

## PUBLIC LAW CONFERENCE

### Public Law and the Future of Constitutional Democracy

University of Cape Town

1 – 4 July 2026



---

The organisation and staging of a conference such as this Public Law Conference would be impossible without the generous and willing support of a number of donors, all of which are based in South Africa. The 2026 Organising Committee would like to express its great gratitude to the following bodies whose financial and in-kind support has made this event possible:

The Millennium Foundation

The University of Cape Town, the University of the Western Cape, and Stellenbosch University, in each instance through the Dean of Law.

Attorneys Firms: Bowmans (who particularly wished to be associated with support to enable African scholars to attend); Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr; ENS; and Webber Wentzel.

Law Publishers: Juta and Company and Lexis Nexis

## AUTHOR BIOS PER SESSION

**Thursday 2 July 2026**

---

**9:00 - 10:30 – Session 1 Parallel Panels**

The Judicial Role Today - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Dr Sanya Samtani (University of Cape Town)**

**Judge Benjamin Zipser (Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia)** *The role of the judicial branch of government in the Australian constitutional democracy*

**Bio:** Since September 2024 I have been a federal court judge in Australia with a large case load involving judicial review of federal executive power - see over 100 published decisions accessible through Austlii involving review of decisions under the Migration Act 1958 (Cth). Prior to my appointment, I was a leading public law barrister in Sydney (see *Doyles Guide Leading Administrative and Public Law Barristers*, NSW, 2024) for many years. Since 2002 I have co-authored a leading Australian legal textbook (*Professional Liability in Australia* (Thomson Reuters)) over four editions. I was responsible for four of the eight chapters. This demonstrates my academic research and writing skills. Prior to work on the text book, I occasionally published articles in the public law area - see for example Zipser, *The Regulation Game: The Civil Aviation Authority and Regulatory Enforcement* (1997) 4 *Australian Journal of Administrative Law*; and *Revisiting Osmond: In Search of a Duty to Give Reasons* (1998) 9 *Public Law Review* 3. Following my appointment as a federal court judge, I am interested in returning to academic writing in the public law area.

**Justice Colin C J Feasby (Court of King's Bench of Alberta, Canada)** *Judicial Reasons and Democracy in the Age of Misinformation and AI*

**Bio:** Colin C.J. Feasby LL.B (Alberta), LL.M (Columbia), and J.S.D. (Columbia) is a justice of the Court of King's Bench of Alberta. Prior to his appointment in 2021, Justice Feasby was a Queen's Counsel and the managing partner of the Calgary Office of a national law firm. He has published extensively on public law subjects and has been cited by the Supreme Court of Canada. As a judge, he has presided over important cases concerning medical assistance in dying, compensation for business losses caused by COVID shut downs, the recognition of a tort of harassment, the constitutionality of Alberta's rules governing the prescription of opioids for harm reduction, the constitutionality of privacy law restrictions on the use of personal information in AI facial recognition, and the constitutionality of a proposed independence referendum for Alberta.

**Prof Preston Jordan Lim (Queen's University Canada)** *Judicial Diplomacy*

**Bio:** Preston Jordan Lim is an Assistant Professor at Villanova University's Charles Widger School of Law. He holds an A.B. from Princeton, a Master's of Global Affairs from Tsinghua University—where he studied as a Schwarzman Scholar—and a J.D. from Yale Law School. He previously served as Policy Advisor to the Honourable Erin O'Toole, the then Foreign Affairs Critic in Canada's Parliament. He also served as a law clerk to the Judges of the Court of Appeal for Ontario and to Chief Justice Richard Wagner. He writes primarily on international law and Canadian federalism, and his work has appeared or is forthcoming in outlets such as the *Osgoode Hall Law Journal*, *University of British Columbia Law Review*, *Utah Law Review*, and *Cornell International Law Journal*. He is also an S.J.D. candidate at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, where he studies under the supervision of Professor Jim Phillips. He presented a paper at the 2024 Public Law Conference in Ottawa and is excited to learn from his South African and Commonwealth colleagues.

Administrative Justice - Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: **Mr Mitchell de Beer (University of Cape Town & Cape Bar)**

**Prof Geo Quinot (Stellenbosch University)** *An indigenous reimagination of administrative justice to craft fit-for-purpose democratic governance in Africa*

**Bio:** Geo Quinot is trained in law, public administration and higher education. He is a Professor of Law in the Department of Public Law, Stellenbosch University, an admitted advocate and founding Director of the African Procurement Law Unit (APLU). He is also a fellow of the Public Procurement Research Group at the University of Nottingham. Quinot teaches administrative law and public procurement law in the Law Faculty and the School for Public Leadership at Stellenbosch University. He also regularly instructs public administrators in both administrative law and public procurement regulation. His research focuses on general administrative law, including a particular focus on the regulation of state commercial activity such as public procurement, and insolvency of organs of state. He has published widely in these areas, having authored over 50 journal articles and more than 30 book chapters. He is the author, co-author and/or editor of ten book publications, the most recent of which are the co-authored *Municipalities in Financial Distress: An Environmental, Social and Governance Critique* published by Edward Elgar in 2025; and *Administrative Justice in South Africa: An Introduction*, the second edition of which was published by OUP in 2020.

**Dr Narelle Bedford (Bond University, Australia)** *Responsive Justice: Why Tribunals Must Matter for the Future of Public Law*

**Bio:** Dr Narelle Bedford is a Yuin woman, with a deep personal commitment to research areas where the law impacts First Nations Peoples and then advocating for law reform. She is interested in the impact of government decisions and their effect on individuals, with a particular focus on administrative law and those institutions which review government decision-making and actions. Dr Bedford is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law at Bond University, Australia.

**A/Prof Hanna Wilberg (University of Auckland)** *The legal effect of administrative tribunal decisions: promoting access to justice, the rule of law and socio-economic rights*

**Bio:** Hanna Wilberg researches and teaches administrative law and administrative justice, social security law, and the tort liability of public authorities. Her interests also extend to public law more generally, particularly statutory interpretation, Bill of Rights, discrimination and Treaty of Waitangi issues. She has published in leading UK and Australian journals and edited collections in these areas. Her publications include Wilberg, [Administrative Law in Aotearoa New Zealand](#) (Hart, 2025) and Wilberg and Elliott (eds), *The Scope and Intensity of Substantive Review: Traversing Taggart's Rainbow* (Hart, 2015). Her course on Social Security Law includes a clinical component, offering students the opportunity to write submissions on applications for review of decisions about welfare benefits and grants under the Social Security Act. Before joining the Auckland faculty in 2004, Hanna taught at Southampton University in the UK. She was a research assistant to Professor Paul Craig at Oxford; a Judges' Clerk for Richardson P and Tipping, Blanchard, Keith, Thomas, Gault and Henry JJ at the New Zealand Court of Appeal; and practiced law at New Zealand's Crown Law Office.

Contemporary Issues in Constitutional Democracy - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Prof John Golden (The University of Texas, School of Law)**

**Dr Aurelie M Spinola and Dr Kalpana Sivabalah (Middlesex University, Mauritius)** *Evaluating Constitutional Resilience to Contemporary Populism: The Role of Constitutional Mechanisms in the United Kingdom and the French Fifth Republic.*

**Bios:** Aurélie Mendoza Spinola is a Senior Lecturer in Law at Middlesex University Mauritius, specialising in public law with a focus on constitutional and environmental law in small island and African contexts. She holds a PhD in Public Law from Université Paris 13 (Sorbonne Paris Cité), awarded summa cum laude for a thesis on environmental fundamental rights. Her trajectory combines litigation research at the Administrative Court of La Réunion, public law advisory work on major urban and environmental projects, and teaching constitutional and administrative law. She has published extensively on constitutional development, climate justice and environmental governance in the Indian Ocean, and serves on editorial boards and as a peer reviewer in public and environmental law.

Kalpana Sivabalah is a senior lecturer in law at Middlesex University, Mauritius. Her broad research interests are in constitutional and administrative law, and on investigating the public/private divide. Shortly after completing a Bachelor of Arts in Jurisprudence and a Bachelor of Civil Law at Lady Margaret Hall, the University of Oxford, she was called to the Malaysian Bar. She worked as a legal associate in a leading law firm in Malaysia for two years before leaving to pursue her doctoral studies in the United Kingdom. She holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Law from Pembroke College, the University of Oxford, where she taught for several years before moving to Mauritius.

**Dr Nick Friedman (University of Cambridge)** *Constitutional Democracy at Scale*

**Bio:** Dr Nick Friedman is an Associate Professor of Public Law in the Cambridge Law Faculty, where he teaches public subjects at under- and post-graduate level. His research focuses on constitutional theory, with a particular interest in the application of public law principles to private actors and in theories of state.

**Ms Nurina Ally and Ms Tatiana Kazim (University of Cape Town)** *Apology as a Public Law Remedy: Securing Accountability for Breaches of Public Law Duties in South Africa*

**Bios:** Nurina Ally is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public Law, University of Cape Town. She is also the current Director of the Centre for Law and Society (Faculty of Law, UCT) and former Executive Director of the Equal Education Law Centre, a public interest law clinic based in Cape Town.

Tatiana Kazim is the (incoming) Research and Advocacy Lead at Equality Collective, an activist and community lawyering organisation based in the Mbhashe Municipality in the rural Eastern Cape, and a Research Associate at the Centre for Law and Society (Faculty of Law, UCT).

**10:30 – 11:00 – Coffee Break**

**11:00 – 12:30 – Session 2 Parallel Panels**

Roundtable on Dyzenhaus, *The War Against Law* - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

**Bio:** David Dyzenhaus is a professor of Law and Philosophy at the University of Toronto, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy. He holds the Alfred Abel Chair of Law and was appointed in 2015 to the rank of University Professor. He has taught in South Africa, England, Canada, Singapore, New Zealand, Mexico, Hungary, and the USA. He holds a doctorate from Oxford University and law and undergraduate degrees from the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa. He is the author of *Hard Cases in Wicked Legal Systems: South African Law in the Perspective of Legal Philosophy* (now in its second edition), *Legality and Legitimacy: Carl Schmitt, Hans Kelsen, and Hermann Heller in Weimar*, and *Judging the Judges, Judging Ourselves: Truth, Reconciliation and the Apartheid Legal Order*. He has edited and co-edited several collections of essays. In 2004 he gave the JC Smuts Memorial Lectures to the Faculty of Law, Cambridge University. These were published by Cambridge University Press in 2006 as *The Constitution of Law: Legality in a Time of Emergency*. He is editor of the *University of Toronto Law Journal* and co-editor of the series *Cambridge Studies in Constitutional Law*.

Moderator: **Prof Geneviève Cartier (University of Sherbrooke)**

Discussants:

**Prof David Dyzenhaus (University of Toronto)**

**Prof Hugh Corder (University of Cape Town)**

**Judge President/Prof Dennis Davis (University of Cape Town; Competition Appeal Court of South Africa)**

**Mr Dan Mafora (University of Cape Town)**

Public, Criminal Law and Detention - Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: **A/Prof Jameela Omar (University of Cape Town)**

**A/Prof Gerard J Kennedy (University of Alberta)** *An Exception that Proves the Rule: Criminal Law and the Administrative-Legislative Paradox*

**Bio:** Gerard Kennedy is Associate Professor and Associate Dean Graduate Studies at the University of Alberta. He researches the role of courts in society, specifically how different actors and institutions within or adjacent to the legal profession uphold the rule of law and facilitate access to justice. He principally does this through analyzing civil justice and procedure and administrative law and procedure, frequently with a comparative lens. He has authored or co-authored over thirty journal articles and six books, including *The Charter of Rights in Litigation: Direction from the Supreme Court of Canada*; *The Civil Litigation Process*, 9th edition; *Public Law*, 5th edition; *Civil Litigation*, 2nd edition; and *Boundaries of Judicial Review: The Law of Justiciability in Canada*, 3rd edition. He has been cited by the Supreme Court of Canada, Federal Court of Appeal, Federal Court, Courts of Appeal for British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Ontario, Alberta Court of King's Bench, Ontario Superior Court of Justice, and Supreme Court of Prince Edward Island. He serves on the Alberta Judicial Council, the Federal Courts Rules Committee, and the (advisory) boards of Advocates for the Rule of Law, the Centre for Constitutional Studies, and the Edmonton Bar Association.

**Prof Charles Tyler (University of California)** *Discriminatory Legalism and Selective Prosecution*

**Bio:** Charles (Chas) Tyler's teaching and research focuses on federal courts, constitutional law, and civil procedure. His academic work has appeared in the Yale Law Journal, the Columbia Law Review, the University of Chicago Law Review, the Vanderbilt Law Review, and the Notre Dame Law Review, among others. In 2022, his article, The Adjudicative Model of Precedent, won the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers' Eisenberg Prize for the best publication on appellate law. Professor Tyler graduated summa cum laude from the University of Notre Dame and received a BPhil with distinction from Oxford University, where he was a Clarendon Scholar. He then earned his JD from Yale Law School, where he was an editor of the Yale Law Journal and a Beinecke Scholar. Prior to joining UC Irvine, he was an Associate Professor of Law at George Washington University Law School; a Visiting Professor of Law at Stanford Law School and Peking University School of Transnational Law and a law clerk to Judge William Fletcher of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and Justice Goodwin Liu of the California Supreme Court.

**Dr Duncan Wallace (University of Melbourne)** *An Australian Fiction of Detention and Punishment*

**Bio:** Duncan Wallace is a lecturer at the Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne. His main research interests are in the history of British and Australian public law and the history of British government departments, especially the Home Office. He completed a PhD at the University of Cambridge in 2023.

Judicial Appointments and Administration - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

**Chair: Justice Adedotun Adedamola Grace Onibokun (High Court, Osun State, Nigeria)**

**Mr John H Jeffery (Independent, Cape Town)** *Court Administration in South Africa – the Principles and the Practicalities*

**Bio:** John Jeffery is an admitted attorney with a BA and LLB from the University of Natal (Pietermaritzburg), now the University of KwaZulu-Natal. He has served as a public representative since South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994, initially in the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature and subsequently in the National Assembly from 1999 to 2024. During his tenure in the National Assembly, Mr. Jeffery was a member of the Justice Portfolio Committee and served as Parliamentary Counsellor to the Deputy President and President from 1999 to 2013, before being appointed Deputy Minister of Justice, a position he held until June 2024. Mr. Jeffery's extensive experience at both the legislative and administrative levels of the Department of Justice, combined with his structured engagement with the judiciary, has given him a unique perspective on constitutional issues central to South Africa's democracy. In particular, his work has focused on the evolving relationship between the Executive, Legislature, and Judiciary, the practical implementation of constitutional mandates, and the ongoing challenges of ensuring accountability, judicial independence, and effective governance.

**Mx Dimakatso Nchodu, Ms Alison Tilley, Ms Genevieve Maujean and Mr Mbekezeli Benjamin (Judges Matter, Democratic Governance and Rights Unit, South Africa)** *Enhancing Judicial Appointment Transparency: Monitoring the Judicial Service Commission through a Score Card Approach*

**Bio:** Dimakatso Nchodu is a Researcher and Advocacy Officer at the Democratic Governance and Rights Unit within the Judges Matter team. They hold a BA in History and Law, an LLB and an LLM in Constitutional Law and Administrative Justice. They are also a former law clerk at the Constitutional Court of South Africa. They are well known for interests and contributions to work on judicial governance and accountability, the effective implementation of sexual harassment policies within the judiciary and the broader legal sector, advancing gender justice, transgender activism and advocating for the advancement of socio-economic rights for marginalised groups.

**Dr Benjamin Perryman (University of New Brunswick) *The Overlapping Powers Doctrine***

**Bio:** Benjamin Perryman is an Associate Professor at the University of New Brunswick Faculty of Law. He teaches and writes in the areas of constitutional law, evidence, migration, and private international law, focusing on the intersection between social science evidence and judicial decision-making. Benjamin holds a JD from Osgoode Hall Law School and an LLM and JSD from Yale Law School, where he was a Fulbright Scholar and Trudeau Scholar. Before joining the University of New Brunswick, Benjamin taught at the Schulich School of Law and Saint Mary's University, practised human rights law, and clerked at the Federal Court (Canada) and Supreme Court of Nova Scotia.

**12:30 – 13:30 – Lunch in the Pius Langa Quad**

**12:45 – 13:30 – Doctoral Panel A**

Conceptualising the State, State Action and State Power: Contemporary Challenges - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Prof Geo Quinot (Stellenbosch University)**

**Ms Raisa N Cachalia (Stellenbosch University) *Distinguishing State Power under the South African Constitution: From Functional Classification to Institutional Identity***

**Bio:** Raisa Cachalia holds BA, LLB and LLM degrees (all cum laude) from the University of the Witwatersrand. She is presently an LLD candidate at Stellenbosch University, focusing on the judicial regulation of state contracts in South Africa, and submitted her doctoral thesis for examination in November 2025. She is also a Research Associate in the Faculty of Law at the University of Johannesburg, where her research spans administrative law, constitutional theory and governance, with a particular interest in the regulation of state contractual activity. Her recent publications include a co-edited collection with David Bilchitz, *Transitional Justice, Distributive Justice and Transformative Constitutionalism: Comparing Colombia and South Africa* (OUP, 2023). Raisa is an admitted attorney and serves on the panel of specialist legal consultants at Caveat Legal, advising on public-law and regulatory matters with a focus on the structures of government and state institutions, public procurement, public finance management, data protection and energy law. She was previously a lecturer in the Faculty of Law at the University of Johannesburg and a Researcher at the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC). She also clerked at the Constitutional Court after completing her articles at Bowmans in Johannesburg.

**Mr Nakul Nayak (LSE)** *Between Citizen, Capital, and State: Law and Politics of Digital Public Infrastructures*

**Bio:** Nakul Nayak is a PhD Candidate at the London School of Economics Law School. Nayak researches on the law and politics of digital technologies and constitutional democracy. His PhD thesis studies the phenomenon of digital public infrastructures (DPIs), how they are governed, and how they in turn govern people. Nayak's research has been published in the American Journal of Comparative Law, Indian Law Review, Indian Journal of Law and Technology, and by the Berkman Klein Center at Harvard University. Nayak's research has been cited by the UN Special Rapporteur on Free Speech, and has featured in Foreign Policy, and has been covered in the popular press by publications like Foreign Policy and Livemint. Before joining the LSE, he was an Assistant Professor at Jindal Global Law School. He has also worked as a Google Public Policy Fellow at the Global Network Initiative in Washington DC, clerked at the Delhi High Court, and practised law at the Supreme Court of India. Nakul completed his BA LLB (Hons) from National Law University, Jodhpur, where he was the Editor-in-Chief of the university's flagship journal Trade, Law and Development, and his LLM from the University of Pennsylvania Law School, graduating as the class valedictorian.

**Mr James Monaghan (LSE)** *Between the Minister and the law? The Civil Service and the Rwanda asylum plan in R (FDA) v Minister for the Cabinet Office [2024] EWHC 1729 (Admin), [2025] KB 269*

**Bio:** James is a doctoral student at the LSE Law School. He works in public law and legal theory, focusing on the constitutional role of the civil service in Westminster systems. Immediately before commencing doctoral study, he was a Principal Solicitor at the New South Wales Crown Solicitor's Office, practising primarily in constitutional law, public sector law, and electoral law. Earlier, he worked at the High Court of Australia and the New South Wales Court of Appeal.

Law and Change - Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: **Dr Jason Brickhill (Johannesburg Bar & University of Cape Town)**

**Ms Ropafadzo Maphosa (University of Johannesburg)** *Courts as Political Battlegrounds: Strategic Litigation and the Future of Constitutional Democracy in South Africa*

**Bio:** Ropafadzo Maphosa is an experienced law researcher, legal analyst, and academic whose work focuses on human rights, socio-economic justice, and civic space advocacy. She holds an LLM in Human Rights Law (With Distinction) from the University of Johannesburg, as well as a Bachelor of Laws from the same institution. Given her legal background, Maphosa has worked extensively in the academic space, contributing to civic engagement through her research. As a former researcher at the South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights, and International Law (SAIFAC), Maphosa has produced scholarship on the role of the judiciary in advancing human rights protections. She has also worked as a consultant for organizations such as Lawyers for Human Rights. Beyond academia, Maphosa is a founding editor of the African Law Matters blog, a platform that amplifies the voices of scholars and activists by publishing op-eds on pressing legal issues.

**Mr Pascual Cortés (LSE)** *'We would have remained the same': On the Chilean Carabineros' constitutional embeddedness*

**Bio:** Pascual Cortés is a PhD candidate in Law at LSE. He holds an LLB from University of Chile and an LLM from the LSE. His research aims to explore how police institutions build their institutional identity and to what extent this process is connected to the construction and imagination of the nation-state. Using Chile as a case study, the project also seeks to contribute to answering questions about the nature and role of the police as well as their relationship to the law and the constitution.

**Ms Arshia Sana (O P Jindal Global University)** *Legal Discrimination and Democratic Backsliding in India: Use, Misuse, Abuse of Law to Marginalise Minorities*

**Bio:** Arshia Sana is a PhD candidate at Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi and an Assistant Professor at Jindal Global Law School, OP Jindal Global University. She is a researcher in international law with 5 years of experience in the hate ecosystem and constitutional resilience against majoritarianism. Her work focuses on constitutional guarantees, with an emphasis on the rise of hate crimes through the lens of human rights protections. Through her research papers and conference participation, she has a proven interest in the intersections of judicial independence, right to freedom, state-based human rights bodies, and parliamentary oversight, exploring their significance in fundamental rights at both the national and international levels. Her professional skills and development are available at <https://linkedin.com/in/arshia-sana-51925b128>

Legislation, Interpretation and Legal Plurality - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Dr Megan Finn (University of Johannesburg)**

**Ms Ariella C Gordon (University of Cambridge)** *The Dialogue around Disguised Legislation in the United Kingdom and Australia*

**Bio:** Ariella Gordon is a PhD candidate and W. M. Tapp Scholar (2023-26) at the University of Cambridge, her research using qualitative data analysis and frequency analysis to analyse law-making by the administrative branch of government. The current focus of her research is on parliamentary committees in the House of Lords and the Australian Senate, analysing dialogue between the government and parliamentary actors about democratic oversight of delegated legislative power. Before beginning her PhD, she worked at the Office of Chief Parliamentary Counsel in Victoria (2020–2021), as an associate to the Honourable Justice Susan Kenny (2021–2023) and completed an LLM at the University of Cambridge in 2019–2020 (Cambridge Trust Scholar).

**Mr Konstantinos Sioufas (LSE)** *The Impact of Constitutionalism on Statutory Interpretation*

**Bio:** Konstantinos Sioufas graduated top of his class from the Faculty of Law of the University of Athens (LLB) in 2021. In 2022, he received the MJur from the University of Oxford, obtaining the Clifford Chance prize for second best performance in the exams. In 2023, he graduated with an LLM from Columbia Law School. Since September 2023, he has been pursuing a PhD at the LSE, supervised by Hugh Collins and Thomas Poole. His thesis attempts a genealogy of the horizontal effect of rights in private law. It argues that it ought to be understood as a species of constitutional review, extended to private law as a result of a fundamental transformation in the concept of constitutionalism.

**Mr James Gaetani (Australian National University)** *Recognition in the age of statutes: Statute law and legal plurality in Australia*

**Bio:** James Gaetani is a Sir Roland Wilson Scholar and doctoral candidate at the Australian National University Law School. With a decade of professional experience advising on the public law implications of Indigenous-State relations, James has particular expertise in legislative design statutory interpretation in legally plural spaces. Drawing on interdisciplinary methods and deep engagement with qualitative sources, his research produces nuanced explorations of legal plurality in the common law world.

**13:30 – 15:00 – Keynote Plenary: Judicial Independence and Accountability**

**Venue: Lecture Theatre 1**

**Chair: Prof Hugh Corder (University of Cape Town)**

**Chief Justice Mumba Malila SC (Supreme Court of Zambia)** *Judicial Independence and Judicial Accountability: Compatible bedfellows?*

**Bio:** Justice Dr Mumba Malila, SC is the Chief Justice of the Republic of Zambia. He was appointed on 22nd December 2021. Prior to his appointment, he served as a Supreme Court Judge from 2014. He was admitted to practice as a lawyer in Zambia in 1989 and took silk as State Counsel (equivalent of Queen's Counsel) in 2006. He has extensive national, regional and international legal experience having worked in quasi judicial bodies as Chairperson of the Zambian Human Rights Commission, Vice Chairperson and Commissioner of the Banjul based African Union Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and as a Member of the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention. He was once Vice Chairperson of the Zambian Association of Human Rights; Council Member of the Law Association of Zambia; Honorary Secretary of the Law Association of Zambia and Executive Committee Member of the SADC Lawyers' Association. He also served as a Board Member of Women and Law in Southern Africa. In his African regional human rights work, Dr Malila served as Special Rapporteur on Prisons and Conditions of Detention in Africa, as a member of the Working Groups on the Death Penalty in Africa and on Indigenous Peoples and Populations in Africa. He was also the Chairperson of the Working Group on Extractive Industries and Human Rights Violations in Africa. Prior to his appointment to the Supreme Court, Dr Malila served in various private sector positions in the Zambian legal profession including those of a private legal practitioner with Christopher Russell Cook & Co, Legal Services Manager of Meridien Financial Services and as Group Legal Counsel and Company Secretary of the Emerging Market Group of companies. He was previously a University of Zambia Law Lecturer and served as Assistant Dean (Postgraduate) and Assistant Dean (Research). He was also an Assessor and Lecturer at the Zambia Institute of Advanced Legal Education (ZIALE) and at the Zambia Centre of Accountancy Studies (ZICAS). Dr Malila was for many years a member of various public bodies including the Judicial Service Commission, the Law Development Commission, the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission, the Public Procurement Authority, the Council of Law Reporting and the Zambia Railways Board. He twice served as Attorney General of Zambia and ex-officio Member of the Zambian Cabinet under three Presidents. He also served as Chairperson of the ZIALE Council, Chairperson of the Legal Practitioners' Disciplinary Committee and Chairperson of the Anti Money Laundering Authority in the Drug Enforcement Commission. Justice Malila is the past Chairperson of the Editorial Board of the Zambia Law Reports and the Chief Justice's Advisory Committee on Court Operations. Dr Malila holds an LLB degree from the University of Zambia, an LLM from the University of Cambridge and another LLM from the University of Cumbria. He obtained his LLD from the University of Pretoria. He additionally has a post-graduate Diploma in International Commercial Arbitration from the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a Certificate in Human Rights from Strasbourg, France. Dr Malila is a qualified Court Annexed Mediator; an ADR Centre Accredited Mediator, a Fellow of the Chartered

Institute of Arbitrators and a Fellow of the Cambridge Commonwealth Society. He taught Constitutional Law and Human Rights Law to post graduate (LLM) students at the University of Lusaka on part time basis between 2017 and 2021. In his work Dr Malila has won multiple awards including the Transparency International Zambia Recognition Award (2010) for his contribution in the fight against corruption, and the Human Rights Commission Award (2019) in recognition of his contribution to human rights work in Zambia and in the African region. He is an Honorary Life Member of the Lions Club of Fairview, District 413. He has authored numerous books including ‘The Contours of a Developing Jurisprudence of the Zambian Supreme Court (2019); The Law of Business Associations in Zambia (2019); Imperfect Ruminations Rooted in Hope(2016); Contract Law in Zambia (2008); Commercial Law in Zambia: Cases and Materials (2006), and Commercial Law in Zambia: Essential Texts (2005). He has contributed several book chapters and is author of numerous articles in peer reviewed journals. He has been the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the United Church of Zambia since 2016.

**Prof Paul Daly (University of Ottawa)** *An Institutional Approach to Judicial Independence and Accountability*

**Bio:** Paul Daly joined the Faculty of Law (Common Law Section) at the University of Ottawa in July 2019, where he was named to the University Research Chair in Administrative Law & Governance. A leading scholar of public law in the common-law world, his work on judicial review, reasonableness, and the culture of justification has shaped academic debate and judicial decision-making across multiple jurisdictions. He is the author of several major monographs published by Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, and UBC Press, most recently *A Culture of Justification: Vavilov and the Future of Canadian Administrative Law* (2023), shortlisted for the Walter Owen Book Prize. Professor Daly’s scholarship — including his long-running blog *Administrative Law Matters* — has been cited over 200 times by courts in Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, and Israel, including numerous appellate and supreme courts. These citations include more than 50 separate books and articles. He is widely regarded as one of Canada’s foremost authorities on administrative law and the modern administrative state. Bilingual in English and French, Professor Daly is a frequent speaker at conferences, judicial-education programs, and continuing legal-education events across Canada and internationally. He has appeared as counsel in both official languages at all levels of court, including the Supreme Court of Canada, in precedent-setting public-law cases. He also regularly advises administrative tribunals and agencies on compliance with administrative law principles and best practice. Before joining the University of Ottawa, he held faculty appointments at the University of Cambridge and the Université de Montréal, and visiting positions at Harvard Law School, Université Paris II – Panthéon-Assas, Louvain Global College of Law, Trinity College Dublin, and the Law Reform Commission of Ireland. Since 2019 he has served as a part-time member of the Environmental Protection Tribunal of Canada.

**Prof Ben Sihanya (University of Nairobi)**

**Bio:** Prof. Ben Sihanya, Scholar-in-Residence at the University of Nairobi Law School, is an academic, researcher and consultant with extensive expertise in intellectual property (IP) law, constitutionalism and related legal fields. He is founder and CEO of Innovative Lawyering & Sihanya Mentoring, a legal consulting and research firm based in Nairobi. Sihanya obtained his JSD from Stanford Law School, and has served as Dean of Law, and as Chair of the Department of Commercial Law, at the University of Nairobi. He has been engaged on numerous occasions by branches of the Government of Kenya, including the Directorate of e-Strategy in the Office of the President, the Ministry of Education, the Attorney-General’s Office, the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, and the Committee of Eminent Persons on Constitutional Review. He is

Chair of the Kenyan Copyright Tribunal, and a former member of the Kenya Copyright Board. In 2011, he was appointed to Kenya's national Task Force on Education, mandated to align education to the Constitution of 2010. Sihanya has consulted to several intergovernmental and international organisations, including the WTO, WIPO, UNDP, UNESCO, the East African Community and Consumers International. Sihanya joined Open AIR at its inception in 2011, and researched and authored a case study published in 2014 as Reflections on Open Scholarship Modalities and the Copyright Environment in Kenya.

**15:00 – 15:20 – Coffee Break**

**15:20 – 16:50 – Parallel Panels – Session 3**

Human Rights, Proportionality and Punishment - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

**Chair: Ms Carol Selepe (Law Society of South Africa)**

**Prof Natasa Mavronicola (University of Birmingham) and Dr Mattia Pinto (University of York)**

*Rethinking the penal accountability paradigm for serious human rights violations*

**Bios:** Natasa Mavronicola is Professor of Human Rights Law at the University of Birmingham. She holds a PhD in Law from the University of Cambridge, a Bachelor of Civil Law (Law Masters) from the University of Oxford, and an undergraduate Law degree (LLB (Hons)) from University College London. She is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA). Previously, she taught at Queen's University Belfast, University College London and the University of Cambridge. She has held visiting positions at the University of Cambridge, the University of Cyprus, the University of Oxford, and the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies. Natasa has published extensively on various (often inter-related) aspects of human rights law, such as: the concept of 'absolute rights'; the delineation of negative and positive obligations; various intersections between human rights and criminal justice, notably duties to mobilise the criminal law in human rights; and the relationship between human dignity and human rights. Her monograph, *Torture, Inhumanity and Degradation under Article 3 of the ECHR: Absolute Rights and Absolute Wrongs* (Hart Publishing 2021), received the Society of Legal Scholars' Peter Birks Prize for Outstanding Legal Scholarship. Natasa served for several years as Special Advisor to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Torture.

Mattia Pinto is a Lecturer (Assistant Professor) at York Law School and Deputy Director of the Centre for Applied Human Rights (CAHR). He holds a PhD in law from the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), a Single Cycle Degree in Law (MJur) from the University of Bologna, and an LLM in Transnational Law from King's College London. He is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (FHEA). Previously, he taught at the LSE Law, interned at the European Court of Human Rights (Registry) and the International Criminal Court (Office of Public Counsel for the Defence), and worked as a research assistant in international criminal law at King's College London. Mattia Pinto specialises in the critical analysis of human rights and in the political sociology of criminal law. His work examines the entanglements between human rights and penalty, where the enforcement of human rights increasingly relies on punitive frameworks and institutions. Mattia's publications appear, among others, in the *Modern Law Review*, *Human Rights Quarterly*, *Theoretical Criminology*, *International Journal of Law in Context*, *Leiden Journal of International Law*, and *London Review of International Law*.

**Mr Daniel Adjin Odonkor and Dr Nicola Palmer (University of Cape Town)** *Navigating Criminalisation in African Human Rights Law*

**Bios:** Daniel Adjin Odonkor is an in-coming PhD candidate in the Centre for Criminology, Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town, having recently completed his LLM in Criminology, Law and Society. He is a Ghanaian lawyer and the Managing Partner at ACE & Ernest Law, a young Ghanaian law firm. Daniel is the co-author of "Beyond environmental harm: redefining ecocide to address global south realities through Ghana's illegal mining crisis" published in the International Journal of Human Rights in 2025 and has presented his work in numerous international conferences, most recently at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies at the School of Advanced Study, University of London.

Dr Nicola Palmer is a Senior Lecturer in Public Law and a member of the Centre for Criminology at the University of Cape Town. She has written on the relationship between international criminal law and border control and legal pluralism in Rwanda with support from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), the Leverhulme Foundation and the British Academy. Nicola is the author of *Courts in Conflict: Interpreting the Layers of Justice in Post-Genocide Rwanda* (OUP, 2015) and *Critical Perspectives in Transitional Justice* (Intersentia, 2012). Most recently, her work has been published in journals including *Theoretical Criminology*, the *Leiden Journal of International Law*, the *American Journal of International Law* and *Transnational Legal Theory*. Nicola was previously a Reader in Criminal Law at King's College London and the Global Justice Research Fellow at St Anne's College, University of Oxford. She received her DPhil in law from the University of Oxford in 2011 where she studied as a Rhodes Scholar. Prior to this, she worked at the United Nations International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (UN ICTR), having completed her undergraduate and honours degrees at Rhodes University, Makhanda.

**Dr Bruce Chen (Deakin Law School)** *Proportionality Testing under the South African Bill of Rights and Australian Human Rights Acts: Strange Bedfellows?*

**Bio:** Dr Bruce Chen is a Senior Lecturer at Deakin Law School, Deakin University, Australia. Bruce's teaching and research interests are in bills of human rights, statutory interpretation and public law generally. He has provided commentary on Australian state and territory human rights acts, and the proposal for a national human rights act. Bruce was an Alfred Deakin Postdoctoral Research Fellow from 2021-2023. Prior to joining academia, Bruce worked in several senior legal and legal policy advisory positions within the public service in Victoria, Australia, particularly in human rights and public law.

Dr Juha Tuovinen is a legal scholar specializing in constitutional law. He holds a PhD from the European University Institute and has held research and teaching positions at the Central European University, Aarhus University and Durham Law School. Before his PhD, Juha spent some years in South Africa, mainly as a foreign law clerk at the Constitutional Court and as a researcher at SAIFAC.

Transformation, Authoritarianism and Populism - Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: **Justice Seena Yacoob (High Court of South Africa)**

**Prof Olaf Zenker (Martin Luther University, Germany)** *Reclaiming Transformative Constitutionalism: Postliberal Affordances between Southern-Decolonial Critique and Northern Authoritarianism*

**Bio:** Olaf Zenker is Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the Department for Anthropology and Philosophy at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, Germany. His research deals with political and legal issues related to justice, inequality, land reform, the rule of law, normative pluralities, postliberal affordances, postcolonial statehood, and bureaucracy in South Africa and beyond. His latest publications include *Reckoning with Law in Excess: Mobilization, Confrontation, Refusal* (Cambridge University Press, 2025), *Beyond Expropriation Without Compensation: Law, Land Reform and Redistributive Justice in South Africa* (Cambridge University Press, 2024), and *The Oxford Handbook of Law and Anthropology* (Oxford University Press, 2022) as well as the special issues *Justice in the Anthropocene* (*Zeitschrift für Ethnologie | Journal of Social and Cultural Anthropology*, 2024), and *Collaborations and Contestations in Publicly Engaged Anthropologies* (*Public Anthropologist*, 2023). He is the convenor of the annual ANTON WHILHEM AMO LECTURES at Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg, and the editor of the eponymous open-access series (Universitätsverlag Halle-Wittenberg).

**Mr Denin O Omondi (Moi University, Kenya)** *Populism, Nationalism, and Fundamentalism: Reassessing Constitutionalism Thirty Years After South Africa's 1996 Constitution*

**Bio:** The Author is an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya, a member of the Law Society of Kenya. His areas of expertise are Constitutional and Family law. He trained locally at the Moi University and Kenya School of law but later attained his LL.M degree from the Central European University where he focused on comparative constitutional law. He has a keen interest in constitutional development in Africa.

**Dr Justice Alfred Mavedzenge (Democratic Governance and Rights Unit, University of Cape Town)** *Competitive Authoritarianism and the subversion of judicial autonomy in Africa*

**Bio:** Justice Mavedzenge is a comparative constitutional law scholar, who is a Senior Researcher at the Democratic Governance and Rights Unit of the University of Cape Town. He also works as a Programs Director at Africa Judges and Jurists Forum.

Accountability Beyond Courts - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Mr Mashudu Kutama (Law Society of South Africa)**

**Dr Molefhi M Phorego (Nelson Mandela University)** *Presidential Commissions of Inquiry as a Mechanism to Effect Constitutional Review: Perspectives from Botswana and Comparable Jurisdictions*

**Bio:** Molefhi Phorego is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Faculty of Law, Public Law Department, Nelson Mandela University. Having obtained the degrees Doctor of Laws (LLD Public Law) from the Nelson Mandela University and LL.M (Public Law) and Bachelor of Laws (LLB) from the University of Pretoria, his research areas of interest are in Constitutional Law, Human Rights, Administrative Law, and Marine Law Enforcement. He is also involved in the co-supervision of Master of Laws (LLM Public Law) students at the Nelson Mandela University. He writes on good governance and the intersection between the exercise of public power and the impact it has on the citizenry.

**Prof Dean R Knight (Victoria University of Wellington)** *Conceptualising an integrity or fourth branch of government in Aotearoa New Zealand: promoting probity in governance and safeguarding constitutional democracy*

**Bio:** Dean is a Professor at the Faculty of Law at Te Herenga Waka--Victoria University of Wellington and Co-Director of the New Zealand Centre for Public Law. His scholarly interests lie across the field of government law, including constitutional law, administrative law, human rights, and local democracy. In 2023, he was awarded Universities New Zealand's Critic and Conscience of Society Award for an outstanding contribution to providing independent, expert commentary on issues affecting the New Zealand community and future generations.

**Ms Monica de Souza Louw (University of Cape Town)** *Promoting accountability and going 'back to basics' in South African traditional governance*

**Bio:** Monica de Souza Louw is the Deputy Director and a Research Officer at the Land and Accountability Research Centre (LARC), based in the Law Faculty at the University of Cape Town. She heads activities within LARC's Traditional Governance stream and is responsible for monitoring legislation, policy and practices dealing with the role and recognition of traditional institutions in South Africa. She regularly produces legal analysis and information materials to support advocacy and litigation. Since joining the Centre in 2010 (when it was the Rural Women's Action Research Programme), she has researched customary marriage registration, the recognition and roles of traditional authorities, leadership disputes, traditional courts, and processes of making legislation on customary law. Monica has an LLB and LLM (Human Rights Law) from the University of Cape Town.

**16:50 – 17:30 – Transfer to Dinner venue**

**17:30 – 22:00 – Gala Dinner at the Norval Foundation Art Gallery**

Dinner speaker: **Judge President/Prof Dennis Davis (University of Cape Town/Competition Appeal Court of South Africa)**

*Building constitutional jurisprudence from nothing: 30 years of the Constitutional Court*

Dress: Smart casual

**Friday 3 July 2026**

---

**9:00 – 10:30 – Parallel Panels – Session 4**

Control of Discretionary Power - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Prof David Dyzenhaus (University of Toronto)**

**Prof Genevieve Cartier (University of Sherbrooke)** *Discretion, Prerogative Power and Constitutional Democracy*

**Bio:** Geneviève Cartier is a full professor in the Faculty of Law at the Université de Sherbrooke. She holds degrees from the universities of Sherbrooke, Cambridge and Toronto. Her teaching and research

focus on administrative law and constitutionalism. She is particularly interested in the discretionary power of public administration, and has published extensively on this topic over the past twenty years. She has also studied the relationship between constitutionalism, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and administrative law. She is currently working on the question of discretionary power exercised on the basis of the royal prerogative. This research has led her to consider the role of cities on the international stage, an area traditionally associated with the prerogative relating to foreign affairs. In 2017-18, she was awarded a Herbert Smith Freehills Fellowship by the Faculty of Law at the University of Cambridge and she is a Life Member of Clare Hall College, Cambridge.

**Dr Edward Clark (Te Herenga Waka | Victoria University of Wellington)** *The Shared Burden of Justification and the Separation of Powers: A Dynamic Equilibrium?*

**Bio:** Eddie Clark joined the Law Faculty of Victoria University of Wellington in February 2015. A VUW alumnus, he graduated in 2005 with a BA/LLB(Hons). After graduation, he worked for a number of years at a leading commercial firm, specialising in regulatory and administrative law, before completing his LLM and SJD at the University of Toronto. His work focuses on judicial review and public law theory.

**Dr Isabeau Steytler (Stellenbosch University)** *The procedural fairness gap in the review of non-administrative actions in South Africa*

**Bio:** Isabeau Steytler is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Public Law at the University of Stellenbosch's Faculty of Law. Her research concerns improving the coherence and predictability of South African administrative law. She obtained BA (Law) and Honours (English Studies) degrees from Stellenbosch University and completed her LLB at the University of Cape Town. She obtained an LLM in Public and International Law from the University of Melbourne and graduated with her PhD from the University of Cape Town in 2025. Her doctoral thesis was titled 'Procedural Justice under the Principle of Legality in South African Administrative Law'. She has worked as a postgraduate legal writing tutor at the University of Cape Town and has lectured administrative law at Stellenbosch University.

Constitutional Challenge and Change in Africa - Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: **Mr Frankl Weber (Law Society of South Africa)**

**Dr Musa Kika (Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa, Gambia)** *Jurisprudence of Coups: Trends in Constitutional Adjudication of Coups in Africa*

**Bio:** Dr. Musa Kika is constitutional, administrative and international human rights lawyer. He currently serves as Executive Director of the Institute for Human Rights and Development in Africa (IHRDA), African's premier human rights litigating INGO before regional and sub-regional human rights mechanisms. He previously served as Head of Office (Headquarters) and Director of External Relations for the Institute of Integrated Transitions based in Barcelona, Spain, and as Executive Director of the Zimbabwe Human Rights NGO Forum based in Harare. Other past roles include teaching law and researching for courts and applied research entities. Musa holds a PhD in Public Law (University of Cape Town), Master of Laws (LLM) (Harvard Law School), and a Bachelor of Laws summa cum laude (University of KwaZulu-Natal). He is a Harvard Law School Kaufman Public Service Fellow, a Ford Global Fellow, and a Mandela Rhodes Scholar.

**A/Prof Jameelah Omar (University of Cape Town)** *The discriminatory component of consent: an analysis of sexual assault in South Africa*

**Bio:** Dr Jameelah Omar is an Associate Professor in Public Law and Deputy Dean of Undergraduate Studies in the Faculty of Law, UCT. She has an LLB, LLM and PhD in Law from UCT. Her research and teaching centres on Criminal Justice, specifically in the areas of Sexual Offences, Criminal Procedure and doctrinal Criminal Law. She also convenes and facilitates the UCT Law Community Service programme, which requires students to perform legally-oriented volunteer work as a degree requirement. Jameelah's doctoral work focused on the rights of rape complainants within the structure of South Africa's adversarial legal system. She sits on the Editorial Board of the South African Journal on Human Rights, and the International Journal of Law in Context, and is a Trustee on the Board of Trustees of the Women's Legal Centre Trust. Prior to joining UCT, she was an attorney at the Centre of Legal Studies (CALS) based at the University of the Witwatersrand working on issues related to conditions of detention, sexual harassment (particularly at university campuses) and access to information.

**Dr Ibrahim Harun (University of the Western Cape)** *From Balance to Domination: Executive Power and Democratic Accountability in Post-2010 Kenya*

**Bio:** Ibrahim holds a PhD in Law from the University of Cape Town (UCT), a Master's in Environmental Law from the University of the Western Cape (UWC), and an LLB from the University of South Africa (UNISA). He also earned a BSc and BSc (Honours) in Environmental and Water Science from UWC, reflecting a unique interdisciplinary background that bridges law, governance, and environmental studies. His research primarily explores constitutionalism, the rule of law, and governance in fragile and transitioning states. He has a particular focus on decentralised governance, federalism, and devolution, examining how these institutional frameworks can contribute to political stability, democratic consolidation, and effective state functioning. By critically assessing the design and implementation of governance structures, his work highlights both the potential and limitations of legal and political mechanisms in contexts marked by political and institutional fragility. His scholarship integrates legal theory, comparative constitutional analysis, and empirical insights to address pressing questions about the resilience of democratic institutions and the challenges of state-building in complex environments. His interdisciplinary expertise allows him to contribute meaningfully to discussions on governance, environmental law, and sustainable development, positioning him as a leading voice in understanding the interplay between law, politics, and societal stability in fragile states.

Equality: Wealth, Education, Identity - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Ms Zenobia Du Toit (Miller du Toit Cloete Inc)**

**A/Prof Jason Brickhill (University of Cape Town/Johannesburg Bar)** *The Constitutional Imperative to Regulate Extreme Wealth*

**Bio:** Jason Brickhill, is an academic and a practising advocate. He is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Public Law at UCT and a member of the Johannesburg Bar. He holds an LLB from UCT (magna cum laude, top student) and a Masters in International Human Rights Law (with distinction) and a DPhil from the University of Oxford. His DPhil thesis on the impact of strategic litigation in South

Africa was awarded the Subedi Prize for the best doctoral dissertation in law at the University of Oxford. Jason led the litigation teams of the Legal Resources Centre and the Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa. He appears frequently in South African courts, including the Constitutional Court, and he has served as an acting judge of the High Court. He is the editor-in-chief of South African Constitutional Law. Jason teaches economic, social and cultural rights at Masters level at the University of Oxford, where he is an academic affiliate of the Bonavero Institute of Human Rights and an associate member of the Trinity College Senior Common Room. His research interests lie in constitutional law broadly, including in particular access to justice, socio-economic rights, and strategic litigation and its potential to contribute to social change.

**Dr Lisa Draga (University of the Western Cape) and Prof Yonatan Fessha PHD (University of the Western Cape)** *Language in education: Access to education versus recognition of diversity*

**Bio:** Lisa Draga is a lecturer in the Department of Public Law and Jurisprudence at the University of the Western Cape (UWC). She teaches Constitutional Law and South African Bill of Rights. Before joining UWC, Lisa was an attorney at the Equal Education Law Centre. She completed her legal training at the Legal Resources Centre. Lisa is a former Constitutional Court clerk. She holds an LLB Summa Cum Laude from UWC, an LLM, Alternative Dispute Resolution from the University of Missouri, Columbia and a PhD in Comparative Constitutional Law from UWC.

Yonatan Fessha is a professor of Law and the research chair on constitutional design in divided societies at the University of the Western Cape. His research interests include constitutional law and human rights. His teaching and research focuses on examining the relevance of constitutional design in dealing with the challenges of divided societies. He has published widely on matters pertaining to but not limited to federalism, constitutional design, autonomy and politicised ethnicity. His publications include books on “Intergovernmental relations in divided societies” (Palgarve), “Ethnic diversity and federalism: Constitution making in South Africa and Ethiopia” (Ashgate) and ‘Courts and federalism in Africa: Design and impact in comparative perspective’(Routledge). He was a Marie Currie Fellow, a Michigan Grotius Research Scholar and recipient of the Andrew Mellon postdoctoral fellowship. He was also a visiting scholar at the University of Sydney, University of Québec à Montréal, Norwegian University of Science and Technology and the University of Barcelona.

**Ms Jessica Waldman (University of Cape Town)** *A denial of common humanity? Unsolved murders, impunity and the right to a dignified death investigation*

**Bio:** Jessie Waldman is a doctoral candidate in Criminology and Public Law at the University of Cape Town. She has been recognised as a Guggenheim 'Emerging Scholar' for 2025/6. She is passionate about researching lived experiences of the law in order to challenge inequality and advocate for social justice. She has an LLM in Human Rights Law. She previously worked as a solicitor in the UK assisting individuals with claims against public authorities. More recently, she has worked for MOSAIC Training and Healing Centre for Women, the South African Coalition for Transitional Justice, and for UCT's Public Law Department as a teaching assistant.

**10:30 – 11:00 – Coffee Break**

**11:00 – 12:30 – Keynote Plenary: Reconceiving Public International Law**

**Venue: Lecture Theatre 1**

Chair: **Dr Nicola Palmer (University of Cape Town)**

**Justice Richard J. Goldstone (Constitutional Court of South Africa)** *The Urgency for Middle Power Support for Public International Law*

**Bio:** Richard Goldstone (born 26 October 1938) graduated BA LLB cum laude from the University of the Witwatersrand in 1962. He practised as an advocate before being appointed Senior Counsel in 1976, a judge of the Transvaal Supreme Court in 1980, and to the Appellate Division in 1989. He chaired the Goldstone Commission (1991–1994), served on the Constitutional Court (1994–2003), and was chief prosecutor of the UN tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda (1994–1996). He later led or served on several international inquiries and committees, including on Kosovo and terrorism, and contributed to UN and international legal initiatives. He has held numerous academic and advisory roles, including visiting professorships in the US, and has served on boards of human rights organisations. He was Chancellor of the University of the Witwatersrand (1995–2007) and remains active in legal, educational, and human rights work.

**Prof Antony Anghie (National University of Singapore)** *The Weak Suffer as They Must?*

**Bio:** Tony Anghie qualified as a Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and practised law in Melbourne, Australia before commencing his graduate studies at Harvard Law School, where he earned his S.J.D degree and was appointed as a Senior Fellow in the Graduate Program. He then taught at the S.J. Quinney School of Law, University of Utah, where he served as the Samuel D. Thurman Professor of Law. He has been a visiting professor at numerous schools including the American University Cairo, Cornell Law School, the London School of Economics, Harvard Law School and the University of Brasilia. He has served in different capacities on the governing bodies of the Asian Society of International Law since its founding, and was a principal organizer of the Society's biennial Conference in Beijing in 2011. He delivered the Grotius Lecture at the annual meeting of the American Society of International Law in 2010.

**Ms Tafadzwa Pasipanodya (Partner and Chair, Africa Practice, Foley Hoag LLP, Washington DC)**

**Bio:** Tafadzwa Pasipanodya is a partner in Foley Hoag's international litigation and arbitration department and chairs the firm's Africa practice group. For almost two decades, she has represented sovereign States from all over the world in investor-state arbitrations concerning natural resources, mining, the environment, infrastructure, and health policy before arbitration tribunals. Tafadzwa has also advised States in disputes against other States concerning the law of the sea, maritime delimitations, territorial claims, human rights, and environmental rights before the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) tribunals, and other fora. In addition, she has represented foreign States in U.S. federal court proceedings. As a member of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Court of Arbitration, Tafadzwa participates in the judicial supervision of ICC arbitration proceedings, including scrutinizing and approving arbitral awards and deciding arbitrator challenges. Tafadzwa's expertise in international litigation and arbitration has been recognized by Global Arbitration Review (GAR), who named her to their 2023 "45 Under 45" guide to leading figures of the international arbitration bar under the age of 45; Latinvex, who rank her as one of the top 33 female

arbitration lawyers working on Latin American matters in the world, and by Africa Arbitration Academy, Africa Arbitration and the Association of Young Arbitrators (AYA), who list her as one of the top 30 arbitration practitioners from Africa. She has also been recognized by Chambers & Partners, Who's Who Legal: Arbitration, Legal 500: USA, Legal 500: Latin America, and Lawyer Monthly. Tafadzwa is also engaged in Foley Hoag's Global Business and Human Rights practice, which advises businesses, states, and intergovernmental organizations on various aspects of business operations including, human rights, sustainability, the environment, and the negotiation of public private partnerships. Prior to joining Foley Hoag, Tafadzwa worked with several intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in relation to the prosecution of alleged genocidaires in Rwanda; natural resources and conflict in Angola; caste discrimination in Nepal and India; U.S.-Africa policy; Roma and prisoner health in Romania; and post-conflict reconstruction in Sri Lanka.

**Emeritus Prof John Dugard SC (Leiden University/University of the Witwatersrand)**

**Bio:** Professor Dugard is a South African lawyer, specialized in international law and human rights law. During the apartheid era in South Africa, he directed the Centre for Applied Legal Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand, a unit committed to litigation and advocacy in defence of human rights. After the fall of apartheid, he participated in the drafting of the Bill of Rights for the new South African Constitution. In 2013 He was awarded the Order of the Baobab, South Africa's highest award for community service and has received several honorary doctorates from South Africa universities for his work in the fields of human rights and international law. He is a senior counsel of the High Court of South Africa. John Dugard is professor emeritus of the Universities of the Witwatersrand and Leiden. He has held visiting professorships in universities in the United States, United Kingdom and Australia. From 1995 to 1997 He was Director of the Lauterpacht Research Centre for International Law at the University of Cambridge. He has published widely in the fields of international law and human rights and has authored eight books on these subjects. He is an honorary member of the American Society of International Law and a member of the Institut de Droit International. Professor Dugard has held a number of positions in the field of international Law. For fifteen years he was a member of the UN International Law Commission and served for many years as judge ad hoc on the International Court of Justice. From 2001 to 2008 he was UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights Situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and has chaired two commissions of inquiry into Israel's violations of international law: the first, for the United Nations in 2001 into violations of human rights and humanitarian law committed in the course of the Second Intifada ; and the second, for the League of Arab States into crimes committed in Operation Cast Lead in Gaza, 2008-2009. He has written widely of Palestinian issues and from 2010 to 2014 he was juror of the Russell Tribunal that examined Israel's violations of international law in occupied Palestine.

**12:30 – 13:30 – Lunch**

**12:45 – 13:30 – Doctoral Panel B**

Law, Society and Equality - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Prof Nico Steytler (University of the Western Cape)**

**Ms Sinethemba Memela (University of New South Wales)** *The Interpretation of Constitutional Labour Rights and material inequality in South Africa*

**Bio:** Sinethemba is a PhD student in South African constitutional studies at the University of New South Wales, Sydney. She holds a Master of Laws at the University of California, Los Angeles where she was a Health and Human Rights Fellow and a Bachelor of Laws at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg.

**Mr Douglas McDonald-Norman (University of Technology Sydney; UNSW) *The Canary: Tribunals and Democracy in India***

**Bio:** Douglas McDonald-Norman is a PhD candidate at the University of New South Wales, a Lecturer at the University of Technology Sydney, and a barrister at Eight Selborne Chambers. His PhD research examines the relationship between tribunals and democracy, through a socio-legal study of tribunals amid democratic decline in India. His research interests include administrative law and justice, Indian constitutional law and history, refugee status determination and judicial biography.

Accountability, Relief and Public Law - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Mr John Jeffery (Independent, South Africa)**

**Mr Nathaniel Reilly (University of Oxford) *Damaging Good Governance: A Game-Theoretic Perspective***

**Bio:** Nathaniel Reilly is a doctoral candidate in law at Oxford University. His research examines the relationship between administrative law and the design of public institutions and organizations. Before beginning his doctoral studies, Nathaniel served as Legal Counsel in the Canadian Privy Council Office, the department that supports the Prime Minister and Cabinet. He was previously a Judicial Law Clerk to the Honourable Nicholas Kasirer of the Supreme Court of Canada. Nathaniel holds degrees in civil and common law from the McGill University Faculty of Law, from which he graduated as the gold medalist and as the recipient of other academic distinctions. During his legal education, he served as the Editor-in-Chief of the McGill Law Journal and helped lead other organizations and initiatives. He was the top oralist at the Laskin Moot, a Canadian national moot competition focused on constitutional and administrative law. Prior to attending law school, Nathaniel studied economics at the University of Toronto and the University of Waterloo. Thereafter, he worked for several years in applied public policy and economic research, in Canada and internationally.

**Mr Benjamin Christy (University of Auckland) *A New [Zealand] Parliamentary Sovereignty: Can sovereign parliaments be liable for human rights violations?***

**Bio:** Benjamin (Ben) Christy is a PhD Candidate in Law at Waipapa Taumata Rau | University of Auckland in New Zealand. His research centres on the New Zealand court's ability to protect fundamental rights breached by primary legislation and employs the case study of solitary confinement as a form of torture or other ill-treatment. The project, expected to be completed in 2027, is supervised by Dr Katherine Doolin and Associate Professor Hanna Wilberg. Alongside his studies, Ben is a tutor of public and criminal law and has been awarded his University's Mike Moore Congressional Internship, which enabled him to work as a legislative intern in the U.S. House of Representatives in winter 2024/2025.

Prior to commencing his doctoral studies, Ben was a Judges' Clerk at the Auckland High Court and sat as a member of the Chief Justice of New Zealand's Artificial Intelligence Advisory Group.

**Dra Anne Bombay (KU Leuven)** *Courts and the Vacant Seat of the Legislator: Judicial Remedies for Unlawful Legislative Inaction in Constitutional Democracies*

**Bio:** Anne Bombay (b. 1999) obtained her Bachelor of Laws (2019, distinction) and Master of Laws (July 2021, high distinction) from KU Leuven. She subsequently completed a Master de spécialisation en droit européen (LL.M., 2022, high distinction) at the Institut d'Études Européennes in Brussels, graduating second in her class. During that year, she was also affiliated with the Leuven Law School as a teaching assistant at the Leuven Centre for Public Law. Since October 2022, Anne has been affiliated with the Centre for Methodology of Law (Centrum voor Rechtsmethodiek). Since November 2023, she has been preparing a Ph.D. as a Research Fellow of the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO), focusing on judicial protection against unlawful legislative inaction. In 2025, she obtained an LL.M. from Columbia Law School with honors as a Fulbright Scholar, a Dean's Scholar and a BAEF fellow.

Testing Democratic Resilience - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Mr Jonathan Mort (Jonathan Mort Inc)**

**Ms Lisa de Waal (Stellenbosch University)** *Accountability in South Africa's International Law Participation: Measuring the Health of its Constitutional Democracy*

**Bio:** Lisa de Waal is an LLD candidate in the Department of Public Law at Stellenbosch University. Her research investigates the theoretical, doctrinal and jurisprudential bases for justifying and deriving a constitutional right to public transport in South Africa, and which legal mechanisms are available for the recognition of such a right. She is an admitted attorney with experience in commercial litigation and public interest law. Prior to pursuing her LLD, Lisa worked as a senior associate in Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr's Dispute Resolution Department in Johannesburg. She holds a BSocSci, an LLB and an LLM degree from the University of Cape Town, and an LLM degree from Queen Mary, University of London. Lisa lives in the Little Karoo.

**Ms Lisa Mariß (Leibniz University Hannover)** *Right-Wing Extremism and Democratic Erosion: A Comparative Analysis of Institutional Resilience in Germany and South Africa*

**Bio:** Lisa Mariß is a doctoral researcher in public law at Leibniz University Hannover, Germany. Her dissertation examines the resilience of constitutional democracy and the rule of law at the subnational level, with a particular focus on Niedersachsen. Her research explores institutional safeguards against democratic erosion, the role of constitutional culture, and the mechanisms of "militant democracy" in federal systems. She is especially interested in how extremist and populist movements challenge the stability of democratic institutions and how legal frameworks can reinforce resilience in times of political stress. In her doctoral work, she combines doctrinal analysis with comparative perspectives, drawing on developments in Germany, South Africa, and other constitutional democracies. She has a strong interest in the intersection between public law, institutional integrity, and governance, and her broader academic background includes international law, constitutional theory, and administrative justice.

### 13:30 – 15:00 – Parallel Panels – Session 5

Distribution of Power within Constitutional Systems - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Justice Colin Feasby (Court of King's Bench of Alberta)**

**Mr Dan Mafora (University of Cape Town)** *Executive Authority under the Constitution: Doctrine in Search of a Theory*

**Bio:** Dan Mafora is a Lecturer in Public Law at the University of Cape Town where he teaches constitutional law and administrative law. He holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Pretoria and a Master of Laws (with distinction) from the University of Cape Town. He is the author of *Capture in the Court: In Defence of Judges and the Constitution* (Cape Town: Tafelberg, 2023) and a former law clerk to Justice Mbuyiseli Madlanga at the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

**Prof John Golden (University of Texas at Austin)** *Madison's Separation-of-Powers Oversight? Correcting for the Legislature's Long-Term Disadvantage*

**Bio:** John Golden is the Edward S. Knight Chair in Law, Entrepreneurialism, and Innovation at the University of Texas at Austin School of Law. He has taught administrative law, contracts, patent law, property, and seminars relating to innovation and intellectual property or to disaster and emergency law. From 2011 to 2022, he served as faculty director of the Andrew Ben White Center in Law, Science and Social Policy. John has a J.D. from Harvard Law School, a Ph.D. in Physics from Harvard University, and an A.B. in Physics and History from Harvard College. John clerked for the Honorable Michael Boudin of the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and for Associate Justice Stephen Breyer of the United States Supreme Court. Separately, John worked as an associate in the intellectual property department of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP. With Professor Thomas Lee of the Fordham University School of Law, John has co-written multiple articles and briefs relating to the constitutionality of administrative-agency adjudication under the United States' scheme of separation of powers. See, e.g., John M. Golden & Thomas H. Lee, Article III, the Bill of Rights, and Administrative Adjudication, 92 *Fordham L. Rev.* 397–422 (2023).

**Dr Andreas Karsten (CUQ Ulster University, Doha)** *From Riots to Responsibility, the Role of "Sanctuary Cities" in a World of Increasing "Sanctuary" Risks and Perpetual Violence: A New Democratic Frontier*

**Bio:** Dr Andreas Karsten is an Advocate of the High Court of South Africa with more than two decades of combined experience in law, taxation, and corporate governance. He holds a Doctorate in Law (LLD) from North-West University, where he received the Postgraduate Prestige Award, as well as an LLM in Tax Law from UNISA and an HDip in Tax Law from the University of Johannesburg. He is a Chartered Tax Advisor (SAIT CTA) and completed the Municipal Executives' Financial Management Programme at the Witwatersrand University (Wits University) School of Governance, graduating as Top Student of his cohort. His professional and corporate experience spans international commercial and tax law, including cross-border transactions, trade regulation aspects, currency exchange compliance, and international transport law. He has also contributed significantly to anti-corruption law and public-sector governance, notably through his involvement in section 139 constitutional interventions and the oversight of municipal financial recovery processes. Dr Karsten has published and presented on anti-corruption law, fiscal

accountability, environmental regulation, and climate change law. Additionally, he was selected by the Research Network on Public Authorities and Financial Distress (RPAFD) to participate as a researcher in the Royal Holloway University of London's research project on public authorities and financial distress.

Unwritten Norms - Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: **Justice Steven Majiedt (Constitutional Court, South Africa)**

**Hon Justice Adedotun Onibokun (Nigerian High Court/Redeemer's University)** *Identifying and Upholding the Unwritten Norms, Values and Cultures that Sustain Democracy in Nigeria*

**Bio:** Honourable Justice Adedotun Adedamola Grace Onibokun, PhD graduated with LL.B (Hons) from the University of Lagos in 1983, earning multiple prizes including the Vice Chancellor's Prize and Dr. Teslim Elias Prize. She was called to the Bar in 1984 and later obtained a Diploma in Management, Certificate in Public Relations, and Executive Diploma in HR Management with Distinction. In 2020, she earned her LLM and in 2023, she earned her PhD in Law from Babcock University. She served as Company Secretary/Legal Adviser at Rank Xerox Nigeria, winning the MD's Award of Excellence in 1995. She joined Osun State Public Service in 2001, and was Director of Litigation and Public Prosecutions. She was appointed High Court Judge and has presided over tribunals and inquiries. Honourable Justice Onibokun is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators Nigeria and has organized several seminars and conferences. She is also a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Mediators and Conciliators (ICMC) and a Certified Forensic Document Examiner (CFDE). A lover of arts, she is a Director (Honorary) of Ijesha Heritage Foundation; a not too surprising vocation being a Princess of the Biladu Ruling House of Ijeshaland.

**A/Prof Marcelo B Rodriguez Ferrere (University of Auckland)** *The weaponisation of comity in New Zealand*

**Bio:** Marcelo Rodriguez Ferrere is an Associate Professor at Auckland Law School. Prior to joining the University of Auckland, Marcelo was an Associate Professor at the University of Otago's Faculty of Law. He has studied at the University of Otago, University of Toronto and the University of Alberta. Marcelo's research interests include administrative law (in particular, the nature and calibration of deference in substantive judicial review proceedings) and all aspects of the legal status of non-human animals and the regulation of our relationship with them.

**Dr Shreeya Smith (Western Sydney University)** *Democracy under the Constitution: how democratic participation and accountability inform our understanding of the power of the Commonwealth in Australia*

**Bio:** Dr Shreeya Smith is an associate lecturer in the School of law at Western Sydney University, where she teaches and researches in constitutional and public law. Shreeya is interested in the intersection between executive power and constitutional values both domestically and in comparative perspective. Her doctoral research articulated a constitutionally-grounded values-driven approach to the non-statutory executive power of the Commonwealth that draws on functionalist interpretative modalities and proportionality.

Speech, Protest and Struggle - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Prof Bradley Slade (Stellenbosch University)**

**Ms Celia G Winnett (Sixth Floor Selborne Wentworth Chambers, Australia)** *Anonymous Political Speech in a Constitutional Democracy*

**Bio:** Celia is a barrister at the NSW Bar (Sydney, Australia), where she practises in public and commercial law. She appears in courts and tribunals at all levels, including the High Court of Australia, where she has been junior counsel in 16 final hearings, including various constitutional cases. Celia joined the Bar in 2016. Prior to that, she served as Counsel Assisting the Solicitor-General of Australia, Justin Gleeson SC. In that role, she drafted legal opinions, assisted in preparing cases for hearing in domestic and international tribunals, and appeared as junior counsel for the Commonwealth. Celia previously worked as a lawyer within the Australian Government Solicitor, in the Banking & Finance and International Arbitration teams of Mallesons Stephen Jaques (Sydney), and as Associate (clerk) to Justice Crennan of the High Court of Australia. Celia has an LLM from Columbia Law School, which she attended on a Fulbright Scholarship. She also holds a BA/ LLB (First Class Honours, University Medal) from the Australian National University. Celia is a Centre Fellow of the University of New South Wales Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law, and NSW Co-Convenor for the Australian Association of Constitutional Law.

**Dr Tanveer R Jeewa (Stellenbosch University)** *The History of Mass Unlawful Occupation*

**Bio:** Tanveer Rashid Jeewa is a post-doctoral fellow in constitutional law at Stellenbosch University, where she recently completed her Doctor of Laws (LLD) on South Africa's housing crisis and unlawful land occupations. Her LLD was awarded the second prize in the 2025 Christof Heyns Memorial Thesis Award. She previously clerked at the Constitutional Court of South Africa in Justice Theron's chambers and has worked with organisations such as the International Commission of Jurists and the UN International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia. Tanveer was a United Nations Delegate at the Youth Assembly, where she received the Resolution Project Fellowship for her commitment to social impact. Her research focuses broadly on constitutional property law, socio-economic rights, and human rights.

**Prof Mlungisi Ernest Tenza (University of KwaZulu-Natal)** *An investigation into the justifiability of the use of struggle songs, slogans and apartheid symbols as modes of expression and heritage in a democratic South Africa*

**Bio:** Mlungisi Tenza is an Associate Professor in Law at the University of KwaZulu Natal. He holds an LLD, LLM, and LLB.

**15:00 – 15:20 – Coffee Break**

**15:20 – 16:50 – Parallel Panels – Session 6**

The Public-Private Interface - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Ms Pippa Reyburn (ENS Attorneys)**

**Prof Janina L Boughey (University of New South Wales)** *Outsourcing and administrative law accountability: the role of public sector Ombudsmen*

**Bio:** Janina is the Director of the Gilbert + Tobin Centre of Public Law and an Associate Professor in the UNSW Faculty of Law. She teaches and researches in Australian and comparative administrative law. Her work focusses on whether administrative law principles and institutions are 'fit for purpose' in light of the way modern governments function, including issues of governments' use of the private sector and technology in decision-making. Janina is the author, co-author and editor of several books including *The Automated State: Implications, Challenges and Opportunities for Public Law* (Federation Press, 2021) (edited with Katie Miller); *Human Rights and Judicial Review in Australia and Canada: The Newest Despotism* (Hart, 2017); and *Comparative Statutory Interpretation* (CUP, forthcoming 2026, edited with Lisa Crawford and Oren Tamir). Janina holds a PhD from Monash University ( university medal), undergraduate degrees in Law and Economics (social science) from Sydney University (both with first class honours), and an LLM in government law from the ANU. She previously worked in numerous legal, policy and research positions including in the Administrative Law section of the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department, as a researcher in the Department of the Senate, and as Chair of Social Security Rights Victoria.

**Dr Meghan Finn (University of Johannesburg)** *Revisiting the remedial repertoire in South Africa's horizontal constitutionalism*

**Bio:** Dr Meghan Finn is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public Law at the University of Johannesburg. She holds degrees from the University of Cape Town (BSocSci Hons and LLB), the University of Oxford (BCL), and the University of the Witwatersrand (PhD). Before joining academia, Meghan practised as an advocate at the Johannesburg Bar, and she has also worked as a law clerk at the South African Constitutional Court and as a researcher at SAIFAC at UJ. Her research focuses on constitutional and administrative law, especially on private actors' constitutional duties, with work published in a range of South African and international journals. She is co-editor of *Sociolegal Challenges for the Social Justice Continuum: Perspectives from India and South Africa* (Routledge, 2025). Meghan has received recognition through awards for both her teaching and research, and her work has been cited by the South African Constitutional Court.

**Ms Claire Rankin and Ms Margeaux Wassenaar (Legal Resources Centre, South Africa; Webber Wentzel, South Africa)** *Crossing the divide: the diminishing returns of retaining siloed public, private and commercial legal sectors in judicial reasoning*

**Bios:** Claire Rankin is an attorney awaiting admission at the Legal Resources Centre, based in Makhanda in the Eastern Cape. She works across their Land, Education and Gender-Based Violence focus areas and on other projects focused on furthering state accountability. She holds a BA (Law) and LLB from Stellenbosch University. In 2023 she completed her LLM cum laude, focusing on the judicial review of the state's budgetary decisions in a socio-economic rights context. She has also published in the *Constitutional Court Review*, the *Business and Human Rights Journal*, and the *African Public Procurement Law Journal*.

Margeaux Wassenaar is a candidate legal practitioner at Webber Wentzel. She holds BA (Law) and LLB degrees cum laude from Stellenbosch University and a Bachelor of Civil Law from the University of Oxford.

The Judicial Branch and Judicial Process - Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: **Prof Jason Varuhas (University of Melbourne)**

**Justice Sheilah Martin (Supreme Court of Canada) and Chief Justice Glenn Joyal (Manitoba Court of King's Bench)** *The Modern Judicial Role and the Paradox of Judicial Independence*

**Bio:** Justice Sheilah L. Martin was trained in both civil law and common law before moving to Alberta where her career as an educator, lawyer, and judge has been driven by a commitment to fairness and equal justice for all. Justice Martin earned a Bachelor of Civil Law and a Bachelor of Common Law from McGill University in 1981. She then received a Master of Laws from the University of Alberta in 1983 and a Doctorate of Juridical Science from the University of Toronto in 1991. She was called to the Alberta Bar in 1989. Justice Martin worked as a researcher and law professor at the University of Calgary from 1982 to 1986. In the 1980s, she also taught in the common law and civil law exchange program organized by the federal Department of Justice, and was a visiting professor at Osgoode Hall Law School. From 1991 to 1996, she was Acting Dean and then Dean of the University of Calgary's Faculty of Law. Justice Martin taught courses ranging from commercial transactions and feminist legal theory to advanced constitutional law. From 1996 to 2005, Justice Martin practiced criminal and constitutional litigation in Calgary. Her practice was wide-ranging and addressed issues of deep significance to Canadian society. She acted pro bono for the Women's Legal Education and Action Fund and the Alberta Association of Sexual Assault Centres in cases before the Supreme Court of Canada. In 2000, she drew on her expertise in the area of compensation for the wrongfully convicted as an expert witness in the Thomas Sophonow Inquiry. At the invitation of National Chief of the Assembly of First Nations, Phil Fontaine, she joined the team tasked with finding a new approach to redress the harms caused by the forced attendance of Indigenous children at residential schools. Her work alongside many others contributed to the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement. Justice Martin was appointed to the Court of Queen's Bench for Alberta in 2005. In 2016, she was appointed to the Courts of Appeal of Alberta, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut. She has also served as a Deputy Judge for the Supreme Court of Yukon since 2009. Justice Martin's commitment to teaching and education has carried over into her career on the bench. She serves on the Canadian Judicial Council's Education Committee and has worked with a variety of organizations on judicial education programming. She was appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada on December 18, 2017.

The Honourable Glenn D. Joyal has served as Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench of Manitoba since 2011. Chief Justice Joyal was first appointed to the bench as a judge of the Provincial Court of Manitoba in 1998. He joined the Court of Appeal of Manitoba in 2007 and, later that year, the Court of King's Bench of Manitoba, where he became Associate Chief Justice in 2009, then Chief Justice in 2011. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Chief Justice Joyal practised primarily in criminal law, constitutional law, and civil litigation. He served as a Crown attorney with Manitoba Justice, as a federal Crown counsel with the Department of Justice Canada, and as an associate with the Winnipeg law firm Wolch, Pinx, Tapper, Scurfield. He is a past member of l'Association des juristes d'expression française

du Manitoba. He is fluent in English, French, and Italian. Throughout his career, Chief Justice Joyal has contributed to initiatives aimed at improving the efficiency of court operations, expanding access to justice, and modernising the delivery of court services. He has also supported efforts to advance reconciliation and strengthen the relationship between the justice system and Indigenous Peoples. He sits on the Executive Committee of the Canadian Judicial Council and currently serves as the Council's First Vice-Chair. He also chairs its Judicial Conduct Committee. Chief Justice Joyal is the recipient of the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal and the King Charles III Coronation Medal. In 2025, he was recognised as a Jurist of Robson Hall by the University of Manitoba Faculty of Law for his extraordinary service and commitment to the legal community. Chief Justice Joyal pursued his undergraduate and graduate studies at Simon Fraser University, McGill University, Paris-Sorbonne University, the University of Manitoba, and Oxford University. He was admitted to the Bar of Manitoba in 1987.

**Prof Ntombizozuko Dyani-Mhango (University of Pretoria)** *The doctrine of stare decisis and judicial accountability in the South African Constitutional Court*

**Bio:** Dyani-Mhango holds both LLB and LLM degrees from the University of the Western Cape, South Africa, as well as Doctor of Juridical Science (LLD per SAQA) from the University of Wisconsin. She currently serves as Professor and Head of the Department of Public Law, and Chair of Internationalisation within the Faculty of Law at the University of Pretoria. Before joining the University of Pretoria, she was an Associate Professor at the School of Law, University of the Witwatersrand. She is a former Clerk of Justice Ngcobo at the Constitutional Court, and a former legal intern at the ICTR. Recognized as an established researcher by the National Research Foundation, Dyani-Mhango's scholarship centres on public international law, with particular attention to issues of accountability; the interactions among the African Union, United Nations, and International Criminal Court; and South Africa's obligations under both international and constitutional law. She is active in several law societies, including the Law and Society Association, where she served on the Board of Trustees for the Class of 2025, the African Society of International Law and the American Society of International Law. Additionally, she is an alternate member of the Judicial Service Commission, elected by the Southern African Law Teachers Association.

**Dr Sanya Samtani (University of Cape Town) and Prof Jonathan Klaaren (University of the Witwatersrand)** *When 'force' and 'will' require 'mere judgment': Engaging the Constitutional Court through Presidential and Parliamentary Referrals*

**Bio:** Jonathan Klaaren is Professor of Law & Society at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa. He works in the areas of competition & regulation, the legal profession, anti-corruption, migration & citizenship, and socio-legal studies. He is the author of *From Prohibited Immigrants to Citizens: The Origins of Citizenship and Nationality in South Africa* (UCT Press, 2017). Klaaren holds a Phd in sociology from Yale University and law degrees from Columbia (JD) and Wits (LLB). He served as Head/Dean of the Wits Law School from 2010 to 2013 and as Director of the School's Mandela Institute from 2005 to 2007. In 2016, he served as an Acting Judge on the High Court of South Africa (South Gauteng).

Sanya Samtani is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Public Law at the University of Cape Town, South Africa as of 2026. She works in the areas of international law, constitutional law, and the intersection of intellectual property and human rights. Samtani holds a DPhil in law and BCL from

Oxford having secured a Rhodes Scholarship, and a BA LLB (Hons.) from NALSAR, India. She has consulted on international and constitutional litigation at the International Court of Justice and the South African Constitutional Court respectively and presented her research before Parliament. Prior to UCT, Samtani served as a Senior Researcher at the Mandela Institute (2023-2025) and the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (2025) at the University of the Witwatersrand.

The Efficacy of Constitutional Democracies - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Prof Henk Botha (Stellenbosch University)**

**Dr Robert J Craig (University of Bristol)** *In defence of First Past The Post*

**Bio:** Dr Robert Craig teaches Constitutional law, Public Law generally and Jurisprudence at Bristol University. His publications include ‘Casting Aside Clanking Medieval Chains: Prerogative, Statute and Article 50 after the EU Referendum’, [2016] 79(6) MLR, 1041-1063, in the *Modern Law Review* which was cited by Lord Reed in *Miller* at paragraph [201]. A second article was cited with approval in the case of *Privacy International*, again by the Supreme Court. ‘Ouster clauses, separation of powers and the intention of parliament: from *Anisminic* to *Privacy International*’ [2018] *Public Law* 570-584. (Dinah Rose QC in her written submissions to the Supreme Court at paragraph 129) and further cited with approval by Lord Carnwath (for the majority), [2019] UKSC 22, [39-40]. He has appeared regularly on BBC News24 and CNN, providing expert commentary on both *Miller* cases as they were being heard in the Supreme Court. He has appeared regularly on BBC News24 and CNN, providing expert commentary on both *Miller* cases as they were being heard in the Supreme Court. He has recently published a report on the regulation of civil nuclear power arguing for two reforms that could expedite construction of new nuclear plants.

**Ms Ritwika Sharma (Jindal Global Law School)** *Delimitation of Electoral Constituencies in India – Constitutional Expectations, Political Realities*

**Bio:** Ritwika Sharma is an Assistant Professor at the Jindal Global Law School, O.P. Jindal Global University, Haryana, India. She completed the LL.M. from the University of Cambridge in 2018. Ritwika also holds the LL.M. from the NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad, India (2013-14). She obtained her bachelor’s in law in 2013 from the Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University, New Delhi. Ritwika was previously a Senior Resident Fellow at the New Delhi-based research organisation Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, where she led the dedicated constitutional law research team. She has co-edited “Appointment of Judges to the Supreme Court of India: Transparency, Accountability and Independence” (Oxford University Press, 2018), a volume of essays addressing the politics, doctrine, and crucial developments pertaining to judicial appointments in India. In 2024, Ritwika was selected as an International Visitor Leadership Programme (IVLP) Fellow, as part of the Rule of Law cohort. As an IVLP Fellow, she participated in a 3-week long exchange program conceptualised and sponsored by the Department of State, United States of America (U.S.A.) to understand the working of federal and state judicial systems in the US.

**Adv. Benjamin Cronin (University of Cape Town)** *State Capture from within: The technocratic threat to the rule of law*

**Bio:** Benjamin Cronin is Lecturer in the Department of Commercial Law and an Advocate of the High Court of South Africa. He was formerly a State Law Advisor and practiced in the field of taxation with Webber Wentzel. He holds an LLM degree from the University of Cape Town, and his BSocSci (Economics and Law) and LLB degrees also from the University of Cape Town.

### **17:00 – 18:30 – Keynote Plenary: 30 Years of South African Constitutionalism**

Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Dr Nomfundo Ramalekana (University of Cape Town)**

#### **Prof Joel Modiri (University of Pretoria)**

**Bio:** Professor Joel M Modiri is the Acting Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Pretoria. He is a scholar and teacher of jurisprudence and social and legal theory, with a particular focus on black radical thought, African philosophy, and critical theory. His research centres on the relationship between race and the law, the enduring legacies of colonialism and apartheid, and the limits of liberal and Western constitutionalism in both South African and global contexts. His work engages critically with the politics of knowledge, including intellectual history, and seeks to reframe questions of justice and human liberation. Professor Modiri holds a PhD from the University of Pretoria. His doctoral thesis, completed in 2018, is titled *The Jurisprudence of Steve Biko: Studies in Race and Law in the Afterlife of Colonial-Apartheid*.

#### **Mr Dan Mafora (University of Cape Town)**

**Bio:** Dan Mafora is a Lecturer in Public Law at the University of Cape Town where he teaches constitutional law and administrative law. He holds a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Pretoria and a Master of Laws (with distinction) from the University of Cape Town. He is the author of *Capture in the Court: In Defence of Judges and the Constitution* (Cape Town: Tafelberg, 2023) and a former law clerk to Justice Mbuyiseli Madlanga at the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

#### **Prof Cathi Albertyn (University of the Witwatersrand)**

**Bio:** Professor Cathi Albertyn is a Professor of Law and South African Research Chair in Equality, Law and Social Justice at the University of the Witwatersrand. She was previously Director of the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (2001–2007) and headed its Gender Research Programme (1992–2001), working closely with the women’s movement during the constitutional negotiations and post-1994 law reform processes. She teaches constitutional and human rights law and researches equality, gender, human rights, and constitutional law. She is a B1-rated researcher with international recognition, editor of the *South African Journal on Human Rights*, and serves on multiple editorial boards. She has held roles including Commissioner on the first Commission on Gender Equality (1997), shortlisted for the Constitutional Court (2005), and Commissioner at the South African Law Reform Commission (2007–2011), and has served on the executive of NGOs including the Reproductive Rights Alliance and CASAC.

#### **Ms Prelisha Singh (Webber Wentzel Attorneys)**

**Bio:** Prelisha Singh specialises in all aspects of constitutional and administrative law. She has a particular interest, and expertise, in public procurement, public finance, health, and education law and advises clients both in the public and the private sector on complex issues arising in these areas. Prelisha has extensive expertise in judicial reviews arising from procurement processes and administrative decisions, drafting complex opinions and advisory memoranda on constitutional and administrative law issues as well as drafting legislation, regulations, submissions, public procurement documents and pleadings for either court proceedings or internal dispute resolution mechanisms. She regularly undertakes large scale

compliance reviews for clients in various regulated industries, conducts investigations and advises on the issues arising therefrom, and engages with a number of regulators.

**Saturday 4 July 2026**

---

**9:00 – 10:30 – Keynote Plenary: Comparative Influences in National Jurisdictions**

Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Chief Justice Satiu Simativa Perese (Supreme Court of Samoa)**

**Lord Justice Rabinder Singh (English Court of Appeal)**

**Bio:** Sir Rabinder Singh was called to the Bar (Lincoln's Inn) in 1989 and was in practice at the Bar from 1990 to 2011. He was elected a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn in 2009. Before that, from 1986 to 1988, he was lecturer at the University of Nottingham. He was on the Attorney General's Panels of Junior Counsel to the Crown from 1992 to 2002 (on the A Panel from 2000). He was also Additional Junior Counsel to the Inland Revenue from 1997 to 2002. He was appointed Queen's Counsel (now King's Counsel) in 2002. He chaired the Administrative Law Bar Association from 2006 to 2008. From 2003 to 2011 he was a Deputy High Court Judge and Recorder of the Crown Court from 2004 to 2011. He was appointed a High Court Judge (Queen's Bench Division, now King's Bench Division) in October 2011. He was a Presiding Judge of the South Eastern Circuit from 2013 to 2016 and the Administrative Court liaison judge for the Midland, Wales and Western circuits during 2017. In September 2018 he was appointed President of the Investigatory Powers Tribunal (his tenure ending on 31 October 2025). He was a visiting Professor of Law at the London School of Economics from 2003 to 2009 and a Visiting Fellow, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford from 2016 to 2019; and has been an Honorary Professor of Law at Nottingham University since 2007. His publications include *The Future of Human Rights in the UK* (1997); (as co-author with Sir Jack Beatson and others) *Human Rights: Judicial Protection in the UK* (2008); and *The Unity of Law* (2022). He was appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal in October 2017.

**Prof Charles Fombad (University of Pretoria)** *Comparative African Constitutional Jurisprudence and the Future of Constitutional Democracy*

**Bio:** Charles Manga Fombad is Professor of law and the Director of the Institute for International and Comparative Law in Africa, (ICLA), Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria. He holds a Licence en Droit (University of Yaoundé), LL.M. and Ph. D. (University of London) and a Diploma in Conflict Resolution (University of Uppsala). Professor Fombad is a member of the editorial board of several distinguished national and international Journals. He is a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa, an Associate Member of the International Academy of Comparative Law and a Vice President of the International Association of Constitutional law. He has published more than 90 articles in peer-reviewed journals and more than 60 book chapters and is the author/editor of 16 books and monograph. He is the Series Editor of the Stellenbosch Handbooks in African Constitutional Law published by Oxford University Press. Professor Fombad is also co-editor (with Professor Rainer Grote of the Max Planck Institute) of the introductory reports to African constitutions published as part of OUP's Constitutions of the Countries of the World Online. Professor Fombad has won several awards for his research, the most recent being the prestigious 2021 University of Pretoria Chancellor's Award for Research. His research interests are in comparative African constitutional law, media law, the African Union law, and legal history, especially issues of mixed systems and legal harmonisation.

**Prof Jason Varuhas (University of Melbourne)** *Government Private Powers: A Common Problem in Comparative Perspective*

**Bio:** Professor Jason N. E. Varuhas (BA LLB Hons, Victoria University of Wellington; LLM, University College London; PhD, University of Cambridge) is Professor of Law at the University of Melbourne and currently serves as Senior Crown Counsel at the New Zealand Crown Law Office, advising and representing the government on constitutional and human rights matters. He is the Director of the Public Law Conference, Senior Research Fellow at the New Zealand Centre for Public Law, and a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Law. Professor Varuhas has published widely on administrative law, human rights, constitutional law, torts, and remedies, and his work has been cited by the higher courts of Australia, New Zealand, the UK, and Ireland. He has contributed to law reform, including English judicial review procedures, and led public engagement initiatives such as Melbourne Law School's "Conversations About the Voice" series. Previously, he was Director of the Centre for Comparative Constitutional Studies at Melbourne Law School, Junior Research Fellow at Christ's College, Cambridge, Senior Lecturer at the University of New South Wales, and Judge's Clerk to Justice Mark O'Regan, New Zealand Court of Appeal. He has held visiting and fellowship positions at Yale University, Oxford, McGill University, and Cambridge, and authored numerous books and treatises, including *Damages and Human Rights* (2016), *Administrative Law* (co-author, 5th ed.), and *The Law of Torts* (co-author, 6th ed.).

**10:30 – 11:00 – Coffee Break**

**11:00 – 12:30 – Parallel Panels – Session 7**

The Interface between International Law and Constitutional Law - Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Dr Nicola Palmer (University of Cape Town)**

**Dr Fiona Roughley (Banco Chambers, Australia)** *International Law and Constitutional Democracy: Interconnection, Independence and Immunity*

**Bio:** Dr Fiona Roughley SC of Banco Chambers practises in commercial, public and international law. Her cases include investor/State disputes, foreign State immunity, constitutional and administrative law, and a wide variety of commercial law matters. Whilst practising at the NSW Bar Fiona has maintained an interest in research, completing a PhD on Australia's Attorney-General (conferred 2022, ANU) and authoring a range of publications and conference papers on various topics. Before being called to the Bar, Fiona was Associate to Justice Hayne AC of the High Court of Australia, a Principal Research Officer in the Department of the Senate of the Parliament of Australia, and a solicitor at Allens Arthur Robinson (now Allens Linklaters). She received her LLM from the University of Cambridge as a Gates Scholar funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She received her BA and LLB from the University of Sydney, graduating with the University Medal in Law, the University Medal in English, and the University's Convocation Medal.

**Dr Gus Waschefort (4-5 Gray's Inn Square Chambers)** *A Practitioner's Perspective on the Domestication of Customary International Law: A comparison of English and South African Constitutional Principles as Safeguard for the Separation of Powers*

**Bio:** Gus Waschefort is a dual qualified English/South African barrister who specialises in Public International Law, inquiries and domestic Public Law. Gus is in full-time practice at 4-5 Gray's Inn Square Chambers (London) and serves on the Attorney General's B Panel for Public International Law. In his practice, Gus frequently engages with international and cross-border legal issues, particularly in relation to the implementation of international legal standards in domestic courts. He has worked across diverse jurisdictions, including the United Kingdom, South Africa, and various parts of East and West

Africa, as well as international and regional courts and mechanisms. Gus holds a PhD from the School for Oriental and African Studies, University of London and has held several academic positions in South Africa and England, most recently as Associate Professor at the University of Essex.

Privacy, Surveillance and Technological Power - Venue: Lecture Theatre 2

Chair: **Dr Felicity Kalunga (University of Zambia)**

**Dr Róisín Á Costello (Trinity College Dublin)** *A Republican Theory of Privacy: securing intellectual freedom and the right to walk tall in the modern state*

**Bio:** Dr Róisín Á Costello is an Assistant Professor in the School of Law at Trinity College Dublin where she acts as the Director of the Jean Monnet Centre for Excellence on Freedom of Expression and Democratic Resilience in the Digital Age (DEMCONE) which is funded by the European Commission through the Erasmus+ programme. She is also the Deputy Director of the Trinity Centre for Constitutional Law and Governance. Róisín is a public lawyer who researches and works on the intersection of individual rights and digital technologies and minority language rights. Her work has been published in *Global*, the *Human Rights Law Review* and the *Irish Judicial Studies Journal*. To date Róisín's books include 'Privacy Law in Ireland' (Bloomsbury, 2023), and 'Law and Irish Literature' (Edinburgh University Press, 2026) as well as co-edited collections published with Hart.

**Dr Lukman Adebisi Abdulrauf (University of Ilorin, Nigeria)** *Rethinking Constitutionalism in the Digital Era: Big Tech, Platform Power and the Future of Democracy in Africa*

**Bio:** Lukman Adebisi Abdulrauf is an Associate Professor in the Department of Public Law at the University of Ilorin, Nigeria, and an Honorary Research Fellow at the School of Law, University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. Beginning in September 2025, he will serve as a Senior Fellow at the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS), University of Freiburg, Germany. He is an alumnus of Stanford University's Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (CASBS) and a recipient of the Iso Lomso Fellowship from the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS), Stellenbosch University, South Africa. Dr. Abdulrauf's research interrogates the intersection of law, technology, and human rights, with a particular focus on the regulation of emerging technologies, health data governance, and digital constitutionalism in Africa. He is co-editor of *Data Privacy Law in Africa: Emerging Perspectives* (PULP, 2024) and is currently completing a monograph titled *Digital Constitutionalism in Africa* (Routledge, forthcoming). He has published widely in leading academic outlets and serves as principal investigator on multiple international and national research projects.

**Mr Yuri Behari-Leak (University of Cape Town)**

*Justice Needs a Human Face: Artificial Intelligence, Social Justice, and Access to Courts in South Africa*

**Bio:** Yuri Behari-Leak is a teaching assistant in the Public Law department in the Law Faculty at the University of Cape Town. He holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree in Psychology, Law and Film (distinction), an Honours degree in Psychology (in the first class), and an LLB (magna cum laude) all from UCT. His Honours thesis focused on gender-based violence and decolonial feminism and was awarded the JG Taylor Prize for the best Honours Research Project. His research interests include constitutional and administrative law, social justice, human rights, decolonial feminism, gender-based

violence, critical psychology, feminist film theory and film analysis. Yuri is passionate about mootings and has represented UCT in competitions such as the Kate O'Regan Intervarsity and the Jessup International Law Moots, and has served as a mootings coach for current LLB students. Before becoming a Public Law teaching assistant on the administrative law, criminal law and evidence courses, he tutored in the Psychology department for five years. He has been a guest lecturer at UCT teaching critical psychology, administrative law, and criminal law. Yuri is also an actor, writer, and director active in film and theatre spaces in Cape Town.

#### Legislation and Legislatures - Venue: Lecture Theatre 3

Chair: **Mr Paul Hoffman SC (Accountability Now)**

**Dr Robert Greally (University of Bristol/New York University)** *The Least Examined Branch: A Genealogy of Legislative Assemblies in Public Law*

**Bio:** Robert Greally is a Lecturer in Public Law at the University of Bristol Law School. Robert is currently a Hauser Global Fellow at New York University School of Law and a US-UK Fulbright All-Disciplines Scholar. Robert is also currently working on a book that explores the constitutional importance of legislative assemblies within modern constitutional democracies.

**Ms Marion Sandilands (University of Ottawa/Conway Litigation)** *Corroding the Rule of Law through Law-Making: Examples from Canada*

**Bio:** Marion Sandilands practices civil litigation, constitutional and administrative law at [Conway Litigation](#) in Ottawa. She is a part-time professor at the University of Ottawa Faculty of Common Law. She has appeared before multiple courts including the Supreme Court of Canada. After her call to the bar, she served as a law clerk to the Hon. Yves De Montigny (now Chief Justice of the Federal Court of Appeal) and the Hon. Andromache Karakatsanis at the Supreme Court of Canada. She teaches Constitutional Law at the University of Ottawa. She speaks and has published on matters of constitutional, public, and administrative law. She is a Senior Fellow, Constitutional Law at the think tank Section 1. She has provided expert comments on constitutional issues for the [David Asper Centre for Constitutional Rights](#) at the University of Toronto, the [Centre for Constitutional Studies](#) at the University of Alberta, and for the [Toronto Star](#) and [Global News](#). She serves on the board of directors of the [International Commission of Jurists \(Canada\)](#).

**Mr MP Fourie-Viljoen (Constitutional Court of South Africa)** *Invalidation of Legislation on Public Participation Grounds: Constitutional Tensions and Remedies*

**Bio:** Mp Fourie-Viljoen completed his Bcom Law and LLB degrees at the University of Pretoria, and obtained his LLM in Public Procurement Policy and Regulation from Stellenbosch University. He completed his articles at Cheadle Thompson & Haysom Inc. Attorneys, and after being admitted, he continued as an associate in their Public Sector Department. He is currently a clerk for Justice Leona Theron at the Constitutional Court of South Africa.

## **13:30 – 15:00 – Closing Plenary Keynote: Public Law and the Future of Constitutional Democracy**

Venue: Lecture Theatre 1

Chair: **Prof Cora Hoexter (University of the Witwatersrand)**

**Deputy Chief Justice Dunstan Mlambo (Constitutional Court of South Africa)**

**Bio:** Justice Dunstan Mlambo is the Deputy Chief Justice of South Africa (appointed effective 1 August 2025) and a former Judge President of the Gauteng High Court, where he led the country's largest and busiest division. He began his career as a public interest and labour lawyer, worked at the Legal Resources Centre and in private practice, and founded his own firm before joining the bench in 1997 as a Labour Court judge. He later served in the Gauteng High Court and the Supreme Court of Appeal, and also headed the Labour Court. Widely recognised for his judicial leadership, Justice Mlambo has driven major reforms to improve efficiency and access to justice, including introducing technological systems such as CaseLines, expanding court infrastructure, and implementing measures like mandatory mediation to address case backlogs. He is known for promoting collegiality and transformation within the judiciary, has delivered significant judgments in high-profile matters, and has contributed to legal aid reform and international judicial initiatives.

**Prof Geneviève Cartier (University of Sherbrooke)**

**Bio:** Geneviève Cartier is a full professor in the Faculty of Law at the Université de Sherbrooke. She holds degrees from the universities of Sherbrooke, Cambridge and Toronto. Her teaching and research focus on administrative law and constitutionalism. She is particularly interested in the discretionary power of public administration, and has published extensively on this topic over the past twenty years. She has also studied the relationship between constitutionalism, the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and administrative law. She is currently working on the question of discretionary power exercised on the basis of the royal prerogative. This research has led her to consider the role of cities on the international stage, an area traditionally associated with the prerogative relating to foreign affairs. In 2017-18, she was awarded a Herbert Smith Freehills Fellowship by the Faculty of Law at the University of Cambridge and she is a Life Member of Clare Hall College, Cambridge.

**Lord Justice Rabinder Singh (English Court of Appeal)**

**Bio:** Sir Rabinder Singh was called to the Bar (Lincoln's Inn) in 1989 and was in practice at the Bar from 1990 to 2011. He was elected a Bencher of Lincoln's Inn in 2009. Before that, from 1986 to 1988, he was lecturer at the University of Nottingham. He was on the Attorney General's Panels of Junior Counsel to the Crown from 1992 to 2002 (on the A Panel from 2000). He was also Additional Junior Counsel to the Inland Revenue from 1997 to 2002. He was appointed Queen's Counsel (now King's Counsel) in 2002. He chaired the Administrative Law Bar Association from 2006 to 2008. From 2003 to 2011 he was a Deputy High Court Judge and Recorder of the Crown Court from 2004 to 2011. He was appointed a High Court Judge (Queen's Bench Division, now King's Bench Division) in October 2011. He was a Presiding Judge of the South Eastern Circuit from 2013 to 2016 and the Administrative Court liaison judge for the Midland, Wales and Western circuits during 2017. In September 2018 he was appointed President of the Investigatory Powers Tribunal (his tenure ending on 31 October 2025). He was a visiting Professor of Law at the London School of Economics from 2003 to 2009 and a Visiting Fellow, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford from 2016 to 2019; and has been an Honorary Professor of Law at Nottingham University since 2007. His publications include *The Future of Human Rights in the UK* (1997); (as co-author with Sir Jack Beatson and others) *Human Rights: Judicial Protection in the UK* (2008); and *The Unity of Law* (2022). He was appointed a Lord Justice of Appeal in October 2017.

Closing remarks: **Prof Hugh Corder and Prof Jason Varuhas**

---

The organisation and staging of a conference such as this Public Law Conference would be impossible without the generous and willing support of a number of donors, all of which are based in South Africa. The 2026 Organising Committee would like to express its great gratitude to the following bodies whose financial and in-kind support has made this event possible:

The Millennium Foundation

The University of Cape Town, the University of the Western Cape, and Stellenbosch University, in each instance through the Dean of Law.

Attorneys Firms: Bowmans (who particularly wished to be associated with support to enable African scholars to attend); Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr; ENS; and Webber Wentzel.

Law Publishers: Juta and Company