

**DEPARTMENT OF
POLITICAL SCIENCES
NEWSLETTER
November 2011**

Dear students

As a busy year draws to a close, we'd like to provide you with an overview of events and goings-on in the Department of Political Sciences this semester.

Our newsletter also affords us the opportunity to thank you for your participation in Departmental events, and to acknowledge your support and enthusiasm.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEMESTER



On 13 October, **South African President Jacob Zuma** delivered an address on South Africa's foreign policy to staff and students of the University of Pretoria, members of the diplomatic corps and the media. The President's visit was facilitated by the Department of Political Sciences and its newly established Centre for Mediation in Africa.

In his address, the President focused on the country's foreign policy objectives: its priority focus on Africa and the Southern African Development Community, relations with states in the developing South and developed North, and working to strengthen and transform international multilateral institutions to ensure greater representivity and diversity.

From 13 to 15 July, the Department, together with the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation and the Embassy of Sweden, hosted a seminar on the "United Nations and Regional Challenges in Africa: 50 years after the death of Dag Hammarskjöld". The event was opened by **Ms Graça Machel**, and speakers included former UN Special Envoy **Jan Pronk**, **Dr Monica Juma**, Kenya's Ambassador to the AU, and the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre's **Dr Kwesi Aning**. The Department's **Dr Henning Melber** delivered the keynote address, "Dag Hammarskjöld: Ethics, solidarity and global leadership"; **Mr Jan Mutton** chaired the opening panel discussion; **Professor Laurie Nathan** presented a paper on "The SADC Tribunal: regional organisations, human security, human rights and international law"; and **Professor Sandy Africa** participated in the final round-table discussion on "Africa and global governance: international perspectives for peace, security and the rule of law".

On 15 September, **Mr Ebrahim Ebrahim**, Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation led a panel discussion on the topic "Libya, the United Nations, the African Union and South Africa: Wrong moves? Wrong motives?" The event was co-hosted by the Department, the Centre for Mediation in Africa and the Centre for Human Rights, and sponsored by the Open Society Foundation for South Africa. **Professor Sandy Africa** chaired the panel discussion.

STAFF ACTIVITIES

Dr Gerhard Wolmarans spent a month visiting universities in the UK and the USA to further his research into the implications of post-structuralism for deliberative democracy. Dr Wolmarans visited scholars at the London School of Economics, Indiana University (Fort Wayne), Wheaton College (Illinois) and New School (New York). He spent time at the archives of the LSE and the Marion Wade Center at Wheaton College for research on Michael Oakeshott and CS Lewis.

During his visit abroad, **Dr Wolmarans** presented five seminars on democracy in the South African context, with specific topics focused on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the role of Nelson Mandela, the ANC as liberation movement-turned-government, the role of political philosophy in SA politics, and the legacy of apartheid.

On 22 September, Departmental Research Associate and former Belgian **Ambassador Jan Mutton** represented the Department at the launch of a study on “Climate change and the risk of violent conflicts in Southern Africa”, held at the Swedish embassy. The study was produced by Global Crisis Solutions in Pretoria and the Center for Sustainable Development at the University of Uppsala in Sweden, in collaboration with the Swedish Government.

Mr Mutton, on behalf of the Department, also attended a policy dialogue on building international consensus on 29 September. This event was organised by the Southern Africa Liaison Office and addressed by Ambassador Lindiwe Zulu, Presidential Advisor on International Relations.

During the semester, **Mr Roland Henwood** presented lectures at the South African National Defence College and the South African War College.

Dr Mzukisi Qobo pursued research on South Africa’s political economy and the future of mining in South Africa. This is an ongoing research project that looks into the historical role of the mining sector in shaping South Africa’s political economy and further examines its possible contribution towards South Africa’s development futures.

Dr Cori Wielenga, a Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department, spent time in Burundi from 12 to 19 September researching the proposed transitional justice system that is to be implemented in Burundi next year. The system includes both a truth commission and special tribunal.

Ms Uyo Salifu, an Assistant Lecturer in the Department and Administrative Assistant in the Master of Diplomatic Studies office, was appointed as a Researcher at the Institute for Global Dialogue, where she is currently involved in the COP 17 preparations. Ms Salifu remains with the Department on a part-time basis.

Ms Ina Hugo, an Assistant Lecturer and Honours graduate in the Department, has been involved at the International Institute of Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) during the semester, assisting in a project that trains African electoral officials in democratic practice.

Ms Sonja Theron, an Assistant Lecturer and former student of the Department, was awarded the Peace and Security Fellowship for African Scholars to read for her Master’s degree at King’s College, London. The fellowship is set up by the African Leadership Centre, in partnership with the Conflict, Security and Development Group at King’s College and the University of Nairobi, Kenya. The fellowship is funded by the Carnegie Corporation.

VISITORS, CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS and LECTURES

Professor Maxi Schoeman presented a paper on failed mediation in Côte d’Ivoire at a workshop on “New Trends in the mediation of conflicts in Africa”, hosted at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study from 5 to 6 September. Professor Schoeman also presented a paper on “Rising powers and peace operations” at a workshop on “Rising powers and global challenges”, hosted by the Center for International Relations at Fundacao Getulio Vargas in Sao Paulo in October. She will deliver a keynote address on regional integration in Africa at a conference of the Regional Integration and Social Cohesion Research Consortium, to be hosted by the University of Johannesburg from 30 November to 3 December.

Professor Sandy Africa participated in an experts' dialogue on the Protection of State Information Bill, hosted by the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the Wits Law Centre at the Nelson Mandela Foundation's Johannesburg offices on 8 June 2011. She also participated in the follow-up event on 23 June and attended a further session on 1 November.

From 11 to 12 July, **Professor Africa** attended a closed experts' meeting on the Responsibility to Protect at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre, in Accra, Ghana. While in Ghana, she was a guest speaker at a public panel discussion on "Libya and the Responsibility to Protect", held at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre.

Professor Africa also attended the second "South African conference on strategic theory", held at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies from 22 to 23 September. The conference was hosted by the Faculty of Military Science at Stellenbosch University and the Royal Danish Defence College, and was focused on the theme "Military culture and African armed forces".

Professor Africa attended a closed experts' meeting on "Financial oversight of intelligence services", hosted by the Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces in Geneva, Switzerland, from 10 to 11 October. The meeting, sponsored by the Dutch government, is aimed at producing a handbook on best practices that can be used by parliamentarians, governments, audit authorities and civil society in the former Balkan states in their oversight of their intelligence services.

Professor Katabaro Miti attended a conference in Lusaka, Zambia, on "Mediation and peacemaking in Southern Africa" from 23 to 25 September. At the conference, he presented a paper on "South Africa and conflict resolution on the continent: From Mandela to Zuma".

On 10 June, **Dr Yolanda Spies** presented a paper on South Africa and India's respective positions vis-à-vis UN Security Council reform at a South African Institute of International Affairs conference on "India and South Africa and Africa in a changing global landscape".

In the course of 2011, two leading Australian universities invited the Department of Political Sciences for joint ventures in delivering diplomatic training courses for African diplomats. The training forms part of the Australia-Africa Partnerships Facility, an official development aid programme for Africa funded by the Australian Government. The first such course was hosted by the University of Pretoria and took place from 27 June to 15 July. **Dr Yolanda Spies** assisted the University of Queensland with the design of the programme, coordinated its delivery and lectured in it, along with several other staff members of the Department. A total of 30 diplomats from three countries (Swaziland, Zambia and Tanzania) participated in this very successful three-week programme.

Another training programme for African diplomats, hosted by the Australia National University's Asia Pacific College of Diplomacy, took place during October/November. **Dr Spies** and **Professor Katabaro Miti** were invited to guest lecture in the programme, which took place in Canberra.

The programmes will continue in 2012 and the Department has been requested by both universities to continue its involvement.

Professor Laurie Nathan, Director of the Department's Centre for Mediation in Africa, presented a paper on "New trends in the mediation of conflicts in Africa – emerging policy scripts and divisions of labour" at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study from 5 to 6 September. On 13 September, he attended the Embassy of France to Botswana, SADC and University of Botswana's seminar on "Conflict mediation in Africa" in Gaborone, where he presented a paper on "The need to build high-level

mediation expertise and capacity in Africa". He also attended the "Second South African conference on strategic theory", hosted by the University of Stellenbosch's Faculty of Military Science and the Royal Danish Defence College's Faculty of Strategic and Military Operations, which was held in Stellenbosch from 22 to 23 September.

From 20 to 21 October, **Professor Nathan** attended a workshop hosted by the Department of International Relations and Centre for Defence and Security Management at the University of the Witwatersrand, where he presented a paper on "The European Union and the African security regime".

From 27 to 28 October **Professor Nathan** attended the "SADSEM-FES annual regional security dialogue on security co-operation in Southern Africa", hosted by the Southern African Defence and Security Management Network and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Maputo, Mozambique.

On 13 October, **Mr Jan Mutton** participated in a panel discussion at the University of Pretoria's Gordon Institute of Business Science in Johannesburg, where he addressed challenges and opportunities for students and young professionals in Africa. The event was organised by the South Africa Washington International Program for students and young professionals.

Dr Geoffrey Allen Pigman of the Political Economy Department at Bennington College in Vermont, USA, spent the fourth quarter in the Department as a Visiting Fellow. During his time in the Department, Dr Pigman taught in the Comparative Foreign Policy module of IPL 320, and also guest lectured in other University of Pretoria courses and at other universities and research institutions.

Mr Zefanias Matsimbe, a Mozambican PhD student in the Department, was invited by International IDEA to deliver an election managers' skills development course as part

of the Building Resources in Democracy Governance and Elections (Bridge) project. The 10-day Train the Facilitator course was held in Pretoria from 22 August to 2 September 2011. Potential trainers from African, American, Asian and European electoral management bodies were taught how to deliver the Bridge course.

In July, Assistant Lecturer **Ms Quraysha Ismail-Sooliman** was invited to participate in the Islamic Medical Association Annual Conference. Ms Ismail-Sooliman conducted a workshop with women on "Achieving success through understanding your goals". She was also a guest speaker at the conference gala dinner, together with Professor Tariq Ramadan, making a presentation on "Challenges in leadership: A time to change".

Mr Khwezi Mabasa, an Assistant Lecturer and Master's student in the Department, presented a paper on "The politics of the post-apartheid township" at a faculty seminar on 24 October.

On 31 August, **Advocate M Cassimjee**, the African Union Director of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), presented a lecture to the PTO 120 students on the AU's youth development programme.

This year, the IPL 320 group once again had the opportunity to hear a variety of guest lecturers present case studies on foreign policy analysis pertaining to their native countries. In addition to hearing from our American visitor, **Dr Geoffrey Pigman**, the students were addressed by Chinese **Ambassador Zhong Jianhua**, DIRCO Deputy Director-General and Ambassador-designate to the EU **Mr Mxolisi Nkosi**, **Mr Olivier Brochenin**, the Deputy Ambassador at the French Embassy in Pretoria, **Ms Uyo Salifu** of the Department and the Institute for Global Dialogue, and **Mr Yarik Turianskyi**, a former Master's student in the Department and now a Senior Researcher at the South African Institute of International Affairs.

DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS

In August, **Dr Henning Melber** and **Mr Jan Mutton** addressed a public seminar on “The African Union and the Responsibility to Protect” and **Professor Abdi Samatar** delivered a paper on “The politics of piracy in Somalia: The rich versus the poor”. That same month, the Department and the Afro-Middle East Centre hosted a seminar on “The upcoming UN General Assembly vote on Palestinian statehood”, which was addressed by **Dr Mustafa Barghouti**. Journalist and author **Michela Wrong** presented a seminar on corruption in Kenya that was hosted by the Department, together with the Centre for Politics and Research and *City Press*.

Former UP Political Sciences lecturer, **Professor Hussein Solomon**, led a discussion on opposition parties in Southern Africa at a launch of his book, *Against all Odds: Opposition political parties in southern Africa*, hosted by the Department in September. Also in September, the Department, together with the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia, held a public seminar on “ASEAN connectivity and ASEAN and the role of Indonesia”, which was addressed by **Dr Siswo Pramono** and **Ambassador Ibrahim Yusuf**.

In October, **Mr Moeletsi Mbeki**, a guest of the Department and the *Sunday Independent*, addressed a packed-out auditorium on the subject “Making South Africa work better”. **Professor Mark Thompson**, from the City University of Hong Kong, presented a paper on “Refashioning the Malaysian model: Are there any lessons for South Africa?”

November saw a return of **Professor Abdi Samatar** to the Department, this time presenting a paper on “Somalia: The way forward”.

On 22 November **Dr Geoff Pigman** will be presenting a seminar on “‘It’s our game?’ – The hectic convergence of diplomacy and international sport”. Students who are still on campus are invited to attend the seminar.

In the course of 2011, the Department launched a student seminar series. On 28 September, **Ms Ojima Salifu**, an Assistant Lecturer and Master’s student in the department, delivered her presentation – “Is Cameroon ready for an Arab-Style Uprising?”

PUBLICATIONS

Professor Maxi Schoeman and **Dr Henning Melber** edited a special issue of the international journal *Development Dialogue* on the July Dag Hammarskjöld conference. The journal will be launched in late November in Uppsala, Sweden.

Mr Jan Mutton also contributed to this volume, authoring an article on the responsibility to protect (R2P) and the place of the individual in international politics.

Dr Melber authored an article, “Beyond settler colonialism is not yet emancipation: on the limits to liberation in Southern Africa”, which appears in the most recent issue of *Socialist History* (No 39). He also contributed three chapters – on sub-Saharan Africa, Southern Africa and Namibia – to *Africa Yearbook 2010: Politics, economy and society south of the Sahara* and a chapter, “From anti-colonial struggles to post-colonial realities: reflections on the limits to liberation in Southern Africa”, in *Justice from Within: Legal pluralism in Africa and beyond*.

The South African Yearbook of International Law published an article by **Dr Yolanda Spies** reviewing South Africa’s foreign policy during 2010. Dr Spies also co-authored a paper titled “The European Union and the reform of the United Nations: Towards a more effective Security Council?” as part of the Department’s ongoing involvement in the European Union’s MERCURY research project on EU multilateralism.

Mr Roland Henwood, together with **Nikki Funke** and **Shanna Nienaber**, a Master’s student in the Department, authored an

article titled “Scientists as lobbyists? How science can make its voice heard in the South African policy-making arena”. The article, which will appear in the forthcoming issue of the *Journal of Public Affairs*, was published online on 8 September.

Dr Mzukisi Qobo authored an occasional paper for the South African Institute of International Affairs titled “Emerging powers and the changing global environment: leadership, norms and institutions”. The forthcoming (November/December) issue of *New Agenda* will feature Dr Qobo’s article on “The role of government and business in driving economic change: Towards a new vision for the mining sector”.

Dr Cori Wielenga co-authored an article with **Professor Geoff Harris** titled “Building peace and security after genocide: the contribution of the gacaca courts of Rwanda”. The article appeared in the March issue of *African Security Review* (Vol 20, No 1). Dr Wielenga also authored “Comparing approaches to reconciliation in Rwanda and South Africa”, which will be published in the forthcoming issue of *Conflict Trends* (2011/Issue 4).

Dr Tim Murithi, a Research Associate in the Department, co-edited *Zimbabwe in Transition: A view from within* with **Ms Aquilina Mawadza**. The pair also co-authored a chapter in the book – “Voices from pan-African society on Zimbabwe: South Africa, the African Union and SADC”.

Mr Khwezi Mabasa has an article, “Africa and the developed world” in the November issue of *The Thinker*. The article focuses on the relationship between Africa and the developed world.

STRATEGIC REVIEW FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

The following articles will appear in the November issue of the *Strategic Review for Southern Africa* (Vol XXXIII No 2), which is

published under the leadership of the Institute for Strategic and Political Affairs.

- “Dealing with ‘deviants’: Testing South Africa’s good international citizenship” by **Professor Deon Geldenhuys**, Department of Politics, University of Johannesburg;
- “Inhabitants of interstices? Feminist analysis at the intersection of Peace Studies, Critical Security Studies and Human Security” by **Professor Heidi Hudson**, Gender Studies Programme, University of the Free State;
- “The risk of humanitarianism: Towards an inclusive model” by **Catherine Pringle** and **Derica Lambrechts**, Department of Political Sciences, University of Stellenbosch;
- “Questioning Africa’s economic ‘resilience’” by **Mr Leon Hartwell**, a Master’s student in the Department; and
- “Civil society and democratisation in Africa with specific reference to the African Peer Review Mechanism” by **Professor Michele Olivier**, Unit for Advanced Studies, University of Pretoria, Visiting Researcher, University of Leeds, UK, and Visiting Professor, University of Lincoln, UK.

CONGRATULATIONS

We’d like to congratulate the 18 students who successfully completed their studies and received their degrees during the Spring 2011 Graduation Ceremony. These include:

- Four students who received the BPolSci (International Studies) degree;
- Two students who received the BPolSci (Political Science) degree;
- Four students who received the BA Honours (International Relations) degree;
- Four students who received the BA Honours (Political Science) degree;
- **Ms Uyo Salifu**, an Assistant Lecturer in the Department and Administrative

Assistant of the Master of Diplomatic Studies programme, who was awarded her MA (International Studies) degree;

- **Ms Carin Wiese**, who was awarded her MA (Political Science) degree; and
- **Ms Rina-Louise Pretorius** and **Mr Victor Motjope**, who were both awarded the Master of Diplomatic Studies (MDIPS) degree.

Congratulations also to those of our students who were awarded other degrees, such as BA Journalism and BA. Well done! We are proud of you and wish you all the best for the future.

On a different note, the Department would like to congratulate part-time Lecturer **Ms Alida Kok Engelbrecht** and her husband Mehnert Engelbrecht, who got married on 21 August. We wish them all the best!

APPOINTMENTS

Our Research Fellow appointments: **Dr Joao Gomes Porto**, specialist on African Security and formerly from Bradford University, **Mr Jan Mutton**, former Belgian Ambassador to South Africa, and **Dr Tim Murithi** from the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation in Cape Town.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION and DATES FOR 2012

SENIOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Monday, 6 February 2012, 08h00 in HSB 4-1: Registration of senior (non-first year) undergraduate BPolSci students. Please keep strictly to this date and time – no registration will be accepted or assistance provided outside of these hours. The BPolSci programme coordinators (**Dr Gerhard Wolmarans** and **Mr Roland Henwood**) will not assist with registrations before or after this

date and time. Latecomers will have to report directly to – and register through – Faculty Administration. Non-first-year students who register electronically are not required to attend the scheduled registration session. However, assistance will only be provided during the scheduled registration session.

BA students must attend the scheduled BA registration session and consult with the BA programme coordinator. BAdmin (International Relations) students must register in the Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences and must consult with the BAdmin package coordinator (School of Public Management and Administration).

PTO 111 first meeting: Senior students who have to take – or repeat – the PTO 111 module must attend the first meeting of large course groups. Consult the *Timetable/Roosterboek 2012* for the date, time and venue of this first meeting. During this session the PTO 111 students will be subdivided into smaller groups, allocated to specific venues and receive additional information on the module.

Wednesday 8 February 2012: Commencement of first semester lectures.

2012 HONOURS STUDENTS

Students who wish to apply for the Honours programme need a minimum 65% average in their third-year major, e.g. in International Relations or in Political Science, in order to be admitted into the programme. Further information can be obtained from the department.

Tuesday 7 February 2012, 17h00, HSB 21-16: First meeting of Honours students who have been admitted to the Honours programme by the Head of the Department of Political Sciences. At the meeting, students will receive information relating to each module, the timetables and the commencement of lectures.

2012 MASTER'S STUDENTS

Students who have completed their Honours degrees and are interested in pursuing research-based Master's studies need an average of at least 65% for their Honours studies and have to apply for admission into the Master's degree. The Departmental Guidelines are available from the Secretary, **Ms Rina du Toit** (HSB 21-14).

Please note that there will be no intake of students for coursework Master's degrees (e.g. MDIPS and MSS) in 2012.

FINAL NOTE

The Department would like to thank you for your participation and enthusiasm this year. We look forward to another busy and engaging year in 2012 and particularly look forward to working with you for another year. We wish you a safe and relaxing festive season – and all the best for 2012!

We hope that you have found this newsletter informative and enjoyed reading it. Any contributions to future newsletters or suggestions for improvement are welcomed.

Please contact Ms Shirley de Villiers (012 420 4339 or Shirley.devilliers@up.ac.za).