

THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER 2021

17h30 – 18h30

speakers: *in person* | participants: *MS teams*

LAUNCH



**CORPORATE LAW
& GOVERNANCE UNIT**

Microsoft Teams meeting

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PROGRAMME

The UCT Department of Commercial Law warmly invites you to attend the virtual launch of our new Corporate Law and Governance Unit (CLGU).

An introduction to the CLGU, and its planned research and teaching activities, will take the form of a live discussion between the CLGU members to be hosted at the offices of Webber Wentzel Attorneys in Cape Town. Audience participation will take place online via MS Teams (*link on first page*).

Various aspects of corporate governance that bridge academia and practice, and which form part of the current focus of CLGU research and teaching, will be introduced in this topical discussion.



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17h30 – 18h30



**CORPORATE LAW
& GOVERNANCE UNIT**

Welcome and introduction

Professor Jacqui Yeats
UCT Department of Commercial
Director, CLGU

Artificial Intelligence, 'Business Judgement' and Corporate Governance

Dr Helena Stoop
UCT Department of Commercial Law
Senior Lecturer

Employee Representation on South African Boards: Company Law and Labour Law Considerations

Professor Jacqui Yeats
& Dr Emma Fergus
UCT Department of Commercial Law
Senior Lecturer

The Elusive Quest for Board Primacy in State- Owned Companies

Dr Tebello Thabane
UCT Department of Commercial Law
Senior Lecturer

Creating Shared Value Under the Companies Act

Mikovhe Maphiri
UCT Department of Commercial Law
Lecturer & PhD Candidate

ESG and the Board of Directors: The Current Climate

Giles White
Senior Adviser, Webber Wentzel
Attorneys
& Adjunct Associate Professor
UCT Department of Commercial Law

SPEAKER BIOS

Professor Jacqui Yeats UCT Department of Commercial Director, CLGU

Professor Jacqueline Yeats BA LLB LLM (University of Stellenbosch) PhD (UCT), Attorney of the High Court of South Africa, joined the Commercial Law Department of UCT in 2005. She teaches company law and corporate governance at Postgraduate (LLB and LLM) level. Prior to joining UCT she practised as a commercial attorney at Werksmans and ENS. Her areas of interest, research and publication include company law, corporate governance, securities, fundamental transactions and shareholder activism. She is a co-author and the Managing Editor of Juta's multi-volume work, *Commentary on the Companies Act of 2008*. Jacqueline is the Director of the Corporate Law and Governance Unit.

Dr Helena Stoop UCT Department of Commercial Law Senior Lecturer

Helena is currently a senior lecturer in the Department of Commercial Law at the University of Cape Town. She was awarded the Commonwealth Scholarship in 2016 and commenced her PhD studies at Durham University in October of the same year. She was awarded her PhD in 2020 which focussed on the interaction between voluntary corporate governance codes of best practice and mandatory company laws, with an emphasis on the duties of independent non-executive directors. Her primary fields of interest are Company Law, Corporate Insolvency, Corporate Governance, Insurance Law, and Legal Education. She has published on various aspects of these topics in notable South African journals and journals abroad.

A/Prof Jacqueline Yeats & Dr Emma Fergus

UCT Department of Commercial Law Senior Lecturer

After completing her LLB in 2006, and her articles of clerkship in 2009, Emma practised as an attorney at Bowman Gilfillan until May 2010. She left practice to pursue a PhD, awarded in 2013. Her primary research interests include organisational rights and collective bargaining, corporate governance in the workplace and judicial review of employers' and the CCMA's decisions. Emma is a full time senior lecturer in the UCT Department of Commercial Law. Emma is also a member of UCT Law's Labour, Development & Governance Unit, as well as the South African Society of Labour Lawyers.



SPEAKER BIOS

Dr Tebello Thabane

UCT Department of Commercial Law Senior Lecturer

Tebello holds two LLMs, from Pretoria and Free State, and recently completed his PhD at UCT Law. Tebello is an advocate of the High Courts of South Africa and Lesotho, and also holds postgraduate certificates in Corporate Compliance and Commercial Dispute Mediation. Tebello practiced as an advocate for several years and later served as the Principal Secretary and Chief Advisor to the Minister of Law and Constitutional Affairs in the government of Lesotho before joining the academy. He is a Senior Lecturer in the UCT Department of Commercial Law.



Mikovhe Maphiri

UCT Department of Commercial Law Lecturer & PhD Candidate

Mikovhe is a Lecturer and PhD Candidate in the UCT Department of Commercial Law. She is an Associate legal coordinator for the Telluride Association and serves as a Member of the Board of Directors of the Telluride Association in Ithaca, New York. Mikovhe was admitted as an Attorney of the High Court of South Africa in 2017, and holds her LLM in Commercial Law from UCT and her LLB from the University of Limpopo. Her research interests are focused on internal corporate governance with a special interest in sustainability, Corporate Social Responsibility and shared value within companies in South Africa.



Giles White

Senior Advisor, Webber Wentzel Attorneys & Adjunct Associate Prof UCT Department of Commercial Law

Giles White is a senior advisor at Webber Wentzel, advising the firm in executing its Africa strategy. Prior to joining the firm in 2015, Giles worked at Linklaters for more than 20 years as a banking and international finance partner and had roles as global head of the firm's finance and projects division and Asia managing partner. Giles then became general counsel and a main board director at the London-listed Asian conglomerate Jardine Matheson from 2009 to 2015. He joined Webber Wentzel in September 2015. He is currently a director of Matheson & Co. Ltd (a member of the Jardine Matheson Group), and serves as an adjunct associate professor in the UCT Law Faculty. Giles is a graduate of UCT Law and Oxford Law (Rhodes Scholar).

