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SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES NEWSLETTER



ISSUE ONE – MAY 2018

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

BY PROF. JESMAEL MATAGA

In early 2015, on my first day of work at Sol Plaatje University, I walked into a room with two colleagues – the system called them the “Heritage Studies” Department. The three of us formed the nucleus of what was supposed to mutate into a fully-fledged School. At this stage, the three-member team ran a one-year undergraduate *Higher Certificate in Heritage Studies*, which has remained a flagship programme at the university. That year, we also had our first ever (13) graduates from Sol Plaatje University. Though small, this graduation was very symbolic. It represented and signaled the first fruits of a journey towards the establishment of new universities in post-1994 South Africa. All this happened in a particularly tumultuous period in higher education in South Africa, where fires were literally burning at universities, as students called for free and decolonised education for the poor.

Four years down the line, we have grown phenomenally. As the School of Humanities, we are currently constituted into a full Faculty composed of three departments, with 24 academics. Our Higher Certificate students complete level 5 qualifications, yet also articulate into the higher qualifications offered in our School, other faculties or other universities. The BA exposes students to a variety of disciplines and its broad scope allows wider post-first degree choices. It is anchored around compulsory modules in Heritage Studies

and offers possible majors from more than ten other disciplines.

Our focus as a School is to draw from and build on the rich human, natural, cultural and linguistic heritage of the Northern Cape, to establish a good foundation for teaching and learning, research as well as community engagement. For instance, we think that Creative Writing is a vehicle for all disciplines/professions and that study in and use of previously marginalised African languages contributes to the opening up of diverse archives and foregrounds different ways of knowing.

In our teaching, we endeavour to develop our students into critically engaged citizens. Our students learn how to engage and interrogate various forms of text and acquire critical thinking, communication, and problem-solving skills. Thus, we attempt to use innovative ways of curriculum

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delivery that exposes our students to the wider world. We offer a robust student support system through innovative curriculum delivery. As part of our approaches to teaching and learning, our academics take pride in reflexive practice – where they constantly encourage each other to think about (and change or adapt) how they teach. Because of good quality teaching and student support, we have had an average 70% graduation rate for *Higher Certificate in Heritage Studies* students and our module pass rates range between 70% and 80%.

A key area of growth has been in engaged scholarship and community citizenship, which helped the School in making relevant contributions and connections with external stakeholders while providing exposure to our academics and students. Key partnerships include the United Nations (UNESCO), African World Heritage Fund, Liliesleaf: A Place of Liberation, Nelson Mandela Foundation, the McGregor Museum, the Africana Library, National Institute of Social Sciences and Humanities, the National Heritage Council and the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture. This has enabled us to have had successful programmes such as *The Northern Cape Creative Writing Summer School* and the *Creative Writing and Publication Workshops* as well as Public Readings, Public Lectures and Book Launches.

Our growth in research is seen by the high number of publications in accredited journals by our members of staff. Emerging strong research themes include issues of Gender, Sexuality and Health; Sociology of Work; Higher Education and Development in the Northern Cape; African Languages, the Paleoanthropology of the region; Heritage and Development, Land, Labour and Identities, War Studies and Heritage of Conflict, Urban Food Systems, Governance for NCD prevention in Africa, among many others.

We look to the future with positive enthusiasm, thinking about entrenching the quality of our programmes, increasing the value of our research and community engagement activities, perfecting the quality of our teaching and improving student learning support.

The publication of this inaugural edition of *Kitso*, talks to the School's vision and the ambitions of our team members. It is indeed a good reflection of where we want to go as a School. As you enjoy reading it, and take a peek at the School's activities, I would also like to invite you to the many exciting activities coordinated by our team on campus.

Enjoy the reading.

Pula!!!

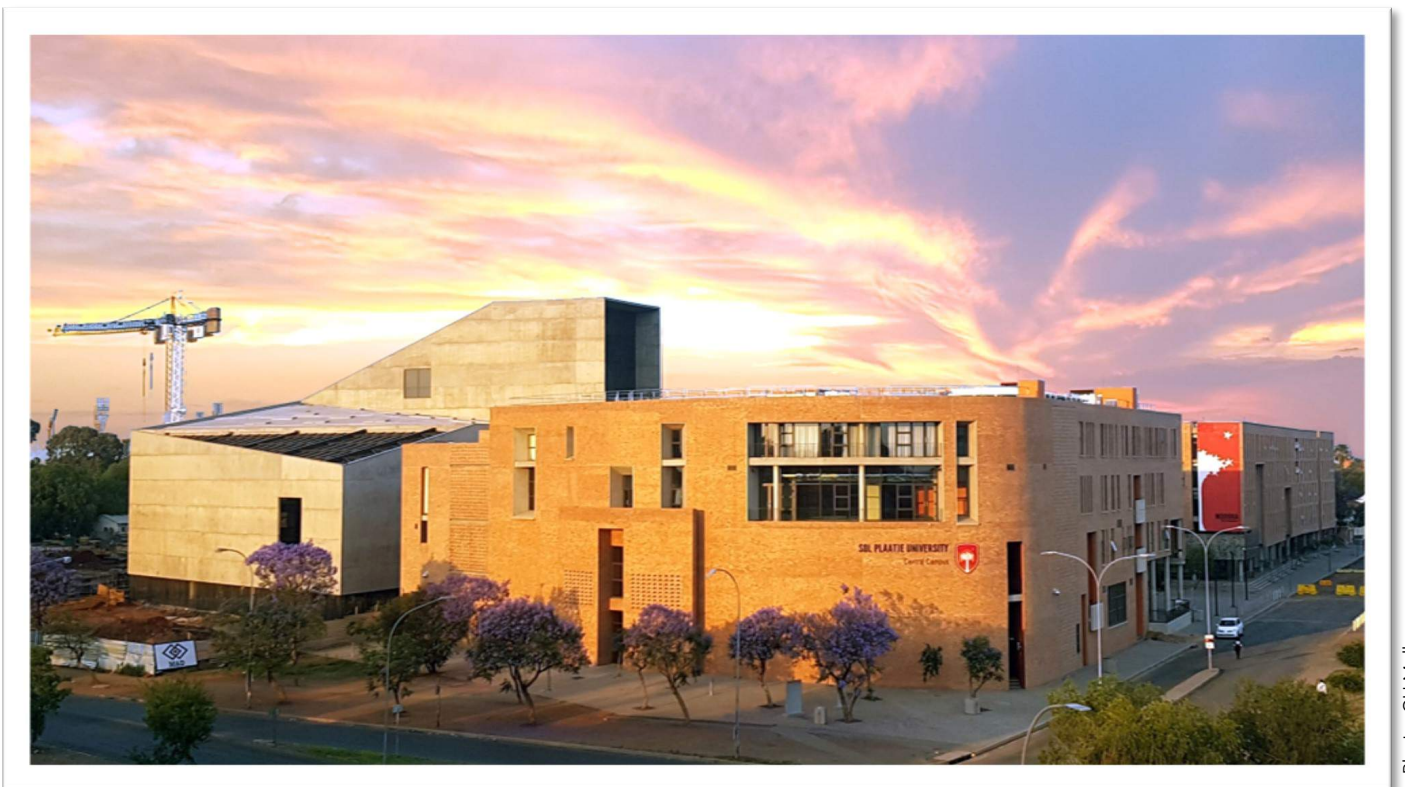


Photo: CH Muller

JESMAEL MATAGA

Prof. Jesmael Mataga is the Head of School for Humanities at Sol Plaatje University. He holds a BA Honours with specialisation in History, as well as a Master's degree in Heritage Studies from the University of Zimbabwe. He completed his PhD in African Studies with specialisation in Heritage and Public Culture at the University of Cape Town. His thesis focused on the politics of heritage in Rhodesia and Zimbabwe. He also holds a certificate in the Scientific Principles of Conservation from ICCROM, Italy.

Prof. Mataga has extensive experience in research and training in heritage management on the African continent with substantial experience in museum curation, intangible heritage, cultural diversity and implementation of UNESCO conventions. He worked for the National Museums and Monuments of Zimbabwe and taught in the Archaeology Unit of the University of Zimbabwe and at the National University of Lesotho.

His current research, situated in an emerging research focus on critical and decolonial heritage, explores the role and place of communities in heritage management. His work aims to support

innovation in heritage management practice which addresses the critical challenges of our time, such as poverty and inequality, climate change, conflict, decolonisation, migration and social justice. Prof. Mataga joined the university in May 2015. He loves travelling and enjoys the outdoors.



Photo: Supplied

ADMINISTRATOR SUKAYNA OBARAY

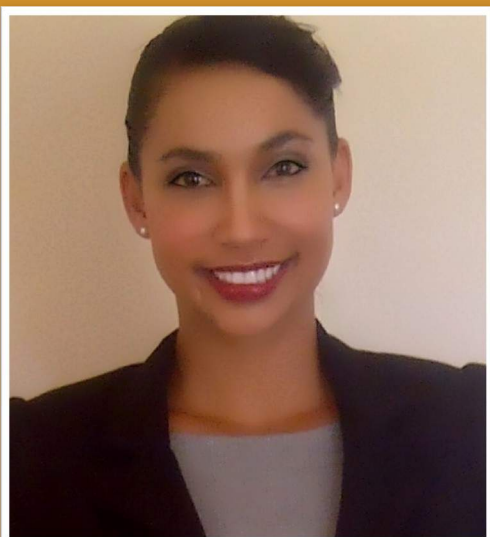


Photo: Supplied

Ms Sukayna Obaray joined Sol Plaatje University in August 2016 as the faculty administrator for the School of Humanities. She has a varied background in the travel and customer service industries and extensive experience as an administrator within the higher education sector.

Ms Obaray quite recently discovered her passion for teaching and is currently completing her Bachelor of Education degree with specialisation in Foundation Phase Teaching through the University of South Africa. She is a die-hard lover of biltong, sushi and travelling adventures and will most likely be the friendly voice that welcomes you when you call the School of Humanities.

HERITAGE STUDIES GARTH BENNEYWORTH

Dr Garth Benneyworth is Head of Department Heritage Studies at SPU and developed the Heritage Studies programme. He holds a PhD (History); MA (Heritage Studies); License in Managing Successful Programs (UK); amongst other professional certifications. His PhD research was on the black concentration camps of the South African War. During 1999 to 2018 he located thirteen of these historic camp terrains and pioneered the first ever archaeological surveys on such camps in South Africa.

Dr Benneyworth has extensive experience in the Heritage Sector and has developed and curated numerous exhibitions including the Nelson Mandela National Museum, Liliesleaf: A Place of Liberation, Chief Albert Luthuli Museum, Magersfontein Battlefield Museum and the Voortrekker Monument. He specialises in War Studies and the Heritage of Conflict with a focus on the Armed Struggle of the Liberation Movement and the South African War. His research has been published in several leading journals, including *Historia*, the *South African Historical Journal*, the *Journal for Contemporary Affairs* and *éditions Academia L'Harmattan, Université catholique de Louvain*. Dr Benneyworth is also the recipient of a National Heritage Council Grant, which project involves an appraisal and analysis of an archaeological collection he created from excavations into Black concentration camps,

together with archival and terrain work.

Dr Benneyworth is a member of several professional and academic organisations. He serves as the current Chairperson of the Council for the War Museum of the Boer Republics; as Director on the Board of Directors of the Moral Regeneration Movement; and is a Member of the Institute of Directors of Southern Africa. He is a senior lecturer in Heritage Studies and is also affiliated with the McGregor Museum as a Research Associate. He holds three trademarks and patents in the fields of business management, business administration, project management, business research, history, archaeology, natural, urban, heritage and tourism environments and places of cultural significance. Having worked globally in business and consulting since 1989, he joined SPU in 2014 to pursue an academic career.



Photo: Supplied

NATURAL HISTORY NYEBE MOHALE



Ms Nyebe Mohale teaches Natural History at Sol Plaatje University in the School of Humanities. She is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Environmental Management at the University of the Free State. Her research focus is on the Late Pleistocene paleo-environment of the South African central interior.

Her current research relies strongly on stable isotope analyses for understanding the paleo-environments and dietary behaviour of ancient herbivores of the region and also considers how these species responded ecologically differently to climate change.

Photo: Supplied

MUSEUM & HERITAGE STUDIES & ARCHAEOLOGY

ITUMELENG MASITENG

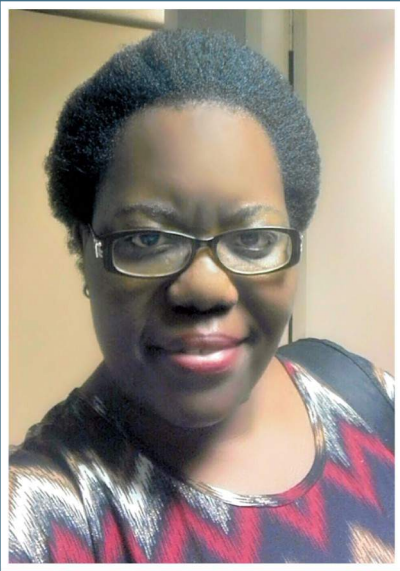


Photo: Supplied

Ms Itumeleng N. Masiteng holds a BSc in Archaeology & Psychology and a BA Honours with specialisation in Archaeology from UNISA. She also has a Postgraduate Diploma in Museum & Heritage studies as well as a Bachelors of Historical & Cultural Science Honours in Museum and Heritage Studies from the University of Pretoria. Ms Masiteng is completing a Master's degree in Museum and Heritage Studies at the University of Pretoria.

She has worked as a Researcher and Curator for the archaeology collection at Ditsong National Museum of Cultural History. Ms Masiteng has also worked for the South African Heritage Resources Agency as an Archaeologist within the Burial Grounds and Graves Unit. Her research interests includes the Iron Age in Southern Africa, Archaeo-Zoology, Forensic Archaeology & Anthropology, as well as human remains in museum collections. She joined Sol Plaatje University in November 2016 and teaches courses in Museum & Heritage Studies and Archaeology.

HERITAGE STUDIES & ARCHAEOLOGY

JOSEPH CHIKUMBIRIKE

Dr Joseph Chikumbirike holds a PhD in Science (Palaeosciences) from the University of the Witwatersrand, a MA (Heritage Studies) and BSc (Geography and Environmental Studies) from the University of Zimbabwe, Environmental Management Certificate from CDG in Germany, Software Engineering Certificate (UZ), Heritage Education Certificate from Southampton University and Preventive Conservation in Museums in Africa Certificate from ICCROM, Italy.

He has particular experience within the Heritage Sector in Southern Africa. His research interests include, conservation and cultural heritage management, archaeoethnobotany, palaeoenvironment, and ethnobotany. He is currently working on three research projects. Firstly, *People & plant interaction during the MSA and LSA at Wonderwerk Cave: A vegetational history*. The study aims to establish the vegetational history in this area. Secondly, *Social, environment and subsistence economy of the prehistoric societies in Shangani region in Zimbabwe*. The study seeks to establish the interaction, social organisation, technological, environment and subsistence practices of prehistoric agricultural communities in this region. Finally, *An ethnoarchaeobotanical study of the Kuruman cultural landscape*. The study

documents local resource exploitation practices by considering social and cultural dynamics native to area.

He has also collaborated as an anthracologist as part of an International Scientific Research Team working at Bushman Cave in the Limpopo Province. The project aims to clarify the stratigraphy and obtain new archaeological samples. His research has been featured in several prominent journals. Dr Chikumbirike joined Sol Plaatje University in July 2016 as a lecturer in Heritage Studies and Archaeology.

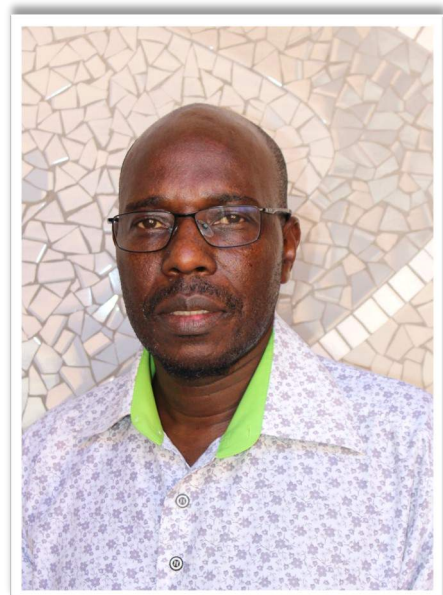


Photo: Supplied

HERITAGE STUDIES & ARCHAEOLOGY SHAHZAADEE KHAN

Ms Shahzaadee Karodia Khan holds a BA Archaeology, BSc Honours in Palaeontology and an MSc in Archaeology from the University of the Witwatersrand. Her MA research was on naturally mummified human remains from the Historic Cave in the Makapan Valley in Limpopo. She has worked as tour guide at the Sterkfontein Caves and Maropeng Museum and as a Heritage Consultant at a mining and environmental consulting company, completing heritage assessments for numerous coal, platinum, and gold mining companies in South Africa as well as water power stations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Ms Khan has also lectured in the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology at UNISA. She is especially interested in the scientific research methods of archaeology. Her research focus include palaeopathology, forensic archaeology, and the study of ancient human remains. Ms Khan joined SPU as a lecturer in April 2017 and teaches courses in Heritage Studies and Archaeology.



Photo: Supplied

HERITAGE STUDIES & ARCHAEOLOGY LORENÇO PINTO

Mr Lorenzo Pinto holds a BA in Archaeology, History of Art and Anthropology, a BA (Honours) in Heritage Studies and a MSc in Rock Art Studies from the University of the Witwatersrand. His PhD dissertation entitled 'Understanding Variation: A Stylistic-Ethnographic Analysis of Rock Art from the Makgabeng Plateau, Limpopo Province, South Africa' was submitted for examination in March this year.

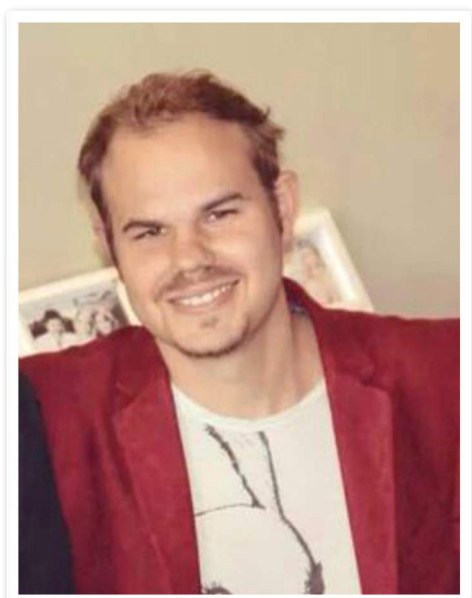


Photo: Supplied

Mr Pinto has lectured undergraduate and postgraduate courses at the University of the Witwatersrand and the University of Pretoria. During his tenure at University of Pretoria he was promoted from junior lecturer to lecturer. Last year, he worked at the KwaZulu-Natal Museum, in Pietermaritzburg, as assistant collections manager. Mr Pinto is committed to heritage community involvement in South Africa. He was the chairperson of the Archaeological Society of South Africa (Northern Branch) from 2016 to 2018. Last year, he co-facilitated a National Geographic palaeoanthropology outreach programme. Currently, he is a committee member of the Archaeological Society of South Africa (!Trans-Garib branch) and is keen to assist in growing the Society. He has worked with various communities from different social backgrounds. Working with these communities has allowed him to share his passion for southern African heritage and the importance of preserving such heritage.

Mr Pinto was appointed a Lecturer at Sol Plaatje University in February, 2018, and teaches undergraduate Heritage Studies and Archaeology modules in the Heritage Department.

ARCHAEOLOGY

DAVID MORRIS

Prof. David Morris is Head of Archaeology at the McGregor Museum and Extraordinary Professor in the School of Humanities at Sol Plaatje University. Born in Kimberley, he has a general interest in the archaeology and history of the Northern Cape and Southern Africa; and in museums and their role in society. Awarded a PhD by the University of the Western Cape, his doctoral research revolved on the rock art of the Northern Cape, his prior Masters dissertation (cum laude, UWC) having focused on the site of Driekopseiland near Kimberley.

He has carried out extensive archaeological fieldwork throughout the Northern Cape and has published extensively on it. With John Parkington and photographer Neil Rusch, he co-authored the book *Karoo rock engravings* (2008); and co-edited with Ben Smith (Wits) and Knut Helskog (Tromsø, Norway) the book *Working with rock art* (2012), also contributing a chapter. He also co-edited and wrote a chapter for the 2013 book *Engraved landscape: Biesje Poort: Many stories*. In a museological context, he has been involved in creating displays and site museums including the Wildebeest Kuil Rock Art Centre.

Prof Morris has been at the forefront of conserving and promoting research at the site of

Canteen Kopje at Barkly West. He was editor of the South African Archaeological Society newsletter *The Digging Stick* (1994-2001) and vice-president of the Society (2002-2004), serving currently as a member of the society's national Council. He is a Council Member of the National Museum, Bloemfontein. An honorary member of the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists. Prof. Morris was appointed an Extraordinary Professor at Sol Plaatje University in 2015 and contributes to the teaching of archaeology in the Heritage Department.

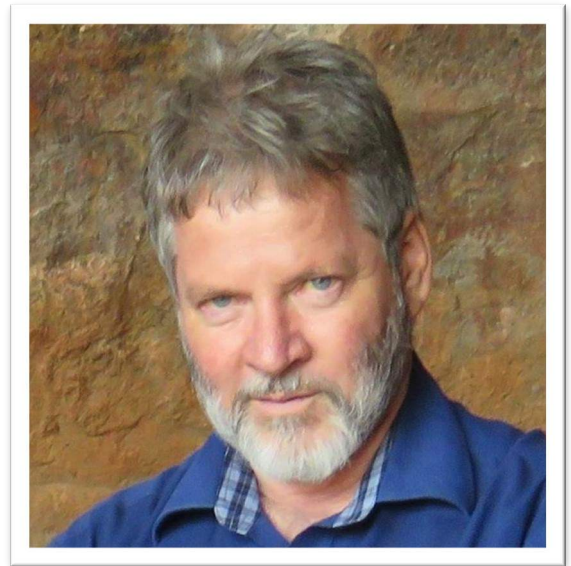


Photo: Supplied

MATHEMATICS

RIANA VAN DER MERWE



Photo: Supplied

Ms Riana van der Merwe joined the School of Humanities as a Mathematics lecturer for Heritage Studies students in 2015. She holds a BSc degree with majors in Mathematics and Physics from Nelson Mandela Metropole University as well as a BEd Honours degree from the University of Stellenbosch. Her calling has always been to teach Maths and Physical Science and she has done that for many years.

Ms van der Merwe is also a mountaineer and ultra-trial runner and well known for her motivational speeches. She was the first South African woman to summit the 3 highest peaks in Ecuador. She plays the piano, collects local art and loves travelling, locally and abroad and is also involved with small local community projects.

Her motto has always been to make the most of each day, because we only live once. In the process she has always tried to influence the world around her to be a better place.

HISTORY

COBUS RADEMEYER

Dr Cobus Rademeyer is Head of Department for Human and Social Sciences. He holds a BA Ed with specialisation in Human Movement Studies as well as a BA Honours, MA and PhD in History from the University of the Free State.

His PhD research investigated the role of sports isolation as a factor in the struggle for a new political dispensation in South Africa during the period, 1980 to 1992. Apart from a lecturing stint abroad, he has lectured at tertiary level for most of his academic career in the central region of South Africa. Before joining SPU in March 2015 as a Senior Lecturer in History, he was a history lecturer on the Qwaqwa Campus of the University of the Free State.

Dr Rademeyer has published extensively and presented his work at both national and international conferences. He is currently involved in a research project on the Polish association of

Siberian deportees in South Africa. His research interests also include sports history, the history of disability sport and the Eastern European connection in South Africa and Africa since 1900.



Photo: Supplied

HISTORY

CORNELIS MULLER

Dr Cornelis Muller is a historian of the socio-political history of state formation in southern Africa during the late nineteenth and early twentieth-century. He was awarded his PhD in 2016 from the University of the Free State for his thesis on the development of policing in Johannesburg during the period 1886 to 1902. He also holds a degree in BA Languages (English Studies) and Honours and MA degrees in History from the

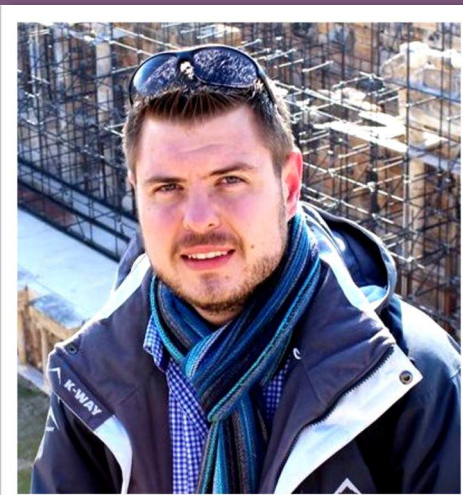


Photo: Supplied

University of Pretoria. Before he joined Sol Plaatje University in April 2017, he was a postdoctoral research fellow in the International Studies Group (ISG) at the University of the Free State.

Dr Muller is a researcher on **The Emily Hobhouse Letters: South Africa in International Context, 1899-1926** project. Funded by the British Arts and Humanities Research Council, this is a collaborative research project with Leeds Beckett University and the University of Huddersfield that is piecing together the life and work of humanitarian reformer and pacifist Emily Hobhouse. He is also the digital editor of the **Historical Association of South Africa** and has been a member of the executive of this organisation since 2012.

His research focus includes late 19th and early 20th century southern African history, the history of colonial policing as well as the history of farm labour in South Africa during the 1950s. Dr Muller is a Lecturer in History and teaches courses on World, African and South African history.

PSYCHOLOGY ELEANOR ADDINALL



Photo: Supplied

Dr Eleanor Addinall completed her B.Psych, BA (Honours) in Practical Theology and MA in Pastoral Therapy at the University of the Free State. She obtained her PhD in Pastoral Therapy from the North West University in Potchefstroom.

Her PhD research focused on the body dissatisfaction experienced amongst women. An empirical qualitative study was done to evaluate the women's thoughts, feelings, causes and effects regarding their bodies.

Before being appointed as a lecturer in Psychology at Sol Plaatje University in October 2014, Dr Addinall worked as a Life Skills facilitator at the University of the Free State. Her research interests are in Cognitive and Positive psychology.

PSYCHOLOGY AYANDA SIMELANE

Ms Ayanda Simelane is a registered Research Psychologist with the Health Professional Council of South Africa. She holds a Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology and Industrial Psychology) as well as a Bachelor of Social Science Honours (Psychology) from the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Her MA in Research Psychology from the University of the Witwatersrand focused on understanding the role of resilience and socio-economic status in the parenting of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder in South Africa.

She has worked for different research institutes, including the Institute for Social and Health Sciences and Centre for Peace (UNISA), The Wits Research Institute and the HSRC. She is currently a PhD candidate at the Centre for Bioethics at Wits. Her PhD focuses on the ethical obligation that arise from the cultural and religious practices on the development of children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

Her research interests include: Autism Spectrum Disorders, parenting, culture and

religion, as well as research ethics. Ms Simelane joined SPU as a Psychology Lecturer in February 2018. She teaches psychology modules in personality, Developmental Psychology and Introduction to Psychology.



Photo: Supplied

SOCIOLOGY

CRISPEN CHINGUNO

Crispen Chinguno joined the School of Humanities in February 2018 as a Senior Lecturer in Sociology. He previously worked as researcher in the Schools of Social Science and Mechanical, Industrial and Aeronautical Engineering at the University of the Witwatersrand.

His research interests broadly interrogate power and resistance with a special focus on work, social movements, social order, decolonisation and inequality. He was an industrial relations expert witness for the Marikana Commission.

He is currently working on a book manuscript drawing from his PhD project. The book will contribute to our understanding of post-apartheid workers struggles. It unpacks South Africa's platinum mineworker's continuous struggle over working conditions and worker's organisation.

He is also part of a working team on the International Labour Organisation Future of Work Initiative Project in South Africa. His work has been published in a number of journals including the *Review of African Political Economy*, *British Journal*

of Industrial Relations, Labour Capital and Society, New South African Review, Journal of Workplace Rights, Global Labour Journal and others.

He has also co-edited a book volume capturing student experiences during the #FeesMustFall movement.



Photo: Supplied

SOCIOLOGY

LESEGO KGATITWE

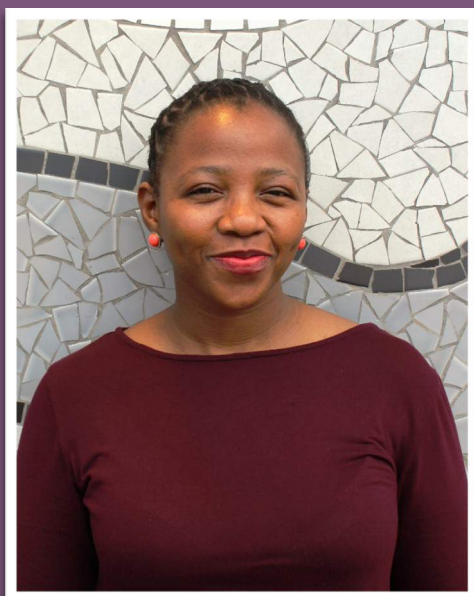


Photo: Supplied

Ms Lesego Kgatitswe holds a BA Honours Degree in Sociology from Rhodes University and an MA in Health Sociology from the University of the Witwatersrand.

She has worked as a researcher, facilitator and project manager at several research institutes in South Africa which include the Human Science Research Council, Institute for Social and Health Sciences (UNISA) and the Medical Research Council. She is currently reading for a PhD in Health Sociology. Her research interest are on topics that intersect with health, gender and class.

Ms Kgatitswe was appointed as a lecturer in Sociology at Sol Plaatje University in May 2017.

ANTHROPOLOGY

NOKUBONGA MAZIBUKO-NGIDI

Ms Nokubonga Mazibuko-Ngidi was appointed as a lecturer in Anthropology at Sol Plaatje University in June 2017. She holds a Bachelor of Social Science with specialisation in Media and Cultural Studies and Political Science as well as BSS Hons in Gender Studies and a Masters in Social Anthropology from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, both received *Cum Laude*.

She has worked as a journalist for a community radio station, a research assistant and lecturer at UKZN and the University of Zululand in the Anthropology and Development Studies department. She is currently completing her PhD in Social Anthropology which focuses on the cultural constructions of female sexuality by probing the use of snuff as a vaginal sexual stimulant among women in KwaZulu-Natal.

Her research interests include: sexuality, gender, migration and indigenous health/healing systems. Ms Mazibuko-Ngidi teaches courses in selected themes in anthropology, introduction to social theory and research methods in anthropology.



Photo: Supplied

ANTHROPOLOGY

CARINA TRUYTS

Ms Carina Truys is a Social Anthropologist who works at the intersections of health, food, society and the body. She holds a BA in Journalism and Media Studies and Anthropology from Rhodes University as well as a BSc Hons and MA in Social Anthropology from the University of Cape Town. Her MA work on Nourishment in the Cape Winelands explores the “space between” prescription and practice. This is housed in a research project on the “first thousand days of life” part of which considers the implications of

epigenetic and DOHaD (Developmental Origins of Health and Disease) research in everyday life.

Her work on food, memory, and notions of hunger stem from her previous career in professional cooking, and her interests in food security and nutrition science. She holds a Tekano fellowship and is currently collaborating on a research project titled “Nourishing Spaces” that investigates the links between food systems and Non-communicable diseases in 6 African cities.

She cares about teaching and facilitating conversations, and is particularly invested in the project of re-thinking the university and Anthropology in the current Northern Cape context and South African context. Her research focus includes epistemology, ontology, ethics, medical anthropology, food anthropology, maternal and infant health, and the body.

Ms Truys joined Sol Plaatje University in February 2016 and teaches social anthropology. At work you will commonly find her in her office amongst piles of papers, books she can't wait to read, and beautiful costumes and masks from the #bigholecounternarrative project. She tweets under @foodanthrop



Photo: Supplied

AFRIKAANS VICTOR TEISE

Prof. Victor Teise is Head of Department for Languages and Communication in the School of Humanities. He obtained his BA and BA Honours degrees as well as a Higher Diploma in Education from the University of the Western Cape. He completed his MA and PhD degrees in Afrikaans and Dutch at the University of the Free State. Prof. Teise started his teaching career at Dr Blok Senior Secondary School in Heidedal, Bloemfontein and was later appointed as a lecturer and senior lecturer at the Central University of Technology, Free State (CUT, FS).

At the CUT, FS he also acted as programme head for the Language Practice programme before joining the University of the Free State as a lecturer-researcher in higher education studies where he was responsible for teaching numerous modules in the Advanced Diploma, Postgraduate Diploma as well as the MA programme.

Before joining Sol Plaatje University, Prof. Teise was the acting head of the School of Higher Education Studies at the UFS. He joined Sol Plaatje University in February 2016 and lectures in

Afrikaans and Dutch in the BA and BEd undergraduate programmes. His research focus includes Afrikaans literature and textual criticism as well as higher education.

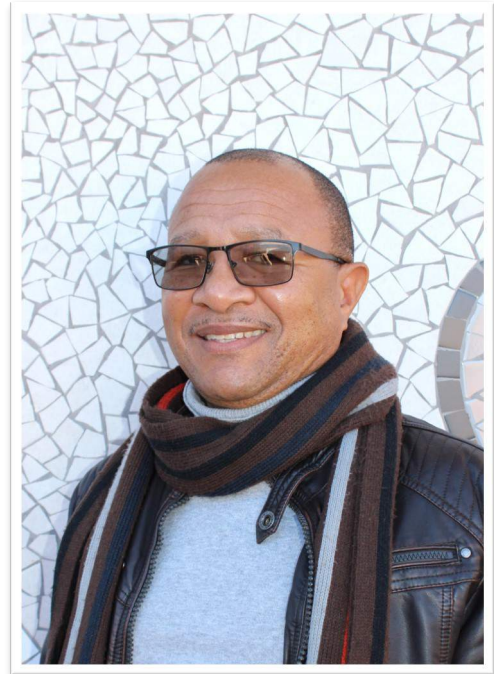


Photo: Supplied

AFRIKAANS LIONEL SNYDERS



Photo: Supplied

Dr Lionel Snyders completed his BA (University of the Western Cape), BA Honours, MA, Higher Diploma in Education and DLitt et Phil (1995) at the University of Fort Hare. He has also completed the course work for the degree Masters in Public Administration at the University of Stellenbosch.

He has worked as a teacher, lecturer, subject advisor for Afrikaans Home language as well as Afrikaans Additional language, District Manager in the Department of Education (King William's Town District) and was most recently the Director for Human Resource Administration in the Department of Social Development.

Dr Snyders joined Sol Plaatje University in mid-February 2017 and lectures in Afrikaans Linguistics and Literature. His current research focus includes written literature in the Northern Cape.

ENGLISH

ELNA VAN RHYN



Photo: Supplied

Mrs Elna van Rhyin completed a BA Languages Degree with specialisation in English, Afrikaans and Dutch at the University of the Free State. She holds a Diploma in Higher Education from Unisa and a BEd Honours degree from UFS. She also has a Post-graduate diploma in Intercultural Communication from the University of Stellenbosch. She is currently completing an MA degree in General Linguistics from the same institution.

Mrs van Rhyin has several years of teaching experience and was a lecturer in English at the National Institute for Higher Education in Kimberley. She joined Sol Plaatje University in January 2015 and teaches courses in English Poetry and Literature. Her research focus includes intercultural communication, linguistics and editing.

ENGLISH

MARGA STANDER

Dr Marga Stander is a senior lecturer in English in the Department of Languages. She holds a BA in Drama and Theatre Arts, a BA Honours and MA in Sociolinguistics from the University of the Free State and a PhD in Applied Linguistics from Vista University. Dr Stander also obtained a BEd Honours degree in Deaf Education from the University of the Witwatersrand as well as a PGCE qualification from Unisa.

She has held several academic posts, which included, coordinator for the Unit for Language Development on the Qwaqwa Campus of the University of the Free State (UFS); teacher of English, Visual Arts and South African Sign Language at the Thiboloha Special School in Phuthaditjhaba; senior lecturer in Afrikaans Linguistics and Academic Literacy facilitator at UFS. Dr Stander is a research associate at the Sign Language Department of UFS where she supervises two master students.

Dr Stander has presented her research at local and international conferences and has published several articles. Her research focus

includes applied linguistics, second language acquisition, academic writing and plagiarism. She joined Sol Plaatje University in March 2017 and teaches English Linguistics and Literature and South African Sign Language as a conversational language.



Photo: Supplied

SETSWANA PALESA SELEKE

Ms Elsebee Hessie Palesa Seleke holds a BEd Honours and Masters degree in Setswana from North West University. Her MA research was based on an analysis of Gomolemo Mokae's Setswana writings. Mokae was a medical doctor and a Black Consciousness political activist.

Her research explored Mokae's remarkable and revolutionary contribution to Setswana Modern literature. Deserving of scholarly attention, his writings are some of the few examples of Realist and Committed literature in Setswana and in African languages. Her research demonstrates that the creation of literary texts can be influenced by extraneous factors. These include, the writer's biography, historical, socio-political and literary context or environments. Thus in interpreting literary text these contextual influences need to be considered. Her research recommended a wider application of Contextual Approaches in the analysis of Setswana literature.

Ms Seleke has worked as a presenter for a Campus Radio Station, an educator and as a part-time lecturer at North West University's Mahikeng Campus. She joined Sol Plaatje University in June 2016 and is a lecturer in the Department of Languages where she teaches Setswana.



Photo: Supplied

SETSWANA MOTHO-OSELE KGOE

Mr Motho-Osele Simon Kgoe holds a Primary Teachers Certificate, BA, BA Honours and an MA degree in Setswana from Stellenbosch University. He started his teaching career as a teacher on a Farm School in Petrusburg in the Free State in the late 1970s. He has taught a range of subjects, including Setswana, Mathematics, Geography,

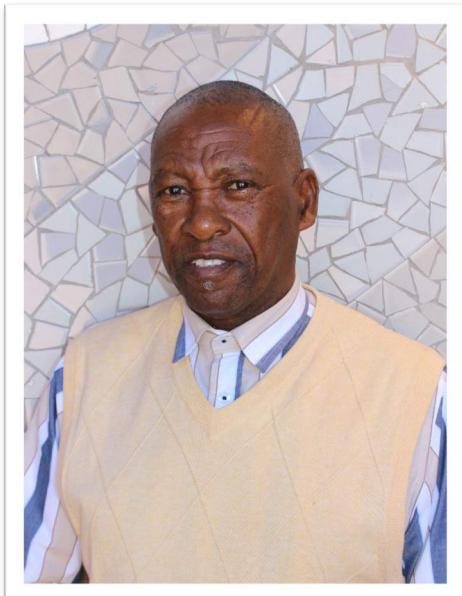


Photo: Supplied

Biblical Studies and Music at primary school level. In 1993, he joined the Subject Advisory Services as an Advisor for Farm Schools.

In 1995, Mr Kgoe joined the Kagisanong College of Education as a Setswana Lecturer and later joined the Northern Cape Department of Education as a Provincial African Languages Coordinator for the Further Education and Training Phase (Grade 10 – 12). A position which he held from 2002 until November 2014. He has also served as a member of a Task Team at the Department of Basic Education to write the National Curriculum Statement for Further Education and Training (Schools), Subject Assessment Guidelines for F.E.T. (Schools) from 2002 to 2006 and provided training for Setswana Subject Advisors and teachers and Curriculum and Policy Statement for F.E.T. Phase (Grade 10 – 12) in 2012.

In December 2014 Mr Kgoe joined Sol Plaatje University as a Setswana Lecturer. His research focus falls on Setswana Linguistics, Language and Literature as well as issues that relate to Language Teaching and Learning.

CREATIVE WRITING

SABATA MOKAE

Mr Sabata Mokae holds MA in Creative Writing from Rhodes University. He is the author of *The Story of Sol T. Plaatje* (SPET), *Escaping Trauma* (Corner Café Press) – a collection of English poems, a Setswana novella titled *Ga ke Modisa* (Geko Publishing/Oxford University Press), a Setswana young adult novella called *Dikeledi* (Geko Publishing/Oxford University Press) and *Kanakotsame: In My Times* (The Inksword Publishing), a collection of newspaper columns. He has also translated Gcina Mhlophe's two children's books from English to Setswana. These are *Semaka sa Dinaane* (*Our Story Magic*, UKZN Press) and *Dinaane tsa Aforika* (*Stories of Africa*, UKZN Press). He is the recipient of the South African Literary Award (2011), MNET Literary Award for Best Novel in Setswana (2013), MNET Film Award (2013) and Lesedi la Afrika Award (2017).

In 2014 he was a writer-in-residence at the University of Iowa's International Writing Program, where he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship in Writing. He is currently completing PhD in African Languages at Rhodes University. His research interests are Sol Plaatje, mother tongue fiction writing, historical fiction as well as race and reconciliation in post-apartheid Setswana literature. He is also involved in the annual Northern Cape Writers Festival, which is organized jointly by Sol Plaatje University and the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture. He facilitates a Prison Writing Programme at Tswelopele Correctional Centre and the Kimberley Correctional Centre. He joined Sol Plaatje University in September 2015 as a creative writing lecturer.



Photo: Supplied

DID YOU KNOW



- ◆ Sol Plaatje University was formally established on 22 August 2013 in terms of Section 20 of the Higher Education Act of 1997, by Government Notice 630, signed by the then Minister of Higher Education and Training, Dr Blade Nzimande.
- ◆ The university was named after Solomon Tshekisho Plaatje.
- ◆ Sol Plaatje was born in the Boshof district in the Orange Free State in 1876 and died in Johannesburg on 19 June 1932. He was 55 years old.
- ◆ He was buried in the West End Cemetery in Kimberley.
- ◆ The house at 32 Angel Street, where Plaatje spent his last years was declared a National Monument in 1992 and is now the Sol Plaatje Museum and Library.
- ◆ Sol Plaatje was married to Elizabeth Lilith M'belle and they had five children.
- ◆ He was a founder member of the South African Native National Congress and its first General Secretary.
- ◆ He is remembered as an acclaimed interpreter, journalist, politician and author.

SPU BIDS FAREWELL TO PROFESSOR GERTRUDE FESTER

It was with great sorrow that the School of Humanities had to take leave of Professor Gertrude Fester on her retirement from Sol Plaatje University in November 2017. Professor Fester joined the university in April 2016 as an Associate Professor in Sociology.

During her time at SPU she spearheaded several projects, including facilitating a Prison Writing Programme at the Kimberley Correctional Centre and participating in the Northern Cape Writer's Festival. Through her prompting and facilitation students launched the SPU newsletter, *Bua!* and participated in the Grahamstown Student Drama Festival. Professor Fester made important contributions to the construction of an institutional culture at SPU by highlighting how this emerging institution should advocate more strongly for gender and women rights at the university.

Born in Cape Town in 1952, she has been involved in social justice and anti-apartheid politics from an early age. Her focus in particular was on the articulation of women's liberation within the context of the broader national liberation movement. In 1988, Professor Fester was detained by the Apartheid State and placed on trial. She and 13 other activists were charged with treason for activities of the then banned African National Congress. During this period she was confined to solitary confinement for five months, but true to her defiant spirit composed a one woman play, *Apartheid's Closest: The Spirit shall not be Caged* in her head as no stationery was allowed. After the unbanning of the ANC, the charges against her were withdrawn in March 1990. Her play has been performed internationally and she has also testified of her plight at the historic UN Human Rights Conference in Vienna in 1993 which acknowledged that Women's Rights are Human Rights.

Professor Fester has had an illustrious academic career. She obtained a BA from the University of Cape Town; a Post Graduate Education Diploma from Unisa; a Master's in Development Studies from the Institute of Social Studies (University of Rotterdam) and a PhD from the London School of Economics.

She brought to SPU a wealth of experience and knowledge. Professor Fester was employed by the Education Department for 21 years, where she mainly lectured in English and Drama to teacher trainees. She has also served her country as a member of the National Parliament until 1999 for the ANC. She also held the positions of Gender and Transformation Consultant to the Minister of Minerals and Energy and a political advisor to the Mayor of Cape Town. In 2001 she was appointed Commissioner on Gender Equality. This is a constitutional body which promotes constitutional principles with a focus on gender equality, by monitoring and evaluating practices and policies of all South African institutions in order to expedite equitable gender relations.



Professor Gertrude Fester

Photo: Supplied



Photo: Supplied

Prof. Fester and Chief Autchomoa of the Western Cape Khoisan Legislative Council at a consultative meeting hosted by UCT's Centre for African Studies for discussing a proposal to rename Memorial Hall (previously Jameson Hall) after Sarah Bartman.

She has an extensive publication record which includes both fiction and non-fiction contributions in national and international publications. Her research and activism interests are eradicating poverty, root causes of violence against women and children and citizenship for vulnerable groups with the specific reference to the influences of culture and religion. More recently, she has focused on the means of facilitating reparations for victims of Apartheid and Genocide and women's empowerment.

She was professor and deputy director at the Centre for Gender, Culture and Development at the Kigali Institute of Education (now the University of Rwanda) during 2011 to 2013. The focus of this teaching was on Transitional Justice, mainstreaming gender and analysing journeys from conflict to post-conflict and promoting best practice globally. In 2013 she was employed as international consultant for Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Kigali and Mirovri Peace Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia. Her research touched on aspects of improving gender equality and women's empowerment in Rwanda.

Her current research entails exploring strategies to counter violence, promote reparations, women's peace work and assessing the impact of women's representation in government on the lives of poor and marginalised women.

She particularly advocates intergenerational dialogues on issues confronting society in order to promote effective strategies to promote social

justice. Earlier this year the African Gender Institute (UCT) hosted this dialogue in which she participated together with representatives of the Girl Child Movement.

Professor Fester has also been the recipient of several prestigious awards. She received the Hammet - Hellman Human Rights Prize for Writers in 1997. In 2001, she was the Wynona Lipman Chair for Women Political leaders at the Center for American Women and Politics at Rutgers University and Distinguished Visiting Professor at the African and Afro-American Studies Department at Washington (St Louis, USA). She has also held the position of professor *extraordinaire* in Women and Gender Studies at the University of Western Cape in Cape Town. This position was awarded to her in recognition of her contribution to Women's struggles and scholarship. She was also the recipient of the African Humanities Programme for African scholars for post-doctoral research in 2009 to 2010.

Since her retirement from SPU, Professor Fester has returned to Cape Town and remains actively involved in several research projects. She currently holds the position of honorary professor at the Centre for African Studies (University of Cape Town), teaches master's students in sociology and is supervisor for honours students. Bishop Stuart University, Uganda appointed her as PhD supervisor and she was invited to be visiting professor at the University of Rwanda. She is external examiner for the Universities of Stellenbosch and North West.

Being back in Cape Town, she enjoys spectacular sunsets from her beachfront flat and long walks on the beach. She has completed an anthology of poetry (1980-2018) and hopes to complete two books on Rwanda (one fiction and another non-fiction) later this year.



Photo: Supplied

Prof. Fester and Ms. Carina Truys

STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS & NEWS

Dr Garth Benneyworth was awarded his PhD from the University of the Western Cape with a thesis entitled: *Traces of forced labour – a history of Black civilians in British concentration camps during the South African War, 1899-1902*, in February 2017.

He has also been appointed as Chairperson of the Council of the War Museum of the Boer Republics in December 2017. He furthermore received a National Ministerial appointment as Director to the Board of Directors of the Moral Regeneration Movement in March 2018.

Dr Benneyworth also received a Letter of Appreciation from Chief Logistics, Lt General and Major General of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) for assisting the SANDF with specialist advice, time and personal physical effort in preparations for the annual National Armed Forces Day held in Kimberley on 21 February 2018. At which event the Commander in Chief of the SANDF, President C. Ramaphosa, reviewed the parade at the Cenotaph.

Dr Benneyworth has also been the recipient of a National Heritage Council grant of R250 000 and was promoted to Senior Lecturer in Heritage Studies at SPU in October 2017.



Ms Palesa Seleke received her MA in Setswana from North West University in September 2017. Her MA research was on the Context of Gomolemo Mokae's Setswana writings, who was a medical doctor by profession and a Black Consciousness political activist. The research focuses on Gomolemo's Setswana writings, which can be regarded as a remarkable and revolutionary contribution to Setswana Modern literature.



Gomolemo Mokae

Prof. David Morris was awarded Honorary Membership of the Association of Southern African Professional Archaeologists at its biennial conference at Pretoria University in July 2017 – in recognition of efforts made in preserving the Canteen Kopje heritage site after it was threatened by mining.

<< archaeologists

THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGISTS

Dr Marga Stander received an award for best paper presenter at the Conference on Psychology and Language Research in November 2017 at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.



The School of Humanities received funding from the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship Program to host Prof. Jean-Jacques Ngor Sène at SPU. Prof. Sène is an Associate Professor of History; Cultural Studies; Conflict Studies and Global Focus Coordinator from Chatham University in the United States. While at SPU he worked with colleagues from the School of Humanities to develop a programme in Conflict Management & Peace Studies.

A draft Memorandum of Understanding between Chatham and SPU is underway for the development of collaborative research projects; organization of joint academic and scientific activities, such as courses, conferences, seminars, symposia and lectures; the exchange of research and teaching personnel; the exchange of publications and other materials of common interest; and the exchange of students.



Prof. Jean-Jacques Ngor Sène

Photo: www.chatham.edu

In September 2017, Prof Jesmael Mataga and Prof Victor Teise, were selected to participate in the Teaching Advancement at University (TAU) Fellowships Programme, for 2018 and 2019. The programme seeks to contribute towards the enhancement of teaching and learning in higher education in South Africa by supporting the development of a cadre of academics across institutions and disciplines as scholars, leaders and mentors in their fields.

It works with experienced academics who are recognised for teaching excellence, in order to build a cadre of teaching and learning leaders who could serve as role models and who could support the professional development of their colleagues within their department or institution.



For this purpose, TAU provides an opportunity for high level engagement for approximately 50 participants from across South Africa, from all public universities and from a wide range of disciplines. Participants meet face-to-face in four short residential sessions interspersed across the 19 months of the programme, and between these sessions develop their collaboration further by means of online communication and activities. For more information see: <http://heltasa.org.za/projects/teaching-advancement-at-university-tau-fellowships-programme/>

The School of Humanities was pleased to announce the appointment of three inaugural Heads of Academic Departments. In March 2018, Dr Cobus Rademeyer assumed responsibility as Head of Department for Human and Social Sciences; Prof. Victor Teise was appointed Head of Department for Languages and Dr Garth Benneyworth accepted the position of Head of the Department for Heritage Studies.



Carina Truyts was granted her MA in Social Anthropology in 2017 after a long wait for the results. She received a distinction and recommendation for publication, from her two examiners. Her thesis, based on fieldwork in the Cape Winelands, makes a case for nourishment. Every chapter of the thesis pauses at a meal, or episode of ingestion, elucidating the complex socio-political factors that shapes the 'first thousand days of life'. She has been invited to submit the revised manuscript to a distinguished press where it is currently under review.

Photo: Gulshan Kahn



The Tekano Fellows at Maropeng

Ms Truyts was also part of a team that applied for, and won, a 1 million dollar IDRC research grant for a three-year project titled 'Nourishing Spaces' that investigates the link between Non-Communicable Disease (such as diabetes) and food systems in six African Cities: Nairobi and Kisumu in Kenya, Windhoek and Oshakati in Namibia, and Cape Town and Kimberley in South Africa. Under the Principal Investigator, Jane Battersby, Carina is leading the Kimberley research.

She is currently conducting interviews in Galeshewe that ask about lifelong food experiences, and will continue with ethnographic immersion and analysis over the next year. The project runs for three years, and aims to create links between communities, the university, and other stakeholders such as provincial health. The project combines quantitative and qualitative aspects. The project team enjoyed lunch at Spathlo's in Galeshewe, as part of the training.



Photo: Supplied

Ms Truyts with Prof. Fiona Ross

She was also accepted to the Tekano Atlantic Fellowship programme for the 2017/2018 year. Tekano, derived from the Sesotho word for "equality", aims at addressing health inequity in South Africa. The group meets every two months, collaborate, learn, and strategize on questions of inequity in South Africa. They have covered themes such as "Building leadership for change", "nutrition and food security", "health and health systems", and structural drivers on inequity.

In March 2018 the SA programme met with global Atlantic fellows in Oxford, in the United Kingdom and at the London School of Economics to talk collectively about structural barriers, inequity, and more. The next module will focus on Gender and Sexuality, and is held in Durban at the end of May. Ms Truyts has found the fellowship incredibly useful, as the programme tries to foster relations between academia and activists, and builds leadership skills. (To learn more about them and the programme visit www.tekano.org.za)

Photo: Supplied



Nourishing Spaces: Paul Opiyo, Theresa Mbatia, Tobias Shinyema, Jane Battersby, Jo Hunter-Adams, Tebogo Chabangu and Carina Truyts

Tbilisi State University Partnership

Dr Cobus Rademeyer visited Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University in Georgia with the purpose to set up a partnership agreement between the History Department at Sol Plaatje University and that of Tbilisi State University in January 2018. The need for such a partnership was identified when the South Africa/Poland History project, hosted at SPU, started expanding its focus beyond Poland as the only Eastern European partner country in research focussing on Eastern European expatriates settling in South Africa due to Soviet oppression in Eastern Europe during the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.

During his visit to Tbilisi State University, Dr Rademeyer met with several prominent academics, including Prof. George Sharvashidze (Rector of TSU); Prof. Teimuraz Papaskiri (Vice-Dean of Humanities and Head of Department of Modern and Contemporary History); Prof. Leri Tavadze (Institute of Georgian History); and Ms. Tea Gergedava (Head of the Department of Foreign Relations).

As a result of their discussions, it was resolved that:

- ◆ The History Department at TSU will identify a potential PhD student to work on the involvement of Niko de Boer (Niko Bagrationi) in the South African War of 1899 – 1902. The student will visit South Africa and with Sol Plaatje University acting as host institution the student will do research at the archives of the Boer War Museum in Bloemfontein where the majority of information on Niko de Boer is kept; and
- ◆ Colleagues in Humanities and History at TSU will identify an academic that will participate and present a paper on a theme related to the history of Georgia at the upcoming South Africa/Poland/Georgia History project conference in Johannesburg in November 2018.



Tbilisi State University, Georgia

Photo: Cobus Rademeyer

CREATIVE WRITING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMMES

SABATA MOKAE

The Northern Cape Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) and the Sol Plaatje University entered into a partnership late in 2016 to develop and promote reading and writing in the Northern Cape.

As part of the partnership the university co-hosts the annual Northern Cape Writers Festival with the DSAC. So far, the two institutions have co-hosted the NCWF twice, in 2016 and 2017. Writers who have participated in the two editions of the NCWF are from across the country as well as some from outside. They include Niq Mhlongo, Fred Khumalo, Lesego Malepe, Sibongile Fisher, Jacque Zimba, Kabelo Duncan Kgatea, Shole Shole, EKM Dido, Diana Ferrus and Letepe Maisela. At the festival we have panels discussing various literary issues such as publishing, post-apartheid writing, writing in African languages etc. A major part of the festival is the annual Sol Plaatje Lecture which was delivered by UK historian Dr Brian Willan in 2016 and US-based Senegalese historian Professor Jean-Jacques Sené in 2017.

The DSAC and SPU also run a series of community writing workshops and these have taken place in Kimberley, Upington, Springbok, Kuruman, Pampierstad and Warrenton. These



Writing Fiction Workshop

workshops are aimed at aspirant Northern Cape writers who are not in any university creative writing programme.

These workshops are facilitated by nationally and internationally recognised writers who are also



Dutch writer Franca Treur



Ghanaian writer Mamle Kabu



Writing Fiction Workshop 2018

requested to have public readings at the SPU. To date we have hosted Dutch novelist Franca Treur, Ghanaian novelist Mamle Kabu, Kenya-based South African novelist Zukiswa Wanner and Ghanaian novelist Martin Eglewogbe.

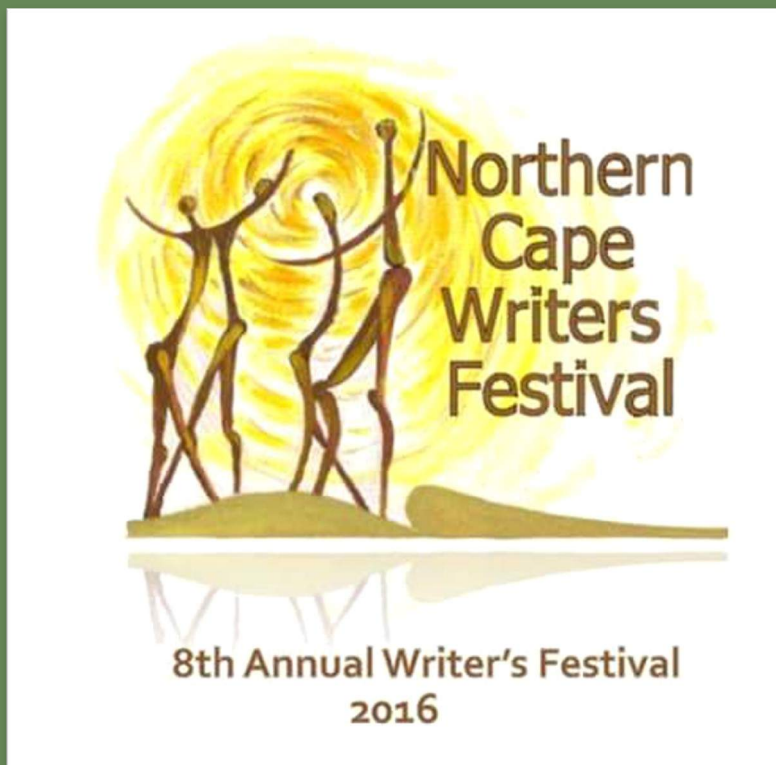
At the beginning of each year, we also host the Summer School of Writing. This is a week-long intensive writing programme held in Kimberley. Aspirant writers are requested to send writing samples from which not more than twenty are selected to be part of the programme. Each summer school has three facilitators at the same time, with each focusing on a specific genre. These genres are poetry, creative non-fiction and fiction. The first one was in 2016 and the facilitators were Zukiswa Wanner, Lesego Rampolokeng and Moagi Modise. In 2017 the facilitators were Bongani Madondo, Primrose Mrwebi and Niq Mhlongo.

There is also an ongoing prison writing programme involving aspirant writers behind bars. These aspirant writers are incarcerated at the Kimberley Correctional Centre (women and juveniles) and Tswelelopele Correctional Centre (men).



Prof. Senè on a visit to Thaba Boisu

Photos: Supplied



KIMBERLEY'S **BLACK** CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Dr Garth Benneyworth gave a public lecture entitled, "Recovering a history of black concentration camps near Kimberley from the South African War, 1899-1902" on 15 March 2017. The lecture covered the recovering of the written archive and archaeological excavations on black concentration camps near Kimberley through the Traces Project which Dr Benneyworth pioneered during the period 2000 to 2008. The event was organised by the School of Humanities and the NHISS and well attended by members of the public, students and staff.



Photo: Supplied

AFRICA MONTH LECTURE

The School of Humanities in collaboration with the Northern Cape Department of Sports, Arts and Culture hosted British Historian Dr Elizabeth Williams for a public lecture in celebration of Africa Month on 3 May 2017.

Dr Williams is a historian, scholar-librarian, writer and researcher in the field of Modern British History, the History of the Black Diaspora and Race and Culture at Goldsmiths, University of London. Her lecture was entitled, "The Black Presence in Britain". Her talk considered aspects from her seminal study, *The Politics of Race in Britain and South Africa: Black British Solidarity and the Anti-apartheid Struggle* (IB Tauris, 2015). Dr Williams explained that she became fascinated by the late twentieth century parallels in the history of race in South Africa and Britain. Her work explores how Britain had to confront and reconfigure its own complicated history of racial inequality in the 1970s and 1980s. Dr Williams argued that this led to a "visceral connection" between Africans demanding equal rights during apartheid in South African and black communities in Britain.

Her research debunks the myth that black communities in the United Kingdom did not feel an affinity with the struggle for liberation in South Africa. She argued that black activists in Britain were engaged and active in galvanising their communities to show solidarity with the anti-apartheid struggle. The lecture was very well attended by members of the public, SPU staff and students.

Photo: Supplied



Dr Elizabeth Williams

MEN OF THE MENDI



Photo: CH Muller

The Department of Human and Social Sciences hosted Brenda Shepherd for the launch of her book, *Men of the Mendi* on 27 July 2017.

The book tells the story of the sinking of the SS Mendi during World War One on 21 February 1917 near the Isle of Wight. Ms Shepherd spent several years doing research for the book in archives in South Africa and Great Britain.

The narrative highlights the bravery of the men on board

the ship and the ensuing inquiry conducted by the Board of Trade in London. It also follows the story of some of the survivors during their tour of duty in France.

The majority of the soldiers killed when the RMS Darro accidentally collided with the Mendi, were black South Africans. Oral traditions records that the men who died met their fate with great dignity. The matter was investigated at a formal hearing in 1917. The

court found Darro's Master, Henry Stump, guilty of "having travelled at a dangerously high speed in thick fog, and of having failed to ensure that his ship emitted the necessary fog signals". Stump's license was suspended for a year. The subsequent classification of the inquest records as secret and the concealment of the records for a period of 50 years made many people believe that there was a cover-up during the investigation of the ship's sinking. This matter is addressed extensively in the book by Ms Shepherd.

The book gives recognition to the role that black South African soldiers played during the First World War. A topic which has not yet received much scholarly attention.

The book launch was well attended by SPU staff, students and members of the public. For more information on the sinking of the SS Mendi visit www.sahistory.org.za

KOLEKA PUTUMA READS FROM COLLECTIVE AMNESIA

The School of Humanities, with funding from the Department of Sports Arts and Culture, hosted renowned rising poet Koleka Putuma who did a reading from her poetry anthology, *Collective Amnesia* on 1 June 2017. The launch was highly successful and very well attended. Ms Putuma was in conversation with Professor Gertrude Fester. She read several poems from *Collective Amnesia* and answered a range of intriguing questions from the engaged audience.

Ms Putuma has authored several plays and presented her poetry internationally to wide acclaim. Her poetry explores themes of blackness, womxnhood and history. She confronts the unspoken which hides in plain sight in ourselves, our families and broader society.

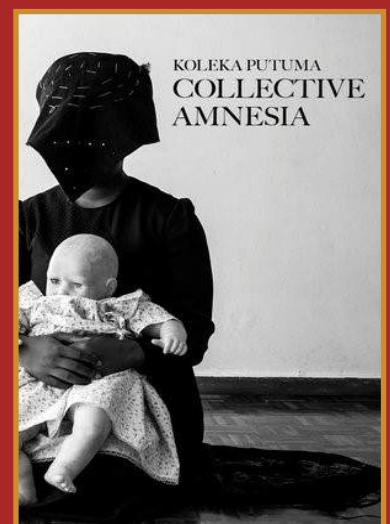


Photo: uHlanga Press

WILDEBEEST KUIL ROCK ART

The McGregor Museum in association with the School of Humanities, hosted Professor Silvia Tomášková, for a public lecture entitled: “Archaeology of Prehistoric Art in the Northern Cape in the 21st century”, on 20 July 2017.

Prof. Tomášková is Professor of Anthropology as well as Professor and Chair of Women’s & Gender Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

She previously published a book tracing the emergence of the “shaman” as a standard figure in anthropological archaeology. Beginning with 17th and 18th century travel reports from Siberia as a part of a colonising effort by the Russian Empire, the book *Wayward Shamans: The Prehistory of an Idea* addresses the portrayal of shamans as a universal, masculine category in anthropology and prehistoric archaeology.

One of her major ongoing interests that weaves through all her research and teaching is the history of knowledge production, particularly in archaeology and anthropology. The principal focus of her work is the participation and

contribution of women and minorities in these fields.

Her lecture focused on her current work and future research. Since 2014 Prof. Tomášková has worked at the rock engraving site of Wildebeest Kuil outside Kimberley, documenting well over 400 markings on the hill. This year the focus moved to the nearby site of Nooitgedacht. She explained that her, “long term interest is in the practice of marking engravings, the connection between the location of the site of representations and the techniques used to execute them”.



Photo: Supplied

Prof Silvia Tomášková at Wildebeest Kuil

DEMOCRACY AND DELUSION

On 20 September 2017, the School of Humanities in collaboration with Student Affairs hosted Sizwe Mpofu-Walsh for the launch of his book, *Democracy and Delusion*. The event formed part of the Emerging Leaders Series launched by Student Affairs. Mr Mpofu-Walsh was in conversation with Mr Jerome September. Mr Mpofu-Walsh is an outspoken political commentator, scholar and musician. He was president of the University of Cape Town’s Students’ Representative Council in 2010. He holds an MPhil in International Relations from the University of Oxford, where he was a prominent member of the #RhodesMustFall in Oxford. His book won the City Press Tafelberg Nonfiction Award. The book is accompanied by a rap album of the same name. He is currently pursuing a DPhil in International Relations at Oxford. The book launch was well attended by students, staff and members of the public.

Photos: Feroza Nooroodien



Sizwe Mpofu-Walsh and Abdul-Kareem Nooroodien



Mpofu Walsh in conversation with Jerome September



Tebogo Takane and Mpofu-Walsh

PAN-AFRICANISM: MYTH OR REALITY?

The School of Humanities hosted a lecture by Prof. Jean-Jacques Ngor Sène on 31 August 2017. Prof. Sène is an associate professor of History and Cultural Studies at Chatham University in the United States.

He is involved in several movements dedicated to African Unity, Afro-Asian cooperation, and works in several international academic and civic organisations such as the African Network for Global History, the European Center for the study of Extremism, the Bandung Spirit Network, and the Institute for Political Studies in Latin America and Africa.

His lecture entitled, "Pan-Africanism: Myth or Reality?", considered whether or not Black people have sustained constructive forms of nationalism, especially since the seminal All Africans Peoples Conference of 1958 in Ghana.

With the progressive vanishing of Afro-pessimism during the last decade of the twentieth century, a mass of political, academic, and cultural initiatives started manifesting the ambitions and strategies of large sections of African and Afro-descendant peoples all over the world to re-energize the Pan-African Passion.

The event was well attended by the broader community and SPU staff and students.



BARBARA BOSWELL & SHELLEY BARRY VISITS SPU

In September 2017 the School of Humanities hosted Dr Barbara Boswell and Ms Shelley Barry on invitation of Prof. Gertrude Fester. Dr Boswell is a feminist literary scholar with an interest in Black diasporic women's writing, Black South African women's literature, and queer theory and is an Associate Professor in the Department of English Literature at the University of Cape Town. Dr Boswell launched her latest literary work: *Grace: a Novel* (2017), published by Modjaji Books during her visit to SPU. She also presented a workshop on intersectionality to the staff members of the School of Humanities.

Ms Barry is a lecturer in the Department of Journalism, Film and Television at the University of Johannesburg. She is an award winning filmmaker, poet and lecturer. At aged 24, a bullet fired during a taxi turf war severed her spinal cord and punctured both lungs, leaving her unable to walk. Yet, filming from a wheelchair, she has produced several internationally award-winning documentaries. Staff, students and members of the public attended a screening of her film, *Diaries of a Dissident Poet*. The film explores the life of poet James Matthews.



Photo: University of Cape Town



Mr. James Matthews and Ms. Shelly Barry

Photo: www.thejournalist.org.za

PEGELO YA MOLETLO WA “LETSATSI LA NGWAOBOSWA SY BATSWANA”

MOTHO-OSELE KGOE

The School of Humanities hosted a Setswana Cultural Day in celebration of Heritage month on 20 September 2017. The event highlighted the rich cultural tradition of the Batswana to SPU students, staff and members of the public. The day's festivities included several public lectures, poetry readings, as well as dance and singing performances. An exhibition of traditional Setswana housing as well as cultural artefacts and objects were displayed in the university square.

Sekolo sa tsa Botho se ne sa tshegetsisa letsatsi la Ngwaoboswa la Aforikaborwa ka Lwaboraro wa la 20 Lwetse 2017 mo Yunivesithing ya Sol

Plaatje. Lenaanetiro le ne la tsamaisiwa ka bothakga ke Obakeng Setlhabi, Kopano Sebe le Lebogang Mphetseng. Letsatsi le le ne la tshegediwa ka go nna

le dibui le ditiragatso ka setlhogo se se reng “Itse setso sa gago”.

Ka maikaelelo a go gakolola ba ba itseng le go fatlhosa ba ba sa itseng, dibui go tswa mafapheng a a farologaneng a ditiro jaaka a thuto, bogosi, botaki, bongaka di ne tsa bua ka ditlhogo tse di farologaneng go naya ba tla moletlong tshedimosetso ka ga setso sa Setswana. Lenaanetsamaiso le ne le kgaogantswe ka maphata a le mabedi, e bong la dipuo le le ne le tshwaretse mo teng ga 'Auditorium' le la ditiragatso kwa ntle, fa thoko ga ntlo e e agilweng ya bongaka.

Mo teng ga 'Auditorium' dibui le ditlhogo di ne tsa latelana ka mokgwa o:

- ◆ Batswana re tswa kae? ka Rre Peter Toto (Mokwaledi wa lekgotla la dikgosi le ditirelo tsa setso mo Kapabokone)
- ◆ Pelegi – ka Rre Keaobaka OorraMolomo (iVuma Art Centre)
- ◆ Dijo le diaparo mo setsong sa Setswana ka Ngaka



Kwa moragao, go tswa kwa molemeng: Mme Gobonamang Mookapilo (Motlhatheledi – SPU), Ngaka Kgomotso Theledi (Motlhatlethedi – NWU), Mopr Jesmael Mathaga (Thogo ya Sekolo sa Tsa Botho – SPU), Mme Eileen Pooe (Tlhogo ya Sekolo sa Tsa Botho – NWU), Rre Motlo-Osele Kgoe (Motlhatheledi – SPU), Rre Oageng Tsheole (Motlhatheledi – NWU)

Kwa pele, go tswa kwa molemeng: Rre Nigile Ramonne (Moithuti – SPU), Mopr Shole Shole (Moporofesara wa Setswana – NWU), Mme Lesang Marumo (Motlhatleledi – SPU)

Kgomotso Theledi -
(Yunivesithi ya
Bokonebophirima -
Khampase ya Mafikeng)

- ◆ Lenyalo le loso mo setsong sa Setswana ka Mme Eileen Pooe - (Yunivesithi ya Bokonebophirima - Khampase ya Mafikeng)
- ◆ Diane jaaka ngwaoboswa ka Rre O.J. Tsheole - (Yunivesithi ya Bokonebophirima - Khampase ya Mafikeng)
- ◆ Puo ya setlhogo e ne ya neelwa ka "Sol Plaatje le ngwaoboswa" ke Moporofesara Shole Shole - (Yunivesithi ya Bokonebophirima - Khampase ya Mafikeng). O tlhalositse fa Solomon Plaatje e ne e le Moaforika wa ntlha go itsagale

lefatshe lotlhe (Global Icon). O boletes gore le fa e ne e le Motswana, o ne a sa emela Batswana fela kwa ntle mo lefatsheng, o ne a emetse batsho botlhe ba Aforika. E ne e sa motho wa kgethololo mme e le motho yo o kgaratlhelang kitlano le tisanommogo ya batho botlhe.

- ◆ Setswana Software ka ka Rre Thuso Mokolare - (iVuma Art Centre)

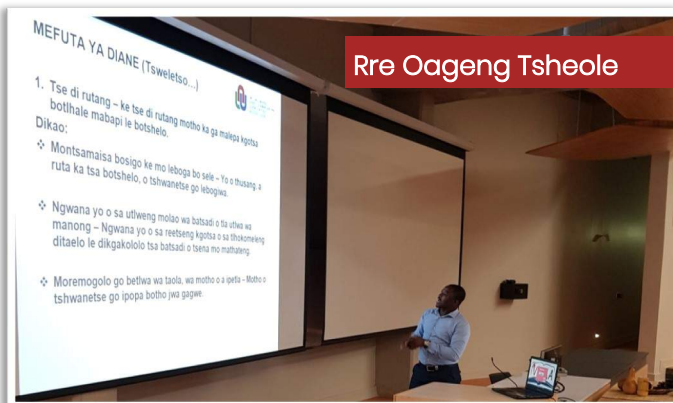
Kwa ntle fa thoko ga ntlo ya bongaka:

- ◆ Bongaka jwa Setswana ka Mme Matshediso Perkins - (iVuma Art Centre)
- ◆ Tiragatso ya mmimo ka Sol Plaatje University Choristers
- ◆ Tiragatso ya poko ka moithuti, Thabo Moshe le

tsala ya gagwe Orapeleng Thejane (le mo teng ga Auditorium).

Baithuti le balalediwa ba ne ba lebogela tshedimosetso e ba e boneng go tswa mo dibuing le boitumediso jo bo tthagisitsweng ke bannaeseabe jaaka baboki, baopedi le dibini tsa setso. Sebe sa phiri ke gore, nako e e ne e abetswe moletlo otlhe, e ne e le nnye thata mo go neng ga tshwanelwa ke go fokotsa nako e dibui di tshwanetseng go bua ka yona.

Go ne ga itumedisa go bona thologelo e ntsi jalo ya baithuti le ka fa ba neng ba reeditse ka tlhoafalo le go kgatlhegela dipuo le ditiragatso, go bonala ka fa ba nyoretsweng tshedimosetso ka setso sa bona ka gona.



Rre Oageng Tsheole



Mme Masiteng & Rre Kgoe



Sol Plaatje University Choir

LAND, FOOD AND YOUTH

The School of Humanities hosted a *Dialogue in Land, Food Sovereignty and Youth* as part of a series of dialogues on Land in South Africa on 31 July 2017. Experts on land and various stakeholders shared ideas and debated this very sensitive issue. The keynote address was given by Dr Wallace Amos Mgoqi, the former Chief Land Claims Commissioner on the restitution of land rights. Respondents to Dr Mgoqi's address included Bakang Diphokoje from the Northern Cape Land Claims Department, Rob Gibson from the ACDP, members from Unshamedly Ethical and speakers from AZAPO, the ANC and other political parties. The event elicited heated debate and discussion and was well attended by staff, students and members of the public.

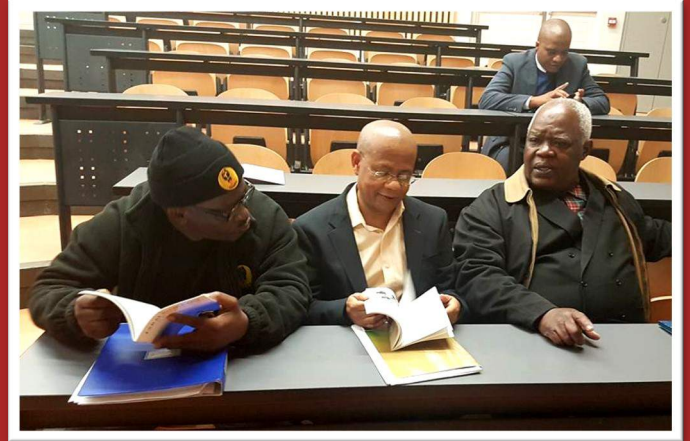


Photo: Facebook/Naledi Gaosekwe

SPU HOSTS LILIESLEAF EXHIBITION

The Department of Heritage in partnership with the National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences hosted a public lecture presented by Dr Garth Beneyworth on 7 August 2017.

The presentation entitled, "Reflections on Rivonia: building the Liliesleaf Museum", detailed Dr Beneyworth's role in the Liliesleaf project which led to the establishment of *Liliesleaf: a Place of Liberation* during the period 2002 to 2007.

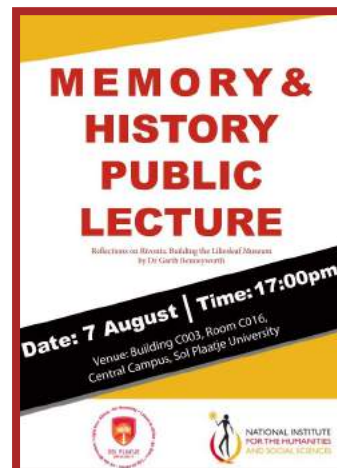
It covered the international research audit into archives and oral history interviews with key people associated with Liliesleaf and the Rivonia Trial era and the uncovering of and restoration of historic buildings. The paper addressed previously

unknown information which detailed how the farm was actually found by the clandestine forces of the apartheid security establishment.

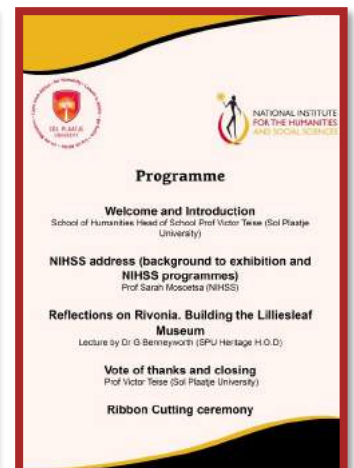
The exhibition presented the history of South Africa during the period 1952 to 1966 with particular emphasis on the raid at Liliesleaf and the Rivonia trial. This history was brought to life with a collection of audio and visual material which highlighted some of the key people and events associated with this period in South Africa's history. Prof Sarah Mosoetsa, CEO of the NIHSS, stated that the, "NIHSS is proud to partner with Sol Plaatje in this venture which challenges idea of space, place and history".



Photo: NIHSS



Photos: Supplied



THE MISSIONARY ROAD

On 10 April 2018 the Department of Heritage Studies and the South African Archaeological Society Trans-!Garib Branch hosted Dr Chris Wingfield who presented a public lecture entitled, “Re-Collecting the Missionary Road: Fieldwork at the Kuruman Moffat Mission”.

Dr Wingfield is Senior Curator of World Archaeology at the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Cambridge.

His paper provided detail on the Missionary Road project which will run until the bicentenary of the Moffat Mission in 2024. Established in 1824, the London Missionary Society mission at Kuruman was a central point in the operation of what became known as “the Missionary Road”, a network of British missions that by the end of the nineteenth century extended from the Cape to

Central Africa.

SPU archaeology students will collaborate on the project during fieldwork at the Moffat Mission Station in July 2018.



Image: Council for World Mission

Illustration of mission premises at the Kuruman mission station

SAHRA VISITS SPU

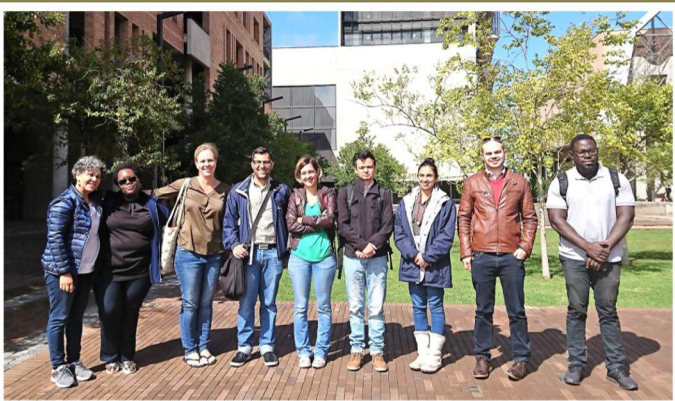
Seven representatives of the South African Heritage Resources Agency (SAHRA) visited the university in mid-April 2018. SAHRA coordinates the identification and management of the national estate. The national estate is defined as heritage resources of cultural significance in South Africa.

The purpose of the lectures was to expose the BA (Heritage Studies) first years and the Higher Certificate students (Ethics and Regulation in Heritage Work) to the duties and responsibilities of various units of SAHRA. This allowed the

students to observe the day-to-day functions of heritage practitioners and the type of work environment the students may enter after graduation.

The Heritage Department was appreciative for the time and effort SAHRA gave to visit our students. The students who attended were all delighted and thankful for the lectures. The department is planning to have SAHRA visit bi-annually and further collaborations with the national body are in discussion.

The SAHRA staff members and their respective units are: Philip Hine (Archaeology, Palaeontology and Meteorites Unit), Ben Mwasinga (Built Environment Unit), Regina Isaacs (Heritage Objects Unit), Nkosazana Q. Machete and Heidi Weldon (Heritage Protection Unit), Lesa La Grange (Maritime and Underwater Cultural Heritage Unit) and Clinton Jackson (National Inventory Unit).



Photos: Supplied

AFRIKAANS IN DIE NOORD-KAAP

LIONEL SNYDERS

The School of Humanities in cooperation and consultation with the Department of Afrikaans and Nederlands at the University of the Western Cape hosted the first conference ever at Sol Plaatje University under the theme of “Afrikaans in the Northern Cape: New perspectives relating to language, literature and culture”, during 2-3 November 2017). A diverse group of role-players participated and delivered papers regarding Oranjerivierafrikaans, the role of language history as well as new initiatives in Afrikaans writing. Guests were heartily welcomed and treated with outstanding conversations and dialogue regarding new perspectives with regard to Afrikaans in the Northern Cape.

Die Skool vir Geesteswetenskappe in samewerking met die Departement Afrikaans en Nederlands van die Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland het histories die eerste konferensie ooit aangebied aan die Sol Plaatje Universiteit in November 2017. Onder die tema van “Afrikaans in die Noord-Kaap: Nuwe perspektiewe op taal, literatuur en kultuur” is verskeie rolspelers en akademici genooi om referate te lewer oor die erkenning van Oranjerivier-Afrikaans, die rol van taalgeskiedenis en sprekers asook die vernuwing in die Afrikaanse skryfwerk.

Prof. Frank Hendriks se referaat, getiteld, *Oranjerivierafrikaans: van aanklopper tot binnevaarder* plaas hierdie heterogene vorm van die soos dit noord en suid van die Oranjerivier gepraat word in die brandpunt. Dit word ook Noordwestelike Afrikaans en Khoekhoense Afrikaans genoem.

Dr. Marni Bonthuys het die voorstelling van die *Noordweste as ruimte* in drie digbundels

bespreek waar die verskillende dimensies van die milieu betrekking het op 'n bepaalde sielsruimte of identiteit.

Anastasia de Vries het Afrikaans se *Katolieke wortels* in die Noord-Kaap onder oog gehad en aspekte wat aan die orde gestel word behels, enersyds die marginalisering van die Katolieke Kerk in die geskiedenis van Suid-Afrika en oordragtelik die Afrikaanse taal. Andersyds word die betreklike stilswye oor die taal en veral sy swart Afrikaanse sprekers in bestaande Katolieke geskiedskrywings ook krities bekyk.

Elias P. Nel gesels oor die *rieldans* wat in die vërste uithoeke van die Wes- en Noord-Kaap waargeneem word en wat soos die magiese feniks telkemale sterker en groter uit stof en as herrys. Die riel is inderdaad nie dood nie en het kragtiger nog, nasionale en internasionale erkenning verkry. Hiervan is die rielgroep, “*Die Nuwe Graskoue Trappers*” van Wupperthal en omgewing, wat in 2015 in Los Angeles as die wêreldkampioen in tradisionele volksdans bekroon is, 'n lewende bewys.

Prof. Victor Teise en Dr. Lionel Snyders lewer 'n referaat oor die *leesgewoontes en leesvoorkeure* van eerstejaar- en tweedejaarstudente Afrikaans as vak aan 'n nuutgestigte Noord-Kaapse universiteit studier. Daar word vasgestel hoe gereeld hierdie groep studente lees, watter sort leesstof voorkeur geniet, waarom hulle lees en watter soort media meestal in die leesproses gebruik word.

“*Ons skryf soos ons praat*” is die titel van Prof. Elvis Saal en Dr. Donovan Lawrence se referaat.



Hulle konsentreer veral op die feit dat taal nie staties is nie, maar dat dit gedurig verander. Taalverandering geskied nie in isolasie nie, maar word gevoed deur sosiale veranderinge. 'n Studie oor die tipe vernakulêre kenmerke onder twee groepe tieners in onderskeidelik die Wes-Kaap en die Noord-Kaap dui veral op die kodewisseling na Engels toe onder Wes Kaapse tieners.

Annie Klopper se studie is gebaseer op die aard en inhoud van *rap* en hoe dit deel vorm van kultuurvorming en identiteitskonfigurasieprosesse. Sy verwys veral na Afrikaanse rap in Namakwaland en spesifiek na die rapper V.I.T.O. (verhoognaam van Vito Heyn) uit Okiep wat in 'n kombinasie van Nama en Afrikaans rap.

Wat het van Khoi-Afrikaans geword? is die vraag wat Prof. Christo van Rensburg in sy referaat beantwoord. Die geskiedenis van aanleeders-nederlands en dat Khoi-Afrikaans as 'n handelstaal begin is vanaf 1652 asook die ander aanleedersvariëteite, waaronder Maleierafrikaans ontstaan het, kom onder die loep.

Prof. Steward van Wyk kyk veral na regionale literatuur wat dikwels beskou word as 'n nostalgiese genre waarin met heimwee teruggekyk word na tradisies en gebruike uit die verlede. Sy referaat, *Spore in die sand, oftewel regionale literatuur en aktualiteit: 'n perspektief uit Noord-Kaapse prosatekste*, stel ondersoek in na die wyse waarop 'n aantal Noord-Kaapse prosatekste kwessies wat aan die bod is in die huidige opset hanteer en daarop reflekteer.

'n Waild-ghoes-tjys? Die soeke na die siel van die kontrei is die titel van Prof. Wium van Zyl se referaat waarin hy klem lê op hoe skrywers in die 19de eeu in verskillende lande die ideaal gehad het om die ongekunstelde, ware siel van die "volk" op te soek. Dit het gelei na die platteland, na gebiede



wat die minste deur universele modes beïnvloed is.

Ander belanghebbendes wat die konferensie bygewoon het, sluit in Fatima Allie, direkteur van die Stigting vir Bemagtiging deur Afrikaans (SBA); Dr. Marni Bothuys, dosent aan die Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland; Janine Brown, 'n Paarliet met opleiding in toerismebestuur; Prof. Gertrude Fester van Sol Plaatje Universiteit wat gesels oor skryfwerk van gevangenes; Dr. Marga Stander van Sol Plaatje Universiteit wie se navorsingbelange veral tweede taalverwerwing en -onderrig, aspekte van toegepaste taalkunde, vertaling en gebaretaal (linguistiek en kultuur), insluit.

Dr. Danny Titus, die uitvoerende direkteur (kultuur) van die ATKV het die konferensie bygewoon en Prof. Jacques van Keymeulen, verbonde aan die Universiteit Gent het veral gesels oor taalvariasie, leksikografie en leksikologie. Ander gaste sluit in die skrywer Anzil Kulsen en Mark Kotze, motiveringspreker en skrywer van Kimberley.

Daar is besluit dat hierdie konferensie elke tweede jaar sal plaasvind en die die volgende een word beplan vir vroeg in 2019.

Photos: Lionel Snyders



Prof. Wium van Zyl, Dr Snyders & Prof. Steward van Wyk



The School of Humanities held its 2017 year-end function at Magersfontein Golf Estate.



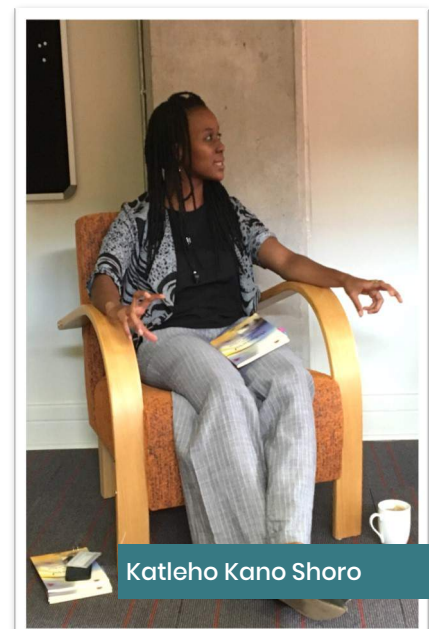
From left to right: Ms Elna van Rhyn, Ms Sukayna Obaray, Ms Itumeleng Masiteng, Ms. Carina Truys, Ms Nyebe Mohale, Prof. Jesmael Mataga, Mr Motho-Osele Kgoe, Dr Eleanor Addinall, Dr Cornelis Muller and Prof. Victor Teise.

THIRD FLOOR READING GROUP

Ms. Lesege Kgatitswe and Ms. Carina Truys instituted the “Third Floor Reading Group” in Central Block, at Wednesday during lunch upon invitation. The aim is to have informal conversations where we discuss papers or work that reminds us what we love about Humanities. We were very lucky to have Nic Mhlongo read for us from his new book *Soweto Under the Apricot Tree* and Katleho Kano Shoro from her beautiful *Serubele Poetry* collection so far this year.



Lorenço Pinto and Nic Mhlongo

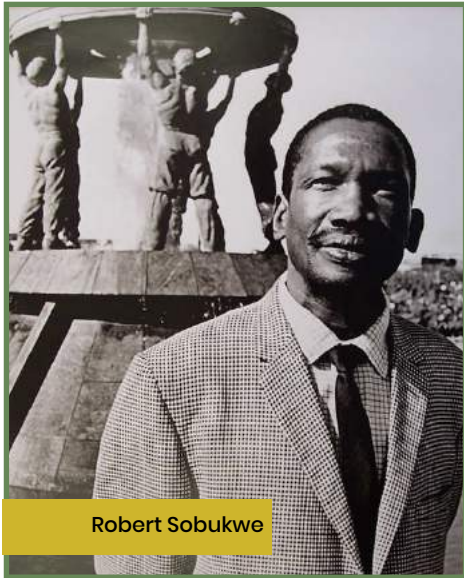


Katleho Kano Shoro

Photos: Carina Truys

ROBERT SOBUKWE

MEMORIAL LECTURE



Robert Sobukwe

The School of Humanities in collaboration with the Northern Cape Department of Sport, Arts and Culture and as well as Sol Plaatje Municipality jointly hosted a public lecture to mark forty years since the founder of the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC), Robert Mangaliso Sobukwe, died in Kimberley on 27 February 1978.

Sobukwe was born in Graaff-Reinet on 5 December 1942. He graduated from Fort Hare University where he studied English, Xhosa and Native Administration. His study of Native Administration sparked an interest in politics and in 1948 Sobukwe joined the African National Congress Youth League. Inspired by the writings of Anton Lembede, Sobukwe increasingly adopted an Africanist position within the ranks of the ANC. He believed that South Africa should be controlled and governed by Black South Africans. In 1954 he accepted a lectureship position in African Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Due to the pursuance of multi

-racial policies by the ANC, Africanists within this organisation split from the ANC to form the PAC in 1958. Sobukwe was elected as the PAC's first president. After the Sharpsville Massacre, Sobukwe was issued with a banning order by the Apartheid government and placed on trial for incitement. He was sentenced to three years in prison in 1960. The Apartheid government, however, amended the law to grant the Minister of Justice the power to prolong the sentence of political prisoners indefinitely. Sobukwe ended up imprisoned until May 1969.

After his release he was banished to Kimberley. His movement was restricted and he could not leave the city without obtaining permission from the authorities. The Apartheid regime also repeatedly refused to grant him permission to leave South Africa in exile. He lived in House Number 6, Naledi Street and had a law office in what is today known as the Mayibuye Precinct, both in the township of Galeshewe in Kimberley.



To learn more about the life of Robert Sobukwe visit [South African History Online](#).

Sobukwe was diagnosed with severe lung cancer in 1977. The restrictions placed on his movement made it difficult for Sobukwe to obtain proper treatment. He died in Kimberley General Hospital from lung complications in 1978. He was subsequently buried in Graaff-Reinet.

Rev. Prof. Tshepo Lephakga of the Department of Philosophy, Practical & Systematic Theology at the University of South Africa in Pretoria delivered the lecture in honour of Sobukwe. The event was very well attended by members of the public as well as the university community.

At the event the Northern Cape Department of Sports, Arts and Culture also announced that the Kimberley Hospital will be renamed after Sobukwe.



Photos: Facebook/DSAC NCape

MEC for Sport, Arts and Culture Ms Bongive Mbinqo-Gigaba and Rev. Prof. Tshepo Lephakga

ROCK PAINTINGS AT WONDERWERK CAVE

Prof. David Morris published his research on rock paintings at the Wonderwerk Cave in *African Archaeological Review* Vol 33, No 3 (2016). His article is entitled, "Revisiting the Parietal Art of Wonderwerk Cave, South Africa".

Seen by all who visit Wonderwerk Cave, the rock paintings that adorn its walls have attracted less attention than many other aspects of the site. The paper gives a brief account of their history and significance and of factors that have constrained their study. Graffiti damage and restoration added layers through which researchers would need to delve in order to understand them archaeologically.

Pointing to directions for future work, the paper concludes with discussion on a currently debated category of southern African rock art, the "non-entoptic" geometric rock art tradition,

to which the Wonderwerk Cave rock paintings would belong.

A shift in theoretical focus is advocated for comprehending local contingencies in the formation of rock art "traditions" rather than simply assuming the prior existence of such constructs.

Photo: Supplied



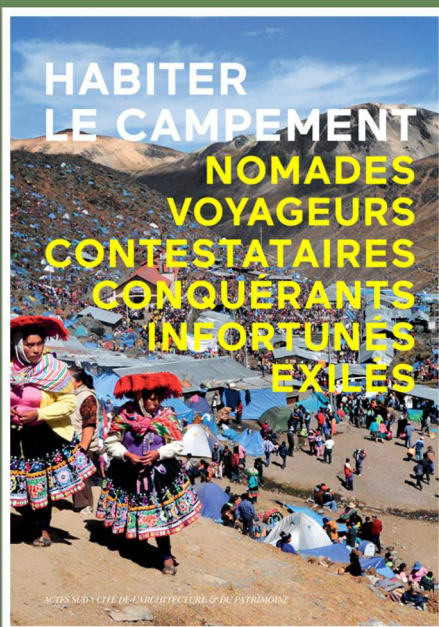
Finger paintings of geometrics and animals, Wonderwerk Cave.

VIOLENCES DE GUERRE

Dr Garth Benneyworth published two book chapters in 2016. The one book chapter entitled, "Traces de esclavage: Traces of enslavement - a forgotten history of indigenous civilians in British concentration camps during the South African War, 1899-1902", was published in *Violences de guerre, violences de masse: Une approche archéologique*. It follows on a presentation on a conference at Museum of Louvre-Lens, France in 2014.

The second book chapter was published in *Habiter le Campement* and is entitled, "Le camp comme archive. Les populations civiles noires dans les camps de travail forcé de Kimberley et de Dry Harts pendant la guerre d'Afrique du Sud, 1899-1902". (The camp as archive - black civilians in Kimberley and Dry Harts forced labour camps during the South African War, 1899-1902).

This chapter is based on an exhibition which Dr Benneyworth developed as a component of a larger exhibition hosted by the French Institute of Architecture in Paris that considered camps from the twentieth century to the present.



DISABILITY SPORT IN POST-APARTHEID SOUTH AFRICA

Dr Cobus Rademeyer published his research on disability sport in post-apartheid South Africa in *Journal for Contemporary History*, Vol 42, No 1 (2017).

His article is entitled, “Sport for people with disabilities as factor in reshaping the post-apartheid South African sporting society”.

Limited research has been done on the history and impact of sport for people with disabilities in South Africa, yet many disabled athletes have become internationally renowned sporting icons.

They have contributed to making disability sport trendy and contributed to uniting a sports

mad society and helping it enjoy, understand and appreciate disability sport on par with other sporting codes. Since 1994, disability sport has grown faster than many of the able-bodied sporting codes in South Africa and, in some cases, even surpassing it in popularity. During the apartheid era, disability sport had to endure the same abuse and social problems as other, able-bodied sporting codes in South Africa. However, after 1994 it seems that disability sport and disability athletes adapted to the fast changing sporting issues within the democratisation of both politics and sport in South Africa with more ease.



The South African Paralympic Team during the 2012 Summer Paralympics opening ceremony.

South Africa made a return to competing in the Paralympics in 1992 after not competing during the period 1980 to 1988.

Photo: M. Greenwood—Wikimedia Commons

ROLLING UP RIVONIA: 1962–1963

Dr Garth Benneyworth published his research, entitled, “Rolling up Rivonia: 1962–1963”, in the *South African Historical Journal* story, Vol 69, No 3 (2017).

Liliesleaf was purchased in 1961 by the South African Communist Party and it functioned as a nerve centre for the liberation movements and key leaders of that era. The significance of Liliesleaf is that this was a place where the transition into a new form of struggle, namely armed struggle occurred, making an icon of that struggle for freedom. Liliesleaf marks a seminal shift in South Africa's liberation struggle

history. On 11 July 1963 the police raided Liliesleaf.

Their rolling up of Rivonia in turn culminated in the Rivonia Trial. For the apartheid government this was a coup. For the liberation movement, it represented a blow. Many theories abound as to how the police identified Liliesleaf. His article presents new information about these complex and myriad historical events. The article shows that the raid was the culmination of a much longer term investigation by various state agencies and not only the Security Branch of the South African Police.

OPERATION MAYIBUYE

Dr Garth Benneyworth published his research on Operation Mayibuye in the *Journal for Contemporary History*, Vol 42, No 1 (2017).

His article is entitled, "Operation Mayibuye: Plans within Plans, Spies and Lies, 1963".

If ever there is a documented plan that is able to evoke debate and controversy, it is Operation Mayibuye; a military plan seized by the police

during a raid at Liliesleaf farm in Rivonia on 11 July 1963. His article examines aspects of this plan in detail, for example who drafted it, what its purpose was, whether it was ever approved and, if so, by whom? Other questions explored include whether it remained unapproved at the time of the raid – if so, why, and the number of copies seized by the police at Liliesleaf.

His article builds on prior research regarding this plan, which started with an interview in April 2004 with four Rivonia Trial veterans. The mere mention of the Operation Mayibuye Plan unlocked a range of conflicting views, guaranteeing a heated, yet fascinating debate. Evidence was uncovered that the police used the plan to refabricate the evidence seized.

Even in the contemporary context, no one seems able to reach universal consensus on the matter, with one exception being that those who were captured at Liliesleaf faced the very real possibility of being hanged for being in possession of it.

Photo: Colinvr – Wikimedia Commons



The thatched room at Liliesleaf Farm, Rivonia, where several ANC activists were meeting when the police raided the Farm in 1963

MULTI-RACIAL SPORT RESTRICTIONS

Dr Cobus Rademeyer attended a Colloquium on the Political and Liberation Struggle History of the Free State, 1961-2012, at Phuthaditjhaba in March 2017.

He delivered a paper entitled, "The restrictive influence of the 1891 Statute Law of the Orange Free State on multi-racial sport in the Free State, 1961 – 1989".

The 1891 Statute Law of the Orange Free State prohibited people of Arab, Asian or Coloured descent from carrying on business or farming in the Orange Free State. In principle, this law prohibited Coloured and Indian people from "remaining for more than a brief period in the Orange Free State, unless prior permission has been obtained". With the implementation of apartheid after 1948, this law was effectively used to prohibit world-renowned Indian and Coloured sport stars from competing in sport in the Orange Free State in a customary environment. Two prominent examples of sport

stars that suffered under this law was Papwa Sewsunker Sewgolum and Alvin Kallicharran. The negative impact of the 1891 Statute Law of the Orange Free State on non-white sporting heroes played an important role in intensifying the struggle against apartheid in sport and the liberation struggle at large.



Alvin Kallicharran

Photo: A. Kallicharran—Wikimedia Commons

MANDELA: ARMED AND TRAINED

Dr Garth Benneyworth's research on Nelson Mandela as Commander in Chief of Umkhonto we Sizwe has been published in the edited volume, *The ANC and The Liberation Struggle in South Africa: Essential Writings*. His chapter is entitled, "Armed and Trained: Nelson Mandela's 1962 Military Mission as Commander in Chief of Umkhonto we Sizwe and Provenance for his Buried Makarov Pistol."

Firearms are inextricably linked to the history of South Africa's liberation struggle and experiences of decolonisation, liberation, and independence for many African countries. Firearms are often perceived as symbols of emancipation from colonial rule, and military leaders, such as Nelson Mandela, who commanded Umkhonto we Sizwe, are no exception, for he is associated with numerous handguns, military weapons and military ordnance during 1962, in particular to a Makarov pistol, originating from Ethiopia. This heritage item holding symbolic and historical value, Mandela claimed he buried at Liliesleaf farm in Johannesburg shortly before being captured in 1962. Although mentioned fleetingly in Nelson

Mandela's autobiography *Long Walk to Freedom*, the provenance of and knowledge about his pistol and the circumstances under which he received it and how he subsequently buried it, together with ammunition and possibly an Ethiopian army uniform, are not widely known.

Dr Bennyworth's chapter details the process by which he established this provenance during 2004 to 2010, and contextualises Nelson Mandela's broader military activities in Africa, discussions he held with freedom fighters and military personnel in Ethiopia and Morocco, the type of military training he underwent, weapons he handled, and activities in South Africa upon his return, once armed and trained.

Image:
BBC Learning
Resources



AFRICA AT THE PARALYMPIC GAMES

The 18th Congress of the International Society for the History of Physical Education and Sport (ISHPES) was held in Alexandria, Egypt, in April 2017. Dr Cobus Rademeyer from History presented his paper, "Out of Africa: Untangling fifty years of mixed African successes at the Paralympic Games".

The achievement of African countries at the Paralympic Games have never really reached

the expected heights. Since the first participation in 1960, only nineteen African countries have won medals at the Paralympic Games. Of these only six countries won more than 50 medals in total, while only South Africa and Egypt have won more than 100 medals at the Paralympic Games between 1960 and 2016.

Dr Rademeyer's paper examined the overall achievements of African countries over the fifty-six years span of Paralympic Games in an attempt to answer some questions on the reason for African countries' lack of medaling on a constant basis. The paper also highlighted the rapid growth and international importance of the Paralympic Games to emphasise the cardinal role of Paralympic history in contemporary sports history research.



SOUTH AFRICAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

Sol Plaatje University was well represented at the 26th Biennial Conference of the South African Historical Society.

Hosted by the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg from 21 to 23 June 2017, Dr Cobus Rademeyer and Dr Cornelis Muller from History and Dr Garth Benneyworth from Heritage Studies presented on their research at the conference.

The conference raised questions about the potential of history and the production of historical knowledge to work with or against new economic, political and cultural forces.

The event also marked the centenary year of the Wits History Department and the 40th anniversary of the Wits History Workshop. These institutions have made a significant impact on southern African historical scholarship.

Dr Rademeyer delivered a paper entitled “Abilitating disabilities: the rise of sport for people with disabilities in the 21st century South Africa”. He argued that since the turn of the century, sport for people with disabilities has shown a steady increase, while South African sport in general became more and more entangled in various problems. While many “supporters” initially followed sport for people with disabilities out of sympathy or compassion, the achievements of these athletes have now changed their support base into mature supporters of quality performances and highly skilled athletes.

Dr Muller presented a paper on the role played by well-known humanitarian, pacifist and social work activist, Emily Hobhouse, as non-state actor during the period of reconstruction following the

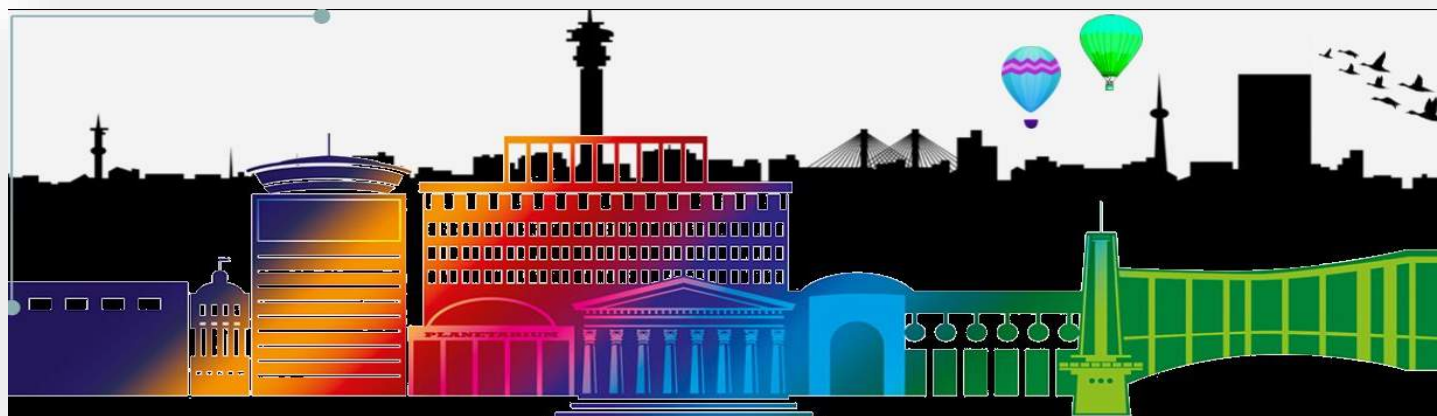
South African War (1899–1902).

Although Hobhouse’s pluck and prescient concern for the fate of women and children in the war is well documented, the role she played in attempting to make peace after the war is less well explored. The paper thus contextualised her advocacy and activism in this period and offered broader understanding of the limitations and restraints of her actions in dealing with British authorities in South Africa during the period 1902 to 1910. Based on undocumented material from both South African and British archives the paper focused on her idealism, tactics and work within the broader historical context of bringing about reconciliation between Afrikaners and Britons at the end of the war.

Dr Benneyworth’s paper entitled, “Rivonia Uncovered, Investigating Liliesleaf. Approximately August 1962–11 July 1963”, detailed his research during the Liliesleaf project which led to the establishment of Liliesleaf a Place of Liberation during 2002–2007 and subsequent private research. It presented how the farm was identified by clandestine forces of the apartheid security establishment, information which has never been in public discourse until publications in 2017 by Dr Benneyworth.

The paper also highlighted the role played by the former SA Defence Force and demonstrated its electronic warfare capacities through its agency the South African Communications Security Agency. The latter played a pivotal role in surveillance of and the raid on Liliesleaf.

Rhodes University will host the next SAHS conference in 2019.



THE MYTH OF THE “NEW” UNIVERSITY

The 8th Humanities and Social Sciences Conference with the theme: Decolonising Knowledge Production and Dissemination in the Humanities and Social Sciences was held at the University of Zululand during 18 to 20 October 2017.

The question of decoloniality and making higher education organically develop from and relevant to the African experience continues to be a contentious area of conversation in many African countries and the global south.

The definitions and approaches are multifaceted and complex. The common thread in the developing body of work is that decolonisation and decoloniality is about the fundamental rethinking and reframing of structures, spaces and curriculum and bringing Africa and the global south at the centre of teaching, learning and research. This conversation is even more critical against the background of the formation of new institutions such as Sol Plaatje University and University of Mpumalanga.

Ms Lesego Kgatitswe from Sociology presented a paper co-authored with Prof. Gertrude Fester and Ms. Nokubonga Mazibuko-Ngidi at the conference. The paper is entitled: “Rethinking decolonisation and the myth of the ‘new’ university: the case of Sol Plaatje University”.

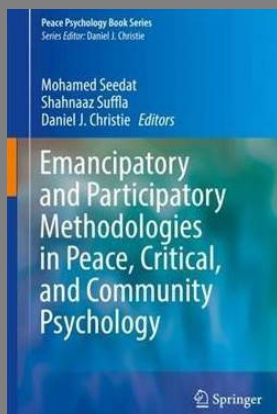
The question that informed their research was how do we create a relevant Afro-centric university that promotes the production of knowledge based on indigenous systems at the same time guarding against the perpetuation of



Photo: UniZulu Marketing Department

unjust colonial legacies? Another interesting question concerns how a new or emerging university can be decolonised considering the assumption that a new university does not carry a colonial and apartheid history. Their paper suggests that the phenomenon of “new” or emerging universities is both under-theorised and under-studied. Conventionally, “new” has provoked images of new infrastructure, new location, new boards among other elements. Yet the simultaneous engagement and adoption of staff and curricula from pre-existing well-established universities by “new” universities could still epitomise a continuation and inheritance of any colonial legacies associated with the former.

CATALYSING TRANSFORMATION THROUGH STORIES



Ms Lesego Kgatitse from Sociology together with Ursula Lau and Shahnaaz Suffla co-authored a chapter for the book, *Emancipatory and Participatory Methodologies in Peace, Critical, and Community Psychology*. Their chapter is entitled, “Catalysing Transformation Through Stories: Building Peace in Recognition, Struggle and Dialogue”. Within the context of a story circle and scripting process in a digital storytelling workshop, implemented with a group of community leaders from a peri-urban township entrenched in decades of structural violence and oppression, their chapter explores what gives a story within the process of storytelling as well as story listening the potential for healing, transformation, and (re)conciliation.

TROJAN HORSES: LILIESLEAF

Dr Garth Benneyworth published a paper in *Historia—The Journal of the Historical Association of South Africa*, Vol 62, No 2 (2017). His article is entitled, “Trojan Horses: Liliesleaf, Rivonia (August 1962 - 11 July 1963)”. The police raid on Liliesleaf on 11 July 1963 is understood to be the result of informants within the liberation movements either breaking down in detention or “selling out” and providing information about the farm with its safe house and its people. His article, while acknowledging that there were informants inside the liberation movements, maintains that this was only a fragment of a kaleidoscope of events culminating in the raid and subsequent Rivonia Trial.

Rather it was a covert investigation undertaken since 1962 that resulted in the blow

delivered by the combined security agencies, that shattered the underground networks opposing the apartheid state. It was an investigation which relied extensively on the principles of the mythological Greek Trojan horse; it used persons and technology that aimed to undermine and overthrow their opponent, to subvert and defeat it from within, while appearing non-threatening.

Dr Benneyworth identifies three Trojan horses. A human spy concealed behind the innocent look of a child who fronted for sinister forces. Electronic warfare deployed by the military and linked to an innocuous caravan park; and finally a laundry van to deliver the surgical knockout strike. Yet all this subterfuge has eluded the narrative for 53 years.



Microscopic red dots and a pencil cross on a 1961 aerial photograph bear witness to counter intelligence operations by the SA security forces in uncovering Liliesleaf. This when combined with other material uncovered over 13 years of research proves that Liliesleaf was under surveillance for at least a year before the 1963 raid

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN THE DEAF COMMUNITY

Dr Marga Stander from Languages and Dr Guy McIlroy from the Centre for Deaf Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand published their research on language and culture in the Deaf community in *Per Linguam*, Vol 33, No 1 (2017). This journal focuses on topics related to language learning and applied linguistics, as well as issues related to multilingualism and educational psychology.

Their article is entitled, “Language and culture in the Deaf community: A case study in a South African special school”. Their research was completed at the Thiboloha Special School in Phuthaditjhaba in the Free State. Two Deaf learners and three Deaf teaching assistants participated in this study. Although they were all part of the hearing Sotho culture, they were also full participants in the Deaf community.

The study reveals the diversity of the Deaf community with a vibrant and unique culture, which gives them a sense of belonging. The study

shows how significant it is for the Deaf to be part of a Deaf community and culture, as well as part of a hearing community and how important Sign Language is for communication purposes in the Deaf community. The school plays a key role in introducing Deaf learners to Deaf culture, community and language. The school succeeds in de-pathologising deafness and sets an example to other schools in educating their Deaf learners about their unique culture and community.



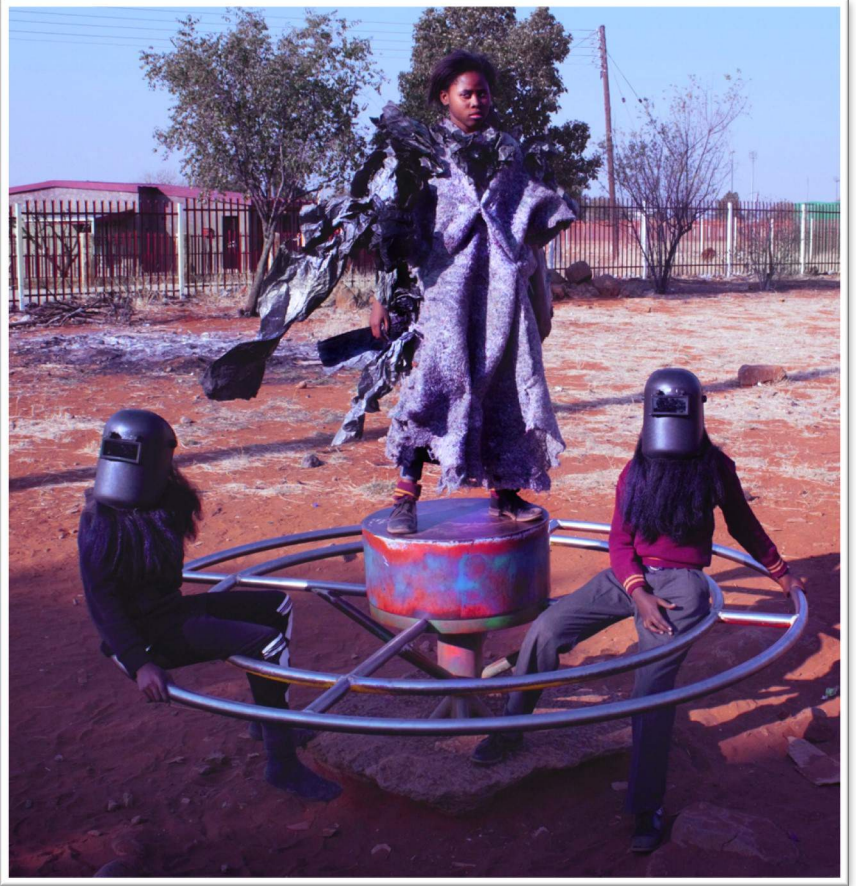
Photo: Supplied

NOURISHMENT & THE SPACE BETWEEN

Ms. Carina Truys presented a paper entitled: “Nourishment and anthropology: bringing care to ‘the space between’”, at the American Anthropological Association conference with its theme, Anthropology Matters, in Washington, DC in November 2017. Her paper was part of panel titled: *Building the Big Tent: Anthropology and Interdisciplinary Work in Food and Nutrition*.

Her paper provokes ethical, political and ideological considerations around hunger. Attention to nourishment rather than hunger is shown to make room for kindness, contextual care, contested belonging and temporality. Epistemological allegiances are thus revealed. Thinking with the “space between” highlighted the relationship between (colonial) time, space and violence; and the effects of the anticipatory logics of epigenetics on everyday lives. Thinking towards an upcoming long-term inter-disciplinary and multi-national project on food systems and Non-Communicable Diseases she proposes a scaffolding guided by the question of nourishment. This scaffolding is designed to trace the “space between” varying (and often clashing) epistemologies and ontologies, to which anthropology can offer care – care that resembles Levinas’ (1987) “good soup”.

Her research on the matter was informed by a queue of people waiting in line at a soup kitchen in a village in the Cape Winelands, South Africa. They are offered a soup concocted from dubious donations including torn-up pizza, gizzards and raw beans. According to Developmental Origins of Health and Disease, Nutrition Science, Public Health, Biomedicine, and Food Security discourses, malnutrition is a concern for pregnant woman and/or carers of children in the “first 1000 days” of life.

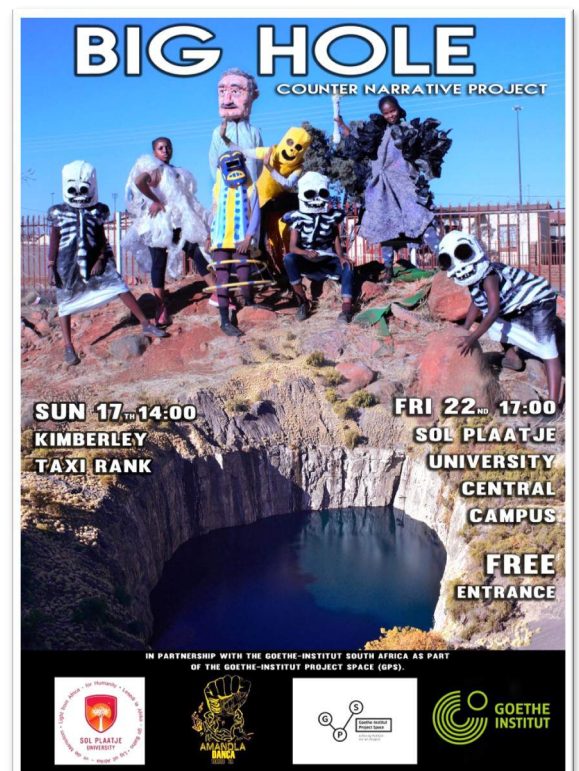


TRASH, TEACHING AND THE CITY: “THE BIG HOLE COUNTER NARRATIVE”

On 22 September 2017 students, staff and members of the public attended the spectacular “Big Hole Counter Narrative Project” performance and exhibition on Central Campus. The performance was the brilliant culmination of a research project funded by the Goethe-Institut Project Space in collaboration with Carina Truys from Anthropology, artists Francois Knoetze and Theogene Niwenshuti, musician Mkhululi Mabija, the Amandla Danca Teatro and Second Year Anthropology students.

The project sought to interrogate and challenge the traditional romanticised colonial fantasy of Kimberley and its association with sparkling diamonds. As part of Ms. Truys’ second year course, “Urban Anthropology: Research Methods and Fieldwork”, students walked, talked and explored stories and spaces of curiosity in Kimberley. Their task was to listen to the stories not curated and exhibited on display at the Big Hole Tourism Centre which presents a glittering sanitized sketch of the city’s past and present.

The project culminated in a film by Francois Knoetze in collaboration with the Amandla Danca Teatro, a performances at the Kimberley Taxi Rank and on campus. Students also produced papers and artwork which were exhibited on campus and captured their reflections on the topic.



The students who participated were: Naazira Ahmed, Thato Bosealetse, Atholang Chwi, Franscisca Gabanamoets, Mamosa Gcabashe, Andy Kars, Chevon Lawan, Tshepo Modupi, Thato Mongale, Garshwill Mthini, Precious Ngcobo, Judith Thati, Boikokobetso Thubisi, Naledi Tsiane and Melvin Zimaandie.



Ms. Truys published a Photo Essay on the project entitled, "Trash, teaching and the city: the "Big Hole Counter Narrative" project and the "Urban Anthropology: Research Methods and Fieldwork" course at Sol Plaatje University", in *Anthropology Southern Africa* in 2018.

[Click here to view artist Francois Knoetze's film about the project on Vimeo.](#)

Photos: Francois Knoetze and Carina Truys



LEARNING STRATEGIES AND LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

Dr Marga Stander presented on her language learning research at the 24th International Conference on Psychology and Language Research held at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore in November 2017. Her paper was entitled, "Revisiting the relationship between language learning strategies and language proficiency of First-Year University students."

First-year BA students on the Qwaqwa Campus of the University of the Free State, South Africa, with an Admission Point score lower than the required 30 points and less than 64% in the National Bench Mark Test, find themselves in an extended four-year programme and have to follow an academic literacy module, where they have to write an additional English language proficiency test to determine their language proficiency levels.

In an attempt to assist these students to improve their language proficiency, it was decided to investigate the use of language learning strategies and to see if there is any correlation between the two. A statistically significant correlation ($r=0.26$) between compensation strategies and language proficiency was found. The study investigated the use and awareness of language learning strategies and emphasises the fact that the relationship between language learning strategies and language proficiency provides valuable information for language teaching and learning. Dr Stander received the award for best paper presenter at the conference.

THE VULTURES OF KALABASPUT

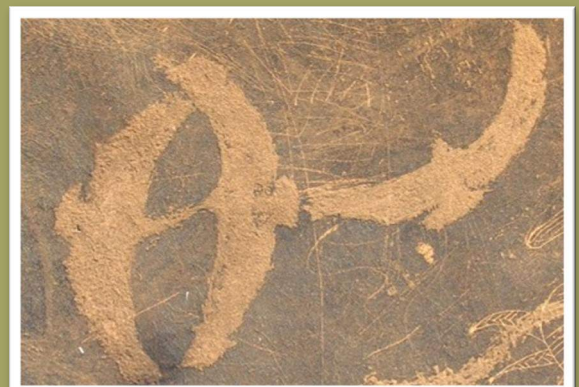
Prof. David Morris published his research on rock featuring vultures in *Journal of Arid Environments* Vol 143 (2017). His article is entitled, "The vultures of Kalabasput: On the interpretation of a series of unusual Karoo rock engravings".

The article explores a rock engraving site at Kalabasput in the Upper Karoo, South Africa, that includes an unusual set of engravings featuring vultures. In relation to the "frequently depicted" subject matter of South African rock art such as eland and ostrich the images of vultures are rare. The site provides an opportunity for

considering these unusual images relative to a background of "shared, transcending beliefs and values", showing how they may have acted as metaphors for altered states of consciousness.

But the paper points further to the possible ways in which the contingencies of particular places and histories may have influenced the production of unique or uncommon images.

The art, it is suggested, was not merely the passive reflection of a cultural or rock art tradition but, given particular contexts, was part of its dynamic, on-going elaboration.



Photos: Supplied

Rare vulture images engraved in the landscape of Kalabasput.

MUSEUM OBJECTS: CURATORIAL SHIFTS IN AFRICAN MUSEUMS

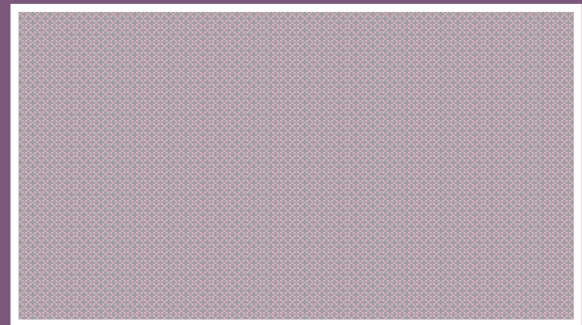
Prof. Jesmael Mataga published his research entitled, "Museum Objects, Local Communities and Curatorial Shifts in African Museums", as a chapter in *Museum Cooperation between Africa and Europe*, edited by Thomas Laely, Marc Meyer, and Raphael Schwere (2018).

The history of the development of museums in Africa has strong links with the establishment and entrenchment of colonialism in the region. The process of colonisation established the basis for the relationship between European and African museums – a relationship that was as top-down as it was extractive. Colonial museums marginalised African ways of knowing and being, even as European collectors uprooted cultural material from communities and deposited them in private collections, local museums or exported them to Europe.

His article suggests that any emergent forms of engagements between the two continents have to be cognisant of this troubled history and avoid reproducing the uneven relationships that were fostered by colonialism. It considers the

possibility of new forms of relationships and argues that in order to avoid the recurrence of epistemic violence meted out by European modernity, and its associated museum practices, the acknowledgement and integration of local ways of knowing should be central.

To demonstrate the possibility of new forms of engagement, Prof. Mataga uses the case study of one object, the Mukwati walking stick, a cultural relic collected from Zimbabwe in the late 19th Century by Baden Powell, and later repatriated to and curated in the Zimbabwean museum of Human Sciences in the late 1990s.



Mukwati Stick: The "Unphotographed"

The "Unphotographed"

The curation of spiritual objects in the Zimbabwe Museum of Human Sciences respects the wishes of the owners of such objects. For the Mukwati stick, one of the instructions of the family that owns the object is that the sacred object should not be used, publicly displayed or photographed without their consent and without the family performing proper rituals. It is for this reason that in this article, there is no image of the object. The blank space here is meant to acknowledge the family's prescripts and the museum policy. This blank space, where the image would have been displayed symbolises the absence of the sacred object – the "unphotographed" sacred object.

WORLD HERITAGE & AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES

Dr Garth Benneyworth represented SPU and South Africa as a panelist on a World Heritage and Educational Institutions in Africa Workshop between 26 and 28 April 2018. His paper was entitled, "Building futures through developing heritage studies as a learning and economic resource".



The three-day workshop brought together African academics and African World Heritage experts who have expressed interest in the English-speaking African university network to facilitate their contributions to the further development of a regional network. The workshop was hosted by Great Zimbabwe University in Zimbabwe as part of a project entitled "Integration of World Heritage Curriculum in African Educational Institutions".

BECHUANALAND'S AERIAL PIPELINE

Dr Garth Benneyworth published an article, "Bechuanaland's Aerial Pipeline: Intelligence and Counter Intelligence Operations against the South African Liberation Movements, 1960–1965", in the *South African Historical Journal* (2017).

The road and rail pipelines operated by the liberation movements in Bechuanaland (Botswana) were known as the 'road to freedom'. An aerial pipeline enabled high value South African political refugees and freedom fighters to move through the Protectorate as fast as possible.

A mini-airline called Bechuanaland Air Safaris, it was financed by Bechuanaland's government and a local millionaire businessman. Set up to support the needs of Britain's Secret Intelligence Service (SIS), this air bridge enabled close surveillance of potential security issues within

Bechuanaland by the SIS, whilst simultaneously assisting organisations that would one day gain political power. This made it a key intelligence target for South Africa's security establishment, who penetrated this operation. Through surveillance and informants, notably Captain Herbert Bartaune, the company director and operator of Bechuanaland Air Safaris, they interdicted the activities of key personnel involved in liberation struggle operations.

Dr Benneyworth's article examines this air bridge, some of its key personnel, surveillance operations by the South African Police, counter-intelligence actions by the British authorities connected to supporting this pipeline and its use by prominent leaders, including Joe Matthews, Nelson Mandela, Michael Dingake and Patrick Duncan.

EMILY HOBHOUSE AND THE POLITICS OF SUFFERING



Dr Cornelis Muller from History and Dr Rebecca Gill from the University of Huddersfield published their research on Emily Hobhouse in *Safundi: The Journal of South African and American Studies*, Vol 19, 1 (2018). Their article is entitled, "The limits of agency: Emily Hobhouse's international activism and the politics of suffering". It pieces together the activism of the British welfare worker and feminist-pacifist Emily Hobhouse (1860–1926) during two largely unrecorded episodes of transnational activism: firstly, her ministry of Cornish miners in Virginia, Minnesota, in the United States; and secondly, her interventions during the period of reconstruction following the South African War (1899–1902).

The article contextualizes Hobhouse's activism and offers a broader understanding of the limitations and restraints on her actions. Ultimately, her activism required a platform that was in the gift of political actors and establishment figures, and dependent on fluctuations within specific political and bureaucratic situations. Based on close inspection of undocumented material in both South African and British archives, the article investigates Hobhouse's repertoire of missionary and philanthropic roles within a wider context of humanitarian politics.

IMPACT OF FREE WIRELESS ON THE PARK PROJECT

Ms Nokubonga Mazibuko-Ngidi presented a paper entitled, “Assessing the Impact of the Free Wireless on the Park Project at Sol Plaatje Municipality”, at the Africa Institute of South Africa’s Young Graduates and Scholars conference in Johannesburg in March 2018. SPU introduced the “Free wireless on the park project” in August 2017.

This was done in collaboration with Sol Plaatje Municipality through a generous donation from De Beers as a community engagement initiative. It was motivated by the recognition that many people in the city are not able to afford the commercial cost of data for Internet access.

Before the introduction of the Wi-Fi project, Oppenheimer Park was known as a space where people gathered to drink and smoke, but with the introduction of wireless internet, the park is now beginning to attract more young people who seek to use this free service. Her paper addressed some of the challenges and opportunities that the project offers the youth in Kimberley.

Ms Mazibuko-Ngidi conducted semi structured interviews and held focus groups at Oppenheimer Park to research the issue.



SCANDINAVIA’S MAGERSFONTEIN DEAD

Dr Garth Benneyworth published an article, “Scandinavia’s Magersfontein Dead – Their Final Resting Place?”, in the *South African Archaeological Bulletin*, Vol 72, 206 (2017).

Well entrenched on the heritage landscape, Magersfontein is marked with monuments and memorials to the fallen, former burial sites and a museum, and more broadly the site is integrated into the heritage landscape. However, not all who perished on the Republican side were burghers

from the Orange Free State and South African Republics.

A Scandinavian Corps of volunteers aligned to the Transvaal forces saw action and suffered the highest proportional losses of all the Boer Commandos during the action. Buried where they fell, popular historical discourses are that their graves are the only burials which remain on the battlefield, after exhumations and relocations of the fallen of both sides was concluded in 1968.

Dr Benneyworth’s article refutes this accepted historical ‘truth’. His research analyses whether the Scandinavian Corps casualties are currently buried on the battlefield beneath the twin Waldemaar crosses, which accepted history has as their graves. By making use of primary archival sources, combined with terrain research of the battlefield he comes to the conclusion that the twin Waldemaar crosses at Magersfontein are not the Scandinavian fallen final resting place.



Photo: www.commonswikimedia.org

MIGRANTS ON THE PLATINUM BELT

Dr Crispin Chinguno from Sociology presented a paper entitled, “Migrants and new landscapes in South Africa’s platinum belt”, at the Centre for Humanities Research at the University of the Western Cape on 19 April 2018.

The period after the democratic transition in South Africa has seen a sharp decline in the gold mining sector and a subsequent rise in the platinum sector. This shift has ushered new patterns of migration. The boom in the platinum sector turned the platinum belt into a new magnet for migrants from other parts of South Africa and the sub-region.

The new patterns of migration are outside the control of mining capital and its associated institutions. Moreover, some of the migrants move into areas that were former Bantustans. Many of these areas are already facing pressures related to

access of jobs, land, housing and other services. As a result, incoming migrants often face various forms of exclusion based on chieftaincy, ethnicity, citizenship, gender and other identities.

Drawing from an ethnographic study, Dr Chinguno’s paper examined how migrants navigate and rise against structures of exclusion and forge new landscapes. He argued that the local state is struggling to adapt and integrate the migrants. Moreover, migrants are stigmatised and excluded and their integration is often asymmetric. However, they are not marginal but central in informing the socio-economic and political landscapes of the platinum belt.

The paper is to be published as a chapter in an edited book volume in collaboration with the Centre for Humanities Research University of Western Cape.

DID YOU KNOW



- ◆ The art work in the entrance area to the C-Block Building was sculpted by Rowland Daniel.
- ◆ The sculpture was acquired by the university after being exhibited at the William Humphreys Art Gallery in 2015.
- ◆ The exhibition was entitled, “The Beginning” which “symbolises an ongoing process of renewal and change that finally takes one back to where everything started”.
- ◆ The sculpture is entitled, “Die Reg”.
- ◆ “Die Reg” has several meanings in Afrikaans which can all add to your own interpretation of the art work.
- ◆ “Reg” can *inter alia* be translated as: right, justice, claim, title, law, duty, power, correct, right and in order.

FIELDWORK AT CANTEEN KOPJE

Students from Heritage Studies got to put theory into practice on a fieldwork visit to Canteen Kopje in May 2017. In collaboration with the University of Toronto and the McGregor Museum, this was the third year in which students gained hands-on archaeological experience by being part of the excavations at this site. Numerous artifacts were found including fragments of Tswana Pottery as well as European glassware.



AWARDING OF HIGHER CERTIFICATES

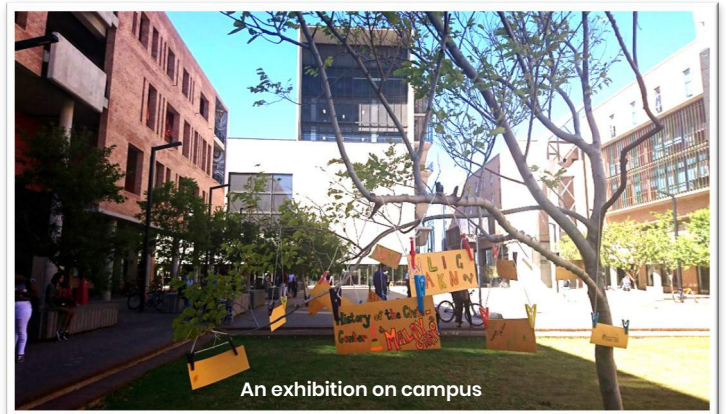


Twenty-five students received Higher Certificates in Heritage studies at the Graduation Ceremony held on Central Campus on 9 December 2017. Miceala van Wyk, Kamohelo Thaisi and Visolia Mocumi received their Certificates with distinction. Ms. Mocumi also received an award as the overall Best Performing Student in the Higher Certificate in Heritage Studies course.

STUDENTS SHOWCASE WORK AT WILLIAM HUMPHREYS ART GALLERY

In 2017, together with Liz Crossley, a Berlin based artist, Dr Garth Benneyworth developed a public art project for the Higher Certificate in Heritage Studies students.

In 2018 the students developed and curated an exhibition in the William Humphries Art Gallery and undertook a public art exhibition. The curation involved reviewing approximately 80 artworks from the WHAG collection, selecting a variety of these works, researching the artists and then arranging their selections into a collection and hanging these. A narrative about their interpretations of their selected works was printed and displayed with this collection which opened to the public on 27 February 2018. It was enthusiastically received by both the students and the public. Ongoing work for this project includes the development of a catalogue.



VISIT TO WILDEBEEST KUIL



Higher Certificate Heritage Studies students, Class 2018, visit Wildebeest Kuil heritage site and cultural landscape. Field trips to museums and heritage sites form a key part of the curriculum and provides opportunities to engage with real life case studies and experiences. To connect with our tangible and, most importantly intangible heritage, binds us all in the journey together of higher learning.

STUDENTS ON KAROO FIELDWORK

DAVID MORRIS

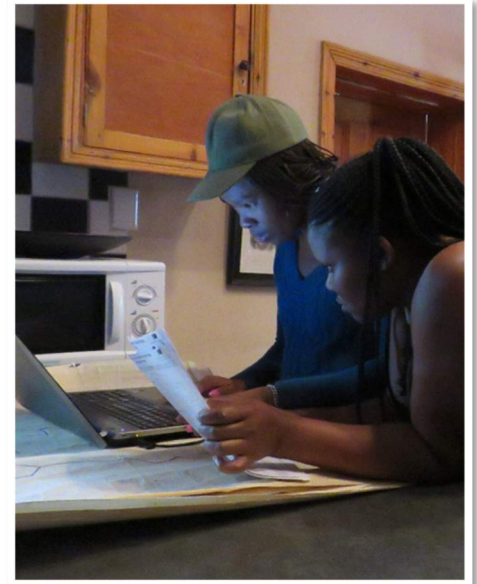
Seven second year archaeology students from Sol Plaatje University, with lecturer Prof David Morris, were invited to join a team from Digby Wells Environmental in March, conducting heritage impact assessments at the SKA project site near Carnarvon in the Karoo.

This was a tremendous opportunity for the students, receiving their first hands-on real-time archaeological survey experience, in a landscape rich in archaeological and heritage traces.

Three days were spent walking across the vlaktes and up koppies, locating and recording a variety of archaeological and historical sites. A nearly 8 km walk on the first day, in the heat of the Karoo (though tempered by the approach of autumn...), gave them a taste of this particular aspect of archaeology which for many is quintessentially an outdoor science. The students learnt to use GPS units to locate

and record sites and to complete data-capture forms which later in the week they were trained to cross-check and transfer into a computer database.

Talks were given by archaeologists on the team and other heritage specialists including architects assessing historic buildings and vernacular corbelled houses on or near the SKA site. There were Later Stone Age scatters with evidence of ostrich eggshell bead-making; a background noise of widely dispersed Middle Stone Age material; and even heavily-weathered dolerite Acheulean bifaces and flakes that turned up in three locales.



Finger paintings were seen at the mouth of a ravine, with pools of seeping water further upstream provoking discussion about !Khwa, the 'waterslang' or 'noga ya metsi' – and the very different conception of the world that infused the thought and beliefs of the !Xam people, whose descendants still tell stories in Afrikaans that echo those told in the !Xam language 140 years ago.

The region overlaps what had been defined some years ago as a !Xam heartland that was placed on the tentative list for World Heritage inscription. It is the area reflected in the archive of lore and legends collected from !Xam people by Wilhelm Bleek and Lucy Lloyd in the 1870s-80s.

The preserved stories of that time, the corresponding archaeological traces in the landscape, and the living stories that resonate with those in the now extinct !Xam language make for a unique combination that deserves that level of recognition.

This may well be a thread emerging from the heritage management plan that would result from this project. Possibly SPU and McGregor Museum archaeology would have an on-going role in this connection.



Whatever the outcome, it was an experience the students will surely value going forward (and the accommodation and the food was excellent!).

This article first appeared in *Trans-!Garib News* (South African Archaeological Society), 1 (1):3-6, March 2018



FRANCES GOITSEMANG BAARD MEMORIAL LECTURE

The Frances Baard District Municipality invited Dr Cornelis Muller to deliver the 2017 Frances Baard Memorial Lecture as part of the municipality's women's month celebrations.

The gala dinner event took place at the Mittah Seperepere Convention Centre in Kimberley on 26 August 2017. It was hosted by the executive mayor of the Frances Baard district, Cllr. Buyiswa Ximba. Several dignitaries and family members of Mrs Baard attended the event. Dr Muller's keynote address was entitled: "Mentor, Mother and Matriarch: Remembering the Life of Frances Baard".

The lecture highlighted various events and milestones in the life of struggle veteran, Frances Baard, who was born in Kimberley in 1909. In 1963, she was arrested under the Suppression of Communism Act for her involvement in ANC activities and imprisoned for five years. She was actively involved in the drafting of the Freedom Charter and one of the leaders of the Women's March to the Union Buildings on 9 August 1956. She died in 1997.

Dr Muller's address explored the integral and significant contributions made by women to South

Africa's liberation struggle. He pointed out that many times this was at great cost to their own freedom and those of their families. Yet, despite this, their contributions and self-sacrifice in advocating for a free South African society, is at times viewed as a separate or parallel running stream of the liberation movement's history. Thus more needs to be done by historians to ensure that women's history is not sidelined to the periphery of the struggle narrative, but is interweaved as an integral part of main stream South African History.



Photo: Facebook/Frances Baard

EMIL HOLUB AND HIS AFRICAN TRAVELS

Prof David Morris presented the Annual Richard Liversidge Memorial Lecture organised by the Historical Society of Kimberley and the Northern Cape at the McGregor Museum on 28 November 2017.

His lecture, "Africa in Central Europe: the sketches and collection of Dr Emil Holub revisited", gave an account of a visit to museums in Vienna and Prague to locate and examine collections made by Emil Holub of rock engravings and ethnographic artefacts and sketches from Southern Africa. The event was well attended by members of the public.

Czech explorer Emil Holub's illustration of a Tonga metalworker



MAKE YOUR LIFE SPECTACULAR

Riana van der Merwe, mathematics lecturer in Heritage Studies, presented a keynote address at the 23rd Annual Conference of Headmasters of Traditional State Boys' Schools of South Africa hosted by Kimberley Boys' High School on 24 August 2017. Her speech sought to inspire the Boys' High scholars to pursue a well-rounded yet SPECTACULAR life.

S FOR SELF: Spend the time to look after yourself. You only have one body. Eat right, sleep enough, exercise daily. Spend time with your family. Take regular holidays. Build a network of friends. Take care of your personal finances and admin. "I am made of all the days you don't see, not just the one that you see."

P FOR PLAY – PLAYING SMALL IS NOT COOL: Failure vs Trying. Do what they say you can't. People like Usain Bolt, Caster Semenya and Wayde van Niekerk lead no average lifestyle. Your dreams should be so big, that they scare you. "Make no little plans, They have no magic to stir one's blood. Make big plans."

E FOR EXCUSES: The blame game limits us from growing personally and professionally. Own your life, no one else will. Don't overthink or analyze too much. Just do it. The time is never right. Fight negativity all the time and everywhere.

C FOR COMPETENT CHOICE: Surround yourself with the best. People that share your passion. Stay away from toxic people. You are the average of the 5 people that you spend the most time with. "It is not our abilities or gifts which define who we are, but the choices we make" – Prof Dumbledore to Harry Potter

T FOR TIME: We only have today. Be fully present. Be organized. Don't let your priorities be determined by your inbox. The journey is the reward. "Not everything that is urgent, is important". – Steven Covey

A FOR APPROACHABLE: Lend an ear, show an interest. Have one on ones over a cup of coffee. Recognize and reward, especially friends and family. Share your knowledge, be generous. Respect others. Humor takes the pressure off.

C FOR CONTROL: Focus on things that you CAN control, for example your attitude. Look with new eyes at what you have, your home and country. Be content and thankful. "Here I am where I ought to be". – Karen Blixen

U FOR UNDERSTAND: Understand that we were lucky with experiences we had. Count your blessings. Encourage each other, when you are strong and someone else is weak. Understand that your character and values will be tested out there. We all have our own passions. "My ice axe might be your paintbrush." – Steve House

L FOR LOVE: Find out what defines you and what makes you happy. Keep your eyes open for opportunities. Start by doing what is necessary, then what is possible, and soon, the impossible. Make a list of 25 things to do before you die. There will always be obstacles and sacrifices.

A FOR AIM: YOLO—you only live once. Short term habits give long term goals. Overnight success is a myth. You can't plan for 2018 in 2018. Learn to say no. Move forward. One step at a time.

R FOR ROLE MODEL: Don't ask anyone to do something you're not prepared to do yourself. No compromise for high standards. No half measures. Good enough is the enemy of the best. Be a dedicated and committed example. Be inspired by other people. Also be thankful for bad role models, because you never want to be like them.



IT CANNOT MAKE THAT POTS TO BE DONE: STAYING WITH THE TROUBLE

Address given by **CARINA TRUYTS** at the David Walters & Friends Exhibition held at the William Humphreys Art Gallery on 5 July 2017

I've had a wonderful time thinking about pots since I received this invitation. I began by thinking of the obvious repercussions in our daily lives: we can't live without vessels. I, for instance, have cooking pots (including a prized blue le creuset that burns everything but looks great doing it), paint pots, a pot from Potchefstroom, a broken pot, and most importantly – story pots, or, just plain stories. Pots are receptacles, like stories. They hold things, cook things, and just like soups and stews and curries, garner commensality. We get together around them. I ended up thinking that yes, pots are exceptionally useful for stews and mantelpieces, and storage. But they also useful for helping us to “stay with the trouble”. By that I am NOT referring to the potential for trouble should one of you knock over an Ardmore over there. No. this evening I am going to talk about pots, arts, well-being and intra- and extra-human relationships. Thinking with these stories will help us “stay with the trouble.” I am inviting you to view with new eyes the proximity, relations and existence you share with these fragile creations who stand among you, and by extension, other humans, and other flourishing beings and things.

I am currently reading Donna Haraway's (2016) (highly recommended) *Staying with the trouble*. We live in strange and “Trumpish” times marked by ecstatic carbon emissions and withdrawn climate change agreements, pending wars and the inimitable wounds of inequality and painful pasts. By “staying with the trouble” Haraway is proposing a mode for dealing with these times. She begins by arguing that we should not bargain on techno fixes. For example, we cannot afford to fantasize that we will be able to create a machine to stitch up the ozone layer by 2050, or an app to that will solve famines. (Please note I am largely and liberally paraphrasing in this speech). This does not mean that we can pack up and wallow in pessimism. If we are to get on – which we must – we need to “Stay with the trouble”. This might seem like it has nothing to with at all with pots, Rebecca Matibe, and WHAG. But let me show you 2 ways in which staying with the trouble helps us think about these pots, and how pots help US to think how we can “stay with the trouble”.

Firstly, lets begin with stories. Haraway takes from the science fiction genius Ursula Le Guin the “carrier bag theory of storytelling and of naturalcultural history”. Le Guin's stories, Haraway tells us, are “capacious bags for collecting, carrying, and telling the stuff of living”. Stories are receptacles, holders, recipients. So, we have the storytelling bag. Now enter our second pot-needy point.

Let us consider, with Haraway, the dominant narrative of earth, and us. In this common and favourite telling, the “first beautiful words are weapons. They distinguish us, they are, in the hands and mouths of humans, our origin”. Anthropos, that's us – is “tool, weapon, word”. The Anthropos story is a violent story. We know it well. Man the hunter, man the bounty-getter, conqueror. In this Anthropos, the bounty-getting hero (who is weaponised with words and worded with weapons) is at the centre of the narrative. Everything else slides to the background. Irrelevant, unseen, disregarded and at least, divorced from Anthropos with that neat Cartesian incision. The trees are props. The pots are props. The fish are metabolised props. However, the worded and weaponised hero is missing something.



Ms. Carina Truys

What is it?

Where would the bounty go, if not in a pot, a vessel, a carrier bag?

Sacks and pots are lowly things, but there can be no triumph without them. They are needed to keep the story going. Vessels, things. Hollowed out clay baked in fire, information about clay baked in fire. These are the things, Haraway writes, that did give and receive, teaching us that the Anthropos-centred story is amnesiac: Anthropos Became *With*. There was no unilateral human becoming. There was – and IS *becoming with*. Becoming human was becoming with. And thus as we stand here, pots all around– we need to think WITH. *Thinking with* will help us “stay with the

trouble”.

I said I would relate this “staying with the trouble” to these pot creations in two ways. I began with the story of creation, showing how vessels beget stories, stories beget life. So, pots tell stories inasmuch as they *are* stories. That is point one and I will return to it in a minute with a South African pot story. Second, we were reminded that Anthropos became WITH. We are a multispecies conglomeration and if we distance the human from the pots, the dogs, the walls the microbes we breathe eat and are, the trees and seeds and maps, we will either trick ourselves falsely into thinking we are out of trouble, or rot from pessimistic despair. It might not seem like there is a clear route out of trouble, and that is precisely why we must stay with the trouble. Think the trouble.

So, we are already regarding these pots as story tellers, story holders, story subjects. Let me remind you of the famous South African pot story of 2016. The internet erupted with a short video clip. The presenter says “I am not here for any other issues. I just need to know. Where are the pots?”

“There are no pots. Because I made the things that cannot make the pots to be done. Its me. I am the problem”, responds a young women.

The “where are the pots” compilation video on YouTube currently has 142 456 views. The back story is that a stokvel of women placed an order for 48 pots, of which only a small portion of the order arrived. It transpired that the daughter of the woman who ordered the pots had made away with the money. The SABC consumerist programme Speak Out arrived with a camera crew to get to the bottom of the situation, and met the “pots girl” Siyabonga Makhavu.

When we talk about the “pots girl”, as the media came to know Makhavu, we are also talking about ourselves. Let me me bring in Michael Jackson (anthropologist, not popstar), whose book cover *Life within limits: Well-being in a world of want* (2011) is adorned with pots. Jackson takes for premise of anthropology – that is: relationality, for granted. We exist in relation to each other. As Judith Butler argues, “we are born into a network of hands”. When we tell or watch stories about a stokvel, a mode of saving and celebrating in a tight-belted economy, we are talking about ourselves. We are talking about the fright a camera might induce, the public scrutiny it brought to Makhuva.

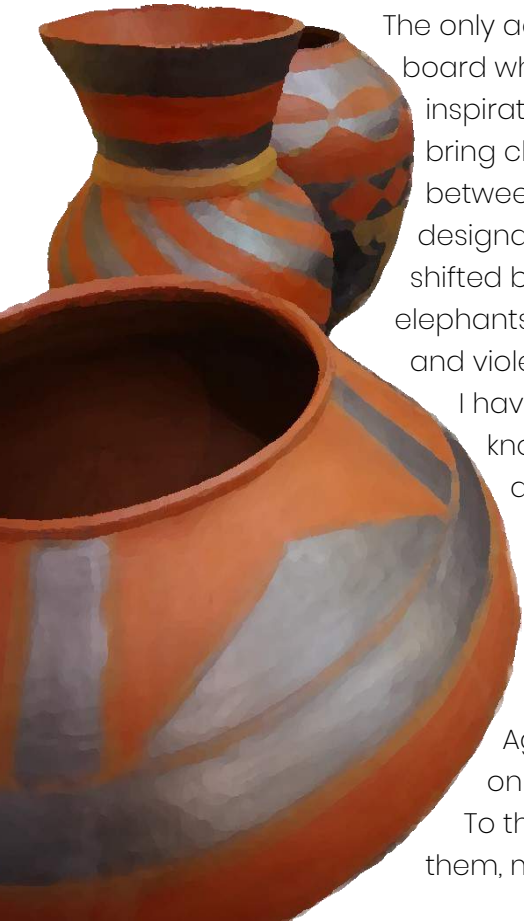
The nation saw itself, it mocked the lack of English language proficiency. We are talking about how language can get lost, how words get twisted, English floundered, and thus, we are talking about colonisation, apartheid, and continuing forms of marginalisation manifest in poor education, English language



dominance, and persistent inequality. This is an extended version of the Anthropos story. In it the Imperial English were at the centre, or, according to the Mercator projection, the top of the world. Let us stay with this trouble. We must think, think ourselves in it.

The so called “pots girl” has something in common with Rebecca Matibe, creator of the exquisite pots over there. Both are TshiVenda woman. As my friend, and fellow anthropologist Amber Abrams is writing in her PhD there are villages such as those of these women that can be understood to be “on the edge”. Her PhD, based on fieldwork in Musunda, shows how the interlinked historical processes impact the everyday “edge living” of Musundians. These are the impact of settler land grabbing, colonial consolidation and apartheid legislation, and the protectionist principles that come parcelled with conservation (for example the establishment of the Kruger park was premised on dispossession). In fact, pushing and shoving pre-dates of local Venda and other groups began in the 1800s, leaving residents on the least desirable land, where they remain. Further, in 1870, legislation restricted black African hunters. Abrams shows how settlers overtook claims to wildlife resources. Around 1948 and the harsh segregating policies, tension was high between Brit and Afrikaner. The establishment of the Kruger National Park was part of an effort to consolidate British and Afrikaner interest. As all Black Africans were formally removed from the park, relegating black African interest to faraway edges Abrams thus shows how power hierarchies at multiple levels – national, regional, customary, have brought the edge to Musunda, which emerged as a result of this “big sweep” that earned Stevenson Hamilton, the KNP head warden, the name Skukuza – He who sweeps clean. This is trouble. Let’s stay with it.

As Abrams writes, the ways in which apartheid largely ignored the Venda homeland has wrongfully been considered an “apartheid oasis”. This misnomer, Abrams shows, disregards the “violence inherent in the decisions to ignore these spaces when infrastructure provisions were being made”. “Infrastructural violence” of this manner has led to poor service delivery. The lack of infrastructure in the so-called Bantustans is such that Rebecca Matibe, the phenomenal potter who created those, only went to school at 13 years old as there was no school nearby. She learnt how to make pottery at around 24, but, as Alice Matibe writes, in the late 50s there were ready finger nails and sharp sticks for decorating, but no clay in the area. The only possible clay transport was by bus, which could only carry 50kg of clay, and only lasted four weeks.



The only access Matibe had to the Kruger Park was as a member of the school board which meant she could accompany the children on school trips, taking inspiration from the animals she saw there. By this stage she could hire a truck to bring clay the 55 km to her house. Our Kruger Park escapades story the road between tourism thrills and everyday experiences of these women. They designate edges, and are premised on boundaries drawn in power plays that shifted bodies, and distributed the right to life in unequal terms. *We became with* elephants and kudu, but we also became entwined in processes of scarring war and violence.

I have described how we *become with* things. We also become together, and know ourselves only in relation to each other. We might thus ask ourselves, as Jackson does in his ethnographic work in Sierra Leone, what well-being means? We might respond that well-being means not to be wanting in any way, to be full, to be useful at all times.

But then, such a pot as one of these might wink its receptacle eye at us, remembering that pots are stories, they hold stories. Over there, a footprint seems to me to tread bubblegum and melted tar into a bowl. Against that wall you will find the blessing of unfinished dream houses, full only when you have entered what is valuable to you.

To the left the ‘sands of time’ shed tiny specks of dust each time you touch them, marking past, present, matching finite prospects with fragile life.

It is cheeky of me to put Haraway and Jackson in one speech. Jackson argues that infinite joy is premised on mutual HUMAN companionship, whereas Haraway is a frontleader in multi-species ethnography and more-than-human companionship. They share an argument, however, in that Jackson shows how surviving can be sweeter than satisfaction – a practical case that illustrates the need to stay with the trouble.

In conclusion: we *became with* these creations, just as we became with each other. We need to think beyond Anthropos to the more-than-human, beyond our sheltered homes to the other-human, and cherish both

stories and pots. Particularly such beautiful ones. As Jackson writes: "in art, as in games, we are given a second chance, a sense that we are not stuck, that tomorrow is another day. Unlike the game of life, which we are bound to lose, a game is something we can return to endlessly in the belief that we will one day win. Unless we take seriously these symbolic and imaginary strategies for playing with reality we cannot even begin to understand our capacity for human well-being".



Photos: Supplied

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