding who is taxed and what is taxed to exploring cross-border implications and special tax regimes, each chapter builds upon the last to create a cohesive and logical journey through the subject.

NOTE: *Students get a 50% discount and the books are available through our library portal.*

This book provides a comprehensive overview of corporate income taxation, offering a global perspective on corporate income tax law and policy. It systematically presents the core concepts and features of corporate income taxation. This book is the third volume of the "Fundamentals of Taxation" series, following the Fundamentals of Taxation (2019) and Fundamentals of Personal Income Taxation (2025), and focuses specifically on corporate income tax systems. The fifteen chapters cover topics including historical context, taxable persons, territorial scope, timing issues, taxable income and taxable events, tax rates, procedural aspects, international aspects, treatment of groups, restructuring and liquidation, tax evasion, avoidance and planning, special types of entities, investment taxation, taxation of special types of activities and the global minimum taxation. This primer is an essential resource for students, professionals and curious learners, fostering a common understanding of corporate income taxation's legal principles and broader implications in a globalised world.

A/Prof Fatima Osman has recently had two articles published. The first, published in the African Journal of Legal Studies, is titled *The Persistence of Property Grabbing in the South African Customary Law of Succession*. The second, published in the African Human Rights Journal, is titled *An examination of the recognition of communities and partnership agreements under South Africa's Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership Act.*

The Persistence of Property Grabbing in the South African Customary Law of Succession

This article critically examines the persistence of property grabbing under South Africa's customary law of succession, despite landmark legal reforms such as the judgment in Bhe v Magistrate, Khayelitsha; Shibi v Sithole 2005 (1) SA 580 (CC) and the Reform of Customary Law of Succession and Regulation of Related Matters Act 11 of 2009. Drawing on desktop research and empirical findings, the article explores key risk factors, including gender, the nature of the estate, the type of marriage, and the urban-rural divide, that exacerbate the vulnerability to property grabbing. The analysis reveals that legislative reforms alone are insufficient to secure inheritance rights, and calls for a holistic approach that includes strengthening matrimonial property rights, promoting legal literacy, community education, and enhancing oversight of estate administration. The findings underscore the limitations of current reforms in

An examination of the recognition of communities and partnership agreements under South Africa's Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership Act

In 2021 the South African legislature enacted into force the contentious Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership Act 3 of 2019 under the guise of recognising leaders of the Khoi San, who generally are regarded as the 'first people' in South Africa. This article provides a critical analysis of key provisions in the Act: the recognition of traditional communities and the power of traditional councils to conclude partnership agreements. It reveals that the Act differentiates between the Khoi-San and other South African indigenous groups in the recognition of traditional communities. Khoi-San councils exercise jurisdiction over individuals who voluntarily affiliate to the Khoi-San community, while in other communities traditional councils are conferred jurisdiction over land and the people that live thereon. Furthermore, the Act does not address existing concerns regarding the concentration of addressing systemic inequities and offer critical insights into the socio-legal challenges of balancing statutory and customary practices.

AFRICAN HUMAN RIGHTS LAW JOURNAL
Peer-reviewed open access journal on human rights in Africa
Published since 2001

powers in traditional councils, but rather bolsters the powers of traditional councils to conclude agreements on behalf of communities. The article argues that voluntary affiliation should be centred as a requirement for the formation of all communities and that the power to conclude partnership agreements must be reconsidered.

The Relationship between Legal-Political Context and Natural-Resource Wealth Distribution in South Africa

Dr Anthea-Lee September-van Huffel has recently had published in *Fundamina, a volume of legal history* 31 (1) 2025 an article titled *The Relationship between Legal-Political Context and Natural-Resource Wealth Distribution in South Africa*. This contribution discusses the dynamic relationship between legal-political context and the distribution of economic wealth derived from natural resources. By reflecting on South Africa's critical legal history in natural-wealth distribution, it illustrates that law, seemingly neutral and devoid of politics, is in fact political and capable of unjust outcomes. The aim of this contribution is to highlight the effects of the colonial and apartheid legacies of inequitable distribution of natural-resource wealth and its ongoing ideological influence on the post-apartheid legal-political context and its distributive policies.

The historical use of law as a political tool to control the distribution of natural-resource wealth, specifically minerals and water is discussed to illustrate this dynamic relationship. Further information about this paper is available here.

RESEARCH ROUND-UP

NRF Ratings applications

It is NRF rating application season again. UCT Libraries is here to support you through the process. Sadiq Keraan, Head Librarian at the Brand van Zyl Law Library encourages colleagues to apply, whether you are applying for the first time or renewing your NRF rating, and invites you to submit your request via the online NRF Rating Support Request Form. This, explains Mr Keraan, allows the library staff to access your details and assign a library staff member to assist you.

Please note that this is a collaborative process. To ensure your Research Impact Report is completed timeously, the assigned library staff member will require your input on various aspects of the report.

In addition, the Faculty of Law librarians (Anthea Paulsen and Rene Carlse) are available to assist with your researcher profiles (e.g., ORCID, Google Scholar, Web of Science (WoS) or Scopus), as these contribute to the accuracy of your research outputs and visibility.

ETHICS APPLICATIONS - Reminder

Applications for ethics clearance are due by the 10th of every month. The Faculty Research Office has indicated that the final review meeting for 2025 takes place on 26 November. The next formal review meeting after this is end-February 2026.

INTERNATIONALISATION

Visit from Xiangtan University

Professor Fatima Khan, Director of Internationalisation, extends a cordial invitation to colleagues to join a meeting with a visiting delegation form Xiangtan University.
Date: 3 December
Time: 10h30 - 12h30
Venue: Faculty Common Room

The visiting delegation will comprise five members of the University:
Professor Liao Yong'an – President, Xiangtan University & Dean, China-Africa Research Institute (XTU)
Professor Wang Weiyan – Director, International Exchange Center (XTU)
Professor Li Shichun – Principal, Law School (XTU)
Professor Zhang Xiaohu – Executive Vice Dean, China-Africa Research Institute (XTU)
Dr Wang Weifeng – Lecturer & Full-time Research Fellow, China-Africa Research Institute (XTU)

The agenda will include discussion on each university's programmes and approach to internationalisation; exploration of opportunities for research collaboration, staff exchange, and student mobility; and discussing the potential for strengthening China-South Africa academic partnerships.

LAW SCHOOLS GLOBAL LEAGUE - CALL FOR PAPERS

Professor Khan has shared the invitation to participate in the Law Schools Global

League academic conference to take place in India on the 20th February 2026. Traditionally, one person is sponsored by the Faculty.

CALL FOR PAPERS
The **Law Schools Global League** is delighted to announce its forthcoming Academic Conference, hosted by **Jindal Global Law School (JGLS)**, O.P. Jindal Global University (India) on 20 February 2026. This year's theme: "Law and the Digital Future: Reimagining Global Legal Education" invites scholars, researchers, and Ph.D. students from LSGL member institutions to reflect on how technology, AI, and digital transformation are reshaping legal education and the profession. We warmly invite faculty members across LSGL schools to submit their abstracts and contribute to this global dialogue on the future of law and learning. **The Call for Papers is available at this link.**

Submission deadline: 20 November 2025

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT | Law@work

UCT Law @ work
Professional Development Project

Law@work, the Faculty's professional development & short courses unit, is busy planning courses for 2026 on the topic areas listed below. Please be in touch with unit manager, Don Coue, to let her know whether you're keen to present – or whether you perhaps have a presenter in mind. Course format ranges from 1,5hour webinars to approx. 30-hour courses (presented either online or in person at UCT). Law@work pays an hourly fee for actual lecture time.

Topic areas include. amongst many others:

- Social law and labour
- Human rights and international humanitarian law
- GenAI for Lawyers
- Venture capital financing
- Shipping Law
- Sports Law
- Social Media in the workplace
- Intellectual Property Law
- Labour Law
- Tech law and policy

Visit the Law@work site to browse the courses currently on offer - and if you have any other topical course ideas in mind, please be in touch with Don Coue.

IN MEMORIAM

Sarah Christie | 23 July 1946 - 5 October 2025
A tribute by Emeritus Professor Evance Kalula

Sarah Christie, a former member of the Faculty of Law as part of the former Labour Law Unit, sadly passed away on 5 October 2025 at the age of 79. The shock of her loss continues to consume her family and friends deeply. I should start with a disclaimer, what follows is not an obituary. Vanja Karth and Hugh Corder, mutual friends of Sarah, kindly encouraged me to write a short tribute. This is therefore a brief reflection of the Sarah Christie I was privileged to know, work with and came to love as a dear friend. It is a living memory, a testament not based on any documentary recollection, but an honest and sincere testimony, nevertheless. As such, some of the recollections might inadvertently be incorrect, kindly bear with me for such errors, it is intended to be a celebration of a remarkable life. Sarah, , was a special person like no other. She was larger than life in her circles, a remarkable mother, grandmother, colleague and friend. As Clive Thompson, a long-time colleague and friend put it when he heard the sad news, Sarah's passing was "*very sad and distressing indeed... [the] Wonderful irreverent, irrepressible, lovable Sarah*" was no longer with us.

The full tribute is available on the Faculty's website.

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.