

# ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS' *Awards*

*3 November 2022*



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA  
UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA  
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***Congratulations***  
*to all our academic achievers  
who push the University of  
Pretoria to greater heights.*

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# Welcome

**Professor Tawana Kupe**

*Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Pretoria*

The time has come for us to celebrate and honour our hardworking achievers. As you all know, at the University of Pretoria we are driven to produce socially impactful research to find solutions for the world's most pressing issues. The Academic Achievers Awards acknowledge the work of our academics, who increasingly ensure that their research helps to solve "real-life problems" and has a transformative impact on both the South African and global communities through transcending disciplines, allowing for transdisciplinary collaborations.

This year, we are honouring more than 130 UP academics with various awards. The Exceptional Academic Achiever award is made to senior academics who have already achieved the status of professor and have consistently excelled in the areas of under- and postgraduate teaching and learning, research, community service and administration. The Exceptional Young Researchers award is given to exceptional young achievers in the field of research, as seen against UP's strategic goals of achieving academic excellence, international competitiveness and local relevance.

The Chancellor's Award is made in recognition of exceptional achievement in the field of research aimed at the advancement of science, and the associated promotion of UP's interests. The Teaching Excellence Laureate Awards are awarded to nominated projects that display teaching practices with clear purpose and intent.

The Community Engagement Award is awarded to one individual to recognise community engagement as a long-standing and valued tradition and an extensive, high-impact practice in teaching. We also confer three awards under The Conversation Africa Science Communication Awards category, plus we also honour our NRF-rated academics.

In 2021 alone, we at UP have had the highest number of rated researchers (592) nationally, ahead of UCT (502) and Wits (398). In 2022, UP remains at the helm and leads the pack with a total of 611 rated researchers! In addition, UP is home to a total of 17 SARChI grant holders, 85 research entities, 32 industry-funded chairs and 15 A-rated researchers. Indeed, this is something we should acknowledge and celebrate.

As you know, the world has now shifted from the hard lockdowns of the past two years caused by the pandemic. Many companies and organisations, including ours, have had to adjust to a new reality. This is where our institution comes in. It is our duty as academics and researchers to find solutions to the various problems our society faces.

The academics featured in this book all play a role in solving humanity's challenges at both the local and global level. Your hard work has ensured that UP remains a beacon of light during these difficult times. You, hand in hand with our other members of staff, have contributed to UP being ranked second in SA and 190th in the world, according to the employer reputation indicator in the latest QS World University Rankings (WUR).

The University has also improved its indicators for academic reputation (now ranked 4th in SA and 359th in the world) and international faculty (now ranked 4th in SA and 464th in the world).

The Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering has come out as the top Mechanical Engineering department in South Africa in the latest Shanghai Ranking, as well as ranking in the top 200 Mechanical Engineering departments worldwide. The Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences (EMS) moved up in the 2022 Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings by Subject. For the 2022 rankings, EMS is ranked in the top 250 for the Economics and Econometrics subject areas.

A man with short dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue pinstriped suit, a white shirt, and a patterned tie, is sitting on a bright yellow armchair. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is a wall of light-colored wood paneling. A semi-transparent dark grey box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing two paragraphs of white text. A blue L-shaped graphic element is positioned below the first paragraph.

The Faculty improved in the global rankings for these subject areas. UP has also been ranked among the world's top universities for the study of 20 subjects (up from 18 in 2021) in the 2022 QS World University Rankings by Subject.

Thank you all for your contributions. Your work and contribution are central to our aims of bridging the gap between addressing current realities while aspiring to a better future.

# Message from the Chairperson of Council

*Mr Kuseni Dlamini*

It fills me with pride to be able to say that the University of Pretoria is a shining example of excellence, innovation and relevance. It is all credit to the UP community where outstanding academics, as evidenced by all those featured in this publication, are playing their part in building a culture of world-class teaching and learning, research and engagement. They are doing this irrespective of the extremely difficult challenges our higher education sector and country are facing.

A culture of achievement and excellence in basic and higher education is essential for a country to thrive. At many levels this culture is being tested in South Africa, but UP is a flagship, a green light of possibility that no matter where you come from, you can become a graduate of- and academic at this finest of research-intensive universities.

The world urgently needs well-educated, intelligent leaders who see the way forward to create a better country, a better world. Universities play a critical role in achieving this. At UP we are constantly reimagining, rethinking and repositioning the University to achieve ever-greater social, environmental and economic impact. Mobilising the entire University community towards improving our agility and responsiveness is central to our success.

UP academics are pursuing innovative teaching and research across all disciplines to find solutions to the global problems articulated in the Strategic Development Goals and Africa Agenda 2063. UP is leading with new technologies and systems that help to advance humanity. The golden thread linking all these endeavours is the maintenance of the highest standards, ethical values and principles.

Thank you and congratulations to our academics for your outstanding contribution.



# Keynote address

**Professor Kopano Ratele**

*Department of Psychology, Stellenbosch University*

Professor Kopano Ratele is a professor of psychology at the University of Stellenbosch and head of the Stellenbosch Centre for Critical and Creative Thought. He is the former director of the South African Medical Research Council-University of South Africa's Masculinity and Health Research Unit and a former research professor at the University of South Africa, where he ran the Transdisciplinary African Psychologies Programme. Among several roles he has played, and positions held, Professor Ratele was a member of the second Ministerial Committee on Transformation of South African Universities, former chairperson of Sonke Gender Justice, and former president of the Psychological Society of South Africa. He is a management committee member of the Department of Science and Innovation-National Research Foundation (DSI-NRF) Centre of Excellence in Human Development and a national advisory board member for the Future Professors Programme.

Professor Ratele is a regular guest on national radio stations. He has a regular fatherhood feature on Wednesday night on SAfm's The Meeting Point with Koketso Sachane.

He has published extensively in South African and international journals. His books include *There Was This Goat: Investigating the Truth Commission Testimony of Notrose Nobomvu Konile* (2009, co-authored with Antjie Krog and Nosisi Mpolweni), *Liberating Masculinities* (2016), *Engaging Youth in Activism, Research and pedagogical Praxis: Transnational and Intersectional Perspectives on Gender, Sex, and Race* (2018, co-edited with Jeff Hearn, Tammy Shefer, and Floretta Boonzaier) and *The World Looks Like This From Here: Thoughts on African Psychology* (2019). His latest, *Why Men Hurt Women and Other Reflections on Love, Violence and Masculinity*, was published on September 1 2022.



# Chancellor's Award

***Emeritus Justice Sisi Khampepe***  
*Chancellor, University of Pretoria*

*The Chancellor's Award is made in recognition of exceptional achievement in the field of research aimed at the advancement of science, and the associated promotion of the interests of the University of Pretoria.*

## Recipients

***Research:***

Professor Charles Fombad

***Teaching and Learning:***

Professor Karen Harris





*Professor Charles Fombad is a full professor in the Centre for Human Rights in the Faculty of Law. He is currently the Director of the Institute for International and Comparative Law in Africa (ICLA).*



Professor Fombad's research field can broadly be characterised as 'comparative constitutionalism in Africa'. His work often provides a holistic and comprehensive perspective based on his extensive experience and ability to bridge "common law" and "civil law" African legal traditions.

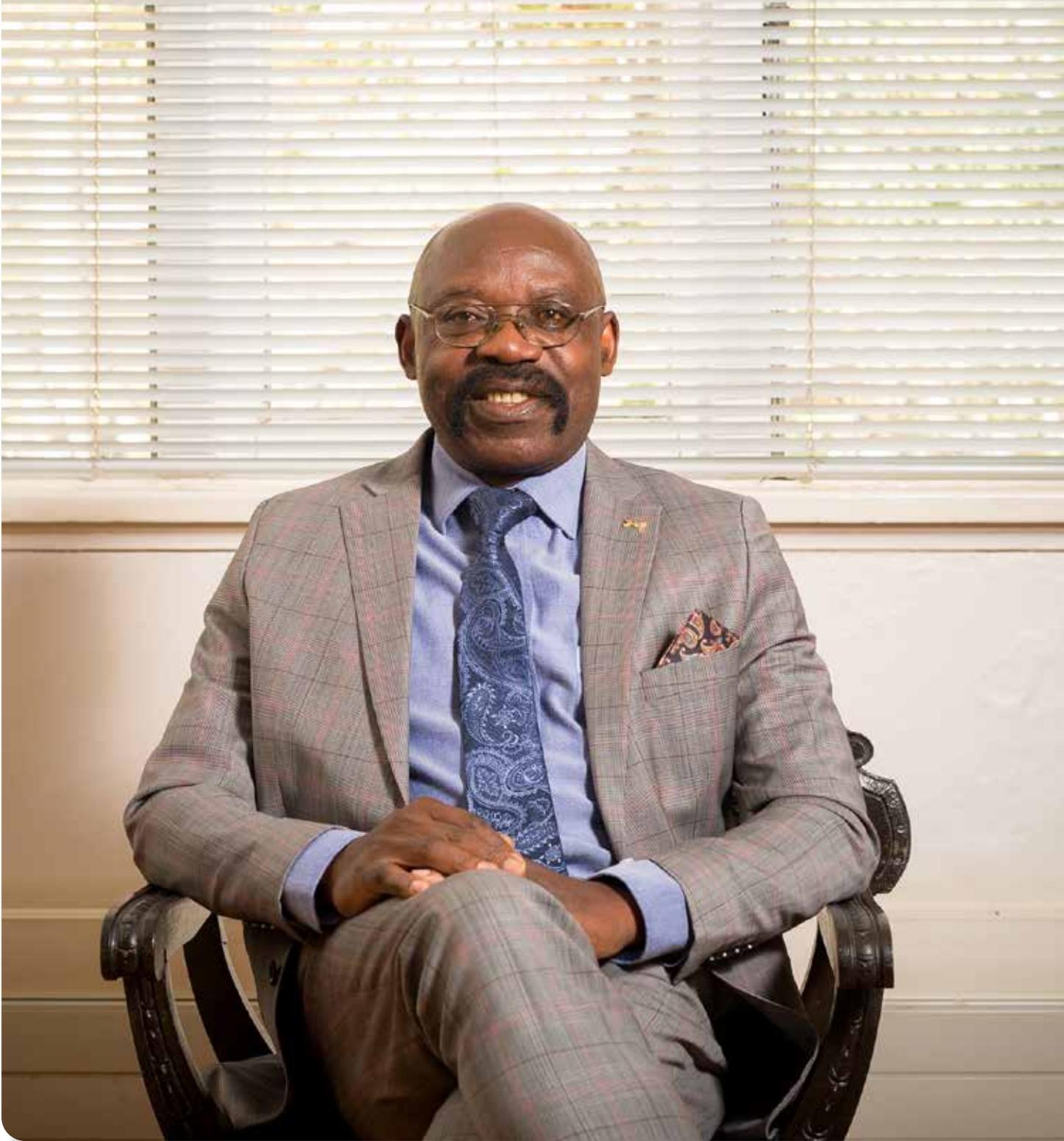
His research is of great relevance and importance to contemporary debates and discussions around constitutionalism in Africa and South Africa. Some of his major publications have dealt with issues such as the evolution of legal systems, judicial reforms, constitutional adjudication, and constitutional change in Africa. Over his career, he has published more than 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals, 63 book chapters in peer-reviewed books, and 16 books (authored, co-authored, edited or co-edited). Professor Fombad's academic articles have been published in the world's leading scholarly journals in his field.

His book chapters are in volumes of essays published by the world's leading publishers, such as Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Ashgate, Edward Elgar Publishing, Brill Publishers (Martinus Nijhoff), Palgrave Macmillan and Springer. His leading books on comparative African constitutional law in the Stellenbosch Handbooks in African Constitutional Law series, the only work of this type on the continent, are published by Oxford University Press. As a result of his research, Professor Fombad

has received several best article awards and special commendations have been for his research output. Professor Fombad is also a visiting professor at several African universities.

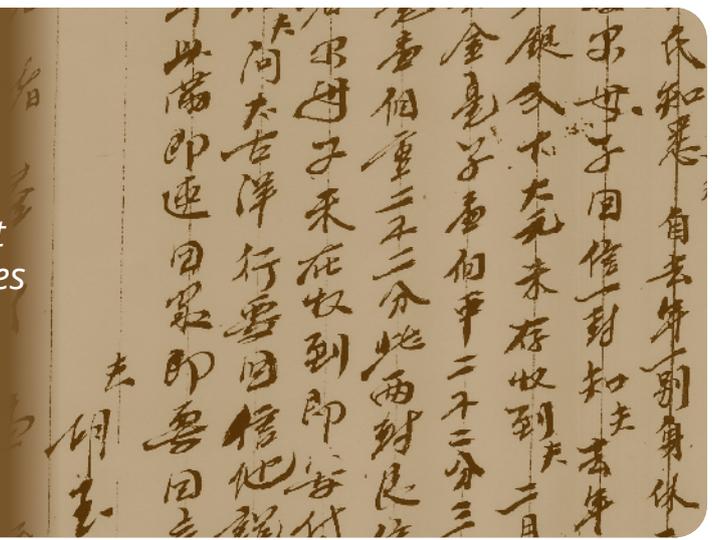
He has written several expert reports as a consultant for international bodies such as the African Union, the Max Planck Foundation for International Peace and the Rule of Law, the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) programme for Sub-Saharan Africa and East Asia, and the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (SIDA).

Professor Fombad is an NRF B1-rated researcher and a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa, an associate member of the International Academy of Comparative Law and a fellow of the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study. Since 2006, he has been a member of the Executive Committee of the International Association of Constitutional Law and is one of its four vice presidents. He is a member of the international advisory board of at least 15 national and international journals. Professor Fombad is also the coordinator of the Pretoria University Law Press (PULP) management committee, which publishes five accredited journals and has published over 250 books on African law. This has reinforced the position of our law faculty as the leading law faculty in Africa and one of the top faculties in the world.



*Professor Charles Fombad*

Professor Karen Harris is a full professor in the Department of Historical and Heritage Studies in the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Pretoria.



## Professor Karen Harris

Professor Harris is the Head of this Department and the Director of the University Archives. She lectures undergraduate and postgraduate students in history, heritage and cultural tourism. Apart from being a pioneer of heritage and cultural tourism at the tertiary level, Professor Harris has also developed several teaching innovations in history. For example, she was the innovator of the archival “What’s in the Box?” honours project which has been described as an ‘exciting, empirical and deeply critical exercise in one of the most important modules of a budding historian’s university career’. Professor Harris is also the founder of the MD club, a platform for post-graduate students to interact in their research and writing. In 2019 she was the recipient of a Faculty Teaching Award for developing the award-winning UP Campus Tours in the postgraduate honours degree as part of Work Integrated Learning. Professor Harris has supervised over 50 master’s dissertations and doctoral theses in history and heritage and cultural tourism, several of which have received international awards. She also received the Faculty of Humanities Best Supervisor Award in 2019.

Professor Harris is the Chairperson of the Historical Association of South Africa (HASA) and an Executive Board Member of the International Society for the Study of Chinese Overseas (ISSCO). She also holds editorial positions in both local and international academic journals. Professor Harris was a ministerial appointment to the National Archives Advisory Council (2005–2008) and, since 2012, the Principal Investigator in 12 research projects conducted for the South African Department of Tourism. At university level, she is a member of the Heritage Committee, Documents Committee, and Archives Advisory Committee. At a faculty level, she chairs the Research and Ethics Committee and is also the Principal Investigator of the Mellon-funded project “Engaging the Archive and Counter Archive”. Her directorship of the University Archives established it as a leading institutional archive in the country.

Her research specialises in the history of the overseas Chinese, a field in which she was a pioneer some three decades ago. She is regarded as an authority on the history of the Chinese in South Africa and has written extensively on the subject. She was also involved in the Chinese Association of South Africa’s (CASA) successful high court case regarding Black Economic Empowerment (BEE). She has written numerous chapters and articles on the overseas Chinese in South Africa from a legal, economic and social perspective both in a local and international context and has presented over 50 papers on the topic.

She has been repeatedly invited as a keynote speaker at a number of local and international organisations. These include the Historical Association of South Africa, World Federation of Tourist Guides Association and the Department of Tourism and presented the Annual Archive lecture at the University of South Africa (UNISA). Her more recent publications include *Rising China and the history of the South African Chinese*; *The Construction of ‘Otherness’: A history of Chinese migrants in South Africa*; *Taking History on Tour: Lowering the disciplinary drawbridge*; *Insourcing the Indigenous Without Outsourcing the Story Teller: A Sustainable African Solution*; and *Pandemic Classroom: grouping or groping the digital divide* — all of which reflect the diverse range of her research.

Her leadership skills have been described as “exceptional”, and she has been lauded as an “industry thought leader”.

# Vice-Chancellor's Book Award

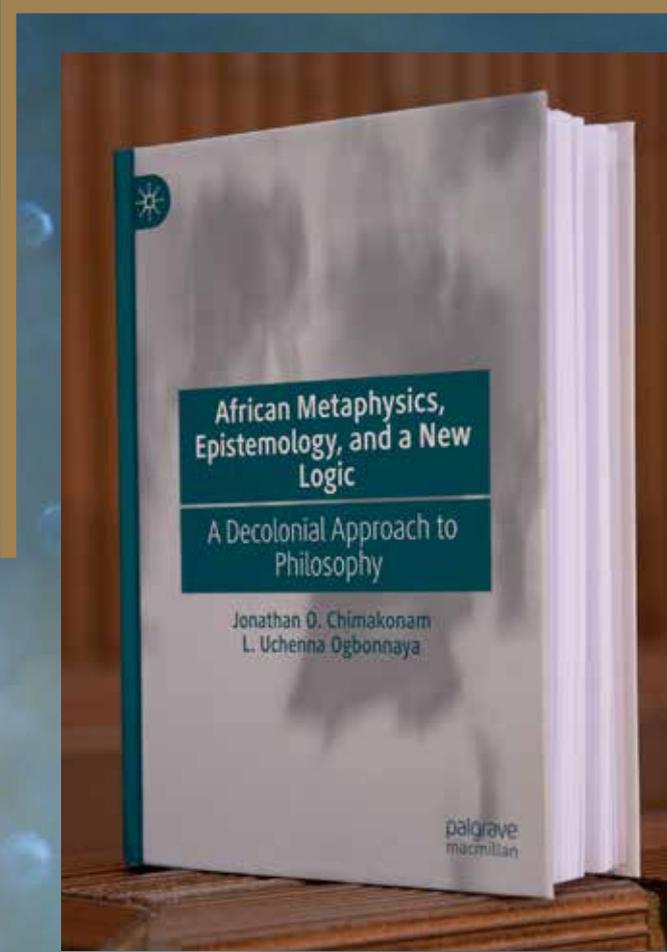
*The University of Pretoria introduced the Vice-Chancellor's Book Award to recognise and reward authors of scholarly books, monographs and collections. The prizes are awarded once a year in two categories, namely humanities and social sciences (broadly defined) or natural and applied sciences.*

*A book is considered to be scholarly if it presents the findings of an original, systematic investigation undertaken to gain new knowledge and insight, advances knowledge in a particular discipline, and brings credit to the University. Scholarly books may be written in any of South Africa's official languages, and translations of major works originally published in other languages are also considered. To qualify for nomination, books should bring credit to the University on account of their contribution to the advancement of the humanities, the social sciences, or the natural and applied sciences.*

## Recipients

*African Metaphysics, Epistemology And A New Logic:  
A Decolonial Approach To Philosophy*

Dr Jonathan Okeke Chimakonam  
Dr Uchenna Ogbonnaya



Dr Jonathan Okeke Chimakonam is an associate professor in the Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Humanities.



Dr Chimakonam holds a PhD in mathematical logic from the University of Calabar, Nigeria. He has taught several modules in both African and Western philosophies. Currently, he teaches the Ethics and Political Philosophy module. He has served on the Faculty's research and ethics committees and currently serves on the University's Education Consultants T&L Consultative Forum, the Faculty NRF Review panel and coordinates the UP Philosophy seminar. He is also on the Decoloniality Research Group at a departmental level.

His research interests include the history, logic, and methods of African philosophy, decoloniality, ethics, and philosophy of religion. His publications in reputable international journals and presses include articles (64), chapters (39), books (16), dictionary and encyclopaedia entries (three), published conferences and talks (six), interviews and blogs (ten). His academic work is well-cited and in addition to this, he is the subject of a master's thesis that was completed at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Department of History titled: *Jonathan Chimakonam: An Intellectual Biography of an African Philosopher*.

In philosophy, African studies and interdisciplinary studies, Dr Chimakonam developed the system of conversational thinking. This consists of the theory of conversational philosophy, the method of

conversationalism and the system of logic called Ezumezu that grounds them. The latter has been a subject of international colloquia, reviews and interviews. Several ongoing postgraduate theses in different universities apply his method or discuss his theories. He is the principal investigator in three ongoing funded research projects on the African philosophy of religion and decoloniality.

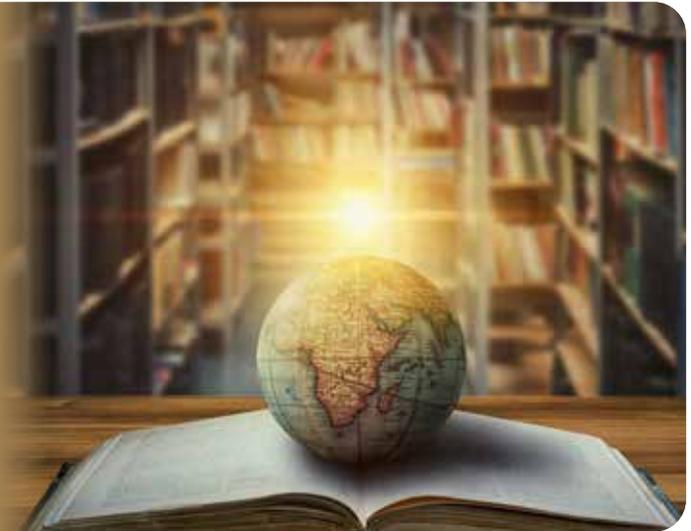
In 2021 he received the University of Pretoria's Exceptional Young Researchers Award and the National Research Foundation of South Africa C1 rating. He also received the NRF incentive award for 2021. He is the editor of *Filosofia Theoretica: Journal of African philosophy, Culture and Religions*.

Dr Chimakonam is also the area editor (African philosophy) for the *Internet Encyclopedia of Philosophy*, published by the University of Tennessee. He is a senior research fellow at the College of Fellows: Center for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Studies, Tübingen University, Germany. He has also served and continues to serve as an external reviewer, assessor and peer evaluator both within and outside the country for universities, funding organisations and professional bodies. He is the current president of the Conversational Society of Philosophy (CSP) and serves on the board of several other professional societies.



*Dr Jonathan Okeke Chimakonam*

*Dr Uchenna Ogbonnaya is a postdoc in the Department of Philosophy in the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Pretoria.*



He holds a PhD from the University of Calabar, Nigeria, supervised by Dr Jonathan Okeke Chimakonam.

Dr Ogbonnaya's areas of specialisation and research interest include African philosophy, logic, metaphysics, applied philosophy, and philosophy of religion.

He has authored articles and chapters in international journals and edited collections. He has also presented at international conferences. He is also an editorial assistant for *Filosofia Theoretica: Journal of African Philosophy, Culture and Religions*.

He is a member and secretary of the Conversational Society of Philosophy (CSP) and is the coordinator of their Monthly Seminar Gathering (MSG).

Furthermore, he is a reviewer for the *South African Journal of Philosophy*. Dr Ogbonnaya is currently working on a research project titled: 'Decoloniality through Conversational Thinking' with Dr Chimakonam for his postdoctoral. He has also co-authored a book with Dr Chimakonam titled *African Metaphysics, Epistemology, and a New Logic: A Decolonial Approach to Philosophy*.



*Dr Uchenna Ogbonnaya*

# Exceptional Academic Achievers Awards

*This is awarded annually to senior academics who have already achieved the status of professor, are regarded highly by their peers, and have consistently excelled in the areas of under- and postgraduate teaching and learning, research, community service and administration over a period of time.*

*Any academic who has been awarded an A-rating by the NRF in the year under consideration automatically qualifies as an Exceptional Achiever for as long as he or she remains an A-rated researcher.*

## Recipients

Professor Steve Cornelius  
Professor André Ganswindt  
Professor Christian Pirk  
Professor Vasu Reddy  
Professor Ann Skelton  
Professor Alta van der Merwe



*Professor Steve Cornelius is  
Head of the Department of  
Private Law, Faculty of Law.*





## Professor Steve Cornelius

He teaches law of contract and law of delict at the undergraduate level. He is the course coordinator for the LLM in law of contract and the LLM in private law programmes. Professor Cornelius obtained B Juris and LLB degrees from the University of South Africa and a LLD degree from the University of Pretoria. He is admitted to practice as an advocate of the High Court of South Africa.

He has published over 85 journal articles, three books, and 13 chapters. His principal area of research is the legal concept of fair play in sports and the significance of fundamental human rights in sports. In addition, he also conducts research on the drafting and interpretation of contracts.

Professor Cornelius produces research which has a clear social impact. His work has been cited 12 times with approval by the Supreme Court of Appeal and high courts in South Africa, Namibia and Eswatini. He has successfully supervised ten doctoral candidates and 50 master's students. Postgraduate students who completed their research under the supervision of Professor Cornelius are now lecturers at the University of Stellenbosch, University of the Free State, University of Johannesburg, Rhodes University, University of the Witwatersrand, University of Pretoria, Lagos State University and Anglia Ruskin University.

In 2017, he was appointed as a member of the Disciplinary Tribunal of the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF). He resigned in April 2018 to protest against the adoption of the new IAAF eligibility in regulations for female classification. This action attracted global media attention and helped to galvanise a global public opinion which is overwhelmingly opposed to the oppressive nature of these new regulations. Professor Cornelius was summoned to Parliament and invited to join a high-level panel that would advise Sport and Recreation South Africa on its opposition to the IAAF regulations. Athletics South Africa also invited him to join its legal team that challenged the legality of the IAAF regulations before the Court of Arbitration for Sport and the Swiss Federal Tribunal. He is still part of the legal team, which has now taken the matter to the European Court of Human Rights.

Professor Cornelius serves as a member of the Independent Doping Hearing Panel for South African Sport, the Independent Hearing Panel of the Badminton World Federation, the Asian Racing Federation Council on Anti-Illegal Betting and Related Financial Crime and the Council of Experts of the Canadian Sports Law and Governance Association. He is a fellow of the Association of Arbitrators of Southern Africa and has been called upon to mediate in sports-related disputes. He served as an independent director on the board of Cricket South Africa, where he also chaired the CSA Audit Committee and CSA Social and Ethics Committee.

Professor Cornelius was invited to join the panel of experts on Organised Crime and Sport, which advises the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on the involvement of organised crime in match-fixing, corruption and other crimes such as money laundering in sport. He was also invited to join the panel of experts on Competition Manipulation, which advises the UNODC on the various forms of match-fixing and manipulation of sports competitions.

Professor Cornelius received a B2 rating from the National Research Foundation and was awarded a Bando Visiting Professor Scholarship by the Italian government to work at the Faculty of Law of the University of Cagliari.

Professor André Ganswindt is a full professor in the Department of Zoology and Entomology, teaching at the undergraduate and honours level in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences and the Faculty of Veterinary Science.



He is also the Director of the Mammal Research Institute at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. By training, he is a behavioural endocrinologist, addressing questions concerning regulative endocrine mechanisms in mammals, reptiles and birds, thereby establishing and validating non-invasive tools for monitoring reproductive function and responses to stressors in captive and free-ranging animals. His longstanding research activities focus primarily on fundamental and applied studies in the field of wildlife endocrinology, thereby interlinking these approaches with studies on animal conservation, climate change, human-wildlife conflict, land transformation, and urbanisation.

Professor Ganswindt has co-authored 161 peer-reviewed journal articles (WoS *h*-index: 23), three book chapters, and successfully co-supervised three BTech, 12 BSc Honours, two MMedVet, 23 master's, ten doctoral students, and mentored six postdoctoral fellows. He presented at over 40 national and 55 international conferences, workshops, and short courses, including 19 invited lectures. He currently co-supervises eight master's and nine doctoral students and is mentoring one postdoctoral fellow.

He holds a B2 rating from the National Research Foundation. He is a member of the International Society for Behavioral Ecology, Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour and the Ethologische Gesellschaft, and an interim board member of the Elephant Specialist Advisory Group - South Africa.

Professor Ganswindt is a research associate at the National Zoological Garden, Pretoria — SANBI, and the Centre for Veterinary Wildlife Research of the University of Pretoria, as well as the President of the Zoological Society of Southern Africa and the Chair of the International Society for Wildlife Endocrinology. In 2020, he was awarded membership in the Academy of Science of South Africa. Since 2021, he has held the Oppenheimer Chair for Emerging African Scientists in Non-invasive Wildlife Research.

Currently, Professor Ganswindt is an associated editor of *Royal Society Open Science and African Zoology*, a topic editor for *Diversity*, and a review editor for *Frontiers in Behavioural Neuroscience*, *Frontiers in Experimental Endocrinology* and *Frontiers in Mammal Science*.



*Professor André Ganswindt*



*Professor Christian Pirk is a full professor in the Department of Zoology and Entomology at the University of Pretoria, a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa and a fellow of the African Academy of Science.*

Professor Pirk leads the Social Insects Research Group, a vibrant group of more than 24 members, including faculty members, visiting researchers, and postdoctoral and postgraduate students.

Born in Berlin, Germany, he studied biology and mathematics at the Technical University Berlin before doing his PhD at Rhodes University.

His main research interest is in social insects, using a multi-disciplinary approach by combining mathematics, chemical ecology, behavioural studies, population analysis and molecular ecology. His research focus areas include the reproductive division of labour in honeybees, the resulting potential conflicts among members of an insect colony and the role of chemical ecology in resolving these conflicts. His research into pollinator's ecology and pollinator's health, including the effects of neonicotinoid pesticides, contributes directly to food security and sustainable agriculture. By asking fundamental questions, such as how insect diversity can be promoted within urban or agricultural setups, he addresses the overarching issues and provides insights into addressing these problems and future challenges. Professor Pirk also works on finding sustainable and viable solutions to Africa's big health problems, like vector-borne diseases.

Moreover, researching self-organisation in social insects, the organisation of groups, mechanisms of coordination and task allocation, and the role and means of communication in achieving coherent collective behaviour have applications in industrial processes. Professor Pirk has produced more than 160 publications in peer-reviewed journals, written several book chapters and published a book with two colleagues on honey bee nests.

His *h*-index is 33, and he has been cited more than 4300 times. He nurtures the next generation of researchers, academics and responsible citizens through his active involvement in knowledge transfer and capacity building, as reflected by his graduating 20 doctoral and 20 master's students. Professor Pirk received a B3 rating from the NRF.

In 2019 he was elected to the Academy of Science of South Africa council. In 2020, he joined the International Society of Chemical Ecology council and was recently elected to the Policy Advice Development and Programme Committee of the InterAcademy Partnership.

*Professor Christian Pirk*



*Professor Vasu Reddy is a full professor in the Department of Sociology and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities.*





## Professor Vasu Reddy

His research uses a sociological and specifically social theory lens within, for example (sociology, political sciences, media and cultural studies, and gender and sexuality studies) and across disciplines (such as public health, anthropology, and political sciences) to yield nuanced understandings of African sexualities, genders and inequalities.

Professor Reddy's research has been described as far-reaching, wide-ranging, rich in approach, engagement and subject matter and recognised as an "unavoidable" reference point for scholars globally when approaching LGBTI and queer issues or HIV/AIDS issues in Africa.

He has produced original evidence-based datasets and publications, which are transnational in reach and informed by collaborations with scholars in South Africa, and broadly the African continent, India, Europe, the United Kingdom and North America.

The publications show that stigma, discrimination, and social and health-care level homophobia continue to limit access to and uptake of, for example, essential services from testing to treatment. Such studies have also been taken up

in public health and rights-based interventions about sexual minorities and in global knowledge fields focused on queer sexualities.

Over and above articles in leading high-impact journals representing Professor Reddy's research, more recent book-length publications are *Queer in Africa: LGBTQI Identities, Citizenship and Activism* (with Zethu Matebeni & Surya Monro, 2018); *Queer Kinship: South African perspectives on the sexual politics of family-making and belonging* (with Tracy Morison and Ingrid Lynch, 2018); *State of the Nation: Poverty and Inequalities – Diagnosis, Prognosis, Responses* (with Crain Soudien and Ingrid Woolard, 2019); *The Fabric of Dissent: Public Intellectuals in South Africa* (lead editor with Narnia Bohler-Muller, Greg Houston, Maxi Schoeman and Heather Thuynsma, 2020); *State of the Nation: Ethics, Politics, Inequalities: New Directions* (with Narnia Bohler-Muller and Crain Soudien, 2021) and *University on the Border: Crisis of authority and precarity* (with Lis Lange and Siseko Kumalo, 2021).

Professor Reddy received a B1 rating from the NRF.

*Professor Ann Skelton is a professor of law at the University of Pretoria, where she holds the UNESCO Chair: Education Law in Africa.*





## Professor Ann Skelton

She holds BA LLB (UKZN) and LLD (Pret.) degrees. Professor Skelton teaches child law and education law at under- and postgraduate levels and has finalised nine doctorates in ten years as a supervisor. She is an internationally recognised researcher who has published widely on international children's rights, education law and restorative justice. She holds a B1 rating from the NRF and is a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa.

In addition to her teaching obligations at the University of Pretoria, she teaches international children's rights at master's level at the University of Oxford, where she has served as an examiner on a doctorate and supervisor on several master's dissertations. She is a visiting professor of the University of Strathclyde and is the first holder of the Rotating Honorary Chair: Enforcement of Children's Rights at Leiden University, where she teaches children's rights and supervises students at master's level. She frequently addresses audiences in various parts of the world.

Professor Skelton has worked as a children's rights lawyer for over 30 years. She played a leading role in child law reform through her involvement with the committees of the South African Law Reform Commission that drafted the Child Justice Act and the Children's Act. Professor Skelton was the Director of UP's Centre for Child Law for over a decade and initiated its strategic impact litigation work. She is an advocate and has appeared as counsel in many landmark child law cases at South African courts, including 12 cases at the Constitutional Court.

Her awards include the honorary World's Children's Prize, presented by Queen Sylvia of Sweden (2012) and the Juvenile Justice Without Borders Award, presented by the International Observatory on Juvenile Justice (2017). She is currently an international ambassador for the British Society of Criminology. She was the chairperson of the Advisory Board of the United Nations Global Study on Children Deprived of their Liberty, and she also chaired the expert committee that drafted the Abidjan Principles on states' obligations regarding public education and the regulation of private education.

Professor Skelton currently serves as a member of the highest United Nations body on children's rights - the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, which meets regularly in Geneva to oversee the progress of States Parties under the Convention on the Rights of the Child. She currently chairs the complaints mechanism of that committee, which is a quasi-judicial role. Her term of office ends in February 2025.

*Professor Alta van der Merwe is the Deputy Dean of Teaching and Learning within the EBIT Faculty at the University of Pretoria.*



She is also a full professor in the Department of Informatics, supervising postgraduate students. Professor Van der Merwe focuses on the design of socio-technical solutions with research activities in enterprise architecture, Society 5.0, design science research and different theories supporting the successful use of technology organisations. Her research related to her position as Deputy Dean of Teaching and Learning focuses on student success, especially using technology to enhance throughput.

Her research is of high quality. She recently received the Best Paper Award at one of the top conferences, DESRIST 2022, where she was a co-author with Professor Hanlie Smuts, Robert Winter and Aurna Gerber.

Professor Van der Merwe is the past president of the South African Institute for Computer Scientists and Information Technologists (SAICSIT) and a past council member of the Southern African Chapter of the Association for Information Systems (AISSAC). Internationally, she was involved in the proposal and acceptance of the IEEE SMC Enterprise Engineering and Enterprise Architecture Technical Committee.

In 2018 she was appointed as the IFIP 8 vice-chair, and until 2020 she was also the South African representative for the International IFIP 8 committee. At the end of 2021, she was awarded the AISSAC Lifelong Award (2021) for her contribution to the field of Information Systems in South Africa.

Her passion is postgraduate supervision, and she has supervised or co-supervised 25 doctoral students. Professor Van der Merwe's research has frequently been published in journals, conference papers and book chapters. She also reviews top journals in the information systems field. She is an associate editor for the *Journal of Industrial Information Integration* and specialist editor for the *Computer, Information Systems and Software Engineering* track for Trans SAIEE.

She holds a B3 NRF rating and has served as the chair of the NRF rating panel.



*Professor Alta van der Merwe*

# Exceptional Young Researchers

*This award is given to exceptional young achievers in the field of research, as seen against the University's strategic goals of achieving academic excellence, international competitiveness and local relevance.*

*Any person who has been evaluated by the NRF as a P-rated researcher automatically enjoys Exceptional Young Researcher status.*

## Recipients

Professor Thulani Hlatshwayo  
Professor Nedine Moonsamy  
Professor Joel Modiri  
Professor Gustav Muller  
Professor Edward Snelling







*Professor Thulani Hlatshwayo has been an associate professor in the Department of Physics in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences since 2019.*

After completing an MSc in nuclear physics at the University of Zululand under the MANuS/MatSci programme, he obtained a PhD in material science and solid-state physics in 2010.

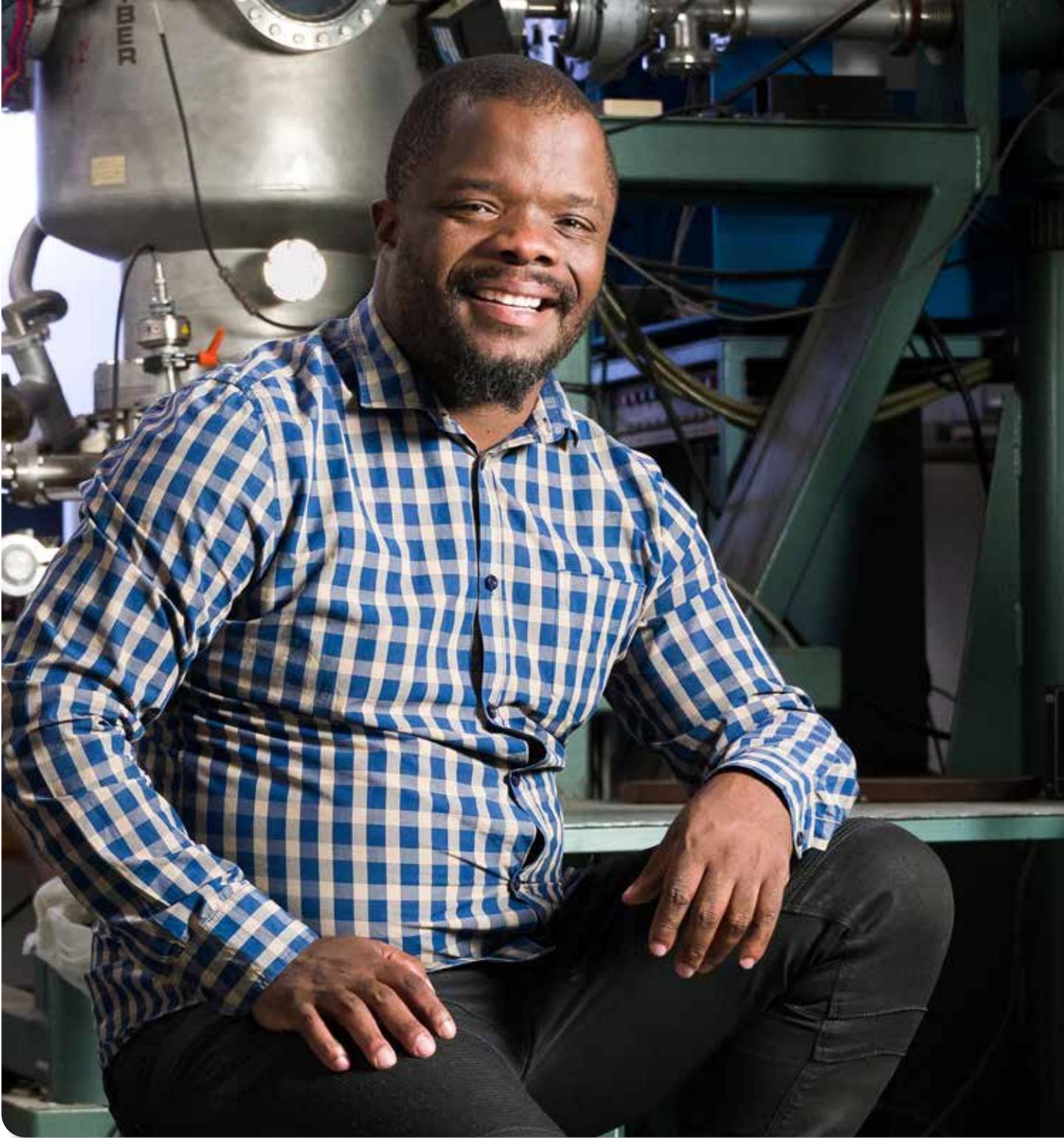
His research is based on the understanding of the release of radioactive fission products from fuel in modern nuclear reactors, where chemical vapour deposited (CVD)-SiC is the main barrier to fission products, and on finding alternative materials for nuclear waste storage. His work is critical in the revival of nuclear energy as a clean energy source.

Professor Hlatshwayo recently received the Exceptional Young Researchers Award from the University of Pretoria.

His work has been presented at local and international conferences. Professor Hlatshwayo is the (co)author of 76 articles in international peer-reviewed journals and 14 conference proceedings.

He has successfully supervised four honours, seven master's and 11 doctoral projects.

Professor Hlatshwayo received a C2 rating from the NRF.



*Professor Thulani Hlatshwayo*

*Professor Nedine Moonsamy is an associate professor in the Department of English at the University of Pretoria and holds an NRF Y-1 rating.*





## Professor Nedine Moonsamy

Professor Moonsamy has held research fellowships at The Institute for African and Asian Studies, Humboldt University, Berlin (2017), at the Visual Cultures Department at Goldsmiths College, University of London (2019) as a British Council Newton Fellow and, more recently, has spent time at STIAS, Stellenbosch (2020). She has given talks and published on various local and international platforms.

She serves on the editorial boards of *Imbizo: International Journal of Literary and Comparative Studies* and *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies*.

Professor Moonsamy is invested in a complex synthesis of pedagogic, academic and writing activity and has also produced creative work and written for more popular media platforms in South Africa.

Her research on science fiction in Africa explores how an increasing number of artists and theorists take to African speculative arts and examines how there is a discernible grappling with the influence and interruption of global form. She was listed in the education category on the *Mail & Guardian's* top 200 Young South Africans (2016). In the same year, she received a Certificate of Excellence from the provincial government in Gauteng. Her photography was exhibited as part of a project on trans-subjectivity in Africa at the AFEMS Conference (Wits University, 2019).

Her debut novel, *The Unfamous Five* (Modjaji Books), was shortlisted for the HSS Fiction Award (2021), and her poetry was shortlisted for the inaugural New Contrast National Poetry Award (2021).

As a lecturer at UP, she has helped to bring out a new edition of *Voices of this Land: an anthology of South African poetry in English* (Van Schaik, 2018), which she teaches and shapes various other undergraduate and postgraduate courses to include more postcolonial literature. She also serves as a mentor in the Decolonising Academic Publishing programme, which supports young academics from disadvantaged backgrounds through the academic publishing pipeline.



Professor Joel Modiri is an associate professor and Head of the Department of Jurisprudence at the University of Pretoria. He holds a LLB cum laude (UP) and a PhD (UP).

His PhD thesis is entitled *The jurisprudence of Steve Biko: A study in race, law and power in the 'afterlife' of colonial-apartheid*. Professor Modiri mainly teaches in the field of jurisprudence and legal philosophy. He has convened and taught several law subjects such as social justice and human rights, African human rights, research methodology, legal problems of HIV & AIDS, and law and transformation. He has also taught portions of philosophy, political science, sociology and public policy modules presented by the Faculty of Humanities. He currently convenes the LLM/MPhil in law and political justice.

Professor Modiri's key research areas include critical race theory, African jurisprudence, law and identity, feminist political philosophy, black political thought, legal education and critical pedagogy, critical human rights and constitutionalism theories.

The central concern of his teaching and research relates to developing a critical anti-racist, post-conquest jurisprudence to contemplate possibilities for liberation, decolonisation and historical justice in South Africa and beyond. This entails drawing on several intellectual traditions and opening space for new knowledge that could disclose alternative conceptions of law, constitutionalism, history, justice, subjectivity, power, memory and politics. In addition to deepening his post-doctoral research on the theory and politics of Steve Biko, Professor Modiri's current research projects include 'Azanian jurisprudence', 'Decolonisation and Critical Legal Futures' and 'Thinking Race Historically'.

He has published extensively in local and international journals, edited collections, and presented papers at several international conferences.

Professor Modiri has served as the editor-in-chief of the *South African Journal on Human Rights* (SAJHR), and he also edits the Faculty of Law's in-house occasional papers series, the *PULP Fictions*. He has been a faculty member of Harvard Law School's Institute for Global Law and Policy Africa Regional Workshop held in Cape Town. He also attended a fellowship at the Centre for Applied Legal Studies (CALs), University of the Witwatersrand. He was selected as an inaugural fellow in the Atlantic Fellowship for Racial Equity Programme (2018-2019) hosted by Columbia University and the Nelson Mandela Foundation. He was also awarded the 2019 Africa Oxford Law Visiting Fellowship.

He is a member of the Section 11 Committee on Equality at the South African Human Rights Commission and was an invited speaker at the 17th and 18th sessions of the United Nations Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA).

Professor Modiri has been recognised as Best Lecturer in the First Year (2016, 2017 and 2018) and as an Exceptional Young Researcher at the University of Pretoria (2022). He was awarded the 2018 Society of Law Teachers of Southern Africa (SLTSA) JUTA Prize for Best Legal Education Paper. He appeared in the *Mail & Guardian's* top 200 Young South Africans 2018 (Justice and Law).



*Professor Joel Modiri*

Professor Gustav Muller is an associate professor in the Department of Private Law.



Professor Muller teaches a compulsory undergraduate module in property law and an elective in land and related reforms. In addition, he coordinates two LLM modules — advanced general principles of property law and living together as neighbours — which form part of the LLM (Private Law) programme. He holds a LLB, and a LLD from Stellenbosch University, and an Advanced Diploma from Åbo Akademi University in Turku, Finland.

In the past five years, he has published two monographs (*Silberberg and Schoeman's The Law of Property 6th edition and Property in Housing*), an edited book (*Transformative Property Law — Festschrift in honour of Aj van der Walt*) and two chapters in international books (*Property responses to a global pandemic and Informality and the City: Theories/ Actions/Interventions*). He has published 22 journal articles, delivered 23 conference papers (local and international) and presented a keynote address to the Young Property Lawyers' Forum.

He has been cited 14 times in various divisions of the High Court of South Africa and the Supreme Court of Appeal. Recently he was cited with approval in *South African Human Rights Commission v City of Cape Town* [2022] ZAWCHC (15 July 2022), where the court changed the application of the common law case defence of counter spoliation.

He is the co-founder of the Property Law Reading Group with 33 members in South Africa and is also the co-founder of the International Resilient Property Law Group with 12 members. He was recently invited to join the Scientific Network on Eviction and Housing Rights (SNEHR). The SNEHR is an academic network which forms part of the EVICT project (the University of Groningen, The Netherlands). He is the host of two international research associates — Professor Lorna Fox O'Mahony (Essex University) and Professor Marc Roark (Southern University Law Centre). Professor Muller was awarded a C2 rating by the NRF and will hold that rating until 31 December 2025.

*Professor Gustav Muller*



*Professor Edward Snelling is an associate professor in the Department of Anatomy and Physiology, Faculty of Veterinary Science, and an honorary affiliate of the Centre for Veterinary Wildlife Studies.*





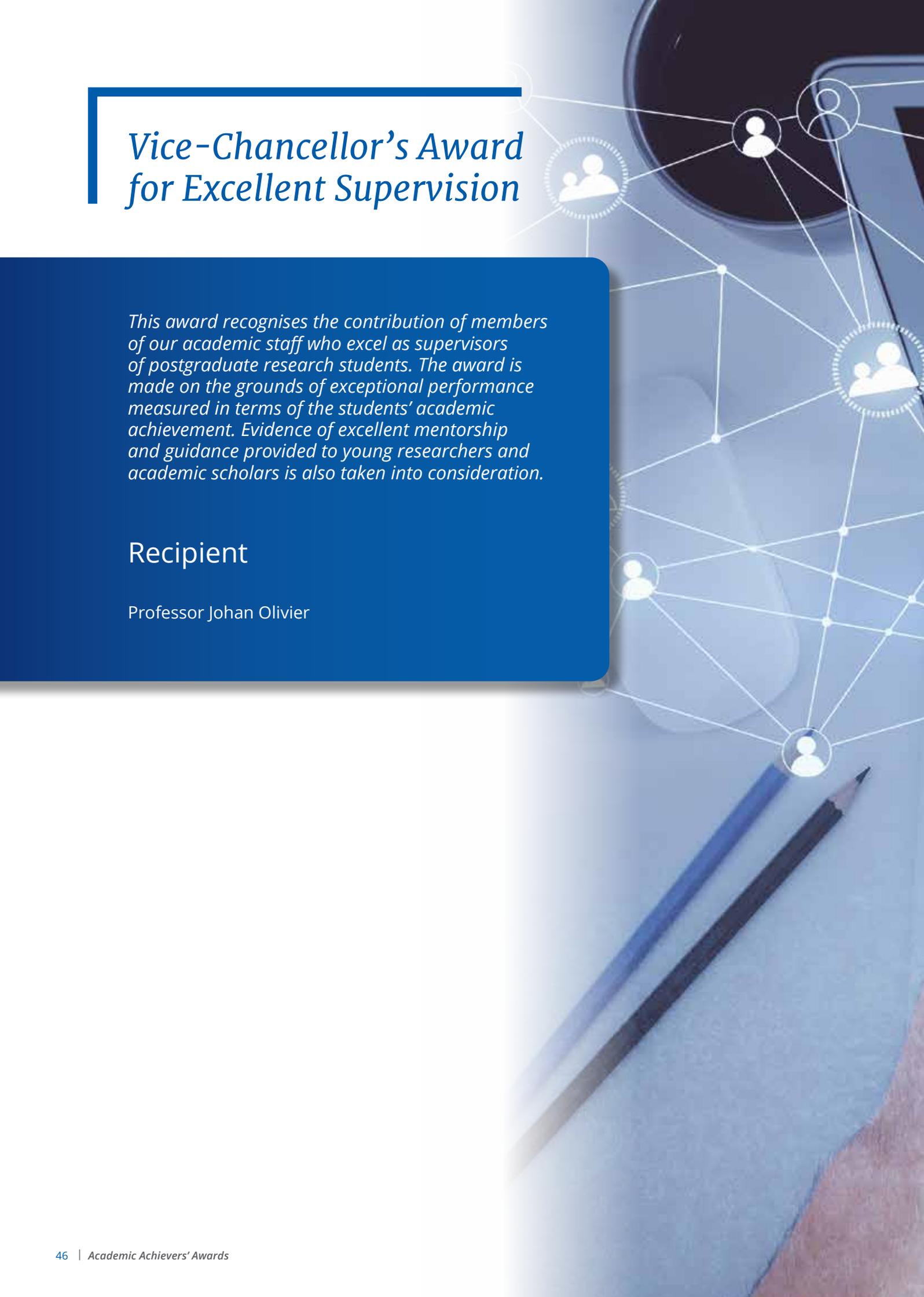
## Professor Edward Snelling

Professor Edward Snelling is an experimental physiologist interested in the evolution of form and function among different groups of animals.

His diverse interests have led him to devise novel methods, including flying insects in miniature bespoke flight simulators, swimming sharks in giant ocean-going “mega-flumes” and running mammals on large treadmills.

Among his recent achievements, he and his collaborators devised a method to calculate blood flow rates to the brain across three million years of human evolution, showing an increase in the brain’s size and relative perfusion.

Seven of his research articles are in the top 5% of all research outputs scored by Altmetric. Another was recently short-listed for the *Journal of Experimental Biology* Outstanding Paper Prize, and another was included in the Faculty of 1000 with the highest ranking of 3, placing it among the best scientific articles in biology and medicine.



## Vice-Chancellor's Award for Excellent Supervision

*This award recognises the contribution of members of our academic staff who excel as supervisors of postgraduate research students. The award is made on the grounds of exceptional performance measured in terms of the students' academic achievement. Evidence of excellent mentorship and guidance provided to young researchers and academic scholars is also taken into consideration.*

### Recipient

Professor Johan Olivier



*Professor Johan Olivier is an extraordinary professor at the Gordon Institute of Business Sciences, where he contributes to the work of GIBS' Academic Programmes.*





## Professor Johan Olivier

In addition to supervising MBA, MPhil, and PhD/DBA students, he teaches selected courses in both doctoral and master's programmes.

He previously taught by invitation at the Universities of Pretoria, Cape Town, Stellenbosch, and Stanford University in the United States. He supervised/co-supervised master's and doctoral students at the Universities of Pretoria, UKZN, and the Free University (Amsterdam). He holds a PhD from Cornell University in the United States of America.

Professor Olivier's research interest is in strengthening democracy through democratic accountability. The central question that guides his work is the building of organisations that are socially relevant and accountable. To this end, he works both in practice and in academia. This approach to work is informed by recognising that it is essential to be relevant in practice and scholarship.

He has more than 30 years of experience in conducting policy-oriented socio-economic research in South Africa, covering issues such as migration, social movements, youth, economic stability, nutrition, poverty, crime, and governance for various public sector end-users such as the National Treasury, the Presidency, the IEC, HSRC, and the CSIR. In this work, he applies both conventional and participatory research methodologies to inform impact assessments, feasibility studies (diagnostic assessments), and monitoring and evaluation (M&E) as researcher and project manager.

He was appointed as team leader/team member on various donor-funded assignments, which include the European Commission, DFID, USAID, AusAID, BTC, and GIZ. These assignments were executed in various countries on the African continent.

In his academic work, Professor Olivier supervises master's and PhD/DBA students in organisational behaviour, business strategy, institutional transformation, entrepreneurship, and research methodology.

He supervised more than 40 master's (MA, MBA, and MPhil) and six doctoral students to complete their degrees. He currently supervises/co-supervises eight master's and ten doctoral students. He is the recipient of the 2020 GIBS Teaching Award for teaching excellence in the Doctoral Programme: Business Studies/Integrative Research.

His research outputs are documented in more than 60 publications and almost 50 conference papers he has co-authored in democracy and governance, civil society, policing, and civil protest activities. These were contributions to the scholarly debates in South Africa and abroad.

# Teaching Excellence Award

*The Laureates are awarded to nominated projects that display teaching practices with clear purpose and intent, and which have a strong alignment between the different elements in the broader context, to address identified needs or gaps with the aim of innovating to optimise teaching and learning.*

*These nominations show significant evidence of impact on student learning, are sustainable and can be replicated in other contexts.*

*These projects contribute to best practice in teaching and display significant evidence of innovation that addresses the identified challenges.*

## Recipients

Professor Hanneke du Preez and Mrs Tanya Hill  
*(group award)*

Professor Adrian Shrader  
*(individual award)*



*Professor Hanneke du Preez is attached to the Department of Taxation in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.*



She teaches taxation at undergraduate and postgraduate levels and supervises master's and doctoral research theses in taxation. She holds the following degrees: BA (General) (UP), BCompt (Honours) (UNISA), MCom (Taxation) (UP) and PhD (Taxation) (UP). She is the programme coordinator for the BCom Honours (Taxation) degree, the PhD in taxation degree and the PhD in Taxation Preparation Programme offered by the Department of Taxation. Apart from lecturing, supervising and coordinating work, she also serves as an official mentor to various young colleagues within the department. In the Faculty, Professor du Preez is the Deputy Chartered Accountant (CA) programme coordinator, where she is part of the CA programme management team.

Professor Du Preez's primary research focus is the fundamental principles of taxation, on which she has published several articles in peer-reviewed accredited journals. The fundamental principles of taxation encompass the concept of equity, leading to distributive justice and the alleviation of poverty in South Africa. This research supports the sustainable development goals that address poverty, hunger, gender equality, decent work and economic growth. The concept of a universal basic income and its potential implementation is included in her research. Her leadership in this field led her to be appointed as an associate editor for an accredited journal and a reviewer for several national and international journals.

Professor Du Preez's secondary research focus area is teaching innovation through applying technology in the classroom. She and her colleague, Mrs Tanya Hill, conduct research on the application of virtual reality during lectures to enhance the lived experiences of students and to support pervasive skills training among undergraduate students.

They are currently in the process of developing a practical application for teaching negotiation skills. All of these form part of the sustainable development goal of quality education. Professor Du Preez and Mrs Tanya Hill are continuously expanding their research and international collaboration to build on and improve their teaching and learning innovations while gaining exposure to the latest developments in this field. During 2021 and 2022, they presented their research at four international and two national conferences.

In addition to her teaching and research commitments, since 2019, Professor Du Preez has also assisted with a community engagement project at the UP Mamelodi Campus where BCom Honours (Taxation) students present to small business owners on the practical application of taxation principles as part of a Business Incubator Project.

Professor Du Preez and Mrs Hill received the Teaching and Learning Excellence Award from the Faculty of Economic and Management Science in 2021 for the Virtual Reality Teaching Intervention Project and the research completed on this project titled *Using virtual reality as an immersive learning tool in taxation*. In addition to this award, they were honoured to receive the UP Institutional Teaching Excellence Laureate Award for the same project in 2021.



*Professor Hanneke du Preez*



*Mrs Tanya Hill is a senior lecturer in the Department of Taxation in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.*

She lectures taxation to both undergraduate and postgraduate students. Mrs Hill is a chartered accountant (CA(SA)) with 20+ years of experience in teaching, training, and research and relevant practical knowledge of the corporate business world. She holds the following degrees: MCom (Taxation) (*cum laude*), BCom Hons (Accounting Sciences) and BCom (Accounting Sciences). She is the subject responsible lecturer for three modules on the BCom Taxation Honours programme and an MCom supervisor to several students.

Mrs Hill has fulfilled various roles within the Department, including being a subject-responsible lecturer and the co-ordinator for second and third-year levels in taxation. She has always been passionate about teaching and developing individuals to their full potential. She loves to find innovative new ways to teach, develop and assess students at every level and prepare them practically for workplace challenges in future.

She is an emerging researcher and has published articles in peer-reviewed accredited journals. Her primary research focus is teaching innovation through applying technology in the classroom. Mrs Hill and her colleague, Professor Hanneke du Preez, conduct research on the application of virtual reality (VR) in the classroom with undergraduate taxation students to enhance their lived experiences and provide context to technical concepts within taxation. They also use VR in the classroom to support pervasive soft skills training and are currently developing a practical application to teach negotiation skills. They are continuously developing and growing their research and international collaborations to build on and

improve their teaching and learning innovations while gaining exposure to the latest developments in this field. In 2021 and 2022, they presented their VR research at four international and two national conferences.

Mrs Hill loves watching individuals develop and grow as they engage in and take responsibility for their learning. This philosophy inspires her teaching and research. She has also been involved in the development of a simulated SARS e-filing platform where students are allowed to engage with a realistic taxation submission platform in a learning environment before they enter the workplace. She is currently conducting research in this area as well. Her secondary research focus is reflective assessment amongst students, including effectively encouraging formative assessment through self-assessment and peer assessment.

In addition to her teaching and research commitments, Tanya is also involved in a community engagement project at the UP Mamelodi Campus, where the BCom Taxation honours students present to small business owners as part of a Business Incubator project. This project aims to assist small business owners with the practical application of taxation principles within their businesses.

Mrs Hill and Professor Du Preez were awarded the Teaching and Learning Excellence Award from the Faculty of Economic and Management Science in 2021 for using VR as an immersive learning tool in taxation. In addition to this award, they were honoured to receive the UP Institutional Teaching Excellence Laureate Award in 2021 for the same VR project.



*Mrs Tanya Hill*

*Professor Adrian Shrader is an associate professor and Deputy Head of the Department: Teaching and Learning in the Department of Zoology and Entomology, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.*





## Professor Adrian Shrader

In addition, he is an associate of the Mammal Research Institute. He teaches conservation ecology and behavioural ecology to third-years and mammalian ecology to honours students. He holds a BSc (Zoology) and minor in African studies from the Ohio State University, BSc Honours, MSc (Zoology) from the University of Natal, and a PhD in ecology from the University of the Witwatersrand.

Professor Shrader is a behavioural ecologist focusing his research on large mammalian herbivores, including elephants, white rhinos, oribi, and impala. His research strives to understand the behavioural decisions of herbivores, the information they use to make these decisions, and the effects these decisions have on their landscape use. Key research areas include foraging ecology, olfaction in mammals, and the ecology of fear. He is fascinated by how small-scale foraging decisions such as individual bites may lead to larger-scale landscape use. To date, he has published 56 peer-reviewed articles and six book chapters.

In addition to his research, Professor Shrader is an honours coordinator in the Department of Zoology and Entomology, the undergraduate academic advisor for the BSc Ecology programme, and a member of the Postgraduate Studies Committee in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. He is an associate editor for *African Zoology*, *Southern African Journal of Wildlife Research*, and *Frontiers in Conservation Science*. In addition, he is a member of the Rory Hensman Conservation and Research Unit board.

During the past three years, Professor Shrader was awarded a C1 rating from the NRF, won the UP Teaching Excellence Laureate Award (2021/2022), the Teaching Innovation Award from the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (2020), and the NATHouse Best Lecturer: Senior Courses Award (2019).

# Community Engagement Award

*The Community Engagement Award is awarded annually to one individual to recognise community engagement as a long-standing and valued tradition in higher education and an extensive, high-impact practice in teaching at the University of Pretoria.*

*The criteria for the award are aligned with those for the MacJannet Award, which is internationally administered by the Talloires Network.*

## Recipients

Dr Renata Eccles  
Dr Esedra Krüger



*Dr Renata Eccles is a senior lecturer in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology in the Faculty of Humanities.*



Dr Eccles engages in theoretical and clinical undergraduate student training and postgraduate research studies. She obtained her BCommunication Pathology degree with a specialisation in speech-language pathology and audiology, MCommunication Pathology and DPhil Speech-Language Pathology from the University of Pretoria. Her PhD thesis is titled *Music instruction, speech-in-noise discrimination, phonological awareness, and early literacy skills in young learners: An explorative study*.

She is the head of the communication pathology modules within her department. These modules focus on the shared aspects of speech-language pathology and audiology, such as community engagement and early intervention. She shares the coordination of the final year communication pathology practical module where early communication intervention services are offered to families of young children with communication difficulties. Dr Eccles and her colleague were awarded the University of Pretoria Community Engagement Award in 2021 for their coordination and outputs in this module.

Additionally, she collaborates with colleagues from various health professions during the Integrated Health Leadership (IHL) modules, conducted with the School of Health Science (University of Pretoria). These modules provide an opportunity to improve interprofessional education, learning and collaboration among undergraduate healthcare students. First- to third-year students and lecturers from six health profession departments participate in the modules. Since 2020, she has coordinated the third-year Integrated Health Leadership module with a colleague. She also has partnerships with the University of Gavle (Sweden) and the African Interprofessional Education Network (AfriPEN). She is the chair of the Interprofessional Education theme within the EU-funded Dirisana+ project, which

was awarded the joint application for the CBHE-JP Capacity Building Grant in Higher Education. The project involves eight higher education institutions, including national and international universities, with the University of Pretoria as the primary investigator.

She has published 16 articles in peer-reviewed journals and a chapter, 'Supporting early childhood development during COVID-19 using teleservices: Stakeholders' perspectives', in the *South African Health Review 2021*, with two of her colleagues. Her research focuses on early intervention and innovative responses to developmental and academic challenges that young children in South Africa face, including visual impairment, developmental delays, and literacy acquisition. She also has an interest in inter-professional education and collaborative practice. Her research projects align with the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically SDG 3 - good health and well-being, 4 - quality education, and 17 - global partnership for sustainable development. Dr Eccles has presented her research findings at several local and international conferences. She updated the South African Guidelines for Early Communication Intervention for the South African Speech-Language-Hearing Association (SASLHA) in 2017 with Professor Alta Kritzinger.

In addition to her academic work, she holds international certifications in parent/caregiver and early childhood practitioner coaching from Hanen for the programmes It Takes Two to Talk, More Than Words and Learning Language and Loving It. These programmes outline the most evidence-based approaches to early intervention for communication difficulties in young children. The principles from these programmes inform her teaching approach and guide the therapeutic approach followed in the early communication intervention clinic, where she supervises.



*Dr Renata Eccles*

*Dr Esedra Krüger is a senior lecturer in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology in the Faculty of Humanities.*



She is the programme coordinator for speech-language pathology. Dr Krüger has been the head of the Clinic for High-Risk Babies in the Speech-, Voice- and Hearing Clinic of the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology since 2019.

She teaches undergraduate students theoretical and practical modules related to early communication intervention, craniofacial disorders, cleft lip and palate, cerebral palsy, and dysphagia. Dr Krüger obtained a PhD in communication pathology from the University of Pretoria in 2019.

Dr Krüger and her colleague, Dr Renata Eccles, have been awarded the University of Pretoria Teaching and Learning award for Community Engagement for their work at the Clinic for

High-Risk Babies in 2021. This year Dr Krüger received a Y2 rating from the NRF.

Dr Krüger's particular research interests include early communication intervention for high-risk neonates and infants. Her focus has been on families with infants and toddlers with neurological disorders, swallowing and feeding difficulties, and cleft lip and palate.

Her ongoing clinical work as a speech-language therapist includes services at the Clinic for High-Risk Babies at the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and the Facial Clefts Deformities Clinic at the Department of Maxillo-facial and Oral Surgery at the University of Pretoria. In 2018, she co-founded a special interest group for professionals interested in dysphagia in Pretoria and surrounding areas.



*Dr Esdra Krüger*

# *The Conversation Africa Awards for Communication Excellence*

*The University of Pretoria confers three awards under **The Conversation Africa Science Communication Awards** category.*

*The **Conversation Africa** gives all higher education institutions an opportunity to share their research outputs with fellow academics across the globe as well as with civil society.*

*The platform therefore places academics in a better position to identify opportunities to collaborate and conduct research with their peers across disciplines.*

*Our partnership with **The Conversation Africa** has increased the visibility of the work of UP researchers and academics, helping them reach wider audiences beyond academic research communities.*

## **Recipients**

### **Award 1**

*For the single most read article:*

Professor Marietjie Venter and co-authors  
Dr Madelien Wooding and Dr Yvette Naudé

### **Award 2**

*Author/s with the most number of  
articles published under the period in review:*

Professor Daniel Bradlow  
Mrs Gwen Ansell



## Award 1

For the single most read article:

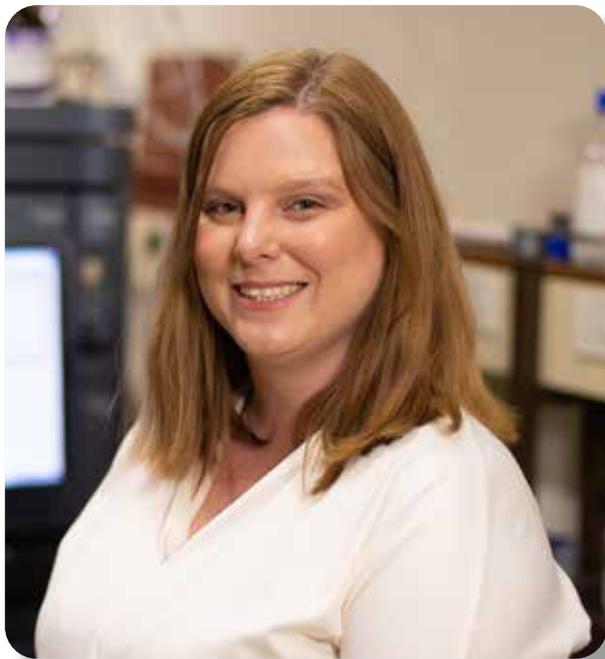


### Professor Marietjie Venter and co-authors

Professor Marietjie Venter is a full professor in the Department of Medical Virology in the Faculty of Health Sciences. She heads the Zoonotic Arbo and Respiratory Virus Research group (ZARV). The ZARV group investigates reverse zoonoses and genomic evolution of SARS-CoV-2 in humans and animals and is part of the Network for Genomics Surveillance in South Africa (NGS-SA). This network monitors the evolution of SARS-CoV-2 throughout the pandemic. It includes the National Institute for Communicable Diseases (NICD), KRISP (University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), University of Cape Town (UCT), Stellenbosch University (SUN), the University of the Free State (UFS), the University of Pretoria, the University of the Witwatersrand (WITS) and the National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS).

They identified the emergence of the Omicron, SARS-CoV-2 variant of concern in the Tshwane region in November 2021, which subsequently caused a massive wave of infections worldwide. The discovery was featured in *The Conversation* in the article: 'The hunt for coronavirus variants: how the new one was found and what we know so far' by Wolfgang Preiser (SUN); Cathrine Scheepers (WITS); Jinal Bhiman (NICD); Marietjie Venter; (UP) and Tulio de Oliveira, (KRISP) and received *The Conversation Africa* Communication Award for the single most read article in 2021. The discovery of the Omicron variant was published in *Nature* in January 2022.

## Dr Madelien Wooding



Dr Madelien Wooding is a researcher in the Department of Chemistry in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Pretoria. She manages the liquid chromatography and high-resolution mass spectrometry facility. Her primary research uses novel sampling techniques and analytical chemistry to solve real-world problems such as detecting chemical pollutants in water, identifying leaching chemicals from food packaging materials and investigating chemicals from the human skin surface that can be used as innovative mosquito attractants in vector control.

In the article published in *The Conversation*, Dr Wooding and Dr Yvette Naudé discuss their research project that seeks to answer the question: why do mosquitoes prefer specific individuals above others? They explored whether there was a chemical skin surface difference between individuals who perceived themselves as attractive to mosquitoes and those who were not. They were able to detect chemical differences between the two groups. The compounds they identified could be helpful in future malaria vector control programmes, acting as attractants for potential use in traps or as repellents.

Amongst her most prominent achievements are being awarded the L'Oréal-UNESCO fellowship for the Women in Science Programme (2018), and she was listed on The Analytical Scientist Power List Africa 2020.

## Dr Yvette Naudé

Dr Yvette Naudé is the manager of the chromatography-mass spectrometry laboratory in the Department of Chemistry in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

Her research area is analytical chemistry, specifically the investigation of complex chemical mixtures of volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, such as the human exposome, human and animal skin chemicals, and environmental emerging chemicals of concern (pollution of water, air, soil, sediment), plant materials (chemotaxonomy, food authentication and health) and aroma. For this investigation she uses multidimensional chromatographic-mass spectrometric instrumentation. She co-authored *We're a step closer to figuring out why mosquitoes bite some people and not others* with Dr Madelien Wooding for Conversation Africa in 2021, showcasing Dr Wooding's doctoral research, done under the supervision of Dr Naudé, that explored the question: why do mosquitoes prefer specific individuals above others? The student-and-supervisor team researched whether there was a difference in the skin chemical profiles between individuals who perceived themselves as attractive to mosquitoes and those who were not.

Volunteers from both groups were provided with novel laboratory-made silicone rubber bands to wear as bracelets or anklets to collect chemicals emanating from human skin. These rubber bands, containing the concentrated chemicals, were analysed by gas- and liquid-chromatography-mass spectrometry. Chemical profiles thus obtained differed between the two groups. These chemicals have potential applications as mosquito deterrents or attractants (lures or traps) in the fight against malaria.

Dr Naudé was awarded a C2 rating (NRF) in 2019. She was featured as one of the 100 Women in Chemistry in 2021.



## Award 2

Author/s with the most number of articles published under the period in review:



### Professor Daniel Bradlow

Professor Daniel Bradlow is the SARChI Professor of International Development Law and African Economic Relations. He is based in the Centre for Human Rights in the Law Faculty. His research focuses on international financial law and human rights, and global economic governance.

In 2021, he won the Conversation Africa's Science Communication Award in the category of Science Communication Excellence. To date, he has published 39 articles in *The Conversation Africa* on topics ranging from the operations of the IMF and the World Bank, the 1971 decision of the United States to break the link between the US dollar and gold, central banks and climate change, central banks and human rights,

and the contribution that a DOVE (Debts of Vulnerable Economies) Fund can make to restructuring Africa's sovereign debt.

He has also published three co-edited volumes and new editions of two co-authored textbooks in the past four years. The co-edited volumes deal with the use of hard and soft international law in advocating for social change, South Africa's foreign policy and sovereign debt in the SADC region. The co-authored books are an international law textbook and a textbook on negotiating international business transactions. He is also the author of a forthcoming book on the IFIs and international law.

## Mrs Gwen Ansell

Mrs Gwen Ansell is a part-time associate of the Gordon Institute of Business Science, where she teaches and coaches as part of the institute's academic writing support programme. She has co-published with GIBS faculty on both the South African creative industries sector and academic writing, including the development of a scholarly voice (most recently in the *Journal of Management Education* vol 44; issue 4, 2020 <https://doi.org/10.1177/1052562920903419>). She trains writers in a range of business, professional and academic contexts. She is also an independent scholar, researcher and writer, specialising in South African cultural industries and history and South African jazz and popular music.

She leads the research team at IKS Cultural Consulting. This independent cultural consultancy conducts short-term, issue-based research led by the needs of the live music sector and its organisations' needs. Examples of this include the 2020 report *Digital Futures? Live Streaming in South Africa* and the 2020 impact analysis for the South African Cultural Observatory, *Live Music and its Venues and the South African Economy during COVID-19*. A former Louis Armstrong visiting professor at Columbia University, New York, Ansell is the author of the history *Soweto Blues: jazz politics and popular music in South Africa*, as well as various journal and book chapters on South African music, most recently in *South African Music Studies (SAMUS)* vol 39, 2019.

As a music journalist, she has contributed to multiple publications, including *Mail&Guardian*, *Business Day*, *New Frame*, *Chimurenga Chronic* and *Herri*.



## *NRF-rated Researchers*

*A-rated researchers*

*B-rated researchers*

*C-rated researchers*

*Y-rated researchers*



## A-rated researchers



Professor Nigel Bennett

Professor Nigel Bennett holds the Department of Science and Technology/National Research Foundation (NRF) Research Chair in Mammalian Behavioural Ecology and Physiology and the UP Austin Roberts Chair of African Mammalogy.

His research focus is ecology, animal physiology and behaviour, using the African mole-rat as his model animal. He and his co-workers have investigated the ecological and physiological factors that affect the control of reproduction and the evolution of sociality.

He is a fellow of the Zoological Society of London, a fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa, a member of the Academy of Sciences of South Africa, and a Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences. He is the recipient of the Gold medal from the Zoological Society of Southern Africa, the Havenga Prize for outstanding contributions to Life Sciences and the University of Pretoria Commemorative Research Medal for being one of the top 100 scientists in the 100 years of its existence.

In 2021 he was made an honorary member of the American Society of Mammalogists, and in 2022 the JFW Herschel Medal from the Royal Society of South Africa. He has published 455 papers, co-authored as a specialist, and penned fifteen book chapters.

Professor Bennett received an A1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Pedro Crous

Professor Pedro Crous is a professor in the Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology and is involved with the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI) in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (NAS) at the University of Pretoria. He received his DSc from the University of Pretoria in 2009.

Professor Crous is also the Director of the Westerdijk Fungal Biodiversity Institute, an institute of the Royal Dutch Academy of Arts and Sciences, Utrecht, the Netherlands. As a phytomycologist, his main interest lies in the evolution and phylogeny of plant pathogenic fungi, which has profound implications for disease control and international trade in agriculture and forestry. Professor Crous actively pursues integrating DNA data with morphology and ecology. He initiated MycoBank to capture all fungal names and now links taxa to their DNA data, cultures, specimens, and ecology. A primary aim of his research group is to determine genetic variation in species and populations and to develop molecular tools that will enable the rapid detection of such pathogens concerning quarantine and trade. His research group consists of postdoctoral researchers and students in the Netherlands and UP.

Over the past three years, he was elected as a member of the Royal Holland Society of Sciences and Humanities (2020) and to the scientific advisory board DSMZ-Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH (2021).

Professor Crous received an A1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Riël Franzsen

Professor Riël Franzsen is the director of the African Tax Institute and occupies the South African Research Chair in Tax Policy and Governance in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.

After obtaining BLC and LLB degrees from the University of Pretoria in 1981 and 1983, he received an LLD in tax law from Stellenbosch University and a MA (Creative Writing) cum laude from the University of Pretoria.

He specialises in land and property taxation and has acted as a policy advisor for various entities (including the IMF and World Bank) in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, and the Middle East. He is co-editor and co-author of *Property Tax in Africa - Status, Challenges, and Prospects* (2017) and *Property Tax in Asia - Policy and Principles* (2022), published by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. *Property Tax in Africa* received the Vice-Chancellor and Principal's Book Award for Humanities in 2018. More than 20 doctoral and 80 master's students have completed their studies under his supervision or co-supervision. He regularly teaches at Masaryk University (Czech Republic) and the Vienna University of Economics and Business (Austria).

Professor Franzsen received an A2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Jenny Hoobler was a professor of human resource management and doctoral programmes manager in the Department of Human Resource Management, Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences, from 2015 to April 2022.

Professor Hoobler earned her PhD from the University of Kentucky in the USA. Her research focuses on gender and diversity in organisations, work and family intersections, and abusive supervision. She is interested in women's leadership and how caregiving roles affect others' career competency perceptions of women.

In 2022 Professor Hoobler was named one of 20 international fellows of the Society for Industrial and Organisational Psychology (SIOP) for her contribution to knowledge in the discipline. She is an associate editor of the foremost industrial psychology journal – *The Journal of Applied Psychology*. She was a finalist for the prestigious Rosabeth Moss Kanter Award for leading publications worldwide on work and family.

Professor Hoobler received an A2 rating in 2022 from the NRF.



Professor Jenny Hoobler

Professor De Wet Swanepoel is a professor of audiology at the University of Pretoria, South Africa. He also directs the research for the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Loss. Professor Swanepoel is also a senior research fellow at the Ear Science Institute Australia and has served as a visiting professor at universities in the United States of America, Sweden and Australia.

His research focuses on more accessible and affordable ear and hearing healthcare, using innovations in digital technologies and approaches that enable new service-delivery models with widespread impact. In recognition of his work, he recently won the Olusegun Obasanjo Prize for Scientific Breakthrough and Technological Innovation from the African Academy of Sciences. He was a finalist for IITPSA Presidents Technology Excellence Award. He holds several patents and trademarks and is the founder and scientific advisor of a digital health company, the hearX Group.

He has published more than 250 peer-reviewed articles, books and book chapters and is funded by the US National Institutes of Health, UK Academy of Medical Sciences, the Oppenheimer Foundation, National Research Foundation, and the industry.

He is also the editor-in-chief of a leading peer-reviewed subject journal, the *International Journal of Audiology*.

Professor Swanepoel received an A2 rating from the NRF.



Professor De Wet Swanepoel

## B-rated researchers

Professor Ramesh Bansal has more than 25 years of diversified experience in research, scholarship of teaching and learning, accreditation, industrial and academic leadership in several countries. He is a professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering at the University of Sharjah and an extraordinary professor at the University of Pretoria. Previously, he was a professor and Group Head (Power) in the ECE Department at the University of Pretoria. Before his appointment at UP, he was employed by the University of Queensland, Australia; University of the South Pacific, Fiji; BITS Pilani, India; and Civil Construction Wing, All India Radio.

Professor Bansal has extensive experience collaborating with industry and government organisations and designing and delivering CPD programmes for professional engineers. He has published over 400 journal articles and presented papers at conferences, books, and chapters in books.

He has more than 15 000 Google citations and an h-index of 57. He has supervised 25 doctoral and 20 master's students' degrees and five post-doctoral fellows. His research interests are renewable energy, power systems, and smart grids. Professor Bansal is an editor of *IET-Renewable Power Generation and IEEE Systems Journals*. He is a Fellow and Chartered Engineer of the IET-UK, Fellow of the Institution of Engineers (India), and Fellow of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers (SAIEE).

Professor Bansal received a B2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Ramesh Bansal





Professor Helena Barnard

Professor Helena Barnard is the Director of the doctoral programme at GIBS. She is passionate about developing business and management scholars from across Africa and has been able to support 24 doctoral students with grants she secured from the Canadian IDRC and South African DHET/British Council. Her research interest is in how knowledge (and with it technology, organisational practices, and innovation) moves between more and less developed countries, particularly Africa. She researches organisational mechanisms (notably emerging market multinationals and internet-enabled businesses) and individual mechanisms such as scientific collaborations, doctoral training and the diaspora. The difference between and implications of perceived versus actual competence of entities (whether firms or individuals), the centrality of interpersonal relationships, and the ongoing effects of environmental turbulence and instability are recurring themes in her work. Her research has appeared in the *Journal of Management*, *Journal of International Business Studies*, *Research Policy*, and the *Journal of World Business*. She serves as the editor of the *Africa Journal of Management* and the *Journal of International Business Policy*.

She was the 2017–2020 Academy of International Business Vice President for Administration, is the founding chair of its Shared Interest Group on Emerging Markets, and was recognised as the 2018–2019 John Dunning Fellow at the University of Reading.

Professor Barnard received a B2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Armanda Bastos

Professor Armanda Bastos is Head of the Department of Zoology and Entomology in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (NAS).

Her research focuses on wildlife infectious disease epidemiology and wildlife conservation. Before joining the University of Pretoria, she held a Senior Veterinary Researcher position at the flagship biosafety level 3 (BSL3) Foot and Mouth Disease Laboratory at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, where she established a molecular diagnostic laboratory and comprehensive reference sequence databases for foot-and-mouth disease and African swine fever (ASF) viruses. The genotyping method she developed for typing ASF viruses is a global first step for characterising outbreak and field strains and has been cited more than 400 times. She has authored more than 110 scientific papers and seven book chapters.

Professor Bastos was nominated CEO of the Global African swine fever Research Alliance (GARA) in 2019, a fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa in the same year and currently serves as President of the GARA. She is a deputy editor for *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases* and senior editor for *CABI One Health*. She has supervised or co-supervised the postgraduate research projects of 18 doctoral, 28 master's and 20 honours students to completion. She was nominated for the Best Lecturer Award (in a senior module) by undergraduate students in NAS in 2021. She has an *h*-index of 41 and 32 on Google Scholar and the Web of Science, respectively.

Professor Bastos received a B2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Christo Botha

Professor Christo Botha is a professor of veterinary toxicology in the Department of Paraclinical Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary Science.

His research primarily focuses on plant poisonings and mycotoxicoses and, secondarily, on some aspects of ecotoxicology and diagnostic approaches to confirm intoxications. Professor Botha is investigating if vaccinations can be used as a means of preventing plant poisonings. Most recently, he evaluated a prophylactic vaccine to curtail the incidence of and mortalities caused by yellow tulp poisoning in livestock. Valuable information has been gathered to improve vaccination methods to generate antibodies capable of neutralising the functional group of the toxic principle causing yellow tulp poisoning. Furthermore, to curtail the use of live, sentient animals in experimentation, *in vitro* tissue cultures, both primary cells and cell lines, are currently utilised in studies to investigate the subcellular effect of toxins. Immunocytochemical labelling is used to evaluate the effects of toxins on cytoskeletal filaments and proteins.

Over the past couple of years, Professor Botha has consistently been included in the top ten researchers at the Faculty of Veterinary Science. He received an Exceptional Academic Achiever Award in 2018.

Professor Botha received a B2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Gregory Breetzke is an associate professor in the Department of Geography, Geoinformatics and Meteorology in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

He received his PhD in Geoinformatics from the University of Pretoria with a specific focus on geodemographic offender profiling in 2008. He has undertaken research in many local and international contexts and worked with various colleagues on projects mainly related to the spatial analysis of crime.

His research focuses on the geospatial analysis of crime and criminal offenders, particularly examining how crime patterns and trends vary across space and time. His international spatial crime research has focused on the spatial distribution and aetiology of gangs and recidivists (New Zealand) and examining the impact of greenspace on spatial crime patterns (United States of America). His South African spatial crime research has generally focused on two themes: crime seasonality and the stability and concentration of crime patterns.

He has won several local and international awards for his research and has been quoted frequently in various media outlets.

Professor Breetzke received a B2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Robin Crewe is a research associate in the Centre for the Advancement of Scholarship and a professor of zoology and entomology. He is an emeritus vice-principal and a member of the Social Insects Research Group (SIRG).

He has worked on chemical communication and social organisation in various social insects for many years. His current research is on the honey bee's social organisation and population dynamics to ensure that this biological resource can be sustained into the future.

He is a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa, a fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa, a fellow of the African Academy of Science, and a fellow of the World Academy of Science. Professor Crewe is a foreign associate of the Hassan II Academy of Science and Technology in Morocco and was awarded the Gold Medal of the Zoological Society of South Africa. He is also an honorary life member of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa. In 2012 he received the Harry Oppenheimer Research Award and, in 2013, a Gold Medal for Outstanding Meritorious Service from the Academy of Science of South Africa.

Professor Crewe received a B1 rating from the NRF.

Professor Archie Dick is an emeritus professor in the Department of Information Science in the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology (EBIT). His main areas of research are philosophy of information, print culture, intellectual freedom, and the history of reading.

In 2020 Cambridge University Press published his book *Reading Spaces in South Africa, 1850-1920s*. According to one review, it is 'written by South Africa's pre-eminent historian of books and reading culture' and 'a welcome shift of perspective by providing a history of nineteenth- and early twentieth-century reading communities in South Africa and how their practices shaped definitions of the literary'. He also co-edited *Print Culture in Southern Africa*, published by Routledge in 2022.

Professor Dick was Head of the Department from 1 July 2016 until 31 December 2019. He also chaired the School of Information Technology in the EBIT Faculty during that time. He was an international co-recipient for funding from the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences for a conference in Copenhagen on social epistemology and information science. He is a member of the editorial board of Palgrave Macmillan's *New Directions in Book History* and an ambassador for SHARP (Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing). In 2019 he was invited to join the Thai Royal Golden Jubilee PhD program under the Thailand Research Fund and was a visiting professor at Thammasat University in Bangkok.

Professor Dick received a B2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Gregory Breetzke



Professor Robin Crewe



Professor Archie Dick





Professor Rangan Gupta

Professor Rangan Gupta is a professor at the Department of Economics. He received his PhD in 2005 from the University of Connecticut and joined the department the same year. He was promoted to associate professor in 2007 and full professor in 2009.

His areas of interest are monetary theory and policy and financial economics. He has published over 700 journal articles in these and other related areas, with most papers appearing in highly-ranked internationally accredited journals. Though he continues to work on developing dynamic (stochastic) general equilibrium models, his primary research focus these days involves climate finance and the macroeconomic impact of global warming based on historical data, spanning multiple centuries.

In 2019, Professor Gupta received the Exceptional Researcher Award from the University of Pretoria, and in 2021, he appeared on the Clarivate Highly Cited Researchers List.

Professor Gupta received a B2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Sheryl Hendriks

Professor Sheryl Hendriks is a professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension and Rural Development in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. She is an internationally recognised transdisciplinary researcher focussing on food security and food systems.

Professor Hendriks has extensive experience designing policy frameworks, policy analysis and programme design. Her research focuses on food security policy analysis at the national and global levels. Her work has concentrated on food systems analysis, including sustainable and healthy diets.

She is actively engaged in high-level global food security policy think-tanks and panels and is influential in food systems research and policy debates. Some of these engagements include serving on the United Nations Food Systems Summit Scientific Group and being an active member of the Malabo-Montpellier Panel, advising African governments on public policy choices. She led the drafting of the Inter-Academy Partnership's consensus report on Food and Nutrition and Agriculture report. She was a team member drafting the global synthesis report on this topic. This work led to her appointment as a member of the Academy of Science of South Africa in 2020.

Professor Hendriks received a B2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Andrzej Kijko

Professor Andrzej Kijko is a professor and Director of the Natural Hazard Centre at the University of Pretoria. His area of research is the development of seismic hazard techniques for critical structures such as airports, water reservoirs, oil platforms and nuclear power plants.

Professor Kijko's centre has developed unique methods and computer codes for natural hazard and risk assessments. Their approach is unique because they allow the handling of incomplete and uncertain data, unlike the standard techniques. Their methods have become an international standard, and their computer codes have been applied in more than 80 countries. The most significant recognition from the nuclear industry is that their approach to seismic hazard assessment of nuclear facilities is used in American Nuclear Regulations.

Their techniques of seismic hazard assessment for nuclear facilities are recommended by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA, *Safety Reports Series No. 89, 2016*) to be used in the areas of typical intraplate seismicity, such as the New Madrid Zone in the United States, the Vrancea area, and in southern and northern Europe. Their methods assess seismic hazards for nuclear sites and nuclear waste repositories.

Their approach and computer codes were applied in several countries during the past two years. They were used to compile national seismic hazard maps of countries like Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Nepal, Iraq, and Vietnam.

Professor Kijko received a B2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Elizabeth le Roux is an associate professor in the Department of Information Science in the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology. (EBIT). She coordinates the Publishing Studies Programme and chairs the departmental Research Committee. Professor Le Roux received her PhD in publishing studies in 2013 from the University of Pretoria.

Her research examines the social role of books and book culture, asking questions about how publishing complements a striving for academic freedom and how activist publishing can be used to support movements for social change and justice. Recent publications include a book on Ravan Press from Cambridge University Press and articles in the *Journal of Southern African Studies* and *Review of African Political Economy*. She is developing an African network of print culture scholars and publishing educators. She is also closely associated with industry-driven research for the Publishers' Association of South Africa, the South African Cultural Observatory, and the former South African Book Development Council.

Professor Le Roux is co-editor of *Book History*, the official journal of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing. She has received grants from the British Academy, the Newton Mobility Award and the Global Challenges Research Fund.

Professor Le Roux received a B2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Antoinette Lombard is a professor in social work and Head of the Department of Social Work and Criminology in the Faculty of Humanities.

Over the past six years, her research contributed to environmental social work and social work's role in promoting social and environmental justice. She researched the human-nature nexus in responding to the socio-economic impacts of climate change, the socio-economic effects of land degradation and how it influences marginalised groups' livelihoods, the role of social workers in mitigating the impacts of drought in Namibia, and social work's contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Her research gives children a voice on how to mitigate poverty and environmental risks.

She represents the International Association for Schools of Social Work (IASSW) in the task force of the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development. *The Mail and Guardian* recognised her in 2019 in the education category of the 'Women Changing South Africa' project. In 2020 she received the Stals Prize for social work from the South African Academy for Science and Art (Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns). In 2021 she was appointed by the International Federation for Social Workers (IFSW) as Africa's Education Commissioner to promote the global standards for social work education.

Professor Lombard received a B2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Vasu Reddy is a professor of sociology and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities. His research areas are African sexualities, genders, and inequalities, which exposes the persistent silences around sexualities (also aligned to HIV/AIDS). His research focuses on the importance of sexual cultures to interpret and understand sexual diversity in promoting people's rights, well-being, and dignity with local and international research partners.

From 2015 to date 2021, he has published 39 peer-reviewed articles as lead or co-author, nine books (eight lead or co-edited and one lead or co-authored), three guest editorships of journals, 21 book chapters (including two reprints and two short introductions), and two lead or co-authored policy briefs in prestigious international journals and academic presses.

During this period, he has generated research grants as principal investigator of over R80 million aligned to central topics in the humanities and the social sciences (including resources for student and postdoctoral support).

His research has positioned him as an influential voice in gender and sexualities as it deepens and shifts conceptual and empirical arguments that centralise African sexualities and gender diversity from a Southern context in an innovative, rich, comparative, and global dialogue.

Professor Reddy received a B1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Elizabeth le Roux



Professor Antoinette Lombard



Professor Vasu Reddy





Professor Mike Sathekge

Professor Mike Sathekge is Head of the Nuclear Medicine department at the University of Pretoria and Steve Biko Academic Hospital. He heads the South African Nuclear Medicine Research Infrastructure. He has published over 220 peer-reviewed articles and is a global leader in the treatment of prostate cancer using targeted radiopharmaceuticals. He led and introduced several targeted molecular imaging and therapeutic probes in infection and oncology in Africa. Professor Sathekge is editor-in-chief of *Seminars in Nuclear Medicine* and associate editor of the *European Journal of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging* and the *Journal of Nuclear Medicine*.

He is President of the World Association of Radiopharmaceuticals and Molecular Therapy. He serves as an International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) expert for nuclear medicine and a panel member for appropriate use criteria of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging (SNMMI). Some of his significant awards include the award to host the Main Nuclear Medicine Research Infrastructure Facility (NuMeRI) in South Africa, SA Clinician Society Research Excellence Award, Fellowship in Art and Science of Medicine Award, Ralph Kirsch Golden Pen Award, SAMA Leadership Award, the South African Medical Research Council's prestigious President's Award for exceptional lifelong contribution to medical research and public health.

Professor Sathekge is chair of the ASSAf panel on research, development and innovation of peaceful uses of nuclear technologies in South Africa. He holds the highest honour of the Colleges of Medicine of South Africa (CMSA), an honorary fellowship, and was admitted as a fellow of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore.

Professor Sathekge received a B1 rating from the NRF.

Professor Johan Schoeman is a full professor in the Faculty of Veterinary Science. He currently leads the Pathobiology Research Theme and is a former Head of the Department of Companion Animal Clinical Studies. He holds specialist qualifications in small animal internal medicine from the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in London and the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, as well as a PhD in Veterinary Endocrinology from the University of Cambridge.

His research straddles the nexus between endocrinology, critical illness and inflammation, and he studies this in uniquely South African models of canine diseases such as babesiosis, parvoviral diarrhoea, spirocercosis and snakebite. In conjunction with his postgraduate students, he has published more than 85 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals over the past 22 years. He is a former recipient of the UP Exceptional Young Researcher Award and the Exceptional Achievers Award for full professors. He currently serves on the Board of the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine as the Chair of the Internal Medicine Chapter and he was a former chairperson of their Examination Committee. Last year, the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in London awarded him a fellowship for his worldwide contributions to clinical practice in his specialist field of small animal internal medicine.

Professor Schoeman received a B1 rating from the NRF.

Professor Martin Schwellnus is a full professor of sport and exercise medicine in the Faculty of Health Sciences, the Director of UP's Sport, Exercise Medicine and Lifestyle Institute (SEMLI) and the Director of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) Research Center in South Africa. He is a specialist sport and exercise medicine physician who regularly consults with athletes and is internationally regarded as an academic leader.

His research includes the health benefits of exercise and the prescription of safe exercise to reduce the burden of non-communicable disease, the prevention and management of injuries in active individuals, and the protection of athlete health. Professor Schwellnus has been instrumental in establishing sport and exercise medicine as a medical speciality in South Africa and has recently been appointed President of the College of Sport and Exercise Medicine. He has been appointed as a visiting professor of sport and exercise medicine at the Institute of Sport Exercise and Health, University College London, and a guest professor at the Institute of Neuroscience and Physiology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

He is a fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine and a longstanding member of the IOC Medical Commission. He recently chaired an IOC Consensus international expert group on acute respiratory illness in athletes.

Professor Schwellnus received a B2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Johan Schoeman



Professor Martin Schwellnus

Professor Kathryn Sole holds a part-time appointment in the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering. She obtained her PhD from the University of Arizona (USA) and completed the Strategic Leadership Programme through the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS). Her main area of academic focus is hydro-metallurgy – the processing of ores and secondary materials using aqueous chemistry techniques. She has specialist expertise in solvent extraction, ion exchange, and electrowinning. She has worked across various commodities, including copper, cobalt, nickel, zinc, uranium, titanium, vanadium, platinum-group metals, and gold. Her current research aims to produce high-purity nickel, cobalt, and manganese salts for the lithium-ion battery industry from both primary and recycled sources, and to purify locally produced electrolytes for use in vanadium redox flow batteries.

Professor Sole received the 2019 Milton E. Wadsworth Award for contributions to non-ferrous chemical metallurgy from the Society of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration (USA). She delivered conference keynote addresses at ALTA 2018 Nickel-Cobalt-Copper (Australia), Extraction 2018 (Canada), and the International Solvent Extraction Conference 2022 (Sweden). Professor Sole represents Southern Africa on international committees for solvent extraction, copper, and ion exchange, and chairs the Copper Cobalt Africa conference series. She serves on the editorial boards of *Minerals Processing & Extractive Metallurgy Review*, *Solvent Extraction & Ion Exchange*, and *Journal of the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy*. Professor Sole is a Fellow of the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and the South African Academy of Engineers.

Professor Sole received a B1 rating from the NRF.

Professor Elsabé Taljard is a professor in the Department of African Languages in the Faculty of Humanities. Her research interests include corpus linguistics, terminology, lexicography, and human language technologies in African languages. Her research is mainly corpus-based, and she is currently researching the link between metaphor and culture and has embarked on comparative studies on metaphor between Afrikaans and Northern Sotho (Sepedi). She is regarded as one of the few experts on terminology and terminology development in South Africa. She was instrumental in establishing the Open Education Resource Term Bank, a multilingual, open resource term bank for South African students. Within the field of lexicography, she is currently investigating the issue of gender and dictionaries from an African perspective. She is also interested in procedures for the digitisation of dictionaries with historical value.

She serves on the African Association for Lexicography (Afrilex) board and the editorial board of *Lexikos*, an internationally recognised journal for lexicography. In 2021 she was editor of the said journal and also edited a special issue in honour of a colleague. She is co-manager of the UP Digitisation node of the South African Centre for Digital Language Resources (SADiLaR). She also serves on the Steering Committee of SADiLaR. Since 2020 she is also a panel member of the NRF Rating Specialist Committee for Literary studies, Languages and Linguistics.

Professor Taljard received a B2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Stephanus Venter is a professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology and Deputy Director of the Forestry and Agriculture Biotechnology Institute (FABI). The main focus of his research is bacterial evolution, systematics and diversity. He heads an active research programme that attempts to understand the functions, biology, and evolution of bacteria associated with plants and aquatic environments through comparative genomics. His water-related research focuses on the bacterial ecosystem in networks distributing drinking water. In an attempt to improve the management and operation of these systems, his research group is currently monitoring the presence and abundance of bacterial species in a community reservoir to demonstrate how the bacterial community changes in response to external factors such as water treatment, demand, temperature and seasonality.

In addition to teaching and managing his research programmes, he serves on the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes and the Council of the Southern African Society for Systematic Biology. He acts as guest editor for the third edition of *Bergey's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology*. He is also a member of the editorial board of the journal *Systematic and Applied Microbiology* and associate editor of the *International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology*. He has supervised or co-supervised 12 PhD and 47 MSc candidates.

Professor Venter received a B2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Kathryn Sole



Professor Elsabé Taljard



Professor Stephanus Venter

## C-rated researchers



Professor Leigh Biagio-de Jager

Professor Leigh Biagio-de Jager is a professor and Head of audiology in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology.

Professor Biagio-de Jager entered academia after spending 16 years in clinical audiological practice. After completing her PhD in 2015, she was appointed senior lecturer in 2016 and an associate professor in 2020. The focus of her research has been improved access to ear and hearing health care through telehealth, particularly in underserved regions, and validation and efficacy of objective measures used in adult and paediatric audiology practice.

She has published 22 articles (20 in ISI-accredited journals) and authored two open access chapters and one book chapter on auditory evoked potentials. In September 2020, the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology was awarded the designation of World Health Organization (WHO) collaborating centre for the Prevention of Deafness and Hearing Loss, with Professor Biagio-de Jager as the centre head. This designation recognises the influential research that the team of researchers at the department has conducted to improve hearing care. As the first WHO collaborating centre in Africa, this creates a significant platform to expand partnerships and build capacity in hearing health care across sub-Saharan Africa.

Professor Biagio-de Jager received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Ryan Blumenthal

Professor Ryan Blumenthal is a senior specialist forensic pathologist and associate professor in the Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Pretoria.

His chief field of interest is the pathology of the trauma of lightning (keraunopathology). He has published widely in electrocution, suicide and other areas involving the pathology of trauma. His mission in life is to help advance forensic pathology services nationally and internationally. Blumenthal has published 35 articles in peer-reviewed journals and has contributed chapters to seven international textbooks.

His book *Autopsy — Life in the trenches with a forensic pathologist from Africa* (Jonathan Ball Publishers) was launched in August 2020 and became a non-fiction best-seller in South Africa. It was long-listed for the Sunday Times Book Award, and the SA Booksellers Award shortlist. It is currently in its fifth print and is being translated into Russian.

His eight-part documentary *Lightning Pathologist* (Channel 180 DSTV) aired on 9–20 November 2020 and was viewed by over 2,2 million people.

Professor Blumenthal received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Nasima Carrim

Professor Nasima Carrim is an associate professor in the Department of Human Resource Management at the University of Pretoria. After completing her PhD in 2012, she was awarded Thuthuka postdoctoral funding from the NRF from 2016–2021.

She is the section editor for the *South African Journal of Industrial Psychology* (SAJIP). In 2020 she was one of the co-editors of the first textbook, *Managing Diversity in the South African Workplace*, compiled for university students. In 2017, she received the 2016 Best Junior Researcher in Management Sciences Award.

Her research focuses on diversity management, particularly gender in management, culture, religion and minorities in the workplace, from an intersectionality and identity perspective on the African continent. Her research strategy is based on qualitative research using life story interviews. Her research focuses on challenges that marginalised employees face in the workplace. She is the Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Interest group at the Society for Industrial and Organisational Psychology of South Africa (SIOPSA) and the Chair of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee in the EMS Faculty at the University of Pretoria.

Professor Carrim received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Martin Coetzee is an associate professor in the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI) linked to the Department of Biochemistry, Microbiology and Genetics (BGM) in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. He received his PhD in 2004 from the University of Pretoria. Professor Coetzee was appointed as a senior lecturer at the University of Pretoria in 2009 and promoted to associate professor in 2019.

Professor Coetzee's research forms part of the work done by the DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Plant Health Biotechnology (CPHB) and the Tree Protection Co-operative Programme (TPCP) to study the health of trees and woody plants in South Africa and abroad. His specific research includes the systematics and molecular evolution of fungi, with particular emphasis on the taxonomy and phylogenetics of macrofungi. In addition to these studies, his research addresses questions about the characteristics and evolution of the genomes of plant pathogenic fungi. He provides expertise in fungal genomics as well as the taxonomy and systematics of macrofungi. Professor Coetzee has more than 25 years of experience in these areas of scientific research and published extensively on these research topics.

Professor Coetzee received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Vinet Coetzee is an associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Genetics, and Microbiology. In 2011 she received a PhD from the University of St Andrews, Scotland, followed by an NRF scarce skills postdoctoral fellowship, a research fellowship and permanent employment at the University of Pretoria.

Her research initially focused on understanding the links between physical features and health from an evolutionary perspective. In recent years her focus has shifted to applying this knowledge to develop fast, affordable and non-invasive methods to screen people for a wide range of diseases and genetic conditions. These methods are used in computer models to recognise the links between physical features and these conditions. She has, for instance, developed a new innovative way to screen people for malaria infection through non-invasive skin spectrophotometry. She works closely with international researchers and industry partners to realise health screening in Africa. Professor Coetzee has published 29 papers in international peer-reviewed journals and received more than 1 800 citations.

She has also received international recognition for her research and is a member of the Royal Society of South Africa.

Professor Coetzee received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Dr Nicola Collins is a senior researcher in the Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases in the Faculty of Veterinary Science. Dr Collins' research focuses on the detection and molecular characterisation of haemoparasites of veterinary importance.

Her research career began at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, where she completed her PhD in PCR diagnosis and molecular characterisation of *Theileria parva* in 1997. She later moved into research on heartwater and gained experience in expression library immunisation, DNA immunisation, and genome sequencing. She was the first author of the publication of the *Ehrlichia ruminantium* genome sequence in 2005, the first bacterial genome to be completed in Africa.

Dr Collins joined the University of Pretoria in 2003. Her current research focuses on bovine anaplasmosis, including developing real-time PCR assays to detect *Anaplasma marginale* and *A. centrale*, methods to characterise these parasites, and characterisation of outer membrane protein vaccine candidates from South African *A. marginale* strains. Recent evidence suggests that several *Anaplasma* species are present in cattle and wildlife in South Africa, including little-known and novel organisms. Her future research aims to obtain genome sequences from these *Anaplasma* species, identify gene and protein targets to distinguish between them, and examine potentially cross-protective antigens.

Dr Collins received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Martin Coetzee



Professor Vinet Coetzee



Dr Nicola Collins





Professor Jannie Crafford

Professor Jannie Crafford is an associate professor in the Department of Veterinary Tropical Diseases in the Faculty of Veterinary Science. He obtained an MSc degree in Veterinary Science *cum laude* and completed his PhD in 2014. Professor Crafford is a veterinarian with a broad background in veterinary infectious diseases, with a specific focus and expertise in immunology, vaccinology, and viral diseases. He was promoted to associate professor in January 2022.

His main research interest is immunology, particularly the host response to various vaccines and the development of diagnostic assays. He has researched the immune response to African horse sickness and anthrax recombinant vaccines. Over the past five years, he has been intimately involved with Professor Christine Maritz-Olivier's group focusing on various aspects of anti-tick immunity in cattle and adapting recombinant anti-tick vaccines to livestock in Africa. Other areas of his research include the sylvatic cycle of African swine fever in South Africa and the development of diagnostic assays for detecting arboviruses of veterinary importance.

Professor Crafford received a C3 rating from the NRF.



Dr Frederik Dalerum

Dr Fredrik Dalerum is an extraordinary lecturer in the Mammal Research Institute, Department of Zoology and Entomology. He received his PhD in zoology from Stockholm University in 2005, after which he was a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Alberta, Canada.

He has been affiliated with the University of Pretoria since 2006, as a postdoctoral researcher (2006-2008), as a University of Pretoria research fellow (2009-2013), and since 2013 as an extraordinary lecturer. In addition to his extraordinary lectureship at UP, he is also a tenured researcher with the Spanish National Research Council and an adjunct lecturer at Stockholm University.

Dr Dalerum is a terrestrial ecologist with a research focus on predation processes, the biology and conservation of mammalian carnivores, and functional aspects of biodiversity. He uses both empirical and theoretical methods to approach these topics. He is currently involved with several projects related to large carnivore management and, with an extensive cooperative effort, is evaluating the impacts of climate change on biodiversity in Arctic tundras.

Dr Dalerum received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Nerhene Davis

Dr Nerhene Davis is a senior lecturer in the Department of Geography, Geo-informatics and Meteorology in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

Her primary research focus centres on aspects of South African land reform policy and its impacts on land management and rural livelihoods. With her primary research focus, she seeks to contribute to a better understanding of questions relating to land access, management and livelihoods in the South African landscape. A particular career highlight was when she was invited to present some of her key research findings at the 2016 High-Level Parliamentary Land Reform Review Portfolio Committee inquiry, headed by the former South African President, Mr Kgalema Motlanthe. In 2016, she was a nominated contributor to the South African Land Reform Diagnostic Report commissioned by the South African government. In 2018, she was invited to present key findings from her ongoing research to a high-level parliamentary review delegation from the Ministry of Uganda.

Over the past few years, she was awarded several funding grants from the National Research Foundation (NRF) and other sources. She has assisted as a reviewer and moderator on various NRF review panels. In 2020, she was elected as a council member of the Society of South African Geographers and a corresponding member of the International Geographical Union's Gender Committee.

Dr Davis received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Dr Andeline dos Santos is a senior lecturer in the field of music therapy and the research coordinator for the School of the Arts, in the Faculty of Humanities. Her doctoral thesis examined the relationships between empathy and aggression through two processes of group music therapy with teenagers referred for violent behaviours, one informed by descriptive phenomenology and the other by poststructural and relational approaches. Dr Dos Santos has since intensified her focus on empathy, researching, for example, relationships between empathy and music therapists' religious/spiritual orientation.

She has developed an understanding of four distinct forms of empathy, presented in her book *Empathy pathways: A view from music therapy* (published by Palgrave Macmillan and available in September 2022). She received the Emerging Researcher of the Year Award in the Faculty of Humanities in 2019. She has served as the chair of the Publications Commission of the World Federation of Music Therapy, the research chair of the South African Arts Therapies Association, and the co-chair of the scientific committee for the World Congress of Music Therapy in 2020. She is an associate editor for the *Nordic Journal of Music Therapy and Approaches* — an interdisciplinary journal of music therapy.

Dr Dos Santos received a C1 rating from the NRF.

Professor Zorodzai Dube is an associate professor in the Department of New Testament and Related Literature, Faculty of Theology and Region, University of Pretoria.

He received a DPhil from the University of Oslo, Norway (2012) and worked as a lecturer in New Testament studies at the University of South Africa (2012). Since 2016, he has been a senior lecturer in the Department of New Testament Studies at the University of Pretoria. He received the prestigious UP Vice-Chancellor's Research Grant (2013) and was awarded the Faculty of Theology Best Research Award (2021). Based on his academic contribution, he has acted as an external academic moderator and assessor of various local and international universities.

His research niche is on healthcare ideas during the New Testament times and their overlap with ideas of ethnicity, class and gender. He sees Christ's healing praxis as focused on the less privileged, outcasts and foreigners in affirming their social dignity and wellbeing. Thus, discussions concerning healthcare should be placed within the broader social prism associated with justice and fairness. His publications appear in ISI, Department of Higher Education Training, ScieLo, WoS, and Scopus indexed journals accruing Google h-index 14, i10-index of 14.

Professor Dube received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Gyebi Duodu is a professor of Food Science and Head of the Department of Consumer and Food Sciences, University of Pretoria. He conducts undergraduate and postgraduate teaching in Food Chemistry and Food Engineering.

His research focuses on the health-promoting properties of African grains and their foods, and he investigates metabolomic profiling, chemistry and bioactivity of phenolic compounds. The significant contribution of Professor Duodu's research has been highlighting the health-promoting properties of African grains (sorghum, millets, cowpeas and Bambara groundnuts). His research outputs, therefore, provide an impetus for increased utilisation of African cereals and legumes and improved consumer health. He also researches the nutritional aspects of African grain-based foods, focusing on mineral bioaccessibility and protein quality. In this regard, he has been a principal investigator in projects with nutrition as a focus.

Professor Duodu was co-editor of the book *Sorghum and Millets: Chemistry, Technology and Nutritional Attributes* (Second Edition), the worldwide standard reference work on sorghum and millets food science and technology. He also serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Food Composition and Analysis* and the *Journal of Cereal Science*.

Professor Duodu received a C1 rating from the NRF.



Dr Andeline dos Santos



Professor Zorodzai Dube



Professor Gyebi Duodu





Professor David Fourie

Professor David Fourie is a professor and coordinator of the Master of Public Administration Programme in the School of Public Management and Administration.

He obtained his DPhil (Public Administration) from the University of Pretoria with a thesis on the contemporary management task of directors-general in the public service. He serves as editor and reviewer for several academic journals, and his research outputs have appeared in many major peer-reviewed publications and chapters in peer-reviewed books. In 1999, 2005, and 2006 he received the Top Researcher Award in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences and in 2016 for the Best Senior Researcher in Management Sciences. His research interests lie in public financial management, public sector procurement and ethical conduct in the public sector.

He has successfully supervised several master's and doctoral students and acted as project leader in several contract research projects for organisations such as the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), the Energy and Water Sector Education and Training Authority and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Professor Fourie received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Gerda Fourie

Dr Gerda Fourie is a senior lecturer in the Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. During her PhD, she was awarded a L'Oréal-UNESCO regional fellowship 'For Women in Science' in Sub-Saharan Africa and also received a Claude Leon Postdoctoral Fellowship for two years.

Her PhD and postdoctoral research focused on the evolution of mitochondrial genomes in the *Fusarium fujikuroi* species complex. During this time, she was also involved in research in collaboration with industry partners and Forestry South Africa. She was part of the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST): action FP1406 PINESTENGHT. Both collaborations resulted in several co-authored, peer-reviewed publications, and research published as a result of the PhD and postdoctoral research.

Since 2018 she has been the primary investigator of the Macadamia Protection Programme in the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute. The overall aim of the Macadamia Protection Programme is to provide biologically relevant information to improve the management of macadamia pests and diseases and to assist in the generation of knowledge that will support the improvement and development of biological control, including pheromone-based products. To date, Dr Fourie has authored and co-authored 32 publications in peer-reviewed journals.

Dr Fourie received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Michelle Greve

Professor Michelle Greve is an associate professor in the Department of Plant and Soil Sciences at the University of Pretoria. In 2011 she received a PhD from Aarhus University in Denmark.

Professor Greve uses various statistical, mapping and field tools to explore ecological questions in two main systems. She is interested in understanding biological invasions of the sub-Antarctic. In this capacity she has also contributed to the National Status Report on Biological Invasions and the National Biodiversity Assessment.

A second interest is the distribution of African vegetation types, particularly grasslands and savannas. Her work explores taxonomic and functional diversity in these systems, as well as understanding plant recruitment and how this affects the vegetation structure.

Professor Greve received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor John Hall received his BCom in 1984 and his BCom (Hons) (Economics) at the Nelson Mandela University (formerly University of Port Elizabeth) in 1986, after which he worked at the head office of the South African Revenue Service (SARS) and the regional office in Cape Town as a tax inspector. He completed his MBA at UP in 1989 and worked for four years as the financial manager of a civil engineering and manufacturing firm.

In 1994 Professor Hall started as a lecturer in financial and investment management at UP, completed his DBA at UP in 1998 and was promoted to senior lecturer, associate professor and professor. He is currently the Head of the Department of Financial Management. His research focus areas include shareholder value creation, capital budgeting and aspects of development economics. He received his first NRF rating (C3) in 2016. Professor Hall has published 69 journal articles (some of which have received best paper awards) in scholarly refereed journals. He has a Google Scholar *h*-index of 23 and has presented research papers locally and internationally at several conferences. Professor Hall has successfully supervised 26 master's and doctoral students.

Professor Hall received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor John Hall

Professor Thulani Hlatshwayo has been an associate professor in the Department of Physics in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences since 2019.

After completing an MSc in nuclear physics at the University of Zululand under the MANuS/MatSci programme, he obtained a PhD in material science/ solid-state physics in 2010.

His research is based on the understanding of the release of radioactive fission products from fuel in the modern nuclear reactors, where chemical vapour deposited (CVD)-SiC is the main barrier to fission products, and on finding alternative materials for nuclear waste storage. His work is critical in the revival of nuclear energy as a clean energy source. Professor Hlatshwayo recently received the Exceptional Young Researcher Award from the University of Pretoria.

His work has been presented at several local and international conferences. Professor Hlatshwayo is the author or co-author of 82 articles in international peer-reviewed journals and 14 conference proceedings. He has successfully supervised four honours, seven master's and 11 doctoral projects.

Professor Hlatshwayo received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Thulani Hlatshwayo

Professor Dietmar Holm is Deputy Dean for Teaching and Learning in the Faculty of Veterinary Science and a professor in the Department of Production Animal Studies. Professor Holm is a cattle health and production expert with a specific research interest in improving the production and reproduction outcomes of cattle farming systems. Professor Holm has a secondary research interest in the scholarship of teaching and learning, specifically aimed at teaching and learning in the discipline of ruminant health and production, in which he has established a significant international profile in the recent past.

Professor Holm has been recognised as a specialist veterinarian in the discipline of bovine herd health by the South African Veterinary Council through peer evaluation in 2013. He served as the chairperson of the Ruminant Veterinary Association of South Africa from 2014-2017. He made an impact by restructuring the association and escalating the association's influence at the national level. In 2017 Professor Holm was elected as the core representative for Africa on the Council on International Veterinary Medical Education (CIVME). Following his active involvement in establishing the African Association of Veterinary Education Establishments (2A2E-V) in 2018, he was elected as President of 2A2E-V in 2021, a position that he drives with energy and passion.

Professor Holm received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Dietmar Holm





Professor Pieter Jacobs

Professor Pieter Jacobs is an associate professor in the Department of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology (EBIT). He holds a PhD in electronic engineering from UP and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from Yale University, where he studied as a Fulbright scholar.

His long-standing area of research has been the machine-learning-based modelling and optimisation of antennas and microwave devices. His published contributions include the characterisation and optimisation of the electromagnetic responses of these structures using kernel learning techniques and deep learning. Recently his research interests have expanded into music/musicology and AI, including machine recognition of musical instruments within polyphonic contexts, deep learning approaches to performing artist recognition from recorded audio, and identifying high-level formal structures in classical music. Professor Jacobs is also a concert pianist who has performed as a soloist and chamber musician with international artists in main centres in South Africa.

Professor Jacobs received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Christa Janse van Rensburg

Professor Christa Janse van Rensburg is the Head of the Section Sports Medicine at the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Pretoria. Following her undergraduate MBChB degree, which she obtained in 1990 (*cum laude*), she was conferred an MSc (Sports Medicine) in 1996, an MMed in physical medicine (Rheumatology) (*cum laude*) in 1999 and a DMed degree in 2012.

Her research is closely tied to her clinical field of expertise as a specialist in physical medicine and rheumatology. For her doctorate, she researched the effect of exercise on the autonomic nervous system of rheumatoid arthritis patients.

Over the past three years, Professor Janse van Rensburg, already a fellow of the American College of Sports Medicine and the International Federation of Sports Medicine, has been the South African Sports Medicine Association President. She is a founding member of the newly established College of Sport and Exercise Medicine and a board member of the medical committee of World Netball. She was appointed as a scientific committee member for the IOC World Conference on the Prevention of Injury and Illness in Sport in Monaco, 25-27 November 2021. She was also appointed as representative of the medical committee of World Netball for the Netball World Cup scheduled for 2023 in Cape Town.

Professor Janse van Rensburg received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Yolanda Jordaan

Professor Yolanda Jordaan is a full professor and Head of the Department of Marketing Management in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.

Her research focus is on consumer decision-making, with a strong focus on consumer information privacy in both traditional and new media contexts. She spent some time as a visiting professor at the University of Wollongong in Australia and a research fellow at the University of Angers in France.

She is the South African marketing industry representative for the Services SETA at the European Marketing Confederation's Academic Group, whose main aim is to extend research collaboration and sharing across nations. She is a board member of the Marketing Association of South Africa and the Southern Africa Institute for Management Scientists. She has facilitated several company training and management programmes and has lectured at universities in the United States, Australia and the Netherlands. Professor Jordaan is the editor or co-author of multiple books in the marketing management field. Besides her academic career, she is also the Head of the House Mags female residence at the University.

Professor Jordaan received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Fourie Joubert leads the Centre for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology in the Faculty of Natural Sciences. He received his PhD in biochemistry in 2000 and started the previous Bioinformatics and Computational Biology Unit in 2003. It became the Centre for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology in 2016. He undertook a research visit to the CNRS in Grenoble in 2008 and to the British Columbia Cancer Agency in 2014.

While collaborating widely in genomics of all organisms, including viruses, bacteria, fungi, insects, nematodes and animals, he primarily focuses on genomics related to human health, particularly the role of genomic variants in human disease. His latest published work has been on the role of genomic variants in African breast cancer patients.

He has served on various national bodies related to bioinformatics and recently received the first Gold Medal from the Society for Bioinformatics. He has been widely involved in bioinformatics training in South Africa and Africa.

Professor Joubert received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Hannes Knoetze is an associate professor in the Department of Practical Theology and Mission Studies in the Faculty of Theology and Religion. He obtained his DD in missiology in 2002 from the University of Pretoria and started his part-time academic career in 2008 at Kgolagano College in Botswana.

In 2012 he accepted a full-time senior lecturer position in the Department of Theology at the Mahikeng Campus of the North-West University. In 2016 he was promoted to associate professor in mission studies in the Faculty of Theology at North-West University.

In September 2020, he joined the Faculty of Theology and Religion at the University of Pretoria. Professor Knoetze teaches mission studies for undergraduate and postgraduate students. His areas of research are poverty alleviation amongst African millennials, missional diaconate, and missional leadership in the African context, as well as theological education in Africa. He is convenor for the Family and Youth Ministry study group of the International Association of Mission Studies (IAMS) and a board member of the Network for African Congregational Theology (NetACT).

In 2013 and 2019, he received University Teaching Excellence Awards (UTEA) from North-West University.

Professor Knoetze received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Eileen Koekemoer has been an associate professor in the Department of Human Resource Management in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences at the University of Pretoria in South Africa since 2016. She commenced her academic career at the University of Pretoria as a senior lecturer in 2014. She was a lecturer and senior lecturer at the North-West University (Potchefstroom Campus) from 2008 to 2013. She is a registered industrial psychologist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) and a member of the South African Board for People Practices (SABPP), the two regulating bodies in the field of Human Resource Management and Industrial Psychology.

The main focus of her research is on the interrelationship between the work-family interface and career success and the well-being of employees. Thus, most of her research projects investigate the interaction between employees' work and family life and how it influences their career success and well-being. She has published 30 articles in accredited journals and co-authored six book chapters. During her academic career, Professor Koekemoer has received Thuthuka research funding from the National Research Foundation for two research projects. In 2016 she obtained a Y2 rating from the NRF. Professor Koekemoer lectures research methodology (honours level) and change dynamics (master's level) within the Department of Human Resource Management at UP.

Professor Koekemoer received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Fourie Joubert



Professor Hannes Knoetze



Professor Eileen Koekemoer





Professor Schalk Kok

Professor Schalk Kok is a professor and acting Head of the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology. He was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to pursue his PhD in the USA. He graduated with a PhD in mechanical engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2002.

Professor Kok works in the discipline of computational mechanics and numerical optimisation. Some applications include the prediction of long-term creep response of structural graphite due to irradiation, the biomechanical modelling of the human cornea's response to internal pressure, modelling recrystallisation of high alloy steels during hot rolling, the modelling of boiler tube defects due to external erosion, and laser shot peening modelling. Professor Kok's research has resulted in numerous publications: two book chapters, 64 conference papers and 65 journal papers.

Professor Kok was the President of the South African Association of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (SAAM) for three terms (2010–2016) and Vice-President for one term (2016–2018). He presented a keynote talk at the most recent South African Conference on Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (SACAM) in 2021.

Professor Kok received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Karl Kunert

Professor Karl Kunert is an extraordinary professor at the University of Pretoria in plant science. In 1976, he received a PhD in plant biology from the University of Konstanz in Germany. He spent postdoctoral time at the University of California Davis, USA, was a research fellow at the John Innes Institute in Norwich, UK, and Oxford University, UK, as well as at INRA Versailles, France and was also for many years a senior research fellow in plant biotechnology at AECL in South Africa.

He was selected in 2012 among 850 applicants to work for two years at Leeds University, UK, as an incoming international Marie Curie EU fellow. For two years he held a position of a visiting research scientist at Leeds University working on stress-induced senescence processes in plants and has also been a visiting extraordinary professor in the Department of Genetics at Stellenbosch University for several years.

He has specifically conducted research in tolerance against oxidative and proteolytic processes in grain legumes, particularly under drought stress, to ultimately develop easily applicable drought tolerance markers. His research has been recognised by many organisations, including the EU and the Royal Society in the UK. He acts as associate editor of the journal *Food and Energy Security*. He currently coordinates the ERA-NET BIO-BELIEF Project to develop nutritional-optimised common beans tolerant to drought involving partners from Italy, France, Kenya, and Brazil.

Professor Kunert received a C1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Ericka L'Abbé

Professor Ericka L'Abbé is a professor of biological anthropology and the Director of the Forensic Anthropology Research Centre (FARC) in the Department of Anatomy at the University of Pretoria. She is board-certified with the American Board of Forensic Anthropology and is a fellow of the American Academy of Forensic Sciences.

She has published more than 70 papers and book chapters in forensic anthropology, with more recent focuses on bone trauma and population affinity. As Director of FARC, she is involved in analysing human remains, forensic and archaeological in nature, field and laboratory training, management, and grant writing. FARC also applies knowledge of biological anthropology in medicine and health sciences education. She has written 350 technical reports on unknown skeletal remains for forensic pathologists and the South African Police Service (SAPS). She currently manages two Erasmus+ Capacity Building in Higher Education (CBHE) grants, which aim to build the first digital repository of skeletal remains in Africa. It is known as the Bakeng se Afrika Project for research and education and the Dirisana+ Project, which focuses on the application of 3D printing and other technological advances to health sciences education.

Professor L'Abbé received a C1 rating from the NRF.

Dr Talita le Roux is a senior lecturer in audiology in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology in the Faculty of Humanities and has more than 20 years of experience as a clinical and research audiologist.

After five years in clinical practice, she joined academia with a strong initial focus on teaching, clinical work and clinical training. For the past ten years, Dr Le Roux has managed cochlear implant (CI) recipients at the Pretoria Cochlear Implant Unit (affiliated with the University of Pretoria). Her clinical work informed the research area (paediatric and adult cochlear implantation) for her doctoral studies (degree obtained in 2017), in which she directed the first multi-center CI research initiative in South Africa. Her area of clinical research shifted with her doctoral studies to a more research-intensive focus, evidenced by an increased number of successfully supervised postgraduate students and articles published in high-impact international peer-reviewed journals. Within the dynamic and transdisciplinary field of CIs, Dr Le Roux has established international research collaborations with scholars from Australia and Sweden and the CI industry and locally with CI programmes across South Africa and bioengineering at the University of Pretoria.

Dr Le Roux received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Reza Malekian is a professor of computer science and deputy head of department at Malmö University, Sweden and an extraordinary professor in the Department of Electrical, Electronic and Computer Engineering at the University of Pretoria, South Africa, where he previously led the Advanced Sensor Networks research group and received the Vice-Chancellor and Principal's Exceptional Young Researcher's Award. He is also nominated for the Tage Erlander Prize, an award by the Royal Swedish Academy of Science for outstanding scientific research in natural sciences and technology.

He is a chartered engineer with the Engineering Council of the UK, a senior member of the IEEE, and a member of the South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS). His research focuses on the Internet of Things, connectivity and advanced sensor networks. The results of his work have been published in 170 peer-reviewed articles, conference papers, and book chapters with over 4600 citations and an h-index of 35. Dr Malekian is an associate editor for *IEEE Transactions on Intelligent Transportation Systems*, *IEEE Internet of Things Journal* (2016–2020), and *IEEE Sensors Journal*.

He has been invited as a visiting professor at leading universities such as the University of Porto, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Aarhus University, Institut supérieur de l'électronique et du numérique, and the University of Antwerp based on invitations to deliver guest lectures or as a PhD examiner.

Professor Malekian received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Dr Jean-Claude Malela is a senior lecturer in the Department of Statistics in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Science (NAS) at the University of Pretoria (UP).

Dr Malela obtained his honours and master's degrees in statistics from UP and a PhD in statistics from UNISA. In 2018, he was awarded the first prize for the best paper at the 60th South African Statistical Association conference (SASA2018).

Dr Malela has more than ten years of teaching experience in tertiary institutions, and he is engaged in teaching, supervision, and research. In addition, he is an external examiner for several universities in South Africa. Part of his duty includes the examination of master's and PhD theses in statistical fields.

Dr Malela is a member of the SASA, the International Statistical Institute (ISI), and the Institute of Certified and Chartered Statisticians of South Africa (ICSSA). He has published more than 50 articles in internationally accredited peer-reviewed journals, and his principal research interests include Statistical Process Control and Nonparametric Methods. In addition, he is a reviewer for several highly rated journals, including the *Journal of Statistical Simulation and Computation* and *Communications in Statistics* and the *Journal of Applied Statistics*.

Dr Malela received a C3 rating from the NRF.



Dr Talita le Roux



Professor Reza Malekian



Dr Jean-Claude Malela





Professor Motlalepule Mampane

Professor Motlalepule Mampane is an associate professor with national and international research collaborations. She is the Head of the Department of Educational Psychology, Faculty of Education, and a registered Educational Psychologist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa. Professor Mampane has supervised more than 30 master's and doctoral students in the Department of Educational Psychology.

Her research focuses on academic and family, and adolescent resilience. Her scholarly contributions are centred on the influences of context and developmental processes on academic resilience and adolescent and family resilience against multiple adversities to which South African families are exposed. The research is unique in highlighting family resilience in the resource-constrained context of South African townships and cultural influences on family resilience. Currently, Professor Mampane focuses on drop-in centres attached to primary schools, social development departments, ECE centres, old-age centres and families of the children attached to the drop-in centres.

Professor Mampane completed her second term as a council and EXCO member for Umalusi and the chairperson of the Research Unit of Umalusi in June 2022.

Professor Mampane received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Edwin Mapasha

Dr Edwin Mapasha is a lecturer in Physics (since 2018) and, since 2019 he has been the Head of the Theoretical and Computational Solid State Physics Research Group in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

His research is based on the computational studies of two-dimensional (2D) materials, focusing on electronic applications, energy production (hydrogen water splitting) and energy storage (Li, Na and K ions batteries). The objective is to create various defects in the 2D materials and control them using advanced computational approaches. The main aim is to improve the efficiency of the 2D materials through defect generation in the energy storage for high-performance batteries.

He has presented this work at both local and international conferences. Dr Mapasha has published 33 articles in accredited journals and presented three local conference proceedings. This output research is internationally recognised with an h-index of 9 according to Google Scholar and eight according to Scopus. He has successfully co-supervised two PhD projects and is currently supervising four master's and one PhD candidate. Dr Mapasha is affiliated with the South African Institute of Physics (SAIP) and the Institution of Professional Physicists (PrPhys). He is also an individual associate of the National Institute for Theoretical and Computational Sciences (NITheCS) platform.

Dr Mapasha received a C3 rating from the NRF.



Dr Seonju Marincowitz

Dr Seonju Marincowitz (née Lee) is a researcher at the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI) and a curator in the Culture Collection (CMW) of FABI.

In 1996 she received a PhD in plant pathology, specialising in fungal taxonomy, from the University of Georgia (USA). After completing the degree, she returned to Korea and served as a senior plant quarantine officer until 2000, when she joined a project at Stellenbosch University. The project was the first large-scale initiative to explore the biodiversity of microfungi in fynbos. Her focus was on saprophytic fungi associated with proteas and restios. The fieldwork was completed in 2004, and in the same year she joined the Tree Protection Co-operative Programme (TPCP) in FABI. The results of the project were published in 14 articles and a book.

Since joining FABI, her research has focused on plant pathogenic fungi of woody plants. Her interests are to identify causative agents of novel diseases and characterise them to provide the baseline data for further study in disease management. Her works are reflected in 44 articles. In 2010 she was appointed as a curator of the CMW, the world's most extensive fungal culture collection in the tree health-related fields.

Dr Marincowitz received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Christine Maritz-Olivier is a professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology at the University of Pretoria, where she leads the Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases research programme. Before starting her current role, she conducted postdoctoral research as a Wellcome Trust-funded fellow in South Africa and the Netherlands. Her research focusses on establishing an integrated platform for controlling ticks and tick-borne diseases.

She is co-director of the International Veterinary Vaccine Network (IVVN, UK), co-initiator of both the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation cattle tick vaccine project (CATVAC) and of the South African Veterinary Immunology Society, as well as past President of the International Society of Tropical Veterinary Medicine. She has received several international scientific awards and honorary membership of the Society of Tropical Veterinary Medicine. Her research was awarded the Best Biotechnology Research Award by the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. She serves on the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) community of practice on acaricide resistance management of livestock ticks, and several editorial boards for international journals. She has been a team member delivering the IVVN African Schools Outreach Programme in South Africa since 2018. She has published 37 articles, two book chapters, two invention disclosures and one patent. Her research findings have been presented at 56 national and 42 international conferences (11 as an invited speaker).

Professor Maritz-Olivier received a C1 rating from the NRF.

Professor Walter Meyer is a professor in the Department of Physics in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. His research interests lie in the electrical characterisation of defects in semiconductors.

Currently, his work focuses on the evolution of radiation-induced defects after their induction and the modelling of the physics of these defects using density functional theory. The aim is to understand the mechanisms that cause electronic devices to fail in a high-radiation environment, e.g. in satellites.

He is the author of more than 140 papers published in peer-reviewed journals and has an h-index of 21. He is a member of the South African Institute of Physics (SAIP), a Council Member of the Southern Africa Association for the Advancement of Science (S2A3), and a member of the Suid-Afrikaanse Akademie vir Wetenskap en Kuns.

Professor Meyer received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Melanie Moen is an associate professor in the Department of Early Childhood Education in the Faculty of Education. She obtained her PhD from the University of Pretoria in 2017. In 2019, she received funding to continue her research as a visiting academic at the University of Ontario Tech, Canada.

She is one of four researchers in Africa who specialises in family murder (parricide) by children. She published several national and international articles in this field. In 2021, she published a scholarly book, *Portraits of Pain: Children who kill family members*. She also researches childhood adversity and critically investigates the etiological factors relating to violent incidents by children and youth.

From 2018 to 2021, she was the only South African researcher who was part of the African-Asian Dialogue, which involves research between 29 African and Asian countries. She is the founding member of the Academy on Violence and Abuse (AVA) South Africa, a community-based support project. She received faculty awards for her postgraduate supervision and teaching in the past two years.

Professor Moen received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Christine Maritz-Olivier



Professor Walter Meyer



Professor Melanie Moen





Dr Oliver Mogase

Dr Oliver Mogase was educated at the University of Pretoria, where he obtained his PhD in bioinformatics in 2014. He is currently a senior researcher, and his position is linked to the Marine Microbiomics SARCHI Chair led by Professor Thulani Makhwanyane, where he co-mentors 13 postgraduate students.

His research involves using evolutionary genomics to study gene exchange events and microevolutionary processes that shape microbial communities in their natural habitats. This includes discovering novel prokaryotic and eukaryotic viruses and how these may influence microbiome structures and biogeochemical cycles using sequence data. His previous and ongoing research has involved work in different systems ranging from the ocean, freshwater, the human gut, and terrestrial ecosystems. He employs meta-omics (metagenomics, single-cell genomics, and phylogenomics) to fully explore the evolution and ecological roles of the microbiome from a community to a single-cell level.

Dr Mogase received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Mavis Mulaudzi

Professor Mavis Mulaudzi, former Head of the Department of Nursing Sciences, has been appointed SARCHI Chair of the Ubuntu Community Model of Nursing by the National Research Foundation (NRF). Her appointment is for five years focusing on improving universal access to health, healthcare and health outcomes of people in remote, rural and under-resourced communities by developing, piloting and implementing an Ubuntu-innovation model, approach and principles for coproduction and convergence of indigenous and biomedical knowledge.

The Chair's role is aligned with the agenda of the World Health Assembly (2019), the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development, and the global strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (2016-2030) as well as South Africa's National Development Plan and Vision 2030, South Africa's National Strategic Plan for HIV, TB and STIs (2017-2022), and the National Health Insurance Bill, amongst others.

She is an experienced Head of Department with a demonstrated history of working in the higher education sector. She is a strong education professional skilled in lecturing, academic writing, clinical research, data analysis, and science.

Professor Mulaudzi received a C3 rating from the NRF.



Professor Eric Mungatana

Professor Eric Mungatana, who specialises in environmental and natural resources economics, is an associate professor in the Department of Agricultural Economics, Stellenbosch University. He is a board member of the International and African Societies for Ecological Economics. He sits on the advisory board of the *Ambio* journal. He is an African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Group E (agriculture, climate change and natural resource management) resource person and a member of the National Research Foundation (NRF) specialist committee on Economics, Management, Administration, and Accounting.

He served as lead author for 'Chapter 6' of the global assessment of biodiversity and ecosystem services of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) (Deliverable 2c) and technical advisor to the (i) Global Water Partnership, (ii) United Nations Development Programme on the Economics of Climate Change Adaptation capacity building programme in Asia, and (iii) Ecosystem Services Economics Unit, Division for Environmental Policy Implementation, United Nations Environmental Program, Nairobi (Kenya). He currently leads two research directions at the department, viz. socioeconomic impacts of remediated acid mine drainage water (with the Universities of Copenhagen and Wits) and application of time series and panel data tools to the management of forestry and fisheries resources (a new research direction).

Professor Mungatana received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Ndeke Musee established the Emerging Contaminants Ecological and Risk Assessment research group at the University of Pretoria in 2015, and is a professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology (EBIT). He conducts research in the field of environmental risk assessment from chemical pollutants. His study aims to aid in the protection of ecological integrity from contaminants from industrial, household, medical and agricultural sources and support evidence-based decision-making and policy-making.

He investigates the fate and effects of nano- and macro-scale pollutants in the aquatic environment using experimental tools to elucidate their occurrence, transformation, and ultimate potential harmful effects on organisms from the molecular level to the whole body.

From here he develops and employs models to quantify ecological risks of pollutants to organisms at variant biological organisation levels. His use of integrated and multidisciplinary approaches have proven valuable in better identifying candidate pollutants of significant concern and improving their management. He is the lead investigator on the National Water Research Commission project related to ecosystem responses from sanitisers and disinfectants during the COVID-19 pandemic (2020-onwards).

Professor Musee received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Rennie Naidoo is an associate professor in the School of IT, Department of Informatics. He received his PhD in information technology from the University of Pretoria in 2009 and a master's degree in information systems (with distinction) from the University of the Witwatersrand in 2004.

His research interests are broadly about management information systems and information and communications technology for development, focusing on cybercrime and the challenges of organisational change and the impact on humans and socio-technical systems. He has published articles in leading international outlets such as the *Journal of Strategic Information Systems*, *European Journal of Information Systems*, *Information Technology & People*, and *The Information Society Journal*. Professor Naidoo has also published articles in leading local and regional outlets such as the *South African Computer Journal*, the *South African Journal of Information Management*, the *African Journal of Information and Communication*, and the *African Journal of Information Systems*. He has also presented papers at premier international and local information systems conferences such as the Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences, International Conference on Information Systems, Americas Conference on Information Systems, Pacific Asia Conference on Information Systems, European Conference on Information Systems, the International Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security, the European Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security, and the Conference of the South African Institute of Computer Scientists and Information Technologists.

Professor Naidoo received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Vinny Naidoo is a veterinary specialist pharmacologist, a professor in veterinary pharmacology in the Department of Paraclinical Sciences and Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science.

His research is focused on pharmacovigilance, which studies the adverse effects of medicines after they receive market authorisation. Within this field, he has focused on the impact of the overuse of antimicrobial drugs on the development of microbial resistance and the subsequent impact on human and animal health. He has also focused on elucidating the mechanism behind the mass poisonings of vultures following their exposure to diclofenac on the Asian subcontinent, intending to find alternate vulture-safe non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

His research has played a significant role in protecting endangered vulture species in Africa, Europe and Asia. Due to his specific subject expertise in pharmacovigilance, he has served on many local and international committees looking at environmental toxicity, such as the NSAID working group of the Raptor MOU which falls under the Conservation for Migratory Species treaty of the UN's Environment Programme. He was featured in the list of the top 2% of cited researchers internationally in the past three years and received the Faculty of Veterinary Science Researcher of the Year Award in 2020.

Professor Naidoo received a C1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Ndeke Musee



Professor Rennie Naidoo



Professor Vinny Naidoo



Dr Thando Ndarana

Dr Thando Ndarana is a senior meteorology lecturer in the Department of Geography, Geoinformatics and Meteorology in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

He holds BSc (Mathematics and Applied Mathematics) and BSc Honours (meteorology) degrees from the Universities of KwaZulu-Natal and Pretoria, respectively, and an MA and PhD (Earth and Planetary Science) from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, USA. His PhD thesis focused on breaking atmospheric waves in the Southern Hemisphere and their relationship to low-pressure cut-off systems, which he defended at the end of 2010. Before joining the University of Pretoria in 2017, Dr Ndarana was a chief scientist at the South African Weather Service and, later, a senior researcher at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. At UP, his main research interests are applying established dynamic meteorology concepts to well-known rainfall-bearing synoptic weather systems in the South African domain to improve the predictability of these systems at the medium-range forecasting time scale (up to seven days ahead). He is therefore contributing to building the dynamic meteorology knowledge of the South Atlantic Ocean/South African domain.

Dr Ndarana has been appointed to serve as a member of the Regulatory Committee for Meteorological Services, a requirement of the South African Weather Service Act, 2001 (Act No. 8 of 2001).

Dr Ndarana received a C1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Jacqueline Nel

Professor Jacqueline Nel is an associate professor in the Department of Physics in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. Her research focuses primarily on forming thin-film semiconductor devices, mainly oxide semiconductors, using chemical methods that do not require expensive vacuum equipment. The films are then characterised to determine their structural and optical properties before being processed further to produce devices to characterise the electrical properties of the films as well as the devices. These films can be used to manufacture UV sensors, gas sensors, and transparent conducting window layers in solar cells.

Professor Nel is a member of the South African Physics Society and the Microscopy Society of South Africa. She has twice chaired the organising committee for the South African Conference on Photonic Materials, usually held biannually, with the next conference at Skukuza in the Kruger National Park in 2023. The conference gives young postgraduate students and researchers from around South Africa the opportunity to interact with internationally recognised invited speakers in the field of photonic materials in a relaxed, informal setting. She has twice been the guest editor for special editions of *Physica B* and has reviewed numerous papers for various well-known physics and materials science journals.

Professor Nel received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Nelus Niemandt

Professor Nelus Niemandt is an emeritus professor in the Department of Practical Theology and Mission Studies in the Faculty of Theology. He is an active researcher and supervisor of PhD candidates. He was Head of the Department of Religion Studies and Missiology until his retirement in 2020. He is currently Rector of the Hugenote Kollege in Wellington in the Western Cape.

Professor Niemandt studies missiology, and his focus is on the theology of mission, missional leadership, and missional spirituality. He co-authored a policy document on the Missional Church that became the official policy in the Dutch Reformed Church and is shaping much of church life.

He was a visiting scholar at Princeton Seminary in 2018 and was appointed as Rector of the Hugenote Kollege soon after his retirement in 2020. He supervised 28 PhD candidates and nearly 50 master's students. Professor Niemandt is vice-editor of the journal *Missionalia*, a member of the advisory editorial board of the journal *Verbum et Ecclesia* and a member of the International Research Consortium on Missional Congregations. He (and participatory colleagues) received the prestigious SA Akademieprys for one of the six best overall academic articles in a peer-reviewed journal in Afrikaans in 2018.

Professor Niemandt received a C1 rating from the NRF.

Professor Annelize Nienaber is an extraordinary professor in the Department of Public Law in the Faculty of Law at the University of Pretoria. She is also the Head of a law school at Abertay University in Scotland, United Kingdom. In 2003 she was awarded a scholarship by the USA National Institutes of Health to visit Yale University, USA, where she undertook research towards her doctoral thesis entitled *Ethics and human rights in HIV-related clinical trials in Africa with specific reference to informed consent in preventive HIV vaccine efficacy trials in South Africa*.

She was previously the Head of the Department of Public Law and has been admitted as an advocate of the High Court of South Africa. She is the author and co-author of over 50 Department of Higher Education and Training accredited, peer-reviewed, South African and international journal articles and book chapters on human rights law, research law and bioethics. She co-authored two student textbooks. She has delivered conference papers and keynote addresses at more than 30 national and international conferences. She is a member of the International Association of Bioethics and the International Law Association. Professor Nienaber is a Deputy-Chairperson of the Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Health Sciences at UP. She is an editor of the *African Human Rights Law Journal* and an assistant editor of the *Tydskrif vir Hedendaagse Romeins-Hollandse Reg/Journal for Contemporary Roman-Dutch Law*.

Professor Nienaber received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Christopher Nshimbi holds the South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARChI) Research Chair in the Political Economy of Migration in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. He is an associate professor in the Department of Political Sciences in the Faculty of Humanities. He is also the acting director of the Institute for Strategic and Political Affairs (ISPA) in the Department of Political Sciences. He received a PhD from Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University (Japan) and joined the University of Pretoria in 2012 as a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Political Sciences. In 2014 he was awarded the Department of Science and Technology/National Research Foundation (DST/NRF) Research Career Advancement Fellowship.

Professor Nshimbi has taught in the Development Studies Department of the Zambian Open University and the Management Studies Division of Zambia's National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA). He is a visiting scholar at the Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies of the University of Leuven (KU Leuven). He has researched the governance of migration and borders in Africa and selected major regions of the world and between Africa and Europe. Over the past five years, his research has revealed neglected issues in traditional social, economic and political research on African migration and borders. Professor Nshimbi has served on regional and international technical working groups on labour and migration, trade, and water governance.

Professor Nshimbi received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Chantal Olckers is an associate professor in the Department of Human Resource Management in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.

She completed her PhD in Human Resource Management at the University of Pretoria in 2011. She is registered as an industrial psychologist with the Health Professions Council of South Africa and a master human resource practitioner with the South African Board for Personnel Practice. Her PhD in psychological ownership, which falls within the broader field of positive psychology, was a launching pad for her future publications and presentations.

Apart from developing a measurement instrument for psychological ownership, her research focuses on building the nomological network of psychological ownership and applying it in various contexts. Her research explores the complex interaction of various intra-individual, object-related and contextual factors that determine psychological ownership. Furthermore, her research focuses on the conditions to enhance feelings of psychological ownership. Developing and implementing practical intervention strategies to cultivate the mechanics of psychological ownership at work also form part of her research. Professor Olckers has a keen interest in enhancing positive organisational behaviour in organisations. In 2016, she received the Best Senior Researcher Award in management sciences in her faculty.

Professor Olckers received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Annelize Nienaber



Professor Christopher Nshimbi



Professor Chantal Olckers





Professor Alisa Phulukdaree

Professor Alisa Phulukdaree is an associate professor in the Department of Physiology in the Faculty of Health Sciences. In 2013, she received her PhD from the University of KwaZulu-Natal. In the decade after, she has produced more than 50 publications, a book, and two book chapters in internationally recognised journals on topics ranging from traditional medicine anti-cancer properties, nanoparticle anti-cancer properties, and, her research focus, heart disease – the leading cause of death globally.

Professor Phulukdaree spent time as a visiting researcher at the University of Manchester (2015) and obtained fellowships from the South African Young Academy of Science, the University of Pretoria's TUKS Young Research Leadership Programme and the Next Einstein Forum. She was awarded the prestigious emerging young researcher award from the University of Pretoria and received her first NRF rating (Y2) in 2016. In addition to her academic achievements, Professor Phulukdaree has a vested interest in mentorship and science leadership training. She has facilitated and co-produced in-person and virtual workshops for the Africa Science Leadership Programme and the regional Southern-Africa, Middle-East, and North African Science Leadership Programme.

Most recently, with the hope of inspiring women in Africa to pursue a career in STEM, Professor Phulukdaree has contributed a mini-autobiography providing insight into the inspiration and challenges in her journey into science and academia in the book *Dear woman in STEM*.

Professor Phulukdaree received a C3 rating from the NRF.



Professor James Roberts

Professor James Roberts is an associate professor in the Department of Geology at the University of Pretoria. Before joining UP in 2007, he worked for AngloGold Ashanti, Anglo American and SAPS Forensic Sciences. His honours degree is from Rhodes University.

His MSc and PhD are from the University of the Witwatersrand, and his PhD focused on isotope dating and plate tectonics in northern Norway. Professor Roberts specialises in igneous and metamorphic petrology at UP but has published in various fields, including gold fingerprinting and coal petrology. He has supervised over 30 master's and eight doctoral students and has published more than 25 papers. Professor Roberts currently has an NRF CSUR grant for studying magnetite pipes in the Bushveld Complex, focusing on their formation and economic potential, and collaborates with groups in Texas, Belgium, and Cambridge. In the past, he has achieved recognition for his teaching achievements, and he has recently wholly restructured the Geology Department's teaching curriculum.

Professor Roberts received a C3 rating from the NRF.



Professor Louw Roos

Professor Louw Roos obtained his MBChB at the University of Pretoria (UP) and MMed (Psychiatry) in 1983 with distinction. In October 1989, he received an MD (Psychiatry) at UP with a thesis titled *An investigation into the causes of suicide by schizophrenic patients*. In 2002 he was awarded a fellowship by peer review of the College of Psychiatrists of South Africa. Professor Roos has been working at Weskoppies Hospital and UP since 1976, and in 2001 he became a professor and Head of the Department of Psychiatry, UP.

He is interested in research on family murder, suicide in schizophrenic patients and the genetics of schizophrenia. He has been an established, rated researcher by the NRF since 2010.

In 2014 he obtained a DSc at UP titled *Genetic variation and clinical variables contributing to schizophrenia in a founder population from SA*. He received the Douw Greeff prize from the SA Academy of Science and Art in 2015.

Since 2017 he has been an emeritus professor in the Department of Psychiatry, Faculty of Health Sciences. He is involved with pre- and postgraduate training in psychiatry and Forensic Psychiatry at Weskoppies Hospital. Professor Roos published a scholarly book in 2019 on genetic findings in a group of Afrikaners with schizophrenia, sponsored by the South African Academy of Science and Art.

Professor Roos received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Pieter Schaap is an associate professor in the Department of Human Resources Management, Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences.

He is an industrial psychologist registered with the HPCSA. Since joining UP in 1993, he has taught psychometrics to undergraduate and postgraduate students and positioned himself as an expert and researcher in the field of psychometrics testing. His collaboration with various test users and developers has resulted in many academic research outputs, some of which addressed legal testing issues in the industry.

After 1994, strict non-discriminatory labour laws in South Africa requiring scientific evidence to support the use of psychometrics in the workplace were implemented. Professor Schaap conducted the bulk of the research on psychological tests that the Department of Labour extensively used for national learnership programmes.

Professor Schaap provided expert advice on psychometrics to the Ministry of Public Services and Administration at the request of Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, The Gambia Ministry of Basic and Secondary Education at the request of Mott MacDonald Limited and the World Bank. He was an expert advisor on the National Benchmark Tests (NBT) for UP's Senate Committee for Academic Support, Measurement and Admission.

Professor Schaap received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Adrian Shrader is an associate professor and Deputy Head of Department: Teaching and Learning in the Department of Zoology and Entomology, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. He is a behavioural ecologist who focuses his research on the ecology of large mammalian herbivores such as elephants, rhinos, and impala.

Professor Shrader's research strives to explain the behavioural decisions of herbivores, the information they use to make these decisions, and the effects these decisions have on their foraging, landscape use, and movements. Recently, he became interested in the use of olfaction by herbivores when making foraging and movement decisions.

Professor Shrader has published over 56 peer-reviewed articles and six book chapters. In 2019, he was awarded the NATHouse Best Lecturer: Senior Courses Award. In 2020, he won a Teaching Innovation Award from the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, and in 2021 the University of Pretoria Teaching Excellence Laureate Award.

Professor Shrader received a C1 rating from the NRF.

Professor Michael Somers was recently promoted to professor in the Mammal Research Institute, Department of Zoology and Entomology. He joined the University of Pretoria as a lecturer in 2006 after lecturing at Walter Sisulu University for four years.

His research is mainly related to African ecology, particularly African carnivores' ecology, behaviour, and management. Of particular interest has been managing African wild dogs in South Africa's small conservation areas. Other recent work looks at how the various African carnivore species interact with each other and how they interact with their prey. This work has been done through collaborations with colleagues around South Africa on a large-scale camera trapping project called SnapShot Safari South Africa. He also worked on other species and taxa such as warthogs in the Eastern Cape, spiders and aphids on Marion Island, marine mammals around South Africa and freshwater crabs in South African rivers. He aims to produce applied research with practical conservation application and value.

Professor Somers received a C1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Pieter Schaap



Professor Adrian Shrader



Professor Michael Somers





Dr Kshitij Thorat

Dr Kshitij Thorat is a senior lecturer in the Department of Physics, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. He received his PhD in 2014 from the Indian Institute of Science (Bangalore, India). After spending time in the Radio Astronomy Techniques and Technologies group at Rhodes University as a postdoctoral fellow, he joined the University of Pretoria as an Inter-University Institute for Data Intensive Astronomy (IDIA) postdoctoral research fellow in 2019. He commenced work as a senior lecturer in 2021.

His research revolves around the astronomy and astrophysics of radio sources. Specific focuses include studies of radio galaxies of unusual morphology using new-generation radio telescopes, including the South African MeerKAT radio telescope, and using machine learning techniques to deal with big-data challenges in radio astronomy.

Dr Thorat received a C3 rating from the NRF.



Professor Kerstin Tönsing

Professor Kerstin Tönsing is an associate professor at the Centre for Augmentative and Alternative Communication in the Faculty of Humanities.

Her research focuses on developing and implementing augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems for persons who cannot speak and are not (yet) literate, with a particular focus on picture-based AAC systems for children. In her work, she is especially interested in developing and implementing AAC systems that allow for expressing a wide variety of self-generated messages, fostering expressive language growth. She is currently leading a project to design AAC systems for various South African languages to improve service equity for presently underserved populations. The project uses a participatory design approach, emphasising stakeholder involvement and ownership to enhance the linguistic and cultural appropriateness of the systems.

A further focal point in her research is the implementation of AAC systems for multilingual populations — an underexplored area due to the prevailing monolingualistic language ideologies in the field. She situates her work within a multi-systemic framework that seeks to acknowledge the influence of the micro- and macro-context on all aspects of AAC intervention.

Professor Tönsing received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Berge Tsanou

Professor Berge Tsanou is an associate professor at the University of Dschang (UDs) in Cameroon and an extraordinary lecturer at the University of Pretoria (UP). In January 2012 he completed a joint PhD from the Université de Lorraine (France) and the University of Yaoundé (Cameroon) while serving as a lecturer at UD. In 2012, he was promoted to senior lecturer.

In 2014, he was the first appointed postdoctoral fellow in the DST/NRF SARCHI Chair in Mathematical Models and Methods in Bioengineering and Biosciences for two years at UP, and in 2017, he was appointed a senior postdoctoral fellow for three years at UP.

Following a rigorous assessment of his research output in 2018, he was appointed associate professor in Cameroon. He is an investigator in two international research bodies: INRIA-LIRIMA and IRD-UMMISCO (France-Cameroon).

His research lies at the interface of applied dynamical systems, mathematical modelling and optimal control. He has published 26 ISI papers, ten refereed conference papers, given three invited talks, and supervised five doctoral and 20 master's degree students. He has attracted funding from international bodies: Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie; National Institute for Research in Informatics and Automatics (France); National Research Foundation, and DST-NRF Centre of Excellence (South Africa).

Professor Tsanou received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Albe van der Merwe is an associate professor in the Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. After receiving his PhD in 2012 from the University of Pretoria, he embarked on a sabbatical visit to the Westerdijk Fungal Biodiversity Institute, The Netherlands (Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures at the time) (2013-2014), where he researched the taxonomy of fusarioid fungi.

His primary research deals with the evolutionary biology of pathogenic tree fungi. This research includes systematics, population genetics, and the molecular mechanisms that lead to pathogenicity. He has supervised 15 honours, nine master's and nine doctoral students in this area. His research produced 34 scientific publications, three of which appear in the Web of Science's highly cited list.

Professor Van der Merwe received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Albe van der Merwe

Professor Albert-Neels van Schoor is a professor of anatomy at the University of Pretoria. After graduating and completing his honours degree in neuroanatomy (*cum laude*), he accepted a position in the Department of Anatomy in April 2003. It was during his time as a technical assistant and lecturer that he completed both his MSc in anatomy (2004) (*cum laude*) and PhD (2010).

His research focus is on the clinical anatomy of regional nerve blocks, especially in a paediatric population, and examining the position of these nerves to avoid iatrogenic injury during surgical procedures. He is also involved in studying neuroscience, brain development, and other facets of anaesthesiology. As the technology and availability of more advanced or specialised imaging modalities increased, his research included these imaging modalities. He has published over 45 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals and successfully supervised seven doctoral and 14 master's students.

Professor Van Schoor is serving in his first term as President of the Anatomical Society of Southern Africa and is a founding member of the Global Community of Anatomical Science Educators (GCASE). He is also the co-author of the 7th and 8th editions of *Abrahams and McMinn's Clinical Atlas of Human Anatomy*, published in 2013 and 2019, respectively.

Professor Van Schoor received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Albert-Neels van Schoor

Professor Surette van Staden is an associate professor in the Department of Science, Mathematics and Technology Education in the Faculty of Education. She has served as the Director of the Centre for Evaluation and Assessment since 2018. In 2011 she received her PhD in assessment and quality assurance from the University of Pretoria.

Her work utilises the Progress in International Reading Literacy Study (PIRLS) data, a study conducted in South Africa in 2006, 2011, 2016 and most recently in 2021, with the results expected in December 2022. This comparative study focuses on Grade 4 reading achievement and contextual background issues that affect reading across 60 countries. She served as Co-national Research Coordinator for PIRLS in South Africa in 2011 and as National Research Coordinator in the 2021 cycle. She also served on the Questionnaire Development Group for PIRLS (a selected group of invited members to assist with reviewing and further developing the survey instruments for international use).

Her interest is in the factors that contribute to school success, quality and equity using large-scale assessment data. She teaches at the University of Innsbruck on occasion and spent some time as part of a travel grant at the University of Groningen.

Professor Van Staden received a C1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Surette van Staden





Professor Gary van Vuuren

Professor Gary van Vuuren is a professor in the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics in the Faculty of Science. He worked as an experimental physicist after receiving his PhD in nuclear physics from the University of Natal, Durban, in 1993. He then re-trained in financial risk and obtained a PhD in credit risk management from North-West University in 2005.

His research field spans all areas of quantitative finance with a focus on financial risk measurement and management – principally for banks and asset managers. This field includes market, credit, operational and liquidity risk and the emerging field of environmental, social and governance-associated risks. He has supervised dozens of postgraduate student theses and dissertations and, as a result of these successful collaborations, has published over 100 articles in peer-reviewed journals.

He has held visiting professorships at Sussex, London Metropolitan and Brunel Universities in the UK, the Institut d'Économie Scientifique et de Gestion and École des Hautes Etudes Commerciales du Nord in France, and the University of the Free State, North-West University, Stellenbosch University, the University of Cape Town and the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa. In 2018 he was awarded the best article in the *Investment Analysts Journal*.

Professor Van Vuuren received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Gusti van Zyl

Dr Gusti van Zyl is a senior lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Pretoria. In 2009 he received a PhD in Mathematical Sciences for a thesis on results linking real-scalar and complex-scalar topological tensor products.

His primary interest is stochastic processes, their connections with measure theory, and their use in modelling financial derivatives. His interest in stochastic processes led him to work with coauthors in the actuarial and engineering disciplines. One of his current projects is the investigation of the possible use of topological linear programming in the quantification of distributional risk when calculating expected values.

Dr Van Zyl received a C2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Danie Veldsman

Professor Danie Veldsman is Head of the Department of Systematic and Historical Theology in the Faculty of Theology and Religion. He completed his PhD as a DAAD Scholar at the Kirchliche Hochschule, West Berlin, West Germany and graduated in 1989 from the University of Pretoria.

For more than a decade, he focused his research on religion-science discourses and the reconceptualisation of religious experiences from evolutionary perspectives. Apart from reading papers at numerous international and national conferences, visiting scholarships in the USA, Canada and Europe, and publishing research contributions on the broad themes of theology, the sciences and technology, he has narrowed his research in the past five years to the theme of embodied personhood, and specifically the significance of the cognitive-affective dimension (that is, the role of moods, emotions and feelings) of being human as “wise persons” (homo sapiens) in our sensemaking of and witness to Transcendence. His most important and recent contextual-theological contributions lie in addressing the (unqualified) distrust on the African continent towards the sciences and a directive effort towards the consonance of the best theological insights with scientific insights for the reflective sake of integrity and credibility.

Professor Veldsman received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Christo Venter has been a professor in the Department of Civil Engineering since January 2020. His field of specialisation is transportation engineering and planning, with a particular focus on public transport planning, transport demand modelling and travel behaviour.

Professor Venter has been teaching courses in transportation planning and traffic engineering, public transport, transport economics, transport modelling, and transport policy. He has undertaken research for several international and national research funders and organisations, such as the World Resources Institute, Volvo Research and Educational Foundations, the South African Roads Agency, and the Gautrain Management Agency. The Centre for Transport Development supported much of his research. His research has resulted in 31 journal articles, 45 peer-reviewed conference papers, seven book chapters, and three position papers on various topics related to transport planning commissioned by international think tanks. He serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of the South African Institute of Civil Engineers* and the *Journal of Transport and Land Use*, and the planning boards of several international conferences.

Professor Venter has supervised 32 master's students and nine PhD students. He also teaches postgraduate courses at the University of Stellenbosch's master's programme. He is a registered professional engineer and was elected as a Fellow of the South African Institution of Civil Engineering in 2019.

Professor Venter received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Elmar Venter is an associate professor in the Department of Accounting in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences. He is a Chartered Accountant (South Africa) and holds a PhD in accounting from the University of Auckland, New Zealand. He serves as a vice-president of the International Association for Accounting Education & Research (IAAER).

His research focuses on the consequences of corporate reporting for capital market participants. Regarding disclosures of sustainability issues, his research indicates that companies that prepare high-quality corporate reports, integrating financial and sustainability issues, have higher value and that this increased value arises through two channels – a capital market channel and a real effects channel. In a follow-up study, Professor Venter and his co-authors found that the share prices of companies with higher quality integrated reports are less synchronous with market-wide and industry-level information, suggesting that high quality integrated reports contain firm-specific information that is value relevant to investors.

Professor Venter received a C2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Johan Wassermann is a full professor in history education and the Head of the Department of Humanities Education in the Faculty of Education. He received a PhD in history from the University of Pretoria in 2005. Professor Wassermann joined the University of Pretoria in 2016 after working at the University of Natal and the University of KwaZulu-Natal for 15 years.

He has conducted research in history and history education in an African context. Over the past five years, his research focussed on history textbooks, the teaching of controversial issues in history and youth, and the teaching of history. In his work, he has adopted a critical stance toward history education as conceptualised in the Global North and agitates for an Afrocentric scholarship that foregrounds African disciplinary knowledge.

He is the editor-in-chief of the accredited journal, *Yesterday & Today*, serves on the editorial boards of national and international journals, and is a member of the executive of several South African academic bodies. He is the co-founder and co-director of AHE-Afrika — a non-profit organisation that works to advance history education in Africa.

Professor Wassermann received a C1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Christo Venter



Professor Elmar Venter



Professor Johan Wassermann





Professor Daniel Wilke

Professor Daniel Wilke is a professor in the Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering in the Faculty of Engineering Built and Information Technology. In 2010, he received his PhD Mechanical Engineering at the University of Pretoria and subsequently joined the staff in the same department.

Professor Wilke has delivered several international plenary, keynote, and invited addresses that include the XIVth International Symposium on Environment, Catalysis, and Process, 8th International Conference on Discrete Element Methods, V International Conference on Particle-Based Methods, GPU Technology Conference, GdRI Multi-Physics and Multi-scale Couplings in Geo-environmental Mechanics Workshop, and 7th International Conference on Condition Monitoring of Machinery in Non-Stationary Operations. He ranked 27th among the top 500 authors in South Africa across all subject areas based on scholarly output between 2017–2020. In 2019, Professor Wilke was awarded the Exceptional Young Researcher Award and the Vice-Chancellor's Book Award for the second edition of *Practical Mathematical Programming*, published with the late Professor Jan Snyman. Professor Wilke has co-supervised doctoral, joint-doctoral, and postdoctoral students at IMT Lille Douai, France. He has given invited lectures at Tsinghua University, China, and Surrey University, UK, while assisting with doctoral and postdoctoral supervision at both institutes. Professor Wilke currently serves as an associate editor for *Computer Modeling in Engineering & Sciences*. He was elected President of the South African Association for Theoretical and Applied Mechanics and elected Chairman of the International Union of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (IUTAM) National Committee.

Professor Wilke received a C2 rating from the NRF.

## Y-rated researchers



Dr Chimere Anabanti

Dr Chimere Anabanti is a senior lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. He has received many awards and scholarships, including the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) Ogun State Honours Award in Nigeria, the International Office Masters Scholarship at the University of Warwick (UK) and the Gilchrist Educational Trust Prize in London.

He served as a lecturer in mathematics at the University of Nigeria, Nsukka (UNN), from October 2017 to the start of his postdoctoral fellowship at the Graz University of Technology (TU Graz), Austria, in 2019. He designed and taught a postgraduate computational group theory course at TU Graz Austria and did research collaborations. He joined the University of Pretoria in 2021. On joining UP, he was awarded the Research Development Programme (RDP) Grant for three years. His research is in computational group theory and algebraic combinatorics. He serves as a reviewer for some highly regarded mathematics journals. He has contributed to organising workshops and conferences in South Africa, Nigeria, Austria and England and has given several invited talks at universities around the globe. He became a member of the South African Mathematical Society (SAMS) in 2021 and led parallel sessions at the 2021 SAMS Congress. He has supervised postgraduate students at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS), South Africa.

Dr Anabanti received a Y1 rating from the NRF.



Dr Wilna Bean

Dr Wilna Bean is a senior lecturer in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering. She has been working on supply chain engineering, optimisation, and logistics behavioural modelling research projects and is also a registered professional engineer at the Engineering Council of South Africa.

Dr Bean graduated with her PhD from the University of Pretoria in 2019. Her research focused on behavioural modelling of logistics decisions and collaboration between freight receivers and carriers in an agent-based simulation platform. This work made a notable contribution to collaborative logistics and logistics behavioural modelling and has the potential to support freight transportation planning and decision making. Various international articles emanated from her research, one of which received the Best Paper Award at the International Workshop on Agent-Based Mobility, Traffic and Transportation Models Methodologies and Applications in 2019. Dr Bean focuses on behavioural logistics modelling and supply chain optimisation research. She uses developed models to answer key research questions related to the impact of logistics behaviour on organisations and supply chains and how this can be used to inform decision making.

Dr Bean received a Y2 rating from the NRF.

Dr Janette Bester is a senior lecturer in the Department of Physiology, Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Pretoria.

Dr Bester obtained her PhD in Human Physiology in 2016 and has established her research focus on studying vascular complications in chronic inflammatory conditions such as type 2 diabetes, breast cancer, and prostate cancer with biochemical and biophysical techniques. She aims to understand tissue perfusion and improve the quality of life of patients with chronic diseases by contributing to the management strategies of these patients. Dr Bester has received over R1,4 million in funding from the NRF and CANSA. She has supervised over 20 postgraduate students and has published 39 articles in accredited journals. Dr Bester has an *h*-index of 18 according to scopus.

Dr Bester received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Janette Bester

Professor Martha Bradley was employed as an associate professor in the Department of Public Law, in the Faculty of Law. She joined the University of Pretoria on 1 July 2019 as a lecturer in this department. Professor Bradley holds LLB, LLM (International Air, Space and Telecommunication Law) and LLD degrees from the University of Pretoria. She also has an LLM degree in shipping law from the University of Cape Town.

Professor Bradley's general areas of specialisation lie in public international law and international humanitarian law. After completing her doctorate in 2018, she has increasingly focused her research on conflict classification and the law of non-international armed conflict. Her interests lie in the practice of organised armed groups in Africa and in analysing complex situations that challenge classification, including situations where organised armed groups are fragmented, where there is low-intensity armed conflict, and situations of cross-border armed conflict. She has also published articles on the doctrine of command responsibility.

Professor Bradley has been selected to participate in the prestigious DHET Future Professors Programme Phase 2 Cohort 1. She also teaches the law of conflict classification at the San Remo Academy of International Humanitarian Law, based in San Remo, Italy.

Professor Bradley received a Y1 rating from the NRF.



Professor Martha Bradley

Dr Dina Coertzen is a senior interfaculty postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pretoria's Institute for Sustainable Malaria Control—an SAMRC SHIP-funded collaborating centre for malaria research—and a part-time lecturer in the Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Pretoria.

She currently functions as the project manager for the NRF Community of Practice on 'Evaluating Malaria Control Interventions' hosted at UP. Her research focus uses multidisciplinary complementary target- and phenotype-based drug discovery approaches to identify and validate hit compounds with antimalarial potential. She is the project lead on a grant from the Medicines for Malaria Venture (Switzerland) to investigate the biological mechanisms of novel antimalarial compounds.

Her research has gained considerable international recognition, evidenced by 20 publications and nine plenary presentations, three of which were invited plenaries at international arenas.

She also received scholarships for the Young Scientist Program from the International Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB) and the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB) to attend international meetings and courses.

Dr Coertzen received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Dina Coertzen





Professor Werner Cordier

Professor Werner Cordier is an associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology at the University of Pretoria. He completed his PhD in pharmacology in 2016 with a focus on the biological impact of herbal medicines in cellular models, which helped capacitate him as a researcher in cell culture and biological assessment. Throughout his career, he has received numerous research-related accolades from the pharmacological and toxicological disciplines. His passion for postgraduate research and human capacity development has allowed him to supervise a diverse panel of honours to doctoral students. He further aims to develop their research skills to allow for the actualisation of a scientific identity unique to their interests.

His research is focused on understanding the complex biological milieu of multicellular tumour spheroids, with a particular emphasis on the molecular mediators associated with proliferation, dormancy, and chemoresistance. By developing new cellular models that better represent the biological setting of breast and lung cancers, he wishes to improve the drug development platform by identifying molecular targets that are not subject to differential expression throughout the tumour. This will also allow a clearer understanding of the factors that impart chemoresistance in solid tumours, thus aiding preclinical development platforms. Ultimately, he wishes to use these platforms for indigenous knowledge systems and nanoparticle-related drug development.

Professor Cordier received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Johan Ferreira

Professor Johan Ferreira is an associate professor in the Department of Statistics at the University of Pretoria. He is the Junior Focus Area Coordinator for the Statistical Theory and Applied Statistics focus area of the Centre of Excellence in Mathematical and Statistical Sciences based at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg.

Professor Ferreira's research focuses on fundamental statistical methodology and computation, mainly devoted to directional statistics, probabilistic information theory, and asymmetry and mixture modelling.

He regularly publishes in accredited peer-reviewed journals and reviews manuscripts for international journals, and he has also co-edited two contributed books published by Springer Verlag. He is an ASLP 4.1/4.2 fellow of Future Africa and has been identified as among the top 200 South Africans under the age of 35 by the *Mail & Guardian* in the education category. His ramblings can be found on Twitter with the handle @statisafrican.

Professor Ferreira received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Esedra Krüger

Dr Esedra Krüger is a senior lecturer in the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology in the Faculty of Humanities. She is the programme coordinator for Speech-Language Pathology and the head of the Clinic for High-Risk Babies.

Dr Krüger's research interest includes early intervention for high-risk neonates and infants with neurological disorders, swallowing and feeding difficulties, and craniofacial disorders. Her clinical work as a speech-language therapist includes services at the Clinic for High-Risk Babies at the Department of Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and the Facial Clefts Deformities Clinic at the Department of Maxillo-facial and Oral Surgery at the University of Pretoria. In 2018 she co-founded a particular interest group for professionals interested in dysphagia in Pretoria and surrounding areas. Dr Krüger obtained a DPhil in communication pathology from UP in 2019.

Dr Krüger and her colleague, Dr Renata Eccles, have been awarded the University of Pretoria Teaching and Learning Award for Community Engagement for their work at the Clinic for High-Risk Babies in 2021.

Dr Krüger received a Y2 rating from the NRF.

Dr Samkelo Malgas is a lecturer at the Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology at the University of Pretoria.

Dr Malgas established the Enzyme Technology Laboratory (ETL), focusing on driving biorefinery for the bioeconomy through enzyme biotechnology at UP. The ETL focuses on applying Carbohydrate-Active enZymes (CAZymes) in the food and feed sector, fine chemicals, and nutraceuticals from agricultural plant wastes. The laboratory also participates in testing agro-industrial waste-derived phytochemicals for their potential applications as prebiotics or antioxidants or and/or anti-diabetic and anti-obesity agents aimed at managing lifestyle diseases and improving overall human health. The research uses cutting-edge techniques such as biomass compositional analysis (established by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in the USA), enzyme characterisation and kinetics, scanning electron microscopy (SEM), zeta sizer, viscometry, thin layer chromatography (TLC), liquid chromatography, fluorescence spectroscopy, Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FT-IR) and prebiotic studies such as cell growth, metabolomics, auto-aggregation and biofilm formation.

Dr Malgas aspires to contribute to the development of sustainable processes, job creation and the production of value-added products while avoiding the disposal of useful agro-industrial wastes. In 2021 Dr Malgas was awarded an NRF grant under the Competitive Support for Unrated Researchers and was also a sub-recipient of a Technology Innovation Agency Seed Fund (2022) to conduct field trials on a patented enzyme feed formulation – which he co-invented.

Dr Malgas received a Y2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Anastacia Mamabolo is an associate professor specialising in research methodology and entrepreneurship at the University of Pretoria's Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS). Her PhD, obtained in 2017, focused on entrepreneurial skills and shaped her research identity: the role of human capital and faith in management and entrepreneurial activities.

She teaches the MBA, MPhil, and doctoral programmes in entrepreneurship and applied research design. Professor Mamabolo received the 2019 and 2021 GIBS MPhil permanent faculty teaching awards for research methodology.

In addition to teaching responsibilities, she was involved in GIBS Project Orbit, which explored African business and management. Professor Mamabolo was part of a research team that interviewed more than 100 C-level executives in Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Kenya, and Nigeria. In 2021, she led the Youth Entrepreneurship Scoping study in seven African countries (South Africa, Botswana, Malawi, Mali, Kenya, Senegal, and Nigeria) focusing on Youth Entrepreneurial Ecosystem. In 2022, she received the GIBS Most Prestigious Paper Award for a co-authored paper on African institutions and businesses. Lastly, she was invited by Michigan State University as a visiting researcher from August 2022 to July 2023.

Professor Mamabolo received a Y2 rating from the NRF.

Professor Phumudzo Munyai is an associate professor and Head of the Department of Mercantile Law in the Faculty of Law. In 2017, he completed an LLD in competition law from the University of South Africa. Upon completing his thesis, Professor Munyai became the first South African ever to complete an LLD in competition law in South Africa. He received acknowledgement by the South African Competition Commission, among others.

After completing his LLD, Professor Munyai also spent some time as a visiting scholar and researcher at Leeds University Law School and the European Competition Commission. Over the past five years, Professor Munyai has spent much of his time researching and writing on competition regulation of monopoly conduct and dominance in the South African economy, an area that he feels will be central in transforming the South African economy in the future.

As a young academic under 40, he considers his Y rating a good start and targets a better senior rating in the next round.

Professor Munyai received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Samkelo Malgas



Professor Anastacia Mamabolo



Professor Phumudzo Munyai





Dr Najmeh Nakhaeirad

Dr Najmeh Nakhaeirad has been a lecturer in the Department of Statistics at the University of Pretoria since November 2021. She is currently teaching mathematical statistics and nonparametric statistics classes for honours students.

Her main research interest is directional statistics, focusing on parametric and nonparametric Bayesian analysis, information theory, clustering and Bayesian network analysis. During her time at UP, she has produced numerous articles in highly ranked journals, notably her work on wind direction prediction in SA published in *Scientific Reports* in 2022. She has also represented UP at statistical conferences in South Africa and internationally, including as an invited speaker at the first-ever Symposium of Directional Statistics jointly organised by Ghent University, Belgium and Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany. In April 2022, she was invited to the University of Luxembourg as a guest researcher to deepen research collaboration between the University of Luxembourg and UP. She also received a prestigious Research Fellowship from the DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Mathematical and Statistical Sciences (CoE-MaSS), 2019-2021.

Dr Nakhaeirad received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Professor Nenene Qekwana

Professor Nenene Qekwana completed his BSc (Biochemistry) at the University of the Free State. He then completed a BVSc, MMedVet (Veterinary Public Health), and PhD at the University of Pretoria. He is a recognised specialist in veterinary public health registered with the South African Veterinary Council.

Professor Qekwana has supervised postgraduate students and collaborated with other researchers locally and internationally. His areas of interest include food safety, antimicrobial resistance, and determinants of health in humans and animals.

Professor Qekwana has published articles in peer-reviewed journals nationally and internationally.

He is currently an associate professor of veterinary epidemiology and public health in the Faculty of Veterinary Science, and serves as a member of the research ethics committee. He is also the Head of the Department for Paraclinical Science and a member of the Ministerial Advisory Committee on Antimicrobial Resistance (MAC-AMR).

Professor Qekwana received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Victoria Rautenbach

Dr Victoria Rautenbach is a senior lecturer in the Department of Geography, Geoinformatics and Meteorology at the University of Pretoria.

Dr Rautenbach's research focuses on spatial data visualisation to support decision making, and she often works on projects that relate to multi-dimensional geovisualisation and open source for geospatial software. Dr Rautenbach is the scientific research secretary of the International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) WG IV/9 Geovisualization, Augmented and Virtual Reality (2016-present). She is passionate about open source, open education and open data and has been involved in the UN OpenGIS initiative, Google Code-in and Google Summer of Code.

Dr Rautenbach served on the OSGeo Board of Directors (2019–2020) and was the co-chair of GeoForAll (2019–2022).

Dr Rautenbach received a Y2 rating from the NRF.

Dr Christopher Schwanke is a senior lecturer in the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. In 2015 he completed his PhD under the direction of Gerard Buskes at the University of Mississippi, United States. Before arriving at the University of Pretoria, he undertook postdoctoral fellowships at North-West University and Bandung Institute of Technology. Dr Schwanke additionally served as an assistant professor of mathematics at Lyon College, United States.

His research explores the roles that the notions of order and positivity play in complex analysis. He conducts this investigation by generalising various classical results from complex analysis, such as the Nth Root Test, the Cauchy-Hadamard formal, and the differentiation of power series, to the setting of Archimedean complex vector lattices.

Dr Schwanke received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Christopher Schwanke

Dr Christoff Truter was a senior postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Paraclinical Sciences in the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences. He is now employed at Stellenbosch University. Dr Truter has a passion for applied interdisciplinary research. He obtained a PhD in zoology at Stellenbosch University, with molecular biology and environmental toxicology as central themes.

He has been involved with several projects featuring the health and developmental biology of Nile crocodiles at the University of Pretoria since 2019. Furthermore, he has participated in research on water quality and the application of in vitro and in vivo bioassays to assess the risk of adverse health effects associated with chemical exposure. Genetic engineering using the CRISPR/Cas and transposon-mediated gene delivery technologies have been some of the latest achievements by Dr Truter. He is interested in developing advanced biodigital sensing technologies capable of screening for chemicals of emerging concern and other hazardous chemical pollutants in water. Dr Truter has published 21 peer-reviewed articles and two scientific book chapters.

Dr Truter received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Christoff Truter

Dr Harry Wiggins was a member of the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics in the Faculty of Science, where he taught a variety of first-year, second-year and honours modules in mathematics.

He coordinated the honours, master's and doctoral programmes in Mathematics Education at UP. He also served on the Post-graduate Research Committee and Quality Teaching Committee in the Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics. He has published several scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals and has participated in national and international conferences. He was also part of the local organizing committee that hosted and planned a prestigious international conference at Pretoria in July 2019: PME 43. He was also a guest speaker at the 2019 Delta Conference in Perth, Australia.

He is actively involved in numerous mathematics enrichment projects to attract talented youngsters to study science at university and to produce future mathematicians. On top of this, he also gave voluntary mathematics olympiad classes to high school students in the Pretoria region.

Another notable achievement is that in 2018, he got the National Academy of Sciences Award for Best First-year Lecturer. In 2020, he was nominated for the UP Best First-year and Best Senior Lecturer in the NAS faculty.

Dr Wiggins received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Harry Wiggins





Dr Markus Wilken

Dr Markus Wilken is a lecturer in the Department of Biochemistry, Genetics and Microbiology in the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. He is a member of the DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Plant Health Biotechnology (CPHB), the Grain Research Programme (GRP) and the Tree Protection Cooperative Programme (TPCP) in the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI).

His research focussed on the genetics and genomics of plant pathogenic fungi, particularly those residing in the *Microascales*. Dr Wilken was awarded a Claude Leon Postdoctoral Fellowship in 2017 and is currently a member of the Early Career Editorial Board of the mycological journal *Fungal Genetics and Biology*. He has published over 30 papers in peer-reviewed journals and has acted as a reviewer for several international journals.

Dr Wilken received a Y2 rating from the NRF.



Dr Angelina Wilson Fadji

Dr Angelina Wilson Fadji is a senior lecturer at the Department of Educational Psychology, Faculty of Education. She is also an extraordinary senior lecturer at the African Unit for Transdisciplinary Health Research, North-West University.

Dr Wilson Fadji obtained her PhD in psychology from the University of Stellenbosch, which focused on exploring mental health among school-going adolescents in the Northern Region of Ghana. Her research interests are centred on understanding the manifestation of well-being in the African context, specifically in terms of experiences of meaning, relational well-being and positive psychological strengths. She has published extensively on the well-being of young people in Africa and has contributed to conceptual framings of African-centred positive psychology. She is also interested in positive education and how it can be implemented in contexts of adversity.

Dr Wilson Fadji has received the NRF grant for non-rated researchers targeted at understanding meaning in life and the relational well-being of South African University students. She was also part of a team awarded the NRF social dynamics research grant focused on understanding well-being in the context of violence in South African higher education institutions.

Dr Wilson Fadji received a Y2 rating from the NRF.

## National Research Foundation rating categories

The evaluation and rating of individuals is based primarily on the quality of the research outputs and is undertaken by national and international peers/reviewers.

### Definitions of rating categories

Category	Definition	Sub-category	Description
A	Researchers who are unequivocally recognised by their peers as leading international scholars in their field for the high quality and impact of their recent research outputs	A1	A researcher in this group is recognised by all reviewers as a leading scholar in his/her field internationally for the high quality and wide impact (ie beyond a narrow field of specialisation) of his/her recent research outputs.
		A2	A researcher in this group is recognised by the overriding majority of reviewers as a leading scholar in his/her field internationally for the high quality and impact (either wide or confined) of his/her recent research outputs.
B	Researchers who enjoy considerable international recognition by their peers for the high quality and impact of their recent research outputs	B1	All reviewers concur that the applicant enjoys considerable international recognition for the high quality and impact of his/her recent research outputs, with some of them indicating that he/she is a leading international scholar in the field.
		B2	All or the overriding majority of reviewers are firmly convinced that the applicant enjoys considerable international recognition for the high quality and impact of his/her recent research outputs.
		B3	Most of the reviewers are convinced that the applicant enjoys considerable international recognition for the high quality and impact of his/her recent research outputs.
C	Established researchers with a sustained recent record of productivity in the field who are recognised by their peers as having: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>produced a body of quality work, the core of which has coherence and attests to ongoing engagement with the field and</li> <li>demonstrated the ability to conceptualise problems and apply research methods to investigating them</li> </ul>	C1	While all reviewers concur that the applicant is an established researcher (as described), some of them indicate that he/she already enjoys considerable international recognition for his/her high-quality recent research outputs.
		C2	All or the overriding majority of reviewers are firmly convinced that the applicant is an established researcher (as described).
		C3	Most of the reviewers concur that the applicant is an established researcher (as described).
P	Young researchers (normally younger than 35 years of age), who have held the doctorate or equivalent qualification for less than five years at the time of application and who, on the basis of exceptional potential demonstrated in their published doctoral work and/or their research outputs in their early postdoctoral careers are considered likely to become future leaders in their field		Researchers in this group are recognised by all or the overriding majority of reviewers as having demonstrated the potential of becoming future leaders in their field, on the basis of exceptional research performance and output from their doctoral and/or early postdoctoral research careers.
Y	Young researchers (40 years or younger), who have held the doctorate or equivalent qualification for less than five years at the time of application, and who are recognised as having the potential to establish themselves as researchers within a five-year period after evaluation, based on their performance and productivity as researchers during their doctoral studies and/or early postdoctoral careers	Y1	A young researcher (within five years from PhD) who is recognised by all reviewers as having the potential (demonstrated by research products) to establish him-/herself as a researcher with some of them indicating that he/she has the potential to become a future leader in his/her field. OR A young researcher (within five years from PhD) who is recognised by all or the overriding majority of reviewers as having the potential to establish him-/herself as a researcher of considerable international standing on the basis of the quality and impact of her/his recent research outputs.
		Y2	A researcher in this group is recognised by all or the overriding majority of reviewers as having the potential to establish him-/herself as a researcher (demonstrated by recent research products).