



FUNDRAISING REPORT

2022

Faculty of Law
University of Cape Town





INTRODUCTION

Law schools are challenging study environments. For most students, entry into the world of Law is a calling, characterised by a genuine passion for the law and a desire to learn and develop as a legal professional. Our students, who are the primary focus of the Faculty's fundraising efforts, enter our programmes with a strong sense of commitment and an above-average determination to complete their studies and succeed in the world of work.

Once again in 2022 our staff, alumni, donors, friends and associates have shown matchless empathy and generosity in ensuring that our students are able to fulfil their dreams of completing tertiary study in law.

On the other hand, however, student financial aid has reached crisis proportions in South Africa. Professor Ahmed Bawa, former CEO of Universities South Africa, listed the eight biggest challenges that would face the South African university system in 2022, as follows:

- i. The legacy of uncertainty created by covid-19 and its aftermath
- ii. The government's inability to sustain the National Student Financial Aid Funding Scheme (NSFAS)
- iii. The continuing neglect of the "missing middle" students – students too poor to pay for higher education but not poor enough to be eligible for financial aid
- iv. Unpaid student debt which, at the end of 2021, stood at some R11bn
- v. Insufficient affordable student accommodation
- vi. Electrical power loadshedding and instability
- vii. Social unrest and gender-based violence
- viii. The impact of a faltering economy on higher education.

Of these eight concerns, *half* are directly connected to the inability of university students and their families to fund their studies.

According to Universities South Africa student debt stood at more than R16,5bn in 2022. Of the 1,1million students registered at public universities in South Africa in 2022, 50% were NSFAS recipients. However, the percentage of students on financial support of some kind was much greater as many universities fund students through other scholarship schemes, fundraising initiatives, and partnerships with donors and sponsors in the private and commercial sectors.

The sobering decision of NSFAS to withdraw funding from graduate programme LLB students has had a tremendously negative effect on law students across the country. While our four-year LLB students eligible for NSFAS funding are still supported by the scheme, both our two-year and three-year graduate LLB students are now firmly unfunded.

Despite this sobering reality, our students persevere. We conferred 12 Postgraduate Diplomas, 151 LLB degrees, 166 Master's qualifications and 21 PhDs in 2022. Our students continue to be a source of inspiration and renewal for all of us in the Faculty.

We deeply appreciate the support we receive from all our donors. Together we ensure that UCT Law continues to provide the best Law programmes and graduates on the continent.

EXCELLENCE IN LAW

The Excellence in Law annual fundraising drive is the backbone of our integrated student support programme. As a result of the funds we raise, over and above our government subsidy, we are able to provide scholarships, emergency or crisis funding, mentorship programmes, healthcare assistance, study spaces and much more, to the benefit of all our students.

Between Dec 2021 and Dec 2022 we raised R2.5million. This amount excludes income earned from invested funds.

Donor	2 490 908
UCT Fund (USA)	145 124
UCT Trust (UK)	307 918
Alumni and Friends Annual fund	201 975
Mauerberger Foundation	175 000
Radiant Law	100 000
Law@work contribution to Annual Fund	1 000 000
Sir Frank Berman Fellowships	691 503

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships for LLB students in 2022

Twenty eight scholarships from donor-supported funds totalling R1,62m were awarded to LLB students in 2022. In addition the Faculty was able to source a once-off special amount of R1,5million to assist an additional 24 students affected by the NSFAS withdrawal of support for graduate programme LLB students.

Scholarship Name	52
Herold Gie Scholarship	1
Excellence in Law Scholarships	18
Everard and Joan McFarlane Family Leadership Scholarships	7
Sir Frank Berman Fellowships	2
Special Faculty Scholarships	24

CENSUS CATEGORIES	TOTAL	<i>2-year programme</i>	<i>3-year programme</i>	<i>4-year programme</i>	<i>5-year programme</i>
	52				
African Female	15	5	7	3	
African Male	17	2	14	1	
Coloured Female	12	7		4	1
Coloured Male	6	3	3		
White Female	1	1			
White Male	1		1		

Note: These categories are as defined by the South African census.

Postgraduate Scholarships 2022

Thirty-six postgraduate scholarships were awarded from donor-supported funds in 2022.

Scholarship Name	36
Alexander Burman Memorial Grant	1
Basil & Con Corder Scholarship	1
Beric Croome Postgraduate Tax Law Scholarship	1
Dikgang Moseneke Postgraduate Fellowships	2
Excellence in Law Postgraduate Scholarships	13
Sir William Solomon Memorial Scholarships	7
Wilfred Kramer Law Grants	11

STUDENT CRISIS FUND

In addition to the focus on scholarships, Faculty fundraising also supports another critical fund, the Student Crisis Fund. This fund enables us to assist students with medical and travel emergencies. Most often students who are assisted are those whose are away from their families and the communities to whom they would have had recourse. Students may make application to the fund at any time and need is assessed and appropriately supported within 24 hours where possible to minimise student stress. In 2022 R27,000 was spent assisting students in emergency situations.

SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION PROCESS

The Faculty's donor-funded scholarship funding and awards process is managed by Faculty committees which report regularly to the Faculty Board and to the Faculty's Endowment Fund Advisory Board.

For LLB scholarships, a call for applications is sent out in November each year with a closing date at end-November / beginning-December. The Faculty's Undergraduate (LLB) Scholarship Committee meets to review the applications against stringent eligibility criteria, and ranks them on both academic and financial criteria. The scholarships are then managed from the Development & Marketing desk in the Faculty.

For postgraduate scholarships, a similar process is followed with a call in December for the following year. The Postgraduate Scholarships Committee meets to review applications and assess these against stringent scholarships criteria. This process of applications and awards is administered by the Faculty Office.

FROM OUR STUDENTS

"... I believe in us. I believe in what we can do together, in what we will do together. All we need is a fighting chance" - a quote by Elizabeth Warren that reminds me of my journey at the University of Cape Town.

The Excellence in Law scholarship gave me a fighting chance. Since receiving the acceptance letter, I have felt as though someone was constantly cheering me on, telling me they believed in me, and in what I can do. The scholarship not only believed in me and my capabilities, but it has allowed me to realise my dreams.

Today, I am in my final year, with only a few months left until I am a UCT Law graduate. I will forever be indebted to UCT, the Excellence in Law scholarship, and the sponsors of the scholarship.

Mulanga Mugivhi

I always say it should not be that young people with so much potential are denied their dreams because of issues around funding. For me the scholarship has meant access to opportunity, and access to the chance to reach my dreams, and relaxed anxieties.

I want to be a lawyer, a good one. And I realise that sometimes help is needed along our journeys. The scholarship has been that help, help to inch even closer to accessing opportunity and reaching that dream. It's invaluable to me that there are people invested in helping me reach that dream and goal.

It also means relaxing the financial anxieties that have attached to the latter part of my time at UCT (since NSFAS withdrew funding), not only for me, but for my family and, in particular, my mother. No parent should feel helpless about helping their child. The scholarship means that is not a burden my mother has to carry alone.

Siphenkosi Hlangu

As a recipient of this scholarship for three consecutive years, I can assure you that your donation has changed my life in significant ways. First, your contribution has fundamentally eased the financial burden that comes with Law school, which has allowed me to invest more time and effort in my studies, given that I do not have to worry about how I will pay the greater portion of my tuition. This is not something I take for granted.

Your contribution has also inspired me to step into my potential and achieve the goals that I have set out for myself. With your support, I have been able to participate in extracurricular opportunities such as vacation work - which have been instrumental in my professional and personal development, and I cannot thank you enough.

I hope that one day I will be able to give back and help other Law students achieve their goals, just as you have assisted me in achieving mine. I am sincerely grateful for your investment in my education. Thank you once again for your support through the Excellence in Law Scholarship. It is truly appreciated.

Anelisa Zungu

I want every donor to know that I appreciate all the contributions you have made to my personal, professional and intellectual development. Thank you so much. I will continue paying forward what you have contributed to my education!

Sabelo Ndlovu

THANK YOU

We are able meaningfully to care for our students because of the support we receive from our alumni, donors, and friends. The generosity with which our fundraising calls are answered makes us immensely proud of the UCT Law Family.

On behalf of all our staff and students, we would like to express our sincere appreciation of your support. Thank you.

Together we continue to build our programmes, our profession, and our community in service of our people, our country, and our continent.

Gabrielle Ritchie

Development & Marketing Manager

gaby.ritchie@uct.ac.za * 021 650 5602 / 082 453 9827 * @UCTLaw