



1 November 2013

Academic Staff
Faculty of Humanities
University of Pretoria

Dear Colleagues,

RE: Public lecture on the ISSC's 2013 World Social Science Report on Changing Global Environments

I am pleased to inform you that **Dr Heide Hackmann, Executive Director of the International Social Science Council (ISSC)** has agreed to present a public lecture as part of the Faculty's Public Lecture Series on the **2013 World Social Science Report on Changing Global Environments** which will be launched on 15 November 2013 at UNESCO, Paris (See <http://www.worldsocialscience.org/activities/world-social-science-report/the-2013-report/>). Dr Hackmann will present this lecture in collaboration with Dr Susanne Moser, Director and Principal Researcher of Susanne Moser Research and Consulting, USA. The lecture is scheduled for Monday 18 November, 2013 in Senate Hall from 5 pm to 6.30 pm, followed by a reception. The Vice-Chancellor and Principal, Professor Cheryl de la Rey, has agreed to formally host the lecture.

Dr Hackmann and Dr Moser's presentations will provide an update on the **new Future Earth initiative** (an initiative that the ISSC has embarked on to contribute to building a transformative social science knowledge framework on global change) (See <http://www.icsu.org/future-earth>) as well as the **key issues reflected in the 2013 World Report**. We have invited Professor Coleen Vogel, UP Department of Geography as well as Dr Andrew Kaniki, National Research Foundation, to serve as respondents.

Given that this is intended to be a high-profile, high-impact lecture that will offer important indicators for the future and growth of the social sciences globally as well as opportunities for international collaboration in the social sciences, I would appreciate it if as many academics in our Faculty could attend it. I believe that the Future Earth initiative will revivify or revitalise the social sciences in significant ways and it would be to our advantage if the Faculty of Humanities at the University of Pretoria plays a prominent role in its development.

I intend inviting academics at the University of Wits, Johannesburg and South Africa as well as in the Faculties of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Economic and Management Sciences, Theology and Engineering, the Built Environment and Information Technology at the University of Pretoria to this lecture. Given that we are the organisers **it will be important for our Faculty to have a significant presence at the lecture.**

I look forward to your presence at this the penultimate major event that will be hosted by the Faculty for the current academic year. Please be informed that you will receive a formal invitation to this event on Monday. Kindly confirm your availability to attend the lecture with Corena Garnas, corena.garnas@up.ac.za, after receipt of the invitation.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Norman Duncan
DEAN: FACULTY OF HUMANITIES